

March 2025

TO: 4-H Poultry/Waterfowl Exhibitors
RE: Spring 4-H Livestock Updates

Happy Spring!

It's hard to believe that May is right around the corner. Cats, Dogs, and **Poultry** have paper entry forms due to the Extension Office by the deadline (May 15th).

Enclosed with this letter are step-by-step directions for identifying your **Poultry/ Waterfowl** animals on the paper form. It will be **YOUR** responsibility to turn it in by the deadline. **Additionally, the Extension Office will also be open until 7 p.m. on May 15th to help you with your 4-H needs.** You will be able to enter information on 4-HOnline, purchase manuals, buy poster board, or get anything else you need for 4-H!

This letter contains information related to your Poultry/Waterfowl animals. Additional livestock mailings will be sent out separately due to additional resources and/or instructions provided for those mailings. There are separate mailings for Beef/Dairy/Goats/Rabbits/Sheep, Horse/Pony and Llama/Alpaca, Swine, Cat, and Dog for exhibitors enrolled in these projects.

Hendricks County 4-H Poultry and Waterfowl Entry Form and Pigeon Ownership Form:

The Hendricks County 4-H Poultry and Waterfowl Ownership Form is enclosed with this communication.

- If you need more than one entry form, you can print them off of our website at <https://hendricksco4h.com/HCGS> or in the Extension Office.
- Follow the example(s) listed on the form and complete all the necessary information.
- Refer to the 2025 Hendricks County 4-H Handbook for possible classes and breeds.
- There is also the Standard of Perfection Book available at the Extension Office for use.
- If you need help completing your form, please contact the Extension Office or your Project Club Leader, **Amy McKamey** (amy@heritagemeadowsfarm.net).
- The Indiana State Poultry Association has issued the *2025 Purdue Extension Indiana County Fair Poultry Booklet* for review or you can check with your Project Club Leader **Amy McKamey** at amy@heritagemeadowsfarm.net

Ownership Forms must be filled out and returned to the Extension Office by mail or email by May 15th. If they are turned in late, you will not be able to exhibit a live bird. However, you will be able to exhibit a poster. **You will only be able to exhibit animals listed on the Entry Forms!**

2025 Pullorum-Typhoid (P-T) Testing:

The Indiana State Poultry Association has reinstated the P-T testing rule due to the increased availability of antigen once again. We will be offering (P-T) testing this summer. This testing will be offered on two dates, **June 29th and July 30th** from 12-4pm both days. A **POULTRY EXHIBITOR FORM for P-T** has been included in this mailing for your use. **You MUST have this done before coming to fair! No tests will be given AT fair. Paperwork will be checked upon arrival.** You may also have animals tested by other NPIP certified testers, or show an NPIP certificate from the hatchery where they purchased their birds.

Fair Entry 2025

4-H Poultry members must have completed entry forms turned in by May 15th to the Hendricks County Extension Office. Poultry members will once again be asked to sign up for **Fair Classes via FairEntry starting around June 1st.** More information will be sent to you late-May about FairEntry.

2025 4-H Project Updates

Be sure to check the handbook for project updates for your specific species this year! Hard copies of the handbook are available in the Extension Office for \$5. Digital copies available on our website:

<https://hendricksco4h.com/handbook2025>. Be sure to read the general guidelines as well as project specific rules!

4-H Livestock Quality Assurance Program (IQLC)

In previous years, livestock members were required to participate in a Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training. Horse & Pony, Llama/Alpaca, Cat, Dog, and Little Critters are exempt. This year, a livestock quality assurance program is still required.

- **Option 1:** In person training of the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program. Cost is \$3. We have several trainings set for Hendricks County and will share surrounding County options as well. *Payment for these events will be CASH or CHECK for exact amount and must be paid at the event. Checks can be made payable to Trustees of Purdue University.*
- **Option 2:** Online training through YQCA. Cost is \$12. There is a test out option for an additional fee. Link for YQCA is: www.yqcaprogram.org. If you are planning to show outside of Indiana, you must complete YQCA!

You **DO NOT** have to complete **BOTH!** **ONLY ONE** is required for all livestock except Cat, Dog, Llama/Alpaca, Horse & Pony and Little Critters. You can pick the best option for you. Both of these options available for participating in the Indiana State Fair livestock shows for the designated species. Dates for the in-person Hendricks County trainings are currently:

- April 29; Fairgrounds @ 6:30 p.m.
- May 22; Fairgrounds @ 6:30 p.m.
- June 17; Fairgrounds @ 10 a.m.
- June 17; Fairgrounds @ 6 p.m.

If attending the in-person training, members should sign up in 4Honline for each training to be able to receive a completion certificate. You can find this sign-up on 4-HOnline under the events tab. Receipts will be given out at the end of each meeting to prove payment and attendance for trainings completed at Hendricks County. See handout for dates of other counties around us.

Recommended Practices to Protect Avian Health at Indiana Poultry Shows and Exhibitions:

The Board of Animal Health (BOAH) has released recommendations to keep your animals healthy while preparing for show. Below are some suggestions of steps to take before exhibition.

- Birds travelling to Indiana from other states must comply with Indiana's poultry health importation requirements, including a certificate of veterinary inspection written within 30 days and/or NPIP flock status documentation (such as the 9-2 or 9-3). Specific details are online at: <https://hendricksco4h.com/poultry2025>
- Consult a veterinarian to understand and implement applicable biosecurity and bird health practices at home.
- Minimize contact with wild birds and waterfowl.
 - Arrange to house exhibition poultry indoors.
 - Remove food and water sources that attract wild birds.
- Minimize the number of people who have contact with your birds; particularly limit contact between your flock and other people who own birds.
- Avoid personal contact with birds other than your own.
- Avoid personal contact with wildlife, especially wild birds and waterfowl.
- Keep tools and equipment clean.
 - Clean cages and food and water containers daily.
- Wash hands with soap and water and wear clean boots and clothing to work with your birds.
 - Wash and disinfect boots after working with birds.
 - Consider having dedicated boots and clothing for working with your birds.
- Become familiar with the clinical signs of highly pathogenic avian influenza in birds:
 - Sudden death
 - Wheezing, coughing, nasal discharge
 - Decreased energy
 - Decreased feed intake
 - Drop in egg production or egg quality
 - Swelling and/or discoloration of eyes, head, neck
 - Tremors, circling, drooping wings, twisting of head and neck

- Seek veterinary assistance if a bird becomes sick.
 - Isolate sick birds immediately by moving them away from other birds and placing in a separate pen.
 - Tend to sick birds after tending to healthy birds.
 - If any birds exhibit illness within 14 days prior to traveling to the show, no birds (healthy or sick) from your flock should be taken to any shows or exhibitions.
 - Personally, refrain from attending bird shows and exhibitions (even without birds) if your birds are sick.
- Understand the risks of taking a bird to an exhibition
- Ask the exhibition organizer about any specific actions that may be required if a bird becomes sick at the show.
- Refrain from attending another event with your birds for at least two weeks after returning from an exhibition to reduce the risk of spreading disease.

2025 Fair Information

Mark your calendars for important check in and show dates for the 2025 Hendricks County 4-H Fair! See enclosed schedule for your species' important dates!

Please note: If you are interested in exhibiting a poster, notebook, or display related to a species you are presenting during the 2025 Hendricks County 4-H Fair, you will need to enroll in the "Animal Education" Project in addition to this species. It is allowed to both show a live animal and exhibit a poster/display/notebook, but *do not have* to do both. More details about shows and other Fair information will be sent at a later date.

Important Upcoming Dates

- Monday, April 22, 2025 – Poultry Workshop – 7-9pm – Hendricks County Fairgrounds
- Tuesday, April 29, 2025- Livestock Quality Assurance Program - 6pm - Hendricks County Fairgrounds
- Thursday, May 15, 2025 - Livestock Enrollment Deadline (4-H Online)
- Tuesday, May 13, 2025 - Extension Office Open Late until 7:00pm
- Thursday, May 15, 2025 - Extension Office Open Late until 7:00pm
- Thursday, May 20, 2025- Poultry Workshop - 7-9pm - Hendricks County Fairgrounds
- Thursday, May 22, 2025- Livestock Quality Assurance Program – 6:30pm - Hendricks County Fairgrounds
- Tuesday, June 10, 2025- Poultry Workshop - 7-9pm - Hendricks County Fairgrounds
- Tuesday, June 17, 2025- Livestock Quality Assurance Program - 10am - Hendricks County Fairgrounds
- Tuesday, June 17, 2025- Livestock Quality Assurance Program - 6pm - Hendricks County Fairgrounds
- Sunday, June 29, 2025- Poultry Blood Testing and Health Check - 12-4pm - Hendricks County Fairgrounds
- Sunday, July 6, 2025- Poultry Blood Testing and Health Check - 12-4pm - Hendricks County Fairgrounds

If you have additional questions or need further assistance entering your animal on 4-HOnline, please contact the Extension Office – 317-745-9260.

Thank you for all you do for OUR 4-H Program!

Ashley Alexander

Ashley Alexander
Extension Educator

Amy McKamey

Amy McKamey
Poultry Club Leader

Enclosures: Animal Identification in 4-H Online; Hendricks County 2025 Required Animal ID per species; 2025 Grooming Assistance Application, ILQAP Flyer, Indiana Exhibitors Form, 2025 Hendricks County Poultry Entry Form, and Fair Schedule

