

4-H

Poultry & Game Birds Proficiency Program

A Member's Guide

OVERVIEW

The 4-H Poultry & Game Birds Proficiency program helps you learn what you need to know about your 4-H project. Your project leader will assist you in setting and achieving your goals. Through your project, you will learn animal care basics, good management practices and record keeping. You will also learn about the size and scope of the animal industry as it relates to your project.

There are many resources to help you learn more about your project:

- The University of California Davis has free resources available online by visiting: <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/4HYouthDevelopment/>. This site lists a variety of project materials and resources recommended for use in your project.
- The Solano County 4-H Resources and Lending Library at our county 4-H Office includes other books, videos, and reference materials that can be checked out by members and leaders.
- Check to see if there is a breeder's organization in your community that conducts educational activities and shows. Local breeders are excellent sources of help and information.

There are five levels in the Project Proficiency Program. You may choose how many levels you wish to complete:

- ◆ Level I – “Explorer”, you begin to learn about many different aspects of raising poultry and game birds.
- ◆ Level II – “Producer”, you practice and refine the many skills involved in learning about and raising poultry and game birds.
- ◆ Level III – “Consumer”, you become an experienced raiser of poultry and game birds.
- ◆ Level IV – “Leader”, allows you to show your own leadership potential.
- ◆ Level V – “Researcher”, you carry out a demonstration or experiment on some aspect of poultry and game birds, and prepare a paper or portfolio.

As you work through the proficiency program, your leader will date each skill item as you complete it. When all items in a proficiency level are completed, your leader will sign the Certificate of Achievement.

POULTRY & GAME BIRDS
Level I - Explorer

Date
Completed

Project: _____

- _____ 1. Name the parts of chicken or other types of birds.
- _____ 2. Describe how different types of facilities best accommodate different breed types.
Example: feather legged, clean legged, waterfowl.
- _____ 3. Describe Fowl Pox, its prevention and cure.
- _____ 4. Describe the care and protection of fowl in extremely hot or cold weather.
- _____ 5. Visit a major breeder and observe their housing, feeding, and care of fowl.
- _____ 6. Explain why chicks, growing birds, and adult birds need different feed.
- _____ 7. Identify two parasites and their prevention.
- _____ 8. Describe proper sanitary procedures and fly control.
- _____ 9. Keep personal reference material of poultry literature and handouts.
- _____ 10. Attend a breed and showmanship class.
- _____ 11. Learn about different types of poultry projects.
- _____ 12. Learn about at least four different breeds of fowl, their use, origin and characteristics.
- _____ 13. Give a demonstration at County Presentation Day.
- _____ 14. Name the different feathers and where they are on a bird.

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

POULTRY & GAME BIRDS
Level II - Producer

Date
Completed

Project: _____

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|-------|-----|---|
| _____ | 1. | Learn about the care of eggs for reproduction and sale. |
| _____ | 2. | Learn how to candle an egg. |
| _____ | 3. | Learn how to butcher poultry. |
| _____ | 4. | Learn how to cut a chicken up for cooking. |
| _____ | 5. | Learn how to prepare fowl for show. |
| _____ | 6. | Learn how to show fowl. |
| _____ | 7. | Learn how to judge fowl and eggs. |
| _____ | 8. | Point out how to critique (evaluate) your bird. |
| _____ | 9. | Describe the needs and hatching times of waterfowl, chickens, and game birds. |
| _____ | 10. | Present a demonstration to your project group, club or other event. |
| _____ | 11. | Describe three poultry diseases, their prevention and if there is a cure. |
| _____ | 12. | As an individual or group, hatch eggs in an incubator or under a chicken or other fowl. |
| _____ | 13. | Describe how a fowl digests its food and why it is different from other animals. |
| _____ | 14. | Look up three items on your own, in a poultry reference book. Example: eggs, health, feed, etc. |

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

POULTRY & GAME BIRDS
Level III - Consumer

Date
Completed

Project: _____

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| | 1. | Build an incubator and hatch at least six eggs. |
| | 2. | Complete a poultry marketing project from chick to slaughter, such as the turkey project. |
| | 3. | Research reproduction advances in poultry, especially artificial insemination techniques in turkeys. |
| | 4. | Complete a poultry egg production project, including marketing eggs, and keeping a poultry record. |
| | 5. | Participate actively in chicken shows in both breeding and showmanship classes. |
| | 6. | Complete an exotic birds project, such as Pheasants or Farrow Quail. |
| | 7. | Give a demonstration at County Presentation Day. |
| | 8. | Attend an avian field day or show. |
| | 9. | Make a candle box to candle eggs. |
| | 10. | Make a balanced feed ration for your poultry (can be written form but must equal a total of 50#) |

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

POULTRY & GAME BIRDS
Level IV - Leader

Date
Completed

Project: _____

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| _____ | 1. Serve as Junior or Teen leader in this project for one year. |
| _____ | 2. Assist younger members in designing and constructing needed equipment. |
| _____ | 3. Prepare teaching materials for use at project meetings. |
| _____ | 4. Develop and put on a demonstration or judging event or train a junior team for a judging activity. |
| _____ | 5. Speak on a project-based subject before an organization other than your 4-H group. |
| _____ | 6. Assist at a show as a clerk, secretary, recorder, assistant to the judge, ring master or with set up, registration, etc. |
| _____ | 7. Teach younger members about learning a specific topic in the project. |
| _____ | 8. Develop your own special project related activity. Chart your progress, plan the activities, analyze successes and problems, and report on your accomplishment to your club. |

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

POULTRY & GAME BIRDS
Level V - Researcher

Date
Completed

Project: _____

- _____ 1. Report on the results of a demonstration comparing measurable differences in management procedure. (Experiment)
- _____ 2. Prepare a paper of 300 words or more on one of the following topics:
- Management of animal.
 - Feeds, feeding, and nutrition.
 - Diseases, prevention and control, and general sanitation.
 - Markets and methods of marketing.
 - Reproduction, breeding and genetics.
 - By-product preparation for market, how marketed, and used.
 - Keeping and using records as a basis for improving your animal project.
 - Other
- _____ 3. Prepare a speech or illustrated talk to orally summarize your findings and present at a club, project meeting or other educational event.

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Certificate of Achievement

This certifies that

*has completed the Poultry and Game Birds Proficiency
in Solano County.*

Explorer

Producer

Consumer

Leader

Researcher

Date

Date

Date

Date

Date

Initials

Initials

Initials

Initials

Initials

