

2024 Rutgers Junior Animal Science Symposium sessions

Register at- <https://tinyurl.com/2024AnimalScience>

Sign In & Light Refreshments 8:30 am - 8:50 am

Opening Ceremonies 9:00 am

Session #1 (9:30 - 10:30am)

1A - EQUINE: Basic Horse Conformation and Evaluation

By: Dr. Carey Williams, Rutgers University, Equine Extension Specialist & Dr. Taylor Ross, Rutgers University, Instructor.

- Form to function is the basis of evaluating horses for any show or performance purpose. This session will take you through the basics of horse conformation, balance and how to evaluate their movement based on correct or incorrect conformation. This can serve as an introduction for those interested in getting more into judging horses competitively.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

1B - SMALL RUMINANT (Sheep & Goat): Judging a Class of Lambs and Goats

By: Zach Gihorski, 4-H Alumni and Livestock Judge.

- Have you ever wondered what the judge is thinking when they place a class of animals at your fair? In this session, you'll get to rank a class of four lambs and a class of four goats. Then the judge will share his placings and explain what he looks for in both lambs and goats.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

1C - LARGE RUMINANT (Dairy): Dairy Cattle Fitting

By: Daniel Persichilli, New Jersey 4-H Alumni.

- Learn all about clipping a dairy animal - how to prepare for clipping, the techniques to use, and the types of equipment needed to complete a topline and other areas.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

1D - LARGE RUMINANT (Beef): The Basics of Fitting Beef Cattle

By: Justin Awckland, owner and operator of Swampy Acres Farm.

- This session will go over the basics of clipping and fitting beef cattle. While utilizing professional fitting supplies, clippers, and hard work, Justin will dive into the tips and tricks that will make summer shows a breeze for any showman. Daily hair care, pre-show clipping, and show day fitting are the three main categories that will be covered under the broad spectrum of clipping and fitting your cattle.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

1E - POULTRY: Poultry Anatomy and Select Poultry Diseases

By: Sasha Lisowski, Veterinarian, New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

- Join this session for an introduction to poultry anatomy where we will review essential aspects of poultry anatomy, shedding light on the structure and function of key organs. There will also be a presentation on diseases found in backyard chickens that poultry owners should be familiar with.
- *This session is most appropriate for participants in 5th grade and up.*

1F - BEEKEEPING: Introduction to Honey Bees and Beekeeping

By Mike Haberland, Associate Professor/County Agent II. Rutgers Cooperative Extension.

- Have you ever wanted to know more about honey bees? Have you ever wondered if beekeeping is for you? Would you like to learn about honey bee biology and discover what it takes to become a beekeeper? Join us for a presentation that will provide you with an introduction to the unique biology of the honey bee, how they organize their hive, make their honey, and what beekeepers do to maintain a healthy colony.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

1G - SWINE: Swine Breeds of the World

By: Anna Hausmann, DVM.

- Calling all pig enthusiasts! Discover the many breeds of swine, their origins, and how they are used throughout the world. This session will also help you understand the different swine careers as well as the way swine influence culture.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

Session #2 (10:45 - 11:45am)

2A - EQUINE: Tack Basics and Their Mechanisms

By: Dr. Taylor Ross, Rutgers University, Instructor.

- We all use tack to work with our horses. This session will cover both basic tack parts of the most common saddles and bridles used, as well as comparing the differences between tack and talking about the basic mechanisms of different bits. This information suits both riders and those doing 4-H horse knowledge competitions such as Hippology and Horse Bowl.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

2B - SMALL RUMINANT (Sheep & Goat): Call the Midwife!

By: Rebecca Potosky, Rutgers Animal Care Program and Colleen Ewing, 4-H Club Leader.

- How do you know when something is wrong during kidding/lambing and what can you do to fix it? Learn to recognize signs of dystocia and steps to take to aid in a successful birth.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

2C - LARGE RUMINANT (Dairy): Milk Quality and Products

By: Theresa Cooper, Farmer and FFA Milk Quality & Products Coach.

- This educational and interactive session will teach participants how to identify off flavors in milk and what the potential causes are for those undesired flavors. Participants also will have the opportunity to taste/identify cheese based on color, texture, smell, and taste. Marketing and production facts will be included during the session.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

2D - Large Ruminant (Cattle): The Rumen System

By: Michelle Ogle, Farm Manager and 4-H Leader.

- Learn how the Digestive system in cattle works and how what we feed them affects that system. We will go over the workings of the rumen system and feed effects in positive and negative ways. Types of feeds used, how they are processed, identification of basic feed ingredients, and finished rations will be presented. Examples will be available to help you learn to identify what is in your feed and what is available in the industry. The session will start with an identification quiz to test your knowledge and then after the presentation, you will be able to go back and redo the quiz to practice what you have learned. Prizes will be awarded to those who score the highest and to the top three who show the most improvement from the first quiz to the second quiz!
This session is appropriate for all grade levels.

2E - POULTRY: So, you want to raise chickens?

By: Hank Bignell, Rutgers University, Teaching Instructor.

- Interested in raising chickens? Do you want meat, eggs, or both? Learn everything you need to know to get you started in raising your chicks, from how to handle them, feed, them, and keep them in a safe environment!
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

2F - BEEKEEPING: The Buzz with Bees: Native and Managed Pollinators

By: Mike Haberland, Associate Professor/County Agent II. Rutgers Cooperative Extension.

- This session will look at the various pollinators. Most importantly bees are vital to a healthy environment, and we're excited to present this event to our community, especially as people start to plan for spring. We'll also look at some of the plants that pollinators need to survive and how you can help by planting habitat. Adding native plants in your garden will increase the number of pollinators in your yard and you will enjoy attractive flowers throughout the season at the same time.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

2G - RABBIT/CAVY/SMALL ANIMAL: Taking Photos of your Small Animal Pet

By: Emma Ferrie, Ocean County 4-H Alumni and photographer.

- Is your pet the cutest? Don't keep that to yourself! In this hands-on session, Emma will review angles, exposure settings, zoom settings, editing tips, and techniques. Participants will learn tips and strategies for taking the best pictures of their pets by only using their cell phones. Practice with educational animals who will be present and waiting for their photo session with you! (Please do not bring your own animal with you).
- *This session is most appropriate for participants in 6th grade and up.*

2H - SWINE: Raising Mine Fine Swine

By: Anna Hausmann, DVM.

- Participants will gain an understanding of swine operations including regulations, health and safety, record keeping, and maintenance of barns and barn systems. Learn production practices related to stockmanship, pig health, breeding, farrowing, nursery, and grow and finish.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

Session #3 (12:45 - 1:45pm)

3A - EQUINE: From the Judges Perspective: Show Prep & Etiquette

By: Mr. Kennis (Buttons) Fairfax, renowned horse show judge and clinician.

- This session is for all levels. This session will not be discipline specific but give attendees a broad overview of specific things that judges look for in the ring. Our clinician has judged at a variety of shows and will help you learn what you can do at home to prepare better and what you can do in the ring to stand out and give you and your horse the competitive edge.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

3B - SMALL RUMINANT (Sheep & Goat): What Makes a Ruminant a Ruminant and Why Does it Matter?

By: Dr. Tess Stahl, Rutgers Livestock Specialist and Assistant Professor.

- In this session, we will compare the digestive tracts of cattle, sheep, and goats. We will also cover how lambs, kids, and calves become ruminants, and what it takes nutritionally for their digestive tracts to develop into a fully functional, fascinating, complicated organ system.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

3C - LARGE RUMINANT (Dairy): Dairy Quiz Bowl

- Delivered by the 4-H Dairy Advisory, this is for youth specifically competing in the NJ State Dairy Quiz Bowl. Registration to participate in Dairy Quiz Bowl is separate.
- *NOTE: There is a participation fee adjustment for Dairy Quiz Bowl Contestants (found in the official registration).*

3D - POULTRY: The Perfect Egg

By: Hank Bignell, Rutgers University, Teaching Instructor.

- Ever wonder, what goes into how an egg is graded? We will go over grading requirements as well as how to evaluate a physical egg. This presentation will go over parts of the egg, grading requirements, and evaluation techniques!
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

3E - CAVY: All About Guinea Pigs

By: Christy Gotwols, Cape May County 4-H Leader and Cavy handler.

- Join this session to learn all about cavy (guinea pigs). Learn what goes into caring for a guinea pig; their health, diet, grooming, and housing.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

3F - BEEKEEPING: The importance of Honey Bees and native bees in Agriculture

By: Adele Barree, Cornell University Certified Master Beekeeper, Somerset County 4-H Leader.

- The European Honey Bee is the most commonly used species as a pollinator in commercial agriculture. In this presentation, you will Learn what makes the managed honey bee so useful as a pollinating species as well as the growing efforts to incorporate wild and native bee species into commercial pollination.
- *This session is most appropriate for participants 4th grade and up.*

3G - SWINE: Sick Swine Signs

By: Anna Hausmann, DVM.

- This session will cover emerging swine diseases and provide general knowledge of disease elimination and methods to manage herd and economic losses.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

Session #4 (2:00 - 3:00pm)

4A - EQUINE: Treadmill Demo and Movement of the Horse

By: Dr. Alisa Herbst, Rutgers University, Equine Science Center, Post-doctoral associate.

- To move at different speeds, horses use different gaits. But what is a gait and how do gaits differ between horse breeds? To learn more about walk, trot, pace, canter, and tölt, as well as many other gaits, and to see a horse at race speed on the equine treadmill, come to our horse movement and treadmill demo session. This session will be useful to a wide audience, ranging from those who are just starting to ride, to those interested in gaited horse breeds and veterinary medicine.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

4B - LARGE RUMINANT (Dairy Cattle): Dairy Quiz Bowl Continued

4C - POULTRY: The World of Show Birds

By Brooke Mackie, Rutgers University, Animal Science Student and 4-H Alumni.

- Are you interested in the world of 4-H Poultry Showmanship? Get firsthand knowledge from someone who was in your shoes. Learn showing techniques as well as different breeds that have been successful for 4-H Poultry showing from this past 4-H'er!
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

4D - RABBIT: Rabbit Health & Management

By: Denise Ancharski Stutler, 4-H leader and youth ARBA coach.

- In this session, rabbit health and care practices will be discussed. In addition, Denise will also address biosecurity, proper nutrition, cleanliness, and preventative care to protect your rabbit's health.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

4E - SWINE: What am I Eating?

By: Anna Hausmann, DVM.

- Do you know how many products are made from pigs? Do you know all of the meat cuts that can come from a pig? This session will discuss the many types of swine products, and cuts, and how you can use them.
- *This session is appropriate for all grade levels.*

4F - 4-H ANIMAL SCIENCE VIDEO CONTEST/FILM FESTIVAL

- Youth may work individually or as a team to create educational videos about sheep, goats, horses, poultry, rabbits, dairy/beef cattle, swine, or ANY animal project to enter in the 4-H Animal Science Video Contest. A selection of videos will be shared at the film festival during the final session of the Junior Breeder Symposium. Videos due March 4. For more information go to <https://nj4h.rutgers.edu/animals/film-festival/>

Are you interested in attending Rutgers for your undergraduate degree? Join us for a complimentary tour of the campus, immediately after Session 4. Cook Student Center; the tour will begin at 3:15pm! Prepare for walking.