

ANIMAL SCIENCE MERIT BADGE WORKBOOK

This Scoutmaster Bucky Merit Badge Workbook is based off the current *Scouts BSA Requirements*.

Consider also using the Animal Science merit badge class preparation page for clarification and expectations when participating in a Scoutmaster Bucky merit badge opportunity ([online](#) or [in-person](#)).

<https://scoutmasterbucky.com/merit-badges/animal-science/>

Scout's
Name:

Sheep Option

This workbook covers only one of the options for this merit badge. Check the Scoutmaster Bucky website for the other possibilities.

REQUIREMENT 1: Name four breeds of livestock in each of the following classifications: horses, dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry, and goats. Tell their principal uses and merits. Tell where the breeds originated.

Four breeds of horses

Four breeds of dairy cattle

Four breeds of beef cattle

Four breeds of sheep

Four breeds of hogs

REQUIREMENT 2: List five diseases that afflict the animals 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.

Five diseases afflicting horses, how each are contracted and how each could be prevented

Five diseases afflicting dairy cattle, how each are contracted and how each could be prevented

Five diseases afflicting beef cattle, how each are contracted and how each could be prevented

Five diseases afflicting sheep, how each are contracted and how each could be prevented

Five diseases afflicting hogs, how each are contracted and how each could be prevented

Five diseases afflicting poultry, how each are contracted and how each could be prevented

REQUIREMENT 3: Explain the differences in the digestive systems of ruminants, horses, pigs, and poultry. Explain how the differences in structure and function among these types of digestive tracts affect the nutritional management of these species.

Digestive system of ruminants and how it affects the nutritional management

Digestive system of horses and how it affects the nutritional management

Digestive system of pigs and how it affects the nutritional management

Digestive system of poultry and how it affects the nutritional management

REQUIREMENT 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, breeding programs, and biosecurity as appropriate.

| |
|----------------------------------|
| Your selected type of animal |
| |
| How you would properly manage it |
| |
| Nutritional concerns |
| |
| Housing |
| |
| Disease prevention |
| |

Waste control/removal

Breeding programs

Biosecurity

REQUIREMENT 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.

Importance of setting clear goals

How purebred lines of animals are produced

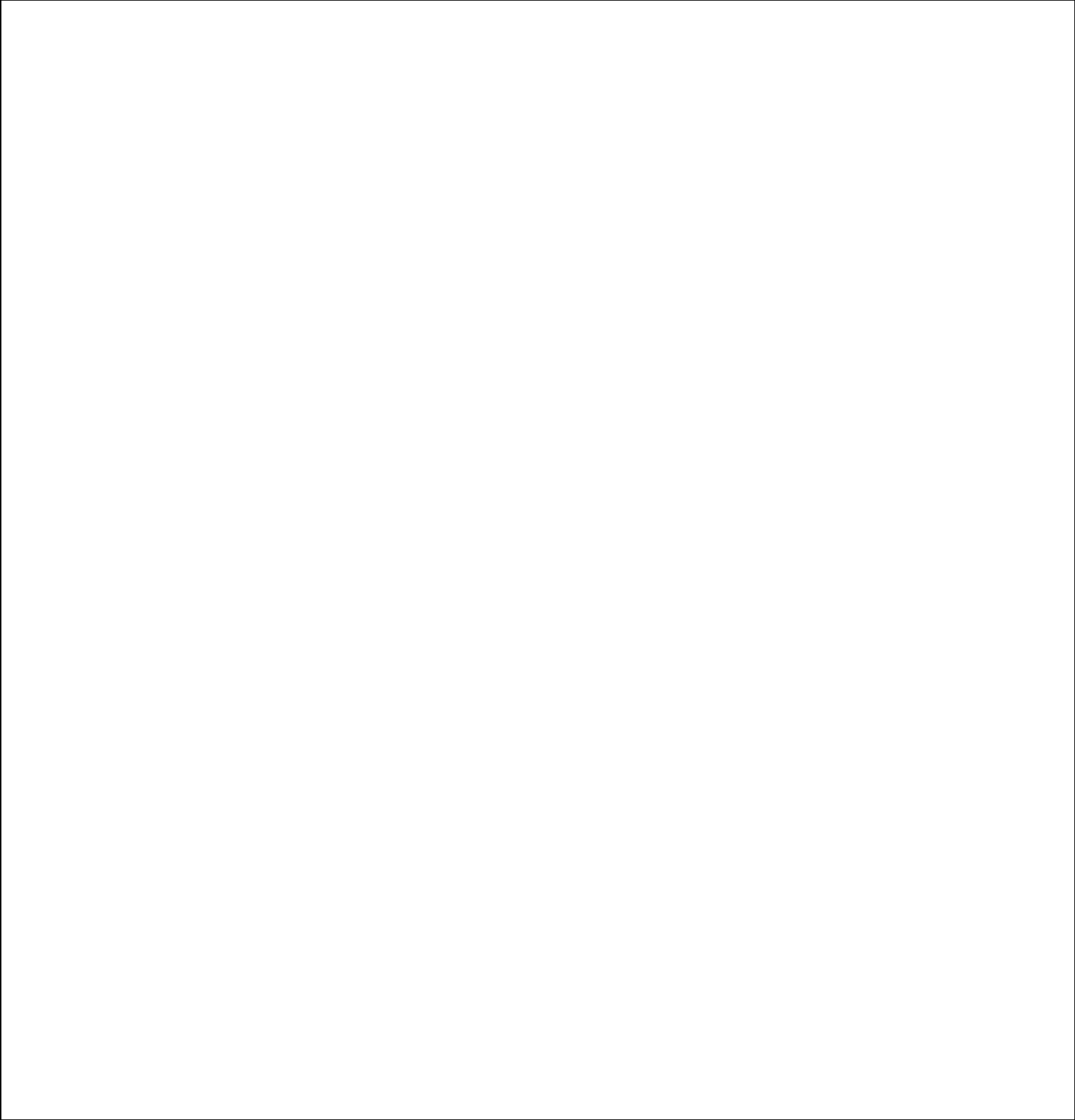
The practice of crossbreeding

The value of crossbreeding

REQUIREMENT 6: Complete ONE of the following options:

Sheep Option

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

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a student to draw a sketch of a live lamb and indicate the locations of various wholesale and retail cuts of meat.

REQUIREMENT B: Discuss how wools are sorted and graded.

REQUIREMENT C: Do ONE of the following:

REQUIREMENT 1: Raise a lamb from weaning to market weight. Keep records of feed intake, weight gains, medication, vaccination, and mortality. Present your records to your counselor for review.

☐ Completed

REQUIREMENT 2: Visit a farm or ranch where sheep are raised. Describe what you saw and explain what you learned. If you cannot visit a sheep farm or ranch, view a video from a breed association, or research the internet (with your parent’s permission) for information on sheep. Tell about your findings.

REQUIREMENT D: Describe some differences between the production of purebred and commercial lambs. Then select two breeds that would be appropriate for the production of crossbred market lambs in your region. Identify which breed the ram should be.

Differences between the production of purebred and commercial lambs

Two breeds that would be appropriate for the production of crossbred market lambs in your region

| Ram | Ewe |
|-----|-----|
| | |

REQUIREMENT E: Define the following terms: wether, ewe, ram, lamb.

Wether

Ewe

Ram

Lamb

REQUIREMENT 7: Find out about three career opportunities in animal science. Pick one and find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you.

Three career opportunities

Education, training, and experience required for one profession