Extension Animal Husbandry

Department of Animal Science

Meat Goat Exhibitor's Project Guide
(7 - 8 Years of Age)

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General Knowledge Information

Taking part in a 4-H Livestock Project can be an exciting and rewarding experience. Through the meat goat project you are given the opportunity to learn about taking care of an animal, working with other young people, and developing sound judgment skills. When beginning with any new project or activity it is a learning experience for all involved, but remember the more you practice and participate the more you will develop the necessary skills to be a success.

Below are the most important aspects that you should know about your project animal to make your learning experience complete. These items will expand your knowledge above the five and six year old level into new and more challenging areas.

Items to Learn and Know

- Basic information from the 5 - 6 year old Meat Goat Exhibitor's Project Guide (ANS 96-604S/G)
- Differences between forages and concentrates
- Products produced: *Caprine*-Spanish for goat kid meat, *Chevon*-goat meat, and *Chivo*-meat from an older goat
- Ruminant digestive system with its 4 compartment stomach: rumen, reticulum, omasum, abomasum
- Physical strengths and weaknesses of animal exhibited
- Species Terminology: Buck - male
  Doe - female
  Wether - castrated male
  Kid - baby goat

Body Parts to Know

- Stifle
- Loin
- Flank
- Pastern
- Hock
- Rump
- Shoulder

*Image of a goat showing body parts.*
Meat Goat Showmanship Danish Standards for 7 and 8 Year Old Exhibitors

Showmanship provides the opportunity to show an animal to the best of your ability. You are judged on how well you show your animal. Judging for showmanship does not include the conformation of the animal. Practice and planning will help you improve your showmanship skills. “Meat Goat Showmanship” fact sheet (ANS 96-603S/G) is available from your county Cooperative Extension office as a reference source for more in-depth coverage of showmanship styles.

Below are the showmanship standards for 5 and 6 year old youth. These standards are established to provide youth with guidelines of the more important aspects of developing showmanship skills.

Showmanship Skills to Develop
1. Be able to perform all the skills for 5 - 6 year olds. (ANS 96-604S/G)
2. Lead and control animal with proper technique.
3. Ability to display animal so that the judge has the best view of the animal at all times.
4. Be aware of the surroundings and show process. Watch the judge, your animal, and the other exhibitors.
5. Be courteous and helpful to the other exhibitors.
6. Answer age-appropriate questions.

Description of Group Ribbon Colors

Purple  Far exceeds established showmanship standards
Blue    Exceeds established showmanship standards
Red     Meets established showmanship standards
White   Does not meet established showmanship standards

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