

## 2015 Greene County Jr. Fair Poultry Projects: Avian Influenza Plan

On June 3, 2015, the Ohio Department of Agriculture announced a decision to cancel all live bird exhibitions at fairs. No birds or poultry animals can be brought for exhibition. This includes market and fancy chickens, market and breeding ducks, market and breeding turkeys, guinea, and goose projects.

The Poultry Committee, Senior Fairboard Representatives, and the OSU Extension Office met to discuss alternatives. Please read this information carefully because it contains specific information on how to complete the poultry projects without bringing live animals to the fair including how to participate in the sale.

### Ohio 4-H Statement:

*Agricultural and food animal production involves both rewards and risks. Weather and diseases are factors that can and do negatively impact production. Avian influenza is one such disease. Part of the overall 4-H youth development experience is providing positive and supportive environments and experiences in which youth learn from the thrill of successes. Equally important, youth members also learn to cope with the sting of disappointments. The negative impacts of avian influenza are certainly a tremendous disappointment. At the same time, it is also an opportunity to learn important life lessons in effectively coping with and responding to challenging situations. Youth will benefit from adult support to help them develop effective knowledge, skills, and strategies to do so. Yes, they won't be showing the live animal they originally had intended to show, but they will be learning how a disease can affect an animal and an industry.*

### 2015 Poultry Project Guidelines:

1. Youth **MUST** pick up chickens on Wednesday, June 17 from 2:00-4:00 in the Sales Office. Youth will not be eligible to participate and sell if they do not pick up chickens.
2. Poster: This will replace the birds for judging. This will be proof of a completed project. This must be completed for all poultry exhibitors, fancy and market. Youth must follow the guidelines below:
  - a. One poster per type of species
    - i. 1 poster for all meat projects (ducks, chickens, turkeys)
    - ii. 1 poster for all fancy projects including production and any exhibition birds
  - b. Poster must be:
    - i. 18" x 24" and hanging vertically
    - ii. Include at least 1 picture of exhibitor in show apparel and birds show ready
    - iii. Summary statement consisting of one paragraph describing your project experience. This could include daily routines, challenges experienced, information about the breed, etc.
    - iv. One more item / topic of choice related to project
  - c. Poster must be dropped off between 3:00-6:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 1, 2015
  - d. Youth will be randomly put into 12 exhibitors per class by age.
3. Book check: Books need to be dropped off between 3:00-6:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 1, 2015
  - a. Books will be ready for pick up starting on Monday, August 3, 2015 during business hours (8:30-4:30 p.m.)
  - b. Book must be 150 Poultry Record Book, a feed book, or a FFA record book
  - c. Book must have youth name and club on front
4. Skill-a-thons
  - a. Skill-a-thons are mandatory for all poultry exhibitors.
  - b. They will be offered July 21 & July 22 from 10:00-2:00 p.m. in the Buckeye Room at the Extension Office
  - c. They will also be offered Wednesday, August 5 in the show arena at 9:00 a.m.
5. Eggs for all production projects
  - a. Youth should bring clean eggs. This is at least 1 dozen and no more than 2 dozen. Eggs must be clean of fecal and blood matter.
  - b. These should be dropped off Saturday, August 1 from 3:00-6:00 p.m.
6. Champion Exhibitor will be decided based off a combination of poster / interview (40%), book check (30%), and skill-a-thons (30%).
7. Ages will be as follows: Ages all based of 4-H age as of January 1
  - a. Beginning: 8-10 year olds
  - b. Intermediate: 11-13 year olds
  - c. Advanced: 14 and older



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Sale:

1. The sale will take place during the originally scheduled time.
2. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Market Ducks will sell first with the remaining in alphabetically order.
3. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Market Turkey will sell after the market ducks followed by class winners and then alphabetically.
4. Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Market Chicken will sell after the market turkeys followed by class winners and then alphabetically.

Fancy Chickens:

1. Youth must complete all requirements and will exhibit in classes divided randomly.

Quality Assurance is a requirement for all poultry exhibitors.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

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