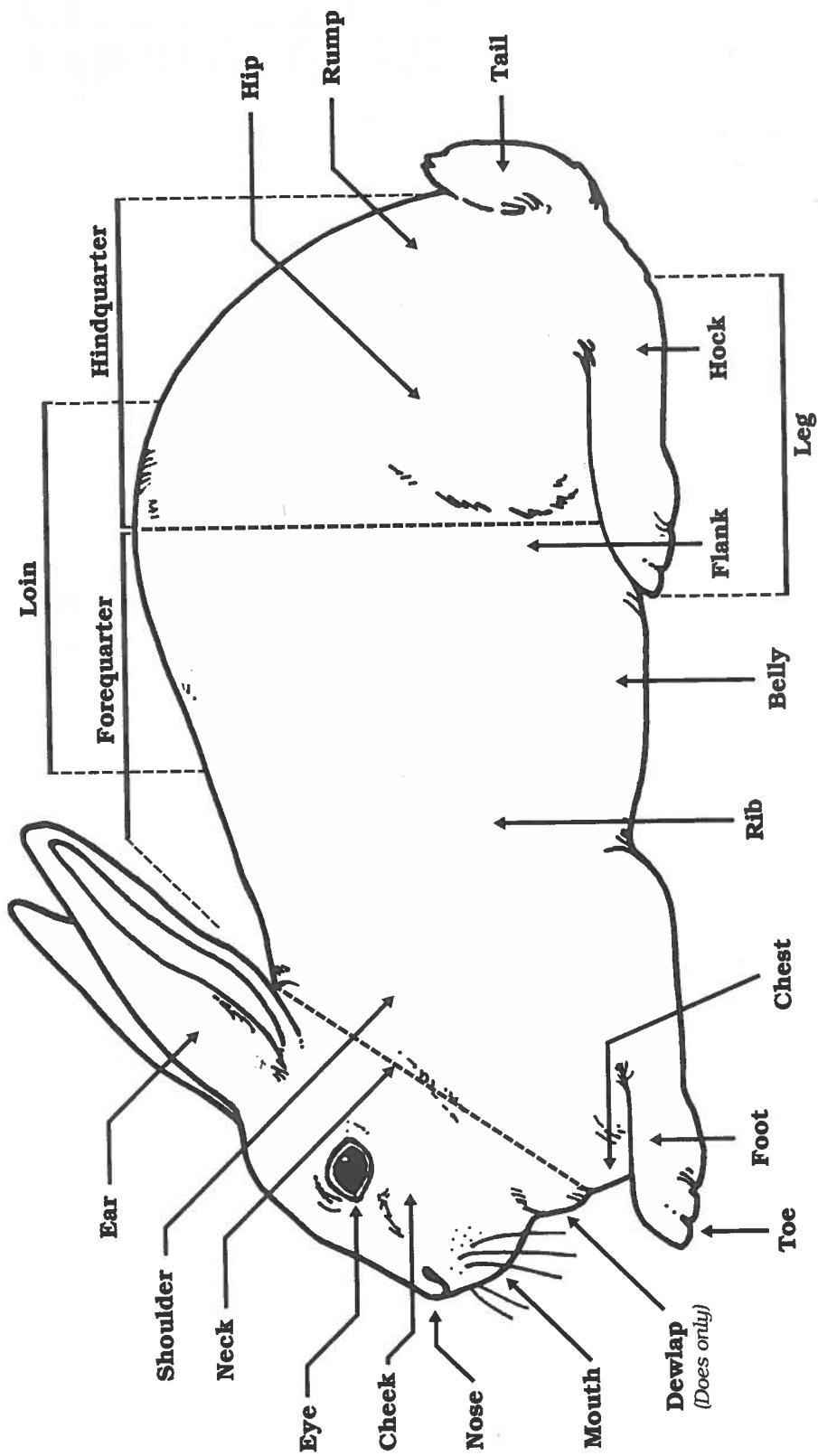


Use this poster in conjunction with Anatomy - Match the names to the correct parts of the rabbit situation/task statement and/or Parts of a Rabbit identification tags.

# Parts of a Rabbit



**Exploratory Learning: Educational Program**  
This component adapted from materials found in *Raising Rabbits I*.  
© The Ohio State University, 1985 - Ohio State University Extension 4-H Youth Development.  
Graphic property of Curriculum Materials Service.

Product distribution through the Curriculum Materials Service

Use this poster in conjunction with Care - Match symptom with name situation/task statement and/or Ailments and Disorders identification and description tags.

## Ailments and Disorders



### Sore Hocks (Ulcerative Pododermatitis)

**Cause:** Damage initially to the pad of the foot, usually followed by a bacterial infection  
**Prevention:**

- \* House rabbits in clean cages on soft, clean, dry bedding
- \* Eliminate environmentally stressful conditions
- \* Use clean herds
- \* Use affected animals and do not use for breeding

#### Common treatment:

- > Preparation II
- > Clean sores/lesions, trim toenails, and apply topical antiseptic or protective covering
- > Healing is often prolonged/complicated by secondary bacterial infections



### Wry Neck (Torticollis)

**Cause: Bacterial infection** — An otitis interna caused by *Pasteurella multocida* — frequently no specific inner ear lesions are detected, with the cause remaining unknown  
**Prevention:**

- \* Cull affected individuals immediately
- \* Quarantine new arrivals prior to herd/colony entry
- \* Do not allow affected animals to reproduce

#### Common treatment:

- > Treatment is NOT effective
- > There is NO satisfactory treatment for this condition



### Snuffles (Infectious Respiratory Disease)

**Cause: Bacterial infection** — *Pasteurella multocida* — transmitted by direct contact between cagemates, doe and litter, and/or breeding pair — untreated may result in pneumonia

#### Prevention:

- \* Adhere to strict sanitation and husbandry standards
- \* Good air ventilation
- \* Follow strict culling procedures

#### Common treatment:

- > *Terramycin*, *Banumycin*, *ox- Bayrid*
- > Treat at first symptom of illness
- > Treat with antibiotics via drinking water or injection



### Vent Disease (Veneral Spirochetosis or Treponematoses)

**Cause: Bacterial infection** — *Treponema cuniculi* — transmitted by direct contact, especially during mating

#### Prevention:

- \* Examine breeding bucks and does routinely for lesions
- \* Cull infected individuals at once
- \* Maintain a closed breeding herd
- \* Treat and quarantine new stock

#### Common treatment:

- > Penicillin
- > Treat with injectable antibiotic
- > Increased possibility of enterotoxemia from penicillin exposure must be considered



### Eenterotoxemia (Clostridial Enterotoxemia)

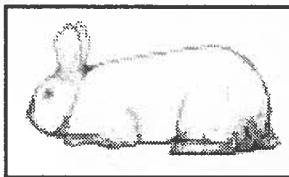
**Cause: Bacterial infection** — *Clostridium spiroforme* and/or *C. perfringens* — transmission is primarily fecal-oral route

#### Prevention:

- \* Implement rigid sanitation and husbandry standards
- \* Use copper sulfate or *Lactobacillus* preparations
- \* Change diet slowly
- \* Feed sufficient fiber

#### Common treatment:

- > *Biosol*
- > Change the diet: increase fiber and decrease protein
- > Maintain hydration
- > Monitor body temperature
- > Neomycin treatments have uncertain benefits



### Ringworm (Dermatophytosis)

**Cause: Fungal infection** — *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* and/or *Microsporum canis* — transmitted easily by direct contact with spores on hair coat, in bedding, and/or soil

#### Prevention:

- \* Maintain high standards of animal husbandry
- \* Examine animals routinely
- \* Cull carriers
- \* Sterilize contaminated facilities and equipment

#### Common treatment:

- > *Iodine*
- > Individual outbreaks — apply medication to skin: ordinary iodine or an ointment containing hexachloroethane
- > Herd outbreaks — use griseofulvin as a feed additive or in water-soluble form



### Coccidiosis (Intestinal Coccidiosis)

**Cause: Protozoa** — *Eimeria* spp. — transmitted by ingestion of sporulated oocysts passed in feces and found in water, food, on persons, caging, and utensils for several months

#### Prevention:

- \* Establish strict sanitation and husbandry standards
- \* Seal water containers
- \* Prevent contact with infected feces or contaminated food and water containers

#### Common treatment:

- > Soaking
- > Best prevented and/or controlled through rigid sanitation practices
- > Treat infected animals with medication containing sulfamerazine or monensin as a feed additive or in water-soluble form



### Ear Canker (Acarasis)

**Cause: Ear mites** — *Otodropus cuniculi* and/or *Choriopales cuniculi* — transmitted from infected animals or environment to noninfected rabbits

#### Prevention:

- \* Routinely examine the ears of all stock every 14 days
- \* Quarantine all new arrivals and treat twice before placing in clean herd/colony

#### Common treatment:

- > Mineral oil — Vegetable Oil
- > Treat with oil-based insecticide preparation
- > Clean off exudate and massage 1 to 2 ml of liquid into each ear canal with a cotton swab
- > Repeat treatment in 7 days to eliminate newly hatched mites
- > or- Treat with injectable ivermectin



### Weepy Eye (Staphylococcosis)

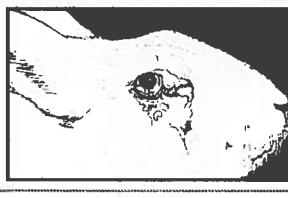
**Cause: Bacterial infection** — *Staphylococcus aureus* and/or *Pseudomonas multocida* — spread by humans and contaminated food, feces, cages, and/or bedding

#### Prevention:

- \* Apply rigid sanitation methods
- \* Eliminate sharp or abrasive surfaces
- \* Use clean feed and bedding
- \* Avoid excessive stress
- \* Monitor animals

#### Common treatment:

- > *Tetracycline*
- > Clean drains and cage lesion
- > Detergent baths and epithelial antibiotic ointment
- > Advanced cases have been treated with antibiotics via injection or drinking water

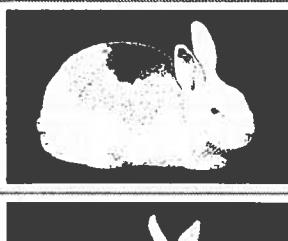


### Mange (Sarcoptic Mange or Acariasis)

**Cause: Sarcoptic mange mite** — *Psoroptes cuniculi*, *Cryptopeltis cunicularia*, and/or *Lissoptilus oedicnemoides* — burrowing mites *Scutopeltes oedicnemoides* and/or *Notoedres cati* — spread by direct contact with infected host

#### Prevention:

- \* Introduce only clean stock into clean premises
- \* Separate, quarantine, and treat infected animals until free of infestation
- \* Monitor animals
- \* *Ectiban* — *ew-Sewn*
- > Minimize contact with animals with insecticide
- > Major infestations: dip all animals in the colony in a malathion dip
- > Carefully perform dipping where animals may dry in a warm and north-facing environment



### Wound (Lacerations and/or Abrasions)

**Cause: Injuries, bites, and scratches** — Bites and scratches from other animals, and/or injuries from poor housing and environmental conditions

#### Prevention:

- \* Maintain clean equipment and facilities
- \* Adhere to strict sanitation and husbandry standards to prevent risk of infection

#### Common treatment:

- > *Blood-Stop*
- > Minor injury — clean, disinfect, dress, and apply pressure to laceration or abrasion to help stop bleeding
- > Major injury — clean, disinfect, dress, and apply pressure to laceration or abrasion to help stop bleeding



### Myxomatosis

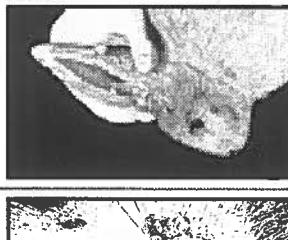
**Cause: Virus** — *Myxoma virus*, a DNA virus of the pox virus family — transmitted by mosquitoes, mites, fleas, birds, droppings, and/or plant materials

#### Prevention:

- \* Control vectors (mosquitoes, fleas, and fleas) by spraying and screening
- \* Keep wild rabbits away from facilities
- \* Adhere to strict husbandry standards

#### Common treatment:

- > NO treatment exists
- > There is NO treatment for this ailment/disorder
- > Eliminate all biting insects from rabbitry
- > Immediate removal of affected animals is crucial



### VEHD (Viral Hemorrhagic Disease)

**Cause: Virus** — Peracute infection of *Oryctolagus cuniculus* — transmitted by direct contact with secretions or excretions of infected rabbits, or indirectly via aerosol exposure to contaminated rabbit products

#### Prevention:

- \* Select VHD-free stock
- \* Adhere to strict husbandry practices
- \* Quarantine new arrivals prior to herd/colony entry
- \* Conduct serologic screening

#### Common treatment:

- > NO satisfactory treatment exists
- > Short-term protection is provided from a vaccine that lasts only 6 to 8 months
- > Bi-yearly vaccination is recommended in epidemic areas



### Malocclusion (Mandibular Prognathism)

**Cause: Inherited abnormality** — Inherited condition in which the incisors fail to meet and thus grow to extreme lengths; may also result from dietary, infectious (abscesses), or traumatic reasons

#### Prevention:

- \* Do not allow animals affected with this ailment/disorder to reproduce

#### Treatment:

- > Treatment of tooth overgrowth involves repeated filing or sawing with a sharp clipper or dental burr
- > Removal of affected teeth



**WARNING:** Before any condition is treated, medications not approved (labeled) for use in rabbits or cavies must be prescribed by a licensed veterinarian familiar with the care and treatment of rabbits and cavies.



## RABBIT LEARNING LABORATORY KIT

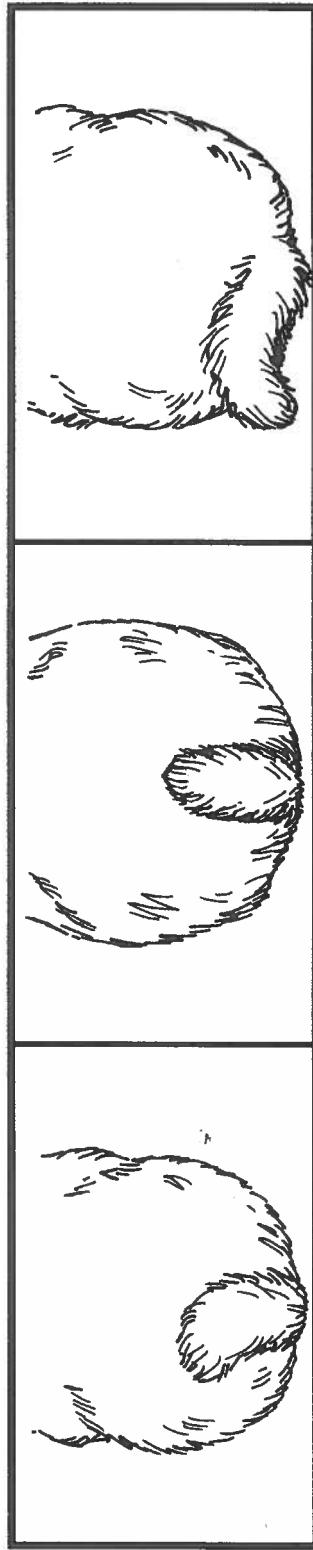
### Exploratory Learning: Educational Program

Graphics property of Curriculum Materials Service.

Product distribution through the Curriculum Materials Service

Use this poster in conjunction with Conformation - Match the conformation description to the correct diagram situation/task statement and/or Conformation (Tails/Ears) identification tags.

# Rabbit Conformation (Tails/Ears)



Ideal Tail      Side-Carried Tail      Screw Tail



Open-Carried Ears      Belled Ears      Ideal Ears



Exploratory Learning: Educational Program

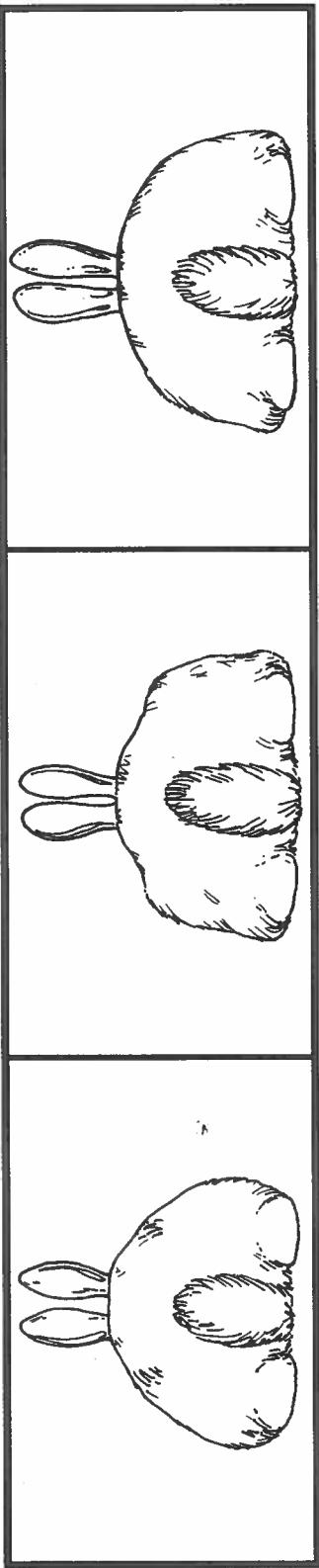
This component adapted from materials used by Judy Conrad, Extension Agent, Ohio State University Extension - Pickaway County.

Graphics property of Curriculum Materials Service.

Product distribution through the Curriculum Materials Service

Use this poster in conjunction with Conformation - Match the conformation description to the correct diagram situation/task statement and/or Conformation (Hips/Legs) identification tags.

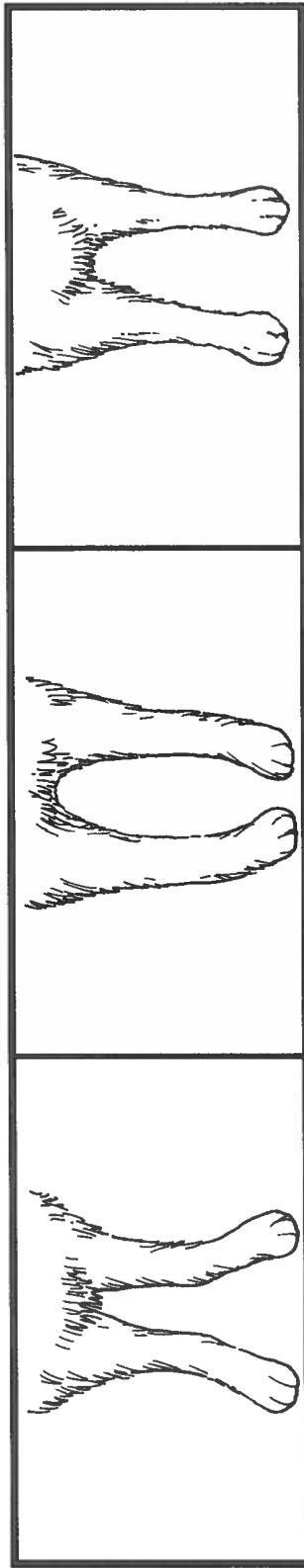
## Rabbit Conformation (Hips/Legs)



Ideal Hips

Rough Hips

Not Enough Rise



Outward-Bowed Legs

Inward-Bowed Legs

Ideal Legs



**RABBIT Exploratory Learning: Educational Program**

This component adapted from materials used by Judy Conrad, Extension Agent, Ohio State University Extension - Pickaway County.  
Graphics property of Curriculum Materials Service.

Product distribution through the Curriculum Materials Service