

# Commercial Layer Pen Information



The Commercial Laying Pens are responsible in an explosion of interest in raising egg producing chickens. Egg-producing hens have great personalities and is a great starter project for 4-H and FFA members that want to learn or extend their pure breed poultry fair project. Hens for the Laying Pens must be at least 8 months to 1 year old at the time of County Fair. So if the exhibitor is starting with chicks they will need to purchase chicks from Tractor Supply or another feed store/ seller as early as May. If birds are purchased in September the chicks will need to be at least 4 months old. A Laying Pen will consist of three (3) laying pullets/hens of the same breed and variety (this will be considered as One (1) Exhibit).

The following laying breeds are encouraged: Females only of White Leghorn, Rhode Island Red, Barred Rock, Sex Link, and California Whites. Each exhibitor is solely responsible for caring for their hens, both at home and at the fair.

All Exhibitors are responsible for sending out three (3) buyer's letters to family, friends, and/or local businesses. Monthly Egg Record Sheets (To be handed out at the Mandatory Meeting) will need to be filled out and placed in their Record Books.

Exhibitors must prepare a "Thank You Letter" to the buyer of his or her Laying Pen. The letter will be given to the poultry barn supervisor (Needs to be turned in during check in) to mail to the buyer. The Layer Pens will be sold in the form of a silent auction that will be held from January 20, 2020 – January 24, 2020.

\*Sale proceeds will not be disbursed until letters are submitted and payment is received from Buyer(s). Six percent (6%) of each exhibitor's sale price and any add-ons will be deducted by the Fair Association to help defray expenses.

