

Goat – Meat

Description: The 4-H goat educational program and related activities (such as workshops, tours) provide youth a fun and hands-on learning experience which develops both goat subject skills (such as nutrition, housing, and health care) and life skills (such as responsibility, decision-making, nurturing, and communications) under the direction of caring adults.

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- Enroll in 4-H, pay annual program fee, and enter project in V2.4honline by January 15.
- Goats must be ID in V2.4honline by May 15
- Enter exhibit(s) in FairEntry by May 24, 2024. See page 7 Rule #24.

To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, meat goats, dairy goats, poultry and rabbits, 4-H members must be certified through the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program. This is an annual program that can be completed via online modules or in-person trainings. For more information about in-person trainings in our county, please contact your County Extension Office. More information about YQCA is available at <http://yqca.org/>.

Meat Goat Project-

1. All animals to be shown must be identified and listed in V2.4honline by May 15. Make note of all project females yet to kid, newborn kids as natural additions must be identified and the information given to the Executive Committee before the fair. Animals not identified and declared will not be eligible for exhibition. In addition, animals will need to be entered in Fair Entry. All Meat and Dairy Goat Wethers will be tagged at the ID day.

2. All divisions required to: (1) select, care for, fit and train your goats, (2) practice good feeding and health habits, (3) animals must appear in good health, well fed, and be free of communicable diseases/illnesses in addition to the executive committee check. Pens must be kept clean and clean water available to animals during the fair. This will be monitored by the Executive Committee and dealt with accordingly. Disqualification from next year's project participation may be the result of rule infraction.

3. To better assist you with completion of your project and to prepare you for the 4-H Fair exhibition, it is recommended that each exhibitor attend at least one Goat Workshop. 4-H member is required to complete the activities as outlined on activity sheets by the May 24, 2024. Activity sheets are to be submitted to the Extension Office by May 24, 2024. Activity sheets, which are late or incomplete, will result in the loss of eligibility for showmanship and 4-H member will receive a participation ribbon for the project. Late activity sheets must be received by the end of check in. Members not turning in completed activity sheets are ineligible to show. The Goat Committee may recognize up to three members in each level for outstanding work with their Activity Sheets. Activity sheets will be done according to the following grades, as of January 1 of current exhibition year.

Level 1 – Grades 3-4-5

Level 2 – Grades 6-7-8

Level 3 – Grades 9-10-11-12

4. **EXHIBIT:** No more than two goats per class.

5. **POSTERS.** (See Allen County General 4-H Rules: Poster/ Label Rule) Check your Rule Book for specific requirements. The 4-H member must construct this poster during the current fair year.

6. **Ownership:** See General Rules.

7. Current **HEALTH RULES** as specified by the Indiana Board of Animal Health must be complied with. Animals will be examined before unloading at the County Fair.

8. If an age (or breed) class is available for an animal it must be shown in that class. An animal can be shown in one breed class, pack goat and/or harness goat class. Only animals entered in goat project classes can be housed with the project entries during the fair. This limitation does not apply to any newborns dependent upon mothers being exhibited.

9. All Market does and weathers must be shown with milk teeth in place. All Market does and weathers will be weighed in April by the Goat committee. All Market does and weathers will be scanned, tattooed or ear tagged on that day. A Rate-of-Gain award will be presented at the fair.

10. No animal is to be removed before scheduled **RELEASE** time without direct permission from the Executive Committee. Penalty for noncompliance is loss of ribbons/ awards, and not exhibiting the following year.

11. Animals are to be shown by exhibitor or other Allen County 4-H member.

12. At the County Fair, 4-H members may gain assistance in preparation of their animals from family members, Allen County 4-H leaders or other Indiana 4-H members.

13. To be sold in the Livestock Auction or to market, market does and weathers must be 40 pounds or above and must be in good health condition. If the animal is below 40 pounds, owner will be responsible for removal of animal from fair. Committee has final decision for market eligibility. Lower weight animals may receive a lower market value.

14. Any crossbred wether with 1 percent or more Boer, Pygora, Kinder or other meat goat breed, will be shown in the meat goat classes.

15. It is strongly suggested that does expected to kid within one week of the fair, not be brought to the fair.

16. Only animals exhibited in the market class are eligible for the Auction.

17. **Mini 4-H Meat Goat project:** This project is to introduce you to the 4-H meat goat project. You will not need to own your own goats yet or even live in an area where you can keep goats to take this project. 4-H'er must let the Extension office know by May 24, 2024, if you will be showing.

General rules: A) You must be enrolled in Mini 4-H (grades K-2) at the time you sign up for this project. B) Mini 4-H complete Allen County Mini Goat Identification form if you plan to exhibit live goat at the Fair by May 24. C) You will need to partner with another traditional (grades 3-12) 4-H member enrolled in Allen County meat goat project. If you do not know anyone showing meat goats contact the meat goat committee and we will partner you with someone in your area. D) You are encouraged to attend the meat goat workshops each year for better understanding of the project. E) You must complete the mini 4-H meat goat project manual. F) You must work with the meat goat 4-H member you pick or are assigned to for 10 hours over the summer. Learn how to feed, groom, and show the meat goats. You can watch as they feed and groom but you need to learn how to show them because you will be showing a goat from that 4-H member at the county fair. G) At the county fair you will show in the Mini 4-H meat goat class. You will show one of the 4-H members goats that you worked with before the fair, the goat must be shown by a traditional Allen County 4-H member at the fair.

18. A deposit will be required prior to penning of the animals at the Allen County Fair. Deposit will be refunded in full at the conclusion of the fair provided that the stall is left clean, undamaged, and gates are put back on skids.

19. County Born and bred Class. To show in this class the animal may not be shown in any other market or breeding classes. They may be part of Get of Sire, Produce of the Dam, and Mother & Daughter classes. The goat must be born and raised in Allen County. There will be (1) market class of all wights and (1) breeding doe class of all ages.

20. Breeding meat does will be judged utilizing American Boer Goat Association (ABGA) Standards.

Classes at the Fair: Market Animals– Market does, dairy and meat wethers will be shown by wight. Number of classes will depend on the number of animals weighted in. (Light, medium and heavy classes) Market does, meat weathers and dairy wethers will be divided into their own classes. (Angora, Nigerian Dwarf, Pygmy wethers are not included in this rule. They are shown by breed) Market does exhibited in this class may not be exhibited in breeding classes.

Classes at the Fair:

Market Animals – Both market dairy and meat will be shown by weight. (Angora, Nigerian Dwarf and Pygmy wethers are not included in this rule. They are shown by breed) Dry does exhibited in this class may not be exhibited in breeding classes.

Meat Goat Female Classes:

Junior Does:

Under 3 months

3 months and under 6 months

6 months and under 9 months

9 months to under 12 months

Yearling Does:

12 months to under 16 months

16 months to under 20 months

20 months to under 24 months

12 months and under 24 months

Senior Does: Senior Does must have kidded or show signs of a pregnancy

24 months to under 30 months

30 months to under 36 months

36 months and older

Mother & Daughter - Two does any age, so long as one (1) is the daughter of the other.

Produce of Dam - Two does from the same Dam

Get of Sire - Any two does from same Sire

Pygmy Wethers:

0-6 mos.

6-12 mos.

12 mos.-24 mos.

2 yrs. and older

Angora Goat Classes:

Junior Does:

under 3 months

3 months and under 6 months

6 months and under 9 months

9 months to under 12 months

Yearling Does:

12 months to under 16 months

16 months and under 20 months

20 months and under 24 months

12 months and under 24 months

Senior Does: Senior Does must have kidded or show signs of a pregnancy

24 months to under 30 months

30 months to under 36 months

36 months and older

Mother & Daughter-

Produce of Dam-Two does from the same Dam

Get of Sire-Any two does from same Sire

Angora Wethers:

0-6 mos.

6-12 mos.

12 mos.-24 mos.

2 yrs. and older

SHOWMANSHIP will be conducted in three divisions:

Member will compete in level according to school grade as of January 1 of current exhibition year.

Junior for grades 3-4-5

Intermediate for grades 6-7-8

Senior for grades 9-10-11-12

Overall Showman for all current Junior, Intermediate, Senior, previous Senior *and previous Master Showman* winners. Winner is eligible to go on to Showman of Showmen (see Showman of Showmen). Once an exhibitor has won a division, they must compete in the next higher division the following year.

Showmanship participants must show their own animal which they exhibited in an earlier class.