Rabbit Skillathon
Study Sheets for
~ Seniors (ages 15 & over) ~

Updated 2019
Senior
(4-H ages 15 & over)

1. Identify 6 faults and 6 disqualifications from pictures


3. Determine gender from pictures

4. Identify 10 breeds from pictures: Californian, New Zealand White, Giant Angora, Rex, Dutch, Netherland Dwarf, Standard Chinchilla, Checkered Giant, Mini Lop, and Dwarf Hotot
### Selection and Evaluation

#### Faults and Disqualifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disqualification</th>
<th>Fault</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unmatched Toenails</td>
<td>Stained Coat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colored toenail on a white breed</td>
<td>Urine and/or manure stains on fur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- or -</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White toenail on a dark-colored breed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wry Tail</td>
<td>Low in Shoulders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal tail - bent, carried, or twisted</td>
<td>Shoulder depth is lacking and fails to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>permanently to one side</td>
<td>balance with the hindquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corkscrew tail with one or more turns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ear Canker</td>
<td>Narrow in Shoulders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inflamed, scabby condition deep inside</td>
<td>Shoulder width is &quot;pinched&quot; and fails to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the ear - caused by an infection of the</td>
<td>balance with the hindquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ear canal by ear mites</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malocclusion</td>
<td>Stray Hairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teeth with lower incisors extending in</td>
<td>White hairs in colored fur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the front of the upper incisors or</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>meeting with no overlap</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wry Neck</td>
<td>Cow-Hocked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carriage of the head to one side at an</td>
<td>Hind legs that turn inward at the hocks,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>angular plane, instead of a normal</td>
<td>causing the toes to turn outward from the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carriage in a vertical plane</td>
<td>body</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Color Patch</td>
<td>Molt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White spot in colored area of the fur</td>
<td>Act of shedding or changing fur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coat - or -</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colored spot in white area of the fur</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ailments and Disorders

**Sore Hocks** (Osteoarthritis)

*Cause*: Damage initiated to the pad of the foot, usually followed by a bacterial infection.

*Prevention*:
- Clean and dry the area.
- Avoid overuse.
- Implement good hygiene practices.
- Use appropriate footwear.
- Treat affected animals immediately.
- Prevent spread to other animals.

*Common Treatment*:
- Antibiotics
- Pain relief
- Pain management

**Wry Neck** (Torticollis)

*Cause*: Sudden onset of neck pain, usually caused by trauma or overexertion.

*Prevention*:
- Ensure adequate exercise.
- Provide proper nutrition.
- Avoid overexercise.

*Common Treatment*:
- Rest
- Physical therapy
- Medication

**Sneeze** (Respiratory Disease)

*Cause*: Respiratory infection, usually caused by a virus or bacteria.

*Prevention*:
- Ensure proper ventilation.
- Avoid overcrowding.
- Provide adequate nutrition.

*Common Treatment*:
- Antibiotics
- Decongestants
- Bronchodilators

**Vent Disease** (Bronchopneumonia or Bovine Pneumonia)

*Cause*: Respiratory infection, usually caused by a virus or bacteria.

*Prevention*:
- Ensure proper ventilation.
- Avoid overcrowding.
- Provide adequate nutrition.

*Common Treatment*:
- Antibiotics
- Decongestants
- Bronchodilators

**Enteroenteritis** (Enteritis or Diarrhea)

*Cause*: Bacterial infection, usually caused by E. coli or Salmonella.

*Prevention*:
- Ensure proper sanitation.
- Avoid overcrowding.
- Provide adequate nutrition.

*Common Treatment*:
- Antibiotics
- Dehydration therapy
- Nutritional support

**Ringworm** (Dermatophytosis)

*Cause*: Fungal infection, usually caused by Trichophyton or Microsporum.

*Prevention*:
- Ensure proper sanitation.
- Avoid overcrowding.
- Provide adequate nutrition.

*Common Treatment*:
- Antifungal medications
- Dehydration therapy
- Nutritional support

**Coccidiosis** (Intestinal Cocciosis)

*Cause*: Protozoal infection, usually caused by Eimeria spp.

*Prevention*:
- Ensure proper sanitation.
- Avoid overcrowding.
- Provide adequate nutrition.

*Common Treatment*:
- Antiprotozoal medications
- Dehydration therapy
- Nutritional support

Treat affected animals with medication or antibiotics as a last resort. In severe cases, consult with a veterinarian.
**Ear Canker (Aurisarctus)**

- **Cause:** Ear mites — *Pneumonyssus americanus* and/or *Cheyletiella parasitogenes* — transmitted via bite wounds and contaminated bedding.
- **Prevention:**
  - Cardually examine the ears of all rabbits every 14 days.
  - Quarantine all new arrivals and treat them before placing in their colony.
- **Common treatment:**
  - **Milk** or **Vegetable Oils**
  - **Treated** (or otherwise) with oil-based noninsecticide preparations.
  - Clean all external wounds and apply 1 to 2 ml of liquid into each ear canal with a syringe.
  - **Spray** the entire area in 7 days to eliminate many hardened pellets.
- **Note:** Treat with systemic treatment.

**Weepy Eye (Staphylococcosis)**

- **Cause:** Bacterial infection — *Staphylococcus aureus* and/or *Pasturella multocida* — spread by humans and contaminated food, feces, cages, and/or bedding.
- **Prevention:**
  - Regular eye examination methods.
  - Eliminate sharp or abrasive surfaces.
  - Use clean feed and bedding.
  - Reduce animal stress.
  - Monitor eyewashes.
- **Common treatment:**
  - **Erythromycin or Streptomycin**
  - Use disposable eye masks or bandages.
  - Make sure all animals in the colony in a multiratios.
  - Use a saline solution for topical irrigation.

**Mange (Scrofula Mange or Acnevolans)**

- **Cause:** Bites — Common fur mites *Cheyletiella parasitogenes* and/or *Leprospilia globosa* and/or *Leprosiella ranae* and/or *Otodectes cynotis* — spread by biting flies, contaminated food, and/or bedding.
- **Prevention:**
  - Treat with systemic anthelmintic agents.
  - Use anthelmintic sprays, dusts, and/or pour-ons.
- **Common treatment:**
  - **Erythromycin or Streptomycin**
  - Use a systemic anthelmintic agent.
  - Use a topical anthelmintic agent.

**Wound (Lacerations and/or Abrasions)**

- **Cause:** Injuries, bites, and scratches — Bites and scratches from other animals, and/or injuries from poor housing and environmental conditions.
- **Prevention:**
  - Maintain sanitary living conditions.
  - Use sterile equipment and facilities.
  - Ensure proper sanitation and hygiene standards to prevent risk of infection.
- **Common treatment:**
  - **Suture the wound**.
  - Use a sterile dressing to prevent infection.
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**Mycosis (Mynaoura or Acnevolans)**

- **Cause:** Virus — *Mycoplasma ovium* — transmitted by respiratory droplets, contaminated fomites, and/or infected material.
- **Prevention:**
  - Control vectors in infected areas.
  - Isolate and treat infected animals immediately.
  - Use a systemic anthelmintic agent.
- **Common treatment:**
  - **No treatment exists**.
  - **Treat with systemic anthelmintic agent**.
  - **Isolate** all affected animals from the colony.
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**VHUD (Viral Hemorrhagic Disease)**

- **Cause:** Virus — *Porcine virus nucleic acid virus of the porcine family* — transmitted by mosquitoes, flies, birds (droppings), and/or plant materials.
- **Prevention:**
  - Use sterile equipment and facilities.
  - Use a systemic anthelmintic agent.
- **Common treatment:**
  - **No treatment exists**.
  - **Use** a systemic anthelmintic agent.
  - **Isolate** all affected animals from the colony.

**Malocclusion (Mandibular Protrusion)**

- **Cause:** Inherited abnormality — Inherited condition in which the incisors fail to meet and thus, grow to extreme length, may also result from dietary, infectious, traumatic reasons.
- **Prevention:**
  - **Do not** allow animals affected with the abnormality to reproduce.
- **Treatment:**
  - Treatment of teeth may include removing filing or using a sharp toothpick or dental brush.
  - **Removal** of infected teeth.
Use this chart in conjunction with Reproduction - Determine the gender situation/task statement. Gender Determination prints, and/or Gender Determination identification tags.

Gender Determination in Rabbits

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Female:

Female rabbits have a slit-like genital opening.

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Male:

Gentle pressure around the genital opening will extrude the penis.

> > > > >

Male:

Male rabbits have a round genital opening.
Californian

White New Zealand

Giant Angora

Netherland Dwarf

Rex

Checkered Giant