

4-H Poultry Judging Program

Poultry Judging . . . ??? Seriously?

Below are some learning facts about how Poultry Judging can help your students!

Students will learn . . .

- Poultry Judging promotes the study of unique agricultural fields
- To think critically
- To make decisions based on a rubric or set of ideal standards
- To decisively communicate their decisions to others
- About poultry life cycles
- Where their poultry produce comes from
- How to grade eggs inside and out
- How to judge production laying hens so that you can tell if a bird is going to be a good layer
- How to grade ready-to-cook birds
- The different cuts of meat for chickens
- How to prepare your meat safely in your home
- Participate at the State Poultry Competition at NC State University!

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A Serious Concern

A startling concern is the lack of interest young people have in the agricultural industry which could lead to major food crises in the future. A lack of understanding and appreciation of this industry could also impact future government workers who would fail to pass legislation that would positively impact agriculture or pass legislation that would negatively impact it. In order for young people to gain knowledge and appreciation of this, agricultural classes need to be taught in the classroom.

How Can Poultry Judging Help?

Poultry Judging gives students a look into one of the unique fields of agriculture. They gain insight and knowledge of what is involved in the poultry industry and how that affects them personally as they consume poultry products.

It gives students a look at how food is graded and what is safe and appropriate to eat along with being able to identify what they are eating and how to safely handle and cook their meat.

It also contributes to critical thinking and communication skills. Part of the program requires students to make decisions based on pre-determined criteria and to explain why they made the decisions they did to a judge. Students increase in skills and confidence in their speaking abilities and learn to make good decisions for specific reasons.

Our program also offers the opportunity for youth to participate in a Summer Day Camp to refresh their skills in poultry judging right before they participate in the State competition at NC State University in Raleigh, NC!

