

Colorado State Fair and Industrial Exposition

2026 Market Rabbits

- Entry Fee: \$10 per pen of 3
- Department 802.00

Online Entries Close	Monday, July 27th
Begin Arrival & Check-In	Thursday, August 27 th @ 7:00 a.m.
All Market Rabbits In Place	Friday, August 27 th @ 5:00 p.m.
Market Rabbit Pen Cards Due	Friday, August 27 th @ 6:00 p.m.
Market Rabbits Weigh-In and Judging	Saturday, August 28 th @ 8:00 a.m.
Grand Champion Market Rabbit Selection	Saturday, August 28 th @ 11:00 a.m.
All Non-Sale Rabbits Must be Out	Sunday, August 29 th @ 9:00 p.m.

Limit Of Four Market Rabbit Pens Per Exhibitor

Competition Requirements

1. All entrants must have read and be familiar with the General Competition Requirements, Livestock and Small Animal Competition Requirements, Junior Livestock Competition Requirements, Junior Livestock Sale Participation Requirements, the Colorado State Fair Exhibitor Code of Conduct, Animal Welfare Policy, and Livestock Health Requirements. Exhibitors in this division must have completed a required Meat Quality Assurance program and comply with the IAFE Code of Ethics and Wholesome Meat Act provisions. Market exhibitors are encouraged to read and be fully aware of the contents of the Drug Residue Avoidance Guidelines.

2. All exhibitors in the Open, Youth, and Market divisions must provide a premises identification number (PID). To obtain a PID, contact the Colorado Department of Agriculture at 303-869-9130 or click on the following link: <https://ag.colorado.gov/animals/colorado-location-identification-lid-registration-premises>
3. Unloading and Pickup of Small Animals: All Small Animals (Rabbits) will be received at the south door of the Small Animal Building. Enter the fairgrounds at Gate #1 (Arroyo Ave). Exhibitor vehicles will receive a 30-minute load/unloading pass at the gate. Exhibitors must unload their rabbits and their vehicles off the grounds by 10:00 A.M on Friday, August 28, 2026. This time limit will be strictly enforced. To request assistance in the transport of animals from the parking area to the check-in, go to the Small Animal Building and check with the Rabbit staff. Authority personnel will assist in this transport. No exceptions.
4. Market Exhibitors must submit a Quality Assurance form, the Exhibitor Code of Conduct, and the IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics form at check-in time. Cooping of rabbits will not be allowed until such time as all forms are turned in.
5. Exhibitors may enter and check-in four rabbits for each pen of three entered, i.e., four rabbit pens may come to the State Fair.
6. Market Rabbit entries must have been nominated through the Exhibitor's 4-H Extension office. Market entries that have not been nominated are ineligible to show at the fair and will be returned to the exhibitor (no exceptions).
7. By 6:00 p.m. on Friday, August 28, 2026, the exhibitor must choose the pen of three to be the Official Pen to be shown. Ear tattoo numbers must be designated on the weight declaration card when turned into the office. Each rabbit within the pen must have an individual tattoo in the left ear.
8. A scale will be available for exhibitors to weigh before turning in the weight nomination cards. Scale pre-weighs will close at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, August 28, 2026.
9. No changes of Ear Tattoo numbers will be allowed after 6:00 p.m. on Friday, August 28, 2026. Failure to submit a completed weight nomination form by the specified time will automatically disqualify the exhibitor from competing. Rabbits will need to be removed from the showroom.

Any ear tattoo numbers found to be altered or different during judging will disqualify the entire pen.

10. Each pen of three will be weighed only once for official show weight at the time of judging. The American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) licensed judge or a Colorado Department of Agriculture Division of Weights and Measurement representative will record official show weights. No reweighs are allowed.
11. After each class of Market Rabbits has been placed, show officials will weigh the top five pens on the official scale. Market Rabbit pens cannot deviate more than 5% above or below the declared show weight previously designated by the exhibitor on the weight card. If any Market Rabbit pen is weighed out, it will be disqualified, and the remaining animals will be moved up in placing. The disqualified pen is not eligible for any other class, including showmanship, and will not be reweighed.
12. Market Rabbit exhibitors must carry their own rabbits to the judging table and shall remain at the table until their market pen is dismissed by the judge(s). Exhibitors with more than one pen in a class may designate another 4-H/FFA member in good standing to assist them with their animals. Exhibitors must report this name to the office or the Superintendent at the judging table. No parent or adult can carry market pen rabbits to or from the judging table. Entry will be disqualified if this takes place.
13. Market Rabbit Pens will be judged according to the latest ARBA Standard of Perfection 2021 - 2025. Meat pens shall consist of three rabbits, all of the same breed and variety. If the pen is from a breed having a broken color variety, the entire pen must be of the same color variety. A meat pen does not necessarily have to come from the same litter. Age limit of 10 weeks – minimum weight of 3 1/2 pounds each and maximum weight of 5 1/2 pounds each. All rabbits will be weighed in the presence of the judge.
14. Disqualifications From Competition: If any one rabbit in the pen is overweight or underweight, the entire pen is disqualified from competition. ARBA disqualifications from competition and breed disqualifications apply to each meat pen. Exception to disqualification only on the following:

- a. Body smut on Californian or Himalayan-marked animals.
- b. Non-descended testicles on bucks.

15. Rabbit Pens Will Be Judged On:

- a. Meat Type 40 Points
- b. Condition of Flesh 30 Points
- c. Uniformity of body and weight 20 Points
- d. Fur 10 Points

16. Junior Livestock Sale Qualifiers: The Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Market Rabbit Pens will qualify for the Junior Livestock Sale (“Sale”). This is a terminal sale only for those rabbits that qualify for the Sale. All Junior Livestock Sale Competition Requirements apply to qualifying Market Rabbit pens. Sale qualifiers must attend a meeting on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. in the Southwest Motors Events Center.

Market Rabbit Classes

- Division 802.1 – Market Rabbit Meat Pen

Breed	Division
Californian Meat Pen	1501
New Zealand Meat Pen	1502
Satin Meat Pen	1503
Palomino Meat Pen	1504
Champagne d’Argent /Creme d’Argent/Argente Brun Meat Pen	1505
All Other Purebred Meat Pen	1506

(Note: if there are not at least 3 pens entered in a breed, they will be combined and shown as All Other Purebred Pens)

Premium Schedule

No. of Entries (per Class)	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
1	\$5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2	\$6	\$3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3	\$7	\$5	\$4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4	\$8	\$6	\$5	\$4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5	\$9	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
6	\$10	\$8	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
7	\$11	\$9	\$8	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$4	\$0	\$0	\$0
8	\$12	\$10	\$9	\$8	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$4	\$0	\$0
9	\$13	\$11	\$10	\$9	\$8	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$4	\$0
10 or more	\$14	\$12	\$11	\$10	\$9	\$8	\$7	\$6	\$5	\$4

Rosettes to the Champion and Reserve Champion in each Class awarded by the Colorado State Fair Authority

Grand Champion Junior Market Rabbit Pen

1115. Grand Champion Market Rabbit Pen

- Buckle sponsored by Need Award Donor

1116. Reserve Grand Champion Market Rabbit Pen

- Buckle sponsored by Need Award Donor

Market Rabbit Showmanship

Saturday, August 29, 2026, following the Grand Champion Selection

- Division 802.025

Competition Requirements:

1. No pre-entry or entry fee is required. Exhibitors may sign up at the time of weight declaration.
2. Classes are limited to exhibitors with Market Rabbit entries. Exhibitors must show the exhibitors' own animal.
3. Show order will be Junior – Intermediate – Senior.
4. Three age divisions are offered, with the exhibitor age considered as of December of the past year.
5. The judge will consider the animal's appearance, the exhibitor's showmanship ability, and the exhibitor's appearance, courtesy, and knowledge.
6. Rosettes will be awarded to 1st through 6th place in each division. No premiums will be paid for Showmanship.

7001 – Junior Division (Ages 8 – 10)

- Need Award Donor

7002 – Intermediate Division (Ages 11 – 13)

- Need Award Donor

7003 – Senior Division (Ages 14 – 18)

- Need Award Donor