

# BUTTE COUNTY 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

## 4-H Poultry Project Proficiency Program

### A Member's Guide

## OVERVIEW

The **4-H Poultry Project Proficiency Program** helps you learn what you need to know about your 4-H Project. Your 4-H Project Leader will assist you in setting and achieving your goals. Through your 4-H 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 4-H Project.

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

- The [4-H Publications Catalog](#) lists a variety of project materials and resources recommended for use in your project.
- The **4-H Educational Resources Lending Library** at the Butte 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 breeders' 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 4-H Poultry Project Proficiency Program. You may choose how many levels you wish to complete:

**Level 1 – Explorer** You begin to learn about many different aspects of raising animals.

**Level 2 – Producer** You practice/refine the many skills involved in learning about and raising animals.

**Level 3 – Consumer** You become an experienced animal raiser.

**Level 4 – Leader** Allows you to show your own leadership potential.

**Level 5 – Researcher** You carry out a demonstration or experiment on some aspect of your project.

As you work through the 4-H Project Proficiency Program, your 4-H Project Leader will date and initial each skill item as you complete it. When all items in a proficiency level are completed, your 4-H Project Leader will notify the Community Club Leader. A 4-H Project Proficiency Program Pin and First Year Leg will be awarded for Level 1. Previous Year Leg will be returned when the next Level is awarded for Levels 2-5.

# POULTRY PROFICIENCY

## Level 1 – Explorer

*Each proficiency will be dated and initialed by your project leader.*

Date Completed

4-H Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's Initials

4-H Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Demonstrate (show and tell) how to handle your chicken properly, e.g., take the chicken in and out of cage and carry chicken.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Identify the external parts of a chicken from a diagram or live chicken.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Describe the basic housing and equipment requirements to care of your chicken on a daily basis.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Explain the daily nutrition requirements of your chicken, e.g., how, when, what, how much, and what kind to feed and why.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Explain how to determine the gender and age of a chicken using proper terminology.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Demonstrate basic grooming techniques and equipment necessary for the regular care of your chicken.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Discuss record keeping components. Include how often you observe chicken/flock in habitat; provided fresh water, clean feed; health problems and treatments.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Explain how to tell if your chicken is ill and needs veterinarian attention.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Describe two safety issues associated with your chicken and/or handling your chicken.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Present a Poultry Project meeting report to your Club.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Attend any (does not need to be in the chicken project) 4-H event outside of your 4-H Club.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Know 50 basic poultry terms.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Identify all the parts of an egg.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Explain what to consider before selecting a chicken.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Participate in a community service/citizenship event, e.g., petting zoo.

KEEP IN YOUR RECORD BOOK WITH PROJECT RECORD

# POULTRY PROFICIENCY

## Level 2 – Producer

*Each proficiency will be dated and initialed by your project leader.*

Date Completed

4-H Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's Initials

4-H Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Name and describe the characteristics of seven poultry breeds.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Know 100 poultry terms.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Clean, clip, and band a chicken leg.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Describe and give control measures for at least three chicken diseases or problems. Include a list of examples. Explain and demonstrate a simple health check.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Demonstrate competency in the showmanship of your chicken.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Attend and/or participate in one poultry show.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Identify four classes of poultry (two standards; two bantams). Provide 2 - 3 examples of breeds within each class.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Submit management records for 90 days that indicate how often you clean, disinfect, and refresh with new nesting material for your chicken coop.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Describe two safety issues associated with your chicken and/or handling your chicken. Present a project meeting report to your Club.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Describe how to select a show chicken.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Describe and/or demonstrate how and why you sanitize your chicken's equipment and facilities. Include quarantine measures and their value.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Participate in egg judging and experiments in your
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Do something creative with your project and show it at: Presentation Day, County Fair, or other event as approved by your Project Leader.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Participate in a community service activity with the Poultry Project.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Identify several poultry resources and contact information.

\_\_\_\_\_ 16. Participate in a 4-H event outside of your Club, i.e., County, Sectional, or State event.

\_\_\_\_\_ 17. Identify appropriate feed for layers, meat/broilers, chicks, etc.

**KEEP IN YOUR RECORD BOOK WITH PROJECT RECORD**

# POULTRY PROFICIENCY

## Level 3 – Consumer

*Each proficiency will be dated and initialed by your project leader.*

Date Completed

4-H Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's Initials

4-H Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Judge a class consisting of a minimum of three chickens; at a show, fair, petting zoo, or among a project flock.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. What are the causes, symptoms, treatment, and prevention of the following?
  - a. Egg Impaction
  - b. Coccidiosis
  - c. Avian Flu
  - d. Pasting
  - e. Fly Strike
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Name five internal organs and their function.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Describe and differentiate between at least ten defects and disqualifications (DQs).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Describe and explain a breeding plan/process including equipment, gestation period, terminology, chick and/or duck care.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Describe the development of a chicken from birth to adulthood and how and why you care for the chicken at each stage.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Choose and design your own lesson plan and implement it in your project with the appropriate materials.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Identify and describe poultry marketing opportunities.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Assist younger members in the design and operation of a trivia-based game/event.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Prepare and deliver a speech or demonstration relating to chickens outside of the project group.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Continue building a reference library for your project and share titles with project.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Explore local, state and/or national affiliations and opportunities associated with the project, i.e., breed organizations, APA.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Continue to demonstrate skills in record keeping by submitting records including feeding, cleaning, grooming, and breeding record.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Participate in or organize a community service/citizenship activity related to the project.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Assist in organizing a County, Sectional, or State event. The focus here is on learning the process of organization.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. Know 150 poultry terms.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. Complete one year as a Junior Leader in any project.

**KEEP IN YOUR RECORD BOOK WITH PROJECT RECORD**

# POULTRY PROFICIENCY

## Level 4 – Leader

*Each proficiency will be dated and initialed by your project leader.*

Date Completed

4-H Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's Initials

4-H Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Describe the steps for dressing out a chicken and for judging a carcass.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Describe genetics as it relates to raising your chicken.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Describe the nutrient requirements for your chicken using proper terminology as it relates to a: breeding program, show, and meat/broilers chickens. Know percentages of nutrients (feed tags).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. List the normal health statistics and weight ranges for a chicken or duck. Know how to administer medications and treatments, how and why to adhere to withdrawal periods, etc.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Explore some aspect of the project through a historical perspective, i.e., heritage breeds.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Explore ethical issues as they relate to poultry.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Explore career and industry related options as they relate to poultry.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Explore the science of the project.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Explore the economics and consumer impact of the poultry business.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Prepare and present a presentation about chickens to a group outside of your local 4-H Club.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Learn courtesy and appropriate etiquette by inviting and introducing a speaker on a project related subject. Describe five things to consider when inviting, introducing, and thanking a guest speaker.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Design or improve some aspect related to the Poultry Project, e.g., marketing, equipment, materials, etc.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Complete one or more years as a Junior or Teen Leader including the development of a special activity related to the project area. Create a plan, chart progress, analyze successes and problems, and report the results.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Prepare an aspect of your project and contribute it to the county resources for others to use, e.g., CDs, record keeping forms, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_ 15. Participate in planning a 4-H Countywide or Statewide event.

\_\_\_\_\_ 16. Know 200 poultry terms.

\_\_\_\_\_ 17. Research and report on animal rescue relative to poultry.

**KEEP IN YOUR RECORD BOOK WITH PROJECT RECORD**



## POULTRY PROFICIENCY

### Level 5 – Researcher

*Each proficiency will be dated and initialed by your project leader.*

Date Completed

4-H Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Leader's Initials

4-H Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Complete all requirements for Levels 1-4.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Put on a judging contest of Poultry Project members.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Complete either alternative 1, 2, or 3 below:
1. Have a breeding project involving at least four animals, and demonstrate knowledge of line breeding, breed characteristics, performance reports, marketing channels, breeding procedures, banding and record keeping.
  2. Have a feeding project of at least six animals and demonstrate knowledge of feeding layers, game birds, broilers, rates of gain, marketing channels, general health, ability to figure expenses and needed selling price.
  3. Complete a research project involving some aspect of the poultry industry such as breed associations and promotions, current legislative programs, current poultry industry trends, career exploration, and current medical research projects.

KEEP IN YOUR RECORD BOOK WITH PROJECT RECORD

## ***REQUIREMENTS:***

For members to qualify for proficiency awards they must complete all the requirements below and give a 4-H presentation during the 4-H year.

- Have up-to-date and complete enrollment packet and enrollment fees on file at the 4-H office.
- Attend 80% of club and project meetings or meet requirements of a county-wide project.
- Members must provide 4-H Records to the club leader for project completion verification.
- Records must include **Personal Development Report** and **Annual Project Report** form for each project a member is applying for a Proficiency Award, and the completed Proficiency Form.

*Developed by the Butte County 4-H YDP Livestock Committee (9/2013). Adapted from Santa Clara County publication, Lassen County publication, and Lake County publication, which were adapted from DNAR North Region Publication No. NR-PP-001*