2017 Rabbit Skillathon Study Guide

The Union County Fair Rabbit Skillathon will take place on Thursday, July 27. Seniors will begin at 10:30 am, Juniors and Intermediates will begin at 11:00 am. The Richwood Fair Rabbit Skillathon will be held Friday, September 1 at 9:00 am in the Show Arena.

Exhibitors should bring their completed 2017 Union County Livestock Record Book and a pencil. This Study Guide gives information about the stations that will be in the Rabbit Skillathon. Age divisions for skillathon will be as follows (your age as of January 1, 2017): Juniors: Ages 8-10, Intermediates: Ages 11-13, Seniors: Ages 14-18.

Station #1  Project Record
You will present your completed Project Record Book to the judge. All 4-H rabbit projects will use the Union County Livestock Record Book (white). FFA members can use their Animal Enterprise Record Book. The judge will review your records and award points for completion. All sections of the Project Record Book need to be completed. If you do not have any entries for a given section, you should write “NONE” in the section.

*Breed Rabbit Projects do not need to complete Section F: Rate of Gain.

*FFA Members need to obtain a supplement sheet to add to their Animal Enterprise Record Book to complete their records. This supplement sheet is available from your Vo. Ag. Dept. or on line at: https://go.osu.edu/FFAsupplement

Station #2  Interview Station
You will have an interview for the project you are exhibiting. It is your responsibility to correctly state the project(s) in which you are enrolled when you arrive at the interview station (Market Rabbit or Breeding Rabbit Project). You will be asked 5 questions by an interview judge for each project. You will earn 6 points for each correct answer. Sample interview questions are included with this Study Guide. Answers to all questions are found in the Rabbit Resource Handbook (228R).

Station #3  Quality Assurance
You will be asked questions about Good Production Practices (GPP) #1, 3 & 6.

GPP #1: Use an appropriate Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship (VCPR) as the basis for medication decision making
GPP #3: Use antibiotics responsibly
GPP #6: Establish effective animal identification, medication records and withdrawal times

See Chapters 5, 7, and 13 of your Rabbit Resource Handbook for reviewing these topics, such as record keeping, identification, examination, rabbit health and well-being.

Also; an outline to review this year’s QA topics is available on our website at: http://go.osu.edu/2017QAOutline
Station #4  Juniors Only – Show Preparation
You will be asked questions on rabbit selection and grooming and proper showmanship. You can find information on this in Chapter 10 of your Rabbit Resource Handbook.

For example: You may be asked to identify how to properly pose a rabbit on the table, during showmanship.

Station #4  Intermediates Only – Skeletal System
You will identify parts of the skeletal system. Use page 28 of your Rabbit Resource Handbook to review this topic.

Station #4  Seniors Only – Genetics
You will be asked questions about rabbit genetics. Topics to study include heredity, breeding, and the different gene types. You can find information on this in Chapter 8 of your Rabbit Resource Handbook from pages 70-72.

Station #5  Juniors Only – Breed Identification
You will be asked to identify different rabbit breeds from pictures. You will also be asked the breed fur type. (Note: “Normal” will NOT be an acceptable answer. Breeds with normal fur will need to be noted as standing, rollback or fly back). Use pages 11 through 26 in the Rabbit Resource Book and the ARBA website to prepare.

Station #5  Intermediates Only – Diseases & Ailments
You will be asked to identify different diseases that can occur for a rabbit and answer questions about prevention and treatment. You can find information about rabbit diseases in Chapter 7, pages 56-62, of your Rabbit Resource Handbook.

Station #5  Seniors Only – Rabbit Terminology
You will be asked to define and discuss some of the terms found in the glossary of your Rabbit Resource Handbook.

Station #6  Juniors Only - Nutrition
You will be asked questions based on the Nutrition Chapter of your Rabbit Resource Handbook. Topics will range from the digestive system, nutrients your rabbit needs, and feeding. You can find information on these topics in Chapter 6 of your Rabbit Resource Handbook.

Station #6 – Intermediates Only – Reproduction
You will be asked different questions on the reproduction process for rabbits. Topics addressed will include mating, gestation, birth, and weaning. Information on these topics can be found in Chapter 8, pages 65-70, of your Rabbit Resource Handbook.

Station #6 – Seniors Only – Proper Rabbit Care
You will be asked questions such as proper housing and care for your rabbits from the article at the following website: https://www.arba.net/PDFs/CAW.pdf.

Tie Breaker (Optional) – Posing Rabbits
You will be asked questions about the proper posing of rabbits, along with possibly a hands-on demonstration of how to properly pose a rabbit. Use the information from the following website to prepare: https://www.arba.net/PDFs/PosingSpring2014.pdf
Station 2 Interview Sample Questions

Breeding Rabbit Project

Junior Age Exhibitors:
1. Describe flyback fur.
2. How many breeds of rabbits are there?
3. What is molting?
4. What are the four breeding programs?
5. What is the ARBA?
6. What is kindling?
7. What is the range of gestation for rabbits?
8. What word is used to describe a group of rabbits?
9. Can a doe be bred year round?
10. What is the most important nutrient?

Intermediate Exhibitors: (and all of the above questions)
1. What is the treatment for Ear Canker?
2. What is a Pedigree?
3. What is the scientific name for a rabbit?
4. What is a disqualification?
5. What is the Standard of Perfection?
6. What is VCPR?

Senior Exhibitors: (and all of the above questions)
1. When do a baby rabbit's eyes open?
2. How does a rabbit regulate its body temperature?
3. How many lop breeds are there and name them?
4. What is sheen?
5. When breeding, do you take the buck to the doe's cage or the doe to the buck's cage?
6. How many eyelids does a rabbit have?

Market Project:

Junior Age Exhibitors:
1. What is a pelt?
2. What is the range of weight for a meat pen at this fair?
3. Which is more dangerous to your rabbit, hot or cold weather?
4. Name 3 ways to market a rabbit?
5. What is the rear part of the rabbit called?
6. What is yellow fat?
7. What is the most important nutrient?
8. Is rabbit meat white, dark or both?
**Intermediate Age Exhibitors:** (example questions below and all the above)
1. What is VCPR?
2. What is withdrawal time?
3. Why are rabbits tattooed?
4. What is a disqualification?
5. What are three grades of fryer carcasses?
6. What are the black color markings on the Californian breed called?
7. How many varieti are in the New Zealand breed and name them?

**Senior Age Exhibitors:** (example questions below and all the above)
1. Name 4 breeds that are considered commercial/market class rabbits?
2. In a processed rabbit what part are considered the serving portions?
3. What does it mean to cull a rabbit?
4. What is another name for the knee on a rabbit?
5. How many eyelids does a rabbit have?
6. Nutrients for a rabbit can be grouped into 6 categories, what are they