

The Rabbit Diary

The title 'The Rabbit Diary' is rendered in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The letters are filled with a dense, stippled or halftone pattern, giving them a textured, three-dimensional appearance. Below the main title, the words 'The Rabbit' are repeated in a smaller, similar font, but they are slanted and appear to be receding into the distance, creating a strong sense of perspective and depth. The overall effect is that of a title that is both prominent and dynamic.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Page</u>	<u>Title</u>
1.	General
3.	Meat Classes
4.	Body Parts and Teeth
6.	Fur
7.	Housing and Feeding
8.	Breeding and Tattooing
10.	General Faults and Eliminations
11.	Disqualifications
13.	Crossbreds
14.	Diseases
21.	Glossary

General

- 1) The initials A.R.B.A. stand for **American Rabbit Breeders Association**.
- 2) ARBA recognizes **45** breeds of rabbits.
- 3) Rabbits are raised for **meat, fur & wool production, laboratory research, pets & exhibition, & fertilizer**.
- 4) **Pedigree** is a written chart of the ancestors of a rabbit.
- 5) **Registration** is a sign of quality in a rabbit.
- 6) **The Merit Seal System:**
 - A) If only the sire & dam are registered, a **Red Seal** is attached to the registration.
 - B) If the sire & dam & great sires & great dams are all registered, a **Red & White Seal** is attached to the registration.
 - C) If all ancestors showing on a registration are registered, a **Red, White & Blue Seal** is attached to the registration.
- 7) An intact female rabbit is called a **Doe**.
- 8) An intact male rabbit is called a **Buck**.
- 9) A baby rabbit is called a **Kit**.
- 10) You should isolate a new rabbit from the rest of your herd for about **14 days**.
- 11) The color of fur determines **Variety**. The conformation of the rabbit determines **Type**.
- 12) Begin grooming your rabbits at least **6 weeks** before show time.
- 13) Do not clip toenails of rabbits **under 6 months** of age.
- 14) **Chinning** is the process by which a rabbit marks their territory by rubbing a colorless fluid on crocks, feeders & cage walls.
- 15) **Condition** is the physical state of a rabbit in reference to health, cleanliness, texture & molt of fur, and grooming.
- 16) **Coprophagy** is the ingesting (eating) of fecal material & is a normal habit of rabbits; providing the rabbit with B-vitamins.
- 17) **Culling** is the process of eliminating the least desirable rabbits through selling or slaughter.
- 18) When a rabbit thumps its hind feet and dashes around the cage it is reacting to **Fear**.
- 19) **Genotype** is the genetically inherited characteristics & potential of the rabbit stock.
- 20) **Lapin** is a french word for rabbit.
- 21) Rabbits are **Monogastric** (single stomach), **Herbivores** (eat plant material) animals.
- 22) **Red urine** is a normal condition due to incomplete breakdown of food nutrients in some animals.
- 23) The rabbit's normal body temperature is 101.7 - 102.5F (**102-103**) degrees.
- 24) Rabbits have a normal pulse rate of **140-150; respiration 55**
- 25) Rabbits have a normal respiration rate of 55
- 26) The fat on a rabbit's carcass should be **White**.
- 27) **ARBA recognizes five(5) types of profile of rabbits:**
 - Semi-Arch Type** - This group all carry a very good arch starting back of the shoulders and carrying through to the base of the tail and is referred to as having mandolin type.
 - Compact Type** - Most all of these animals are considered to possess commercial possibilities, but are lighter in weight and shorter in length than the commercial breeds.
 - Full Arch Type** - Animals with this type show an arch starting at the nape of the neck, running over the shoulders, mid-section, loin and hips to the juncture of the tail. Most all animals will show more depth than width.
 - Commercial Type** - This group is considered to be the ideal meat type. They are medium in length with depth equaling width, showing roundness of body and firmness of flesh with very little offal when dressed.
 - Cylindrical Type** - This group has a type that is long, slim, and cylindrical with fine bone and a long slender head.
- 28) **Condition** - All rabbits are to have a definite appearance of health and vigor. They are to be bold and bright eye. All rabbits are to have a good coat, firmly set in the pelt. They are to be firm in flesh covering, neither too fat, with soft, flabby flesh; nor too thin in flesh, creating a bony effect when examined. Flesh is to be deep and even over the entire body.

General

(Cont'd)

- 29) There are five(5) accepted eye colors in ARBA: Blue, Blue-Gray, Brown, Pink, Marbled.
- 30) Zoologist classify rabbits as Mammals.
- 31) Rabbit meat is very high in protein (20%), low in fat content.
- 32) The liver provides a substance known as bile that aides in the digestion of the ingested food.
- 33) Only 7% to 8% of domestic rabbit is bond.
- 34) Domestic rabbit is an all-white meat.
- 35) Up to 93% of the rabbit can be used.

Meat Classes

- 1) **Three(3)** rabbits are required to be exhibited in a pen of market (meat) rabbits.
- 2) A meat pen consists of **three(3)** rabbits of the same **Breed & Variety**.
- 3) **Californians & New Zealands** are the two breeds of rabbits used most for meat.
- 4) **60 percent** of the entire weight of a dressed rabbit is in the hindquarters.
- 5) The four factors, in the order of their importance, for judging meat pens, are as follows:
 - 1) **Meat Type (40 points)** - Type is the most important factor in judging these pens. The best meat type is found on those animals that are compact and short, with the body well filled, rounded, and firmly fleshed. Smooth, well filled hips and good depth of body are especially important. Protruding hip bones or prominent "razor backs" are serious faults. The width and depth of loin, thickness of the hindquarters, and well developed shoulders are important to the meat carrying type of the animal. The hindquarters are most important, loin second, and forequarters are third in importance.
 - 2) **Condition (30 points)** - All rabbits in a pen must be in prime condition. This reflects the care and management practices of the breeder. The animals must be firm and solid. They must now show any signs of flabbiness, softness, looseness, pottiness. the pelt must be tight over the body and the animals must be clean and show no signs of neglect or disease.
 - 3) **Uniformity (20 points)** - This is a combination of the other three requirements. It denotes the ability of the breeder to pick three rabbits for each pen which have the other three qualities in equal amounts, reflect the general quality of the herd from which they came. Uniformity must be present in weight, appearance, condition, meat type, and fur, and should be similar in all respects as possible.
 - 4) **Fur (10 points)** - Fur should conform to the breed description in the Standard and be uniform on all three animals in the pen.
- 6) According to ARBA Standards, the following meat pen classes apply:
 - Fryer Class** - Not over 10 weeks of age. Minimum weight of 3 pounds, maximum weight of 5 pounds.
 - Roaster Class** - All rabbits entered in this class must be under 6 months of age. Minimum weight over 5 pounds. Maximum weight 8 pounds.
 - Stewer Class** - All rabbits entered in this class must be 6 months of age and over. Minimum weight over 8 pounds.

All General Faults apply to each meat pen.

All Eliminations apply to each meat pen.

All Disqualifications apply to each meat pen with the following "exceptions":

Body smut on Californian or Himalayan marked animals.

Non descended testicles on bucks.

If any one rabbit in the pen is disqualified, the entire pen becomes disqualified.

Body Parts and Teeth

- 1) There are eight(8) **body parts** of a rabbit: **shoulder, rib, loin, hip, rump, leg, belly & flank.**
- 2) The projecting portion of the head surrounding the mouth, nose & lower jaw is called the **Muzzle**.
(The lower part of the face & nose)
- 3) The prominent portion of the abdomen of the rabbit is called **Paunch**.
- 4) There are five(5) toenails on each front foot (including the dewclaw) & four(4) toenails on each back foot. (18 Total)

PARTS OF A RABBIT

Back - The top portion of the rabbit's shoulders, loin and hindquarters.

Belly - The abdomen, from the last rib to the pelvis, containing primarily the organs of digestion.

Cheek - The side of the face, below the eyes.

Chest - The front portion of the body, between the forelegs and the neck.

Dewlap - A pendulous fold of loose skin which hangs from the throat. (Only does have a dewlap)

Foot - The portion of the skeleton on which the rabbit walks or stands.

Forequarter - The portion of the body starting with the neck, back to, and including the last rib.

Hip - The joint that attaches the hind legs to the trunk of the body.

Hock - The pointed portion of the rear leg. The joint distant to the stifle.

Hind Leg - Consists of the foot, hock, stifle (knee), and hip joint.

Knee - The second joint of the hind leg. Connects the thigh to the leg. Also known as the stifle.

Loin - That portion of the back on each side of the vertebrae from the last rib posterior to the hip joint.

Mid Section - That portion of the body starting with the 6th rib, back to the rear legs.

Neck - That part of the rabbit connecting the head to the body.

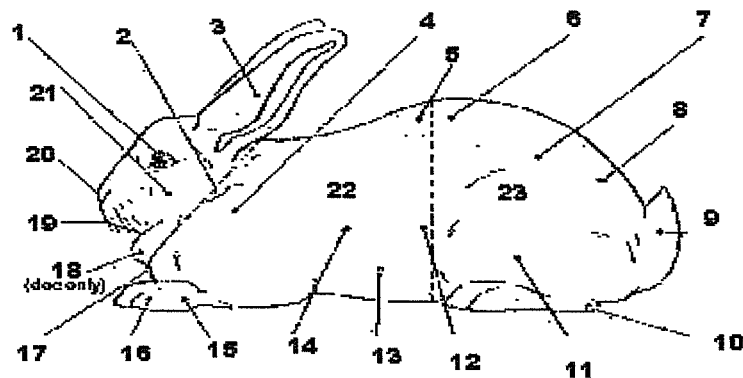
Ribs - The curved portions of the sides immediately back and under the shoulders.

Rump - The upper, rounded portion of the hindquarters.

Shoulder - That portion of the body from the neck back through the 5th rib and the upper joint of the foreleg.

Carriage is the way a rabbit carries itself.

PARTS OF A RABBIT



- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. Eye | 2. Neck | 3. Ear | 4. Shoulder |
| 5. Back | 6. Loin | 7. Hip | 8. Rump |
| 9. Tail | 10. Hock | 11. Leg | 12. Flank |
| 13. Belly | 14. Rib | 15. Foot | 16. Toes |
| 17. Chest | 18. Dewlap | 19. Mouth | 20. Nose |
| 21. Cheek | 22. Forequarter | 23. Hindquarter | |

Body Parts and Teeth

(Cont'd)

TEETH

A rabbit has a total of **28 teeth**:

Upper Jaw - each side: 2 incisors, 3 pre-molars, 3 molars.

Lower Jaw - each side: 1 incisor, 2 pre-molars, 3 molars.

A rabbit has a total of **6 incisor** teeth (upper and lower jaw).

A rabbit has a total of **10 pre-molar** teeth (upper and lower jaw).

A rabbit has a total of **12 molars** (upper and lower jaw).

- 1) A form of malocclusion, where the incisors meet evenly, without the upper incisors overlapping the lower incisors in proper structure is **Butting Teeth**.
- 2) When checking the teeth of a rabbit you should look for: **broken or missing teeth, butted teeth, buck teeth**.
- 3) Protruding or elongated teeth are called **Wolf Teeth**.
- 4) An inherited defect where the upper & lower jaws do not let the teeth meet is called **Malocclusion**.
- 5) The upper incisors should **overlap** the lower incisors.
- 6) **Pegged Teeth** is when the teeth only meet and do not achieve the required upper incisor overbite of the lower incisor.
- 7) The two small residual incisors just behind the normal top incisors are the **Peg Teeth**.

Fur

- 1) There are four (4) different types of fur: **Normal, Satin, Rex, Angora**

Normal fur has a dense undercoat protected by longer guard hairs.

Satin fur is a finer than normal fur & has a glass-like, transparent hair shaft which reflects light & produces a bright luster & sheen.

Rex fur is very dense. Its guard hairs are nearly the same length as the undercoat, giving a plush, velvet-like feeling.

Angora fur has a long, wool-type fiber that is collected & spun into yarn.

- 2) Three(3) points to check for in fur are: **Texture, Density, Balance & Condition**

Texture (40 Points) The coat should be coarse enough in guard hair to offer resistance when stroked toward the head. The coat should fly back to its natural position and lie smooth over the entire body. There should be a fine undercoat, which is soft, interspersed thickly with decidedly heavier or thicker guard hairs. Texture is more important than density.

Density (30 Points) The amount of fur in a given area. (The property or quality of a thick coat). The under fur should be fine, soft and dense, interspersed thickly with decidedly heavier or thicker guard hairs. These guard hairs should be visible down to the skin and extend above the under fur to form a protective surface for the under fur and give body and density to the coat. The same quality fur should carry down the sides and under the stomach, making a large, more usable pelt. The stomach fur will be shorter, but should be dense, avoiding a soft wooly type fur on the stomach and crotch. A dense coat of short fur is better than a long thin coat.

Balance & Condition (30 Points) The coat should be well balanced and of fairly good length, with a differential between the tip of the guard hair and the underfur not to exceed one eighth of an inch. A dense short coat is preferable to a long thin coat. Texture and density are the important factors, but they should be coupled with a uniform length. The hair should set tight in the skin, without breaks due to molt, broken spots, broken guard hairs, mats, or stains. The guard hair should be glossy and alive, not brittle or dry. The coat should be clean, bright, and free of stain.

- 3) **Texture, Density & Uniform Length** make up proper balance of fur.

- 4) Guard hairs that are broken or missing in spots, exposing the undercoat is called **Broken Coat**.

- 5) The property of fur that causes it to return quickly to its normal position when stroked toward the head is called **Fly Back**.

- 6) **Flying Coat** is the condition of a coat that is loose & fluffy, caused by undue length & thinness of underwool & weak guard hairs.

- 7) A loss of hair on the neck of a rabbit behind the ears would indicate **Fur Mites**. Dusting with cat flea powder is the proper treatment for fur mites.

- 8) The longer coarser hair of the coat, offering protection to the undercoat is called **Guard Hair**.

- 9) The condition of fur lacking density in the undercoat (fur not set tightly in the skin) is called **Loose Coat**.

- 10) The first natural coat of fur is fully developed at **4-6 months**.

- 11) **Molting** is the process of shedding or changing the fur.

- 12) The fur coat or covering is called **Pelage**.

- 13) **Pelt** is the hide of the animal after it is removed.

- 14) **Pencil line** refers to a protrusion of fur across the throat & under the chin.

- 15) **Prime** is a term used for an animal which exhibits ideal condition of flesh and coat.

- 16) A coat that is shedding or molting a profusion of hairs is called a **Slipping Coat**.

- 17) The **color of fur** determines variety.

- 18) **Fine Coat** - A coat of fur too fine in texture, lacking body. Guard hairs weak and thin in structure. Lacking the proper amount of guard hairs.

- 19) **Finish** - The desired degree of perfection in condition. Fully prime in coat, color, and flesh.

- 20) White colored pelts are the most preferred, due to the fact they can be sheared, clipped, or stippled and be made to match almost any type of wild animal fur. Colored pelts vary in shades or color within the same color and to utilize them to the fullest they have to be matched for color.

Housing and Feeding

HOUSING & COMFORT ZONE

- 1) The structure that shelters or holds the wire cages for your rabbits is called the **Hutch**.
- 2) Ideally the cage floor should be made of **1/2 x 1 inch, 14 gauge** welded wire.
- 3) Ideally the cage sides & top should be made of **1 x 2 inch, 16 gauge** wire.
- 4) For best protection from the weather, you should face your cages toward the **South**.
- 5) The temperature in the hutch should not be higher than **85 degrees**.
- 6) In enclosed buildings where temperature & humidity are controlled, the desirable combination is **60-78 degrees & 30-40 percent humidity**.
- 7) The "comfort zone" (the outside temperatures at which rabbits process feed most efficiently & gain weight the easiest) is **60-65 degrees**.
- 8) Ideally, your ventilation system should keep the humidity **below 60 percent** and the temperature between **40-80 degrees**.
- 9) If you have a strong smell of ammonia in the rabbitry you need **better ventilation**.
- 10) **Condensation & Smell of Ammonia** would be signs of poor ventilation.
- 11) **Ammonia**, at high levels, causes damage to the cells of the nasal passages that allows bacteria to colonize there.
- 12) Exposure to temperatures over **85 degrees** for **4-5 consecutive days** can cause temporary sterility in bucks.
- 13) Rabbits can withstand **Cold** weather better than **Hot** weather.
- 14) **Old** bucks tend to be more susceptible to heat than young bucks and can remain sterile for 60-90 days.
- 15) A rabbit's **ears** help regulate its body temperature.
- 16) Signs of **heat prostration** are: blue lips, tongues & ears; increased heart & breathing rates; wet noses & mouths; frothy, blood-tinged discharges from the mouth; they pant heavily.
- 17) Some ways of cooling your rabbits during the extreme summer heat are: **Spraying the tops & undersides of outdoor hutches with water, large fans, put large bottles filled with cold water or ice in the cages.**
- 18) Rabbits with **Heat Stress** will have their head thrown back with open mouth breathing.
- 19) Rabbits will eat more feed during **colder** temperatures.
- 20) **Vinegar** will help remove calcium deposits from rabbit cages.
- 21) **Bleach** is a common household chemical that can be used to clean watering systems and crocks in your rabbitry.
- 22) **Sunlight** is the cheapest and most effective disinfectant.

FEEDING

- 1) **Water** is the single most important nutrient in a rabbits diet.
- 2) A lack of water causes **decreased** food intake.
- 3) You may treat the drinking water with **household bleach** to reduce bacteria.
- 4) Rabbits normally consume **twice as much water** as feed.
- 5) On very hot days, a rabbit will consume nearly **four times as much water** as feed.
- 6) **Do not** feed young rabbits cabbage, lettuce or green grass.
- 7) Rabbit pellets consist mostly of ingredients from plants (primarily **alfalfa & wheat**).
- 8) Diets for dry does, herd bucks & growing young should contain **12-15 percent** crude protein.
- 9) Rations for pregnant & nursing does should contain **16-20 percent** crude protein.
- 10) Two types of feeding methods are **limited & free-choice**.
- 11) **Creep Feeding** is giving nursing kits a special feed that only they have access to.
- 12) Rabbits generally eat more at **night** than during the day.
- 13) If your rabbit has diarrhea you can: take away water, reduce feed, give hay or oats.
- 14) Most of the digestion process takes place in the **Small Intestine**.

Breeding and Tattooing

BREEDING

- 1) When starting a rabbit project, it is suggested that you start with **3 rabbits** (2 does & 1 buck).
- 2) Many breeding failures are caused by does being **overweight**.
- 3) A healthy doe will have a productive life of about **3 years**.
- 4) The external genital organ of the female rabbit is called the **vulva**.
- 5) **Smaller breeds** become sexually mature earlier than the larger breeds.
- 6) The **does** of all rabbit breeds reach sexual maturity earlier than the bucks.
- 7) Medium breeds (New Zealands, Californians) can be bred at **6-7 months** of age.
- 8) **Outbreeding** is the mating of unrelated animals of the same breed.
- 9) **Linebreeding** is the mating of animals that are both descended from the same animal, but are related several generations back; i.e. first cousins, uncle to niece, or aunt to nephew.
- 10) **Inbreeding** is the mating of animals that are closely related; i.e. parent to offspring or brother to sister.
- 11) **Crossbreeding** is the mating of animals of different breeds.
- 12) A **doe should always be taken to a buck's cage** for mating.
- 13) **Colony** is the name of the breeding system where four to ten does are penned together with an aggressive buck.
- 14) Rabbits come in heat every 3 weeks.
- 15) Poor maternal qualities that may be exhibited by rabbits: scattering the young; failure to make a nest; lack of interest in the offspring; stomping on the offspring; failure to produce sufficient milk.
- 16) To stimulate the doe to produce an extra amount of milk: Add 1 teaspoon Calf Manna to diet per day. Use only in does that do not produce sufficient amounts of milk.

NEST BOXES

- 1) The nest box should be **2 inches longer & 1 inch wider** than the doe.
- 2) **Bleach** mixed with water is used to clean and disinfect nest boxes.
- 3) Different types of bedding material for nest boxes are: pine shavings, straw, cottonseed hulls, leaves; Do not use shredded paper.
- 4) You should put the nest box in the cage on the **27th day** after mating.
- 5) Remove nest box 12-18 (15-21) days after kindling.

GESTATION - The period of time that a doe carries young in its uterus. (pregnancy)

- 1) The gestation of a rabbit is normally **28-32 days**.
- 2) **Palpating** is a method of determining by touch or feel whether or not your doe is pregnant.
- 3) You should palpate your doe **14 days** after mating.
- 4) Many commercial rabbit producers will breed does back **14 or 21 days** after kindling.
- 5) A **35 day** breed-back schedule is recommended.
- 6) **Pseudopregnancy** is when a doe seems to be pregnant but is not. If a doe pulls fur between the 18th & 22nd day after mating, this would indicate pseudopregnancy. During pseudopregnancy, which lasts about 17 days, the doe will not breed.

Genetics is the study of a rabbits heredity. Have a basic understanding:

- bodies are made of cells
- each cell contains nucleus
- nucleus contains chromosomes
- chromosomes are composed of genes
- recessive gene (hidden)
- dominant gene

Dominant Genes are genes that hide the effect of other genes.

Breeding and Tattooing

(Cont'd)

KINDLING - The birth process in rabbits.

- 1) Reduce the amount of feed given to a doe **24-48 hours** before she kindles to help prevent caked mammary glands. After kindling, gradually increase to full feed in **7 days**.
- 2) Does will normally kindle in the **early morning**.
- 3) A group of baby rabbits born from the same doe are called a **litter**.
- 4) Kits are born **without fur & their eyes are closed**.
- 5) Most does have **8 nipples** for feeding their young.
- 6) **Colostrum** is the first milk produced by a doe after kindling & is higher in lactose and fat.
- 7) Young rabbits begin to get fur in **3-5 days**.
- 8) A rabbit will generally open its eyes **10-12 days** after birth.
- 9) Young rabbits begin to come out of the nest box when they are **15-20 days** old.
- 10) Baby rabbits will double their weight in six days.
- 11) Young rabbits get fur **3-5 days**
- 12) Kits begin eating solid food at 3 weeks
- 13) Remove the nest box 12-18 (15-21) days after kindling.
- 14) Poor maternal qualities that may be exhibited by rabbits:
 - Scattering the young
 - Failure to make a nest
 - Lack of interest in the offspring
 - Stomping on the offspring
 - Failure to produce sufficient milk
- 15) To stimulate the doe to produce an extra amount of milk: Add 1 teaspoon calf manna to diet per day. Use only in does that do not produce sufficient amounts of milk.

WEANING - Removing the doe from her young.

- 1) Weaning can take place when the young rabbits are **4-8 weeks** old.
- 2) When weaning the young, you should **move the doe** to another cage.
- 3) Do not leave bucks together when they are **over 2 months** old.
- 4) 24-48 hours prior to weaning, reduce feed to bare minimum. The feed given to the doe should be restricted 72hrs post-weaning, giving approximately 50% of normal diet. Kits should be restricted 48hrs post-weaning, 50%.
- 5) Leave the kits together for 1 week before separating into groups of bucks & does or individual pens. This is a very critical time for enteritis in the young, weaned animals and is oftentimes imperative that the fiber content of the feed be increased or that there be fiber fed to the young at this time in order to assist in controlling many of the enteritis complexes. This is also a time that many rabbit persons use the management practice of worming the animals for internal parasites and coccidiosis. When the litter is weaned is the ideal time to tattoo the young and to make sure that one has efficient records.

TATTOOING

- 1) Identification tattoo marks should be placed in the rabbits **left** ear.
- 2) A rabbit that is registered would have a permanent tattoo in the rabbits **right** ear.
- 3) Wrapping a towel completely around a rabbit is another way of holding a rabbit for tattooing.
- 4) Clean the rabbit's ear with alcohol before applying tattoo to clean all dirt & excessive wax from the area.
- 5) Applying Vaseline to the tattoo area after tattooing will help aid the healing process, seal the area & keep flies & insects off the newly tattoo area.

General Faults and Eliminations

GENERAL FAULTS

Dead Tail - a tail that is hard and brittle from loss of circulation.

Double dewlaps

Flabby or overly fat.

Hutch stains

Lazy tail - a tail that is slow to assume its normal position when it is moved.

Molt or out of condition

Poor ear carriage

Poor eye color

Poor in flesh condition

Poor tail carriage, or one that is carried to one side or the other.

Stray white hairs in colored fur

Thin and extremely poor flesh condition.

ELIMINATIONS are conditions that are assumed to be temporary in nature & curable:

Abscesses - A localized area of inflammation caused by an infection under the skin, in a gland, or follicle. It may produce localized swelling, heat, and redness.

Broken Toenail

Dewlap is the loose fold of skin that hangs from the throat of a rabbit.

Discharge from eyes, if severe

Does heavy with young

Ear Canker - An inflamed, scabby condition, deep inside the ear. It is caused by an infection of the by an ear mite.

Fungus growth or mites causing a scabby condition in the skin or fur.

Mange or scurvy condition or scales at the root of the fur.

Overweight for breed and class.

Pot Belly - A distended condition of the abdominal cavity, usually found in young rabbits.

Slobbers - Excessive salivation creating a wet or extremely moist and unsightly fur around the lower jaws, and forelegs.

Sore Eyes

Sore Hocks is an ulceration or sore on the foot pads of a rabbit. A rabbit condition that is by cage floors that are rough, dirty & rusty.

Underweight for breed and class.

Vent Disease - A venereal disease in rabbits which affects both sexes. Indicated by a scabby, organ, often exuding puss.

Disqualifications

Disqualifications result from a permanent defect, deformity or blemish.

ALIMENTS

Abnormal Eye Discharge - Must be noticeable and pronounced.

Colds - An infection localized in the nose. Usually characterized by repeated sneezing and the discharge of fluid from the nose. Sometimes accompanied by matted fur on the inside of the front feet. The animal must show a white purulent nasal discharge. (A wetness around the nostrils or roughened fur on the inside of the foreleg is not sufficient evidence of a cold.)

Rupture or hernia - Protrusion of abdominal viscera through the muscle in the abdominal cavity and collecting between the skin and muscle.

Snuffles

Tumor or abnormal swelling - A swollen or distended mass forming a lump.

GENERAL

Abnormalities - Any deviation from the normally accepted condition of the body structure. Indications of ill health, or other departures from generally accepted healthy condition.

Genitalia - Split penis.

Illegible tattoo, or tattoo not in the left ear. Tattoo obliterated by tattoo ink so as to be unreadable.

Testicles - All male animals, in the regular showroom classes, must show two normally descended testicles at the time of judging. Juniors are excepted. Juniors must show both or neither testicle.

Those showing only one at time of judging are to be disqualified from competition.

Wrong Sex, Breed, Group, or Variety

STRUCTURAL

Blindness in one or both eyes - Usually indicated by a filming over of the cornea, obstructing the pupil.

Broken Tail or permanently set to either side or permanently out of line. (The tail is to be considered as an on line extension of the spine.) Screwtail (a tail that is twisted) or bobtail. Portion missing, so as to be conspicuously out of proportion.

Crooked Legs - Bent, bowed, deformed, or **cow hocks** if severe.

Dewlaps in the following breeds; Dwarf Hotots, Himalayan, Netherland Dwarf, Polish, Tans, & Silvers.

Deformed bones

Lop ears, except in lop-eared varieties. Ears carried below horizontal in regular eared breeds. Ears naturally carried above horizontal in lop eared breeds. (Ears extending horizontally are guilty of poor ear carriage and should be faulted.)

Marbling - A mottling of eye color. (Do not disqualify for marbling appearing in the eyes of some Chinchilla breeds and varieties allowing blue-gray eyes.)

Malocclusion - Buck or wolf teeth which have the lower incisors extending in front of the upper incisors, sometimes curving to the sides, and usually long. This condition may be hereditary and may also be known as buck or wolf teeth.

Off Colored Eyes - Eye color other than called for in the breed standard.

Pigeon Breast - A narrow chest with prominent "V" protruding breast bone.

Spots or specks on eye - Spots or specks in iris or on cornea.

Simple Malocclusion - When teeth meet head on, with no overlap of upper teeth. Top incisor teeth must be over the bottom incisor teeth to be acceptable.

Teeth - Missing or broken tooth or teeth. The normal bite of the rabbit's teeth has the upper incisors overlapping the bottom incisors.

Disqualifications

Cont'd

Toenails - Missing toenail(s), including dewclaws. (A portion of the toenail missing, but allowing the determination of the pigmentation is acceptable.) Unmatched toenail(s) on the same foot or corresponding foot, including the dewclaw. (Toenails lighter than called for in the breed standard shall be considered a fault.) White toenail(s) disqualify in all colored breeds and varieties including Himalayan, Californian and Pointed Whites. Colored toenail(s) disqualify in white or marked breeds and varieties in combination with white, unless specifically exempted in the breed standard.

Torn Ears or ears with portion missing. Must noticeably detract from the general appearance of the animal.

Unmatched Eyes - Two eyes not of the same color.

Wall Eye - Sometimes called moon eye. Eye with whitish cornea, giving milky appearance to the eye.

Wolf teeth or buck teeth - Protruding or elongated incisors in either the upper and/or lower jaw, caused by malocclusion. Improper alignment of the upper and lower teeth which prevents normal wear.

Wry Neck is when a rabbit turns its head to the side & has a loss of balance.

Wry Tail - A tail that is abnormally bent or curled.

COLOR

Altering Appearance - Any dying, plucking, trimming, or clipping so as to alter appearance. Coloring toenails. Any faking, including powdering and indiscriminate use of grooming preparations designed to alter the natural condition or appearance.

Smut - Smut on the usable portion of the pelt in Pointed Whites, Californian, or Himalayan marked breeds and varieties. (Exception to meat pens).

Spots - Foreign colored spots in any animal. White spots in a colored animal. Colored spots in a white animal. (All apply unless specifically excepted in the breed standard.)

Tan Pattern - Any tan pattern marking appearing in the marking pattern of Pointed White, Himalayan, or Californian marked breeds or varieties.

White Hairs - Excessive white hairs in a colored section.

Wrong Undercolor - Color other than called for in the breed or variety standard. Shade variations are acceptable, but considered a fault.

Crossbreds

Crossbred Judging Guidelines:

Condition	- 50 points
Fur	- 25 points
General Health	- 15 points
Balance	- 10 points
Total 100 points	

Condition - The overall physical state of the rabbit in relation to health, cleanliness, proper nutrition & care.

Fur - Texture, Density, Balance and Condition.

General Health - Bright clear eyes, clean ears, well furred hocks, clipped toenails.

Balance - Type, shape, conformation.

****All "General" Faults, Eliminations, and Disqualifications will apply.**

Diseases

Disease/Condition	Signs	Cause	Treatment	Prevention
BACTERIAL DISEASES				
MASTITIS (Blue Breast)	Inflamed, swollen, hot, discolored mammary system - all or individual sections. Abscessation of gland is common. Normally occurs just after kindling or after weaning.	Any bacteria within the mammary system. Usually a <i>Staphylococcus sp.</i> or <i>Streptococcus sp.</i>	Treat for 3 days in succession with Penicillin G injection intramuscularly at 200,000 IU/10 lbs. body weight. Strip glands free of milk. Hot-Pak application 3-4 times daily.	Prevention of caked breast & trauma to the breast (see caked breast).
WEEPY EYE	Matted fur at medial corner and under lower lid of eye. Discharge from eye.	Inflammation of conjunctiva - most common in "Bulldog" head type. Usually a result of blocked duct between lower eyelid and the nasal area. Usually a history of respiratory infections.	Instill Neomycin ophthalmic 2-3 times per day for 3-4 days. Opening of Nasolacrimal duct by professional help.	Prevent respiratory diseases.
VENT DISEASE (rabbit syphilis)	"Scabby" inflammation of genitals - both sexes - can have scabs on nose & mouth in later stages, "scabby nose", refuse to mate and/or conceive. Abortions.	Spirochete organism <i>Treponema cuniculi</i> . Usually spread through mating.	Daily application of penicillin ointment to the external genitals or daily administration of Penicillin G intramuscularly for 3 days, 200,000 IU/10 lbs. body weight.	Always check breeding animals before mating for signs of this disease & do not use if infected.
METRITIS	Low conception rate - small litter size - abortion. Does that fail to lactate 3-5 days after kindling.	Any type of bacterial infections. Oftentimes a result of a retained placenta or feti. Oftentimes associated with herd that has increased incidence of "Snuffles".	Use of an organism susceptible antibiotic in conjunction with injected hormone therapy.	Routine injection of antibiotic & hormone post-kindling.
PNEUMONIA	Difficulty in breathing. Bluish color to lips, tongue, and ears. Necropsy: inflamed lungs.	Any type of bacterial or virus invasion of respiratory system. Usually at times of stress & often the final stage of "Snuffles".	Broad spectrum antibiotic. Isolation, eliminate stress.	Assure adequate ventilation. Minimize stress.
LISTERIOSIS	Sudden death, abortion, failure to eat, weight loss. On necropsy, gray-white spots on liver, spleen, inflamed uterus in pregnant animals	<i>Listeria sp.</i>	Diagnosis usually made on post-mortem necropsy.	Isolation - good sanitation.
SALMONELLOSIS	Pasty diarrhea, mainly in young rabbits, high temperature, coma usually precedes death.	<i>Salmonella sp.</i> bacteria.	Isolation, seek professional consultation to treat with bacteria susceptible to a prescribed antibiotic.	Good disease control techniques. Isolation of herd. No visitors in rabbitry.
FOOT ABSCESSSES	Small nodular abscesses on the feet, legs & toes of infected rabbits. Initially a small number of animals infected that increases in incidence with time.	Infection & irritation of bruised area with <i>Staphylococcus sp.</i>	Soak infected feet in an iodine solution every 3-4 days. Open abscesses, if necessary.	Strict sanitation.

Disease/Condition	Signs	Cause	Treatment	Prevention
PASTEURELOSIS (expresses itself in several forms) 1. Snuffles (chronic)	Persistent "sneezing" with a productive nasal discharge that is thin or thick & white in nature. Precursor to many other conditions. Decrease growth rate & production. Primarily an upper respiratory infection where Pneumonia is often a secondary complication. Death associated with secondary infection.	<i>Pasteurella sp.</i> organism infection associated with stress factors. <i>Pasteurella sp.</i> and/or <i>borderetella bronchi-septicum</i> .	No specific treatment with medications successful. Improve ventilation of rabbitry. Administration of antibiotic to prevent secondary infection. Reduce stress factors.	Excellent ventilation, strict culling, development of resistant animal. Minimize stress factors. Isolate sick animals. Chlorinate drinking water.
2. Hemorrhagic septicemia	More acute than "Snuffles", seen in fryer rabbits most commonly. Pot-bellied, diarrhea, respiratory distress - often confused with enteritis.	Same as "Snuffles".	No specific treatment. Broad spectrum antibiotic to prevent secondary bacterial infection.	Same as above.
3. Abscesses (can also cause the "Weepy Eye", "Wry Neck" & several organ inflammations)	Developing "lumps" anywhere on body - usually around head & shoulders.	Traumatic areas infected with <i>Pasteurella sp.</i> organism; or from a <i>Pasteurella sp.</i> septicemia, oftentimes it may take an extended period of time to develop.	Cull from herd. If treated one should drain "Pus" from abscess with a large incision & drain daily. Use a broad spectrum injectible antibiotics for 3-5 days.	Excellent sanitation practices. Early removal of nest box (14-16 days). Improve nest box hygiene.
SORE EYES-NEST BOX	Eyelids stuck shut & eyes fail to open at 10 days. Area beneath lids filled with white "pus".	Many types of bacterial conjunctivitis that are usually contacted in the nest box.	Gently open eye & clean pus from area. Instill neomycin ophthalmic 2-3 times per day for 3-5 days.	Strict nest box disinfection. Removal of nest at 12-16 days after kindling.
ENTERITIS COMPLEX	Pot bellied, sits with feet in water, diarrhea & death	Varied - will discuss in the specific enteric diseases.	Reduce stress, place on high fiber, bland low energy diet. Can treat with broad-spectrum antibiotic in water to prevent secondary infection.	Keep stress factors at a minimum. Maintain on high fiber diet.
1. Mucoid enteritis	Common in fryer rabbits. "Jelly" like secretion in stool, pot bellied & water-bottle like filled abdominal cavity. Won't eat, grinds teeth & high mortality.	Unknown-cecum impacted, intestinal-tract filled with jelly-like material. Probable cause a combination of factors.	Same as above.	Same as above.
2. Intestinal coccidia	(See parasite section)			
3. Tyzzer's Disease	Acute diarrhea, rapid wasting of flesh condition. Death within 1-3 days, most common in 3 week to 8 week old young but can affect all ages. On necropsy small white spots on liver & inflamed cecum.	<i>Bacilluspili formis</i> must be differentiated from common enteritis through necropsy findings of small white "spots" on liver; demonstrating bacteria with specific strain or isolation of organism on embryonating egg.	No specific treatment to date. Some success with tetracycline treatment of the entire herd.	Prevent exposure to the organism through excellent sanitation, herd isolation & rodent control.
4. Enterotoxemia (described by Oregon State University in 1978)	Acute (24 hr.) fatal diarrhea dehydration - on necropsy an enlarged cecum that sometimes has a red discoloration.	Specific bacterium uncertain; but associated closely with high energy feed with low fiber feed content.	Replace pelleted diet with rolled oats & gradually increase the portion of pellets on a daily basis. Treatment with Oxytetracycline in drinking water may temporarily correct condition.	Feed diets that are high in fiber (18%) & relatively low in total energy.

Disease/Condition	Signs	Cause	Treatment	Prevention
VIRAL DISEASES				
PAPILLOMATOSIS (warts about nose & mouth)	Small benign tumors in mouth or around mouth.	Virus	Cull	Isolation of herd.
INFECTIOUS MYXOMATOSIS	Primarily seen in coastal areas of California & Oregon during May to August. Severe conjunctivitis, fails to eat, high temperature; inflamed & edematosis genitals & ears, respiratory infection in later stages & death.	Virus-transmitted by mosquitoes.	Depopulate herd, burn & bury affected animals. Seek professional assistance.	Mosquito control, control the brush rabbit.
PARASITIC CONDITIONS				
EXTERNAL PARASITES				
1. "Warbles"	Swelling or isolated "lump" around the neck or shoulders. Must be differentiated from abscess.	Botfly <i>Cuterebra sp.</i>	Enlarge breathing pore & remove the parasite using care not to traumatize the rabbit as it may cause acute death due to shock. After removal - daily application of an antiseptic cream.	Control flies in rabbitry through screening or keeping the rabbitry in a darkened condition.
2. Ringworm	Loss of hair in circular fashion with "sore" in the middle. Most common on feet & legs of young rabbits, but can be seen in adults & on any location of body.	Fungus - contagious to humans & caution should be used in handling rabbit with this condition.	Individual animals should be treated with daily application of iodine to affected area. If a herd problem exists, professional consultation should be sought concerning the addition of Griseofulvin to the feed for extended periods of time.	Herd isolation, disinfection of cages & equipment. Rodent & predator control.
3. Fur Mite	Loss of fur around face, neck and back.	Fur mites - <i>Cheyletiella parasitovora</i> , <i>Listraptorcy gibus</i>	Application of cat flea powder. Repeat 10 days after initial treatment to insure total control of life cycle.	Herd isolation, good sanitation, selective bedding materials. Rodent control.
4. Mange Mite Infestation	Scratch frequently - often inflicting self trauma. Loss of hair on chin, head, base of ears and neck.	Mange mite - <i>Sarcoptes scabiei</i> or <i>Notocdres cati</i> .	Seek professional consultation. Treat with 7.5% Chloroform & 0.12% Rotenone or 0.5% Malathion containing dust.	Isolation of herd. Excellent rodent control. Selective bedding. Rodent control
5. Ear Mites (Ear Canker)	Shaking head, scratching at ears, "scabby" formation inside of ear due to accumulation of serum & blood, secondary bacterial infection.	Infestation of inside outer ear with mite. <i>Psoroptes cuniculi</i> .	Daily placement of oil in ear for 3 days, repeating treatment at 10 day intervals will be effective in suffocation of mites. Addition of parasiticide, such as Malthine or rotenone will increase the effectiveness of the treatment.	Isolation of herd. Medication placed in ears of every rabbit in herd once a month will rid the rabbitry of the parasite.
Pin Worms	Failure of signs unless overwhelming infestation. Slow growth rate, poor condition, decrease in resistance to other enteric diseases. Difficulty in getting rabbits in fur condition.	Pin Worm - <i>Passalurus ambiguus</i>	Use of a wormer. Seek professional advice. Phenothiazine in feed (1gm/50 mg feed). Newer wormers effective; but not approved by USDA for use in rabbits.	Sanitation & periodic use of "wormer".

Disease/Condition	Signs	Cause	Treatment	Prevention
Tapeworm Larva	No visible signs. Rabbit is the intermediate host for 2 tapeworms in dogs and 1 in cats. On necropsy, a cyst may be found in the viscera, under the skin, or in the liver.	Dogs - <i>Taenia pisiformis</i> and <i>Taenia serialis</i> ; Cats - <i>Taenia taeniaeformis</i>	Seen only on necropsy or during processing.	Do not allow dogs & cats in the rabbitry at a place the rabbit feed can be contaminated. Do not feed viscera to dogs & cats.
Whipworms	Infestation rarely a problem. Poor growth rate, rough hair coat, increased incidence of diarrhea that contains "flecks" of blood.	<i>Trichuris sp.</i>	Seek professional advice.	Strict sanitation. Isolation of rabbitry from pets, rodents & predators.
Abnormal parasite larva migration in the central nervous system.	None, to partial or complete paralysis.	Protozoan parasite - <i>Encephalitozoon cuniculi</i>	None	Control urine contamination in the rabbitry.
INTERNAL PARASITES Coccidiosis (2 forms) 1. Intestinal Form (low infestation common)	May be precursor to other enteric diseases. Diarrhea, low rate of gain, poor fur & flesh condition, pot bellied - lower resistance & produces stress for other secondary infections. Does not cause liver pathology on necropsy.	Protozoan parasite - <i>Encephalitozoon cuniculi</i> Several species of the genus <i>Eimeria</i> .	Treatment same for both forms of coccidiosis. Use of coccidicide on a regular basis being sure the life cycle is controlled. Depending on medication the animal should be treated for 10 consecutive or treat 5 days, off medication 5 to 10 days & treat again for 5 days. Medicated drinking water treatment appears to be most successful; however feed additives can be used. Use of coccidicides should be rotated for best results. Sulfaquinoxaline has been drug of choice at 0.04% in drinking water. Newer coccidicide, Amprolium & such are effective; but have not been approved by USDA for use in rabbits.	Excellent sanitation, self-cleaning hutches, automatic waterer & feeders, wire brushing of wire floor routinely. Prevent fecal contamination. The use of coccidicides every 3-4 months.
2. Hepatic Form	Diarrhea, poor fur & flesh condition, lowers resistance to other disease as stress on animal. On necropsy, large white spots on liver.	Coccidia - <i>Eimeria steidae</i>		Same as above.

NON INFECTIOUS CONDITIONS

WET DEWLAP	Wet fur on the dewlap with a changing color of the skin to green or dark color. A gangrenous odor often associated with this condition.	Dragging dewlap, large pendulous fold of skin beneath the chin in water crock. Especially in summer. This causes matting of fur & secondary bacterial infection that oftentimes turns skin green & becomes very odoriferous.	Clip the wet fur from the infected area and apply antibiotic ointment or cream to the infected area.	Raise water crocks off floor 3-4". Use water bottles or automatic waterers. Place light bulb or rubber ball in crock so animal will drink at edge of crock.
WRY NECK TORTICOLLIS (otitis media)	Turning of the head to one side, loss of balance, continuous roll when excited. Usually does not interfere with the appetite of the animal until later stages of the disease.	Inflammation of the middle ear, the balance mechanism of the body. The bacteria usually isolated is a <i>Pasteurella sp.</i> Often associated with the extension of upper respiratory infections.	Very difficult. Daily instillation of tetracycline ointment as otic drops, about 60% successful. Usually not associated with ear canker.	Proper ventilation. Keep incidence of respiratory infections to a minimum.
"SLOBBERS"	Rabbit salivates profusely & face, chin & dewlap area becomes very moist or wet.	Abscessed tooth, feeding of excessive amount of "greens" feed that has been sprayed with certain insecticides or pesticides.	Correct tooth condition. Remove green feed from the diet.	Feed dry ration. Avoid feed that has had chemical treatment.

Disease/Condition	Signs	Cause	Treatment	Prevention
CANNABALISM (during or after kindling)	Appendages may be missing or entire carcass consumed except the head. Most common in first litter does.	Inherent nervousness. Mishap of consuming appendages while assisting with mouth during kindling process. Presence of predators or rodents in kindling area. Does deprived of sufficient water.	Provide ideal kindling conditions.	Select does with good mothering instincts. Restrict rodents & predators from kindling area.
FUR CHEWING	Chewing of fur on body or other body parts. Fur can be chewed by self or other animals in pen.	Low fiber diet; boredom, vice, developing enteritis.	Increase fiber in diet by feeding hay or straw; remove individual chewing fur from pen. Addition of 5 lbs. of Magnesium oxide per ton of feed "sometimes" will stop fur chewing.	High fiber ration. Additions of Magnesium oxide to regular ration.
HAIR BLOCKAGE "Fur Ball" or "Fur Block"	Intermittent diarrhea, poor appetite or periods of no appetite, loss of weight, moult, pulling fur, appearance of above sign in only one animal in herd.	Physical blockage of small intestines that will not allow ingested food to flow through the intestinal tract.	Daily dosing animal with 1/2 tsp. of mineral oil for 3 consecutive days. Repeat once a week.	Daily feeding roughage to animals prone to this condition (Angora, kindling does, & etc.) Periodic (weekly) administration of small amount of vaseline or mineral oil to animals susceptible to this condition.
CANNABALISM (during growing stage)	Chewing on each other while caged together. Sometimes to the extent to cause death.	Overcrowding; sexually mature males in growing cages; lack of adequate drinking water.	Relieve overcrowding. Castration of male animals. Fresh water at all times.	Cage growing rabbits that mature early & gain at a slower rate individually. Supply fresh water.
KETOSIS (Pregnancy toxemia)	Sudden death of doe just prior to or just after kindling. Death usually so sudden that there are not any other signs manifested. Upon necropsy a large "yellow-red" liver.	Usually seen in does that are excessively fat & when body called upon to break down the fat suddenly this condition occurs due to the end products of fat metabolism - Ketones.	No specific treatment due to the acuteness of the disease. Seek professional assistance to administrate 50% Dextrose parenterally.	Do not let replacement does get excessively fat.
DYSTOCIA (difficult kindling)	The doe will sit in nest box for long periods of time, straining, "blood"messed" nest. One or more of litter with appendages (ears, legs) missing or cannibalism of young.	Small doe of the varieties with large heads (N.Dwarf, Holland Lop); malpresentation of young at delivery.	If "kit" in birth canal, inject with 0.25 cc - 1/2 cc oxytocin U.S.P. Danger of rupturing uterus of does exist.	Do not let doe get excessively fat. Allow doe to be mature before mating.
"YOUNG DOE DEATH SYNDROME"	Does that suddenly die 1-2 weeks after kindling. Usually in first litter does but can be in older does. Other signs inconsistent.	<i>Metritis</i> caused by <i>Staphylococcus sp.</i> This type may be more chronic & show more signs than with enterotoxemia. <i>Enterotoxemia</i> (most common) death due to a toxin produced in digestive tract similar to enterotoxemia in enteritis in fryer rabbits.	Normally too sudden onset to treat. If mastitis present, treat with antibiotics.	Restrict feed 24-48 hrs. prior to kindling & increase total feed intake after kindling until 5-7 days post-kindling.
AGLACTIA (failure to milk)	The kits dehydrate, fur becomes rough, listlessness, & death. This can happen anytime during the first 3 weeks of the kit's life.	Doe fails to milk; common at kindling time, especially in first litter does due to hereditary instincts. Also occurs at 7-10 days due to post-kindling uterus infection & at 2-3 weeks due to insufficient caloric intake or mastitis.	Treatment of doe with oxytocin to stimulate milk production. Treatment of doe with antibiotics & hormones. Adequate caloric intake.	Routine post-kindling (within 24 hrs.) injection of oxytocin U.S.P. Select breeding stock that has ability to lactate readily. Routine post-kindling injection with hormone & antibiotics.

Disease/Condition	Signs	Cause	Treatment	Prevention
"RED URINE"	Red discolored urine that does not contain "blood clots". Most commonly seen in snow covered areas that makes condition more noticeable.	Normal - there is not any pathology involved. Due to incomplete metabolism of food nutrients in some animals.	None.	More common on high legume hay contained diets.
"FETAL GIANTISM"	Difficult birth (Dystocia) of an extremely large fetus. Does 3-4 days late in kindling. Sits in nest. Abnormal straining & a "Bloody" discharge from the vulva.	Usually exists in does with very small (1-2) litter size. Tendency to go over the normal gestation time. Usually present in does that are excessively heavy (fat).	C-section. Costly & not practical unless very expensive breeding stock. Use of oxytocin may rupture uterus. Manual assistance in delivery if a part of the fetus is presented. Seek professional help.	Do not allow does to become excessively fat. Select does that have good sized litters.
ORPHANED KITS (at kindling)	Newborn "kits" can go up to 72 hrs. without nursing as long as they are kept warm & dry. Clostrum milk is of little value in rabbits, and therefore, can be fostered or hand fed quite easily.	Death of doe at kindling, doe that has kindled more kits than she can adequately nurse.	Does usually nurse the litter only one to two times a day. Place kits on a foster mother. Taking care to touch all kits & there should not be over a 5 day age difference. Feed animals twice daily a substitute formula.	Good management to prevent orphans.
"SCATTERING OF YOUNG AT KINDLING"	Doe fails to make nest for young & "scatters" on wire or floor. Young die due to exposure.	Poor mothering instinct due to hereditary causes. Rodents or predators in rabbitry. Vitamin A deficiency. Very young does. Incompatible nest.	Fostering the young or feeding the kits as orphans.	Select replacement animals with excellent mothering instinct. Use of subterranean nest boxes. Control predators & rodents in rabbitry. Routine use of water supplemented with vitamins.
EARLY NEST BOX FATALITY	Kits die in nest sometime between second and tenth day.	Agalactia (failure to lactate). Metritis. Fouled nest boxes from urine & feces. Milk Enterotoxemia - doe "over milks".	See other page. Due to habit of doe or improper nest box size. Death so sudden one cannot treat.	Proper kindling managements. Proper feeding management at kindling.
SORE HOCKS (Ulcerated foot pads)	Ulcerated area on the bottom of the foot pads that has secondary bacterial infection. Sits on any crock or object that is in the cage. Sits cautiously. Loss of condition, fails to mate & be active.	Small foot pad area for size of body, thin fur covering for pad, nervous animal, long toe nails.	Difficult! Use dry solid surface for animals to rest. Treat ulceration with astringent material on a daily basis until healed.	Selective culling for large, well furred feet. Calm animals. Try not to depend on resting board.
MALOCCLUSION "Buck Teeth", "Wolf Teeth"	Elongation of upper and/or lower teeth. Oftentimes to the extent that the animal will fail to eat.	Inherited condition in some animals, may be much more complex than originally thought. Breaking of one or more opposing teeth & the tooth elongates without being worn off. Rabbits incisors grow 1/2 inch or more per month if not worn off.	Cull those animals from herd that have the inherited condition. Clipping teeth can be done; but not an ethical or intelligent practice with inherited malocclusion.	Selective culling to eliminate those defective genes from the herd.
HINDQUARTER PARALYSIS	Rabbit drags rear legs & does not have any (motor control) movement in rear legs. Control of urinary bladder & bowel may be absent. A violent "scream" from rabbit usually is heard at the time of injury. Can happen during tattooing procedure or may just be present in cage without apparent cause.	Dislocation or fracture of spinal vertebra. Often seen when rabbit struggles or becomes excited and "thrusts" hind legs backwards.	None - should be humanely euthanized.	Proper handling techniques.

Disease/Condition	Signs	Cause	Treatment	Prevention
HUTCH BURN (Urine burn) (Often confused with Vent Disease)	"Chapped" or "galded" area around external genitals & the inside of hind legs. Secondary bacterial invasion common that causes the area to become infected.	Dirty, wet hutches or urine guard that splashes the urine back on the rabbit at times of urination.	Correct cause. Apply antibiotic cream to infected & 'burned' areas.	Strict sanitation. Close attention to the angle of urine guards.
MOON EYE "Wall Eye"	Glazed or cloudiness to pupil or cornea of eye. Pupil slow to respond to light stimulus.	Increased pressure within the eye globe due to genetic defect.	None - Hereditary defect.	Eliminate animals that carry this genetic defect from the herd.
CAKED BREAST	Swollen, hard, painful, & milk filled breast. Usually occurs just after kindling, just after weaning or after death of litter. Often a precursor of Mastitis.	Engorgement of mammary gland with milk in response to the feed intake in comparison to the milk consumed by the young.	Withhold all concentrates for 72 hrs. Give only roughage & water, "Strip" milk from teats, if necessary.	Monitor feed consumption. Withhold feed prior to kindling, at weaning & upon death of litter.
HEAT PROSTRATION	Increased respiratory rate. Wet around the mouth that may be blood tinged. Holding head high & blue tinge to ears & mouth. Prostration & death.	High temperature. Usually accompanied by high humidity. Animals sitting directly in sunlight without air movement.	Remove animal to cool place. If completely prostrate, submerge in cool water.	Keep air moving around the animals. Use of plastic bottles filled with water that is frozen solid.
"SCABBY" NOSE	Scabs around nose & mouth. May contain a white-yellow discharge.	Usually found in animals with severe lesions of Vent Disease or Hutch burn. Contracted through the normal coprophagy (eating night feces).	Prevent Vent Disease & Hutch burn. Treat cause & apply antibiotic ointment to lesions on nose.	Decrease activities in rabbitry. Feed, breed & move at night when temperature is lowest.
COPROPHAGY (eating of night feces)	Usually seen at night or early morning where animal will consume the fecal material (soft) directly from the rectum.	Normal.	Don't want to disrupt.	None. The rabbit's way of increasing the absorption of some nutrients of the diet.
NON-SPECIFIC DIARRHEA (not related to bacteria or nutrition)	Profuse diarrhea following the treatment with antibiotics of some other nonenteric condition, fails to eat and death within 24-48 hrs.	Alteration of normal bacteria flora of intestinal tract. Allows for "over growth" of certain types of bacteria & alteration of the acidity (ph) of digestive tract & this results in severe diarrhea.	Discontinue antibiotics, reinnoculate gastrointestinal tract with "healthy" bacteria.	Use antibiotic only when needed & at the proper dosage.

Glossary

ADULT - Any fully developed, mature rabbit of breeding age. For show classification, see senior.

AGOUTI - A color pattern in which the hair shaft has three or more bands of color with a definite break between each color. Usually dark slate at the base with two or more alternating light or dark bands or rings of color, which is further interfused with contrasting dark guard hair. The head, feet and ears usually have ticking; the belly color is much lighter and does not carry ticking.

ALBINO - A white rabbit with a pink eye.

A.R.B.A. - The initials of the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc., which promotes rabbits in the United States and foreign countries, provides for licensing of judges and registrars, and publishes a book of standards (The Standard of Perfection) which describes the desired characteristics for each recognized breed.

ARCH (ARC) - The gentle curvature of the spine, extending from the neck (or shoulders in some breeds) to the rear of the rabbit. Best observed by viewing the animal in side profile.

AWN FLUFF - The soft, crimped, intermediate wool fibers, ending with a straight tip. A type of wool fiber described in the Giant Angora standard.

AWN HAIR - The strong, straight guard hair protruding above the undercoat or fleece in Giant Angoras.

BACK - The top portion of the rabbit's shoulders, loin, and hindquarters.

BALANCE - (1) Type-Shape or conformation. An orderly and pleasing arrangement of physical characteristics as to present a harmonious appearance. (2) Marking- Equal distribution of corresponding markings, such as color divisions of the Harlequin, or equal amounts of color on the cheeks of the Dutch. Equal distribution of color in the pattern and side markings of the Checkered Giant, English Spot, and Rhinelander.

BAND - A color circling the body.

BANGS - The longer wool appearing at the front base of the ears and top of the head in some woolled breeds.

BANDING - (1) A hair shaft having various colors. Normally associated with an agouti coat. (2) An unbroken vertical circle of marking color extending around the body of the Harlequin.

BARE SPOT - A portion of the rabbit's pelt that lacks fur due to molt or any other cause.

BARRED - (1) Elongated spots, which should be round. (As found in the side markings of a Rhinelander or English Spot, or the cheek spots of the Rhinelander, English Spot, or Checkered Giant.) (2) Light colored streaks or bars on the front legs. (3) A semicircle of marking color, running vertically on the side of the Harlequin.

BASE COLOR - The fur color next to the skin; undercolor.

BELL EARS - Ears that have large, heavy tips with a distinctive fall or lop to them.

BELLY - The abdomen, from the last rib to the pelvis, containing primarily the organs of digestion.

BELLY COLOR - The color underneath a rabbit, extending from the forelegs to the crotch area.

Glossary

BLAZE - The white marking found on the head of Dutch. It covers the nose, whisker bed, and runs along the jawline. The shape is that of a wedge, which tapers from the nose to the base of the ears.

BLOODLINE - A term incorrectly used to denote a strain or rabbits.

BLOOM - The vitality and finish of a coat in good condition.

BLEMISH - Any defect or fault which detracts from the appearance.

BOILS or ABSCESS - A localized area of inflammation caused by an infection under the skin, in a gland, or in a hair follicle. It may produce localized swelling, heat, and redness.

BOOTS - The colored markings on the feet and legs of Himalayan marked rabbits.

BOWED LEGS - May be applied to the fore or hind legs. Bent like a bow. Legs curved outwardly or inwardly from the middle.

BREED - A class of domestic rabbits which reproduces itself with distinctive characteristics, such as fur, marking, shape, and size.

BREEDER - (1) Anyone who raises a breed or variety of rabbits which complies with the Standard of Perfection. (2) A rabbit used primarily to produce offspring.

BREEDING CERTIFICATE - A written certificate, issued by the owner of a stud buck, showing its pedigree and the date of breeding to a particular doe. It is issued as proof of the ancestry of the anticipated litter.

BRINDLING -(1) The longer tipped guard hairs carried up the sides of Tans. (2) An intermixture of two colors without definite pattern.

BROKEN COAT - Fur with the guard hairs missing or broken, which exposes the undercoat. Areas where the coat is affected by molt, which exposes the undercoat.

BROKEN COLOR - Any recognized breed color in conjunction with white, and carrying the breed pattern.

BROKEN EAR - A distinct break in the cartilage of the ear which prevents erect ear carriage.

BROKEN TAIL - A Tail that is, or has been broken and is out of line. A disqualification for show animals.

BUCK - An intact male rabbit.

BUCKLING - An immature male rabbit.

BUCK TEETH - See wolf teeth.

BULL DOG HEAD - A short, broad, bold head, with a definite masculine appearance.

BUTTERFLY - A nose marking found on some breeds. The wing portions cover the whisker bed from lip to lip, with the body, or nose fork, extending up the center of the face.

Glossary

BUTTING TEETH - A form of malocclusion, where the incisors meet evenly, without the upper incisors overlapping the lower incisors in proper structure. A Disqualification from Competition.

CAKED TEATS or UDDERS- Engorgement of a doe's mammary gland and teat with an abundant milk supply. Inflammation usually indicates mastitis.

CANNIBALISM - The practice of a doe eating her own young.

CAP - The marking line where lower ear color stops and joins head color. Specified in the Checkered Giant.

CARCASS WEIGHT- The weight of the rabbit after it has been killed and dressed with the head, hide, feet and intestines removed. The heart, liver and kidneys are part of the carcass.

CARCASS YIELD (Dressing Percentage) - Obtained by dividing the weight of the carcass by the weight of the live rabbit.

CARRIAGE - (1) The manner in which a rabbit carries itself. The style or characteristic pose of a rabbit. (2) The style in which a rabbit carries its ears.

CHAIN - The arrangement of the spots on an English Spot, running from the neck to the abdominal area.

CHARLIE - A lightly marked animal in some breeds, particularly Checkered Giant, English Spot, Rhinelander, broken color Lops, Rex, and Satins. These rabbits usually have colored ears, light eye circles and a Charlie Chaplin type mustache and are also usually devoid of back and side markings. The trait is usually genetically recessive.

CHEEKS - (1) The sides of the face, below the eyes. (2) The rounded color head marking that forms the blaze and carries down along the jaw line of a Dutch.

CHEST - The front portion of the body between the forelegs and the neck - the breast.

CHOPPED (Choppy) - A condition of body type in which there is an abrupt and sharp vertical fall from the top of the hip to the tail. Not well filled out and rounded.

CLASSIFICATION - A system of arranging the judging within different breeds.

CLEAN - (1) A term used on French Angora, Satin Angora, Jersey Woolly, and Fuzzy Lop's head, ears, feet, and legs, denoting the presence of normal fur (absence of wool) in those places. (2) A marking term denoting well formed markings without congestion or drags.

COBBY - A short and stocky body type which is close coupled and very compact.

COLD - An infection localized in the nose. Usually characterized by repeated sneezing and the discharge of fluid from the nose. Sometimes accompanied by matted fur on the inside of the front feet. Note: In judging, the matted fur is only an indication and shall not be considered as conclusive evidence of a cold.

COMPATIBLE - In eye color, a normal color that complements or matches the body color.

CONDITION - The overall physical state of a rabbit in relation to health, cleanliness, fur, and grooming. See full ARBA Condition definition.

Glossary

CONJUNCTIVITIS - Inflammation of the inner membrane of the eyelid and sometimes the portion of the membrane that covers the white of the eye.

COPROPHAGY (Cecotrophy) - The normal practice of the rabbit consuming some of the droppings (soft night feces) directly from the anus.

COTTONY - A very fine, soft textured fur or wool which lacks guard hair.

COW HOCKS -Hind legs that turn inward at the hock, causing the toe portion to turn outward from the body.

CRIMP - The natural waviness of the fiber in a wool undercoat.

CROSSBREEDING - Mating individuals of different breeds.

CROWN - A strong basal ridge of cartilage at the top of the head, forming the ear base on some lop eared breeds.

CULLING - Removal of undesirable rabbits from the herd.

DAM - The mother of a rabbit.

DEAD HAIRS - Fur which lacks life. Caused by molting or dead coat.

DEAD TAIL - A tail which is hard and brittle due to the loss of circulation.

DENSITY - The property or quality of a thick coat of fur. The number of fur fibers in a given area.

DEFINITION - The sharpness and clarity of a color break on a hair shaft, as in the ring color in Agouti fur.

DEPTH - Measurement downward from the top line of the body to the lowest portion of the body.

DEWCLAW - An extra toe or functionless digit on the inside of the front legs.

DEWLAP - A pendulous fold of loose skin which hangs from the throat. Common in does. It should be in proportion to the total body size. Not accepted in some breeds.

DISQUALIFICATION or **DISQUALIFICATION FROM COMPETITION** - One or more defects, deformities, or blemishes which render a rabbit ineligible for competition or registration.

DOE - An intact female rabbit.

DOELING - An immature female rabbit.

DRESSING PERCENTAGE - See carcass yield.

DRAGS - Intrusions of color markings into a white marking area.

EAR CANKER - An inflamed, scabby condition, deep inside the ear. It is caused by an infection of the ear canal by an ear mite.

EAR LACING - A colored line of fur which outlines the sides and tips of the ears.

Glossary

EXTENSION - (1) Length of leg and limb. (2) Depth of color carried down a hair shaft.

EYE CIRCLE - Even marking of color around the eye as in the Checkered Giant, Hotot or other breeds.

EYE COLOR - The color of the iris. The circle of color which surrounds the pupil of the eye.

EYE STAIN - Splotches or streaks of color around the eyes in Himalayan marked breeds.

FAKING - Any deliberate change in the appearance of a rabbit which is done with the intent to deceive.

FAULTS- Imperfections for a particular breed or variety. Not serious enough to disqualify the rabbit. Examples are cheek spots too large, bars instead of spots, lack of taper in the spine marking or herring bone.

FEATHERING - (1) Small colored drag off the top of the eye circle. Usually associated with English Spot, Rhinelander, or Checkered Giant. (2) Any drag in the coloration of a Dwarf Hotot eye band.

FELTING - Wool fibers that have become interwoven during natural growth.

FINE COAT - A coat of fur too fine in texture, lacking body. Guard hairs weak and thin in structure. Lacking the proper amount of guard hairs.

FINISH - The desired degree of perfection in condition. Fully prime in coat, color, and flesh.

FLABBY - The condition of a rabbit when the skin hangs loosely by its own weight. Not trim, shapely, or firm of flesh.

FLANK - The side of the rabbit above the belly between the ribs and hips.

FLAT COAT - Fur lying too close to the body. Lacks spring or body as noted by touch. Usually a fine coat coupled with lack of density.

FLAT SHOULDERS - A trait that occurs when the top line over shoulders is noticeably parallel to the surface of the judging table. A lack of continuous arch from the neck over the shoulders.

FLEECE - The wool covering the rabbit, including all growing fibers. (Not sorted.)

FLOW BACK - A movement of fur between a fly-back and a roll-back when stroked from rear towards front of the animal.

FLYBACK - A coat of fur which flies back to its smooth normal position when stroked from the hindquarters to the shoulders. See ARBA Commercial Normal Fur Standard.

FLYING COAT - A loose, fluffy coat caused by long length and thinness of underfur and weak guard hairs.

FOOT - The portion of the skeleton on which the rabbit walks or stands. One the foreleg, that portion below the pastern or ankle. On the rear leg, that portion below the hock.

FOREIGN COLOR - Any color of fur, nails, or eyes differing from that called for in the Standard of Perfection for the breed or variety.

FOREHEAD - The front part of the head between the eyes and the base of the ears.

Glossary

FOREQUARTERS - That portion of the body starting with the neck, back to, and including the last rib.

FOSTERING - The use of a doe other than the dam to nurse and develop young.

FROSTY (Mealy) - Having the appearance of being powdered or sprinkled with meal.

FRINGES - The wool appearing on the ears of some woolled breeds. Falls between the tassels and the bangs.

FRYER - A young meat animal which, for show purposes, cannot be over 10 weeks of age or weigh over 5 lbs.

FURNISHINGS - The tassels, fringes on the ears, bangs, and the head side trimmings on some woolled breeds.

GENOTYPE - The genetic, inherited characteristics and potential of a rabbit.

GESTATION - The length of time between conception and birth. (Normally 31 days.) The carrying of young.

GLOSSY - The reflection, luster, or brightness from a naturally healthy fur. A natural property of fur, sometimes improved by grooming.

GROUP - A broader classification than variety, usually applied to color pattern groupings.

GUARD HAIR - The longer, coarser projecting hair of the coat, which offers protection to the undercoat. It furnishes wearing quality and resilience to the coat.

HAIR BALL - An accumulation of hair in the stomach which forms a ball and impairs appetite and digestion.

HERRINGBONE - The colored spine or dorsal stripe on the English Spot. A herring bone or serrated edge to the spine marking.

HIND LEG - Consists of the foot, back, stifle (knee), and hip joint.

HINDQUARTERS - The rear portion or section of the body, from the last rib. Composed of the loin, hips, hind legs, and rump.

HIP - The joint that attaches the hind legs to the trunk of the body.

HOCK - The pointed portion of the rear leg. The joint distant to the stifle.

HOG FAT - A rabbit that is obviously over-fattened and, consequently, out of proportion for the true type of the breed.

HUMPBACK - A hump or protrusion on the back, caused by a deformity of the spine.

HUTCH STAIN - Stain on the coat as a result of urine, manure, or rust from the hutch.

INBREEDING - A breeding system involving very close mating of rabbit stock such as brother and sister, or parent and offspring.

Glossary

INSIDE OF EAR - The concave portion of the ear.

INTERMEDIATE - Terminology used in breeds having 6 showroom classes. A rabbit 6 to 8 months of age, or meeting weight requirements of the breed standard for that age group.

IRIS - The colored portion of the eye, surrounding the pupil.

JUNIOR - A rabbit less than 6 months of age.

KINDLE or KINDLING - The process of giving birth to young rabbits.

KITLING (Kit) - A young or newly born rabbit.

KNEE (Stifle) - The second joint of the hind leg which connects the thigh to the leg.

KNOCK-KNEED - Bones on the front legs that turn inward from the middle. A misnomer that conflicts with the definition of knee (which refers to the hind leg).

LACING - See Ear Lacing.

LACTATE - To nurse. To produce milk.

LAP SPOTS - Intensification of belly color in the area of the groin. (Inside the hind legs). Normally association with shaded selfs, agoutis and wide band agoutis.

LIGHT TOENAIL - Toenail showing some pigmentation but not the full color.

LINE BREEDING - A system of mating stock so that offspring are close descendants of a superior ancestor.

LITTER - The group of kits born to a doe when she kindles.

LOIN - That portion of the back on each side of the vertebrae from the last rib posterior to the hip joint.

LOOSE COAT - Fur not set tightly in the skin. Slipping and breaking out.

LOPPED EARS - Pendulous ears, carried below horizontal rather than upright.

LUSTER - Brightness and brilliance of fur.

MALOCCLUSION - Teeth having the lower incisors extending in front of the upper incisors or meeting with no overlap. This condition may be hereditary and may also be known as buck or wolf teeth.

MANDOLIN - Having the appearance of a mandolin laid face down. The back and saddle arch toward the loins to make noticeably broader hindquarters. The formation starts behind the shoulders.

MARBLING - A mottling of the eye color.

MARKED - A rabbit, usually white, which is broken up by an orderly placement of another color; also includes rabbits which carry the Tan pattern.

MASK - Nose and muzzle color, which usually extends further up the face than a butterfly marking.

Glossary

MASSIVE - Giving the impression of being large, bulky, heavy, and ponderous.

MASTITIS - An inflammation of the mammary glands.

MATTED - Wool entangled in a thick mass.

MEALY - Off colored stray hairs in a colored pattern, giving the appearance of being powdered or sprinkled with meal.

MEATY - The quality of being able to carry a goodly pattern of meat in proportion to the bone, size, and type of the rabbit. A noticeably well proportioned meatiness of the forequarters, back, loin, and haunches.

MID SECTION - That portion of the body starting with the 6th rib, back to the rear legs on the sides. Including that portion of the loin from the last rib to the high point of the body.

MOLT - The act or process of shedding or changing the fur. The baby or nest fur is shed at two months, and the first prime coat fur is fully developed at four to six months.

MOON EYE - See Wall Eye.

MUTATION - The sudden appearance of a new type because of a change or alteration of the organization of a gene. The best known mutations are the Rex and Satin fur types.

MUZZLE - The lower part of the face and nose of the rabbit.

NECK - That part of the rabbit connecting the head to the body.

NESTBOX - A special box in which the doe kindles and rears the kits for the first few weeks.

NICK - A mating which produces offspring that are superior to either parent.

NOSEFORK - The body portion of the butterfly marking.

NOSTRILS - The two openings of the nose leading to the internal structures of the head.

OFF COLORED - Several hairs or patches of fur foreign to the color standard of the rabbit. Also, a departure from the desired color of fur, eyes or toenails. (See Foreign Colored)

OFF WHITE - Slight grayish or creamy tint.

OPEN COAT - Coat lacking the ability to return to its natural position when stroked towards the head.

OUTCROSSING - Mating unrelated stock of the same breed.

PACKED - Wool that becomes compacted or felted.

PALPATION - Feeling abdomen of the female rabbit to check whether it is pregnant.

PARASITE - An organism that lives on, or within, the host animal and causes damage to the host. Examples include mange, mites, lice, fleas, and worms.

PARTURITION - Kindling, the act of giving birth.

Glossary

PATCH - A small section of fur.

PAUNCH - The prominent portion of the abdomen.

PEA SPOTS - Two spots of marking color at the inside base of the ear in Tan patterned breeds (Tan Crown spots in Tan Standard).

PEARL - The intermediate color band of Chinchilla rabbits; off-white in color.

PEDIGREE - A written chart of the male and female ancestors (the parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents) of a rabbit. It also shows the date of birth and may contain other information such as color or weight.

PEGGED TEETH - Teeth which only meet and do not achieve the required upper incisor overbite of the lower incisors. A Disqualification from Competition.

PEG TEETH - Two small residual incisors just behind the normal top incisors. May be incorrectly used to indicate butting teeth. See butting.

PELT - The hide after it is removed from the animal. The usable portion is that part remaining after removal of the head, feet, tail, and legs.

PENCIL LINE - A protrusion of fur across the throat under the chin.

PHENOTYPE - The actual physical appearance of the rabbit.

PIGEON BREASTED - A narrow chest with protruding breast bone.

PINCHED HINDQUARTERS - Tapering towards the tail at the lower hindquarter, giving the rabbit a "pinched" appearance from the rear.

PLUSH - Dense fine hair with a very soft feel.

POINTS - (1) *Color*: The colored ears, tail, nose, rear feet, and the forelegs of a rabbit such as a Himalayan or Californian. (2) *Judging*: A scale of points as listed in the Standard, showing the comparative value of each feature in the ideal to be bred for in various breeds. (3) *Show Record*: Points that an animal receives toward "display" points to be figured by multiplying six points for first, four points for second, three points for third, two points for fourth and one point for fifth times the number of animals in the class.

POINTED - Breeds such as the Himalayan or Californian, which have dark tips on the feet, ears, nose and tail (the points).

POT BELLY - A distended condition of the stomach intestines, usually found in young rabbits.

POOR COAT - Fur not in good condition, due to molting, rust or ill health of the rabbit, or of general poor quality due to genetic factors.

PRIME - An animal which exhibits ideal condition of flesh and coat.

PRIME COAT - A mature, glossy coat free of loose fur or patches or ingrowing fur and usually characterized by a slight ridge down the center of the back.

Glossary

PRIME LINE - A line of fur that develops down the middle of the back and rump, signifying a finished coat condition.

PUREBRED - A very loose term used to designate rabbits which closely approximate the requirements of the *Standard of Perfection* for their breed, and have done so for a number of generations. It is genetically impossible to produce many breeds of rabbits and classify them as pure; e.g. the Dutch or English.

RABBITRY - A place where domestic rabbits are kept.

RACY - A slim trim, alert, and active looking rabbit which is slender in body and legs and harelike in appearance.

REGISTRATION - The official recording of a rabbit and its pedigree that has been approved by a licensed registrar.

RIBS - The curved portions of the sides immediately behind and under the shoulders and above the belly.

RING COLOR - The color of the intermediate portion of a hair shaft; as in Agouti colored fur.

ROASTER - An intermediate meat animal which, for show purposes, must be under 6 months and weigh 5-1/2 to 8 lbs.

ROLLBACK - A gradual return of the coat of fur to normal position when it is stroked from the hindquarters to the shoulders.

ROMAN NOSE - A nose with the bridge so high it forms a convex line from the forehead to nose tip.

RUN - An intrusion of white color into a colored marking area on a marked breed.

RUMP - The upper, rounded part of the hindquarters.

RUST - A reddish-brown coloration of the fur, usually appearing on the sides, flanks or feet of rabbits. Rust appears in blue, black, chocolate, lilac and sable colored animals. It may be caused by exposure to sunlight, dirty hutches, or dead hair about to molt.

SALT AND PEPPER - A flat appearance of black and white ticking, as found on Chinchilla, caused by the lack of contrast and desired waviness in the ticking. This is due to a weakness of color on the tips of the guard hairs.

SADDLE - (1) *Carcass*: The upper back portion of the carcass, including both loins, rump, and hind legs. (2) *Marking*: A marking on the Dutch rabbit where the white fur ends and the colored fur begins, on the upper part of the body.

SCREW TAIL - See Wry Tail.

SELF or SELF-COLORED - Rabbits with the same color fur all over the body, head, legs and tail. Not having ticking, agouti pattern, shading, Tan pattern, etc. Examples: white, blue, black, chocolate, etc.

Glossary

SENIOR - A rabbit six months of age or over in those breeds having two showroom age classes, a rabbit eight months of age or over in breeds having three showroom classes., or an animal having reached minimum senior weight.

SHADED or SHADED-SELF - A rabbit with a gradual transition of a basic color usually from dark to light. The dark color is usually found on the back, head, ears, tail, feet and area of the neck. It then shades down to lighter color on the sides.

SHADOW BARS - Weakness of self color in the fur on both front and hind legs; appearing in the form of light colored bars running across the feet. Also occurs in the Agouti pattern.

SHAPE - General conformation; the rabbit's overall appearance as shown by body structure.

SHEEN - The principal feature of the Satin mutation. A bright, natural luster which is a result of the unique structure of the hair shaft. The glass-like, transparent hair shell has the ability to reflect light. Sometimes used in error to describe condition of normal fur. Glossy is better suited to describe this condition in the normal fur.

SHOULDER - The upper joint of the foreleg, connecting it to the body.

SHOW CLASSES - The divisions of rabbits by age and size in a show. Examples: Senior, Intermediate or (6-8) and Junior.

SIDE TRIMMINGS - Wool appearing along the side of the head and face on some woolled breeds.

SILVERED - Fur having the appearance of a silvery gloss or luster, caused by an abundance of silver-white or silver-tipped guard hairs, evenly distributed through the fur so as to present an overall shiny or silvery appearance.

SLIPPED CROWN - Placement of the crown too far forward, or too far back, on the head of some lop breeds, causing the ear carriage to be misplaced.

SIRE - The father of a rabbit.

SLIPPING COAT - A coat of fur that is shedding or molting.

SLOBBERS - Excessive salivation creating wet or moist and unsightly fur around the mouth, lower jaws, and forelegs.

SMUT - (1) A dark, sooty appearing surface color, usually formed by a large number of dark guard hairs. Found in many rabbits that carry the genetic factor for red. (2) Pelt stain found in Himalayans and Californians. (3) The nose marking found on Himalayans.

SNAKY - Slender, narrow body, thin and typical of the Himalayan.

SNIPEY - A long, narrow head, that gives the appearance of undue leanness.

SNUFFLES - A bacterial infection that causes sneezing and mucus discharges from the nose of rabbits.

Glossary

SOLID - A rabbit with the same basic coloration over the entire body, not mixed with any other color to create a pattern or markings. In a broad sense, it may include selfs and shaded selfs, Agouti and wide band Agouti, ticked as in steel, silver and d'Argent rabbits, but not those of the basic Tan pattern. Pointed whites in Angoras and some Lop breeds are classified as solids according to the individual breed standards.

SORE HOCK - An ulceration of the foot in rabbits. Can occur on both hind and front feet.

SPORT - A rabbit not true to the characteristics of its breed.

SPOT - A distinct, noticeable cluster of foreign-colored hairs forming a definite spot, not just stray hairs close together.

SPRADDLED (SPRADDLE-LEGGED) - A condition in which the legs spread out from the body from the hip (rear leg) or shoulder (front leg) joints.

STANDARD of PERFECTION - The book stating the characteristics for each recognized breed of rabbits as approved by the American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc.

STAPLE - The average length of strands of wool pulled from an Angora.

STEWER - A mature meat animal which, for show purposes, must be over 6 months of age and weigh over 8 lbs.

STIFLE - See knee.

STRAIN - A group of rabbits within a breed which regularly reproduce uniform characteristics.

SURFACE COLOR - The top color of the fur, lying in its normal position.

TASSELS - The longer wool on top of the ears of some woolled breeds.

TICKING - A distribution of longer guard hairs, of a color distinct from the under wool or body fur which presents a wavy appearance. Ticking is characterized by longer, black and/or tipped guard hairs.

TINT - A slight coloring or dusting of a color on another color; a variation in the density of a color.

TIP COLOR - The surface color of the fur lying in its normal position.

TRIANGLE - The small, triangle shaped area behind the ears which is generally lighter in color than the rest of the coat. A feature of Tan patterned rabbits.

TUCKED UP - The trim appearance of a rabbit with the flank and belly gathered in closely to form an arch when the rabbit is in a sitting position.

TYPE - Denotes conformation of a rabbit, or shape or size of a particular part of a rabbit e.g. heat type. The general physical makeup of the rabbit as compared to the ideal.

UNDERCOLOR - The color at the base of the hair shaft or next to the skin. Not the belly color of the rabbit.

UNDERCUT - The belly marking on a Dutch rabbit. A continuation of the saddle marking.

Glossary

UNDERCUT HINDQUARTERS - A condition in which the skeletal and/or muscular structure does not fill the lower hindquarters.

UNDERWOOL - The shortest wool fiber, lying at the base of the wool coat. The proportion of under wool to other fibers may be a distinguishing characteristic of some woolled breeds.

VARIETY - A division within a breed. Type indicates the breed; color determines the variety.

VENT DISEASE - A venereal disease in rabbits which affects both sexes. Indicated by a scabby, reddened tissues around the sex organs sometimes on the nose. Often exudes puss.

WALL EYE (MOON EYE) - An eye which is whitish on the surface (cornea); having a milky film over the eye.

WEANING - Separating the doe and the young so the young can no longer nurse.

WHITE TOENAIL - A nail without pigmentation showing only the pink cast of the blood vessel.

WOOL - The soft, fleecy hair on Angora, American Fuzzy Lop, and Jersey Wooly rabbits. The guard hair and underfur resembles fine wool in texture.

WOOL BLOCK - A blockage of the intestine by wool or fur. (See hair ball.)

WOLF TEETH - Protruding or elongated incisors in either the upper or lower jaw caused by malocclusion which prevents normal wear. (See Malocclusion.)

WRY NECK - Carriage of the head to one side at an angular plane, instead of the normal carriage in a vertical plane.

WRY TAIL - An abnormal tail, bent, carried, or twisted permanently to one side; a corkscrew tail with one or more turns.

YELLOW FAT - Body fat in a dressed rabbit that is yellow in color which is undesirable from a sales standpoint. A genetically recessive trait.