



Animal Science

Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet (book). No one can add or subtract from the Boy Scout Requirements #33215. Merit Badge Workbooks and much more are below: [Online Resources](#).

Send comments to: craig@craiglincoln.com. Requirements revised: 2006, Workbook updated: February 2008.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Counselor's Ph #: _____

1. Name four breeds of livestock in each of the following classifications: horses,

Breed _____ Tell their principal uses and merits. _____ Tell where the breeds originated.

dairy cattle,

Breed _____ Tell their principal uses and merits. _____ Tell where the breeds originated.

beef cattle,

Breed _____ Tell their principal uses and merits. _____ Tell where the breeds originated.

sheep,

Breed _____ Tell their principal uses and merits. _____ Tell where the breeds originated.

hogs.

Breed _____ Tell their principal uses and merits. _____ Tell where the breeds originated.

2. List five diseases in each of the classifications in requirement 1. Also list five diseases of poultry. . Describe the symptoms of each disease and explain how each is contracted and how it could be prevented.

Animal Class: Horses

Diseases	Symptoms	How it's contracted	How it's prevented

Animal Class: Dairy Cattle

Diseases	Symptoms	How it's contracted	How it's prevented

Animal Class: Beef Cattle

Diseases	Symptoms	How it's contracted	How it's prevented

Animal Class: Sheep

Diseases	Symptoms	How it's contracted	How it's prevented

Animal Class: Hogs

Diseases	Symptoms	How it's contracted	How it's prevented

Also list five diseases of poultry.

Diseases	Symptoms	How it's contracted	How it's prevented
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

3. Explain the major differences in digestive systems of ruminants _____

horses _____

pigs _____

poultry _____

Explain how the difference structure and function among these four types of digestive tracts affect the nutritional management of these species.

ruminants _____

horses _____

pigs _____

poultry _____

4. Select one type of animal - beef cow, dairy cow, horse, sheep, goat, or hog, or a poultry flock – and tell how you would properly manage it. Include in your discussion

nutritional (feeding) concerns, _____

housing, _____

disease prevention, _____

waste control/removal, _____

and breeding programs if appropriate. _____

5. Explain the importance of setting clear goals for any animal breeding program. _____

Tell how purebred lines of animals are produced. _____

Explain the practice of crossbreeding _____

and the value of this practice. _____

6. Complete ONE of the following options:

BEEF CATTLE OPTION

a. Visit a farm or ranch where beef cattle are produced under any of these systems:

1. feeding market cattle for harvest;
2. Cow/calf operation, producing feeder cattle for sale to commercial cattle feeders;
3. Producing purebred cattle for sale as breeding stock to others. Talk with the operator to learn how the cattle were handled, fed, weighed, and shipped. Describe what you saw and explain what you learned. If you cannot visit a cattle ranch or farm, view a video from a breed association, or research the Internet (with your parent's permission) for information on beef cattle production. Tell about your findings.

b. Sketch a plan of a feedlot to include its forage and grain storage facilities, and loading chute for 30 or more fattening steers, or sketch a corral plan with cutting and loading chutes for handling 50 or more beef cows and their calves at one time.

c. Make a sketch showing the principal wholesale and retail cuts of beef. Tell about the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) dual grading system of beef. Tell the basis of each grade in each system.

d. Define the following terms: bull, steer, bullock, cow, heifer, freemartin, heiferette, calf.

-OR- DAIRYING OPTION

a. Tell how a cow or a goat converts forage and grain into milk. Explain the differences in feeds typically used for dairy cows versus those fed to beef cows.

b. Make a chart showing the ingredients in cows' milk or goat's milk. Chart the amount of each ingredient.

c. Explain the requirements for producing grade A milk. Tell how and why milk is pasteurized.

d. Tell about the kinds of equipment used for milking and the sanitation standards that must be met for dairy farms.

e. Define the following terms: bull, cow, steer, heifer, springer, buck, doe, kid.

f. Visit a dairy farm or a milk processing plant. Describe what you saw and explain what you learned. If you cannot visit a dairy farm or processing plant, view a video from a breed or dairy association, or research the Internet (with your parent's permission) for information on dairying. Tell about your findings.

-OR- HORSE OPTION

a. Make a sketch of a useful saddle horse barn and exercise yard.

b. Tell about the history of the horse and the benefits it has brought to people. Using the four breeds of horses you chose in requirement 1, discuss the different special uses of each breed.

c. Define the following terms: mare, stallion, gelding, foal, colt, filly; mustang, quarter horse, draft horse, pacer, trotter; pinto, calico, palomino, roan, overo, tobiano.

d. Visit a horse farm. Describe what you saw and explain what you learned. If you cannot visit a horse farm, view a video from a breed association, or research the Internet (with your parent's permission) for information on horses. Tell about your findings.

e. Outline the proper feeding of a horse doing light work. Explain why the amount and kind of feed will change according to the kind of horse and the work it does. Describe what colic is, what can cause it, and its symptoms.

-OR- SHEEP OPTION

a. Make a sketch of a live lamb. Show the location of the various wholesale and retail cuts.

b. Discuss how wools are sorted and graded.

