

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.

Exhibit Checklist:

- Goats must be ID in V2.4online by May 15
- Fair Entry June 8th, 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:

Meat Goat Project-

- 1) All animals to be shown must be identified and listed in V2.4online 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, and meat market does 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.
- 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 due date. These sheets are to be submitted to the Extension office by Fair Entry due date. Members not completing these informational sheets will ineligible to sell in livestock auction. 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. Do not include tack pens in your pen count.**
- 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.

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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.

- 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, and obstacle 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) All meat Market does and wethers must be shown with milk teeth in place. All Market does and wethers will be weighed in April by the Goat committee. All meat Market does and wethers will be scanned, tattooed or ear tagged on that day. A Rate-of-Gain award will be presented at the fair.
- 9) No animal is to be removed before scheduled RELEASE time without direct permission from the Executive Committee.
- 10) Animals are to be shown by exhibitor or another Allen County 4-H member in 3rd to 12th grade, minis cannot assist.
- 11) A 4-Her may have assistance fitting their animal by any person they choose. This includes but is not limited to leaders, other 4-Her's family or any other person of their choice.
- 12) To be sold in the Livestock Auction or to market, meat market does and wethers 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.
- 13) Any crossbred wether or doe with 1 percent or more Boer, Pygora, Kinder or other meat goat breed, will be shown in the meat goat classes.
- 14) It is strongly suggested that does expected to kid within one week of the fair, not be brought to the fair.
- 15) Only animals exhibited in the market class are eligible for the Auction.
- 16) 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.
- 17) Breeding meat does will be judged utilizing American Boer Goat Association (ABGA) Standards.

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 on project check in date.
- 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

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of the project.

- e. You are encouraged 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.
- h. Able to participate in the obstacle course. See end of meat goat rules below showmanship for more information.

Classes at the Fair: Market Animals– Meat 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) Meat Market does, meat wethers 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) Meat Market does exhibited in this class may not be exhibited in breeding classes.

Classes at the Fair:

Market Animals – Dairy wethers, meat wethers, and market does 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 (Born March 25, 2026-June 24, 2026)
- 3 months and under 6 months (Born December 25, 2025-March 24, 2026)
- 6 months and under 9 months (Born September 25, 2025-Deceber 24, 2025)
- 9 months to under 12 months (Born June 25, 2025-September 24, 2025)

Yearling Does:

- 12 months to under 16 months (Born February 25, 2025-June 24, 2025)
- 16 months to under 20 months (Born October 25, 2024-February 24, 2025)
- 20 months to under 24 months (Born June 25, 2024-October 24, 2024)

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

- 24 months to under 30 months (Born December 25, 2023-June 24, 2024)
- 30 months to under 36 months (Born June 25, 2023-December 24, 2023)
- 36 months and older (Born before June 24, 2023)

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

Produce of Dam - Two does any age, and possibly from different years as long as they are from the same Dam

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Get of Sire - Any two does any age, and possibly from different years as long as they are from same Sire

Pygmy Goat Classes: Purebreds Only

Junior Does:

- Under 3 months (Born March 25, 2026-June 24, 2026)
- 3 months and under 6 months (Born December 25, 2025-March 24, 2026)
- 6 months and under 9 months (Born September 25, 2025-December 24, 2025)
- 9 months to under 12 months (Born June 25, 2025-September 24, 2025)

Yearling Does:

- 12 months to under 16 months (Born February 25, 2025-June 24, 2025)
- 16 months to under 20 months (Born October 25, 2024-February 24, 2025)
- 20 months to under 24 months (Born June 25, 2024-October 24, 2024)

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

- 24 months to under 30 months (Born December 25, 2023-June 24, 2024)
- 30 months to under 36 months (Born June 25, 2023-December 24, 2023)
- 36 months and older (Born before June 24, 2023)

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

Produce of Dam - Two does any age, and possibly from different years as long as they are from the same Dam

Get of Sire - Any two does any age, and possibly from different years as long as they are from same Sire

Angora Goat Classes: Purebreds Only

Junior Does:

- Under 3 months (Born March 25, 2026-June 24, 2026)
- 3 months and under 6 months (Born December 25, 2025-March 24, 2026)
- 6 months and under 9 months (Born September 25, 2025-December 24, 2025)
- 9 months to under 12 months (Born June 25, 2025-September 24, 2025)

Yearling Does:

- 12 months to under 16 months (Born February 25, 2025-June 24, 2025)
- 16 months to under 20 months (Born October 25, 2024-February 24, 2025)
- 20 months to under 24 months (Born June 25, 2024-October 24, 2024)

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

- 24 months to under 30 months (Born December 25, 2023-June 24, 2024)

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- 30 months to under 36 months (Born June 25, 2023-December 24, 2023)
- 36 months and older (Born before June 24, 2023)

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

Produce of Dam - Two does any age, and possibly from different years as long as they are from the same Dam

Get of Sire - Any two does any age, and possibly from different years as long as they are from same Sire

Pygmy Wethers:

- 0-6 mos. (Born December 25, 2025-June 24, 2026)
- 6-12 mos. (Born June 25, 2025-December 24, 2025)
- 12 mos.-24 mos. Born June 25, 2024-June 24, 2025)
- 2 yrs. and older (Born June 24, 2024 or before)

Angora Wethers:

- 0-6 mos. (Born December 25, 2025-June 24, 2026)
- 6-12 mos. (Born June 25, 2025-December 24, 2025)
- 12 mos.-24 mos. Born June 25, 2024-June 24, 2025)
- 2 yrs. and older (Born June 24, 2024 or before)

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.

Performance Classes: (Open to both Dairy and Meat Goat Animals but these will be run following the Dairy Goat Show not during the meat goat show.)

Obstacle Course:

- 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.
- 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

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and the award will be given to the overall winners and not for each class.

Costume Class:

- Open to traditional 4-Her's
- 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.
- Winners will be named for each level: Junior, Intermediate, Senior. Overall Champion will be awarded by combining all age groups.

Goat Educational Poster is Under Animal Education