

RABBITS

Department 8

Check-In

Wednesday, 1 - 8 p.m., Pavilion 2 - Southwest corner

Market Class Weigh-In

Wednesday, 1 - 8 p.m., Pavilion 2 - Southwest corner

Judging

Pavilion 2 - Showring C
Friday, 8:30 a.m., Table 1, Conference Judging,
Class A: Commercial and Best Commercial followed by Class
B: Market Rabbits followed by Class D: Fancy Breeds and
Best Fancy

Friday, 8 a.m., Table 2, Individual Conference Judging,
Class C Pet Rabbits followed by Class E: Showmanship

Department Chairpersons

Mikayla Brey - (608) 228-9075
Tammy Brey - (608) 219-5735
Kendall Rogers - (608) 609-7399

Superintendents

Alexander Monarski, Jennifer Monarski, and Elizabeth Studee

Eligible 4-H Project Areas

Animal Sciences - Rabbits

*All exhibitors **MUST** enter Showmanship in the species they exhibit at the DCF. Exhibitors who are not entered in showmanship will automatically be entered prior to the Fair. If an exhibitor does not wish to participate in showmanship, they can scratch on-site at the Fair.*

Regulations

- Youth planning to show OR sell a small animal at the Dane County Fair will need to attend at least one educational meeting pertaining to the type of animal they intend to show or sell. Youth intending to sell an animal **MUST** attend a Small Animal Market Sale Meeting. They will then fill out an Educational Card to show they attended these meetings.
 - If an exhibitor plans to sell their animal at the Small Animal Market Sale, they **MUST** attend a qualifying meeting specifically targeted to those participating in the sale. This meeting is also considered an educational meeting.
- All rabbit exhibitors (breeding and market) must meet YQCA requirements. Youth must complete a training program each year by either attending an in-person session or completing an online course.** Visit <https://www.danecountyfair.com/p/youth-exhibitors/education-requirements--opportunities/small-animal-departments> for more information. Exhibitors must also attend one additional rabbit educational qualifying meeting. A copy of the rabbit education requirement form must be on file with the Fair Office by **June 15. Youth must upload YQCA and Education Requirement Forms online. No mailed forms will be accepted.** Exhibitors who have not met these requirements will be ineligible to exhibit rabbit projects at the Fair. Questions? Contact the Fair Office at info@danecountyfair.com.
- All exhibitors must read and adhere to the Youth Animal Exhibitor Code of Practice as stated on page 13.
- This Fair will be judged under the latest show rules of the American Rabbit Breeders Association. Ask any chair/superintendent for information on how to obtain a copy of these rules.
- Showmanship is recommended for all exhibitors. Be sure to enter the appropriate grade category. Judging is individual conference and will be done on a first come basis. A sign up sheet will be posted and judging will start at 9 a.m.
- Up to 15 lots may be entered per exhibitor, excluding Showmanship and Costume.

- All entries must be owned by the exhibitor by April 15 of the exhibit year.
- An exhibitor enrolled in the rabbit project may show two managerial animals. Exhibitors or their family members, showing managerial animals, may not own or show any other rabbits. A rabbit managerial form is available through the Fair Office and must be filled out and on file at the Fair Office by May 15 of the exhibit year. Questions? Contact the Dane County Fair Office at info@danecountyfair.com.
- Commercial, Market and Fancy breeds must be purebred. Breed must be included on the Fair entry form.
- Pet rabbits may be crossbreds.
- If unsure of rabbit's sex or breed, call the department chair. **Try to purchase rabbits with pedigree papers.** This can be important. Junior rabbits must be at least 12 weeks old to exhibit. Any animal(s) of questionable age will be accepted at the discretion of the committee. *Showing animals younger than 12 weeks is very stressful and could stunt future growth.*
- Exhibitors are responsible for the daily feeding and care of entries. Exhibitors are required to provide crocks or bottles for water and feed. Rabbits with improper dishes may be sent home. In addition, exhibitors are responsible for bringing their own bedding, such as wood shavings. Feeding, watering and cleaning must be completed by 10:00 a.m. each day of the Fair.
- All exhibitors** are responsible for the general housekeeping and clean-up in their area. Exhibitors must clean-up after their animals and regularly dispose of waste in an appropriate manner. Exhibitors must completely clean out their spaces at release time. Example: clean off boards, fold cages, and stack in a pile. **Please provide your own tools and equipment for clean-up.** Department chairs/superintendents will explain proper procedure for the department.
- Exhibitors must be present for judging. See a superintendent for any judging conflicts.
- All rabbits must be permanently and legibly tattooed. Tattoo number must be listed on the exhibitor's Dane County Fair entry form. Tattoos **MUST** be done before the Fair; rabbits will **NOT** be tattooed at the Fair. Contact Co-Chair, Mikayla Brey, with any questions and to schedule a tattoo appointment. Tattoo assistance will also be available June 21 from 10 - 11 a.m. at the Dane County 4-H Extension Office. **Sign up at:** <https://bit.ly/RabbitTattooing2025> If you cannot attend the June 21 tattooing appointment date, contact Mikayla at 608-228-9075 as soon as possible to arrange for a different date and time prior to the Fair.
- All Market Rabbits must be raised from birth by the exhibitor.
- All Market Rabbits will be weighed on check-in day. This weight will be used for judging. Any animal not making weight or over weight by more than 1/4 lbs. will not be eligible to sell in the Small Animal Market Sale. See further sale requirements under Small Animal Market Sale.
- Any rabbit showing signs of disease and/or colds will be removed from the show and sent home promptly. If one or more entry is showing signs of a highly contagious disease (ear mites, lice, snuffles, etc.), the superintendents have the right to send home all animals in that entry for the protection of the other animals.
- Superintendents have the right to carefully check the tattoo, condition, behavior or welfare of any animal as is necessary and bring any questions to the owner's attention.
- Any rabbit found to have been entered in the wrong class at the time of judging will be dropped a placement and be ineligible for further judging (e.g.: Best of Breed). Rabbit may still be shown in showmanship and costume class, if entered. If an exhibitor has any question on class entry, rabbit color, sex, weight, etc., Superintendents will be happy to assist to enter the rabbit in the proper class on check-in day, if asked.

Recommendations

- A long sleeve shirt or show coat should be worn when handling or showing your rabbit.**
- Exhibitors are encouraged to enter appropriate lots in Animal & Vet Sciences, Department 10.

- Clubs or individuals are encouraged to decorate their area and cages, display their club signs, and keep their area clean. Please use displays that are informative and educational to the general public. Please remove all decorations at the end of the Fair.

4. Terms

Commercial Breeds - used mainly for meat and fur.

Fancy Breeds - used mainly for pet and show.

A. Two classes are provided for all breeds under 9 lbs. senior ideal weight.

- Junior Rabbit** - under 6 months of age on Fair check-in day or not over maximum junior weight.
- Senior Rabbit** - over 6 months of age on check-in day.

B. Three classes are provided for all breeds having 9 lbs. or over minimum senior weight.

- Junior Rabbit** - under 6 months of age on check-in day or not over maximum junior weight (If over weight, must be entered as 6-8).
- 6 - 8 Rabbit** - 6 months of age and under 8 months of age on check-in day.
- Senior Rabbit** - 8 months of age or over on check-in day or having attained minimum senior weight.

Premiums:	Blue	Red	White	Pink
Class A, B, C, D	\$2.00	\$1.75	\$1.50	\$1.25
Class E	\$3.00	\$2.50	\$2.00	\$1.50
Class F	No Premiums Paid			

CLASS A. Commercial Meat Breeds

Sr	Sr	6-8	6-8	Jr	Jr	
Buck	Doe	Buck	Doe	Buck	Doe	
1)	2)	3)	4)	5)	6)	Californian
7)	8)	9)	10)	11)	12)	New Zealand (All colors)
13)	14)	15)	16)	17)	18)	Satins (All colors)
19)	20)	21)	22)	23)	24)	*Any other commercial meat breed (<i>Other commercial breeds include: American, American Chin, Argente Brun, Beveren, Blanc de Hotot, Champagne D'Argents, Cinnamon, Creme D'Argents, Giant Chin, Palomino, Silver Fox and Silver Martens</i>)

***Note:** Be sure to state breed on entry form. Flemish Giants are considered Any Other Fancy Breed.

CLASS B. Market Rabbits

(Must be purebred, raised by exhibitor and sold in the small animal market sale. Showmanship participation is mandatory.)

- Meat Pen - To consist of three rabbits, all the same breed and variety of either sex. No rabbit may be over 69 days old and may not be under 3 1/2 lbs. or 5 1/2 lbs. Rabbits may not be entered in any other lot.
- Single Fryer - A single rabbit, either sex, not over 69 days old and not under 3 1/2 lbs. or over 5 1/2 lbs. Rabbit may not be entered in any other lot.
- Roaster Rabbit - A single rabbit, either sex, between 69 and 180 days old and over 5 1/2 lbs, but not over 9 lbs. Rabbit may not be entered in any other lot.

****NEW FOR 2025****

Interested in Rabbits or Cavies?

The FREE Rabbit/Cavy Drawing is an excellent opportunity for youth interested in exhibiting Rabbits or Cavies to get involved with the project.

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Details

- The Free Rabbit/Cavy Drawing is open to any 4-H or FFA member not in the project or who only has one rabbit/cavy.
 - Priority will be given to youth who do not have an animal or who only have one of whichever species.
 - If there are still animals left after the priority youth are drawn, the drawing will be opened to all youth already in the project.
 - Youth who already have 2 or more animals may sign up to participate in the drawing with the understanding that they will only be able to participate only after the priority youths have been selected and if animals are remaining.
- Drawing form is available online at <https://www.danecountyfair.com/f/39> or on-site in the the Rabbit/Cavy area in Pavilion 2. If completing on-site, they must be turned into the Fair Entries Office in Mendota 2 by 5pm on Saturday, July 19. Questions? Contact the Fair Office at info@danecountyfair.com.
- On Sunday, July 20, participants are to check-in at the Rabbit/Cavy area in Pavilion 2 between 12 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. to collect a drawing ticket and review the animals.
- If you participate in the Drawing and are selected for a rabbit/cavy, you agree to show the animal in the 2026 Dane County Fair (July 16-19, 2026).
- Drawing participants must have their parents' permission. Parents and Club/Chapter Leaders MUST sign the drawing form.
- Once the youth's ticket is drawn, they will select an animal by pulling the information card from the cage of the one they are interested in.
- Drawn youths are not obligated to take an animal if the one(s) they are interested in are already claimed.
 - All youth who win an animal will be expected to sign a thank you card to the breeder who donated the animal.

The cavies and rabbits will be on display on Sunday, July 20 at the Fair. The drawing will be held at 4 p.m. in the Rabbit/Cavy area in Pavilion 2. All cavies and rabbits must stay in the Pavilion until animal release at 6:30 p.m. Drawing participants must be present to win.

CLASS C. Pet Rabbit

Single rabbit entries of either sex must have been in the exhibitor's possession since April 15 of the current year. Pet Rabbit Lots must be shown by the owner. Pet Rabbit Lots do not compete in Best of Show. This rabbit may only be shown in the owner's correct grade class, showmanship, and costume class; this rabbit **may not be shown in breed class**. The owner has chosen this rabbit to enter in the pet class and not breed class, meaning their maximum lots will be 6 lots in total instead of 15 lots. These Lots include pet class, showmanship, costume class, meat pen, single fryer, and roaster (has to be a meat breed rabbit). By choosing pet class, the owner understands that they give up their right to show in any breed class, Class A, and Class D. If you have any more questions, please contact the Chairperson.

Lots:

- Exhibitor - Grades 3-4
- Exhibitor - Grades 5-6
- Exhibitor - Grades 7-8
- Exhibitor - Grades 9+

CLASS D. Fancy Breeds

Sr	Sr	6-8	6-8	Jr	Jr	
Buck	Doe	Buck	Doe	Buck	Doe	
1)	2)	--	--	3)	4)	Dutch - all colors
5)	6)	--	--	7)	8)	Himalayan
9)	10)	--	--	11)	12)	Holland Lop - Solid
13)	14)	--	--	15)	16)	Holland Lop - Broken
17)	18)	--	--	19)	20)	Mini Lop
21)	22)	--	--	23)	24)	N. Dwarf - Self/Shaded
25)	26)	--	--	27)	28)	N. Dwarf - Agouti/AOV
29)	30)	--	--	31)	32)	N. Dwarf - Tan
33)	34)	--	--	35)	36)	Mini Rex - Self/Shaded
37)	38)	--	--	39)	40)	Mini Rex - Agouti/Tan
41)	42)	--	--	43)	44)	Mini Rex - Broken
45)	46)	--	--	47)	48)	Mini Rex - Any other reg color
49)	50)	--	--	51)	52)	Polish - Black
53)	54)	--	--	55)	56)	Polish - Blue
57)	58)	--	--	59)	60)	Polish - Broken
61)	62)	--	--	63)	64)	Polish - Any other reg color
65)	66)	--	--	67)	68)	Rex - Solid color
69)	70)	--	--	71)	72)	Rex - Broken color
73)	74)	--	--	75)	76)	Rex - Any other reg color
77)	78)	79)	80)	81)	82)	*Any other Fancy Breed <i>(includes any breed not listed in any other commercial or any other wool breed, if breed does not have a class)</i>
83)	84)	85)	86)	87)	88)	*Any other Wool Breed <i>(includes American Fuzzy Lop, English Angora, French Angora, Giant Angora, Jersey Wooly, Lionhead and Satin Angora)</i>

***Note:** Be sure to state breed on entry form.

CLASS E. Showmanship

- 1) Exhibitor - Grade 3-4
- 2) Exhibitor - Grade 5-6
- 3) Exhibitor - Grade 7-8
- 4) Exhibitor - Grade 9+

CLASS F. Costume Class

An exhibitor must submit an entry for the Costume Class in the appropriate grade class in order to participate.

- 1) Exhibitor - Grade 3-5
- 2) Exhibitor - Grade 6-8
- 3) Exhibitor - Grade 9+

Special Awards and Sponsorships

Rabbit Department Chairs & Superintendents: Trophy to best in each Costume Class and Showmanship Class.

Miller & Sons Supermarket: All ribbons. Awards: Best Commercial Rabbit, Best Fancy Rabbit, Best Market Rabbit, Best Pet Rabbit. Rosettes: Best Meat Pen Rabbits, Best Single Fryer Rabbits, Best Roaster Rabbits, Reserve Champion Showmanship Rosettes, Best Rabbit of each Breed Division.

Sugar River Rabbitry: Clean Barn Award - presented to the Club/Chapter who keeps their rabbits and area neat and clean during the Fair. Based on clean rabbit cages and aisles, draping to hide tack/supplies, rabbits being properly cared for, and other unique and special displays. Best Decorations Award - presented to the Club/Chapter who decorates their area the best during the Fair. Based on originality, colorfulness, educational or descriptive, and uniqueness. Decorations must be put up by exhibitors only. All decorations must be in place by Thursday evening. Traveling Trophies - Best Commercial Rabbit and Best Overall Fancy Rabbit