



Oregon Fryer Commission and
Northwest Poultry Council
9th Annual
Youth Pen of Fryers and Layers Contest
2006

January 24, 2006

To: Past OFC Pen of Fryers Contest Contestants, 4-H Leaders, 4-H Agents, and Vo-Ag Teachers
From: Dr. James Hermes, Contest Superintendent
Re: The 2006 Oregon Fryer Commission Youth Pen of Fryers and Layers Contest

Enclosed please find some information and a registration form for the 2006 Oregon Fryer Commission and Northwest Poultry Council Youth Pen of Fryers and Pen of Layers Contest.

This year the contest is returning to its original format, only fryer chickens will be grown and judged. There are a variety of reasons for this change. The poultry industry has concerns about the congregations of birds in one location and then returning them home to regions across the state. In reality, this is not a good practice, because of the potential for disease transmission.

With the "Bird Flu" on the news on a daily basis, we felt that the layer contest should be canceled this year. Projects were eliminated because there has been low participation compared to fryer and layers and it really takes away from the original intent of the contest, understanding production. We apologize to those that have interest in these parts of the contest, they may return at a later date.

The total purse for the contest will increase to \$3,350, with 24 cash prizes (savings bonds) ranging from \$50 to \$500. Medals, rosettes, or ribbons will be given to the top 10 for overall Cockerels and Pullets as well as 3 age categories. **Contestants may show only Cockerels or Pullets.**

The Oregon Poultry Olympics, games and activities for contestants during the judging and scoring, other activities as well as our Barbecued chicken lunch for all contestants and their families, will be back for 2006.

To register for this year's contest, each youth must complete the supplied registration form, **it may be copied**, and return the signed form and the registration fee of \$10.00 to me by March 10, 2006. Chicks will be supplied by the Contest and only those birds supplied by the contest may be shown.

Chick Availability:

Broiler Chicks will be available on Saturday, April 8, 2006. The chicks will be distributed at the Polk County Fairgrounds in conjunction with the Western Oregon 4-H Poultry Field Day. We will be asking that all contestants or their representative attend a class on production and biosecurity during their pick-up of the chicks. There will be more information on that later.

The contest will take place on Saturday, May 20, 2006 at the Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, OR. More information will be available to registered participants at a later date.

Please distribute this information to your interested friends, club members, leaders and/or students.