



MARKET RABBIT DIVISION



The 2009 Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show Grand Champion Pen of Rabbits was purchased by Smokin' On The Rio and Compass Bank for \$3,500. Brody Hill, a member of 4 Winds 4-H, exhibited the pen of rabbits.

Entry Deadline	January 15
Entry Fee	\$5.00
Delivery, Weighing/Sifting/Classifying	
.....	3:00 PM to 5:30 PM, Monday, March 15
Judging	8:00 AM, Tuesday, March 16
Load Out	2:00 PM, Sunday, March 21

MARKET RABBIT DIVISION RULES

Notice to Exhibitors: Exhibitors must remove rabbits that are sifted from the Show immediately after sifting. All others must be consigned by the exhibitor to the processing plant, individual, etc. who places the highest bid with the Show Management. Violation of this rule will result in exhibitor being barred from future shows.

1. Each exhibitor must be a member of a 4-H club or FFA chapter and enrolled in elementary, secondary or home school in Cameron, Willacy, Starr or Hidalgo County and in

- their respective FFA chapter or 4-H Club from November 1, 2009 thru the Show period.
2. FFA and 4-H exhibitors must be in third grade or nine years old but under twenty as of January 1, 2010.
3. Rabbits must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor as of February 14, 2010, and must be continuously fed and cared for by the exhibitor as a project under the supervision of an AST, CEA or 4-H club manager.
4. An exhibitor can enter only one pen. The pen is to consist of three rabbits, all the same breed or variety or they will be sifted. *Do not bring 4 rabbits to the Show.* Choose the three you want to enter before you get to the showgrounds.
5. Rabbits will be weighed on official show scales at time of entry.
6. Rabbits must meet the following requirements or automatically be sifted:
 - A. Must weigh at least three pounds but no more than five pounds at the sifting weigh-in. If any one rabbit in the pen weighs less than three pounds or more than five pounds, the entire pen will be sifted.
 - B. Must be marketable meat and pelt (fur) quality.
 - C. Must not be over 70 days old at time of sifting.
 - D. Must be free of the following defects:
 - (1) Cysts, ruptures or tumors
 - (2) Cold or snuffles
 - (3) Abscesses (hocks or elsewhere)
 - (4) Matted eyelids
 - (5) Blindness in either or both eyes
 - (6) Mange
 - (7) Mites (ear or body)
 - (8) Fleas
 - (9) Malocclusion
 - (10) Vent Diseases
 - (11) Missing toes or missing complete toenail.
 - E. If any one rabbit in the pen is disqualified, the entire pen will be sifted.
7. A pen of rabbits, which in the opinion of the sifter, does not meet ARBA Breed Standards of the Class in which it is entered, will be moved to the proper breed class by the sifter.
8. After rabbits have been accepted by the Show, no exchange of animals may be made. To do so will disqualify the exhibitor.
9. Each exhibitor must bring one hanging metal rabbit feeder (through the cage type and big enough to hold enough feed for 3 rabbits each day) and one or two 32 ounce or larger bottle type waterer (so rabbits will have enough water during warm weather). *These must be displayed to the*



MARKET RABBIT DIVISION CONTINUED....

Sifting Committee at check-in time. No crocks or bowls allowed. Rabbits will not be admitted unless properly functioning spill proof containers accompany the pen. Each exhibitor will be responsible for feeding and watering their rabbits each day until rabbits are loaded out at the end of the Show. Failure to do so will disqualify the exhibitor from showing next year.

The Rabbit area will be open from 9:00 a.m. till 10:00 p.m. each day. **Rabbits must have water at all times. They must be fed by 7:00 p.m. each day.**

- 10. The Livestock Show will not be responsible for any rabbits that get sick or die while on exhibit or in case of fire.
- 11. No oils, polishes, powders or other products may be used which would cosmetically alter the rabbit's naturally groomed appearance at sifting or at the show table.
- 12. Rabbits will be judged in accordance with American Rabbit Breeders' Association's (ARBA) Standard and Guide for Judging Meat Classes. Judges will additionally refer to the appropriate Breed Standards, as they deem necessary.
- 13. Basically the four judging factors are:
 - A. **MEAT TYPE** is worth 40%. Look for fryers that are compact, short and well filled out with rounded solid flesh. Protruding hips, pin bones, back bones (spines), etc. are faults. Look for wide, deep loins, thickness of the hindquarters and well-developed shoulders. Hindquarters are most important. Loin is next and shoulders are third in importance.
 - B. **CONDITION** is worth 30%. All three rabbits in the pen should be in prime condition.
 - C. **UNIFORMITY** is worth 20%. The pen must reflect uniformity of weight, size, appearance, condition, meat type and fur.
 - D. **FUR** is worth 10%
- 14. Exhibitors will be required to display their rabbits at the show tables as directed by the judge.
- 15. No locks will be permitted on cages after judging takes place. Cages may be locked until judging. Any locks found on cages after judging will be cut off.
- 16. Delivery of rabbits to buyer or his agents will be made on Sunday, March 21, starting at 2:00 p.m. Positively no rabbits will be released prior to this time.

BREEDS

Each breed will have classes as follows: 1 - 20 pens = 1 class; 21 - 40 pens = 2 classes; 41 - 60 pens = 3 classes; 61 - 80 pens = 4 classes. First place and second place of each class will compete for Breed Champion and Reserve Breed Champion. First place

pen of rabbits in each class will compete for Breed Champion. The second place winner in the class that produced the Breed Champion will compete with the remaining first place class winners for Breed Reserve Champion. Ribbons and premiums will be awarded in each class as indicated under "Premium Section".

Breed 1 NEW ZEALAND WHITE

- Champion New Zealand White..... Rosette
- Reserve Champion New Zealand White.....Rosette

Breed 2 CALIFORNIAN

- Champion CalifornianRosette
- Reserve Champion Californian.....Rosette

Breed 3 CROSSBREEDS AND PUREBREEDS

(A Crossbreed is a rabbit whose sire and dam are of different breeds)

- Champion Crossbreeds and Other PurebreedsRosette
- Reserve Champion Crossbreeds and Other Purebreeds

.....Rosette

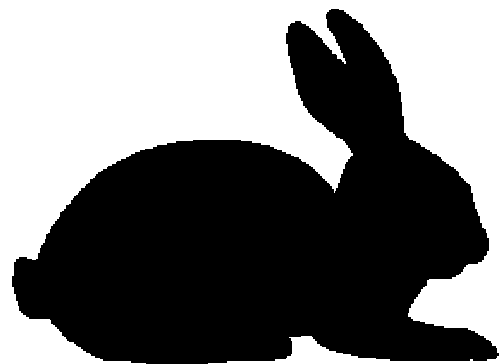
Grand Champion Belt Buckle, Trophy & Banner

(First Place Winner in Breeds 1, 2 and 3 competing)

Reserve Grand ChampionTrophy and Banner

(Reserve Breed Champion from the Class that produced Grand Champion will compete with the remaining two Breed Champions)

General Rules, Regulations and Procedures on page 42 also apply.





SCHEDULE OF PREMIUM AWARDS

Premium will be based on the number of pens showing in each class:

- 1 - 10 Entries To 5th Place
- 11 - 20 Entries To 10th Place
- 21 - 30 Entries..... To 15th Place
- Over 30 Entries To 20th Place

<u>PLACING</u>	<u>PREMIUM</u>
1	\$35
2	\$34
3	\$33
4	\$32
5	\$31
6	\$30
7	\$29
8	\$28
9	\$27
10	\$26
11	\$25
12	\$24
13	\$23
14	\$22
15	\$21
16	\$20
17	\$19
18	\$18
19	\$17
20	\$16

RABBIT DIVISION SHOWMANSHIP

Only rabbit exhibitors who are exhibiting their own rabbits will be allowed to enter the Rabbit Showmanship Competition. They must register for showmanship between 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. at the Rabbit Sifting Table on Monday, March 15. Exhibitors will be divided into three age groups.

- 8 to 11 years of age
- 12 to 14 years of age
- 15 years old and over
- As of day of contest

Immediately following sifting all showmanship entrants must report to the rabbit barn, at which time a multiple-choice exam will be given. Test questions will be drawn from the Texas A&M Extension Service rabbit literature that is available through the County Agents and from the 2006 through 2010 edition of the American Rabbit Breeders Association Standard of Perfection (pages 24 thru 37; 87 thru 88; and 174 thru 175).

Tuesday, March 16

(After completion of all rabbit judging):

The top seven contestants from each of the age groups, scoring highest on the multiple choice exam, will compete in the showmanship finals. Each finalist will be called individually to take one of their previously shown RGVLS market rabbits, to the show table for final competition. Physical "showing" of their rabbit as well as their knowledge of rabbit husbandry will constitute 100% of the score. The decision of the judge is final.

Prizes will be awarded in each age group as follows:

- 1st place\$75.00 and Belt Buckle
- 2nd place\$65.00 and ribbon
- 3rd Place.....\$55.00 and ribbon
- 4th Place.....\$45.00 and ribbon
- 5th Place.....\$35.00 and ribbon

EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE MARCH 12-21, 2010

