

2018 Herdsman Youth Winner  
Kaylee Garrett ~ Rolling Hills Rabbitry, TX



*Kaylee and Rolling Hills Alpha*

It is a complete honor to win the title of Herdsman for 2018. It has taken a lot of hard work and consistency to make it this far. Being a herdsman isn't just going to shows and competing. It's about the early morning chores, grooming, posing, and breeding. It is dealing with setbacks: losing litters, health challenges, and blown coats. Breeding Holland Lops is a challenging task; it takes dedication.

Listening is vital. I truly love going to the shows, hearing the comments from the experts, and going back to the barn to make adjustments to my breeding plan. A breeder never knows everything. Holland Lop people are the nicest and most helpful people around; be willing to take their advice. I am continuously hearing about new ways to improve my stock and myself. It's important to always be open-minded for the betterment of the breed.

My mentors have been the absolute reason for my success. Brian and Cindi Hinton have taken me under their wing, and have graciously given their time to show me how to be successful in this field. They lead by example. They've taught me how to be gracious and roll with the punches, how to realize I can't keep them all, but mostly they've instilled the value of good sportsmanship and the necessity to pass on my education to others. I'm glad I've listened to my mentors, did everything they taught me, asked questions when I didn't understand, and put my hands on rabbits to better comprehend what I need.

So, for other youth out there that may be just starting, be patient. Put your heart into your program. Always be willing to learn and listen as well as teach others what you know. Take pride. Above all, have fun!

Kaylee Garrett



*Rolling Hill's Hagrid*



*Rolling Hill's Astraea*



*Rolling Hills Hades*



*Rolling Hill's Aphrodite*