

**CONTRACT FOR LEASE OF 4-H PROJECT ANIMALS**

This contract is entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, between \_\_\_\_\_, the 4-H'er, of \_\_\_\_\_ (town), County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of Connecticut, and \_\_\_\_\_, the Owner of \_\_\_\_\_ (town), County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of Connecticut.

The term of this contract shall be from the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, to the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_. This contract may be terminated at any time by mutual agreement in writing; or by at least \_\_\_\_\_ month(s) written notice from either party.

The 4-H'er hereby agrees to accept possession of the animal (s) listed below:

REGISTERED NAME	BREED/COLOR	TATTOO NO	REGISTRATION NO.	SEX	DATE OF BIRTH

It is agreed that the title of said animal shall at all times remain in the possession of the Owner. The owner agrees to assume all legal responsibility as owner of the animal described in this agreement and will not hold the 4-H'er liable for any injury or death loss to the animal, except those due to negligence on the part of the 4-H member. Both owner(lessor) and 4-H member (lessee) are responsible for any damages caused by said animal.

**OTHER CONDITIONS:** The 4-H Member leasing the animal described above agrees to: (Cross out or add negotiated conditions, list additions on back of page)

1. Bear all livestock expenses incurred in transporting and/or exhibiting the animal. The 4-H'er may keep any premiums or awards earned while exhibiting animal during duration of this contract.
2. Breed the animal at the direction and expense of the Owner. The resulting offspring shall be the property of the Owner.

**OTHER CONDITIONS** The Owner agrees to: (Cross out or add negotiated conditions, list additions on back of page)

1. Bear all livestock expenses normally incurred in raising such an animal.
2. Not exhibit this animal(s) during the time of the contract.
3. Allow the 4-H'er to exhibit this animal(s) at the 4-H Fair, the New England 4-H Horse/Livestock Programs (if selected) and other shows both Owner and 4-H'er agree to.
4. By signing below, the 4-H member, parent/guardian, and owner of the animal understand that this is an agreement between the parties signing below. This agreement does not include the 4-H organization or its volunteers.

**FINANCIAL AGREEMENT:** The 4-H member agrees to pay rental of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the animal (s) described in this contract in his/her care.

Signature of Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Signature of 4-H Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date

To be returned to the 4-H Office with CT 4-H Animal Project Verification Form by the required dates.



## CONNECTICUT 4-H ANIMAL PROJECT LEASE GUIDELINES

### Guidelines for Lease Agreements for Non-Owned 4-H Projects

The 4-H program recognizes the educational value of animal projects. We allow leased projects so that a greater number of members will be able to participate. This project is designed to make it possible for 4-H members to be able to have a non-owned 4-H project which can be shown at 4-H shows. Requirements include:

1. A lease agreement must be signed by the parties involved and must include the animal's identification (photo and description or registration papers if applicable). **An individual who leases an animal to a 4-H member to be used as a 4-H project does so as the owner of the animal and not as a 4-H volunteer.**
2. The animal must be leased prior to April 1st to participate in the New England 4-H Horse Program and May 1st for New England 4-H Dairy and Beef Heifer Programs. Members wishing to participate in the New England 4-H Dog and other Livestock Programs must lease their animals by June 1st. For participation in 4-H Fairs, all animals must be leased by June 1st (May 1st for Dairy Cattle). The 4-H Animal Verification Form must be completed for all leased animals. For Dairy Cattle: In all milking age classes, 2 year olds and up, the cow must have been owned or leased on May 1<sup>st</sup> before the animal reached her second birthdate. Proof of lease or ownership is required.
3. A 4-H member may lease a maximum of two animals in a single project area during the 4-H project year. Offspring of leased project animals can be considered part of the 4-H project if stated in the lease.
4. The leased animal may be exhibited only by the 4-H member leasing the animal during the time the contract is in effect.
5. All leased animals must be bona fide 4-H projects. The member must assume responsibility for care and management of all project animals as specified in the lease agreement.
- 6. Both owner(lessor) and 4-H member(lessee) are responsible for any damages caused by said animal.**

The lease form provided is a sample draft agreement. It can be used as is or additions or corrections can be made. The 4-H member and owner should put all conditions into the lease agreement which would affect this agreement. It is important that discussions be held between the 4-H Member and owner so that both parties understand each other's responsibilities. Decisions made should be included in writing on the final lease agreement. Examples of topics needing agreement include transportation arrangements to fairs (who will hire the trucking?); who will pay for special vaccinations/testing needed for participation in fairs (i.e. rabies); what fees, if any, will be charged the 4-H member for use of animal during the lease period; who will provide the necessary equipment to be used (halters, fitting and grooming aides, etc) and where animal will be housed during the lease period. If kept at the owner's home or farm, arrangements should be made for care of animal by the 4-H member.

All 4-H project animals are shown at the risk of the 4-H member. Any damages to persons or property are the legal and financial responsibility of the 4-H member and parent/guardian who owns/leases the animal. Any 4-H member with an animal project (owned or leased) is advised to check that their parent/guardians personal property insurance covers the animal.