

Showing the under-color of the feathers:

Under-color of the feathers can be shown in two positions.

Under-color of the back:

Present the bird, with outstretched arms, to the judge tail first with the tail facing down. Stroke the feathers on the back toward the head displaying the under-color.

**Under-color of the breast:**

By grasping the bird's legs in one hand, hold the bird's back to your chest, head up. With the other hand, sweep the feathers of the breast upwards, revealing the under-color of the feathers.

**Showing the breastbone:**

Using the same hold as described for the under-color of the breast, use your index finger and second finger to spread the feathers and expose the breastbone.

**Showing feet and legs:**

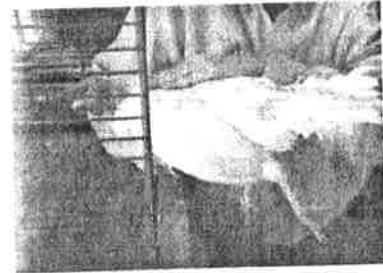
Show feet and legs by placing the bird's back against your chest, as described for showing the breast, with head up, holding one leg in one hand. With your other hand show the top of the feet and legs and then the bottom. Lastly flex the toes. Switch hands to show the other leg.

**Walking the bird:**

You may be asked to walk the bird around the table to show leg movement and indications of lameness. You must practice this maneuver until your bird easily walks with a minimum of coaxing.

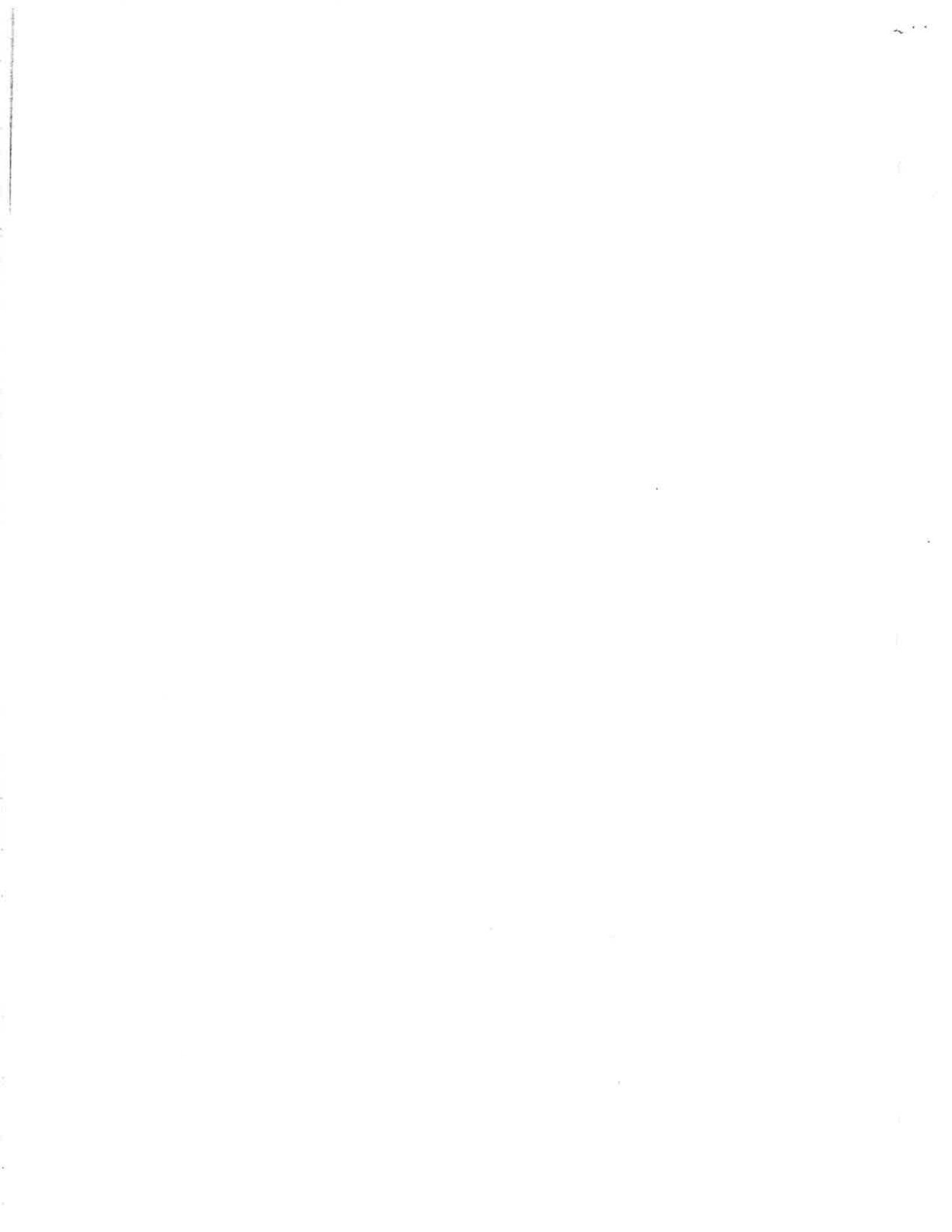
Placing the bird into the cage:

Return your bird to its cage by carrying it as previously described and placing the bird into the cage head-first, closing the door afterward. Return to the table to await further instructions or dismissal by the judge.



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POULTRY SHOWROOM BASICS

(Reading a coop tag, How the showroom is set up, How birds are judged and Champion Row)

WHAT DOES EACH NUMBER OR LETTER MEAN ON THE COOP TAG?

Numbers 1 - 5 on the coop tag: This designates the top 5 birds in that particular *age group by sex and variety*. These birds must be of *good type (confirmation)* to be assigned a 1st through 5th in their breed. Example: top 5 Best Black Cocks (C), top 5 Best Black Hens (H), top 5 Best Black Cockerels (K), top 5 Best Black Pullets (P)

BV = Best Variety: Is the best color bird in its breed color group, he must be of *good type (confirmation)* to be considered for Best Variety (Example: Best White Male, Best White Hen, Best White Cockerel, Best White Pullet (only one of them can be *Best Variety* in that particular color & sex group)

RV = Reserve Variety: Is the second best colored bird in each color group of a breed.

BB = Best of Breed: Is the best bird for its *type (confirmation)* in the whole class of your breed. Only one Old English, one Brahma, one Silkie, one Plymouth Rock, one Favorelle can be Best of Breed out of its breed class.

RB = Reserve Breed: Is the second best bird for its *type (confirmation)*

HOW IS A SHOWROOM SET UP?

First you have to know how a showroom is set up. *All shows are set up by classes*. It's important that you know your breed, the variety (color) of your birds and what classes they belong in.

In order for the judge to do his job the showroom must be organized and all the birds of that particular class must be in the same area of the showroom. If your bird is not in the correct class it cannot be judged with that class. Any birds not in the correct class will be marked "out of class" and not judged.

It is the exhibitor's responsibility to have his birds in the right place at the right time. Therefore, you must know your breed class and variety. Once the birds are all checked in the judge can begin his work.

All exhibitors are expected to be out of the area where the judge is judging with only the show clerk accompanying him. Most judges prefer not to be interrupted during judging so if you have questions about your class or how he judged the birds please wait until he has finished for the day, unless other arrangements have been made. Judges will be happy to answer your questions when the work is done.

WHAT DOES A JUDGE LOOK FOR AS HE'S JUDGING YOUR BIRD?

First comes TYPE (confirmation)!!

1. First of all everyone that breeds, raises and shows chickens has a book we call our "chicken bible". One is put out by the American Poultry Association, "American Standard of Perfection", and the other is put out by the American Bantam Association, "Bantam Standard". These books tell the breeder and exhibitor what he should be looking for when he buys or breeds a bird for show. It also tells the judges what they are to judge when they go to a poultry show to judge birds. Most judges have to memorize these books in order to take exams and become a certified poultry judge by either group. When judging birds this is the book he uses for reference if he has any question on the variety or the breed.

2. The judge will walk down the line of birds he is going to judge taking in at a glance, the condition of a bird in regards to its *type (confirmation)*, health, cleanliness and brightness of feathers, condition of combs, wattles, head parts, legs and feet, wry tails and the overall size of the bird. He is also looking to be sure there are no "out of class" birds. By this time he knows from an outward glance which birds are right for their breed and which are not.

3. The judge will go to a cage and take each bird out that is of *good type* to check for feather quality, looking at wings for size & discoloration's, the width of back, size of the keel, tail feathers, checking for lice or mites, color of legs, counting toes, the width of the head, the color of the undercoat, the color of the ears, the color of the eyes, checking the beak, checking any foreign colors that do not belong and the general weight of the bird. There are many other things the judge checks for such as split wing, split tail, ticking, twisted feathers, pinched feathers, etc. etc. There are many things that will disqualify a bird and owning a Standard of Perfection will help the breeder and the judge to know these problems, they are well defined in the book for each breed and variety. Unless there is a glaring problem you won't see many birds disqualified at a sanctioned poultry show. One problem that might cause a disqualification is faking, such as someone trying to darken a tip of a white feather with black ink or perhaps there are toes missing on a five toed breed, etc. It's hard to get any cheating past an experienced judge, he's seen it all. He will check all the cocks, individually, the hens individually, the cockerels and the pullets individually. There may be times when a judge doesn't remove a bird from its cage to check it. This is rare but if it happens it is because this bird is so out of type for its breed that it will go no further in competition or out of a class of perhaps 30 birds it is lower on the scale. He will mark this class with his 1st through 5th place birds in each sex and variety.

4. The judge does this the same in every breed class including Waterfowl, Turkey, Large Fowl and Bantams.

5. He will first mark the coop tags with his 1st through 5th place choices.

6. Then he will mark the tags with his choice of Best Variety and Reserve Variety in each breed. In the Best Variety and Reserve Variety he is taking into consideration the *type of the bird*, the outward color of the bird and the undercoat color of that bird. Best & Reserve Variety is chosen from the whole class of each breed variety being shown. Out all the varieties in a breed (partridge color, black, white, Columbian, mottled) only one of them can be Best Variety or Reserve Variety.

7. Next he will then mark the Best of Breed and Reserve of Breed in that particular breed class. Example: There can only be one Old English that is the Best of Breed no matter which variety it is or only one Plymouth Rock that can be Best of Breed in it's class and so forth.

8. When the *whole* breed class (do you know your breed class and the other breeds that you are competing against?) is finished he will pick Class Champion and Reserve Class Champion, most times the tags will be marked Champion Feather leg, Reserve Champion Feather leg, Champion Asiatic, Reserve Champion Asiatic, Champion English, Reserve Champion English, Champion Waterfowl and etc. These birds will be moved to *Champion Row*.

9. Out of all the Class Champions and the Reserve Class Champions the judge will pick the Champion Large Fowl of Show, Champion Bantam of Show, Champion Waterfowl of Show, and Champion Turkey of Show. Out of the 61 purebred bantam breeds only one can be Champion Bantam of the Show, out of the 53 breeds of Large Fowl only one can be Champion Large Fowl of Show and so forth.

10. Some shows pick an Overall Grand Champion of Show. This bird will be the "Best of the Best", the Best Variety, the Best of Breed for it's type and comes closest to be the most perfect overall bird in the showroom, according to the American Standard of Perfection and the Bantam Standard.

11. Normally the Show Champions and the Overall Champion of the Show are not picked until the show management is ready to hand out the awards, which is the morning before your check your birds out to go home. With exception are the local and state fairs. It is usually done at the end of the day following judging at fairs because the birds may stay for several days and the winners are displayed on Champion Row during their stay.

Always remember !! Type is the most important in breeding and showing chickens – Variety comes later.

"You must build the house before you paint it. "



Pima County Poultry Showmanship Scoring Sheet



Exhibitor #		Date	
Part Showing	Technique	Maximum Score	Score and Comments
Head	Bird held shoulder height? Head fully visible?	5	
Wings	Right and left sides shown as instructed? Wing fully extended with thumb on top fingers below?	5	
Undercolor	Entire depth of feathers shown over entire back & body? Feathers smoothed back into place?	5	
Width Of Body	Widest part of back shown at hip bone? Hand spanned with fingers facing head?	5	
Breast Bone	Bird's back against body, legs pulled to side and held? Breast exposed between fingers showing straightness? Motion done smoothly and timely?	10	
Feet and Legs	Bird against body, head up, show feet and legs, spread toes? Both legs shown individually? Toes spread to show web? Are feet clean and nails trimmed?	10	
Posing the Bird	Bird posed to the showman's left or as instructed? Bird posed according to standard? Does bird remain posed with minimum corrections?	5	
Placing the Bird in the Cage	Bird caged head first and readied for presentation? Bird removed head first, proper hold? Cage door closed?	5	
Appearance	Neat and clean? Proper 4-H attire?	15	
Knowledge	Was the member able to answer questions correctly?	25	
Actions	Performed with confidence and smoothly? Attentiveness to Judge? Good sportsmanship?	10	
Total		100	

Additional Comments:



4-H Poultry Showmanship Questions

1. * What is the function of the vent? Is it common to all poultry? (It is the uro-genital opening of the bird, the external portion of the cloaca. All poultry have one. It is where the egg, uric acid and feces all exit.)
2. * In order for a female to lay eggs, does she need the presence of a male? (No, only for fertile eggs to be produced.)
3. In what part of the hens reproductive tract is the shell produced ? (Uterus or shell gland)
4. What are the following? Pullet, Hen, Cockerel, Rooster, Capon? (Pullet is young female, hen is a female that has laid eggs for about 6 months, cockerel is a young male, rooster is mature male and capon is castrated male chicken.)
5. * What is the importance of calcium in the diets of laying hens? (Needed for the calcium of the egg shell.)
6. * What precautions must be taken when you introduce new birds into your home flock? (First check for disease, next quarantine for three weeks, and check for any symptoms.)
7. * What are the differences between the plumage of most adult male and female chickens (Male: long, sharp hackle feathers, saddle feathers and sickle feathers on tail. Female: short, blunt hackle feathers, no saddle feathers and no sickle feathers on tail.)
8. * Other than feathers, what other anatomical features are unique to the male chicken? (Larger comb and wattles, coloring, spurs)
9. What are the major external parasites of poultry? How do you perform a parasite check on chickens or poultry? (Lice and Mites, check vent, under wings, on skin under feathers by preen gland, general body area.)
10. If you found external parasites how should you treat them? (Use Sevin powder or liquid, dust or spray birds and dust nest boxes.)
11. *What are the two other names for the breast bone of chickens? (Sternum or Keel)
12. *How many eggs can a hen potentially lay in one year? (365, one a day.)
13. What nutrient do chickens and other poultry require each day? (Protein, carbohydrate, fat, minerals, vitamins, water, oxygen)
14. What are the most common feed ingredients used in poultry diets in the United States? (Corn and Soybean meal)
15. It has been said that eggs are an almost perfect food, however they are missing one vitamin, what is it? (Vitamin C)
16. *What does depth of body indicate? (Size of abdomen and ability to hold a forming egg)
17. *What does width of body indicate? (Size of body across the pelvic bones, room for egg)
18. *Why do we measure flexibility of the pubic bones? (To see if they will open enough for an egg to pass)

19. *Why does the judge ask to see the feet and legs of birds? (To check for deformities and disease and for parasites)
20. What does "molt" mean relative to chickens? (Lose feathers, reproduction stops, renews the bird for another reproduction cycle)
21. *Why should birds be removed from and replaced into cages head first? (Prevent possible wing damage, to maintain control)
22. *What is the function of the uropygial (preen) gland? (Produces an oily substance the bird wipes onto its feathers with its beak, for preening. In ducks and waterfowl it helps to waterproof their feathers.)
23. Which of the nutrients, other than oxygen, should poultry have free access to at all times? (Water)
24. * Do chickens ever have teeth? (Yes, egg tooth at hatch to help break through the shell)
25. *What does "dual purpose" mean relative to chickens? (Can be used for both meat and egg production, like Rhode Island Reds, New Hampshire's, White and Barred Plymouth Rocks, etc.)
26. *What does "bleaching" mean relative to chickens? (It refers to the order of loss of skin color in laying hens, particularly in Leghorn type birds, where the yellow pigment, xanthophyll, of the skin fades to white as the pigment is used to color the yolk. Order of bleaching: vent, eyering and ear lobes, beak bottom of feet, front of shanks, back of shanks, tops of toes, hock joints, when birds stop laying eggs they replace pigment in reverse order.)
27. Where does the yellow color of the skin, beak and shanks of chickens come from? (Xanthophyll from corn and grass they eat.)
28. *What color eggs do Rhode Island Red's, New Hampshire's and Sex Linked chickens lay? (Brown)
29. *What breed(s) of chicken lay(s) blue-green eggs? (Araucana and Ameraucana)
30. What needs to be supplied in an artificial incubator to hatch eggs? (Heat, Humidity and Turning)
31. How long is the incubation period for Chickens, Turkeys and Ducks and Geese? (21, 28, 28, 30-32, for muscovy it is 33-35 days.)
32. At what temperature should most chicken eggs be incubated? (100oF)
33. What is the purpose of turning eggs in an incubator? (Keep embryo from sticking to membranes and causing malformations of the embryo)
34. Why should incubators be "fumigated" or "Disinfected" prior to use? (To remove any bacteria, virus or mold organisms that might infect the eggs being hatched)
35. *How many eyelids does a chicken have? Why? (Three, upper, lower and nictating membrane which moves from the front to the rear of the eye and is clear.)
36. *How many feather tracts to chickens have? (10- head, neck, shoulder, wings, breast, back, abdomen, rump, thigh and legs)
37. *How many primary and secondary flight feathers do most chickens have? (10 primary and 14-18 secondary)
38. What and where are the covert feathers? (Small feathers on wing, fill in spaces.)
39. *What is the function of the comb and wattles on chickens? (Sex differentiation, Identification and thermoregulation)
40. *Where is the axial feather found and how many do chickens have? (on wings between primary and secondary flights, one on each wing.)

41. *For what disease must all birds going to shows out of state be tested for? (*Salmonella pullorum*).
42. How is *Salmonella pullorum* spread or transmitted? (Through the egg, either by organisms from the ovary or from shell contamination from contact with manure in the nest box.)
43. *What are basic signs of good health in chickens? (Alert, active, clear eyes, good manure consistency and free from external parasites)
44. How often should poultry flocks that are allowed access to outside for roaming or grazing be dewormed? (As often as needed, but at least twice a year, spring and fall.)
45. For what disease of poultry should small flock owners be particularly aware of that can cause high mortality and be of great concern to commercial poultry growers? (Avian Influenza)
46. If you saw a lot of manure staining on the feathers just below the vent, what health related problem of your bird should you suspect? (Diarrhea)
47. Why is the problem described in # 45 of concern and how can it be treated? (Diarrhea can lead to dehydration and possible death. One needs to re-hydrate the bird by providing electrolytes and water and then determine why the bird had diarrhea in the first place and treat that. A high load of worms, coccidiosis or bacterial infection of the gut can often lead to diarrhea)
48. Sometimes in breeding flocks feather loss is noticed on the lower back and the back of the head of some females. What is the cause of this? (When breeding, the males stand on the back of the females, and hold onto the feathers on the back of the head with their beak, causing loss of feathers in those areas.)
49. Many starter feeds for chickens are labeled as "Medicated". What is the medication and for what reason is it in the feed? (Amprolium or Coban (Monensin), and it is to help the bird build immunity to Coccidiosis, a protozoan disease of the digestive tract of birds. There are nine (9) different types of coccidiosis, so medicated feed is a good preventative measure.)
50. What is the main difference between Starter Feed, Grower Feed and Layer Feed for feeding chicks, pullets and laying hens? (Protein levels, Starter 18-19%CP, Grower 14-15% CP and Layer 16-17% CP.)
51. *What is the difference between a broiler, a roaster and a capon? (Broilers are young meat birds, usually processed at 6-8 weeks of age, roasters are usually 10-14 weeks of age and capons are castrated meat birds grown to about 18-20 weeks of age.)
52. What is bumble foot? (An infection in the foot pad of poultry, usually caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* from the manure.)
53. If upon checking the sternum of a chicken it is found to be crooked, what nutritional deficiency disease could be the cause? (Rickets, lack of calcium or phosphorus in the diet.)
54. If checking the legs of the bird one finds that the scales on the shank are all crusty and bumpy and swollen, what might be the problem? (Scaly leg mites.) How is it treated? (Dust with malathion or dip the legs in gasoline and then cover with petroleum jelly.)
55. *Where is the crop of chickens and what is its function? (The crop is an enlargement of the esophagus and it is located on the neck just above the junction with the body cavity. It holds the food the bird eats and slowly releases it to the rest of the digestive tract.)
56. What is the ratio of males to females that will provide the best fertility for a laying flock, without having more males than necessary? (about 1 male for every 10 females)
57. *How many nest boxes should be provided for a flock of laying hens? (Usually 1 for each 5 hens.)

58. *How can one tell if baby chicks under a brooder stove or light have the proper temperature? (They are spread evenly under the light, not all bunched up or all far away from the heat source, or all to one side or another, which indicates a draft)
59. *In general, what temperature should be provided for growing chicks? (about 95oF for the first week and drop by 5o per week until at ambient temperature)
60. How much floor space should be provided for standard and bantam adult laying hens reared on the floor? (About 1.5 - 2 sq. ft for standards and .75 to 1.5 sq. ft for bantams)
61. What is "Biosecurity" and why is it important for your flock of birds? (Biosecurity means preventing infectious or disease causing organisms and other pests, like insects, rodents, etc., from coming in contact with your birds. Keeping human traffic to a minimum, and not allowing contact with any sick birds, either directly or indirectly through. Keep a foot dip pan filled with disinfectant near the door to your coop and dip your shoes or boots prior to entering your facility. It will prevent disease transmission to your birds and is very important.)
62. What is the gizzard and what is its function? (The gizzard is also known as the ventriculus a part of the digestive system just behind the proventriculus, true stomach, and it is where the food is ground up by the chicken to aid in digestion and absorption.)
63. What is cannibalism and how can it be prevented or reduced in your flock? (The pecking of one bird by another and it can cause injury and/or death. Prevent by beak trimming, use of specs or decreasing the density of your flock.)
64. To keep a flock of laying hens producing eggs year round, what key environmental factor needs to be controlled and altered to meet the needs of the bird? (Light, maintain 16 hrs of light per day year round.)
65. What gaseous product can be produced in manure that can be harmful to chickens? (Ammonia)
66. How can you tell an adult male turkey from a female? (Beard and size of bird)

* signifies questions suitable for novice and clover showmen.

Showmanship Questions! Monroe County, Indiana

1. What is the most common type of comb? (single comb)
2. What are the feathers at the neck of a rooster called? (hackle feathers)
3. If you have 2 chickens, one with red earlobes and one with white earlobes, can they be the same breed? (no)
4. If a hen has red earlobes, what color eggs is it most likely to lay? (brown)
5. Is the snood on a chicken, duck, or turkey? (a turkey)
6. How long does it take for a chicken egg to hatch? (3 weeks or 21 days)
7. Do you need a rooster for a hen to lay eggs? (no)
8. Where on the body of a chicken would you find a muff? (chin area)
9. Where on the body of a chicken would you find a crest? (on top of the head)
10. What color of eggs do most chicken breeds lay? (brown)
11. Is the cushion comb common? (no)
12. If you have two black chickens, one with feathers on its legs and one clean legged, can they be the same breed? (no)
13. How old does a female chicken have to be called a hen? (1 year old)
14. What is the body part called where the egg-or poop-comes out? (the vent)
15. Does a chicken have an ear? (yes)
16. What is the hairy patch on the front of a turkey called? (the beard)
17. How many official breeds of chickens-as listed in the standard-lay blue-green eggs?
(2)
18. Do you find saddle feathers on a hen or rooster or both? (rooster)
19. What is a male turkey called? (a tom)
20. Where is the sickle feather on a rooster? (the tail)

21. Does a silkie chicken have fur or feathers? (feathers)
22. What gas can be produced by manure that is harmful to chickens? (ammonia)
23. What is the book called where you can read about how a perfect bird of a breed should look? (The Standard of Perfection)
24. Some geese have a knob. Where is it? (on the head)
25. Name 3 things that affect how many eggs a chicken lays? (age, breed, health, length of daylight)
26. Do you find caruncles on a duck, a chicken, or a turkey? (a turkey)
27. Where do lice and mites come from? (other birds)
28. What type of comb does a Sicilian Buttercup have? (a buttercup comb)
29. Does a pea comb look like a pea? (no)
30. When a hen goes broody, what does she want to do? (sit on eggs or hatch some chicks)
31. When a chicken is molting, what is it doing? (losing old feathers and growing new ones)
32. What mineral is important for good egg shell formation? (calcium)
33. Where is the preen gland on a chicken? (the tail area)
34. What does "dual purpose" mean? (good for meat and eggs)
35. Which of the following temperatures would work best for incubating eggs, 95, 100, or 105 degrees? (100)
36. Many starter feeds for baby chicks are medicated. What disease is the medication able to prevent? (coccidiosis)
37. If a chicken has rough and raised scales on its legs, what does the chicken have? (scaley leg mites)
38. Does variety in chickens refer to different breeds? (no)
39. What is a baby turkey called? (a poult)
40. What is the main difference between bantams and large fowl? (size)

41. Name one chicken predator. (raccoon, dog, hawk, fox, opossum, mink, owl, etc)
42. What is a baby goose called? (a gosling)
43. Why is it often a problem to keep several roosters together? (they fight)
44. What is a baby duck called? (a duckling)
45. Are the saddle feathers on the back or on the neck of a rooster? (back)
46. Why do you need a heat lamp for chicks? (to keep them warm)
47. What is on a duck's foot that helps make it a good swimmer? (webs)
48. What is the mouth part on a duck called? (a bill)
49. Where is the spur located on a chicken? (the leg)
50. Which one is older, a hen or a pullet? (a hen)
51. What is a chicken losing when it is molting? (its old feathers)
52. Does a hen normally lay more than one egg a day? (no)
53. Name two ways you can tell a rooster from a hen. (sometimes more colorful, bigger comb, spurs, saddle feathers, hackle feathers, no eggs, bigger wattles, overall size)
54. Do chickens have teeth? (no)
55. Name one thing that chickens have in common with all other birds. (lay eggs, feathers, eyes, etc)
56. Where is the earlobe on a chicken? (under the ear, on the face)
57. Name a body part that ducks, chickens and turkeys have in common. (beak, wings, feet, toenails, eyes, etc)
58. Name two things that a chicken uses its beak for. (eating, fighting, drinking, digging, grooming, panting, breathing)

Poultry Sample Questions from “Animals In Pursuit”

- Q. What is barring on a chicken’s feather?
A. Two alternating colors on a feather, running across its width
- Q. What commercial strain of layers is best for egg production?
A. White Leghorn strains
- Q. How many geese will one acre of pasture support?
A. 20-40 birds
- Q. To be eligible to be shown in a 4-H Poultry Show, chicken and poultry exhibitors must have a statement or origin or test negative for what disease?
A. Pullorum typhoid
- Q. What is a castrated male chicken called?
A. Capon
- Q. What is a male goose called?
A. Gander
- Q. What is the term used to describe the horny mouthparts of a bird?
A. Beak
- Q. Name a dual purpose breed of chicken.
A. Rhode Island Red, New Hampshire, What Rocks
- Q. What is the average feed conversion for an eight week old market chicken?
A. 2 pounds of feed per pound of gain
- Q. To be eligible for exhibition, an egg production pen should have been hatched before what date?
A. May 1
- Q. What is the part of the hen’s reproductive system that produces the female germ cell and the yolk of the egg called?
A. Ovary
- Q. What is a young goose called?
A. Gosling
- Q. What does it mean when a bird is described as “close feathered”?
A. The feathers are held tight to the body
- Q. Approximately how much feed will a Leghorn layer hen eat per year?
A. Approximately 90 pounds

Poultry Sample Questions from "Animals In Pursuit"

- Q. A starter ration for market chickens should contain at least what percent of protein?
A. 22%
- Q. How many areas will a judge consider when looking at a 4-H Poultry Showmanship Class?
A. 7
- Q. What part of the hen's reproductive system produces the white shell membranes and shell of the egg?
A. Oviduct
- Q. What is a poult?
A. A young turkey
- Q. What is a cockerel?
A. A male chicken under one year of age
- Q. Approximately how many dozen eggs will a Leghorn hen lay per year?
A. 18 dozen
- Q. What is the largest expense in raising market chickens?
A. Feed Costs
- Q. Out of the 100 possible points a judge can give in a 4-H Poultry Showmanship Class, which area gets the most points?
A. Examination and Handling of Bird – 30 points
- Q. How long is the incubation period for goose eggs?
A. 21 days
- Q. What is the tube-like fleshy growth near the front of the top of the head in turkeys called?
A. Snood
- Q. What is the fleshy protruding part on the top of the head of a fowl called?
A. Comb
- Q. How many square feet of floor space should a Leghorn layer have?
A. 2-2 ½ square feet
- Q. What percent of protein is recommended in a good poult starter ration?
A. 28%
- Q. When removing a chicken from a cage, which end of the bird is brought out of the cage first?
A. Head

Poultry Sample Questions from “Animals In Pursuit”

Q. How long is the incubation period for chicken eggs?

A. 21 days

Q. What is the skin growing between the toes of waterfowl called?

A. Web

Q. What are the feathers called which cover the base of the primary and secondary wing and main tail feathers?

A. Coverts

Q. How many hours of daylight should a laying flock be provided?

A. 14 hours

Q. What is the most important ingredient in a good poultry feeding ration?

A. A constant supply of clean, fresh water

Q. What part of the body should ducks or geese never be caught by?

A. Legs

Q. How long is the incubation period for duck eggs?

A. 28 days

Q. What is a male turkey called?

A. Tom

Q. What is the round tuft of feathers on the top of the head of some chickens and ducks called?

A. Crest

Q. How old should ducklings be before being allowed outside?

A. 4 weeks

Q. What is the average feed conversion of an eight week old pekin duck?

A. 2.8 pounds of feed/pounds of gain

Q. When removing a duck or goose from a cage, which part of the body does an exhibitor grasp first?

A. The neck (loosely)

Q. What are the two types of incubators used to hatch poultry eggs?

A. Forced draft and still-air

Q. What is the soft, fine, fluffy covering of a young bird called?

A. Down

Poultry Sample Questions from “Animals In Pursuit”

Q. What is the enlarged part of the chickens gullet in which food stored temporarily and softened for digestion?

A. Crop

Q. What types of absorbent litter can be placed on the floor of a brooding area for ducklings?

A. Wood shavings, chopped straw, or peat moss

Q. What is the percent of protein that should be in feed fed to a flock of laying hens?

A. 16 to 18%

Q. What is the document called that is used by the American Poultry Association to describe purebred breeds of poultry?

A. The Standard of Perfection

Q. In a goose breeding flock, what is the ratio of males to female?

A. 1 male to 6 females

Q. What does it mean to dub the comb of a chicken?

A. To trim the comb (or wattles) close to the head

Q. What are the rear and side neck feathers of a bird called?

A. Hackles

Q. If using infrared heat bulbs for brooding a small number of ducklings, plan to use one 250 watt lamp for how many ducklings?

A. 30

Q. When a hen flock is laying at a 90% production level, how many pounds of feed does it take to produce one dozen eggs?

A. 3.2 pounds of feed per one dozen eggs

Q. When should show birds be washed?

A. Not less than 48 hours prior to the show

Q. What is the name of the common poultry disease prevented by putting a coccidostat in the feed?

A. Coccidiosis

Q. What is the process called in which old feathers are shed and new ones regrown?

A. Molt

Q. What is a female chicken over one year of age called?

A. Hen

Poultry Sample Questions from "Animals In Pursuit"

- Q. What are the names of two of the four basic parts of an egg?
A. Shell, shell membranes, the albumen and the yolk
- Q. What important mineral is needed by hens for egg shell formation?
A. Calcium
- Q. What temperature should the wash water and rinse water be for washing show birds?
A. Wash water - 90° and rinse water - 85° F
- Q. What is the best disease prevention in a poultry flock?
A. Good sanitation
- Q. What is a female chicken less than 1 year of age called?
A. Pullet
- Q. Where is the keel on a chicken located?
A. On the lower portion of the breast bone
- Q. At what weight are geese normally slaughtered?
A. 11-15 pounds
- Q. What feed ingredients can provide energy in a feed ration?
A. Corn, coats, barley and other small grains
- Q. What can be used to polish the chanks, feet, beak, combs and wattles of show birds?
A. Mineral oil or petroleum jelly
- Q. What is the name given to crosses of chickens that result in male chicks of one color and female chicks of another color?
A. Sex-link crosses
- Q. What is the cloaca of a bird?
A. The common chamber or receptacle for the digestive, urinary and reproductive systems
- Q. What is the collective term for the feather covering of a bird?
A. Plumage
- Q. What temperature is recommended for brooding day old chicks?
A. 90-95° F
- Q. For economical egg production, which type of bird is usually the most efficient, leghorn-type layers or brown-egg layers?
A. Leghorn-type layers

Poultry Sample Questions from “Animals In Pursuit”

Q. On the 4-H Poultry Showmanship Scorecard, how many points are given for knowledge of poultry terms?

A. 20 points

Q. How long should a breeding flock of chickens be mated before hatching eggs are saved?

A. 2 weeks

Q. What is the purpose of debeaking a chicken or turkey?

A. To prevent feather pulling or cannibalism