4-H Poultry Projects 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. In the **The 4-H Pullet Chain**, youth raise day old chicks for 5 to 7 months where youth care for, train, and prepare for a show and/or final sale. **The 4-H Laying Flock Project** is designed for youth that already have laying hens at home and are not interested in raising new chicks this year. Participants in this project have the same access to shows as the Pullet Chain participants. Periodically throughout the project year, youth and their families will receive a project newsletter that will provide valuable information to ensure that the youth are setup to succeed. Note that SC 4-H poultry project opportunities and shows are offered through local county 4-H programs.

**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 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/project_areas/ag_animals/livestock/youth_ls_poultry.html](https://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/project_areas/ag_animals/livestock/youth_ls_poultry.html)
4-H Poultry Projects

Participant Responsibilities and Details

Registration
- Participants must be age 5-18 as of January 1; refer to your local 4-H Poultry Project coordinator for online or paper registration contract.
- [https://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/project_areas/ag_animals/livestock/youth_ls_poultry.html](https://www.clemson.edu/extension/4h/project_areas/ag_animals/livestock/youth_ls_poultry.html)
- County or Regional 4-H Pullet Chains may offer online registration. Register through the county you wish to participate in 4-H or nearest active 4-H poultry project (refer to map on SC 4-H Poultry Project website for details).
- Sibling Fee Option: See website for full details. $5 per sibling to participate.

Project Expectations
- Pick up chicks, care for them in the project duration, participate in minimum 1 show, participate in 4-H auction, and complete (and submit) 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 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**: 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 available on a State 4-H Livestock Show Calendar; shows will be independently run by the county, multi-county, or regional effort.
- **NPIP Testing & Clinics**: NPIP testing details will be communicated per county/regional projects, and is required within 90 days prior to exhibiting and/or selling poultry. Youth are encouraged to practice showmanship independently or at show clinics. Most 4-H Pullet Chain projects will be offering a final sale/auction for birds. 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).
- **Auction/Sale of Poultry**: The funds from the sale of the birds will support county, multicounty and/or regional 4-H poultry activities.
- **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.: 12 chicks ordered, return 3 birds for auction, and will receive their $35 back in return for 100% project completion).
- **Note**: If your home county offers a 4-H Poultry sale prior to the final SC 4-H Poultry Project showmanship event, you are encouraged to keep your show bird; the final showmanship class for most youth may be the 4-H Poultry Show at the SC State Fair in October.

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

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 Poultry Project
Registration Contract for 4-H Pullet Chain & Backyard Layer Flock

Name: _________________________________ Birthdate: __________

Parent/Guardian Info:__________________________

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:____________________________________________________________

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.

2019 4-H Poultry Project Options and Pricing

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

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

$______ Sibling Fee ($5 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 project activities, and showmanship ($10)

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

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 register for events, communicate with project coordinators, as well as, care for animals after the 4-H project ends. 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.

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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 have (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.

2019 4-H Chick Breeds and Pricing

□ 5 chicks = $20 (will do showmanship, but not required to auction birds)
□ 12 chicks = $35 (returning 3 birds to auction)
□ 25 chicks = $70 (returning 5 birds to auction)

(4-H Members participating in the final 4-H auction, bringing 3-5 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, complete record book, 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.)

Breed Choices: (breeds may vary across SC 4-H Pullet Chain projects)

□ Buff Orpington x _______ Quantity
□ Golden Comet x _______ Quantity
□ Ameraucana x _______ Quantity
□ Barred Rock x _______ Quantity