

# 4-H

# Market Broiler

# Record Book

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Project Started: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Project Completed: \_\_\_\_\_



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Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University Of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The 4-H Youth Development program abides with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

**WEEKLY RECORD**

Week #	# of Birds	Avg. Wt Per Bird	Total Flock Weight:	Gain per Week	Lbs of Feed Consumed	Feed Type	Feed Cost	Problems affecting Gain
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
<b>Total Lbs of Feed Consumed:</b>						<b>Total Feed Cost:</b>		

To figure the average weight per bird, weigh three or more average size birds (not the biggest or the smallest). Add the individual weights together and divide the answer by the number of birds weighed. It is important that you keep track of the weights of your birds to see if they are growing at an acceptable rate, or if they are sick or doing poorly. You need to know what your birds weigh when you take them to the fair.

## EXPENSES AND RECEIPTS

This is a complete financial record and shows whether you have made a profit or suffered a loss. Keep this record from the time you get your chicks until your records are due.

**Include in expenses the value of\*:**

- Birds brought or given free
- Feed purchased – amount, kind and cost
- Homegrown grain used
- Litter, shell, cost of heat for brooding, etc.
- Equipment purchased
- Homemade equipment

**Include in receipts value of:**

- Meat sold or used at home
- Other items – feed bags returned, manure, etc.

\*Estimate cost of donated items in second cost column

Expenses				Receipts		
Date	Description & Quantity	Cost	Estimate	Date	Description & Quantity	Amount
<b>TOTALS:</b>		\$	\$	<b>TOTAL:</b> \$		

## PRODUCTION COSTS

### Pounds of Feed per Pound of Gain and Feed Cost

The pounds of feed needed for the bird to gain one pound of body weight is important. It tells you how efficiently your birds gained weight. Birds that require less feed to put on a pound of gain will make larger profit for the producer because less money is spent on feed.

To figure the pounds of feed per pound of gain, total the pounds of feed you fed your broilers. Divide this number by the total weight of the remaining live birds.

Total Pounds Fed to birds = \_\_\_\_\_ =  
Total Weight of birds

If you are unable to weigh all of your birds, you can use an estimate of the total weight. Multiply the average weight of five market broilers times the number of live birds remaining.

The average pound of feed per pound of gain for the market broiler industry is about 1.85 for birds that are six weeks old. Did you do better or worse than the industry average? A number smaller than 1.85 would mean that you did better than average. A number larger than 1.85 would mean that you were below average.

Did you do better or worse? \_\_\_\_\_

Why did you do better/worse? \_\_\_\_\_

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Find the feed cost per pound of broilers produced by multiplying the feed conversion times the cost per pound of feed.

**EXAMPLE:** 2.13 conversion  
 x 0.10 cents / pound  
 0.213 feed cost / pound of live weight

Supplies & Equipment	Actual Cost	Pre-Planning Cost Estimate
Broiler Chicks		
Feed		
Medication		
Bedding		
Brooder & Equipment		
Building & Utilities		
Total OTHER costs		
<b>TOTAL PRODUCTION COSTS:</b>	\$	\$

### SUMMARY OF THE MARKET BROILER PROJECT

Describe your experience with the broiler project this year on the back of this page. Write the summary in paragraph form. In your summary include the following information:

1. Describe your success and failures during the project.
2. What things would you do differently next time?
3. What parts of the project did you need help with (from parents, leaders, friends)?
4. At what stage in the project was good management most critical?
5. Did weather play a part in any problems you may have had?
6. What type house did you brood in?
7. What type of brooder (heat source) did you use?
8. What type of bedding did you use?
9. How long did you brood the chickens?
10. What type of facility did you grow and finish your birds in (confinement, range, small shed and pen, etc.)?
11. Did you have any problems with varmints or predators?
12. Is there anything else you feel is important?



## SUMMARY OF THE MARKET BROILER PROJECT

Lined writing area for the summary.