4-H FANCY POULTRY CARE, SHOWMANSHIP, AND SELECTION





CHOOSING YOUR FIRST BIRD

- Consider which breed is the best for you
 - Bantams are great for younger showmen. They are easy to handle and typically have a great disposition
 - Don't choose a breed that will be too big for you to handle
 - All showmen will need to be able to handle their own bird! Cloverbuds can have some assistance from an older member
 - Take into consideration the amount of care that may go into keeping certain breeds "show ready"
- Once you have decided on a breed and are ready to choose your bird, make sure it falls within the
 Standard of Perfection for that particular breed
 - Check for disqualifications!
 - If your bird does end up having some disqualifications it can still be shown at the Hemlock Fair in the Pet Class

CHOOSING YOUR FIRST BIRD CONTINUED...

- You may purchase your bird as a chick or you may choose to purchase an older bird. Here are some things to consider:
 - Will you be purchasing from a hatchery or a breeder?
 - Both are acceptable options, but a breeder will be able to guarantee the bird falls within the Standard of Perfection. They may also offer to help you with your new project
 - Do you have the facilities to brood your chicks?
 - If you purchase an older bird it may be used to going to shows
 - If you choose to purchase chicks, pullets, or cockerels make sure they will be mature enough to be judged at the fair
 - This is dependent on the breed and not the age of the bird

CARING FOR YOUR SHOW BIRD

Housing

- Depending on the size of the bird they will require different spacing (larger birds = more space)
- Fresh water should be provided at all times
- Make sure their coop is ready for winter! Some breeds do not tolerate the cold well

Your bird should be fed a balanced diet appropriate for their breed type and age

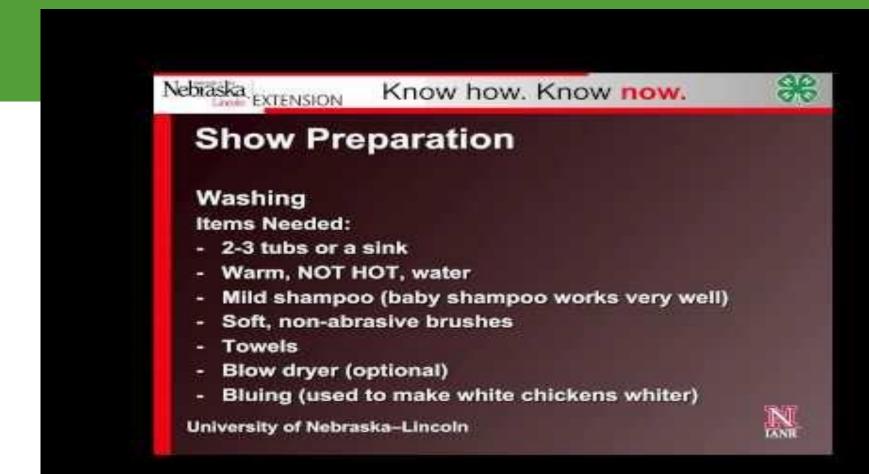
■ There are a lot of different feed/grain options. Don't be afraid to ask a nutritionist or feed rep for help!

Check your birds for external parasites regularly!

- All birds are health checked prior to entering the small animal barn at the hemlock fair. If your bird has external parasites it will be sent home!
- If you find external parasites on your bird treat them right away. There are several different sprays and dusts available to treat them.

CARING FOR YOUR SHOW BIRD

- 6-8 weeks prior to the fair/show you should begin to train your bird.
 - You need to be able to handle and examine your bird for showmanship. The bird should cooperate throughout your showmanship presentation
 - You also need to train your bird to "pose" properly
 - Each breed standard has a particular pose each bird should be able to replicate. They may not automatically stand in pose. You will need to work with them
- 3-5 days prior to the fair/show your bird needs to be washed and groomed (see the video on the next slide)



EVALUATING YOUR BIRD

American Standard of Perfection

- Classifies and describes the standard physical appearance, coloring and temperament for all recognized breeds of poultry in North America
- This book will tell you exactly what your breed of bird should look like
 - Study the standard and then compare your bird to the standard
 - These comparisons (good or bad) are great talking points for your showmanship presentation

WHAT IS SHOWMANSHIP?



https://youtu.be/Mk7e2agO3bl

COMPONENTS OF A SHOWMANSHIP PRESENTATION – PART I



https://youtu.be/4Lw8PZ-6vdM

COMPONENTS OF A SHOWMANSHIP PRESENTATION – PART 2



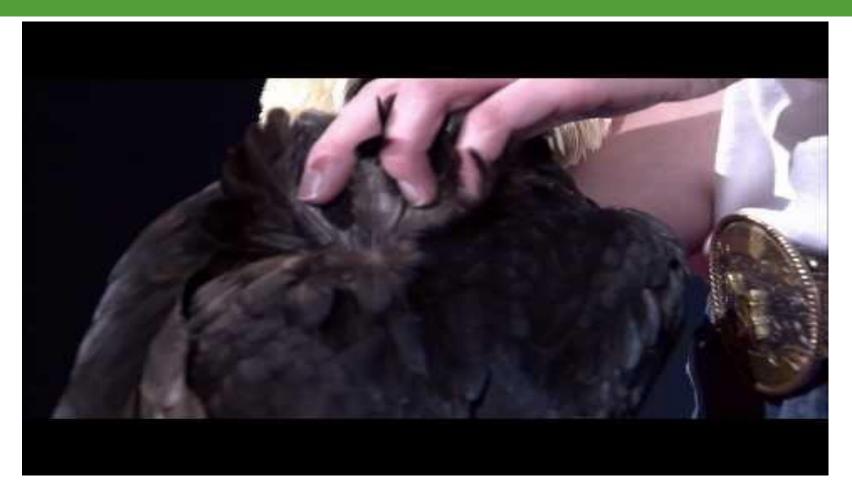
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SHOWMANSHIP EXAMPLE - I



https://youtu.be/ZDmAuhLEb6g

SHOWMANSHIP EXAMPLE - 2



https://youtu.be/-BPFQgB6yf4

SHOWMANSHIP TIPS & TRICKS

- Know your breed! Especially if you are a senior showman!
 - Seniors should be able to tell the judge the history of their breed as well
- Be prepared to properly handle your bird. You will also need to be able to properly place your bird
 in a cage and remove them from the cage
- Know their pose! When your bird is in the cage it should be posing
- If your bird has a defect or disqualification talk about it! This is a GREAT talking point and shows that you have studied the Standard of Perfection

SHOWMANSHIP TIPS & TRICKS

- Be sure to ask the judge if they have any questions once you are done
- Never use a bird for showmanship that is flighty or is too big for you to handle
 - Hint use the calm bird!
- Practice, Practice, Practice
 - Find a showmanship scoring rubric and plan your showmanship presentation from that
- Remember to stay calm and have fun!

If you have any further questions please contact:

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