

Gladwin County 4-H

(Name)

(4-H Club)

Poultry Records

Junior Book (Ages 12-15)

18 USC 707

Date: _____

Is this your first year in the poultry project?

☐

Yes

☐

No

If no, how many years have you been in the project?

Why do we keep records?

By keeping records, you will be able to see how much progress you make this year and over the course of your 4-H career as you set goals and work to accomplish them.

Good records will:

- Help you learn about animals, their rate of growth, the feed they require, the cost of the feed, and their habits.
- Increase understanding of your project's financial outcome.
- Assist you in gathering information to market your animal.
- Improve your management practices.
- Keep track of your project activities and learning experiences.
- Allow you to better plan for future livestock projects.

I hereby certify that, as the exhibitor of this project, I have personally been responsible for the care of this animal, record keeping, and have completed this record book. I am aware that this record book may be on display during the auction and/or fair, and thus all content will be appropriate.

Youth Signature: _____

I, the parent/guardian, certify that my child has completed this project and completed this record book and will comply with all rules and regulations. I give permission for this record book to be displayed to the public and will ensure that all content is appropriate.

Parent Signature: _____

***Records start with possession of your animals and
end with fair week estimates***

Your 4-H Story

Tell us your 4-H story! How long have you been in 4-H? What clubs have you been a part of? Besides fair, what other programs (local and statewide) have you attended? What is your favorite part of 4-H?

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4-H Information

Keep track of your club meetings and county wide events you have participated in.
Put a check mark in the appropriate month.

Description	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Club Meetings (list)												
General Meetings (list)												
County Events: (list)												
State Events: (list)												
Community Service: (list)												
Committees: (list)												
Other: (list)												

Examples: Shows, Clinics, Workshops, etc.

Project Instructions

Please complete the following project sheets for each poultry species you are bringing to fair (broiler, bantam, turkey, duck). If you are not bringing a species to fair, do not fill out that sheet. For example: I am bringing a turkey and a pen of broilers to fair, so I am going to fill out the turkey project sheet and the broiler project sheet. All educational pages regardless of species you're bringing to fair must be completed. If you have received donated birds from 4-H, you must participate in the record book contest!

Project Goals Date Page Completed (before fair): _____

Please list three goals you would like to accomplish this year with your bird project.

1

2

3

Marketing Your Poultry Project

The sale price for most animals at the auction reflects the amount of effort put into marketing your project animal(s). Contacting potential buyers before the sale is essential to making the most out of your livestock project.

Activity: Create a buyer letter and include a copy in your record book with the name and address of the potential buyer you sent it to. Please use proper business letter format (can be typed, but require a signature).

Tips

Introduction

- Use a proper business heading including the date and name of business or person
- Include info about yourself (club, age, grade, etc.)
- Introduce what you've learned through your project

Body

- Talk about your project (name, species, breed)
- Talk about how you have worked with your animal/things you've learned
- Talk about how you have raised your project animals and where you got them from

Closing

- Add necessary information about location/dates/times of the fair and the auction
- Inform the potential buyer where they go to register as a buyer
- Use a professional signature line, such as "sincerely," and include your name (not typed) legibly below

Key Points

- Consider including a picture of you and your project in the letter
- Personalize the letter to each buyer. Do not use broad phrases such as "Dear Buyer"
- Express gratitude to your potential buyers and be sincere
- Don't forget to write a thank you not to your buyers after auction!

Buyer Letter Delivery Chart

Please list all of the places that you sent or delivered your buyer letters to. Fill out the date they were sent or delivered and whether or not you greeted the potential buyers in person.

Business Name:

Date:

Delivery Method:

[illegible]

Market Turkey Project

Final Weight	Tom or Hen	Name of Animal

Why did you select the turkey project?: _____

What is your favorite thing about your turkey?: _____

How did you wash/clean your bird to bring them to fair?: _____

What does their pen setup look like? _____

Market Broiler Project

Pen Final Weight	Bird 1 Final Weight:	
	Bird 2 Final Weight:	
	Bird 3 Final Weight:	
	(Bird 4 Final Weight:)	

Why did you select the broiler project?: _____

What is your favorite thing about your broilers?: _____

How did you wash/clean your birds to bring them to fair?: _____

What does their pen setup look like?_____

Market Bantam Project

Final Weight	Cockerel/Pullet/Rooster/Hen?	Name of Animal

Why did you select the bantam project?: _____

What is your favorite thing about your bantams?: _____

How did you wash/clean your birds to bring them to fair?: _____

What does their pen setup look like?_____

Market Duck Project

Duck Name	Final Weight

Why did you select the duck project?: _____

What is your favorite thing about your ducks?: _____

How did you wash/clean your birds to bring them to fair?: _____

What does their pen setup look like?_____

Pheasant Project

Starting # of Birds: _____

Week	Number of Birds Left
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	

What does their pen setup look like?

Mortality Rate

of birds that died / **# of birds at start of project** X 100 = **Mortality Rate**

What is your favorite thing about your pheasants?: _____

Why role do pheasants play in Michigan's ecosystem?: _____

Nutrition

Select one nutrient in your project animal's feed and explain why it's important for your animal's health.

Attach one of your animal's
feed tag/labels here

Expense Tracking

Box #1: FEED COSTS (corn, poultry feed, miscellaneous feed)

Date Purchased	Type of food	Amount in pounds	Cost

Total Feed Cost: \$_____

Box #2: MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES

Date Purchased	Item	Cost

Total Miscellaneous Expenses: \$_____

Expense Summary

Let's calculate the expenses for **one** of your animals! Expenses calculated here occurred between the following dates: (start date) _____ and (end date) _____.

Purchase Price of Bird(s): _____

Total Feed and Supplement Cost: _____
(Found on the monthly feed record sheet)

Total Expenses other than Feed: _____
(Found on the monthly non-feed record sheet)

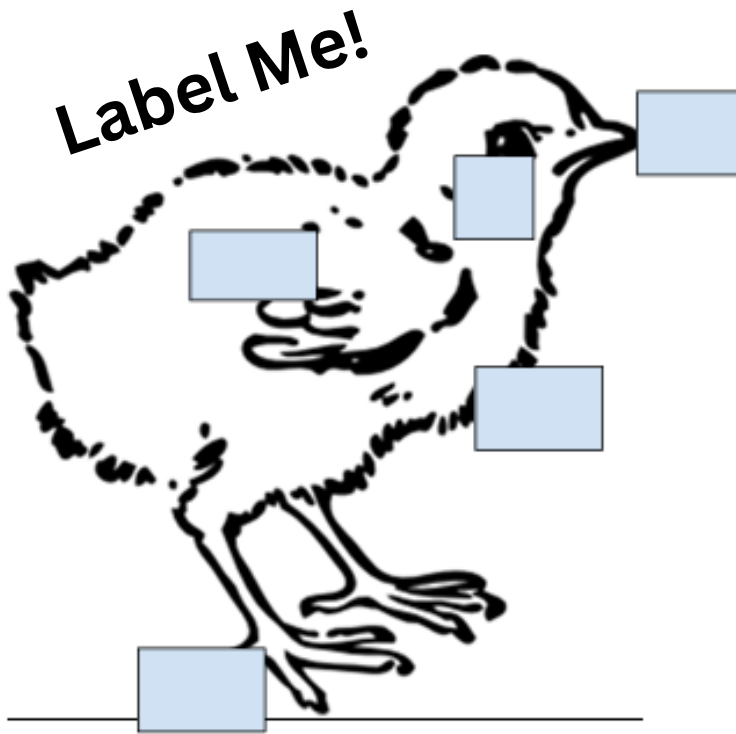
Add purchase price, feed expenses, and non-feed expenses to get your total expenses: _____

Activity: Let's calculate the price per pound needed to cover your expenses!

_____ ÷ _____ = _____ per pound
(total expenses) (weight)

In what ways could you reduce your expenses to help next years project become more profitable?

Poultry Knowledge/Project Questions



1) Breast

2) Eye

3) Foot

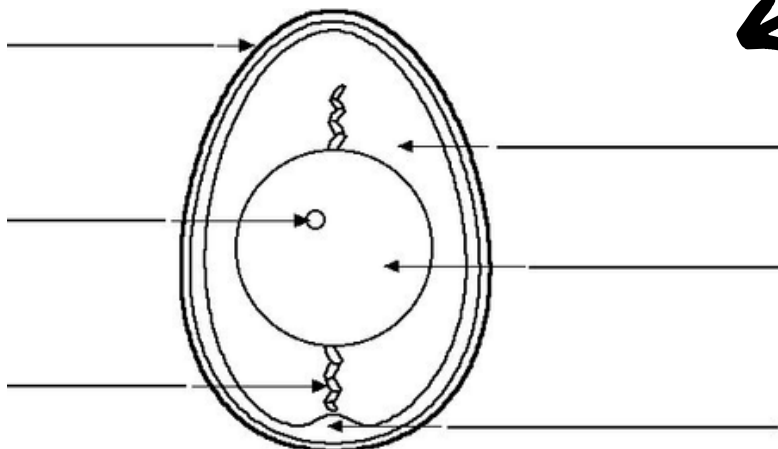
4) Wing

5) Beak

What is the red, fleshy appendage on the top of a chicken's head called?: _____

How many days does it take to incubate a turkey?: _____

Please list five breeds of egg-laying hens that are common to see on a family farm: _____



**Label
Me!**

Conclusion

At the beginning of the book, you were asked to list 3 goals you would like to accomplish with your project. Now, reflect on those. Did you accomplish your goals? What would you change for next years project?

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Conclusion

What is one thing you've learned while completing your project this year?

What is one good practice you will continue doing in following years?

If it's not your first year in the project, how did this years outcome compare to previous years?

What is one piece of advice you'd give someone who may want to start in this project area?

Photos!

This is your chance to showcase your project! At the very minimum, please include a photo from the beginning of the project at the end of the project. Ultimately, those with the highest scoring books will take the most time with these pages--- make them into a scrapbook or a journal! Let your creativity shine! Attach as many additional pages as you need.