



MANATEE COUNTY FAIR 2020
Rabbits

FAIR LIVESTOCK DIRECTOR: Jim Parks
AREA SUPERINTENDENT: Sue McGonegal

New on-line registration this year for all exhibitors! Your paperwork must be completed by Monday, Oct. 21, 2019 by Midnight.

Please remember to have every item on the registration complete. Failure to complete the on-line registration will result in disqualification from the fair.

A mandatory exhibitor meeting will be required. Exhibitor must bring their rabbit(s), (exceptions: Meat Pens) to the October 5th meeting, to ascertain breed and variety. A parent or guardian must accompany the exhibitor to the meeting which takes place on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019 between 9 am to 12 pm at the Mosaic Arena.

SCHEDULE

Mandatory meeting-	Saturday October 5, 2019 9am-12PM Mosaic arena
On-line registration-	October 6th- October 21, 2019
Rabbit Check-In:	Wednesday, January 15, 2020 @ 2-7 pm - Powell Bldg.
Rabbit Judging:	Thursday, January 16, 2020 @ 6 pm – Cook Arena
Rabbit Showmanship:	Friday, January 17, 2020 @ 5 pm in Cook Arena
Dairy, Swine and Horse Judging-	Saturday January 18, 2020
	(Registration- 7:30 AM Judging begins promptly at 8:00 AM)
Rabbit Meat Pen Auction-	Sat., Jan. 18, 2020 after Swine Sale- Mosaic Arena
Rabbits Out:	Saturday, January 18, 2020 @ 8 pm – Powell Bldg.
Beef Breeding, Steer, and Goat Judging-	Saturday January 25, 2020
	(Registration- 7:30 AM Judging begins promptly at 8:00 AM)
Awards Presentation:	Saturday January 25, 2020 @ 7 pm – Mosaic Arena

RABBIT RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All exhibitors must be a *bona fide* member of a Manatee County 4-H Specialty Club or FFA Chapter. No one who has graduated from High School will be eligible to show. All 4-H and FFA Exhibitors must attend a Manatee County Public School or reside in Manatee County. Home Schooled Exhibitors must live in Manatee County. **All Exhibitors at the Manatee County Fair must have completed one class of ethics training before being allowed to show. There will be an Ethics Training Class administered on October 19th at the Manatee County Fairgrounds. Exhibitors will be required to sign up for the class at the following site when it is available. <http://www.floridastatefairag.com/pdffiles/live-et...>**
2. No exhibition of livestock by anyone less than 8 years of age (as of September 1) will be allowed. Exhibitor age as of September 1, 2019 will determine the class in which the exhibitor will show. (Juniors are age 8-10, Intermediates are ages 11-13, and seniors are ages 14 and up.)
3. At Final Fair check-in, Exhibitor and animal must be together in order for animal to be checked in. A parent or legal guardian must complete all required documentation. The Manatee River Fair Board encourages parents to be involved in their child's 4-H and FFA Projects.

**** Exhibitors are not allowed to change animal exhibits after the initial check-in ****

4. A signed release of liability form prepared by the Fair Association must be presented before animals are accepted at the Fair.
5. All exhibitors must be in good standing with their respective clubs to exhibit at the Manatee County Fair. All exhibitors will show in the 4-H Club or FFA Chapter in which they registered their livestock at their respective check-in event.
6. Each exhibitor assumes all liability in case of death or injury to his/her animal.
7. All exhibitors must be in their official 4-H and FFA dress, during the show as specified by their respective animal area.
8. No Substitute exhibitors are allowed unless there are extreme reasons and granted permission by the Manatee County Fair Livestock Committee.
9. All Exhibitors participating in their respective showmanship areas must utilize only the animal that they initially checked in under their name.

10. All record books must be up to date and checked in to the designated committee at time of animal registration at the Fair. An up to date record book is required on ALL Rabbits that were registered at the initial check-in, whether that Rabbit made it to the fair or not. A committee of fair representatives will check in record books. Record Books are required to be turned in at the final check in for the exhibitor to be eligible to show the next year in the Manatee County Fair.
11. All livestock health regulations must follow Florida State Guidelines and must be transported to the Manatee County Fair in accordance with those guidelines.
12. Use of drugs not in compliance with manufacturer's label as to dosage, time limitations and show regulations is prohibited. The use of any calming agents on animals during the Fair or the possession of same by a 4-H or FFA member or anyone assisting said member with his or her animal is prohibited. Violation of this provision shall disqualify the animal from competition and any awards or premiums, including sale price of animal, shall be forfeited. If medical treatment is deemed necessary, the exhibitor or parent must notify the Livestock Director and/or Barn Superintendent, prior to administering treatment to the animal in any way.
13. All animals are subject to being examined and blood tested for any drug usage at any time. Refusal by the 4-H or FFA member to submit their animal to such examination or test will result in immediate disqualification and forfeiture of all premiums and awards, including sale price.
14. Upon disqualification, pursuant to Paragraphs No. 12 and 13 the affected animal shall immediately be removed from the Fairgrounds.
15. On-site inspections of any livestock may be made by authorized agents of the Manatee River Fair Association at any time, after first check-in or before Fair.
16. Exhibitors will be required to make a one-time purchase of a \$25 Security Entrance Pass that will give unlimited access to the fair for the entire run of the fair. Families will be allowed to purchase (4) additional Security Entrance Passes at \$25 each which provide unlimited access to the fair. Tickets are no longer given for fair entry.
16. **Application Registration: All applications must be complete.** No rabbits under 3 months of age at time of application. Exception: Meat Pen entry – Rabbit.
17. All entries must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor, or have been in foster care of the exhibitor for at least 90 days prior to day of showing, proven by certificate showing Proof of Ownership, or Proof of Foster Care by Exhibitor affidavit, with appropriate signatures releasing the care of the animal and continuing supervision for the duration of project by both owner of animal and 4-H/FFA Club leader. Any meat pen project must have exhibitor in possession of brood animal at least 100 days

prior to day of showing. **It is up to each individual exhibitor to locate or breed their own meat pen rabbits. The Manatee County Fair does not provide rabbits for exhibitors or give refunds if you were unable to locate rabbits.**

18. Each exhibitor will be limited to a maximum of eight (8) rabbit entries per person, 4-H Club or FFA Chapter. One entry is one buck, one doe, or one meat pen entry (3 rabbits of same breed and variety) of any breed. However, if after registration, it is determined there is not enough space, the maximum number of rabbits that each exhibitor can show may be reduced. 19. Manatee County Fair 2020 will have the sale of Meat Pens in conjunction with exhibitors who also raise and sell steer or swine projects. If any exhibitor wishes to sell a steer or swine, they may also sell ONE meat pen of EITHER poultry or rabbits. If any exhibitor does not have a steer or swine to raise and sell, they may sell ONE meat pen of BOTH poultry and rabbits. Each exhibitor must write a minimum of three (3) letters to prospective buyers for each meat pen intended for sale. Copies of these must be turned in with your record book at the final check-in.
19. All rabbits (including Meat Pens) will be accepted at the Fair on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 between 2 – 7 pm and must not be removed before 8 pm on Sat., January 18, 2020. No does with litters, or pregnant does of more than (2) weeks will be accepted. Does showing signs of pregnancy will be palpated.
20. **Any individual rabbit or meat pen that is obviously a cross-breed which does not conform to a breed standard will not be accepted.**
21. **AT CHECK-IN, AND DURING FAIR, ANY ANIMAL FOUND TO BE ILL, DISEASED OR INSECT INFESTED WILL BE REMOVED AND SENT HOME IMMEDIATELY.**
22. Judging will be by the Danish System. Trophies will be presented for each of the following: Best in Show, 1st Reserve, and 2nd Reserve. Trophies will be presented for 1st Place in Showmanship for each age division of the Exhibitor – for Senior, Intermediate and Juniors. Rosettes will be presented to 2nd and 3rd place winners for Showmanship for each age division of the Exhibitors – for Senior, Intermediate and Juniors. A trophy will be presented for the Best Meat Pen.

New Meat Pen Rabbit Sale Rules- Exhibitors of sale animals must be present at the sale and move their own meat pen to Mosaic Arena. The exhibitor will present a thank you letter and picture-plaque to their buyer. **Exhibitors must ensure meat is delivered to their buyer.** Failure to follow the above rules or the general rules of the Manatee River Fair Association Youth Livestock Show will result in disciplinary action up to expulsion from the barn, disqualification from the show, removal from the sale and possible loss of premiums or awards. Exhibitor must submit verification to the fair office by July 1st with a signature from the buyer to obtain their sale

checks. Add-On checks will be mailed when each exhibitor's add-on monies are received by the fair office.

Fair premium money must be picked up within 90 days of the end of the fair or it will be forfeited.

Saleable animals including Steers, Swine, Beef Breeding, Dairy, Rabbit and Poultry Meat Pens will have six percent (6%) of each exhibitor's sale price and any add-ons deducted by the Fair Association to help defray expenses.

23. The following classes will apply to the Rabbit Show:

CLASS 4 – Senior Buck (age of rabbit DAY OF SHOW – 6 months or older)

CLASS 4 – Senior Doe (age of rabbit DAY OF SHOW – 6 months or older)

CLASS 4 – Junior Buck (age of rabbit DAY OF SHOW – 6 months or younger)

CLASS 4 – Junior Doe (age of rabbit DAY OF SHOW – 6 months or younger)

CLASS 6 – Senior Buck (age of rabbit DAY OF SHOW – 8 months or older)

CLASS 6 – Senior Doe (age of rabbit DAY OF SHOW – 8 months or older)

CLASS 6 – Intermediate Buck (age of rabbit DAY OF SHOW – 6-8 months)

CLASS 6 – Intermediate Doe (age of rabbit DAY OF SHOW – 6-8 months)

CLASS 6 – Junior Buck (age of rabbit DAY OF SHOW – 6 months or younger)

CLASS 6 – Junior Doe (age of rabbit DAY OF SHOW – 6 months or younger)

24. Rabbits will be shown by each breed, then by varieties within each breed, in the following order: Senior Bucks, Senior Does, (when applicable) Intermediate Bucks, (when applicable) Intermediate Does, Junior Bucks, Junior Does. Meat Pen entries will be judged at judge's preference. **It is the exhibitor's responsibility to move their rabbit to the judging table and back to its cage after judging. If you are not there, you must have a designated replacement arranged beforehand to move your rabbit(s) or the rabbit will not be judged.**

25. Rabbit Showmanship is not mandatory. At Rabbit Check-In, a sign-up sheet will be available to reserve your approximate time to make your Showmanship presentation.

26. Rabbit Showmanship will be shown in the following classes: (Age of Exhibitor on September 1, 2019) Senior 14-18 yrs., Intermediate 11-13 yrs., and Junior 8-10 yrs. Trophies will be presented for the 1st Place winner of each class, with rosettes being presented to 2nd and 3rd place winners for each age division of Exhibitors (Seniors, Intermediates & Juniors)

27. All 4-H and FFA member's Project Books must be up-to-date and presented at the time entries are checked-in at the Fair in order to qualify and any time upon request. Each exhibitor must attend the mandatory meeting on Saturday, October 5, 2019 between 9 AM to 12 Noon to be eligible to show at the Fair. It is mandatory to bring Rabbit(s) to Registration. Exhibitors must have a valid Ethics Certification.

On-line registration of animals will begin Sunday, Oct. 6, 2019 through Monday, Oct. 21, 2019 by Midnight.

28. The Livestock Committee reserves the right to refuse entry for health or appearance reasons if the entry does not comply with the rules and regulations of the Rabbit Show. **All rabbits will be judged on soundness, evidence of care, freedom from dirt, disease or parasites.**
29. **Exhibitors shall provide daily care each day of Rabbit Show, including all feed, hay, bowls, sanitation, etc... The Fair will provide housing and shavings under cages. All due care of Fair Committee shall be given to ensure proper housing will be given to animals. Exhibitors shall be liable for feed, water and sanitation of their own animals. Evidence of negligence will result in the Exhibitor being contacted and made to remove rabbit(s) immediately.**
30. Rabbits will enter the fairgrounds at Gate 1 on the corner of 17th St. and 14th Ave. Vehicles blocking Gate 1 will be towed at the owner's expense. Exhibitors may use Gate 1 in the morning before 9AM when coming to feed and water animals. There will be no parking along the west end of the arena at any time! Essentials may be dropped off and then vehicles will proceed to the livestock parking area. Violators will have their vehicles towed at the owner's expense.
31. **The Manatee County Fair will not be responsible for loss by accidents, fire, theft, escape or providential destruction. All possible care will be taken in receiving, cooping, feeding, caring for and returning animals. The show committee reserves the right to reject any entry.**

Manatee County Fair Web-Site

The Manatee County Fair has its own web page!! If you lose your rule book please go to www.manateecountyfair.com and you can print these items right off the site. Please check the web page periodically to see if there are any updates that pertain to your livestock area. Registration paperwork for all animal areas is located on the Fair web-site.

QUESTIONS

If you have a question about your entry into the Manatee County Fair, please follow the chain-of-command as listed below:

1st – contact your **CLUB LEADER**; if they are unable to answer your question,

then

2nd – contact your **AREA SUPERINTENDENT** – Rabbits, Sue McGonegal;
(941) 812-5425 and if she is unable to answer your question,

then

3rd – contact the **FAIR LIVESTOCK DIRECTOR** – Rabbits,
Jim Parks (941) 722-1639