

Rabbit Handling/Care Contract:

Agriculture Department Suggested Rabbit Care Classroom Guidelines for Healthy Rabbits

Below are the expectations for the two parties involved in the use of rabbit in classroom instruction for respective Agriculture Department course work.

Student expectations:

1. Rabbits and does/litters should be kept in the respective cage assigned to them. No rabbits should be combined into cages at any time unless specified by the teacher.
2. Receive rabbit-handling instruction.
3. Handle rabbit to the standard established by the American Rabbit Breeders Association.
4. A review of the rabbit's health should be taken daily. The procedure used will be taught in class, but is also outlined in the ARBA Standard of Perfection. A copy of this book can be found at all times in the agriculture classroom.
5. Notify instructor if rabbit is ill or dead.
6. Keep rabbit nails trimmed.
7. Notify instructor if parturition has occurred.
8. Feed the rabbit in their respective feed hopper. We will feed hay once a week and may incorporate supplements into the diet at different stages of lactation or growth.
9. Make sure water bottle is filled and not leaking. Inside of water bottle should be free of algae.
10. Make sure sawdust and/or newspaper is clean and fresh.
11. Card information on side of rabbit cage is correct and legible.
12. Know the official tattoo of your rabbit.
13. Follow all specified project procedures.
14. Rabbits are always placed on carpet during examination. Rabbits are placed back into appropriate area when work is completed.
15. Notify teacher of any resources needed above.
16. Clean rabbit cage and place dirty litter, shavings, and or newspaper into trash can. The inside and outside of cage should possess a positive image for animal agriculture.
17. Place fresh baking soda into the litter tray each day to help absorb rabbit urine odors.
18. You may purchase and use lint rulers to remove rabbit hair from your clothes. You must wash your hands with soap and water before and after handling them.
19. Area around rabbit cages, sink, and counter tops should all be kept clean.

Please note: Your rabbit team needs to meet the following guidelines above in a reasonable period of time set by the teacher. Delegate appropriately and utilize your leadership skills in ensuring success in meeting the expectations above. Teams will want to collaborate with other teams in ensuring the general area is also kept clean.

Teacher expectations:

- All supplies needed are ordered, in storage, and provided when needed.
- Provide training and assistance as and when needed.
- Holiday feeding provisions.

All parties agree to the following provisions. Meeting the following expectations will insure the student an A for rabbit care:

(Student signature)

(Date)

(Teacher signature)

(Date)