

Barry County 4-H

Cavy

Notebook Guidelines



Barry County 4-H Cavy Project Area Notebook Guidelines

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Barry County 4-H Cavy Project Area Notebook Guidelines

Cavy General Notebook Guidelines

1. It is the responsibility of the 4-H'er to obtain a copy of the notebook guidelines. All notebooks will be judged based on these guidelines.
2. Cavy educational notebooks can take up to two (2) years to complete. See individual notebook guidelines and samples. All requirements for one notebook level must be completed before going on to the next level.
3. Each notebook **MUST** include a copy of the guidelines for that notebook with the year completely filled out. (Not including the guideline information will result in a lower award.)
4. Each notebook **MUST** include a decorative cover.
5. Each notebook **MUST** include a title page. Title page should include Name, Age, Years In 4-H, Years In Project Area, Club Name, Leader Name, and Date.
6. Each notebook **MUST** include a table of contents.
7. Each notebook **MUST** include your 4-H story.
8. Your notebook is to include information for the current year only. Unless the notebook is split between 2 years.
9. You can add anything to the notebook that is related to the notebook content.
10. All notebooks must be bound in a 3-ring binder. All pages must be fastened within the covers. No loose notebooks will be accepted.
11. Enter your notebook in the proper age group, refer to the fair book.
12. Be sure to read the Pre-registration and Rules Packet and the fair book. Some rules or requirements may change or be added. The Pre-registration and Rules Packet information supersedes the information in the fair book.
13. Any questions regarding notebooks should be taken to your 4-H leader or the Barry County 4-H Rabbit/Cavy Developmental Committee.

Barry County 4-H Cavy Project Area

Notebook Guidelines

Cavy Educational Notebook # 1

Items A, B, C, D are required for all notebooks.

- A. Decorative Cover
- B. Title Page
- C. Table of Contents and Notebook Guidelines
- D. Your 4-H Story – tell about your cavy project.

Level One (1) Cavy notebook options:

- Option #1 - First year - complete 4 of the following items.
 - Second year - complete the remaining 4 items.

- Option #2 - First year - complete all of the following items 1 through 8.

* Remember, you must have completed all of the items 1 through 8 in this notebook before beginning notebook level two (2).

Year
Completed

- _____ 1. Describe and tell the important characteristics of your cavy. Include origin and breed standard.
- _____ 2. Parts of the cavy - using a diagram, locate and identify the parts of the cavy.
- _____ 3. Define the term disqualification and give examples of temporary and permanent disqualifications.
- _____ 4. Explain the following terms – registered, purebred and crossbred.
- _____ 5. Explain why you tattoo or ear tag a cavy.
- _____ 6. What vitamin or mineral must your cavy have every day? Why?
- _____ 7. Describe and draw a diagram of your cavy cage and the equipment you use in the care of your cavies. You may use photographs with your own written explanations.
- _____ 8. Describe your feeding and watering program.

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Notebook Guidelines

Cavy Educational Notebook # 2

Items A, B, C, D are required for all notebooks.

- A. Decorative Cover
- B. Title Page
- C. Table of Contents and Notebook Guidelines
- D. Your 4-H Story – tell about your cavy project

Level Two (2) Cavy notebook options:

- Option #1 - First year - complete 5 of the following items.
 - Second year - complete the remaining 5 items.

- Option #2 - First year - complete all of the following items 1 through 10.

* Remember, you must have completed all of notebook level one (1) before starting this notebook and all of the items 1 through 10 in this notebook before beginning notebook level three (3).

Year
Completed

- _____ 1. Describe and tell the important characteristics of two (2) additional breeds of cavies. Include origin and breed standard. Total of three (3) breeds.
- _____ 2. Draw a picture of a cavy ear tag and pliers. Explain how to hold a cavy for tagging.
- _____ 3. Describe the cause, symptoms, treatment and prevention of ringworm, colds and mange mites.
- _____ 4. Describe the cause, symptoms, treatment and prevention of impacted rectum in boars.
- _____ 5. Describe the cavy head, ears, crown and body plus three (3) types of coat.
- _____ 6. Describe how you tattoo or ear tag a cavy.
- _____ 7. Define the terms: self, solid, marked and agouti
- _____ 8. Describe the gestation and birth of cavies. What are baby cavies called?
- _____ 9. What is the extra toe/toes on a cavy called?
- _____ 10. Describe a trip you took to a cavy show, commercial caviary or any other cavy event.

Barry County 4-H Cavy Project Area

Notebook Guidelines

Cavy Educational Notebook # 3

Items A, B, C, D are required for all notebooks.

- A. Decorative Cover
- B. Title Page
- C. Table of Contents and Notebook Guidelines
- D. Your 4-H Story – tell about your cavy project

Level Three (3) Cavy notebook options:

Option #1 - First year - complete 5 of the following items.
 - Second year - complete the remaining 4 items.

Option #2 - First year - complete all of the following items 1 through 9.

* Remember, you must have completed all of notebook level two (2) before beginning this notebook and all of the items 1 through 9 in this notebook before beginning notebook level four (4).

Year
Completed

-
- _____ 1. Describe and tell the important characteristics of three (3) additional breeds of cavies.
Include origin and breed standard. Total of six (6) breeds.
 - _____ 2. What five (5) color groups are there in cavies. (Note: One (1) group is only for
Americans)
 - _____ 3. What is the ARBA? What is the ACBA? How do each of them help you as a cavy raiser?
 - _____ 4. Describe the weight and age requirements for Junior, Intermediate and Senior cavy classes.
 - _____ 5. Describe the cause, symptoms, treatment and prevention of pregnancy toxemia.
 - _____ 6. What type of ear tags are approved for cavy use? Give reasons for and against tattooing a cavy.
 - _____ 7. Illustrate toenail clipping. Describe bathing and grooming long haired and short haired breeds.
 - _____ 8. Discuss the importance of NOT giving cavies sweets.
 - _____ 9. What age is ideal for breeding a sow for the first time? A boar? When is a sow too old to be bred
for the first time? Why?

Barry County 4-H Cavy Project Area

Notebook Guidelines

Cavy Educational Notebook # 4

Items A, B, C, D are required for all notebooks.

- A. Decorative Cover
- B. Title Page
- C. Table of Contents and Notebook Guidelines
- D. Your 4-H Story – tell about your cavy project

Level Four (4) Cavy notebook options:

Option #1 - First year - complete 5 of the following items.
 - Second year - complete the remaining 5 items.

Option #2 - First year - complete all of the following items 1 through 10.

* Remember, you must have completed all of notebook level three (3) before beginning this notebook and all the items 1 through 10 in this notebook before beginning notebook level five (5).

Year
Completed

- _____ 1. Describe and tell the important characteristics of three (3) additional breeds of cavies. Include origin and breed standard. Total of nine (9) breeds.
- _____ 2. Name the varieties of cavies included in the Solid and Self groups.
- _____ 3. Name at least four (4) things you should include in a cavy medicine chest.
- _____ 4. How often does a sow come into heat or estrus. How long does it last? How do you tell if a sow is ready for mating?
- _____ 5. Describe the type and coat of the Coronet cavy.
- _____ 6. Provide an example of a cavy pedigree. Give three (3) reasons why a pedigree is desirable. What is a leg and a Grand Champion Certificate?
- _____ 7. Describe the components and scoring of cavy showmanship.
- _____ 8. Describe three (3) benefits of learning cavy showmanship.
- _____ 9. List the ingredients from a cavy pellet label and describe the need for at least three (3) of them.
- _____ 10. Define line breeding, cross breeding, inbreeding and out crossing.

Barry County 4-H Cavy Project Area

Notebook Guidelines

Cavy Educational Notebook # 5

Items A, B, C, D are required for all notebooks.

- A. Decorative Cover
- B. Title Page
- C. Table of Contents and Notebook Guidelines
- D. Your 4-H Story – tell about your cavy project

Level Five (5) Cavy notebook options:

Option #1 - First year - complete 5 of the following items.
 - Second year - complete the remaining 5 items.

Option #2 - First year - complete all of the following items 1 through 10.

* Remember, you must have completed all of notebook level four (4) before beginning this notebook.

Year
Completed

- _____ 1. Describe and tell the important characteristics of the final four (4) breeds of cavies.
Include origin and breed standard. Total of thirteen (13) breeds.
- _____ 2. Name the Agouti and Marked varieties of cavies.
- _____ 3. Describe for each variety within a breed, what awards there are winners chosen for (example:
Best Jr. Boar).
- _____ 4. Describe your leadership activities in your club and with other cavy exhibitors.
- _____ 5. Write a 300 word report on one of the following topics:
 - a. Nutritional needs of cavies
 - b. Diseases, prevention and treatments for cavies
 - c. Care of the long haired cavy
 - d. Show classes of cavies, including breed, variety, sex, etc.
 - e. History of the cavy
 - f. General cavy management
- _____ 6. Compile a complete list of first-aid items to keep on hand for cavies.
- _____ 7. List the requirements to have a cavy registered and list the advantages.
- _____ 8. Describe the cause, symptoms, treatment and prevention of heat prostration in cavies.
- _____ 9. Illustrate a class of four (4) cavies. Place them and show the differences and your reasons for
placing them 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.
- _____ 10. Name the Tan Pattern varieties of the Tan American Cavy.

Barry County 4-H Cavy Project Area Notebook Guidelines

Any Other Cavy Educational Notebook

Items A, B, C, D are required for all notebooks.

- A. Decorative Cover
- B. Title Page
- C. Table Of Contents and Notebook Guidelines
- D. Your 4-H Story – tell about your cavy project

You may prepare this notebook on any subject(s) dealing with cavies. This project is ideal for the very young 4-H'er or the older member who wishes to specialize.

Be sure to follow the General Notebook Guidelines, which are available from the Extension Office or <http://barrycounty4h.com>

Good Luck and Have Fun!!

Barry County 4-H Cavy Project Area Notebook Guidelines

Any Other Cavy Record Keeping Notebook

Items A, B, C, D are required for all notebooks.

- A. Decorative Cover
- B. Title Page
- C. Table of Contents and Notebook Guidelines
- D. Your 4-H Story – tell about your cavy project

The record keeping notebook class allows the 4-H'er to present a historical log of information on a particular aspect of their project area.

These guidelines are for other types of record keeping. Some possible ideas for this class might be (but are not limited to):

Show Records. A collection of remark cards, ribbons, pictures of your cavy, shows attended, etc.

Pedigree Records for your animals.

Breeding/Production Records. Records showing the result of breeding specific animals. How successful was the breeding, number of pups, how many lived, how many died, results of additional breedings, etc.

Herd Improvement. These records would show your plan for improving your project area in some way. Examples might be increasing the number of animals per litter, increasing or decreasing the senior weight of your animals or how you were able to get better animals (closer to the standard of perfection).

Management Records. A comprehensive record of the management practices you used while raising your project animal.

Use your imagination when designing and setting up your notebook and your records. Be sure to keep things neat and readable.

Notebooks must also conform to the General Notebook Guidelines. Enter a record keeping notebook under the Rabbit and Cavy Record Keeping & Meat Records section in the fair book. Any record-keeping notebook entered as an educational notebook will receive a lower award.

Good Luck and Have Fun!!!

******This is a sample title page******

Barry County 4-H

Cavy

Educational Notebook #1

Sherry Lane
Age: 10
4th Year In 4-H
1st Year In Project Area
Hop-2-It
Leader: Jeff Hide
2006

******This is a sample title page******

revised 2026

*****This is a sample Table of Contents page*****

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First Half**

4-H Story page 2

Parts of the Cavy page 3

Explanation of terms:
registered
purebred
crossbred page 4

Why tattoo or ear tag a cavy page 5

Description of my feeding and watering program page 6

Pictures of my cavy and awards page 7

*****This is a sample Table of Contents page*****

*****This is a sample Table of Contents page*****

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Second Half**

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Description and important characteristics of my cavy Origin and breed standard	page 10
Definition and examples of: Temporary disqualification Permanent disqualification	page 11
Vitamins and minerals required daily by cavies	page 12
Description and diagram of my cavy cage and equipment	page 13
My cavy records	page 14
Additional pictures of my cavy and awards	page 15

*****This is a sample Table of Contents page****