

**OTTAWA COUNTY GUIDELINES
ANIMAL SCIENCE NOTEBOOK
(Market Livestock)**

Approved by Ottawa County 4-H Council/May 2014

The notebook is to be about the member's project, and be displayed only at the fair where animal is shown. It must have sections dividing topics with a separate section for reference materials at the end. Most recent year should be at the front (top) of the book. Each year should be clearly marked with dividers. If a notebook requirement does not apply to your project, choose another project animal species to fulfill the requirement.

First Year

- Project Record Worksheet with beginning and ending pictures of your project animal*
- List rules of safety in handling project
- Identify several feeds and show samples
- Label and identify body parts of animal
- List show supplies and explain how to use

Second Year

The above requirements plus:

- Describe breaking and training methods
- List steps in grooming and fitting
- Describe and illustrate proper use of show equipment
- List wholesale cuts of meat that come from this animal

Third Year

The above requirements plus:

- Identifying six different breeds, showing pictures and labeling each
- List three or more worming procedures and three types of worms
- List vaccinations and shots your animal should have

Fourth Year

The above requirements plus:

- In depth description of the breed characteristics of project animal
- Describe and illustrate hoof trimming: How done and reasons
- Describe and illustrate docking tails (lambs and hogs) and dehorning procedures (steers)

Fifth Year

The above requirements plus:

- Describe the characteristics of six different breeds in depth
- Essay on "What is a judge looking for?"
- List retail cuts and where they come from; Label these on a chart and provide pictures of individual cuts

*Required every year if you are selling market livestock.

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Sixth Year

Above requirements plus:

- Describe three methods of castration; include method used on project and why used
- Explain methods of animal identification (tagging, tattooing, nose print, ear notch)
- Essay on identifying weaknesses and qualities of current project animal

Seventh Year

Above requirements plus:

- Describe three diseases, giving symptoms and treatments
- Figure feed rations
- Describe the digestive tract of the animal and how each part works. Label the parts on a diagram

Eighth Year

Above requirements plus:

- Describe how to monitor vital functions of animal (heart rate, temperature, etc.), what they should be, and what are warning signs of disease
- Essay on artificial breeding vs natural breeding with description of the methods used for each (must be at least 50 words)

Ninth Year

Above requirements plus:

- Describe the heat cycle, gestation and birth process
- Essay on raising your project from birth to market, to include management techniques (must be at least 50 words)

Tenth Year

Above requirements plus:

- Essay on industry marketing what works to promote and keep industry competitive (must be at least 50 words)
- Essay on what you feel the industry should improve on, new restrictions, guidelines, knowledge sharing, etc (must be at least 50 words)

Eleventh Year

Above requirements plus:

- Essay on road blocks that are now in place which make the industry lose money (must be at least 50 words)
- Essay on the environmental impact of your species (must be at least 50 words)