

# CLUB GOAT 101 THE MARKET MEAT GOAT PROJECT

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# Think Ahead

- ▣ What shows will you attend?
  - Know the rules for each show!
    - ▣ Number of goats you can enter, weight limits, ownership dates, and entry deadlines!



# Think Ahead

Why are show dates important?

- Potential weight
- Frame size
- Age



# Facilities and Equipment

- ▣ Construct pens first!
  - Use 4" X 4" wire or small mesh fencing
  - Minimum of 42" high
    - ▣ Keep goats in!
    - ▣ Keep predators out!



# Facilities and Equipment

- Allow 15 sq. feet of space per goat for exercise
- Eliminate sharp objects or corners



# Facilities and Equipment

- ▣ Barns/Sheds must protect goats
  - Heat/sun in summer
  - Well drained/ventilated
  - Cold/drafts in winter
  - Open to south or east
  - Provide 5 sq. feet per head inside



# Facilities and Equipment

## ▣ Feeders and Feeding

- Self feeders 6 inches off the ground
- Hanging feeders at shoulder height
- Troughs should be cleaned regularly to prevent disease



# Feeds and Feeding

**Use a 16-18% pelleted ration!**

Young goats may not know to eat feed.

Start with a leafy alfalfa and top dress with your chosen feed.

Reduce the alfalfa and increase the feed.

If hand feeding, goats should be fed at least twice per day.



# Feeds and Feeding

There is no magic ration!

There is no magic formula!

There is no magic dust!

**There is only good  
Management!**



# Water!!

Water is the most important nutrient in any feeding program!



“If you wouldn’t drink it, then clean it!”

# Water!!

Water makes up over 70% of muscle fiber! Water directly effects the amount of feed an animal will consume!

- ❑ Check water daily
- ❑ Clean buckets regularly
- ❑ Keep water in the shade



# Equipment

- ▣ Water bucket & feed pan
  - Cleaning brush
- ▣ Clippers/Blades
  - Cover coat
  - Fine or medium
- ▣ Goat blankets
- ▣ Socks/Tights
- ▣ Muzzles
- ▣ Hoof trimmers



# Equipment

- ▣ Halters, collars or chains
- ▣ Extension cords
- ▣ Clipping stand
- ▣ Drench gun
- ▣ Scales
- ▣ Show box
- ▣ Fans



# PROSPECT SELECTION!

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT  
DECISIONS YOU WILL MAKE IN  
THE PROJECT!



# Prospect Selection

## Structural Correctness

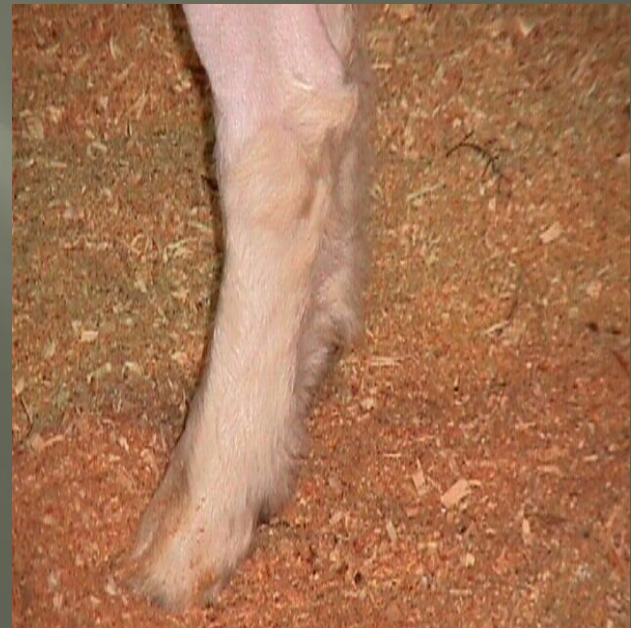
- Erect Head and Neck
  - Extends out top of the shoulders
- Travels Sound
  - Straight/Square
- Strong/Level Top
- Long/Level Rump



# Prospect Selection

## Structural Correctness

- Heavy Bone
- Strong Pasterns
- Correct Pin Set





# Prospect Selection

Avoid

- Open shoulders
- Weak tops
- Light bone
- Weak pasterns
- Short and steep rumps



# Prospect Selection

## Muscle

- Walks Wide
  - Heavier Inner Leg Muscle
- Deep/Heavily Muscled Leg
  - Wide Stifled
- Broad and Thick Back
  - Firm/Hard Handle



# Prospect Selection

## Muscle

- Deep/Long Loin
  - High % Hindsaddle
- Prominent Forearm
  - Directly Relates to Muscle



# Prospect Selection

Length and Extension---

Volume and Capacity

- Body length to body depth
  - Long bodied
  - Long necked
  - Adequate depth
  - Spring of rib



# Prospect Selection

Length and Extension---

Volume and Capacity

- Body width
  - Wide Tracking
  - Front and Rear
  - Deep bodied



# Prospect Selection

Length and Extension---

Volume and Capacity

□ Avoid

- Short bodied
- Shallow bodied
- Narrow based
- Flat ribbed



# Prospect Selection

## Style and Balance

- Parts blend together
  - Neck to shoulder
  - Shoulder into rib
  - Rib cage into the loin
  - Loin into the rump
  - A smooth shoulder, level top, trim middle and straight legs



# Prospect Selection

## Growth Potential

- Ability to grow-Performance!
- Must grow to be competitive-Bloom!

A moderate framed goat with length and extension throughout, correct in structure, is heavily muscled, and combines these traits in a stylish package is more competitive!



# The New Goat!

Let the goat become familiar with his new surroundings...then...

Build a relationship by halter breaking and training the goat to lead.

Once accomplished, move to the finer points-Showmanship!



# What Your Goat Needs to be Successful!

## HEALTH

- Vaccinate for Enterotoxaemia and Tetanus with a good CD&T vaccine
  - Booster every 1-2 months
- Treat internal parasites when you first bring the goat home
  - Treat every month

# What Your Goat Needs to be Successful!

## EXERCISE!

- ▣ Very important in the development
- ▣ Exercise helps to:
  - Develop muscle
  - Tone muscle
  - Regulate condition
  - Increase the overall health of the goat



# What Your Goat Needs to be Successful!

Observe your goats on a daily basis!

Make mental notes of how they act when you walk into the pen at feeding time and when you work with them.



# What Your Goat Needs to be Successful!

Observe your goats on a daily basis!

If you know how your goats act when they are feeling good then you should know when they are feeling bad.



# The Healthy Goat

Know what is normal

- ▣ Observe/Learn habits
  - Eating
  - Urinating
- ▣ Check temperature
  - 102-103 is normal
- ▣ Catch problems early



# Keys to Keeping Goats Healthy

- ▣ Fresh Feed
  - At least twice daily
- ▣ Fresh/Clean Water
  - Every day
  - Small bucket



# Keys to Keeping Goats Healthy

- ▣ Provide free choice mineral
  - Formulated for goats
- ▣ Detect and treat problems early
  - First 8 hours is the most important time to provide treatment!





# Common Problems

- ▣ Pneumonia
- ▣ Urinary Calculi
- ▣ Coccidia
- ▣ Fungus
- ▣ Ringworm



# Common Problems

- ▣ Acidosis
- ▣ Footrot/scald
- ▣ Scours
- ▣ Parasites
- ▣ Overeating
- ▣ Tetanus



# Pneumonia

## CAUSE

- ▣ Wet, dirty pens
- ▣ Poor circulation
- ▣ Dry, dusty pens
- ▣ Stress



# Pneumonia

## SYMPTOMS

- ▣ Elevated temperature
- ▣ Runny nose
- ▣ Rapid, rough sounding breathing
- ▣ Off feed or poor appetite



# Urinary Calculi

## CAUSES

- ▣ Diet, water, genetics
- ▣ Improper Ca:P ratio (2:1 recommended)
  - Stones usually lodge in the bend of the urinary tract known as the sigmoid flexure, or at the tip of the tract called the filiform; either situation prevents urination

# Urinary Calculi

## SYMPTOMS

- ▣ Restlessness, getting up and down
- ▣ Straining to urinate
- ▣ Pawing the ground
- ▣ Tail twitching
- ▣ Looking at abdomen
- ▣ Vocalizations of pain and discomfort
- ▣ Final stages; grinding of teeth



# Urinary Calculi

## TREATMENT

**Treatment for Urinary Calculi should be done by experienced veterinarians**

- ▣ In most cases the tip of the urinary tract must be removed
- ▣ Blockage must be removed with a catheter

# Urinary Calculi

## PREVENTION

- ▣ Proper, balanced feed ration
- ▣ Ration containing ammonium chloride or ammonium sulfate
- ▣ Free choice mineral
- ▣ Provide clean, fresh water

**Know your water source!**





# Coccidia

- ▣ Parasite in the small intestine
- ▣ Damages lining of small intestine
- ▣ Encouraged by wet, unsanitary conditions
- ▣ Can cause death



# Coccidia

## PREVENTION

- ▣ Clean your feed bunks and water buckets daily
- ▣ Coccidiostat in the feed (lasalosisid)
- ▣ Coccidiostat in water (Corid) during times of stress

# Coccidia

## TREATMENT

- Utilize coccidiostats
  - Albon/Corid in water
  - Decox in feed
- Use scour products
  - Scour Halt, Bisol, etc.



# Fungus, Ring Worm

## CAUSE

- ▣ Bacteria or fungus
- ▣ Excessive washing
- ▣ Excessive shearing
- ▣ Exposure at shows
  - Handling or equipment
- ▣ Weakened immune system



# Fungus, Ring Worm



# Fungus, Ring Worm

## PREVENTION

- ▣ Wash or spray animals and equipment with a disinfectant or fungicide



# Fungus, Ring Worm

## TREATMENT

- ▣ Penicillin or other antibiotics
- ▣ Sulfur products
- ▣ IV Sodium Iodide
  - Need experience
  - Follow directions



# Acidosis

## CAUSES

- ▣ Rapid change in feed
- ▣ Overeating

## TREATMENT

- ▣ Anti-acids/gas
- ▣ Penicillian/Tylan 200
- ▣ Watch for bloating
  - 10-30 ml of mineral oil





# Foot Rot Lameness or Limping

## CAUSES

- ▣ Wound to the hoof or pad
- ▣ Untrimmed hooves
- ▣ Wet Conditions
- ▣ Bacteria



# Foot Rot

## TREATMENT

- ▣ Trim and clean hooves
- ▣ Exonel, Nuflor, Penicillin
- ▣ Kopertox or footrot medicine applied to the area
- ▣ Keep pens clean and dry



# Sours

## CAUSES

- ▣ Overeating
- ▣ Bacteria
- ▣ Wet, unsanitary conditions



# Sours

## TREATMENT

- ▣ Treat with Spectinomycin or Biosol
- ▣ Small amount of hay
- ▣ Reduce feed



# Internal Parasites

## SYMPTOMS

- ▣ Unthrifty, loosing weight
- ▣ Pale gums
- ▣ Pale inside eye lid
- ▣ Swelling under jaw
- ▣ Rough hair coat



# Internal Parasites

## PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

- ▣ Keep water buckets clean
- ▣ Keep feed bunks clean
- ▣ Deworm every 30 days
- ▣ Keep pens clean



# Overeating and Tetanus

## Prevention

- ▣ Vaccinate for clostridium perfringens and tetanus (CD&T)
- ▣ Give a booster 2 weeks later
- ▣ Booster every 1-2 months

**If you didn't see the goat vaccinated,  
do it yourself anyway!**

# Good Practices

## NEW PURCHASES

- ▣ Antibiotics for stress
- ▣ Probotics
- ▣ Vaccinate
- ▣ Deworm





# Conclusion/Summary

A market goat project is a job that must be done every day!



# Conclusion/Summary

The Club Goat Project is not about going to the show and showing. It begins long before you ever purchase your first goat!



**REMEMBER!**

**AT LEAST 90% OF YOUR  
SUCCESS IN THE  
SHOWRING DEPENDS ON  
WHAT YOU DO AT HOME!!**

# The End!



# RESOURCES AVAILABLE

[extension.msstate.edu](http://extension.msstate.edu)

Go To:

Agriculture - Livestock - Sheep and Goats



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UNIVERSITY™

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