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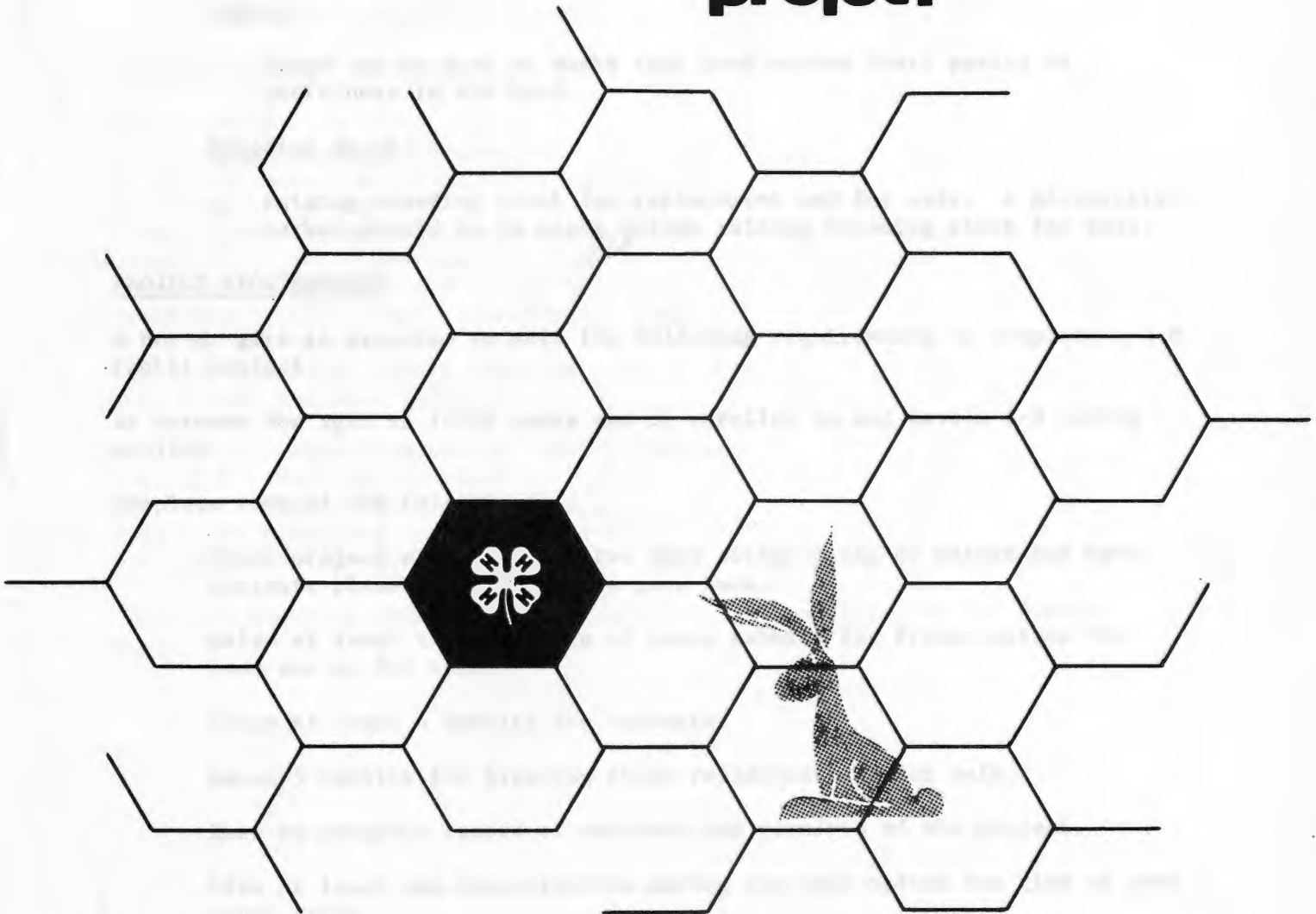
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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

outline for

**4-H
rabbit
project**



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE • COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE • WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY • PULLMAN

In cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture

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Cooperative Extension Service, John P. Miller, Director

A Rabbit Project is suggested for those boys and girls who do not have adequate facilities for other livestock or garden projects.

Rabbits may help supplement the family food supply. If raised for market, success depends on large volume and efficiency.

TYPES OF PROJECTS

Fryers:

Young rabbits of either sex weighing 3-1/2 to 4-1/2 pounds at 2 months of age. These may be raised for home consumption or for sale.

Roasters:

Young rabbits of either sex weighing 6 pounds or more.

Bakers:

These may be does or bucks that have served their period of usefulness in the herd.

Breeding Stock:

Raising breeding stock for replacement and for sale. A prospective market should be in sight before raising breeding stock for sale.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

A boy or girl is expected to meet the following requirements to complete a 4-H rabbit project.

Be between the ages of 10-19 years and be enrolled in and have a 4-H rabbit project.

Complete some of the following:

Start project with at least two does either young or mature and have definite plans for obtaining a good buck.

Raise at least three litters of young rabbits for fryers either for home use or for sale.

Raise at least 4 rabbits for roasters.

Raise 5 rabbits for breeding stock replacement or for sale.

Keep an accurate record of expenses and receipts of the project.

Give at least one demonstration during the year before the club or some other group.

Exhibit at one community, county, or state fair during the year.

PROJECT GROWTH

A member should plan to complete rabbit projects for more than one club year if possible and therefore should make definite plans for expansion. The second year's project should at least double the first year minimum requirements. Improve breeding stock through selection practices.

GOALS FOR THE 4-H RABBIT PROJECT:

Each member should have definite goals in mind when he starts a rabbit project.

Following are some good suggestions:

- Start with good, production bred, disease free breeding stock.
- Follow recommended management practices.
- Demonstrate recommended management practices to other 4-H members and neighbors.
- Raise at least 3 litters from each mature doe each year.
- Raise a considerable portion of the family meat supply.
- Expand the project each year.

SUGGESTIONS FOR DEMONSTRATIONS:

- Construction of a rabbit hutch.
- Construction of a self-feeder.
- Methods of handling and carrying rabbits.
- Selecting young does for breeding stock.
- Cleaning and disinfecting equipment.
- Construction of a nest box.
- Selecting young bucks for future breeders.
- Disposing of rabbit manure -- compost pile.
- Killing and dressing rabbits.
- Visit a commercial rabbit dressing plant.
- Many others you will think of.

- E.B. 397 - Common Diseases of Domestic Rabbits
- F.B. 2131 - Raising Rabbits
- A.H. 309 - Commercial Rabbit Raising
- C-55 - The Nomenclature Chart of Rabbit
- E.M. 697 - Glossary of Rabbit Terms

There are numerous periodicals and texts that can be obtained for further reference.