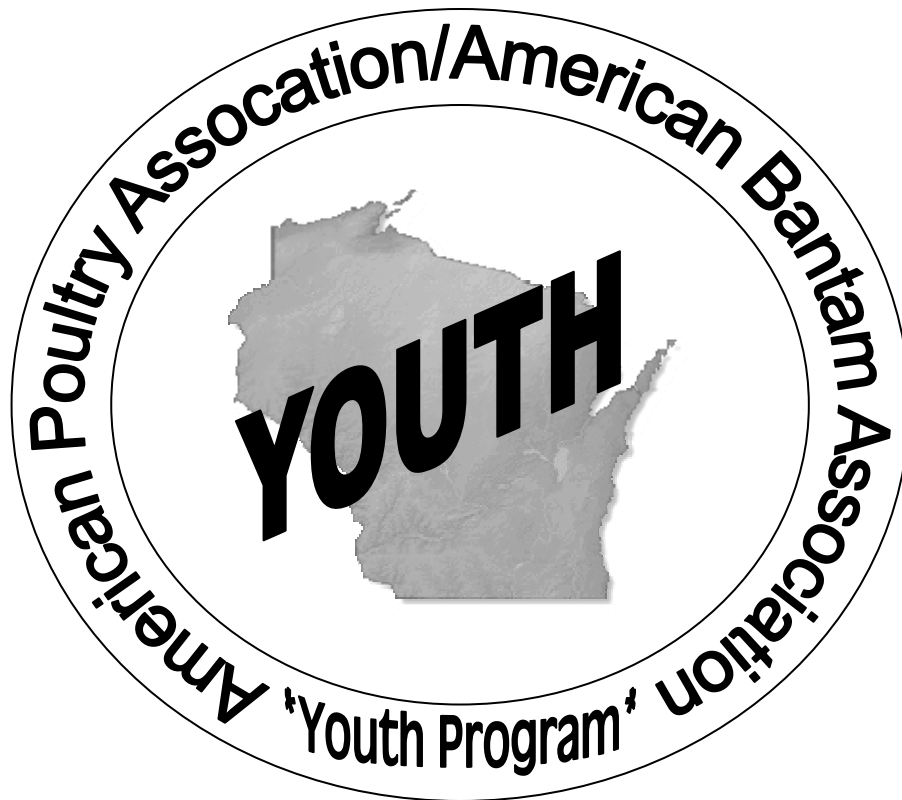


# JUNIOR POULTRY EXHIBITORS HELPFUL HINTS HANDBOOK



PREPARED BY:  
WISCONSIN APA-ABA YOUTH GROUP



## Summer Check-up

- Water-- Change completely each day. Add vitamins and electrolytes on hot days. Keep waterers clean by washing with bleach water.
- Feed-- A good quality 18-20% feed with some whole oats is best. Don't forget **grit**. Feed only as much as birds can eat in one day. Never feed moldy food. Layers need oyster shells.
- Air-- Keep coops free of excessive dust. Good ventilation is a must. All birds deserve to get outside a little each day. Too much sun will bleach and dry feathers. Shade is best.
- Parasites-- Dust once a month. Buy a new can of powder if last year's was outside over winter.
- Heat-- Very few birds die from the cold, but many die from excessive heat. Try to keep them cool.
- Predators-- They are everywhere!!! All birds should be in a secure building at night. Keep coops free of mice and wild birds. They carry mites.
- Housing-- Separate males from females. No roosts for meat birds. Keep the litter dry and clean.
- Health-- Watch face color, eyes, nasal cavities, and manure for unusual signs. Most diseases are preventable. Many are curable.

## ***Selecting Your Bird***



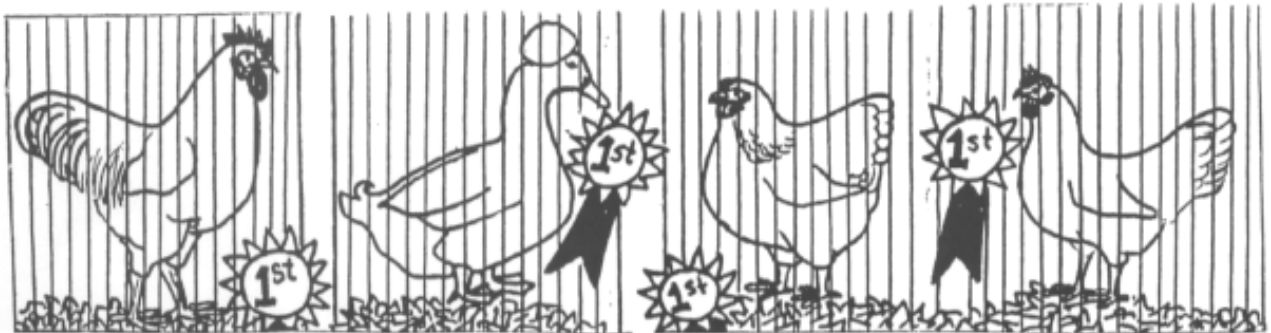
Purebred Fowl-- Evaluate your bird by comparing it to the *American Standard of Perfection* for that breed and variety. Look carefully for any defects or disqualifications. Check the comb, eye color, wings, tail, feet, skin, feather quality, and color. What is the general condition of the bird?

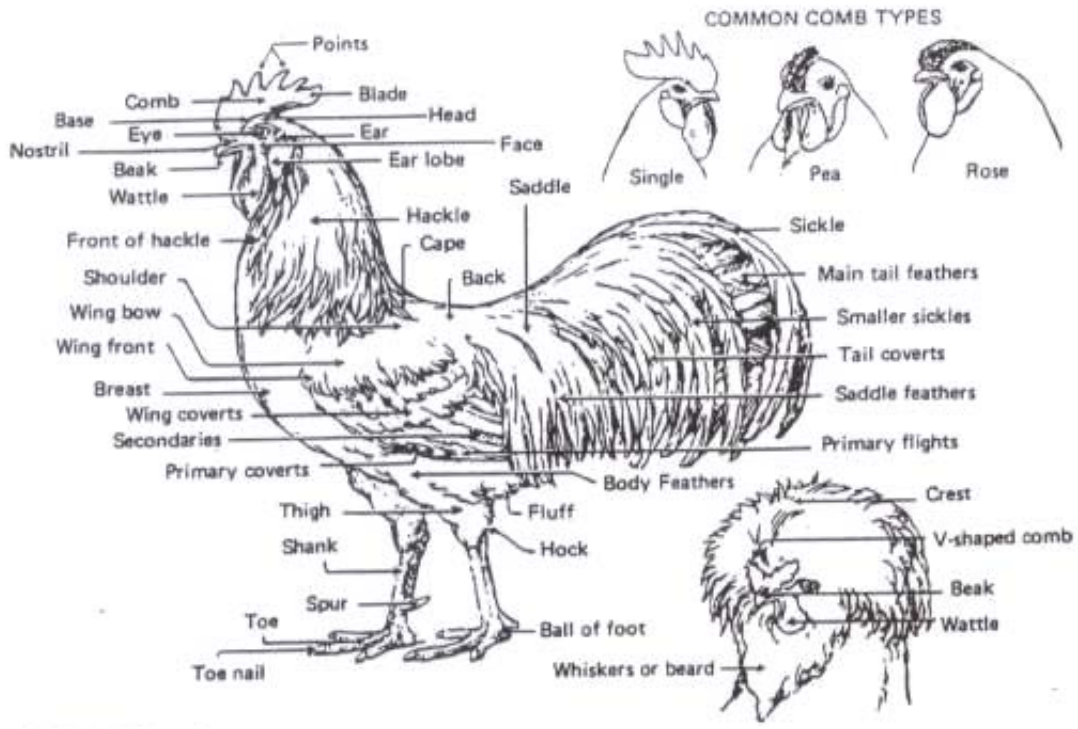


Turkeys and Meat Chickens-- Check the condition of the breast. Is the breast bone straight? Are any bruises or blisters present? Breast flesh should be deep and full. Keep pinfeathers to a minimum. Check skin for sunburn. Are drumsticks round and full? Is the bird clean and healthy?



Egg Production-- A good egg layer has a bright face and comb. She has a soft abdomen and a large, moist vent. Can you place 2 or 3 fingers between the pubic bones? Is she clean and in good feather?





5 gal.  
2 Tablespoons  
Shampoo

Bath

5 gal.  
Clear  
Water

5 gal.  
3/4 cup  
Vinegar

Time

5 gal.  
2 Tablespoons  
Glycerin

All meat-type poultry is evaluated (and judged) on the basis of several factors:

1. Age
2. Weight—size
3. Fleshing—the depth of flesh on breast, thighs, and back
4. Finish—the amount of fat on the bird
5. Freedom from cuts, tears, abrasions, bruises
6. Freedom from deformities such as crooked breast, crooked back, humped back, enlarged joints
7. Freedom from pinfeathers, ingrown feathers, bare backs, breast blisters
8. Evidence of good health



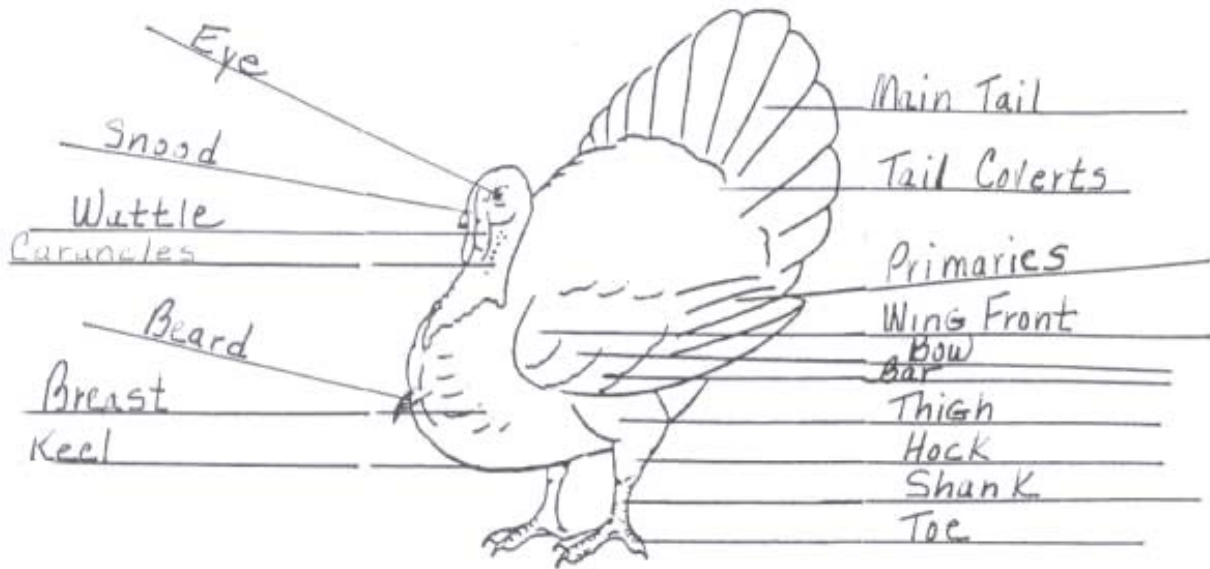
The appearance of the dressed carcass lying on its back on a platter is all-important to the evaluation of the meat bird. Since the breast and legs will be most obvious, they must be fully developed, free from defects, and pleasing in appearance to receive the best acceptance (and the highest awards).



# Turkey Talk



- Work with your bird on a regular basis.
- To put a bird in the cage:
  - open the door of the cage.
  - gently guide the bird's head first into the cage allowing it to walk on its own.
  - close the door of the cage
- To remove a bird from the cage:
  - open the door of the cage
  - turn the turkey's body so its head faces the opening
  - grasp the turkey's legs with one hand allowing its body to rest on your forearm.
  - use the other arm to control the bird's wings. Lower the head.
  - lift the bird up and out.



## Preparing for Showmanship

1. Choose a well-feathered, clean, and tame bird.
2. Practice putting the bird into the cage and taking it out head first. Make sure you are holding it correctly.
3. Work on identifying as many parts as you can on your bird.
4. Know your variety, breed, sex, and class of your bird (bantam or large fowl also).  
Examples: I am holding a black Cochin bantam pullet.  
I am holding a white Pekin drake.

The breed of my bird is: \_\_\_\_\_

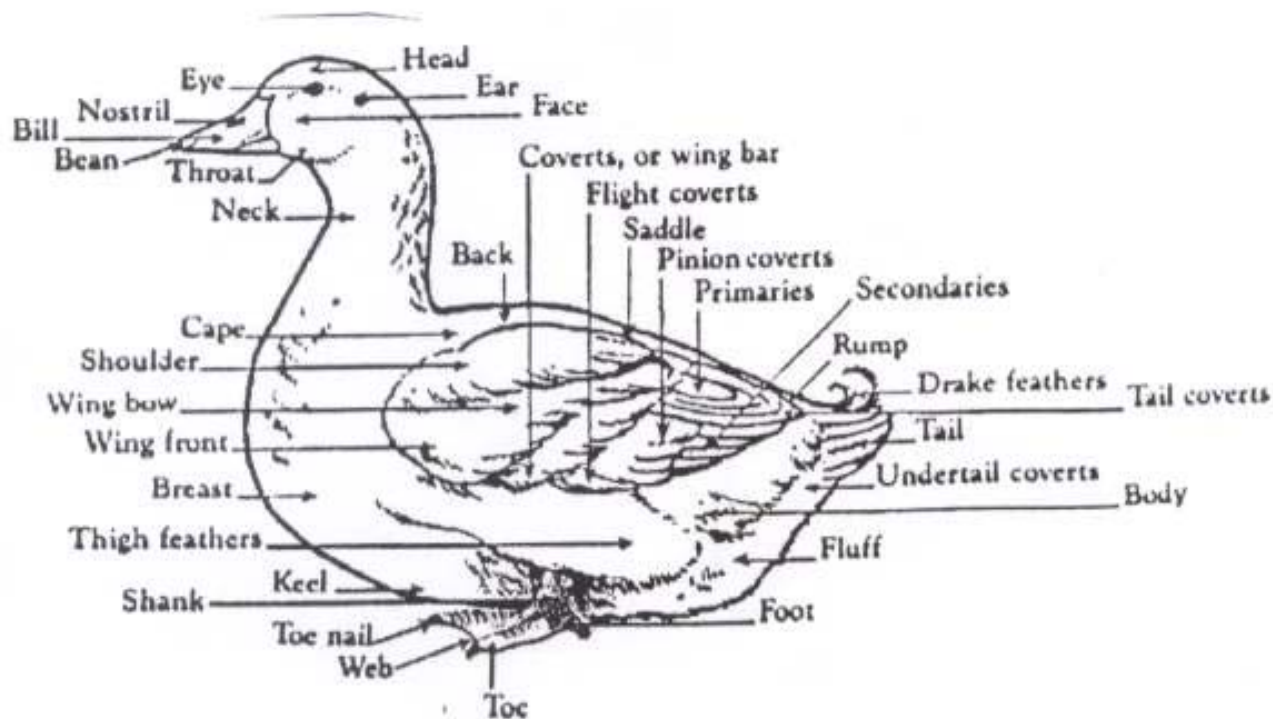
The variety of my bird is: \_\_\_\_\_

The sex of my bird is: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you know a poultry disease? Its cure?
6. What is a disqualification or defect that may exist on a bird such as yours?
7. What is your bird's diet made up of?
8. Name a poultry parasite. Where do you look for them?
9. **YOUR ATTITUDE AND APPEARANCE MATTER!** Dress in a long-sleeved shirt. Be positive. Do your best.

## Waterfowl Preparations for Shows

1. Check over your flock for birds that best fit the descriptions for the type of bird you would like to show.
2. Delouse them a few days before showing using a powder or spray. Be careful not to get it in their eyes.
3. Put your show bird in a show cage for a few days to help them become more cage comfortable. This will also help the delousing process.
4. Holding them, talking to them and petting them also helps them become more people friendly. They should not be afraid when people look at them in their show cages.
5. Give them a pan or pool of clean water to wash themselves. You can help them by rinsing them off with plain water. They will groom themselves when you are done.
6. Clean up their feet and bill with water using an old toothbrush or any other kind of brush that won't hurt them.
7. Keeping them out of dirt and muddy areas will help them to stay clean.
8. Doing steps 3 and 4 as your birds grow up will help them in many ways, for showmanship and for showing them.



Have you ever considered showing in an open or club show? Knowing how to complete an entry form is the first step to success.

### Entrees for Entry Forms

\*Check your Standard of Perfection for proper breed names, variety, class, size (bantam or large fowl) and species.

\*Variety includes: -Color: white, black, golden laced, etc.  
 -Type of Comb: single, rose, pea, etc.  
 -Bearded or Non-bearded

\*Breeds include: Plymouth rocks, cochins, call ducks, embdems

\*Size include: Bantam (chicken or duck)  
 Standard (large fowl)

\*Species include: Duck, goose, turkey, chicken

\*Indicate the quantity of the kind of bird you are showing by using a number in the correct column:

- Cock-An old male bird over 1 year of age
- Hen-An old female bird over 1 year of age
- Cockeral-young male bird under 1 year of age
- Pullet-young female bird under 1 year of age
- Young trio-a group of 3 young birds which includes 1 cockeral and 2 pullets
- Old trio-a group of 3 old bird which includes 1 cock and 2 hens

\*Include with your entry form your pullorum test results and your entry fee. Don't forget to make a copy of your entry form before you mail it, for yourself so you will remember which birds you are bringing to the show or fair. Be sure to enter before the deadline date!

Name (Please Print) Your Name Number of Birds 22  
 Address 1 Duck Pond Road Entry Fee Enclosed \$ 44.00  
 City Hometown  
 State WI Zip 12345  
 Phone # (111) 222-3333

Junior Exhibitor   
 Age 13

S I D	I M	Breed and Variety *Include color, comb type, bearded, non-bearded, etc.*	COCK	HEN	CKL.	PLT.	OLD	YG.
							TRIO	TRIO
X		Plymouth Rock - Barred	1	3				
X		Hamburgs - Golden Penciled						1
X		Rhode Island Red - Rose Comb			2	1		
X		Rhode Island Red - Single Comb				1		
		Waterfowl						
X		African Goose - Brown	1					
X		African Goose - White			1			
X		Call Duck - Gray					2	
X		Buff Duck	1	2				



Poultry Showmanship Score Sheet I

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

	<u>Scoring</u>
1) <u>Appearance and attitude of showperson</u>	
a) Clean, conventional clothing	5 _____
b) Follows instructions of judge Keeps attention focused on bird and judge	5 _____
c) Considerate of other exhibitors	5 _____
2) <u>Appearance of bird</u>	
a) Clean, unbroken feathers	5 _____
b) Good body condition (correct size for age and breed)	10 _____
c) An outward appearance of good health	10 _____
d) Tame and manageable (obvious signs of training at home)	5 _____
3) <u>Showmanship</u>	
a) Removing and returning bird to cage, carrying bird to judging table	10 _____
b) Posing and presenting the bird to judge or transferring to another person	10 _____
c) Display and examination of various parts; head, wings, body width, feet and legs, abdominal capacity.	10 _____
4) <u>Knowledge of poultry in general and specifically of breed exhibited</u> (each competitor should be asked at least two questions)	
a) Give the breed, variety and sex of your bird.	5 _____
b) What was the original purpose of this breed (eggs, meat, dual purpose, or exhibition)?	5 _____
c) How did you prepare your bird for this show?	5 _____
d) Explain the type of feed you use.	5 _____
e) Other	5 _____
Total	_____