

Dutchess County 4-H

Rabbit & Cavy

Curriculum



Includes the following program levels:

CLOVERBUD

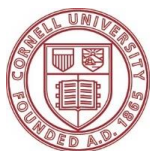
BEGINNER

INTERMEDIATE

SENIOR

Created by the Dutchess County Rabbit & Cavy Advisory

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Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Dutchess County

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4-H Rabbit & Cavy Advisory
General Rabbit Curriculum for 4-H Members



- **IDENTIFY BREEDS**
- **IDENTIFY PARTS OF THE RABBIT**
- **HANDLING A RABBIT**
- **DISEASE KNOWLEDGE**
- **GENERAL RABBIT CARE KNOWLEDGE**
- **BREEDING KNOWLEDGE**
- **RABBIT SHOW KNOWLEDGE**



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Advisory

Rabbit Curriculum for 4-H Members



CLOVERBUDS

- **IDENTIFY BREEDS**
 - Able to identify the breed of the animal they are showing
 - Able to name at least 5 different breeds
- **IDENTIFY PARTS OF THE RABBIT**
 - Able to identify at least 10 parts of the rabbit correctly
- **HANDLING A RABBIT**
 - Able to pick up and carry a rabbit correctly and safely
- **DISEASE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Able to name at least 3 different diseases/conditions that are problems
- **GENERAL RABBIT CARE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows basic needs of rabbit with regard to food, water, and shelter
- **BREEDING KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows a few basic terms: buck, doe, kits, kindling, and nest box
- **RABBIT SHOW KNOWLEDGE**
 - Show etiquette like walking to the table, stay on the right side of the table, and no talking while the judge is speaking



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Advisory

Rabbit Curriculum for 4-H Members



BEGINNERS

- **IDENTIFY BREEDS**
 - Able to identify the breed and color of the animal they are showing
 - Able to name at least 10 different breeds
- **IDENTIFY PARTS OF THE RABBIT**
 - Able to identify at least 12 parts of the rabbit correctly, mentioning what to look for in at least 5 parts
- **HANDLING A RABBIT**
 - Able to pick up and carry a rabbit correctly and safely
 - Able to turn a rabbit over properly, check teeth, sex, and toenails safely
- **DISEASE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Able to name at least 5 different diseases/conditions that are problems, with a brief description of what to look for and where
- **GENERAL RABBIT CARE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows basic needs of rabbit with regard to food, water, shelter, sanitation, and feed components (fiber, protein%)
- **BREEDING KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows a few basic terms: buck, doe, kits, kindling, nest box, gestation, weaning, and fostering
 - Knows normal gestation period, what is normal in baby rabbits
- **RABBIT SHOW KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows some basic show terms: junior, senior, fault, disqualification
 - Basic knowledge of how rabbits are judged (Standards of Perfection)



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Advisory

Rabbit Curriculum for 4-H Members



INTERMEDIATE

- **IDENTIFY BREEDS**
 - Able to identify the breed, color, varieties, and wt. standards of the animal they are showing
 - Able to name at least 20 different breeds
- **IDENTIFY PARTS OF THE RABBIT**
 - Able to identify all parts of the rabbit correctly, mentioning what to look for in at least 10 parts
- **HANDLING A RABBIT**
 - Able to pick up and carry a rabbit correctly and safely
 - Able to turn a rabbit over properly, check teeth, sex, & toenails safely
- **DISEASE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Able to name at least 10 different diseases/conditions that are problems, with a brief description of what to look for and where, and how to treat and/or prevent
- **GENERAL RABBIT CARE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows basic needs of rabbit with regard to food, water, shelter, sanitation, and feed components (fiber, protein%)
- **BREEDING KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows a more basic terms: buck, doe, kits, kindling, nest box, gestation, weaning, fostering, line breeding, out-crossing, palpation
 - Knows normal gestation period, what is normal in newborn rabbits
 - Knows some problems that can occur with breeding, kindling, and newborn kits
- **RABBIT SHOW KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knowledge of general show terms (found in front of ARBA Handbook)
 - Basic knowledge of how rabbits are judged (Standards of Perfection)



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Advisory

Rabbit Curriculum for 4-H Members



SENIORS

- **IDENTIFY BREEDS**
 - Comprehensive knowledge of two different breeds (Standards of Perfection)
 - Able to name at least 30 different breeds
- **IDENTIFY PARTS OF THE RABBIT**
 - Able to identify all parts of the rabbit correctly, mentioning what to look for in all parts
- **HANDLING A RABBIT**
 - Able to examine all parts of the rabbit safely and easily
- **DISEASE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows common diseases/conditions that are problems, able to describe symptoms, what causes them, and how to prevent and/or treat
- **GENERAL RABBIT CARE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows basic needs of rabbit with regard to food, water, shelter, sanitation, and feed components (fiber, protein%)
- **BREEDING KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows a more basic terms: buck, doe, kits, kindling, nest box, gestation, weaning, fostering, line breeding, out-crossing, palpation
 - Knows normal gestation period, what is normal in newborn rabbits
 - Knows some problems that can occur with breeding, kindling, and newborn kits
 - Some knowledge of genetics
- **RABBIT SHOW KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knowledge of general show terms (found in front of ARBA Handbook)
 - Basic knowledge of how rabbits are judged (Standards of Perfection)
 - Knows basic terminology (ARBA Handbook)



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Advisory

General Cavy Curriculum for 4-H Members



- IDENTIFY BREEDS
- IDENTIFY PARTS OF THE CAVY
- HANDLING A CAVY
- DISEASE KNOWLEDGE
- GENERAL CAVY CARE KNOWLEDGE
- BREEDING KNOWLEDGE
- CAVY SHOW KNOWLEDGE



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Advisory Cavy Curriculum for 4-H Members



CLOVERBUDS

- **IDENTIFY BREEDS**
 - Able to identify the breed of the animal they are showing
 - Able to name at least 3 different breeds
- **IDENTIFY PARTS OF THE CAVY**
 - Able to identify at least 6 parts of the cavy correctly
- **HANDLING A CAVY**
 - Able to pick up and carry a cavy correctly and safely
- **DISEASE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Able to name at least 3 different disease or conditions that are problems
- **GENERAL CAVY CARE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows basic needs of cavy with regard to food, water, and shelter
- **BREEDING KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows a few basic terms like boar, sow, pups, etc.
- **CAVY SHOW KNOWLEDGE**
 - Show etiquette like walking to the table, stay on the right side of the table, and no talking while the judge is speaking



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Advisory Cavy Curriculum for 4-H Members



BEGINNERS

- **IDENTIFY BREEDS**
 - Able to identify the breed and color of the animal they are showing
 - Able to name at least 5 different breeds
- **IDENTIFY PARTS OF THE CAVY**
 - Able to identify at least 8 parts of the cavy correctly, mentioning what to look for in at least 4 parts
- **HANDLING A CAVY**
 - Able to pick up and carry a cavy correctly and safely
 - Able to examine all parts of the cavy safely and easily using support positions
- **DISEASE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Able to name at least 5 different disease or conditions that are problems, with a brief description of what to look for and where
- **GENERAL CAVY CARE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows basic needs of cavy with regard to food, water, shelter, sanitation, feed components (fiber, protein%, vitamin C), and some dietary supplements (fruits and vegetables)
- **BREEDING KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows more basic terms like boar, sow, pups, gestation, weaning, etc.
- **CAVY SHOW KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows some basic terms: senior, intermediate, junior, fault, and disqualification.
 - Basic knowledge of how cavies are judged (Standards of Perfection)



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Advisory Cavy Curriculum for 4-H Members



INTERMEDIATES

- **IDENTIFY BREEDS**
 - Able to identify the breed, color, variety, class, and registration weight of the animal they are showing
 - Able to name at least 8 different breeds and some color varieties in each group
- **IDENTIFY PARTS OF THE CAVY**
 - Able to identify all parts of the cavy correctly, mentioning what to look for in at least 8 parts
- **HANDLING A CAVY**
 - Able to pick up and carry a cavy correctly and safely
 - Able to pose a cavy
 - Able to examine all parts of the cavy safely and easily using support positions
- **DISEASE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Able to name at least 10 different disease or conditions that are problems, with a brief description of what to look for and where, and how to treat and/or prevent problem
- **GENERAL CAVY CARE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows basic needs of cavy with regard to food, water, shelter (proper cage and bedding), sanitation, feed components (fiber, protein%, vitamin C), dietary supplements (fruits and vegetables), and some grooming techniques
- **BREEDING KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows more basic terms like boar, sow, pups, gestation, weaning, palpation, correct breeding age for sows, etc.
 - Knows normal gestation period and weaning time for pups
 - Knows some problems that occur with breeding/birthing process and normal activity of pups at birth
- **CAVY SHOW KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knowledge of general show terms (ARBA Handbook), how cavies are judged (Standards of Perfection), faults, and disqualifications



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Advisory Cavy Curriculum for 4-H Members



SENIORS

- **IDENTIFY BREEDS**
 - Comprehensive knowledge of two different breeds (Standards of Perfection)
 - Able to name all 13 breeds and most color varieties in each group
- **IDENTIFY PARTS OF THE CAVY**
 - Able to identify all parts of the cavy correctly, mentioning what to look for in all parts
- **HANDLING A CAVY**
 - Able to examine all parts of the cavy safely and easily using support positions
 - Able to pose a cavy
- **DISEASE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows common diseases/conditions that are problems, able to describe symptoms what causes them, how to prevent and/or treat
- **GENERAL CAVY CARE KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows basic needs of cavy with regard to food, water, shelter (proper cage and bedding), sanitation, feed components (fiber, protein%, vitamin C), dietary supplements (fruits and vegetables), needed vitamins/uses, and grooming techniques for various breeds
- **BREEDING KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knows more basic terms like boar, sow, pups, gestation, weaning, palpation, breeding defects (malocclusion, polydactyl), etc.
 - Knows normal gestation period and weaning time for pups, some problems that occur with breeding/birthing process and normal activity of pups at birth
 - Knowledge of color genetics
- **CAVY SHOW KNOWLEDGE**
 - Knowledge of general show terms and basic terminology (ARBA Handbook), how cavies are judged (Standards of Perfection), use of show boards (long-haired breeds), faults, and disqualifications