

Brevard County 4-H 2025 - 2026 Market Laying Hen Record Book



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Exhibitor Name: _____

I am a: ☐ Junior (8-10) ☐ Intermediate (11-13) ☐ Senior (14-18) as of 9/1/2025

Exhibitor Date of Birth: _____	Age as of 9/1/25: _____
Exhibitor's Phone Number: _____	
Exhibitor's Email Address: _____	
Club Name: _____	

I hereby certify that as the exhibitor of this project, I have personally been responsible for the care of these animals, have personally kept records on this project, and have personally completed this record book.	
Exhibitor's Signature _____	Date _____

I, the parent/guardian, certify that my child has completed this project and this record book, have read the rules, and will comply with all the Rules and Regulations of the show.	
Parent/Guardian Signature _____	Date _____

This individual is an active member in good standing of the _____ 4-H Club, has attended at least 5 club meetings, and is eligible to show livestock at the Brevard County 4-H Fair. I verify that this record book has been completed by this individual and is an accurate representation of his/her project.	
4-H Club Leader Signature _____	Date _____

I hereby certify that any drugs, antibiotics, or biological substances which may have been administered by me or any other person were done so in strict compliance with the manufacturer's label or as prescribed by a veterinarian.	
Exhibitor's Signature _____	Date _____



PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS OF THE 4-H LIVESTOCK PROGRAM

"The purpose of the 4-H Livestock Program is to provide young people an opportunity to participate in a series of activities designed to improve citizenship, sportsmanship, character, competitive spirit, discipline, responsibility and livestock knowledge, while creating an atmosphere of personal development and awareness of life around us."

The goals and implications of the above statement are life changing. Leadership does not anticipate that youth would progress at the same rate in all these objectives. However, given the proper motivation and guidance by the leaders, parents, and 4-H agent, there will be progressive improvements in the youth's development. Simply having a youth recognize the opportunity for growth and personal potential is a significant accomplishment.

Most 4-H youth participating in a livestock project will already have an interest in the animal. It is the leadership's responsibility to utilize this interest to accomplish the livestock project's objectives through training and guidance.

The purpose of a livestock project, both market and non-market, is to further the education and development of the child.

There are more than 360 projects in 4-H, and all have the common goals of making better citizens of youth, increasing their knowledge in a subject area, enabling them to develop integrity, sportsmanship and cooperation along with leadership abilities. It is the goal of the 4-H Youth Development program to inspire youth to explore all their areas of interest.

It also should be noted that the Livestock Show and Sale is not the major objective of this program but merely the project's conclusion. It must be understood that our first and most important objective in the 4-H program is the education and development of the child.

4-H Poultry Book

Introduction

This Project Record Book has been created specifically for 4-H members enrolled in the Brevard Market Laying Hen 4-H project. Keeping a record book is an important part of the project. It will help you set goals for the project year, record your accomplishments, and provide a place to keep important records on your poultry.

What is a 4-H project?

A project is a subject or topic that you learn about in 4-H. In this case, your project is Poultry. You learn about your project by attending club meetings, educational workshops, and working with adult leaders and other 4-H members. You can also learn from field trips and by participating in shows and competitions.

Why complete a record book?

A record book is not meant to be a chore. Instead, it is a way for you to learn about your project and gain experience in valuable skills such as setting goals, collecting and evaluating information, tracking costs and expenses, organization, and more.

Completing your 4-H Poultry Project Record Book

At the beginning of the Market Laying Hen Project, you should begin recording all the relevant information on your animal(s) in your record book. It is important to keep your record book current, so that completing it does not become a chore at the end of the year.

The purpose of youth animal projects is to achieve the following:

1. To acquire an understanding of animal production by preparing for, purchasing, caring for, and keeping records on one or more animals.
2. To be able to identify the type and grades of animals and employ efficient methods of marketing.
3. To understand the business aspects and economics of purchasing animals, feed, facilities, and equipment for an animal project.
4. To develop integrity, sportsmanship, and cooperation.
5. To develop leadership skills, build character, and assume citizenship responsibilities.

ANIMAL INVENTORY/PURCHASE

For the “Market Laying Hen” Project only, the birds purchased for the CURRENT project year should be recorded on this page in this book. If the bird was sold prior to the fair, then the sale price should be recorded on the Income Page.

Include an 'End of Project Status' for each bird. Options include 'kept,' 'sold,' or 'died.'

Class	Breed	Variety	Gender	Date Acquired	End of Project Status	Beginning Project Year Cost/Value	Ending Value
EXAMPLE American	Plymouth Rock	Barred	Pullet	9/4/2025	sold	\$5.00	\$0.00
EXAMPLE American	Plymouth Rock	Barred	Pullet	9/4/2025	kept	\$5.00	\$20.00
EXAMPLE American	Plymouth Rock	Barred	Pullet	9/4/2025	died	\$5.00	\$0.00
					TOTAL		

EQUIPMENT INVENTORY INSTRUCTIONS

Please read these instructions thoroughly before filling out the Equipment Inventory.

- List all equipment and assets you had or purchased at the beginning of the project year. During the year, you should list any new items you purchased for your project. (Note: This does not include feed or medication. Those will be documented separately.)
- If an item was purchased at or near the beginning of the project year, the beginning current value should be the purchase price. If an item is more than 1 year old, the beginning current value will be less than the original purchase price because it has depreciated by 10% per year. In this case, the beginning current value will be the ending value from the previous year.
 - Depreciation is the reduction in value of an item due to the wear and tear it experiences over time. One example of this is a car. A new car may be worth \$25,000. However, as the car gets older and is driven more miles, the car is no longer worth the same amount. Five years later, your car may be worth only \$12,000.
 - **Calculation Example**
 - You purchased a \$300 chicken coop for the 2024-2025 project year. Its value at the beginning of the project would be \$300.
 - However, due to normal wear and tear, at the end of the 2024-2025 project year, your chicken coop's value has decreased, or depreciated, by 10%. Therefore, your depreciation value is \$30.00.

$$\$300.00 * 0.10 = \$30.00$$

- To calculate your end-of-year value, you will need to subtract your depreciation value from your beginning-of-year value. Therefore, the end-of-year value for your chicken coop is \$270.00 for the 2024-2025 project year.

$$\$300.00 - \$30.00 = \$270.00$$

- It's important to remember that for the year 2025-2026 project, the beginning value of your chicken coop will be \$270.00, and its value will continue to depreciate over the years. **Remember to always calculate your depreciation off of the original cost or value.**

$$\$300.00 * 0.10 = \$30.00 \text{ per year } \$300.00 - \$30.00 = \$270.00$$

$$\text{After year two } \$270.00 - \$30.00 = \$240.00$$

EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

Review the directions for calculating depreciation on the previous page to calculate equipment inventory.

Item Description	Date Purchased or Acquired	Original Purchase Cost or Value	Value at Beginning of Current Project Year	Depreciation for Current Year (-10%)	Value at End of Current Project Year
EXAMPLE: Feeder 2023/2024	9/1/2023	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$2.00	\$18.00
EXAMPLE: Feeder 2024/2025	9/1/2023	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$2.00	\$16.00
EXAMPLE: Feeder 2025/2026	9/1/2023	\$20.00	\$16.00	\$2.00	\$14.00
Total for <div>this</div> year			\$	\$	\$

NON-FEED EXPENSES – Not including Equipment

List everything you purchased during this project year. Do NOT list items purchased in previous project years. This may include entry fees, veterinarian fees, medications, bedding, coop rental fees, minerals and, and other similar items. Do NOT include feed expenses – these will be listed separately.

Purchase Date	Item Description	Paid To	Total Cost
3/7/2026	EXAMPLE: Poultry Show Entry Fee (Trio)	Brevard County 4-H	\$15.00
TOTAL NON-FEED EXPENSES			\$

FEED EXPENSES

List all the feed that you purchased on this page. Do NOT list supplemental vitamins, minerals, or electrolytes. Those belong under Non-Feed Expenses.

Purchase Date	Item Description	Paid To	Pounds	Total Cost
8/30/2025	EXAMPLE: 20% Starter Feed	Brevard Farm & Ranch	25	\$23.50
2/22/2026	EXAMPLE: 16% Layer Feed	Tractor Supply	50	\$19.79
TOTAL FEED EXPENSES				\$

INCOME

All of your income for the project year should be included here. This may include the sale of birds prior to the fair, show premiums prior to the Brevard fair, egg sales, sponsor income given to support your project, and more.

This can also include the VALUE of eggs consumed or chickens harvested.

Note: Write N/A under any category in the record book where you don't have any entries for complete points!!

Date	Income Description	Total
03/30/26	EXAMPLE: Family Consumed or Sold 1 dozen eggs to a neighbor	\$5.00
01/01/2026	EXAMPLE: Sold or gave away 1 Hen	\$20.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$

HEALTH RECORD

Include all records of any health-related activities (dewormer, vaccinations, veterinary services, etc.). Also, be sure to include well animal care, such as NPIP certification. Remember to include the cost for these services on your Non-Feed Expense page.

Date	Symptoms or Event	Treatment/Medication	Dosage	Withdrawal Time
10/8/2025	<i>EXAMPLE: Deworming</i>	<i>Wazine</i>	<i>1 oz/gallon water</i>	<i>Onset of egg production</i>

POULTRY SHOW RECORD

Include records of any birds entered in poultry shows. Be sure these birds are included in other sections of this project book, such as animal inventory, expenses, health records, etc.

Date	Show Name	Show Location	Placement (s)
03/05/2026	<i>Central Florida Fair</i>	<i>Orlando</i>	<i>3rd & Red Quality</i>
02/15/2026	<i>Florida State Fair</i>	<i>Tampa</i>	<i>Blue ribbon/ Best in Show</i>

PROJECT BALANCE SHEET

ANIMAL INVENTORY

(1) Value at Project End (page 5) \$ _____
(2) Value at Project Beginning (page 5) \$ _____
(3) Net Change in Value of Animal Inventory (Line 1- Line 2) \$ _____

EXPENSES

(4) Total Depreciation (page 7) \$ _____
(5) Total Non-Feed Expenses (page 8) \$ _____
(6) Total Feed Expenses (page 9) \$ _____
(7) Total Expenses (Add lines 4+5+6) \$ _____

INCOME`

(8) Total Income (page 10) \$ _____
(9) Asset Value at End of Project (page 7) \$ _____
(10) Total Preliminary Income (Add lines 8+9) \$ _____

(11) PRELIMINARY PROJECT PROFIT or LOSS (Line 10 – Line 7 +Line 3)\$ _____

FAIR INCOME (to be completed after 4-H Fair 2026)

(12) Fair Premiums \$ _____
(13) Sale of Birds (market poultry auction) \$ _____
(14) TOTAL FAIR INCOME (Add Line 12+13) \$ _____

FINAL PROJECT PROFIT or LOSS (Add Line 11+14) \$ _____

(COMPLETE AFTER 4-H FAIR AT END OF PROJECT YEAR)

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS

Use this space to tell the story of your project by sharing pictures from the beginning, middle, and end of your project. This should include a MINIMUM of 5 photographs and a MAXIMUM of 10 photographs. **Each photo must include a caption** that helps tell your story. What are you doing in the photo and why? What skills are you demonstrating? Remember that the judges' scoring decisions include spelling, grammar, and neatness.

SKILLS LEARNED

Put a check mark by any of the following skills you have learned or improved upon during this project. Don't forget to mention some of these skills in your story! Choose at least five (5).

Working with Other People

<input type="checkbox"/>	How to listen to others
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to lead others
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to participate in a business meeting
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to work with and learn from adults
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to give a presentation and speak in front of others
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to help others succeed
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to make new friends
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to respect other people's feelings
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to get along with others
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to accept people who are different from me
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to work with my club
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to give the 4-H Pledge

Personal Skills

<input type="checkbox"/>	Setting goals for myself
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organization
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to finish something I started
<input type="checkbox"/>	Follow instructions and directions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Feeling good about myself
<input type="checkbox"/>	Be proud of my accomplishments
<input type="checkbox"/>	Try something new
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to keep records
<input type="checkbox"/>	Take responsibility for myself
<input type="checkbox"/>	What is important to me
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to get more information about something I'm interested in
<input type="checkbox"/>	Good sportsmanship
<input type="checkbox"/>	Being careful and practicing safety
<input type="checkbox"/>	Making good choices
<input type="checkbox"/>	How to manage my time

Share one specific skill or piece of knowledge you learned or improved on through this project. For example, "I learned types of questions judges ask during showmanship," or "I learned how to properly hold my chicken."

PROJECT STORY OUTLINE

Make an outline for your project story before you begin writing. You may use the outline headings provided to write about your project. These should be general bullet points (ideas) that you will cover in your story. Complete sentences aren't necessary. You must complete an outline to receive full points. However, if you'd like to create an outline in a different format (Word Web, etc.), please feel free to do so and attach it to your record book in the proper location.

I. **Introduction (Introduce your story and capture the reader's interest)**

II. **Body (Juniors must complete a minimum of 2 boxes, Intermediates must complete a minimum of 3 boxes, and Seniors must complete all boxes)**

a. **What did I learn?**

b. **What safety practices did I use?**

c. What improvements could I make?

d. What skills did I learn or improve?

III. Conclusion (Summarize your story and leave the reader with a thought or idea you'd like to share.)

PROJECT STORY

Your project story should take the thoughts you had in your outline and build upon them. It is not simply repeating your outline. Think about what point you want to make using your story. Use examples, share interesting facts, and build a picture for the reader using descriptive words. Be sure to use transition words (first, next, then, also, however, etc.) to connect your ideas. Note that the judges will consider spelling and grammar when scoring your record book. Please attach additional pages if needed.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

SCORING SYSTEM

SECTION		Possible Points	Points Earned
1	Cover Pages & Waivers	5	
2	Animal Inventory	8	
3	Equipment Inventory	8	
4	Non-Feed Expenses	8	
5	Feed Expenses	8	
6	Income	8	
7	Health Record	4	
8	Poultry Show Record	1	
9	Project Balance Sheet	10	
10	Photographs	10	
11	Skills Learned	2	
12	Project Story Outline	8	
13	Project Story	15	
14	Neatness & Accuracy	5	
Total Points		100	

Additional Judge's Comments:
