



# So you want to take Market Chickens

Exhibitors are responsible to read and comply with all rules from ODA, Senior Fair Boards and Livestock Committees



**Enrollment Due:** April 1<sup>st</sup>

**Project Book:** #150CM Poultry Project & Record Book (1<sup>st</sup> year member), or Washington County Livestock Record Book (2<sup>nd</sup> year members and beyond). FFA exhibitors see your advisor for requirements. **ALL project books must be in print form and required for skillathon.**

**Bird Orders:** Poultry order is not guaranteed and is pending availability, through approved hatchery. Birds are ordered through OSU Extension Office.

**Project Animal Requirements:** \*Order must be placed and paid for by April 15  
\*Maximum of 12 chicks can be ordered  
\*Possession: From time of pick-up (usually July) through sale  
\*Min. Fair weight 3 1/2# Max. No Maximum weight  
\*3 Chickens per pen

**Pre-Fair Tag-In:** NONE – exhibitors will be notified for pick-up of chicks

**Quality Assurance:** Exhibitor and one parent/guardian **must** attend one of the sessions offered in Washington County or any other Ohio County. **See Important Market Livestock Dates in the Junior Fair Activities Guide or 4-H Calendar available at the Extension Office or online at <http://washington.osu.edu> for dates, times and locations.**

**Skillathon:** Skillathon is **required** for exhibitor to be eligible to show and/or sell at the fair. **See Important Market Livestock Dates in the Junior Fair Activities Guide available at the Extension Office or online at <http://washington.osu.edu> for dates, times and locations.**

**Fair:** Washington County Fair (always Labor Day Weekend)

**Pen Reservations Due:** Pen reservation information will be collected at Skillathon.

## What happens at the Fair?

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|---|---|
| <b>Check in</b>                             | 6:30- 9:00 pm-Friday (completed online DUNF is required before animals cross the scales) Birds must be washed clean and dried before crossing the scales.   |
| <b>Buyer Thank you posters</b>              | Make a Thank You poster to thank previous buyer. Hang it in the barn. See Jr Fair Guide for details and size.   |
| <b>Classes</b>                              | To be eligible to <b>SELL</b> , exhibitor <b>must do both</b> Showmanship and Market Classes.   |
| <b>Judging</b>                              | Saturday <b>See Fair Schedule for dates and times</b>   |
| <b>Pictures</b>                             | Are required to sell, See Junior Fair Guide for all picture times.  |
| <b>What is the Premier Exhibitor Award?</b> | High scoring exhibitor from skillathon (100 points), showmanship (100 points) & market class placing (50 points)  |
| <b>Sale</b>                                 | Tuesday, <b>See Junior Fair Activities Guide for sale order and time and location</b>   |
| <b>Thank/contact buyers</b>                 | Thank buyers by note, call or in person at their business after the fair.   |
| <b>Sale Checks</b>                          | Checks are available for pick up by the exhibitors after payment from buyers has been made. Livestock check pick up dates TBD, for questions about your checks call a 4-H Livestock Committee member. |

For Further information or Questions contact OSU Extension Office at 740-376-7431 visit our web site at: <http://washington.osu.edu>

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# Market Poultry Basics

What to look for and do the day birds arrive:

- Check beaks - they are trimmed before shipping if too short they will have trouble eating
- Legs and toes should be straight with no deformities
- Birds should be alert and active
- Be sure to bring water with you. Birds are shipped soon after they are born.

When you bring them home:

- Add electrolytes to water. (can be found at any feed store)
- Teach birds to drink by gently dipping their beaks in water source
- Feeding the proper type of feed at the correct age is important:
  - Turkeys - starter mash
  - Chickens – broiler starter ration
- Do not use stale, spoiled or moldy feed
- Make sure birds have plenty of fresh feed and water at all times
- Facilities for healthy growth:
  - Birds need to be kept warm and dry
  - Ventilation and sanitation are very important
  - Room to move and exercise must be available
  - Protection from weather, disease and predators is necessary

As they grow:

- Facility area needs to grow with growing birds
- Ventilation and sanitation should be top priorities
- Some good bedding choices are: wood shavings, ground corn cobs or rice hulls and straw

Going to the fair:

- Review project books to help you select birds for the fair
- Review the Junior Fair Activities Guide for rules, dates, times and locations of all fair events
- Make sure your birds are clean for the fair and throughout the fair
- Exhibitors are responsible for feeding and watering their birds throughout the day each day of the fair.

Remember to have fun while you learn with your project!

Need poultry resources: [www.poultry.osu.edu](http://www.poultry.osu.edu)