

RABBIT/CAVY EVALUATION & KNOWLEDGE

Revised 12/2024

Purpose and Standards

American Rabbit Breeders Association will provide a variety of enrichment activities that encourage youth participants to develop knowledge and skill regarding rabbit and cavy husbandry; recognizing youth who excel in their general knowledge of rabbits & cavies, their ability to identify breeds and varieties of rabbits and cavies, their herd management skills, and their personal growth, as well as responsibility, teamwork, and leadership. The student will not only demonstrate a working knowledge of the rabbit and cavy industry; but demonstrate critical thinking skills, problem-solving, decision-making, and goal-setting. These skills enable youth members to thrive and succeed throughout their lives - within and outside of the hobby.

Objectives:

Participants in the Rabbit and Cavy Evaluation Career Development Event will be able to

- Make accurate observations of rabbits and cavies.
- Determine desirable traits in the market and breeding animals.
- Make logical decisions based on these observations.
- Discuss and defend their decisions for their placings.
- Understand desirable selection, production, management, and marketing techniques for rabbits and cavies.
- Proficiently communicate using the terminology of the industry.

Foundation Standards:

- AS.01.01 Performance Indicator: Evaluate the development and impactions of animal origin, domestication, and distribution on production practices and the environment. AS.01.02 Performance Indicator: Assess and select animal production methods for use in animal systems based upon their effectiveness and impacts.
- AS.04.01 Performance Indicator: Evaluate animals for breeding readiness and soundness.
- AS. 04.02 Performance Indicator: Apply scientific principles to select and care for breeding animals.
- AS.06.01 Performance Indicator: Classify animals according to taxonomic classification systems and use (e.g. agriculture, companion, etc).
- AS.06.02 Performance Indicator: Apply principles of comparative anatomy and physiology to uses within various animal systems.
- AS 06.03 Performance Indicator: Select animals for specific purposes and maximum performance based on anatomy and physiology.
- AS. 07.01 Performance Indicator: Design programs to prevent animal diseases, parasites, and other disorders and ensure animal welfare.
- CRP.02.01. Performance Indicator: Use strategic thinking to connect and apply academic learning, knowledge, and skills to solve problems in the workplace and community.
- CRP.04.01. Performance Indicator: Speak using strategies that ensure clarity, logic, purpose, and professionalism in formal and informal settings.

Event Rules:

1. Each team will be made up of four members with all four members' scores counting towards the total team score.
2. Materials/Resources will be provided by the American Rabbit Breeders Association.

3. FFA Official Dress is required for this event.
4. Any participant in possession of an electronic device in the event area is subject to disqualification.
5. All contestants shall be allowed 7 minutes for placing each class. Two minutes will be allowed for each set of reasons.

Contests:

National Breed Identification Contest:

Individuals will identify 25 photos/live animals or a mix, both rabbits and cavies, listing the complete breed name as printed in the ARBA Standard of Perfection, the showroom variety, whether a 4-class or 6-class breed, and the registration variety of each of the 25 animals. No abbreviations are accepted. A separate question or animal will act as a tie-breaker. In the event of a tie, the team's tie-breaker scores will be added to the total score.

Showmanship:

Contestants will examine and evaluate a live/stuffed rabbit or cavy. (The contest site will decide what they will be using based on what is available. But all students must use the same for that contest.) Speaking through what and why as they go along. Following the [Youth ARBA Showmanship Scorecard](#) on the ARBA website.

Judging Contest:

Each team member will be required to place four classes of four animals pictures/live animals per class. In the class, all animals must be of the same breed, sex, class, and variety. All four in class must be either all live rabbits or all photos but, you can have 1 class of live rabbits and 3 classes of photos. This is a timed event of 7 minutes per class. The use of the ARBA Standard of Perfection at the judging table is encouraged. Judging classes may involve rabbits (including meat classes), cavies, fur, and wool.

Oral Reasons:

The individual will be required to give oral reasons on one class of the judging animals giving proper terminology. One set of reasons will be given in a judging class. Reasons will be scored 0-50 points. (See attached score sheet.)

Written Examination:

The 50 questions for this test will be taken from the ARBA Standard of Perfection, the ARBA Domestic Rabbit Guide, and the ARBA Website.

Tie Breakers:

Team:

Team tiebreakers will be settled in the following order:

1. Combined Individual Written Exam total score.
2. Combined Individual Showmanship total score.

Individuals:

Individual tiebreakers will be settled in the following order:

1. Written Exam Score
2. Combined Showmanship Score

Awards:

CATA Curricular Activities Code

Awards will be presented at the awards ceremonies to individuals and teams based upon their rankings.

Awards are sponsored by....

Specialty awards will be presented for

- Exam Score
- ID Score
- Judging Score
- Showmanship Score
- Team Score

Resources:

- [The Current ARBA Standard of Perfection](#)
- [The ARBA Domestic Rabbit Guide](#)
- [The ARBA Web Site](#)
- Materials will be provided to contest sites with the agreement not to share the materials or resources. They will sign a contract before materials are given out.

Rabbit & Cavy Evaluation & Knowledge CDE Scoring

Activity	Individual Points	Team Points
Rabbit & Cavy Breed ID (25)	100	400
Judging Class 1	50	200
Judging Class 2	50	200
Judging Class 3	50	200
Judging Class 4	50	200
Oral Reasons (1)	50	50
ARBA Showmanship	100	400
Written Examination (50 Questions)	150	600
Total Score	600	2,250

ORAL REASON'S SCORE SHEET

CATA Curricular Activities Code

	Score
What to do when a contestant.....does not show. Write DOES NOT SHOW on Card	0
Says "I don't have anything to say."	0
Reads notes with poor organization and terms	5-9
Reads notes, fairly complete set	10-14
Reads notes, excellent set	15-20
Glances at notes one or more times	20-24
No notes, poor terminology, and organization	25-34
No notes, proper terms, but brief or not accurate	35-39
No notes, good terms, fair organization, and accurate presentation	40-44
No notes, excellent terms, organized, accurate, and well presented	45-50

Time Penalties: (Two minutes allowed)

<u>Time</u>	<u>Penalty</u>
2:01-2:10	- 1
2:11-2:20	- 3
2:21-2:30	- 6
2:30 or more	-10