All 4-H Poultry Projects are designed to engage youth in learning life skills while having fun raising chickens. Throughout South Carolina, youth have the option to participate in a variety of poultry projects from laying hens to meat chickens.

In the The 4-H Backyard Broiler Project, youth raise day old chicks for approximately 7 to 12 weeks into healthy broilers, and learn how to process the birds at a backyard clinic.

Youth participating in the Backyard Broiler processing clinics must have an adult attending with them. Please note that this project only allows birds to be processed at clinics for home consumption, as they are not labeled or inspected for sale.

**GENERAL DATES:**
- Feb: Registration Due
- March: Chick Arrival
- May: Meat Processing Clinics

**Cost:**
- $2.50 per chick
- $5 handling fee per order
- Approximately $3.50 per bird processed (due in May)

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.

For more information contact Jenny Mountford, Abbeville County 4-H Program: grier@clemson.edu or 864-446-2276

Return completed order form no later than February 28:
(Please note this is not a postmark date, but a received in office date)
Mail: PO Box 640, Abbeville, SC 29620
Drop off: 265 Industrial Park Rd, Abbeville SC 29260

Should you require special accommodations due to a disability, please notify our office ten days prior to the event.
4-H Backyard Broiler Project

Registration
- Project registration is open to 4-H Members, non-4-H Members and adults.
- Registration must be returned to local Clemson Extension office no later than February 28. (All county Extension programs should send registration to Abbeville County 4-H no later than Feb 28. Please note this is not a postmark date, and chicks will be ordered.)
- Participants may choose any quantity of birds at $2.50 per chick, and pay $5 handling fee per order. An additional charge of approximately $3.50 per bird will be collected in May prior to the processing workshop.

Breed options:
The **Cornish Cross Chicken** is a cross between the Commercial Cornish Chicken and a White Rock Chicken. They are a rapid grower and hens can reach 4 1/2 lbs. by 6 weeks of age and cockerels 6 lbs. by 6 weeks of age. They grow so fast that it is not recommended that they be kept for breeding. This breed was developed specifically to harvest and is not recommended for a pet. This breed is your best option for efficient feed/time to butcher weight. It is recommended to harvest this chicken broiler between 4-10 weeks of age depending on desired weight. It takes roughly 14 lbs. of feed to get 1 chick to 8 weeks of age. This is a good choice if you have a limited space coop.

The **Freedom Rangers** are slower growing than the Cornish Cross, reaching 9-11 lbs. in 9-11 weeks and have fewer health problems than the Cornish cross as mature birds. They are an active, robust chicken that is perfect for free range, foraging and pasture environments. Though less profitable, Freedom Rangers are said to possess a better flavor than the industrial Cornish hybrids, because of the more traditional methods used to raise them. Giving chickens free range allows them to move around opposed to caged or cooped chickens, which results in a more nutritious and better tasting chicken.

Project Expectations
- Pick up chicks from Abbeville Co Extension, care for them in the project duration, and participate in processing clinic.
- 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 2’x2’ per bird coop space).
- Provide a nutritional diet for birds to grow properly with a starter-grower ration, 20-26+% crude protein is recommended). No scratch feed. Free choice, clean water at all times.

Activities & Events
- **Chick Pick-up:** Date will be given – expected early to mid-March.
- **Processing:** Each participant is encouraged to bring all of their birds to the backyard processing clinic and help process at the clinic. You will go home with the exact birds that you raise; Freezer ready. Exact processing fee schedule will be available prior to May date.
- Absolutely no selling of 4-H backyard broiler meat. They are not labeled or inspected under the SC laws.

Should you require special accommodations due to a disability, please notify our office ten days prior to the event.
4-H Backyard Broiler Order
Open to Adults and Youth

Participant Name: ______________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Name:_________________________________________

Mailing Address: _______________________________________________

City, State, Zip:________________________________________________

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

Phone:_________________________ Alt. Phone _______________________

4-H County:___________________________________________________

2019 4-H Backyard Broiler Chick Pricing (Straight Run Order):
Cornish Cross _______ Quantity x $2.50 ea $_______________
Freedom Ranger _______ Quantity x $2.50 ea $_______________

$________ Cost of 4-H Chick Order (refer above)

$_______ 4-H Membership fee $10 (for non-4-H members); Complete 4-H Member Enrollment Form

$______ Handling fee for 4-H Broiler Project (all orders)

$_______ Total registration fees owed. (Payable to Clemson University)

(Please note that there will be an additional processing fee per bird, this is due in May 2019)

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 it is my responsibility to participate in the processing clinic and understand that the meat will not be processed with labeling to be sold. I also agree that all expenses are my responsibility in the 4-H Poultry Project.

_______________________________________               _______________________________________
(Participant Signature & Date)                           (Parent’s Signature)

 Should you require special accommodations due to a disability, please notify your county extension office ten days prior to the event.