



ADMIN

ALYSSA -A Homesteader, Mom, and Meat Rabbit Raiser

I teach backyard homesteaders how to raise meat rabbits so they can confidently produce wholesome, healthy meat for their family.

At Homestead Rabbits, we have over 10 years experience raising rabbits and will help you avoid common beginner mistakes so you can hit the ground running. We'll walk you through every step of the process from finding good stock, to feeding, breeding, butchering and preparing a rabbit for dinner.

This blog has been a dream of mine for a long time. I have streamlined my methods over the years to get maximum benefit from minimum input and labor.

Homestead Rabbits is a valuable resource of sound information, tried-and-tested methods, DIY tutorials, and helpful tips on raising meat rabbits.



Our story

My husband and I purchased a historic farm in central New York in 2007. I was very pregnant with our fourth child. The first few years on the farm were a blur as we struggled to keep up with the large property, a home business, and lots of little ones.

Life on a homestead can be hard. Many times I asked myself: "Why am I doing this?"

The answer always came from deep within. "I want my children to know how to work. I want them to know where their food comes from, I want them to know how to feed themselves."

These principles are fundamental and sadly missing from our culture today. As such, we have diligently taught our children how to garden, sew, cook, can, bake, compost, and raise chickens.

In 2012, our older children got involved in 4-H. Our daughters raised and showed some cute pet bunnies. My oldest son wanted a "manly rabbit" so we ended up with our first Champagne. Champagne d'Argent rabbits are a beautiful heritage breed from France. Of all our rabbits, he was the calmest, sweetest guy – I liked everything about him. After some research, we decided to start raising meat rabbits to feed our large family – Champagnes were the breed of choice.

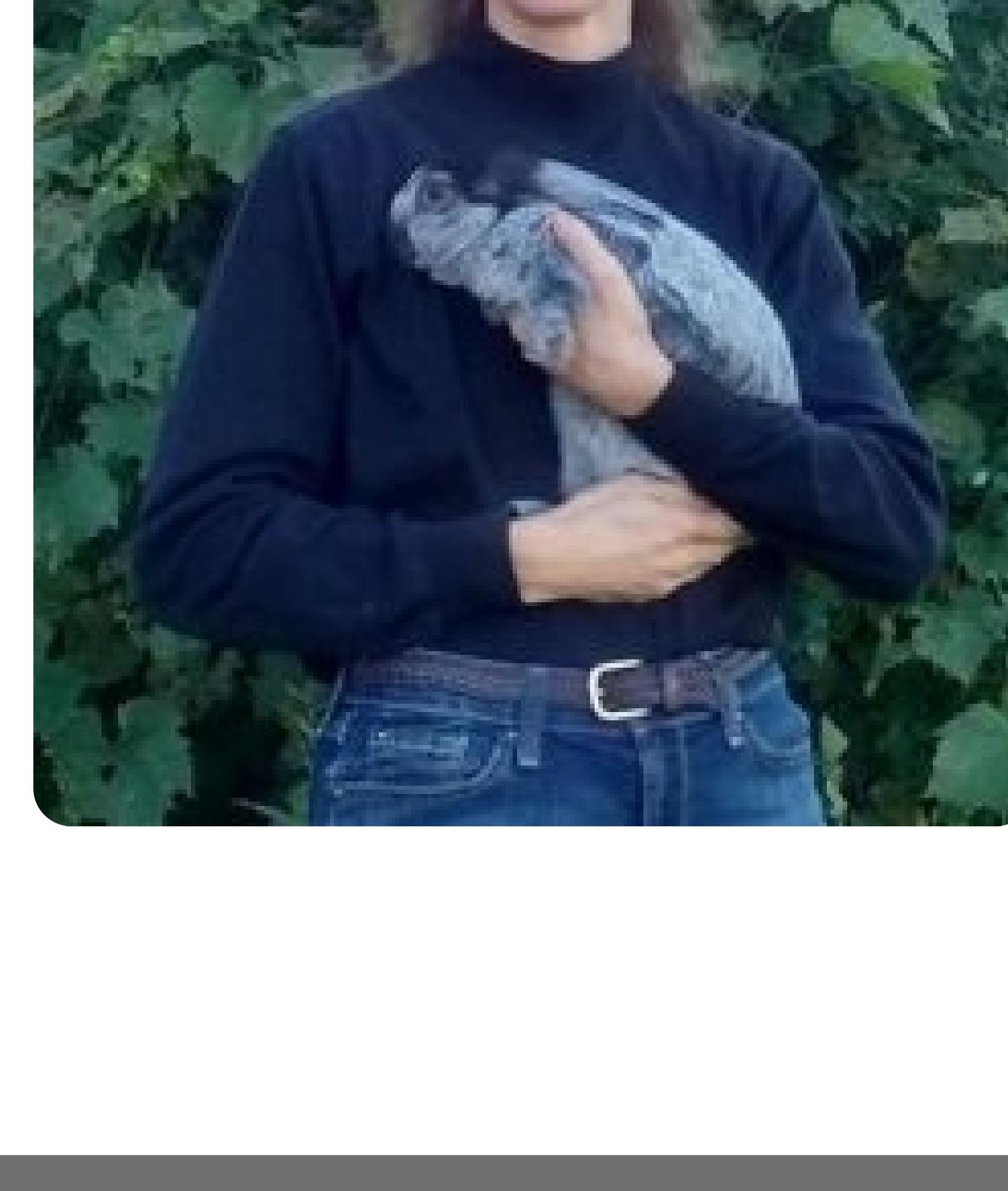
Before purchasing breeding stock, I wanted to make sure I could butcher a rabbit and that the family liked the taste of rabbit. I purchased a live fryer from a local breeder and dressed it myself (with a little moral support from a friend). We let the cleaned rabbit rest in the fridge for 2 days, then proceeded to prepare it for dinner.

All of the kids were amazed at how different, yet similar it looked to chicken. I made Hunter Rabbit. Everyone LOVED it!

Since then, we have acquired quality breeding stock and are enjoying plenty of healthy meat and bountiful garden harvests (due to their fertile manure). Our children help care for the rabbits. They make sure each bunny gets plenty of loving attention! The older kids assist with record-keeping, tattooing, processing, and cooking yummy rabbit dishes for dinner.

Few things about me

I love dark chocolate, the darker the better!
My favorite author/illustrator is Tasha Tudor
I love seeing things grow.
Born in New Hampshire – the Granite State.
When I was young, I set a goal to dress out a chicken just like 'Ma' in 'Little House on the Prairie'. I achieved my goal when I was 30 and had the opportunity to process some extra roosters.
As a teenager, I raised and trained a team of oxen calves in 4-H.
I have a quiet personality and am usually soft-spoken, except when I am excited about something.
We do not watch TV – just a family movie once a week.
I would rather get a workout shoveling manure than run on a treadmill.
You will find our family in church every Sunday. The sabbath is a sacred day of worship, rest, and renewal.



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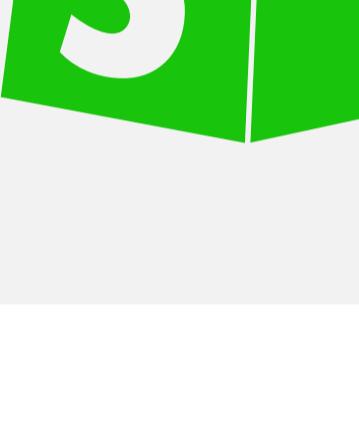
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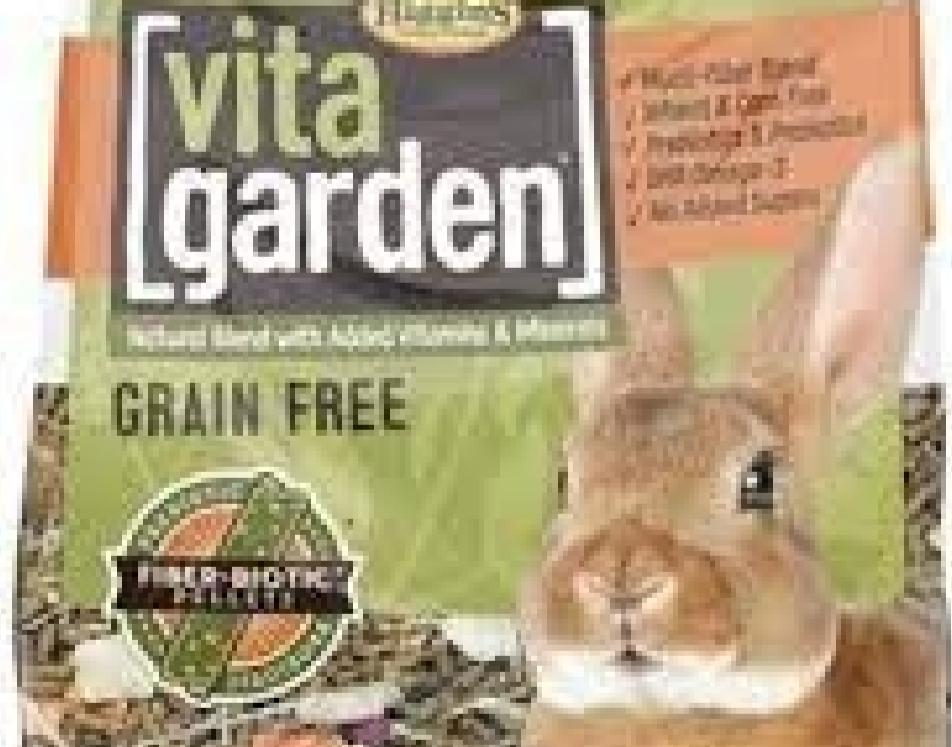


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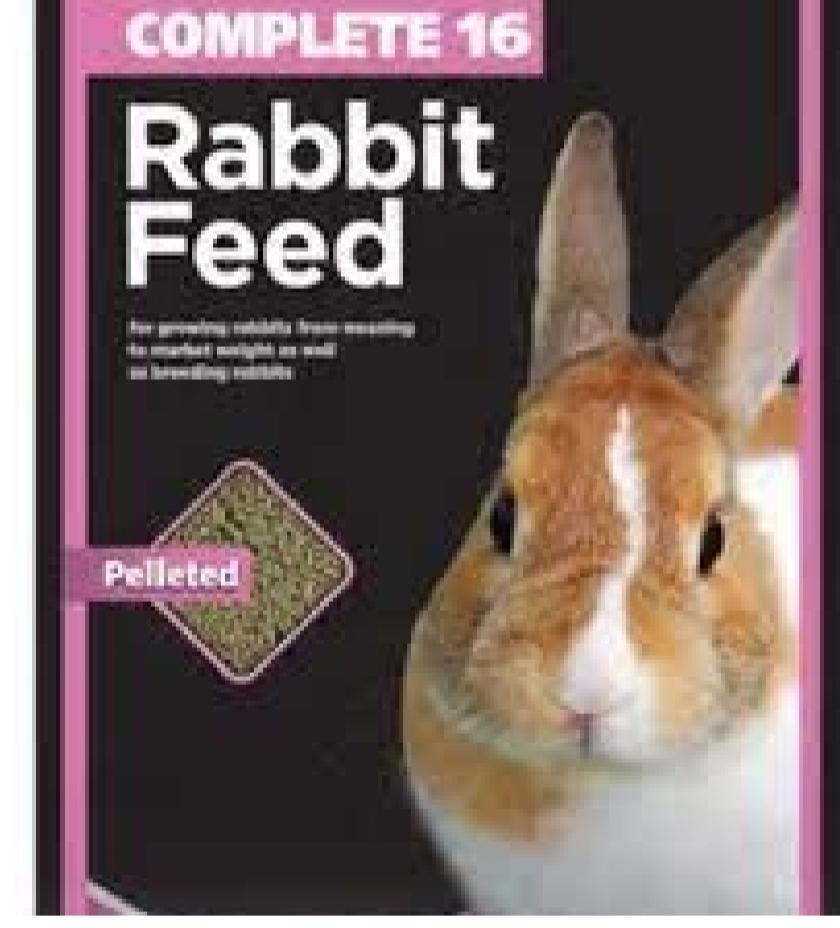

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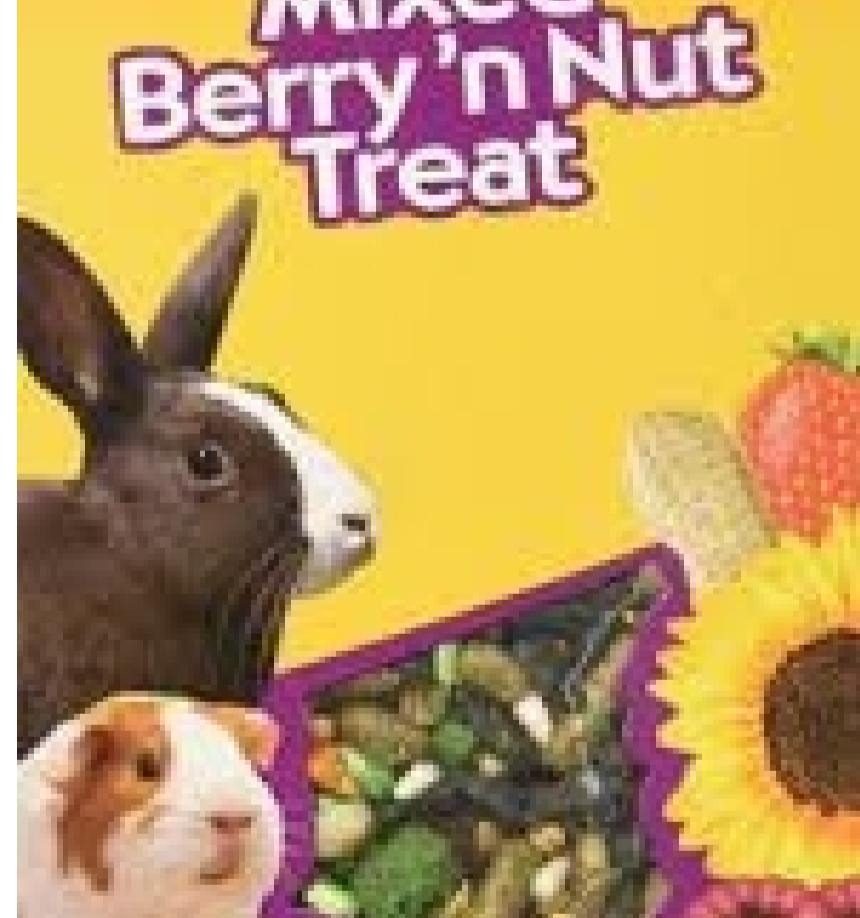

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