

Horse Production

ANNUAL RECORD

4-H Horse Project



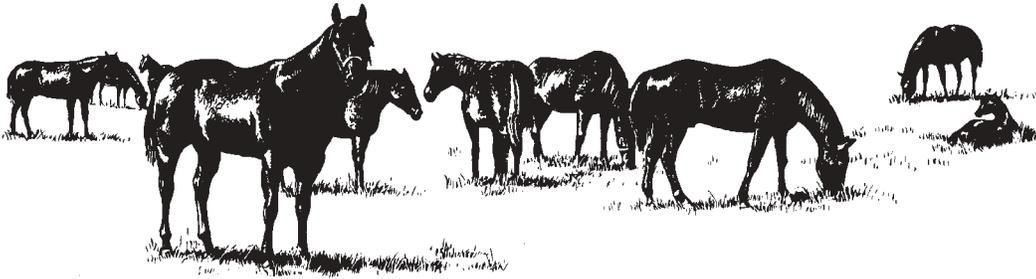
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Welcome to the 4-H horse production project. In this project, you will develop skills for living and learn about horse management by caring for a broodmare or young horse. This project may cover all the phases of production and management that deal with breeding, foaling, raising, handling, and development of horses. You may start the project by breeding and caring for a broodmare, or you may work with a weanling or yearling. Guidance from a person experienced with horses is recommended throughout the project.

Objectives

The purpose of this project is to help you:

- ◆ learn and apply the principles of equine breeding management
- ◆ learn and apply the principles of young horse development, management, and handling
- ◆ develop skills for living

Instructions for project record

1. Use this record along with a project activity guide* and individual records for each production project animal. Keep your records and activity guide together in a notebook.
2. Keep this record as an annual summary for your horse production project. This record should be used to summarize information from all your production project animals. Include the things you do and the total amounts of money you spend and receive. Fill out a new record book each year.
3. Keep one of the following records for *each* individual production project animal:
 - 4-H Horse Production Record 1: Broodmare, or
 - 4-H Horse Production Record 2: Foal, Weanling, Yearling, or Two or Three year old.
4. Do the activities for your level in your project activity guide. Have your project helper sign your guide when you do an activity for your achievement program. You may use your activity guide for more than one year.
5. Keep records of things you do for the whole year (12 months), even if your club meets just part of the year. Start and end on the same calendar day of each successive year. Your leader will tell you what date to use.
6. Turn in your records and activity guide for evaluation at the end of the project year.

**4-H Skills for Life Animal Science Series*

Production project requirements

To complete one year in the production area of the 4-H horse project, you should:

1. Enroll in Level 1, 2, or 3 of the 4-H horse project by June 1 of the project year.
2. Plan your project with your parents and horse project helper.
Your project helper may be a family member, project leader, teen leader, riding instructor, or other qualified advisor. Your 4-H leader must approve your project helper.
3. Select and care for one or more horses or ponies.
You may choose to care for:
 - one or more broodmares and/or
 - one or more young horses or ponies.
4. Enroll your animals by June 1 of the project year.
Complete a 4-H Horse Production Project enrollment card for each animal you will work with for your project. You may enroll and work with as

- many animals as you want, but shows may limit the number you may show. Consult the Pennsylvania 4-H Horse Show Rule Book for current rules about enrolling and showing 4-H horse production project animals.
5. Do learning experiences and activities for your level in your horse achievement program.*
 - a. Learning experiences (project activity guide, page 3)
 - Do three or more each year for Level 1
 - Do five or more each year for Level 2 or 3
 - b. Achievement program activities (project activity guide, pages 4 and 5)
 - Do seven or more each year
 - Do 20 or more in three years
 6. Participate in 4-H meetings, activities, and events.
 7. Keep and turn in your records.

**4-H Skills for Life Animal Science Series*

Project plans

Talk with your parents, 4-H leaders, and project helper about what you want to do with your animals this year. Write your plans here.

Inventory of project animals

List all of the young horses and broodmares used in this project. You should keep and turn in a 4-H Horse Production Project Record 1: Broodmare; or 4-H Horse Production Project Record 2: Foal, Weanling, Yearling, or 2 or 3 Year Old for each animal listed.

Animal's name	Breed or breed type	Age	Sex	Date acquired or foaled	Date sold or left herd

Expenses

Costs of animals purchased

Date purchased	Animal's name, registration number, or description	Cost (\$)
Total		\$

Annual summary of training, breeding, foot, and health care costs

Each month record each animal's costs of training, breeding and foaling, foot care, and health and veterinary care on its *individual record* (Record 1 or 2). Record each animal's totals for the year here. Use them to calculate the total costs of those items for all your animals.

Animal name and/or registration number	Training costs (\$)	Breeding and foaling costs (\$)	Foot care costs (\$)	Health and veterinary care costs (\$)
Total				\$

Financial summary

Income

Income from sales of animals (page 5) (a) _____

Other income (page 5) (b) _____

Total income (a + b = c) (c) _____

Expenses

Cost of animals purchased (page 6) (d) _____

Training costs (page 6) (e) _____

Breeding and foaling costs (page 6) (f) _____

Cost of foot care (page 6) (g) _____

Cost of health and veterinary care (page 6) (h) _____

Cost or value of feed (page 7) (i) _____

Other expenses (page 8) (j) _____

Total expenses (d + e + f + g + h + i + j = k) (k) _____

Enter total income (c) _____

Enter total expenses (k) _____

Project return or loss (c - k = l) (l) _____



Project photographs

Project evaluation

	Highest score	Score yourself	Score from your leader
Care, management, and conditioning of horse or pony			
Is the stable large enough for the comfort of the horses?	3	_____	_____
Are facilities clean, dry, and well ventilated, and are manure management practices adequate?	3	_____	_____
Do the horses have proper access to feed and clean, fresh water?	3	_____	_____
Are clean, dust-free grains, good-quality hay, and salt or minerals fed in correct quantities to provide a balanced ration?	3	_____	_____
Do horses show evidence of being well fed and groomed?	3	_____	_____
Are tack and equipment safe, clean, and well kept?	3	_____	_____
Are horses being properly exercised?	3	_____	_____
Are vaccinations up to date?	3	_____	_____
Are horses receiving proper health and dental care?	3	_____	_____
Are feet properly trimmed or shod?	3	_____	_____
Subtotal for care, management, and conditioning	30	_____	_____
Achievement program (project activity guide)			
Did the member do enough learning experiences for achievement level progress? (project activity guide, p. 3)	10	_____	_____
Did the member complete enough achievement program activities for achievement level progress? (project activity guide, p. 4–5)	10	_____	_____
Subtotal for achievement program	20	_____	_____
Project record book			
Are plans stated?	2	_____	_____
Are individual records included for all animals listed in inventory?	6	_____	_____
Is information complete and accurate?	6	_____	_____
Are experiences described adequately in story/answers to questions?	6	_____	_____
Subtotal for record book	20	_____	_____
Participation and accomplishments of the member			
Did the member do what was planned to meet goals?	5	_____	_____
Did the member attend most of the club's meetings and activities?	5	_____	_____
Does the member know the procedures used to care for the horses and the types, amounts, and quality of grains and hays fed?	5	_____	_____
Did the member do most of the work to care for the horses or actively participate in caring for boarded or leased horses?	5	_____	_____
Did the member improve his/her skills and knowledge?	5	_____	_____
Subtotal for participation and accomplishments	25	_____	_____
Grooming, showmanship, and handling skills			
Has the horse been conditioned and groomed properly?	5	_____	_____
Is the member able to handle the animal safely and properly?	10	_____	_____
Has the member demonstrated proper showmanship skills?	5	_____	_____
Subtotal for grooming and showmanship	20	_____	_____
Other (specify) _____	_____	_____	_____
Total project score	115	_____	_____

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 115

RIBBONS: Blue 104–115; Red 92–103; White 80–91; Merit less than 80

Project scored by _____

Date _____

Signature of leader or county agent _____

Date _____

Other activities you may enjoy

We suggest these activities for 4-H members with an interest in horse breeding or the care, training, and development of young horses. Some of them may be part of your achievement program. You may do the others as optional activities.

- Obtain and care for a horse or pony to ride or drive in performance events.
- Breed a broodmare and care for her until her foal is weaned.
- Provide daily care for a foal, weanling, yearling, or two year old horse.
- Train and develop a young horse to show at halter or ride in pleasure futurities.
- Exhibit a young horse at halter at a 4-H production show.
- Exhibit a young horse in a pleasure futurity at a 4-H production show.
- Train and groom a horse. Show it in a grooming and showmanship class.
- Select, use, and care for tack, supplies, and equipment.
- Find information about horse breeding, foaling, feeding, health, training, or management from one or more of these sources. Use the information to take better care of your horses.
 - Read a magazine, article, or book
 - Watch a video, movie, or slide set
 - Consult a computer database
 - Talk with a person with horse training or management experience
 - Take a field trip to a farm which breeds or trains horses
 - Attend a horse camp or “overnighter”
 - Attend a horse clinic or workshop
- Find a book that shows a picture or diagram of a mare’s reproductive tract. Draw a sketch or diagram of the reproductive tract, then label the vulva, vagina, cervix, uterus, oviducts, and ovaries. Discuss the function or role of each part with your project helper.
- Discuss the estrous cycle and breeding with your project helper. Find out the average length of a mare’s estrus period and estrous cycle and when ovulation usually occurs. Find out the signs a mare should show when she is in estrus (heat) and when is the best time to breed a mare. Develop and follow a plan to tease and breed your broodmare.
- Find out the normal length of gestation in a mare. Calculate the date when your mare is due to foal.
- Find out the normal signs a mare will show when she is ready to foal. Discuss what you learn with your project helper. Watch or help a broodmare when she foals.
- Discuss what you should do to care for a newborn foal with your project helper. Care for a newborn foal.
- Consult a table of nutrient requirements to find out the amounts of dry feed, energy, protein, and other nutrients your mare should require during gestation and lactation. Discuss those requirements and the feeds available with your project helper or feed supplier. Develop and follow a plan to feed your mare during gestation and lactation. Include the kinds and amounts of feeds your mare should eat in your plan.
- Evaluate the body condition of your broodmare several times during the year. Discuss your findings with your project helper. Adjust what you feed her if she is too thin or too fat.
- Consult a table of nutrient requirements to find out the amounts of dry feed, energy, protein, and other nutrients a young horse should require when it is four, six, twelve, eighteen, and twenty-four months old. Discuss those requirements, feeds available, and your plans for exercising and training your horse with your project helper. Develop and follow a plan to feed your horse for a year. Include the kinds and amounts of feeds your horse should eat in your plan.
- Measure the height, weight, and heart girth of your young horse several times during the year to find out how well it is growing. Discuss those measurements with your project helper. Adjust your feeding program if your horse is not growing fast enough or it is too fat or too thin.
- Find out information about training and conditioning horses. Discuss what you learn with your project helper. Develop and follow a plan to exercise, condition, and train your young horse for the next year.
- Share something you learn from this project.
 - Make and exhibit a poster
 - Give a demonstration, illustrated talk, or speech
 - Lead a group discussion
 - Make a display or exhibit
 - Write a news article or story
 - Write a report
 - Teach a skill to another 4-H member
 - Create a video presentation
- Participate in a horse judging practice or contest.
- Participate in a horse bowl practice or contest.
- Participate in a hippology practice or contest.
- Use a computer to keep your project records.
- Identify and classify common feed ingredients and forage plants.
- Take pictures of horses or horse events.
- Organize, lead, or help with a project meeting, event, or activity for your club.
- Organize or help with a community service project.

4-H activities report

This report will help you keep a better record of your club activities. Fill it in as you complete each assignment. Refer to this record when you are entering county, state, and national programs. Ask your 4-H leader to explain these programs to you.

Projects taken _____

Offices held _____

Club _____

County _____

Committees _____

“Show-and-tells” or presentations given to:

Local club _____

County _____

Region _____

State _____

Others _____

News articles _____

Radio _____

TV _____

Displays or exhibits _____

Things done to improve your health _____

Community service or citizenship work done:

By yourself _____

With club _____

Number of meetings your club(s) held this year _____

Number you attended _____

Number of persons you encouraged to join 4-H _____

Number of 4-H'ers you helped with projects _____

In what way _____

Check activities in which you participated and tell how you helped

Camp _____

Club or county tours _____

Club picnic _____

County fair _____

Achievement programs _____

Roundup _____

Leadership training _____

State 4-H Capital Days _____

Penn State 4-H Achievement Days _____

Pennsylvania Farm Show _____

National 4-H Week _____

State Ambassador Conference _____

Quiz bowls _____

Hippology _____

Judging _____

Others _____

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Name _____

Age (as of January 1) _____

Date of birth _____

Address _____

County _____

Club name _____

Club leader's name _____

Project helper's name _____

4-H horse achievement program level (check one)

- 1 Horsing Around
- 2 Galloping Ahead
- 3 Blazing the Way
- other

Year in achievement program level (check one)

- first
- second
- third

Date record started _____

Date record closed _____

4-H Club Motto

“To make the best better”

4-H Club Pledge

I pledge
my head to clearer thinking,
my heart to greater loyalty,
my hands to larger service, and
my health to better living, for
my club,
my community,
my country, and
my world.

4-H Club Colors

Green and White

