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# 4-H Poultry Record Guide

Scratching the Surface

Testing Your Wings

Flocking Together

*(Title Project Taken)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Year)*

*Your Animal's Photo Here!*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Years in 4-H \_\_\_\_\_ Date project completed \_\_\_\_\_

Developed and written in 1998 by the 4-H poultry curriculum development committee:

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## Introduction

The 4-H poultry project is for individuals wanting to learn how to raise poultry for meat, eggs, or show. The project's objectives are to teach individuals to (1) feed and manage poultry, (2) exhibit poultry, and (3) record project activities and finances. **You are encouraged to work closely with your adviser on the production, exhibition, or marketing specifics for the class of bird on which your project is based.**

### Poultry Projects

1. Broiler Production Project: 4-H'er raises 25 or more broiler chickens for meat production. This is a short-term project lasting six to eight weeks. Broilers raised for this project are bought as one-day-old chicks. Record your project activities on pages 2-4 of this guide.
2. Turkey Production Project: 4-H'er raises 15 or more turkeys for meat production. Project duration is 14-18 weeks. Turkeys raised for this project are bought as one-day-old poults and should be of commercial white broad-breasted variety. Record your project activities on pages 2-4 of this guide.
3. Egg Production Project: 4-H'er raises a flock of 25 or more laying hens for egg production. This long-term project generally lasts six months or more. Hens used for this project may be bought as pullets (young hens) or raised from one-day-old chicks. The eggs produced can be used at home or sold to a local market. Record your project activities on pages 5-8 of this guide.
4. Exhibition Bird Project: 4-H'er raises 15 or more birds to be exhibited at county, regional, or state poultry shows. All birds exhibited must be raised from one-day-old chicks. Exhibit birds must be purebred and may be standard bred or bantam (miniatures). Record your project activity on pages 9-10 of this guide.
5. Other Bird Project: 4-H'er raises other bird types (ex. ostrich, emu, etc.) for meat production or breeding purposes. Eggs, meat, or breeding stock produced can be for home or commercial use. Record your project activities on pages 11-12 of this guide.

### Purchasing Birds

Buy all birds from a reliable hatchery or breeder. The hatchery or breeder you choose should be a member of the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) or should practice a blood testing program to produce birds that are pullorum and typhoid clean.

Birds purchased for egg production or exhibition should be started in the first quarter of the year. Birds purchased for meat production can be started anytime.

## Broiler/Turkey Record

Week	No. Birds Week Start	No. Birds Week End	Average Weight	Feed			Feed Efficiency*
				Type	Lbs. Fed	Cost	
Total							

### Formula

$$*Feed\ Efficiency = \frac{\left( \frac{Lbs.\ Feed\ Fed}{No.\ Birds\ Week\ End} \right)}{Average\ Weight}$$

(A measure of the pounds of feed required for every pound of gain.)

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## Performance Summary

	Projected	Actual
1. Date project was started		
2. Date project was closed		
3. Number of birds started		
4. Number of birds at finish		
5. Total lbs. of meat marketed		
6. Total days in the feeding period		
7. Total gain		
8. Total lbs. feed consumed		
9. Total feed cost		
10. Average weight at market		
11. Feed efficiency ratio (feed consumed [8] ÷ meat marketed [5])		
12. Percent livability (birds at finish [4] ÷ birds started [3] x 100)		

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## Financial Summary

### Income

Poultry on hand at the end of the project at current value \_\_\_\_\_  
Income (eggs, meat, live birds sold or used) \_\_\_\_\_  
Other income (premiums won, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Income **\_\_\_\_\_**

### Expenses

Poultry started with or bought during project \_\_\_\_\_  
Total feed costs \_\_\_\_\_  
Total housing costs, if any \_\_\_\_\_  
Total equipment costs, if any \_\_\_\_\_  
Total fuel costs, if any \_\_\_\_\_  
Total other expense (medicine, bedding materials, water) \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Expenses **\_\_\_\_\_**

Total Income \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Expenses \_\_\_\_\_  
**Profit or Loss \_\_\_\_\_**

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## Merchandising Summary

List any potential buyers contacted before your show/sale.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe any other methods used to sell your poultry. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who purchased your poultry/poultry products? \_\_\_\_\_

At what price? \_\_\_\_\_

*Please include a copy of your thank-you letter.*

# Egg Production Record/Mortality Sheet

Month \_\_\_\_\_

(Make a copy of this chart for each month)

Day	No. Eggs	Feed Added	No. Birds	Died/Culled	Remarks
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					
24					
25					
26					
27					
28					
29					
30					
31					
Total			*		

Monthly Egg Total \_\_\_\_\_ + Total Eggs Forwarded \_\_\_\_\_ = Total Eggs to Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*Total No. of Birds per Month = No. of Birds at Start + No. of Birds at End ÷ 2.

## Monthly Laying Record

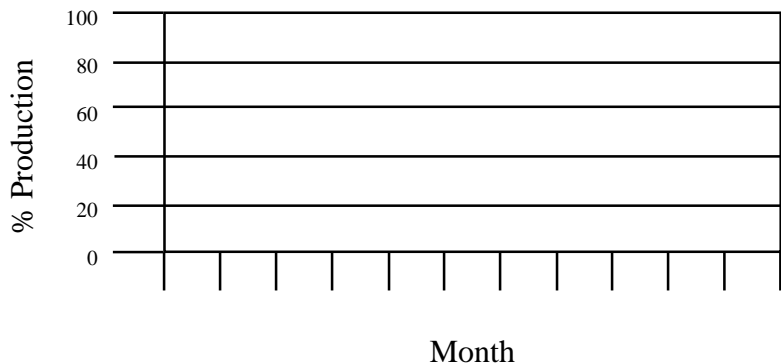
Month	No. Eggs Produced	No. Eggs Home Use	No. Birds	% Production	Lbs. Feed Used	Miscellaneous	
						Income	Expenses
Total							

## Formula

$$\% \text{ Production} = \left( \frac{\text{No. Eggs Produced [Column 2]}}{\text{No. Birds [Column 4]}} \right)$$

## Egg Production Performance

Chart monthly production percentage to show values over the length of the laying cycle.





## Performance Summary

	Projected	Actual
1. Date project was started		
2. Date project was closed		
3. Number of birds started		
4. Number of birds at finish		
5. Total days in laying period		
6. Total no. eggs produced		
7. Total no. dozen eggs marketed		
8. Total lbs. feed consumed		
9. Lbs. feed/dozen eggs (total lbs. feed consumed [8] ÷ total no. dozen eggs marketed [7])		
10. Percent livability (birds at finish [4] ÷ birds started [3] x 100)		
11. Eggs/hen housed (total no. eggs produced [6] ÷ no. of birds started [3])		
12. Peak production percentage (See Egg Production Chart, page 6)		

## Egg Production Veterinary/Vaccination Record

Date	Purpose	Vaccination	Costs
Total Costs			

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## Financial Summary

### Income

Poultry on hand at the end of the project at current value \_\_\_\_\_  
Income (eggs, meat, live birds sold or used) \_\_\_\_\_  
Other income (premiums won, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Income **\_\_\_\_\_**

### Expenses

Poultry started with or bought during project \_\_\_\_\_  
Total feed costs \_\_\_\_\_  
Total housing costs, if any \_\_\_\_\_  
Total equipment costs, if any \_\_\_\_\_  
Total fuel costs, if any \_\_\_\_\_  
Total other expense (medicine, bedding materials, water) \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Expenses **\_\_\_\_\_**

Total Income \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Expenses \_\_\_\_\_  
**Profit or Loss \_\_\_\_\_**

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## Merchandising Summary

List any potential buyers contacted before your show/sale.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe any other methods used to sell your poultry. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who purchased your poultry/poultry products? \_\_\_\_\_

At what price? \_\_\_\_\_

*Please include a copy of your thank-you letter.*

## Exhibition

Birds(s) Name/Breed	Exhibition			Ribbons Won	Premiums Won
	Name	Date	Place		
Totals					

## Performance Summary

	Projected	Actual
1. Date project was started		
2. Date project was closed		
3. Number of birds started		
4. Number of birds at finish		
5. Total lbs. feed consumed		
6. Percent livability (birds at finish [4] ÷ birds started [3] x 100)		

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## Exhibition Veterinary/Vaccination Record

Date	Purpose	Vaccination	Costs
Total Costs			

## Other Bird Project

Bird type \_\_\_\_\_

Month	No. Birds Died/Culled	Feed			Other Expenses	Comments
		Type	Lbs. Fed	Cost		
Totals						

## Other Veterinary/Vaccination Record

Date	Purpose	Vaccination	Costs
Total Costs			

## Performance Summary

	Projected	Actual
1. Date project was started		
2. Date project was closed		
3. Number of birds started		
4. Number of birds at finish		
5. Total lbs. or no. of product units (meat, eggs, birds, etc.) marketed		
6. Total lbs. of feed consumed		
7. Average weight at market		
8. Feed efficiency ratio (total lbs. feed consumed [6] ÷ total lbs. or no. of product units [5])		
9. Percent livability (birds at finish [4] ÷ birds started [3] x 100)		
10. Price or value per unit of product marketed		

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## Record of Demonstrations, Talks, and Activities

Date	Location	Activity	Remarks

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## Your Project Story

*(This should trace your progress through the year. List some important things you learned about your animal and yourself, your accomplishments, and improvements you need to make.)*

*continued on next page*

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## **Your Project Story** *(Continued)*





## 4-H Project Evaluation

Now that you have finished this project, it is time for you to think about what you have learned. We also would like to know what you have learned and if the project needs to be improved. Your comments will help the people write the projects. Please write answers to the following questions. Then give this form to your 4-H leader or mail it to:

**Project Evaluation**  
**State 4-H Office**  
**Knapp Hall, PO Box 6031**  
**Morgantown, WV 26506-6031**

Title of Project \_\_\_\_\_

Girl Boy (circle one) Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade in School \_\_\_\_\_ Years in 4-H \_\_\_\_\_

1. Was this your first project in this subject? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why did you pick this project? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What was your favorite part of this project? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. By doing this project, what did you learn that you didn't know before? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Did you do the activities in the project book? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What activities did you like doing? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. How would you change this project to make it better? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Would you tell others to take this project? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. What other 4-H projects have you taken? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. If you have something else to say, write it on the back.



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# Poultry Project Score Sheet

★ If you are taking this project without an animal, check with your extension agent for approval. It is suggested that the Self-Determined project be used with the North Central poultry project book as a resource. Consult with your extension agent to plan your project work.

## Poultry Project Book

✓ Complete seven activities in the Poultry Achievement Program of the North Central Project Book  
*(Each activity is worth 5 points ~ Total 35 possible points)*

\_\_\_\_\_

✓ Complete Planning Guide in North Central Project Book on pages 3-5  
*(Worth 5 points)*

\_\_\_\_\_

## Exhibit/Production Score *(Total 20 possible points)* ★

\_\_\_\_\_

✓ This may be the actual exhibition of your animal or other designated project or service determined with your extension agent.

## Poultry Record Guide

*(Worth 20 points)*

\_\_\_\_\_

## Activity Record

*(Worth 20 points)*

\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

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