

4-H Livestock Project Record Book

4-H YEAR: _____ Age Division: Beginner (Ages 8-10) Intermediate (Ages 11-13) Advanced (Age 14+)

Project Identification & Agreement

Please check all the projects you are in this year and fill out your name, club, etc. Then print and sign this form at the START of your project to turn into Project-Leader.

Name: _____

County: _____

Club: _____

Birthday: _____ **4-H Age:** _____

Project Agreement:

I will be responsible for feed, care, and management of my animal(s). I will keep good records and finish my record book to complete my project. I will be responsible for management decisions concerning the health, welfare, profitability, and product quality of my project.

Project Species	Market	Years in Project	Breeding/Egg Production	Years in Project
Beef				
Bucket Calf	N/A		N/A	N/A
Sheep				
Swine				
Market (Meat) Goats				
Dairy Goats	N/A		N/A	N/A
Poultry - Chicken				
Other: _____				

Member Signature Date

As a parent or supporter, I realize that animal projects require a considerable amount of expense and labor. I will support this youth in their efforts and allow them to learn as much as possible from the experience. The youth is expected to be responsible for labor, care, and management decisions affecting the project. I will help where needed by giving guidance and instruction.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date



4-H Livestock Project Record Book

Introduction

This project record book has been created specifically for 4-H members enrolled in a livestock-animal 4-H project. Keeping a record book is an important part of the project. It will help you set goals for the project year, record your accomplishments, and provide a place to keep important records on your 4-H livestock projects.

4-H Livestock Projects

This project record book is specifically designed to help you keep track of your goals and 4-H experiences, in addition to tracking all of your 4-H livestock projects in ONE place! This 4-H Livestock Project Record book will help you organize your thoughts and ideas, while also calculating your income and expenses for livestock projects.

Why complete a record book?

A record book is not meant to be a chore. Instead, it is a way for you to learn about your project, as well as other valuable skills such as setting goals, collecting information, evaluating information, tracking cost and expenses, organization, and others. Good records will:

- Help you learn about animals, their rate of growth, the feed they require, the cost of the feed they require 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 & learning experiences.
- Allow you to better plan for future livestock projects.

This is just an example of one way that you might organize and present your 4-H Livestock Project Records, like a three-ringed binders or project-folder-reports. But, remember – these are YOUR records and part of the goal for completing them is that you use your imagination and be creative in how you develop them. The idea is that at the completion of your 4-H career, you will have a compilation of records that shows your progression in your project from year to year.

AND - these project record books are judged for ribbons, etc. according to your age division and years in 4-H projects.

A. Project Information *(submit a box for each species)*

Name and/or Description of Animal(s): _____

Breed(s): _____

Identification of Animal(s) [tattoo, ear-tag, fair-tag number]: _____

Birth Date of Animal(s) [est.]: _____ Date of Ownership/Purchase Date: _____

Estimated beginning value of animal(s): \$ _____ Purchase Price: \$ _____

Please tell us about your project animal (check all that apply):

Purchased my project animal(s)

Project animal(s) are bred & owned (from an animal on my family farm)

Other (please explain): _____

For additional animal species:

Name and/or Description of Animal(s): _____

Breed(s): _____

Identification of Animal(s) [tattoo, ear-tag, fair-tag number]: _____

Birth Date of Animal(s) [est.]: _____ Date of Ownership/Purchase Date: _____

Estimated beginning value of animal(s): \$ _____ Purchase Price: \$ _____

Please tell us about your project animal (check all that apply):

Purchased my project animal(s)

Project animal(s) are bred & owned (from an animal on my family farm)

Other (please explain): _____

For additional animal species:

Name and/or Description of Animal(s): _____

Breed(s): _____

Identification of Animal(s) [tattoo, ear-tag, fair-tag number]: _____

Birth Date of Animal(s) [est.]: _____ Date of Ownership/Purchase Date: _____

Estimated beginning value of animal(s): \$_____ Purchase Price: \$_____

Please tell us about your project animal (check all that apply):

- Purchased my project animal(s)
- Project animal(s) are bred & owned (from an animal on my family farm)
- Other (please explain): _____

For additional animal species:

Name and/or Description of Animal(s): _____

Breed(s): _____

Identification of Animal(s) [tattoo, ear-tag, fair-tag number]: _____

Birth Date of Animal(s) [est.]: _____ Date of Ownership/Purchase Date: _____

Estimated beginning value of animal(s): \$_____ Purchase Price: \$_____

Please tell us about your project animal (check all that apply):

- Purchased my project animal(s)
- Project animal(s) are bred & owned (from an animal on my family farm)
- Other (please explain): _____

B. Project Goals: *What do you want to accomplish in 4-H this year?*

It is important to write goals each year. Goals help you learn more about your project and your life. It is also important to think about how you will accomplish your goals. Goals may be personal or project-related. Answer the questions below about each of your goals. **Record TWO SMART goals that are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, & Timely with each "To-Do's" that will help you complete your goal.** Use complete sentences when mapping out your goals.

GOAL A	
"To-Do" Plan	1.
	2.

GOAL B	
"To-Do" Plan	1.
	2.

Knowing the contact for your local veterinarian is important for all animal owners in case an animal gets sick or hurt.

Name & Phone Number of Veterinarian: _____

Potential Buyers

Please list 3 potential buyers you plan to approach this year.

1.
2.
3.

Communication Strategies

Please list 3 communication strategies you plan to utilize this year.

1.
2.
3.

Marketing Strategies

Please list 3 marketing strategies you plan to utilize this year.

1.
2.
3.

Anticipated Income from Animal(s): \$ _____

Beginning Project Pictures:

Take a picture of your project animal(s) at the start of your project. This will help indicate how your animal(s) have grown and developed when we get to the end of the project year!

Date of beginning photo: _____

C. 4-H Project Learning Experiences

List your learning experiences in your 4-H Animal/Livestock Project Area and tell us what you've learned. Learning activities include: talks or demonstrations, project-meetings, radio appearances, newspaper articles, tours, workshops, shows, contests, camps, exhibits, etc. Be sure to include the level of participation: Local or Club (L), County (C), Regional (R), or State (S).

Date	Experience/Where I Was...	I learned...	Level

Show Me Quality Assurance Training/Certification:

Date of Initial Training: _____

Date of Second Consecutive Training: _____

Date of Certification: _____

Circle your Certification Type:

Good to Go

Conditional Certification

Full Certification (14+)

D1. Knowledge & Skills

What specific knowledge & Skills did you learn in your project? Include what you have learned from mistakes. How can you apply what you have learned to your life?

Knowledge & Skills	How can you use the knowledge & skills?

D2. Experiences in 4-H Leadership

List your leadership experiences in your 4-H or Project Area and tell us what you've learned. Be sure to include the level of participation: Local or Club (L), County (C), Regional (R), or State (S).

Office or Committee	What did you do in that leadership role?	Level

E. Community Service (Individual or Club-Related)

List your community service projects and tell us what you've learned.

Date	Community Service Project	I learned...	Hours

Total Number of Community Service Hours: _____

F. Weight Record(s)

It is recommended to weigh your animal(s) at least once each month or more as appropriate for your species. At minimum, two weights must be recorded. Use the chart below to track weights.

Animal ID								
Note: Official weigh-ins are tracked and recorded twice annually for the rate-of-gain contest at County Fair.	Date	Weight	Date	Weight	Date	Weight	Date	Weight
	FINAL		FINAL		FINAL		FINAL	

Official Weigh-Ins (used for rate-of-gain contest for County Fair):

Animal ID: _____ | Date #1: _____ Weight: _____ | Date #2: _____ Weight: _____

Animal ID: _____ | Date #1: _____ Weight: _____ | Date #2: _____ Weight: _____

G. Health Record

Enrolling in an animal project requires you to take responsibility for the health and treatment of your animal(s). Record all health care for your animal(s) including medications, immunizations (shots), dewormers, as well as management care such as fly prevention, nail/hoof trimming, shearing, clipping, cleaning pens, feed tubs, and water tanks, etc. Also include supplement and medicated feeds (check the feed tag). Remember to record the cost of healthcare services and supplies in the Financial Summary (Section H). Do not leave any blanks. Record N/A where applicable.

Date	Animal ID (tag/sex/name)	Reason for Treatment	Treated with, How much (dosage), method of administration	Lot Number Expiration Date	Person Who Administered Treatment	Withdrawal Time	Date of Completed Withdrawal

H. Financial Summary

Costs associated with your project work should be included here. Include expenses such as materials, supplies, feed, breeding fees, veterinary expenses, barn-rental, machinery, equipment, tack, clinic/lesson fees, farm utilities, tagging fees, fuel/transportation, etc. Please include income, whether from selling animals, equipment or tack, or earnings from show-winnings, barn work, etc.

			Project:	Project:	Project:	Project:	
Date	Item	Paid-To or Sold-To	\$	\$	\$	\$	Total

Number of Animals Reflected on this Chart: _____

Total Expense per Animal: \$ _____

I. My Project Animal Analysis: (please complete Section I for each market animal - make additional copies as necessary)

Ear-Tag #	Gender	Breed	Date Acquired	Beginning Weight	Final Weight (A)

My Estimated Project Income:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \times & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & = & \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\
 \text{Market Price*} & & \text{Final Weight (A)} & & \text{Expected Market Income}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & + & \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & = & \text{TOTAL EXPECTED INCOME} \\
 & & & & \text{Other Income**} & & \boxed{\hspace{2cm}}
 \end{array}$$

***Market Price** is the price you would receive under normal sale conditions (such as an auction sale yard). These prices are published in agriculture newspapers, magazines, or TV and Radio Farm Reports, also available online.

****Other Income** could include premiums from another show or sale of by-products (wool, eggs, milk, manure, etc.) generated prior to the fair.

My Project Expenses:

Price of Animal Purchase or Beginning Value (A)	a) \$
Total Cost Animal Expenses (H)	b) \$
TOTAL EXPENSES (a + b)	\$

Formula to Calculate Your Breakeven Price:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \div & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & = & \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\
 \text{Total Expenses} & & \text{Final Weight (A)} & & \text{Breakeven Price (Price per pound needed to cover expenses)}
 \end{array}$$

J. Ending Project Pictures:

Take a picture of your project animal(s) at the end of your project. This will help indicate how your animal(s) have grown and developed!

Date of ending photo: _____

K1. Project Story/Reflection: Beginner (Ages 8-10) [One Page Story with Two Pages of Pictures]

- 1. What did you learn in the project this year?
- 2. What did you feed your animal(s)?
- 3. What did you do to help market your animal(s)?
- 4. What did you do to help keep your animal(s) healthy?
- 5. Explain how you trained and prepared your animal for show:

K2. Project Story/Reflection: Intermediate (Ages 11-13) [One Page Story with Two Pages of Pictures]

1. What did you learn in the project this year?
2. What did you feed your animal(s) and why?
3. What techniques did you use to aid in marketing your animal(s)?
4. What management strategies did you put in place to help keep your animal(s) healthy?
5. What is the definition of the “breakeven price” for this project? What can be done to improve the “breakeven price”?

K3. Project Story/Reflection: Advanced (Ages 14-18) [One Page Story with Two Pages of Pictures]

1. What did you learn in the project this year? Where or how?
2. What was one supplement you fed your animal(s) and why?
3. What strategies did you utilize in marketing your animal(s)?
4. Compare your “breakeven price” to your “expected market income”. What can be done to improve the break-even price?
5. What management strategies did you implement to improve animal health & wellbeing?
6. What have you done to help other members be successful in this project?

L. Approval of This Report/Project Record

This is to verify that this report is the work of the member and is believed to be correct and accurate.

Member Signature:	Date Completed:
Guardian Name:	Guardian Signature:
Club Leader Name:	Club Leader Signature:
Project Leader Name:	Project Leader Signature: