

Best Management Practices for Commercial Rabbit Production

Best Management Practices for Commercial Rabbit Production Manual, Version 1.0 October 2013

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"Introduction

Rabbit production in Ontario is gaining in commercial significance and producers are looking for ways to improve their operations and financial sustainability. Previous projects have identified opportunities for improvements in rabbit management practices, and show evidence of high levels of mortality, disease and variation of practices between rabbitries.

Through a comprehensive literature review and guidance from academia, industry, producers and government, Ontario Rabbit has developed this best management practices manual as a tool for producers looking to implement the most up to date technologies, management practices and welfare standards on their operations and ultimately improve their bottom lines. The guidelines offer proven, practical and affordable solutions for rabbit producers to effectively manage their animals and farms in order to produce a clean, nutritious and high quality product for consumers.

With international standards for rabbit husbandry and welfare constantly improving, it is imperative that Canada embraces these innovations in order for the sector to adapt, grow and remain competitive in the marketplace. This best management practices resource is also a critical step in preparing the rabbit industry for the development of protocols that can be used to assure consumers the product they eat is safe, and other tools producers can use to improve their husbandry and profitability, such as development of National Biosecurity Standards and Codes of Practice. Best management practices can be implemented by all rabbit producers, small or large, and the development of tools that this project could lead to, will allow them to competitively access new export and domestic markets while proving they meet requirements of consumers, retailers and processors."

The 154 page spiral bound, soft cover BMP "Table of Contents" includes:

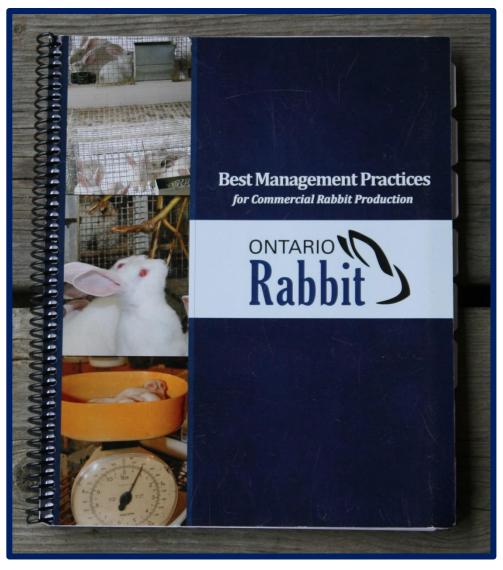
- Rabbit Production in Ontario
- Economics and Financial Management
- Housing and Equipment
- Facility Management
- Rabbit Management
- Reproduction
- Nutrition and Feeding
- Transportation and Pre-slaughter Care of Rabbits
- Breeding Stock
- Record Keeping

Also included are appendices covering: Health and Diseases of Rabbits, Body Condition Scoring, Biosecurity and Record Keeping Approaches.

Ontario Rabbit's Best Management **Practices for Commercial Rabbit Production Manual** is a must have for anyone interested in raising healthy, prolific, profitable rabbits. The intent of this valuable resource tool is to provide guidelines on how best to manage rabbit production, health issues and many more topics pertaining to the rabbit industry.

The **BMP** manual is now available for \$50.00 (includes shipping in Ontario)

Mail your cheque made out to "Ontario Rabbit" to P.O. Box 634 Brussels, Ontario N0G 1H0 Also send your return address. If the mailing address is outside Ontario please contact Ontario Rabbit at info@ontariorabbit.ca for additional shipping costs.



Ontario Rabbit wishes to thank the

members of the Advisory Committee of rabbit producers, veterinarians, researchers and government representatives for all their work, knowledge and dedication to this project.

Ontario Rabbit would also like to acknowledge Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for providing an investment into this project, without which it would not have been possible.

Investment in this project has been provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program (CAAP) which is delivered by Industry Councils from Ontario and Quebec.

Opinions expressed in this document are those of Ontario Rabbit and not necessarily the Department's.





