Parts of the Male Chicken
Figure 6
FEMALE
31. Shank 35-35. Toe-Nails
32. Spur 36. Web
33. Foot 37. Middle of Hock Joint
34-34. Toes

Figure 5
MALE
33. Shank 37-37. Toes
34. Spur 38-38. Toe-Nails
35. Foot 39. Middle of Hock Joint
36. Web

Figure 37
Parts of Wing
4. Secondary 5. Primaries
6. Primary Coverts
7. Wing Shoulder
# STUDY GUIDE FOR POULTRY

Small Animal Expo - Madera County 4-H

The different levels will be tested on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level I</th>
<th>Level II</th>
<th>Level III</th>
<th>Level IV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Entry Form (22 points)</td>
<td>Entry Form (29 Points)</td>
<td>Entry Form (22 points)</td>
<td>Reproductive Tract ID (14 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parts (15 points)</td>
<td>Parts (26 points)</td>
<td>Wing Parts (7 points)</td>
<td>Parts (26 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T/F Quiz (15 points)</td>
<td>T/F Quiz (10 points)</td>
<td>T/F Quiz (10 points)</td>
<td>T/F Quiz (30 points)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multiple Choice (7 Points)</td>
<td>Multiple Choice (8 Points)</td>
<td>Multiple Choice (15 Points)</td>
<td>Multiple Choice (20 Points)</td>
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<td>Shank ID (7 Points)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment ID (10 Points)</td>
<td>Equipment ID (12 Points)</td>
<td>Digestive Tract ID (12 Points)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed ID (6 Points)</td>
<td>Feed ID (12 Points)</td>
<td>Egg ID (9 Points)</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Showmanship (100 Points)</td>
<td>Showmanship (100 Points)</td>
<td>Showmanship (100 Points)</td>
<td>Showmanship (100 Points)</td>
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</table>
DIFFERENT TYPES OF STANDARD MALE COMBS

Figure 12
Single Comb
1, Base; 2, Point; 3, Blade
For ideal types see illustrations of breeds and varieties.

Figure 13
Rose Comb
1, Base; 2, Rounded Points; 3, Spike
For ideal types see illustrations of breeds and varieties.

Figure 14
Pea Comb
For ideal types see illustrations of breeds and varieties.

Figure 15
Sultans Head, Male
(Ideal)
1-1, V-shaped Comb; 2, Crest; 3, Muffs; 4, Beard.

Figure 16
Cushion-Comb (Ideal)

Figure 17
Buttercup Comb
(Ideal)

Figure 18
Strawberry Comb
(Ideal)

Figure 19
Rose comb
Standard type as in Wyandotte males.

Figure 20
Single Comb
Front view, medium size, male comb. Showing strong base, firm and even position on head

Figure 21
Single Comb
Standard type as in Plymouth Rock males.
For practice, use your bird or another members bird - look at the divisions and classes - entered the bird on the entry form that is provided. If you have any questions regarding the entry form - any of your leaders should be able to help you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AVIAN American System of Judging</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ribbons 1st thru 5th</td>
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<td>No Entry Fee</td>
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**Division 317 - Meat Pens of Birds 4-H & FFA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>1 Pen of two market Chickens or Ducks, not over 69 days old and under 3 ½ lbs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 One Market Turkey not over 18 weeks old or under 14 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 Game Birds: Pen of three not over 6 months of age. (quail, dove, pigeons, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 Any other heavyweight: One animal over 5 lbs. (Goose, pheasant) Not over 18 wks. old</td>
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</table>

**Division 318 - 4-H & FFA All Standard Breeds**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Large Chickens (Specify breed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Cock</th>
<th>Cockerel</th>
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<td>2</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Hen</th>
<th>Pullet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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</table>

**Division 319 - 4-H & FFA All Non-Standard Breeds**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Large Chickens (Specify breed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Division 320 - 4-H & FFA Utility Division**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Hen</th>
<th>Pullet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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</table>

**Division 321 - 4-H & FFA Bantam Chickens**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>All Standard &amp; Non-Standard Varieties-(Specify breed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Cock</th>
<th>Cockerel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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</table>

**Division 322 - 4-H & FFA Pigeons**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Young Cock</th>
<th>Young Hen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Old Cock</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Old Hen</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Division 323 - Other Poultry**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>Geese &amp; Ducks</th>
<th>Turkeys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 All Geese &amp; Ducks</td>
<td></td>
<td>All Turkeys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 All Game Birds</td>
<td>4 Companion Birds</td>
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</table>
GLOSSARY TERMS:

A.O.C.: All other colors, or any other colors.

BACK: The top section of the body from the base of the neck to the base of the tail, including the cape and saddle.

BANTAM: A diminutive fowl, some being distinct breeds, others being miniature of a large breed.

BEAK: The horny formation projecting from the front of the head of chickens, and turkeys.

BILL: The horny formation projecting from the front of the head of waterfowl.

BODY: That portion which contains the trunk. The part exclusive of head, neck, wings, tail, thighs, shanks and toes.

BRASSINESS: a term descriptive of a light yellowish metallic cast commonly found in the plumage of white and part-white varieties. May be hereditary or affected by exposure to sun and certain items in the diet (such as to much corn.)

BREED: An established group of individuals possessing similar characteristics, and when mated together produce offspring with those same characteristics. A breed may include a number of varieties.

CANDLING: A process of shining a light behind eggs to check for cracks, infertile or fertile eggs. This process is done after the first (10) days of incubation. DON’T KEEP EGGS FROM INCUBATOR MORE THAN 10 MINUTES.

CAPON: A term used to designate a castrated male fowl.

COCK: A male fowl one year old or more, (rooster).

COCKEREL: A male fowl less than one year old.

COMB: The fleshy protuberance on top of the head of a fowl, large in the male than the female. Combs are varied, variations of forms in different breeds.

CROP: The enlarged part of the gullet lying at the front of the body at the base of the neck. An outpocketing of the esophagus. Food is stored here and during storage the food is softened. NO DIGESTION TAKES PLACE IN THE CROP.

DEFECT: Anything short of perfection.

DEWLAP: A pendulous growth of skin under the rear of the beak or bill and extending onto the throat area. Examples: African Geese, Brahma Females, Turkeys.

DISQUALIFICATION: A term applied to a deformity or a defect, sufficiently serious to debar a fowl from an award, usually inherited.
DRAKE: A male duck.

DUBBED - DUBBING: A term used to describe the close trimming of the comb, wattles and ear lobes of the male Modern Game, Large and Bantam; and the Old English Game male, large and bantam. Cocks not dubbed: a disqualification in the shows. Males 6 months and younger may be shown without being dubbed.

DUCK: A species of waterfowl, including both sexes.

FEATHER: One of the epidermal outgrowths, which collectively forms the external covering or plumage of a fowl.

FOWL: A collective term applying to chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys - same as poultry.

GANDER: A male specimen of domestic geese; adult if over one year of age.

GOOSE: A female specimen of domestic geese, adult if over one year of age.

HACKLE: The rear and the side neck plumage of a fowl.

HEN: A female fowl. For exhibition purposes, a Female chicken or turkey one year old or more.

HORNY: Horn-like substance, such as the beak or bill, scales of leg, toe nails and spurs; also the knob in geese.

PLUMAGE: The collective feather covering of the entire body of a fowl, including the head, neck, wings, tail and where specified for breed the shanks and toes.

POULT: The young of the domestic turkey before the sex can be determined.

POULTRY: A general term applied to all domesticated fowl, including chickens, turkeys and waterfowl.

PULLET: For exhibition purposes, a female fowl less than one year old.

TOM: A male of domestic turkeys.

TRIO: In show room parviance, a cock, and two hens, or a cockerel and two pullets of the same variety.

UNDERCOLOR: The color of the lower or fluff portion of feathers, not visible when the feathers are in natural position.

VARIETY: A sub-division of a breed. SEE BREED.

OWNERSHIP FOR EXHIBITION: Ownership of birds must be 30 days or more to show.
POULTRY STUDY GUIDE (LEVEL I & II)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOU TO KNOW

Most breeds and varieties we know in the U.S. today were developed between 1875 and 1925. During that time period the emphasis throughout the poultry world was on breeds and varieties.

Today the emphasis is by most part on commercial industry. The chicken is by far the most important bird to humans. There are basically two types of chickens in the commercial industry, broilers/fryers (these are raised for meat) and layers (raised to produce eggs.)

Incubation periods vary from chickens to ducks to geese. In most part the incubation period for chickens is 21 days. Most ducks, 28 days. Muscovy ducks, 35 days. Most geese, 30 days. Canada and Egyptian Geese, 35 days.

If you have your birds because you want the egg production, before buying birds, decide whether you want white or brown eggs. Egg shell color does not affect food value, but it does influence the market price. There are chickens that lay blue/green color looking eggs. Some people call these chickens, “birds that lay Easter eggs.”

A well managed laying flock should start laying at 22-24 weeks of age. The length of their laying cycle is normally 12 to 14 months.

Waterfowl normally start laying eggs in late February. Egg production usually peaks in April and declines rapidly during June.

For waterfowl and chickens alike, PARASITES such as mites and lice are always a potential problem. A good plan is to dust each bird on the first day of every month with a good poultry dust. Sprinkle some powder in the nests and on roost areas. Always dust before a poultry show and check your birds after the show. Sometimes your birds can become infected from birds at the show that are not properly taken care of at home.

The American Poultry Association issues a book called THE AMERICAN STANDARD OF PERFECTION. This book contains a complete description of each of the more than 300 recognized breeds and varieties. Such things as size, color, physical features are described and illustrated in detail.

There are 14 “standard” breed of ducks which are divided into the four classes: Heavy Weight, Medium Weight and Light Weight and Bantam.

There are 11 “standard” breeds of geese which are divided into three classes: Heavy Weight, Medium Weight, and Light Weight.

The life of the chicken begins from a single cell. This cell has its beginning from the union of the male and female sex cell in the process known as fertilization. In birds, fertilization occurs about 24 hours before the egg is laid.
The egg is truly a world of its own - a wonderful, versatile, nutritious food for humans and a miraculous means of reproduction for the chicken.

Remember: Raw eggs that were contaminated with Salmonella (A bacteria) have caused outbreaks of food illness. Salmonella can be transmitted from infected laying hens directly into the interior of the eggs before the shells are formed. ALWAYS cook eggs thoroughly, cook chicken thoroughly so as to kill the bacteria.

THE EGG: On the 21st day, the chick begins its escape from the egg. The first break in the shell is made by a sharp horny structure, the egg tooth, near the tip of the beak. The egg tooth has served its purpose well although only for a single event in the chick’s life, a tool to crash through the shell. Now the usefulness of the egg tooth is over, and it will be lost in a few days.

The yolk material, weighing about one-sixth of the chick’s weight also has a usefulness. Newly hatched chicks can live on the unabsorbed yolk in their bodies for about 72 hours if necessary. However, chicks with access to feed and water will begin to eat and drink when less than one day of age.

The Wing of a chicken has seven parts: Front, Bow, Bar, Secondary, Primaries, Primary Coverts, Wing Shoulder.

There are twelve parts to the digestive tract: Beak, Cranial esophagus, Crop, Caudal esophagus, proventriculus, gizzard, duodenum, pancreas, small intestine, ceca, large intestine, cloaca.

In the digestive tract the gizzard is the organ located between the stomach and the intestines. The gizzard grinds the food of the chicken, it serves as the “chickens teeth.”

The crop is the outpocketing of the esophagus. Food is stored here and during storage the food is softened. NO digestion takes place in the crop.

Most digestion takes place in the ventriculus (gizzard).

Remember: You must own your birds 30 days before a show. Birds selected for show should be the best specimens in their BEST condition. You wouldn’t want to take your laying hens to a show, because their appearance usually isn’t top quality. It takes a lot out of a hen to set the eggs. They lose feathers, their color sometimes fade, their combs will droop and lose color.

Birds should always be clean, healthy and as near to complete feathers as possible. Young birds should be at least 4 months old at time of showing, 6-7 months is actually better.

Don’t take birds if they act sickly. You can infect the other birds. If you get to a show and your bird starts acting sick there, take him from the show area and keep from the others.
POULTRY STUDY GUIDE LEVEL I & II

FEEDS YOU SHOULD KNOW:

Hen Scratch  |  Whole Corn  |  Cracked Corn
Grit     |  Oyster Shell |  Milo
Broiler Crumbles |  Lay Pellets  |  Lay Crumbles
Pigeon Feed |  Wheat | Dove and Quail Feed
Chick Starter

POULTRY EQUIPMENT YOU SHOULD KNOW:

Incubator            |  Heat Lamp
Feeder               |  Waterer
Egg Basket           |  Egg Candler
Net                  |  Egg Scale
Antibiotic (Water Soluble) |  Brooder
Nest Eggs            |  Leg Bands
Poultry Hook         |  Poultry Dust

POULTRY BODY PARTS YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO I.D.:

Back (Cape)          |  Primaries
Saddle               |  Secondaries
Sickles              |  Wing Bar
Main Sickles         |  Wing Bow
Lesser Sickles       |  Breast
Saddle Feathers      |  Body
Fluff                |  Hackle
Shank                |  Wattles
Spur                 |  Beak
Claw                 |  Base
Hock                 |  Comb
Thigh                |  Points
Eye                  |  Ear
Ear Lobes            |