



# "E Newsletter"



*Serving: Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Manitoba and Ontario*

Volume 1 : Issue 8      September 2019



**"The winds will blow their own freshness into you,  
while cares will drop off like autumn leaves."**

*John Muir*

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**"Conditioning Show Rabbits"**

**Dr. T. E. (Doc) Reed**

Notice how the trees do not cling to their leaves. Fall is about releasing the old to make way for the new.

theburnedhand.com

**From Your Director**

There is still a full slate of D8 Youth Workshops to come this fall. On September 22 at 8:15 AM in Wapakoneta, OH, the Lima RBA hosted Judges Jeff Hardin and Pam Jones doing a Compare & Contrast of the Netherland Dwarf vs Polish vs Dwarf Hotot. On September 28 in Frankfort, KY, the Kentucky State RBA/Scott County hosted Judge Caleb Thomas speaking at 8:15 AM on Semi Arched Breeds. October 5 will see Judge Dale Mize speak on Cavies 101 at the North Central Michigan show in Midland, MI at 8:15 AM. October 26 sees the workshops go to Ontario when the Forest City Club hosts Judge Penny Jackson speaking on Full Arched Breeds at 8:15 AM.

**Honoring Dennis Keefer**

Dennis "Denny" Keefer asked his parents for a pony, and they didn't say no.

But this isn't the story of some spoiled little rich boy whose parents gave him whatever he wanted. They were merely trying to give their frail son the will to live.

The Keefer family moved to Lapeer from Ohio in the late 1940s or early 1950s when Keefer, now 71, was a small child. Unfortunately, he was stricken with polio, which affected him from the waist up, and he spent several months in an Iron Lung to help him breathe. He needed something to live for, and that something, he said, was a pony.

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"There are many factors that can affect the conditioning of the rabbit for show. Included in these are heredity, nutrition, disease, and management."

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# Director's Message

**W**ello D8 Friends!

Fall is a busy time here in D8! When we look at the show schedule, many weekends have multiple shows listed throughout the district. Seldom do we see an empty weekend.

I'd like to thank the Western Michigan and Parke County folks for allowing us to host D8 Youth Workshops with them on September 7. I'm told the Western Michigan event had approximately 30 youth in attendance watching Tom Berger speak on ARBA Showmanship. I wanted the ARBA style stressed as that is the type of showmanship used at ARBA Conventions. While it may be different than what we're accustomed to in our home areas, it does put youth from across the entire ARBA on an equal, level playing field when competing. The D8 Web Team was on hand to record the workshop, but there were some technical problems with the video that need ironed out before placing that video on the D8 Youtube Channel. We'll keep y'all updated on that. Regarding the workshop held with Parke County in Indiana, the attendance was smaller, but as long as we helped one youth to prepare for Convention competition, then we achieved our goal. Judge Danielle Lowe spoke on helping youth prepare for Convention competitions. Thanks to everyone who attended these workshops!

There is still a full slate of D8 Youth Workshops to come this fall. On September 22 at 8:15 AM in Wapakoneta, OH, the Lima RBA hosted Judges Jeff Hardin and Pam Jones doing a Compare & Contrast of the Netherland Dwarf vs Polish vs Dwarf Hotot. On September 28 in Frankfort, KY, the Kentucky State RBA/Scott County hosted Judge Caleb Thomas to speak at 8:15 AM on Semi Arched Breeds. October 5 will see Judge Dale Mize speak on Cavies 101 at the North Central Michigan show in Midland, MI at 8:15 AM. October 26 sees the workshops go to Ontario when the Forest City Club hosts Judge Penny Jackson speaking on Full Arched Breeds at 8:15 AM in Komoka. On November 9 the Kentucky State RBA will host Judge Bruce Ormsby speaking on a Comparison of the Mini Lop vs Holland Lop at 8:15 AM in Upton, KY. The Lancaster Tri-County Club hosts a workshop in Lancaster, OH on November 17. Judge and topic are currently TBA. The final scheduled workshop of the year takes place in Shipshewana, IN when the Northern IN

R&CC hosts Judge Gordon Williams speaking on Silver Fox at 8:15 AM on December 14.

All of these workshops are free to attend and require no pre-registration or fee. Just show up, learn, and enjoy! When possible, the D8 Web Team will record as many of these events as possible so they may be added to the district's Youtube Channel named ARBA D8 Website. These events and Youtube Channel are intended primarily for our D8 youth; however, there is nothing top secret listed and all youth from across the ARBA are welcome to attend the workshops and view the Youtube Channel. Adults are welcome too...I just ask that priority be given to the youth in attendance so they can have the best view. My thanks go to all of the clubs for allowing us to hold the workshops with them in conjunction with their shows. Please show support for our hosts by showing some animals when you attend. Thanks to all of the youth and adults for attending and for the judges who give of their time to help our youth. I truly appreciate the efforts of Jane Burt of our D8 Web Team for all of her work with the workshops.

Cavy friends, I had plans to schedule a couple more cavy workshops this fall, but things didn't go as I had hoped. But stay tuned for the Spring round of workshops! And Manitoba friends, these workshops are held in conjunction with shows. I'm not able to schedule any workshops in your province until more sanctioned shows are held. Until then, I strongly urge you to take advantage of the ARBA D8 Website Youtube Channel until you get to see the live in-person version.

The deadline for all state/provincial teams to have their entry information to me is September 15. This is also the deadline for all Team D8 applicants to have their applications to me. As in the past, I requested that the D8 Youth Advisory Council and state/provincial adult youth leaders review the district team policy that we use.

I received word that Denny Keefer of Michigan was recently honored for 50 years of service to 4-H. Denny



is truly an incredible and deserving person, and on behalf of the ARBA and District 8, our congratulations go out to him. How about another 50, Denny? In addition, he also received the Serving Youth With Excellence Award.

The fourth quarter of the year is almost upon us. I ask that any registrars eligible and interested in taking the judge exam during this time period to please contact me ASAP. Per ARBA guidelines, the exam may only be administered once per quarter per district, and there must be at least two applicants before it can be scheduled.

County fair season is almost over in our district. It's been a busy, fun time for me. So many of us got our start in this great hobby through 4-H and FFA, and it brings back great memories. I congratulate all of our youth for their achievements.

Please continue to visit the D8 website often at [www.arbadistricts.net/district/8](http://www.arbadistricts.net/district/8). And please encourage those you see to sign up for this newsletter when the drop by.

D8 club members, please continue sending in your show flyers to be posted. Members ask for them, and it's totally free! While you're doing that, why not send in a Club Spotlight Article to again bring free publicity to your club? And D8 judges and registrars, if you haven't already, please send us your request to be listed on the D8 Website. All of these items may be emailed to [arbad8website@gmail.com](mailto:arbad8website@gmail.com).

As the fall show season continues, I encourage everyone to continue speaking with me at the shows about any questions, concerns, or ideas they may have. Should we not meet at a show, I may be reached by email at [havanaman@earthlink.net](mailto:havanaman@earthlink.net) or by phone at 937-364-2133. I can't guarantee you the answer you might want, but I will look into things and give you an honest answer.

And please remember...take an active role in your local club, and volunteer to help at the shows you attend. It does matter!

Best wishes & safe travels!

Terry Fender  
ARBA D8 Director

**D8 Facebook**

**[The Official ARBA District 8](#)**

**D8 Web Email**

**[arbad8website@gmail.com](mailto:arbad8website@gmail.com)**

## "E" Newsletter Web Team Message

**G**reetings from the D8 Web Team,

As I write this, many of our D8 members are preparing their entries and finalizing plans to head to Reno for the ARBA's Grand Event, the National Convention. The local shows will decrease for a few weeks - a little before and a little after the Convention but will fire up again in late October, November and December. At this point, the final show of 2019 is the annual NYE show in Indiana. Because we are heading into the final months of 2019, to help our members plan how they will finish this calendar year, I have increased the shows listing to include all the remaining shows in each state.

After this issue, we will have three more published this year. That is three more opportunities for clubs to submit a "Spotlight" article. What better way to showcase your club activities and maybe just get a few more members. I know there are a number of clubs in our district that are putting on shows with very minimal members. Join a local club or maybe offer to help with sorting the remark cards or writing for a judge when you are at a show. Just cleaning up your area before you leave is a big help.

Sometime in November, we will be expanding the shows listing on the website to include the shows for 2020. In looking at the listing on the ARBA website, we have a number of clubs that have already secured their sanctions for next year. 2020 is going to be a great show year in D8 and the ARBA Convention will be like right next door in Harrisburg, PA.

At the Lima RBA Show on September 22, we were able to not only video tape the Workshop for posting on the YouTube Channel, we also broadcast the complete workshop live on Facebook. That was a first for the District and hopefully not the last live broadcast. When working with multiple tech items there is always the possibility for errors or issues. That happened when we video taped Tom Berger's presentation. We will be meeting with Tom in the very near future to video tape as he re-presents his workshop.

Remember, you do not have to reside in D8 to get the E Newsletter, in fact we have subscribers from the east coast to the west coast. From Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. Feel free to let your friends know how to become a subscriber.

Until next time, may the competition be friendly and enjoyable and your nest boxes full of potential winners.

Jane Burt  
D8 Web Team

# Conditioning Show Rabbits

DR. TERRY REED



**H**ere she is, the winner of the Miss America Beauty Pageant strutting down the runway displaying excellent body form (type), beautiful facial structure (head type), eyes that do not sparkle (dull), hair that is dull and lifeless, and muscles that lack tone. **NOWAY!** The situation described will never be realized in most beauty contests in our society. An excellent body and desirable facial characteristics without the “finishing” touches (condition) is not sufficient to capture many major beauty titles.

The above situation can be similarly applied to rabbit shows. A common phrase at most rabbit shows, by the judges, is “beaten on condition.” Possibly, some individuals place too much emphasis on condition; but all must agree that condition is a very important entity in most rabbit shows.

The definition for condition, as per the *Standard of Perfection*, is: “All rabbits and cavies to have a definite appearance of health and vigor; to be bold and bright of eye, and to have a good coat firmly set in the pelt. To be firm in flesh covering; neither too fat, with soft, flabby flesh, nor too thin in flesh allowing a bony effect when examined. Flesh to be deep and even over the entire body.” One can readily see that condition enhances the body type of an animal; or, in some instances, detracts from the body type. Type, as per the *Standard of Perfection*, definition is: “Denotes confirmation of the animal, or shape or size of a particular part of a rabbit: example, head type. The general physical make up of the rabbit.”

There are many factors that can affect the

conditioning of the rabbit for show. Included in these are heredity, nutrition, disease, and management.

The hereditary factors involved in conditioning limit the manager's ability to condition a given animal. Nutrition, disease and management can alter the condition or the ability of the manager to put the animal in condition; but if that animal does not have the inherent factors to be conditioned, it will be totally impossible to condition that animal. How to condition an animal will vary depending upon the hereditary composition of that given animal. How one conditions an animal will vary from one strain to another, from season to season, from one breed to another, and from rabbitry to rabbitry due to the alteration in management. One can discuss generalities about condition; however, it is totally impossible to give a step by step formula for conditioning that will be effective on all rabbits, in all situations. The most important factor to remember is that each rabbit must be conditioned as an individual. Through the effort of the manager, the time that an animal is “primed” and the length of time that the animal is maintained in prime can be controlled by the manager only to a certain degree.

Most excellent showmen cull, their breeding stock for animals that will condition easily, have a good appetite and consume great quantities of water. Conditioning starts with the selection of good breeding stock that not only has excellent type and fur; but has the ability to be conditioned.

*Continued on page 16*

# State News

## Michigan

Dennis “Denny” Keefer asked his parents for a pony, and they didn’t say no.

But this isn’t the story of some spoiled little rich boy whose parents gave him whatever he wanted. They were merely trying to give their frail son the will to live.

The Keefer family moved to Lapeer from Ohio in the late 1940s or early 1950s when Keefer, now 71, was a small child. Unfortunately, he was stricken with polio, which affected him from the waist up, and he spent several months in an Iron Lung to help him breathe. He needed something to live for, and that something, he said, was a pony.

His parents made the decision to sell their house in town and move to a farm on Mayfield Road. Their choice ended up leading their son to find his passion and purpose in life, and that in turn has led him to share that with many others.

Keefer attended a school for physical rehabilitation through the sixth grade, and when he started junior high in 1965, his love of horses led him to join the Lapeer County 4-H horse club. That was the beginning of a long history with 4-H, and Keefer was honored Saturday during the award ceremony at the Eastern Michigan State Fair for 50 consecutive years of leadership in 4-

H. Over the years, Keefer has led the Lucky Hoppers, Lucky Clover and Lucky Lambers 4-H rabbit, horse and sheep clubs. He is a former president of both the sheep and rabbit committees, a former 4-H council member, a former member of the horse committee and is currently vice president of the rabbit committee. His past awards include 4-H Leader of the Year, 4-H Horseman of the Year, Kiwanis Horse Club Award, 4-H Good Sportsmanship Club Winner for the Lucky Hoppers, Lapeer Community Schools 2013 Distinguished Alumni, and the Michigan State Rabbit Breeders Association’s Distinguished Service Award, Master Breeders Award and Youth to Adult Award.

In other words, this man has made an enormous difference for Lapeer County’s 4-H kids for five decades.

“His story is very inspiring,” said 4-H Program Coordinator Kathy George. “It’s a pretty special story, and he’s a special person. Everybody loves him.”

Keefer is also very humble, so the award had to be kept a secret because George was afraid he wouldn’t come if he knew he was getting it. They chose the awards ceremony at the fair because, she said, he always shows up to support the kids.

A difficult start in life didn’t keep him down. Keefer never married or had children of his own, but that hasn’t kept him from passing on his values.

“He’s very passionate about educating children with good, strong character and he’s raised generations of them,” said George.



# Club Spotlight

## Michigan's Holland Lop Express

So what do friends showing Hollands do? We have a specialty club, Michigan Holland Lop Express, that sponsors specialty shows throughout the year in Michigan. The club was founded by those no longer in the hobby but continues to grow. In recent years we have expanded from one show per year to several. Our longest running specialty occurs in July in conjunction with the Cal Bra Hill all breed night show. This year we also had a specialty in Coldwater with the newly formed Just for Fun club where 140 HL were shown and in Nov. we will be hosting a specialty with the Great Lakes club in Mason.



I think one of the funnest specialties was at the Christmas show in Frankenmuth. Where better to have a show than in the town with the largest year round Christmas store!

And while our club doesn't sponsor the Breast Cancer show that occurs every spring, our members are huge supporters of this show. Great people showing our bunnies for a great cause!



# Showmanship Workshop

Tom Berger



# Comparison Workshop

Pam Jones & Jeff Hardin

Semi-Arched Breeds Workshop

Caleb Thomas



D8 Website:

<https://www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/>



YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1IAAhCsell9e8U3eWW6LNA>

# Compare and Contrast of the Netherland Dwarf vs Polish vs Dwarf Hotot

## ARBA Judges Pam Jones #634 & Jeff Hardin #474

	Netherland Dwarf	Polish	Dwarf Hotot
<b>Body Type Profile</b>	Compact	Compact	Compact
<b>Max Weight</b>	Seniors: 2 1/2 lbs Juniors; 2 lbs	Seniors: 3 1/2 lbs Juniors; 2 1/2 lbs	Seniors: 3 lbs Juniors; 2 1/2 lbs
<b>Posing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head not pushed down</li> <li>• Body not stretched out or pushed together</li> <li>• Not encouraged to stand erect on their forefeet</li> <li>• No daylight to show between front &amp; rear feet</li> <li>• Show good balance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not flattened or stretched out</li> <li>• Don't cover the head except during type evaluation</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural position</li> <li>• Heads not on table or raised up.</li> </ul>
<b>Body</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>35 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short</li> <li>• Compact</li> <li>• Well-rounded</li> <li>• Shoulders deep &amp; wide</li> <li>• Shoulders &amp; hindquarters of equal width</li> <li>• Topline: Depth at shoulders to carry through to a deep well-filled hindquarters</li> </ul> <p>DQ: Dewlap</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>25 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small</li> <li>• Compact</li> <li>• Close coupled</li> <li>• Hips wider than shoulders and well-rounded (not broad &amp; flat)</li> <li>• Uniform taper from hips to shoulders</li> <li>• Back: Medium width, well-round with short appearance</li> <li>• Topline: gradual rise from ear base to high point over center of hips</li> </ul> <p>DQ: Dewlap (Pencil line allowed)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>35 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short</li> <li>• Compact</li> <li>• Well-rounded</li> <li>• Uniform width from shoulders to hips</li> <li>• Topline: gradual curve from ear base to high point over hips</li> </ul> <p>DQ: Dewlap</p>
<b>Bone</b>	Medium to medium-heavy		
<b>Balance</b>	Harmonious arrangement between head, ears, body type, color, fur, and condition to achieve a short, hobby, round, medium to medium-heavy boned animal described by the Standard without the predominance of any single feature. Balanced animals are preferred over those that excel in one aspect and inferior in another area.		

	<b>Netherland Dwarf</b>	<b>Polish</b>	<b>Dwarf Hotot</b>
<b>Head</b>	<p><b>15 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large</li> <li>• Size to balance body</li> <li>• Bigger in Bucks than in Does</li> <li>• Round from All Directions</li> <li>• Continuous Arc from ear base around the nose</li> <li>• Set high &amp; close to body</li> </ul>	<p><b>15 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium full</li> <li>• Short with full cheeks &amp; muzzle</li> <li>• Side view: slight curvature from ear base toward nose</li> <li>• Slight roundness between eyes</li> <li>• NOT round in all directions</li> <li>• NOT set high on the shoulders</li> </ul>	<p><b>15 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bold</li> <li>• Good width between the eyes</li> <li>• Well-filled muzzle and Round in All Directions</li> <li>• No visible neck</li> </ul>
<b>Ears</b>	<p><b>15 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short</li> <li>• Well-furred</li> <li>• Of good substance</li> <li>• Erect (not necessarily touching)</li> <li>• Well-set on top of head</li> <li>• Strong ear base</li> <li>• Rounded at the tips</li> <li>• In balance with the head &amp; body</li> <li>• Ideal length; 2 inches</li> </ul> <p>DQ: Over 2 1/2 inches</p>	<p><b>15 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small</li> <li>• Balance with body</li> <li>• Well-formed</li> <li>• Of good substance</li> <li>• Set close together</li> <li>• Touch all the way</li> <li>• Front view: no flanges</li> <li>• Base of ears to be in proportion to the head</li> </ul> <p>DQ: Over 3 inches</p>	<p><b>15 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short</li> <li>• Well-furred</li> <li>• Of good substance</li> <li>• Erect &amp; Well-set (not necessarily touching)</li> <li>• Slightly rounded tips</li> <li>• In balance with the head &amp; body</li> </ul> <p>DQ: Over 2 3/4 inches</p>
<b>Eyes</b>	<p><b>15 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Round</li> <li>• Bold</li> <li>• Bright</li> </ul>	<p><b>15 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large</li> <li>• Bold</li> <li>• Expressive</li> <li>• Bright</li> </ul>	
<b>Fur</b>	<p><b>10 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rollback</li> <li>• Soft</li> <li>• Dense</li> <li>• Prime</li> <li>• Lots of life &amp; glossiness</li> </ul>	<p><b>10 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flyback</li> <li>• Short</li> <li>• Dense</li> <li>• Fine</li> <li>• Clean</li> <li>• Glossy luster</li> <li>• Molt free</li> </ul> <p>DQ: Rollback Fur</p>	<p><b>10 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rollback</li> <li>• Soft</li> <li>• Dense</li> <li>• Fine</li> <li>• Good luster</li> </ul>
<b>Color</b>	<p><b>15 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Groups (Self, Shaded, Agouti, Tan Pattern, &amp; Any Other Variety (AOV)</li> <li>• Judged by Variety in Groups</li> </ul>	<p><b>10 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varieties: 7 (Black, Blue, Broken, Chocolate, Lilac, BEW, &amp; REW)</li> <li>• Judged by Variety</li> </ul>	<p><b>5 Points</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varieties: 2 (Black &amp; Chocolate)</li> <li>• Varieties judged together</li> </ul>
<b>Condition</b>	<b>5 Points</b>	<b>5 Points</b>	<b>5 Points</b>
<b>Markings</b>			<p><b>15 Points</b></p> <p>Eyebands: Narrow, well-defined, band of colored fur forming a complete outline of the eye</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intense color</li> <li>• Dark as possible</li> <li>• Ideal Width: thickness of two pennies</li> </ul> <p>DQ: Incomplete ; Heavy feathering</p>

# D8 Youth Workshop

October 5, 2019 - 8:15 AM

North Central MI RBA Show - Midland, MI

## CAVIES 101



Dale Mize - ARBA Cavy Judge



## THE GREAT D8

Representing Indiana, Kentucky,  
Manitoba, Michigan, Ohio & Ontario





# D8 Youth Workshop



**October 26, 2019 8:15 AM**  
**Forest City RBC - Komoka, ON**



## *Penny Jackson: Full Arch Breeds*



- ARBA Judge
- Tan Breeder
- 4-H Leader



## THE GREAT D8

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**Additional Information visit the D8 website**

[www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/](http://www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/)

# D 8 YOUTH WORKSHOP



*Bruce Ormsby: ARBA Judge - Former ARBA VP*

**A Comparison of the Mini Lop vs Holland Lop**

**November 9, 2019**  
**Kentucky State RBA Show**  
**8:15 AM - Upton, KY.**



## THE GREAT D8

Representing Indiana, Kentucky,  
Manitoba, Michigan, Ohio & Ontario

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:  
[www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/](http://www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/)

# D8 Youth Workshop

12-14-2019

Gordon Williams:  
ARBA Judge



**8:15 AM**

**Northern Indiana  
Rabbit & Cavy Club**

**Shipshewana, IN**

**“EVALUATING  
THE  
SILVER FOX”**



**THE GREAT D8**

Representing Indiana, Kentucky,  
Manitoba, Michigan, Ohio & Ontario

Additional Information available on the D8 Website  
& Facebook page

# FACEBOOK SALES

# *RESTRICTIONS*

BY KAREN HORN

There are several rabbit sale and auction pages being taken down by Facebook. The current argument among the rabbit world is that Facebook is working with ARA's to go after rabbit breeders.

**\*\*This is 100% false.\*\***

The "you cannot sell animals on Facebook" rule is years old rule. (I actually can't remember when I discussed it with them and the USDA, but let's call it 3 years old). It was widely publicized.

Anyone continuing to carry on selling rabbits through FB did so flagrantly breaking Facebook laws. (Don't give me the "I didn't know". Read the rules people)

I did it. I've sold animals on here even when I was part of the process in creating the rule. This is not me chastising you.... well, it is if you're blaming Facebook right now and not taking ownership of just ignoring the rules. They apply to all of us.

Facebook initially put these rules in place by working with the USDA, AKC and a host of other organizations. Not just some ARA. It's not that the USDA was going after breeders, or auctions supporting victims.... they were going after the pet mills and the fake auctions. (And face it, we can all name one fake auction, and one breeder that's little more than a mill)

In the course of this conversation Facebook came up with two options: track and report everyone that sells animals, or disallow it all together. For right or wrong, Facebook went the later.

All of the above took place years ago.... this is not new. They just got better at catching it. Well, honestly, they were forced too. Not by the good

guys, but the bad.

So, suck it up buttercups. Get mad at FB all you want, but we're the ones that continued breaking the rules.... for years.

Luckily, we broke the rules long enough for another option to come along. I suggest everyone jump over and support Tracy over at MeWe. Let me know if you want an invite.



**\*\*Editor's Note:**

Karen is the chair of the ARBA Legislative Liaison Committee. This is a reprint of an article from the June 2019 issue. Since this seems to be an ongoing concern, it is still appropriate.

## ***Conditioning Continued***

Many exhibitors are misinformed concerning conditioning. Rabbits that are "rough over the hips and spine" can be out of condition and the roughness caused by the lack of, or the evenness of, the condition of the body. However, some animals can be in excellent condition and still be rough over the spine and hips due to genetic inheritance of long spinal vertebrae and protruding hip bones. With the specific animals, all the "condition" possible will not make these areas smooth. In most instances, roughness over the hips is a genetic condition and not a specific conditioning problem.

**This article is a reprint of an article by Dr. Terry Reed, DVM that was included in the 1989 ARBA book "A Practical Beginning to Successful Rabbit Raising". Doc served as ARBA President from 1983 through 1988 and Vice President from 1991 until he unexpected death in 1994.**

# Somewhere in Time

## Why You Should Raise Domestic Rabbits

**U**nder the present conditions, the major reason for raising domestic rabbits would be to put meat on the table, at a reasonable cost. You assure yourself and your family a highly nutritious meat as well as the health benefits associated with rabbit meat.

It is a fine-grained, nutritious, and tasty meat that can be utilized any month of the year, especially during the hot summer months.

The nutrient value of domestic rabbit meat is very high when compared with other meats. It rates as follows; rabbit, 83%; beef, 75%; pork, 65%; and chicken, 50%.

It has the highest protein content of all meats. Therefore it should rate a place in the meat course of every household. (Protein plays a most important role in our bodies. It supplies the necessary amino acids for growth and the repair of body tissues.) Protein of domestic rabbit meat compared with other meats is as follows; rabbit, 20.80/o; chicken, 20.00/o; veal, 19.1%; turkey, 20.1%; lamb, 15.7%; beef, 16.35; and pork, 11.9%.

Rabbit meat is recognized by many authorities, including our own government, as being higher in protein content, lower in fat, uric acid, cholesterol, sodium, and calories than other meat available today.

Domestic rabbit meat is easily digested and is recommended by many physicians for older people, people with stomach disorders and in diets where red meat is restricted.

Rabbit meat is one of the most versatile foods in the world today. It can be dressed up for a special occasion or simply sliced to flavor a lunch time soup.

In many recipes it is finely seasoned for a new taste that is favored by family and friends. It may be used fresh, cured, smoked, fried, barbecued, or be substituted for any veal or poultry recipe.

Rabbits are ideal for backyard production. One doe (female) can be kept in a small space of only 7½ sq. ft. and will produce from four to six litters of eight fryers per year. With a 31-day gestation period, market day arrives approximately 12 weeks after conception. Fryers average 4 lbs. each at weaning and will dress out 50 to 57%, and supplies more edible meat than most animals. Two does can easily produce approximately 400 lbs. of live offspring annually and only a tiny space is required.

Feed is a cost factor; but when you consider that the feed conversion is at least 4 : 1, or less, for a pound of

gain, it is not all that important. With feed averaging about 12¢ per lb. it would take about \$1.92 to produce a 4 lb. fryer.

Rabbit milk being very rich is the contributing factor for baby rabbits to double their weight in just six days, as compared to pigs which require 14 days, calves 47 days, and humans 160 days. The domestic rabbit is the only animal that can and will produce 10 times its own body weight in edible meat per year.

If by now you have decided you would like to raise rabbits, we urge you to make your next step that of checking out the existing city or county zoning laws and make sure you can comply.

After you decide to raise your own meat for your family don't forget the other benefits to be derived from the project.

Raising and caring for rabbits has proven to be a soothing, relaxing time, sort of therapy after a hard day's work or just a time to unwind. The project can also teach children the responsibility for handling and caring for animals.

Rabbit manure is a fine garden and flower fertilizer and is sought after by many gardeners. Don't forget the hides. There are many home tanning recipes, and a handy housewife can convert them into saleable and useful items.

“Editor's note: This article was originally printed in the 41st Edition of *A Practical Beginning to Successful Rabbit Raising*. 1989. Reprinted with permission from the ARBA. Presented for historical purposes. Author Unknown.

Anthony Vandermeere:  
ARBA D8 Youth State Rep, MI.

Champion Meat Pen at the  
2019 MI State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show.



# IT'S SHOWTIME!

## September - December ARBA Shows

\*\*\* Click on a highlighted club name to view their show flyer on the D8 website or their club website.

### INDIANA

DATE	LOCATION	CLUB	BREED	SECRETARY
10/5	Wabash	<a href="#">MISS-SALA-BASH RBA</a>	Double Open and Youth	Bill Hunter billhunter99@gmail.com
10/5	Wabash	Indiana State Mini Rex	Mini Rex Specialty Open and Youth	Jason Ross rossjason85@gmail.com
10/5	Wabash	Indiana Diamond Dutch Club	Dutch Specialty Open and Youth	Kelli Slack kellislack@gmail.com
10/5	Chrisney	River City RBA	Single All Breed Open & Youth	Flora M Werne wanch@psci.net
10/5	Chrisney	Rolling Hills RBA	Single All Breed Open & Youth	Flora M Werne wanch@psci.net
10/26	Petersburg	Feather & Fur RBA	Quad Show Open Only	Kimberly Haycraft pgrabbits@hotmail.com
11/9	Lebanon	US Day Of The Dwarf	Brit. Petite Only O & Y Double	Connie Blain blainecr56@aol.com
11/10	Lebanon	Crossroads Rabbit & Cavy Shows	Double Show Open & Youth	Luke Vickrey outlaw.goats@gmail.com
11/29	Ft. Wayne	MI -OH State Line RBA	Double Show Open & Youth	Greg Moll gregorysmoll@gmail.com
11/29	Ft. Wayne	Jokers & Jesters RBA	Harlequin Only Open & Youth	Rachel Zarse cowlover16@gmail.com
11/30	Ft. Wayne	MI -OH State Line RBA	Double Show Open & Youth	Greg Moll gregorysmoll@gmail.com
11/30	Ft. Wayne	Jokers & Jesters RBA	Harlequin Only Open & Youth	Rachel Zarse cowlover16@gmail.com
11/30	Haubstadt	Pike-Gibson Rba	Double Show Open & Youth	Flora M. Werne wanch@psci.net
12/14	Shipshewana	Northern Indiana R & C Club	Double Show Open & Youth	Tammy Stark starkrabbtry@gmail.com
12/31	Lafayette	Golden Prairie RBA	Single Show Open & Youth	Carl Broady cbroad56@gmail.com
12/31	Lafayette	Jokers & Jesters RBA	Harlequin Only Open & Youth	Rachel Zarse cowlover16@gmail.com
12/31	Lafayette	Heartland Eng. Spot RC	Eng. Spot Only Open Only	John Scheiwe jscheiwe@bluemarble.net
12/31	Lafayette	Indiana Mini Lop	Mini Lop Only Open & Youth	Elizabeth Blinn eblinn0321@gmail.com

## KENTUCKY

DATE	LOCATION	CLUB	BREED	SECRETARY
11/9	Upton	Kentucky State RBA	Double Open and Youth	Michael C Wiley Sr msgmcwiley.ret@gmail.com
11/9	Upton	Kentucky State Rex RBA	Rex Open Only	Gary Bunch coyotehillfarmrex@gmail.com

## MICHIGAN

DATE	LOCATION	CLUB	BREED	SECRETARY
10/5	Midland	<a href="#">North Central MI RBA</a>	Double Open & Youth	Margaret Potter mlouise1950@yahoo.com
10/5	Midland	MI Mini Lop Club	Mini Lop Only Open & Youth	Kelly Hansen khansen1982@gmail.com
11/2	Mason	Great Lakes Rabbit & Cavy Shows	Double Open & Youth	Bryan Shirk shirk_123@hotmail.com
11/2	Mason	Michigan Angora Club	Angora Open Only	Monique Kenney kaninchenrabbits@gmail.com
11/2	Mason	MI New Zealand Specialty Club	NZ Only Open & Youth	Katie Holcomb kdsrabbitryandfarm@gmail.com
11/2	Mason	<a href="#">Michigan's Holland Lop Express</a>	Holland Lop Only Open & Youth	Bonnie Norton bnorton7618@yahoo.com
11/23	Lansing	Michigan State RBA	Triple Open & Youth	Andrea Perez perez.andrea@att.net

## OHIO

DATE	LOCATION	CLUB	BREED	SECRETARY
10/5	Norwalk	Huron County RBA	Double Open & Youth	Marie Waite cinnhillrabbits@aol.com
10/5	Norwalk	Buckeye Satin Raisers	O & Y Specialty Show Satin/Mini Satin Only	Theresa Young theresaayoung@yahoo.com
10/5	Tiffin	<a href="#">Ohio Checkered Giant RC</a>	Checkered Giant Only Open Only	Emily Ashton
10/12	Marietta	Blennerhasset Rabbit Club	Double Open & Youth	Rustina Taylor brcshowsec@gmail.com
10/13	Millersburg	Tuscarawas County Rba	Double Open & Youth	Sarah J Bosio sjbsteam@yahoo.com
10/13	Millersburg	Tuscarawas County Rba	Lionhead Only Open & Youth	Sarah J Bosio sjbsteam@yahoo.com
10/26	Piketon	Postsmouth RBA	Double Open & Youth	Tonya Coriell tcoriell@yahoo.com
10/26	Piketon	Ohio Market Rabbit Producers	O & Y Commercial Specialty Show	Amanda Hutcheson hutcheson.37@osu.edu

DATE	LOCATION	CLUB	BREED	SECRETARY
10/27	Urbana	Mad River Valley R & CBA	Double Open & Youth	Hazel Everetts hazel64@msn.com
10/27	Urbana	<a href="#">Ohio State Neth. Dwarf RC</a>	Neth. Dwarf Only Open & Youth	Kim Snyder kim.snyder89@sbcglobal.net
11/16	Circleville	Ohio State Dutch RC	Douth Only - Double Open & Youth	Lisa Kirk lablover1996@yahoo.com
11/16	Piketon	Ohio State New Zealand RBA	New Zealand Only Double Open & Youth	Janellen Swartz janellenswartz6@gmail.com
11/17	Lancaster	<a href="#">Lancaster Tri-County R &amp; C Fanciers</a>	Double Open & Youth	Travis West cremedargent@hotmail.com
11/17	Lancaster	Ohio Rex RBA	Rex Only Open & Youth	Mike Hill lucascountyrabbits@gmail.com

**ONTARIO**

DATE	LOCATION	CLUB	BREED	SECRETARY
10/26	KOMOKA	Forest City RBC	Open Triple Show	Beth Collins collinsb@bmts.com



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Web: <https://www.arbadistricts.net/district/8/>