



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University



4-H GOAT PROJECT Livestock Projects



Projects Available

- Market Goat
- Market Breeding Goat
- Breeding Goat
- Fiber/Pygmy
- Utility

Why Goats?

This project teaches you to care for live animals by learning about animal health, nutrition, selection and breeding.

Resources

- Goat Resource Handbook
Recommended that one book per family is used
- Livestock e-Record
- Breeding & Dairy Goat Supplement
- Meat Quality Assurance

Tips

- Barn or shed should have 15 square feet per animal
- Fence should be minimum of 48 inches tall
- Fresh and clean water should be available at all times
- Market goats should gain .2-.3 pounds per day
- Market goats should be born between Nov. 1st and March 1st depending on Fair dates
- Feed should contain 16-18% protein
- Exercise a minimum of walking 15 minutes every day
- The average cost per goat is \$500-\$600. This includes the purchase of the animal, feed for 4 months and show supplies
- Soremouth, ringworm and urinary caculi are three common health concerns in goats. Urinary caculi is the most critical and time sensitive of the goat diseases.
- Dehorning or tipping may be required depending on the rules of the show. Be sure to know this before going into the project.
- Ask For Help: 4-H Agent, Leaders or other members in the 4-H Goat Project.

Starting Out Beginner	Learning More Intermediate	Exploring Depth Advanced
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about goat • How to produce a safe, whole-some product • Identify the parts of a goat • Different types of feed • Evaluating goat • Learn about nutritional requirements for goat • Learn about a goat's digestive system • Identifying common goat diseases • Learn how to keep records • Learn how to assume responsibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate technology's impact on goat production • Learn how to show and exhibit your animal • Purchase, feed and care for animals • Evaluate project with leader • Learn about goal setting • Gain knowledge of sound management practices • Develop sportsmanship • Develop public speaking skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to deal with current issues relating to raising goat • Gain leadership skills by helping others learn about goat • Explore career opportunities in the goat industry • Build lifelong friendship