

MODEL
LIVESTOCK LEASE AGREEMENT
4-H Project Year October 1, _____ to September 30, _____

This model lease agreement is provided as a convenience to 4-H parents and animal owners for facilitating the leasing of farm animals to youth enrolled in 4-H Animal Science Projects. The University of Massachusetts 4-H Program strongly recommends both parties clearly delineate their respective responsibilities under the lease and that the lease agreement not exceed one 4-H project year (October 1 – September 30).

The University of Massachusetts 4-H Program is not a party to this lease and has no liability for personal or property losses that may occur through the actions of either party.

LEASE AGREEMENT

This certifies that:

Name of youth

And owner of the animal(s):

Name and address of owner

Have made the following agreement involving the following animal/s:

Species	Name of Animal	Breed	Sex	ID number	Registration Or tattoo #	Date of Birth or age
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The above named animal/s is leased to the youth listed below for the period beginning ___/___/___ and terminating on ___/___/___ . All arrangements for feeding, housing, veterinary care, daily care, insurance, show ring, and breeding of the leased animals mutually agreed upon by the owner and the youth are incorporated into this Lease Agreement as Attachment 1. Original copies of this document should be retained by the animal owner and youth, respectively.

I have read the entire lease agreement; fully understand it and I agree to be legally bound by it.

Signatures

Youth Lessor

Animal Owner

Parent/Guardian

Lease Guidelines

1. The owner will jointly determine with the youth lessor specific responsibilities to be carried out by the youth lessor. The responsibilities will be recorded on the “Lessor and Owner Responsibilities” sheet – Attachment 1 – and will include such items as:
 - a. The youth’s duties and responsibilities while working with the animal at the home/farm
 - b. A working schedule for carrying out the specified duties
 - c. Any assistance the owner will provide to the youth
 - d. Other items as listed on the contract form
2. The leased animal will be housed and maintained at a mutually agreed upon location to be stated on the lease agreement.
3. The title of ownership as stated on the registration papers of the leased animal will remain in the name of the owner. For showing purposes, youth should have the original registration papers, not a copy, to take to shows. Original papers are required at Eastern States Exposition, State 4-H Dairy Show and many other fairs. Some fairs may accept a bill of sale for grade stock.
4. The youth lessor will have exclusive use of and the right to exhibit the leased animal during the period of the lease agreement.
5. The owner of the leased animal/s agrees not to hold the youth or parent liable for any financial loss from injury or death to the leased animal/s unless otherwise stated in the lease agreement.
6. The owner is not responsible for financial liability from any injury that the youth may incur while working with the leased animal.
7. The youth lessor is responsible for all expenses incurred in exhibiting the animal, such as veterinarian, transportation, etc. The youth shall keep any premiums or awards won while exhibiting the animal during the duration of the lease agreement.
8. The lease agreement shall remain in effect until September 30th unless otherwise agreed. The lease agreement may be terminated prior to the end of the project year for reasons such as:
 - a. Failure of the lessor or owner to carry out responsibilities as outlined in the lease agreement.
 - b. Changes in the farming operation of the owner. The date and reason for termination prior to the end of the project year must be given in writing.
9. An option to purchase the leased animal/s by the lessor may be included under the lease agreement responsibilities if both the owner and the lessor agree to this condition.

Attachment 1

Youth Lessor & Owner Responsibilities

Feed Costs

**Housing of
Animal/s**

**Veterinary
Care/Costs**

Daily Care

Insurance

Show ring
(all premiums earned
belong to the youth)

Breeding

**Option to
Purchase**

Other

Rental Fee
(if applicable)
