

4-H

Animal Science Proficiency Program

A Member's Guide

OVERVIEW

The 4-H Animal Science 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 *4-H Publications Catalog* lists a variety of project materials and resources recommended for use in your project.
- ◆ The *North Region 4-H Educational Resources and Lending Library* at your 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 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 animals.
- Level II - "Producer", you practice and refine the many skills involved in learning about and raising animals.
- Level III - "Consumer", you become an experienced animal raiser.
- 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 Animal Science, 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 and notify your 4-H office.

Projects to be completed through this Animal Science Proficiency include: Cavies, Pets and Small Animals, Pygmy Goats, Angora Goats, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Horse Sciences, Poultry and Game Birds, Rabbits, Sheep, Swine and Companion Pets.

KEEP IN YOUR RECORD BOOK

ANIMAL SCIENCE

Level I - Explorer

Date _____
Completed _____

Project: _____

- ____ 1. Identify and describe three breeds or species for your project.
- ____ 2. Identify the parts of your animal from a diagram or live animal.
- ____ 3. Demonstrate (show & tell) how to handle your animal properly.
- ____ 4. Describe the basic housing and equipment that a beginner needs for the health, care, and safety of your animal.
- ____ 5. Explain the nutritional requirements of your animal at each development stage (how, when, what, how much to feed).
- ____ 6. Explain how to tell when your animal is ill and when to call for assistance.
- ____ 7. State the normal range of weight for the age and breed/species of your animal.
- ____ 8. Explain or demonstrate how to tell the sex of your animal.
- ____ 9. Explain how to permanently tattoo, mark, or tag your animal for identification.
- ____ 10. Submit management records for a minimum of 90 days that indicate how often you provide fresh water, clean feed, clean housing, and general care to your animal.
- ____ 11. Demonstrate basic grooming techniques and equipment necessary for your animal.
- ____ 12. Define fifteen important, basic terms used in your project area.
- ____ 13. Find out the regulations related to raising/keeping animals where you live.
- ____ 14. Describe three safety issues related to your animal project.
- ____ 15. Share one aspect of your project with other project members.

Member Name: _____

Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____

ANIMAL SCIENCE

Level II- Producer

Date _____
Completed _____

Project: _____

- ____ 1. Identify and describe six breeds or species.
- ____ 2. Describe which breeds of your animal are used for different purposes (example: food, fiber, show, breeding, working, etc.).
- ____ 3. Describe the desirable characteristics in the conformation of your animal.
- ____ 4. Participate in the preparation and maintenance of facilities for your animal during production, breeding, or birthing.
- ____ 5. Describe the stages and length of gestation for your animal.
- ____ 6. Describe or demonstrate how to sanitize your animal's equipment.
- ____ 7. Describe or demonstrate what you can do to protect your animal during hot and cold weather.
- ____ 8. Describe control measures for at least three diseases or problem conditions for your animal.
- ____ 9. Demonstrate competency in showmanship for your animal.
- ____ 10. Describe some textural differences between species. Identify how/why color is important in the standards of your breed.
- ____ 11. Keep an account of cash expenses for equipment and materials and at the end of your year compare your cost to the value of your project.
- ____ 12. Display your animal outside of your project group.
- ____ 13. Help someone else by sharing your knowledge or by giving away a product from your project to demonstrate positive citizenship.

Member Name: _____

Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____

ANIMAL SCIENCE

Level III - Consumer

Date _____
Completed _____

Project: _____

- _____ 1. Demonstrate how to complete one of the management records required in your species or breed operation (example: pedigree, registration, production record, etc.).
- _____ 2. Contact a local, state, or national association related to your animal breed and report to your group what the association has to offer to its members and other interested individuals.
- _____ 3. Report on the history of your breed or species to your project group or club.
- _____ 4. Make a chart that explains how good selection can improve your stock. Explain in-breeding, line-breeding, out-breeding, and the advantages and disadvantages of each.
- _____ 5. Invite a guest speaker to one of your meetings and introduce them to the group.
- _____ 6. Describe the digestive system anatomy and physiology for your animal species and how it differs from other species.
- _____ 7. Explain the different types of feeds/diets and their nutritional components (fats, carbohydrates, protein, minerals, vitamins, water) and nutritional values.
- _____ 8. Explain three diseases or health conditions and their treatment and/or preventions not covered in Level II.
- _____ 9. Give a talk on a secondary aspect or by-product of your project industry.
- _____ 10. Keep a personal reference library of literature that will be helpful in your project.
- _____ 11. Demonstrate at least three methods of administering medications.
- _____ 12. State the normal vital signs (temperature, respiration, heart rate, etc.) for your animal species.
- _____ 13. Describe five ways to save money and be economical in raising your animal.
- _____ 14. Design an advertisement or a marketing strategy for your animal or animal by-product.
- _____ 15. Alone or with your group, plan and complete a community service activity related to your project.

Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____ Date: _____

ANIMAL SCIENCE

Level IV - Leader

Date _____
Completed _____

Project: _____

- ____ 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 accomplishments to your club.

Member Name: _____

Date: _____

Project Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____

ANIMAL SCIENCE

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 _____ Proficiency

in _____ County.

Explorer

Date

Leader's Signature

Producer

Date

Leader's Signature

Consumer

Date

Leader's Signature

Leader

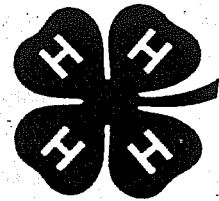
Date

Leader's Signature

Researcher

Date

Leader's Signature



NOTES

Acknowledgments:

Guidebook Developed by Humboldt County Incentives and Recognition Committee: Paulette Crowell, Elaine Fenton, Tasha Fenton, Janet Foos, 4-H Volunteers; Rose Herrera, 4-H Youth; Teresa McAllister, 4-H Youth Development Advisor.

Support materials received from the following counties: Mendocino, Colusa, Santa Cruz, Stanislaus.

Materials reviewed by: Gary Markegard, Farm Advisor, Deborah Giraud, Farm Advisor, Humboldt County; Susan McBride, M. Science Advisor, Humboldt/Mendocino Counties; North Region 4-H Youth Development Advisors and Program Representatives.

North Region Review Committee: Yvonne Steinbring, 4-H Youth Advisor, Shasta and Siskiyou Counties; Jeanne George, 4-H Youth Advisor, Glenn, Butte and Tehama Counties; Isela Valdez, 4-H Youth Advisor, Colusa and Sutter/Yuba Counties; Sharon Junge, County Director/4-H Youth Advisor, Placer/Nevada Counties; Valerie Coe, 4-H Youth Advisor, Modoc, Plumas/Sierra and Lassen Counties; Evelyn Conklin-Ginop, 4-H Youth Advisor, Mendocino County.

Local Review Committee: Marion Herrera, Luz "Nellie" Love, Mary Moore, Margaret Sager, Jennifer Stowe, Linda Leonardi, Andrea Molina, Marilyn Renner, Frances Scalvini.

Editing and Layout: Pat Johns, County Director/4-H Youth Development Advisor, North Region 4-H Program Coordinator, Lake County; Kande Stolesen, Secretary, Lake County.

This material has been developed, produced, or purchased with funds from the North Region Curriculum Development Fee Fund. This material may not be reproduced outside of the North Region. However, materials may be purchased by contacting: North Region Director, DANR - North Region Office, University of California, Davis, Ca. 95616, (916) 754-8491.

North Region 6/97

Publication No. NR-PP-002

The University of California, in accordance with applicable Federal and State law and University policy, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, medical condition (cancer-related), ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran or special disabled veteran. The University also prohibits harassment.

Inquiries regarding the University's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to the Affirmative Action Director, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 300 Lakeside Drive, 6th Floor, Oakland, CA. 94612-3560 (510) 987-0096.