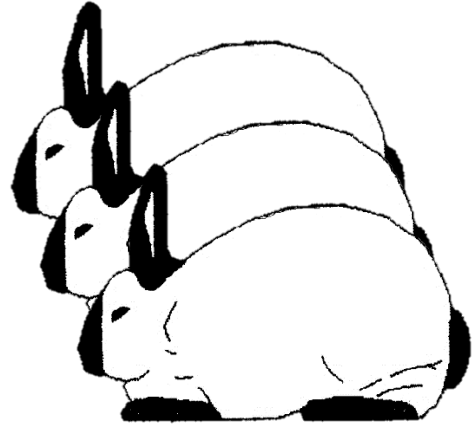


Selection

- The doe (mother) of these 3 fryers must be owned and bred by the exhibitor
 - The doe should be bred the first week of June
 - Kindle (birth) date should be the first week of July
- 3 fryer rabbits that are 70 days or less in age (bucks or does)
- Typically from the same litter- not required
- Select 3 rabbits for the fair that are uniform in:
 - Shape
 - Size
 - Color/ Pattern
 - Weight



Weight

- Ideal market weight is 5 lbs per rabbit (pen total around 15)- Delaware County Fair has a range limit of 3.5 lbs to 5.5 lbs per animal
- A normal rate of gain is about .06 lbs of gain per day- average daily gain=.06 lbs/day (.45 lbs/ week)
- Rabbits should weigh about 2 lbs the beginning of August and 3.5 lbs the beginning of September

Nutrition

- The pregnant doe should be eating between 5-6 oz of feed per day of 16%-18% protein feed
- Once the doe has given birth, during week 1 increase the feed by ½ oz per kit (baby rabbit)
- Between week 3 and 4 increase the feed by 1 oz per kit
- Over the next two weeks continue to increase the feed
- During weaning at week 6, transition the kits onto pellets- the first week rolled oats can aid in the stress on the digestive system
- Continue to feed the fryers an 18% protein pellet
- Clean/ fresh water access

Health

- A normal body temperature for rabbit is 100.5°F-103.5°F
- Common health concerns to look for: snuffles/ respiratory issues, sore hocks, and ear canker
- Rabbits that do not feel well will huddle together, act listless, vocalize loudly, as well as other symptoms
 - It's very important to observe your animal's normal behavior every day so you can notice abnormal behavior.

Facilities and Equipment

- Good ventilation
- Space- .75 square feet per pound of body weight
- Cage/ hutch
- Nesting box
- Feeder- self feeding or crock
- Waterer- automatic/ nipple system or bowl
- Transportation container- carrying cage
- Risers- for floor of fair cages
- Tattooing supplies
- Nail clippers
- Long sleeve show coat

Dates you need to look for

- Quality Assurance (or test out)-July 1
 - Market animal exhibitors by law must attend
- Brood doe must be in the exhibitors possession by June 1
- Entry deadline is the last Friday in August
- Mandatory project book and interview is the second Saturday in September

Additional opportunities

- Ohio State Fair- End of July
 - Entries due June 21
 - Must have attended a Quality Assurance by June 1
 - Read their rules at: <https://ohiostatefair.com/livestock/>
- Hartford Independent Fair
 - For eligibility both the following criteria must be met:
 - (1) They are enrolled in a youth organization in the following townships of Delaware Co. (Harlem/Centerburg Village, Trenton, Porter and Berkshire);
 - (2) They attend school in, or have residence within the specified townships
 - Must have attended a Quality Assurance by June 1
 - Read their rules at: <http://hartfordfair.com/premium-book.htm>
- American Rabbit Breeders Association show- March- November
 - Open and youth showing opportunities
 - Read more information at: <https://www.arba.net/Shows.php>