

RAISING MARKET RABBITS

What do I need to purchase to get started?

cages (the more you can separate rabbits, the easier it is to control weight)
water bowls
feeders
feed
scales (has to weigh from 3.5 lbs. to 5.5 lbs.)

Please let Mrs. Bartos or Ms. Tucker know if you will be showing rabbits as soon as possible.

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BREEDS

We will show Californians.

HOUSING

You can build your own cages or purchase them, but the ones you build will better suit your program. Your cage needs to be approximately 33-36 inches wide, 18 inches tall, and 24 inches deep. It should be made of 1 inch by 2 inch galvanized wire if possible. The floor of the cage ideally needs to be galvanized wire, ½ inch by 1 inch squares. Ventilation is important in keeping your rabbits healthy.

WATERERS

It is recommended that you use water bowls or bottles. Waterers need to be cleaned once a week.

FEEDERS

Metal feeders that hang on the outside of the cage work well. Crocks or bowls will work but rabbits will try to dump out the feed or sit in it. Feeders need to be cleaned at least once a week.

FEED

Bunnies should have fresh feed in front of them at all times. We will get the feed when we get the bunnies. Please do not feed them lettuce or carrots.

WORKING THE HAIR/WEIGHING

You need to be working hair and weighing the bunnies at least every other day. This helps get the bunnies accustomed to being handled and lets you keep up with their progress.

COST

Rabbits are \$50 each. This year you will show a pen of 3, but it is recommended that you purchase 5. You must order rabbits by September 25th. A \$100 deposit is due on September 30th (to the breeder). The balance will be due on December 1st. Additional expenses: feed, entry fees.

DATES

You will get your rabbits in mid December. Validation is in **December** (*You MUST attend with a parent/guardian.*) The show is in **January**.

YOU ONLY HAVE RABBITS FOR A SHORT TIME...1 DAY COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!