



Small Animal Market Projects

Turkeys-Should be started as early in the spring as you can purchase them (January-March) In order to make weight for the Fair. Hens Minimum 14 lbs, Toms Minimum 23lbs.

Geese-Very seasonal in their breeding habits. Obtain them as early as possible, but that may be only March or April for these birds. Goose Minimum 10 lbs., Gander minimum 11 lbs.

Ducks-again seasonal breeders and should be purchased as early as they are available. Be sure that you are buying a large market or exhibition variety. Duck minimum 7 lbs., Drake minimum 8 lbs.

Chickens-Potential Roasters should be started as early as March or April. Shown as a lot of 2 birds each to weigh 5 lbs or over.

Broilers are started much later. From May 15 through May 30, generally is a good time, but it depends on the rate of growth as they are to weigh between 2.5 and 5 lbs each and are also shown as a pair.

The best type of bird to use for this competition is a Heavy Cornish X Rock cross. They grow at an astounding rate compared to most other heavy breeds. But you need to find out from the breeder the best way to feed them to have success with them.

Rabbits- fryers to be not over 69 days old and between 3.5 and 5 lbs. Rosater to be between 69 and 180 days old and not over 8 lbs. A meat pen is comprised of 3 rabbits of the fryer size and age and must be the same breed and well matched in size, color and type.

One animal that we have never had in the sale as a commercial Market bird is Commercial Pigeons or Squab. This is an area that we could look into developing if there would be interest expressed by competitors. Let the committee know if you are interested and would exhibit in such a display.

There's still plenty of time to start chickens for broilers!



Market Projects are weighed on Fair check-in day. Lottery numbers for placement in the Sale catalog are drawn at the same time as the animal is weighed.

Pointers to make your Sale Day go Better

1. Do your best Raising your project.
2. Contact Bidders before the Fair, get them gate passes to get into the Fair.
(did you send out your Thank You notes last year?)
3. Show up Early on sale day to help set up
4. Keep your animals clean at the Fair.
5. Definitely be present at the sale, acknowledge and greet the people who have come to the sale for you.
6. Be ready when it is your turn to have your animal(s) up front.
7. Thank the bidder and give them their bidders gift (hat or rosette)
8. Stay at the sale after your animal is sold to fill out the paperwork and we might take a group picture.
9. Be sure that the animal is delivered to the buyer in a timely manner and be sure you know if they want the animal live, dressed or at a later date (like Thanksgiving for Turkeys).
10. Send Thank you notes to your buyers and if possible place a Thank you note in the Local Newspaper for the town where the buyer lives.

