4-H Poultry Projects engage youth in learning life skills while having fun raising chickens. In The 4-H Pullet Chain, youth raise day old chicks for 5 to 7 months by caring for, training, and preparing birds for a show and/or final sale. The 4-H Laying Flock Project provides the same opportunities, except it is designed for youth that already have laying hens or secure non 4-H chicks.

Periodically throughout the project year, youth and their families will receive a project newsletter that will provide valuable information to ensure they are successful. Participants will receive show dates, deadline reminders, and poultry related information through the project newsletter and SC 4-H Poultry Facebook page.

Note that 4-H poultry project opportunities and shows offered through local county 4-H programs may vary.

For registration or more information visit the website below or contact your local Clemson Extension Office. If your county is not hosting a local 4-H poultry project, view the SC 4-H Poultry Project map on the SC 4-H website for the nearest project.

https://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/programs/ag-animals/livestock/poultry.html

The objectives of 4-H Poultry Projects are that youth will:

- Set goals, plan activities, and strategies to achieve desired outcomes.
- Reflect on their yearly work by documenting their skill development and learning experiences.
- Give back to their communities through educational and service activities.
- Learn valuable skills in record keeping, financial management, and written communication.
- Gain valuable life lessons by caring and providing for their 4-H birds.

4-H Poultry Projects

GENERAL DATES:

Jan- Feb: Registration Due March 1
May: Chick Arrival
July-Sept: Clinics & NPIP Tests
Aug-Nov: County & Regional Shows
Nov-Dec: Auction & Record Book Due

Open to all youth ages 5-18
Must be a 4-H member ($15)
https://v2.4honline.com
Cost: $15 - $70 (depending on qty.)
Registration
• Participants must be age 5-18 as of January 1, and register online as a SC 4-H member.
• Online registration links can be found at https://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/programs/ag-animals/livestock/poultry.html
• Sibling Fee Option: See website for full details. $10 per sibling to participate.

Project Expectations
• Pick up chicks, care for them in the project duration, participate in minimum 1 show or poultry event, participate in 4-H auction, and complete 4-H Poultry Project Record Book.
• Provide a brooder space that is a safe and protective environment for your chicks (consider weather, temperature, wildlife, pets, or other animals that may harm chicks).
• Provide appropriate spacing for your flock (minimum 3’x3’ per bird coop space).
• Provide a nutritional diet for birds to grow properly with a starter-grower ration, 18-22% crude protein is recommended. Change feed to a layer ration at egg production age (around 5-6 months for most breeds). Free choice, clean water at all times.

Activities & Events
• Chick Pick-up: 4-H Poultry Project coordinators will notify participants with a May date, time(s), and locations. Recommended: small animal crate or ventilated cardboard box, and substrate for day-old chicks to stand on and stay warm.
• Shows/Events/Activities: Each participant is encouraged to show at least once in the county or region that they registered through. County, multi-county and regional show schedules will be posted on a State 4-H Livestock Show Calendar; shows will be independently run by the county, multi-county, or regional effort. Participation is encouraged in all 4-H poultry activities (virtual and/or in-person) to include, but not limited to: webinars, Golden Egg Contest, Communications Contests, State 4-H Livestock educational events, Egg Prep Challenge, Avian Bowl, Poultry Judging, and county 4-H poultry-related activities.
• NPIP Testing & Clinics: NPIP testing details will be communicated per county/regional projects, and is required within 90 days prior to exhibiting poultry. Youth are encouraged to practice showmanship independently or at show clinics.
• Auction/Sale of Poultry: All SC 4-H regions will offer a final sale/auction for birds in the pullet chain. This component of the project is a way to help youth learn valuable financial experiences. Youth are encouraged to return approx. 20% of their original 4-H chick order to auction (Ex.: 12 chicks, return 3 qty for auction; 25 chicks, return 5 qty). The funds from the sale of the birds will support county, multicounty and/or regional 4-H poultry activities. The auction is mandatory for pullet chain participants purchasing 12, 25, or more quantities of chicks.
• Prizes/Awards/Deposits: Shows and auctions are run independently by event coordinators, therefore, prizes/awards will vary. Youth participating in the auction/sale with approx. 20% of their original chick order, have the opportunity to receive their original “deposit” or order fee returned. (Ex.: return 3 birds for auction; receive $35 back in return for 100% project completion).
4-H Poultry Project
Registration Contract for 4-H Pullet Chain & Backyard Layer Flock

Name: ____________________________________________ Birthdate: _________

Parent/Guardian Info:_____________________________________________________

Mailing Address: _________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip:__________________________________________________________

Email:____________________________________4-H County_________________
(email will be used for 4-H project communication only; incl. important info/dates)

Phone:________________________ Alt. Phone ____________________________

Before you receive your 4-H project animals, you should locate the nearest veterinarian or person qualified to work with poultry, in case of an emergency. You also need to know your local 4-H and/or livestock Clemson Extension agents.

2021 4-H Poultry Project Options and Pricing – chick order deadline 3/1/21

$_______ Cost of 4-H Chick Order (refer to pricing page and breed selection)

☐ Check here if you have completed the 2020-21 online SC 4-H Membership ($15)

$_______ Sibling Fee ($10 per child wishing to participate in project; List names, ages)__________

$_______ I already own a “backyard layer flock” and wish to participate in the project to complete a record book, local poultry project activities, and showmanship ($10)

$_______ Total registration fees owed. (Submit chick breed/quantity selection form with your registration!)

Online Registration Preferred:
https://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/programs/ag-animals/livestock/poultry.html

I, _____________________________(4-H Member), agree to the responsibility of raising poultry. I understand the requirements and needs necessary for my animal to grow properly and maintain a healthy and safe environment for it. I also understand that a part of my 4-H project is: (check that you agree)

☐ Bring birds back for the 4-H auction
☐ Participating in a 4-H poultry show or poultry event
☐ Complete the 4-H Project Record Book
☐ Participate in clinics & NPIP testing

_________________________________________ (Participant Signature & Date)

_________________________________________ (Parent’s Signature)

South Carolina 4-H Youth Development Program

Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer.
4-H Pullet Project Pricing

(This form is not necessary for Backyard Layer Flock Project)

4-H Member Name: _____________________________________

4-H County:____________________________________________

You are encouraged to research each breed before choosing your 4-H project birds. The breeds to choose from have been noted for their prolific egg laying and/or success in 4-H poultry projects. Each breed offered through the 4-H program will be coming from an approved NPIP hatchery. These are ordered as “pullets” and the hatchery guarantees 90% accuracy on sexing birds for the entire 4-H order.

Chick pricing is based on the TOTAL number of chicks you order. **Be sure you order enough chicks to return (3-5) at the final 4-H auction and enough for your backyard!** Your county/regional 4-H poultry project coordinator can provide further information on the final 4-H poultry show and auction or answer questions.

2021 4-H Chick Breeds and Pricing – orders due 3/1/21

- 12 chicks = $35 (require returning 3 to auction)
- 25 chicks = $70 (require returning 5 to auction)
- Sibling Fee $10 each additional child (record book & showmanship)

*(4-H Members participating in the final 4-H auction, bringing 20% of their original chick order will receive their 4-H chick “deposit” back after the final show/auction. Any returned fees/deposits, are ONLY from the chick prices, not additional sibling fees, membership fees, or show entry fees. For example, order 12 chicks at $35, participate in 1 show, and bring 3 birds back for the auction, then the $35 fee will be refunded to you as a “deposit” for completing the project. Additional awards/prizes earned may vary at county/multi-county, regional or state level.)*

4-H Breed Choices:

- Golden Comet x ______ Quantity
- Rhode Island Red x ______ Quantity
- Barred Rock x ______ Quantity

Complete all 4-H Poultry Project orders and registrations online: [https://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/programs/ag-animals/livestock/poultry.html](https://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/programs/ag-animals/livestock/poultry.html)