

# Goat - Dairy

## 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.

## Exhibit Guidelines:

- Goats must be ID in V2.4honline by May 15
- Fair Entry June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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 (YQCA) or in-person trainings (QLC). For more information about obtaining in-person trainings in our county, please contact your County Extension Office. Online certification is available at <https://yqcaprogram.org/>

## Exhibit Guidelines:

### Dairy Goat Project– No Horns on Dairy Goats

- 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.
- 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
- 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 members are required to fill in an information sheet that lists goats and number of pens outlined by Fair Entry date. These sheets are to be submitted to the Extension office by Fair Entry date. We must have numbers for pen assignments. **Please list the pens your entire family needs on one sheet so we do not double count pens needed.**
- 4) EXHIBIT: No more than two goats per class.
- 5) Ownership: See General Rules.
- 6) 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.
  - a. Goats for wether show, over 4 months old on the date of the show, must be neutered. There can be no sign of the scrotum if they were not banded and any signs of infection will not be allowed. The committee will inspect wethers at check-in. Animals not in compliance will need to be taken home.
  - b. All Dairy goats must be dehorned.
  - c. All Dairy wethers will be weighed in April or May by the Goat committee.

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- 7) 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.
- 8) No animal is to be removed before scheduled RELEASE time without direct permission from the Executive Committee.
- 9) Animals are to be shown by exhibitor or another Allen County 4-H member in 3<sup>rd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Mini's may not assist.
- 10) Participation in milk production contest is encouraged at the fair for all milking does. Production Champion award will be given to high producing doe. See the Executive Committee at the fair check-in for time and location. Champion and Reserve Champion Senior Doe in Milk can auction a milk product. Parent(s) may assist during milk production competition, but 4-H'er must be present. Milk Production does MUST weigh in on Monday between published weigh in times.
- 11) It is strongly suggested that does expect to kid within one week of the fair, not be brought to the fair.
- 12) Show Attire: Whites are preferred, black pants are acceptable. No shorts, sandals or inappropriately cut shirts.
- 13) Tattoos are checked at Check-in and must be legible. If not legible, goats will be excused from fairgrounds.
- 14) 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 on skids.

**Mini 4-H Dairy Goat project:** This project is to introduce you to the 4-H dairy 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.

## **General rules:**

- 1) You must be enrolled in Mini 4-H (grades K-2) at the time you sign up for this project.
- 2) Mini 4-H complete Allen County Mini Goat Identification form if you plan to exhibit live goat at the fair on project check in date.
- 3) You will need to partner with another traditional (grades 3-12) 4-H member enrolled in Allen County dairy goat project. If you do not know anyone showing dairy goats contact the dairy goat committee and we will partner you with someone in your area.
- 4) You are encouraged to attend the dairy goat workshops each year for better understanding of the project.
- 5) You are encouraged to complete the mini-4-H dairy goat project manual.
- 6) You must work with the dairy goat 4-H member you pick or are assigned to for 10 hours over the summer. Learn how to feed, groom, and show the dairy 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.
- 7) At the county fair you will show in the Mini 4-H dairy 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.

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8) Able to participate in the obstacle course. See performance goat rule below showmanship for more information.

## **Dairy Goat Classes at the Fair: Dairy Goat Female Classes Shown by breed characteristics.**

### **Show Junior Does by breed at Dry:**

A Champion & Reserve Champion will be chosen and given a trophy

- Junior Kids (under 4 months) February 20-June 20, 2025
- Senior Kids (4 months & under 8 months) January 20-February 19, 2025
- Junior Yearlings (8 months & under 12 months) October 20, 2024– June 19, 2025
- Senior Yearlings (12 months & under 24 months) June 20, 2024-June 20, 2025

### **Alpine**

- Junior Kids (April – Current)
- Intermediate Kids – (March 1-March 20)
- Senior Kids (January 1 – February 28)
- Junior Yearlings (8 months & under 12 months)
- Senior Yearlings (12 months & under 24 months)

### **Lamancha**

- Junior Kids (April – Current)
- Intermediate Kids – (March 1-March 20)
- Senior Kids (January 1 – February 28)
- Junior Yearlings (8 months & under 12 months)
- Senior Yearlings (12 months & under 24 months)

### **Nigerian Dwarf**

- Junior Kids (April – Current)
- Intermediate Kids – (March 1-March 20)
- Senior Kids (January 1 – February 28)
- Junior Yearlings (8 months & under 12 months)
- Senior Yearlings (12 months & under 24 months)

### **Nubian**

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### **Oberhasli**

- Junior Kids (April – Current)

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## Sable

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## Toggenburg

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**Show Senior Does in Milk:** A Champion & Reserve Champion will be chosen and given a trophy

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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

## **Nigerian Wethers:**

- 0-6 mos.
- 6-12 mos.
- 12 mos.-24 mos.
- 2 -5 years
- 5 year & Over

## **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 must be exhibited an earlier class in the dairy show in order to qualify. (See Showman of Showmen)**

## **Performance Classes: (Open to both Dairy and Meat Goat Animals)**

Obstacle Course:

1. Mini 4-Her's may participate in the obstacle course. They must use the traditional 4-Her's animal they have worked with and shown in the mini class. This will not be judged or timed. No awards besides participation will be given.
2. Traditional 4-Her's will be judged and times. The obstacle course will be run by the age of the goat. Junior, Intermediate, and Senior animals will be run in separate classes. A 4-Her may enter 2 goats per class. The winner from each age group will run a final obstacle course and the award will be given to the overall winners and not for each class.

Costume Class:

1. Open to traditional 4-Her's
2. Mini's may participate as part of the costume with their traditional sibling or mentor. They may not handle the goat for this class and only the traditional 4-Her's will be judged for the overall award.
3. Winners will be named for each level: Junior, Intermediate, Senior. Overall Champion will be awarded by combining all age groups.

**Goat Educational Poster Now Under Animal Education**