



Goat

Description:

The 4-H Goat program provides youth with educational information and experiences about different goat species.

Decatur County Expectations

Animal Livestock Record Sheets are to be completed and returned at check-in. Youth will have cared for and fed one (1) or more animals by May 15th (or earlier for weigh-in). All goats will be shown by breed and class. For show purposes, grade animals will be considered one (1) breed. An exhibitor may show no more than two (2) goats in each class.

To be eligible to show in the Mini 4-H show, the participating Mini 4-H member must be enrolled in 4-H Online system by May 15th.

State Fair Entries

An animal does not need to be shown locally in order to be shown at the state fair. If you do not show at the county level, the animal must still be registered by May 15th in 4-H Online.

Exhibit Guidelines

Tag and Tattoo Requirements: All goats must have a 5-digit county and 840-RFID tag obtained at weigh-in or a tattoo. The tagging/tattoo information must be accurately listed in the 4-H Online System. Any animal not officially enrolled by May 15th is not eligible to show at the county or state fair. Registered animals must have legible tattoos that correspond to their papers. Papers must be brought to the 4-H Fair to show as a breed animal. Please check to see that the tattoo is in the ear/tail prior to the fair and it can be clearly read.

General Dairy Goat Rules: All animals must meet all health rules. For complete health rules, see Official Health Requirements. All goats that are in milk shall be required to milk between 9:00pm and 11:00pm the night before the show. Male or female goats with horns are not allowed at the fair. All Wether's must be dehorned, no exception. Every goat must wear a collar and have a tie chain available if needed. No fans will be allowed on the grounds or attached to the outside of pens. Animals must be shown by a participating 4-H member.

General Meat & Pygmy Goat Rules: All animals must meet health rules. For complete health rules, see Official Health Requirements located on the website. Age of animals shall be computed from actual date of judging. Meat goats with horns or scurs will be permitted. For safety reasons, the Project Leader(s) reserve the right to dismiss animals from the show ring which pose a handling threat or their horns are deemed unsafe. Animals enrolled in the meat goat project cannot be enrolled in the dairy goat

project. Likewise, animals in dairy cannot be enrolled in the meat project. Animals must be shown by a participating 4-H goat member

The Project Leader(s) will interpret all rules and will rule on any question not covered in the rules. For information on YQCA or Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care or grounds fee please refer to the website. Additional questions and situations will be handled by the species livestock Project Leaders, 4-H & Youth Development Extension Educator, and the 4-H Council President.

Attire Expectations: It is suggested that the exhibitor wear long dark slacks (no shorts) and a white shirt, or an all-white outfit to exhibit dairy goats. Meat goat exhibitors will wear Western outfits. No holes will be permitted in outfits.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Junior Division Does

Classes:

Zero (0) to under three (3) months

Three (3) to under six (6) months

Six (6) to under nine (9) months

Nine (9) to under twelve (12) months

Twelve (12) to under eighteen (18) months

Eighteen (18) to under twenty-four (24) months: never freshened

Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion

Senior Division: chosen from first place ribbon winners in the above three (3) classes

Senior Division Does

Classes:

Doe one (1) year and under two (2) years

Doe two (2) years and under three (3) years

Doe three (3) years and over

Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion

Senior Division: chosen from first place ribbon winners in the above three (3) classes

Wethers – Meat

All meat goat wethers (purebred and grades) will be shown together by weight. To be eligible to compete all wethers must be born after August 1st of the previous year and must have milk teeth present.

Wethers will be grouped according to weight classes, classes will be generated after registration weigh in. Weight divisions will be established based on the range of weights and number of entries.

All wethers are expected to weigh forty (40) pounds. Except the weight of Pygmy goats, that will be up to the Project Leader(s) discretion. Animals not meeting these weights can show, but are not allowed in the auction or championship lineup.

Wethers – Pygmy

Any exhibitor may show no more than two (2) goats in each class. Any Pygmy Wethers that go through the sale, must go on truck and is not eligible to return next year.

Junior Wethers: one (1) year or younger

Senior Wether: over one (1) year of age

Wethers – Dairy

All dairy goat wethers (purebred and grades) will be shown together by weight. To be eligible to compete all wethers must be born after August 1st of the previous year and must have milk teeth present. Wethers will be grouped according to weight classes, classes will be generated after registration weigh in. Weight divisions will be established based on the range of weights and number of entries.

All wethers are expected to weigh at least forty (40) pounds. The weight of the Nigerian Dwarf goats will be up to the Project Leader(s) discretion. Animals not meeting these weights can show, but are not eligible for the auction or championship lineup.

Order of Show

Alternating classes with the meat goats and show by age, not breed. All goats will be divided into the following classes within each breed:

Junior Kids: born on or after April 1st, 2024

Intermediate Kids: born on March 1st – 31st, 2024

Senior Kids: born January 1st, 2022 – February 28th, 2023

Junior Yearlings (never fresh): born July 11th, 2023 – December 31st, 2023

Senior Yearlings (never fresh): born July 11th, 2023 – May 31st, 2023

Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion

Junior Division: chosen from first place ribbon winners in above four (4) classes

Doe: One (1) year and under two (2) years – milking

Doe: Two (2) years and under three (3) years – milking

Doe: Three (3) years and under five (5) years – milking

Doe: Five (5) years and over – milking

Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion

Senior Division: chosen from first place ribbon winners in above classes

Get of Sire: three (3) does, any age, having the same sire

Produce of Dam: two (2) does, any age, having the same dam

Mother & Daughter: to consist of two (2) does, any age, so long as one is the daughter of the other. Entry must be in the name of owner of the mother. Daughter must be owned by exhibitor or member of immediate family exhibitor. Both animals must have been shown in their respective classes as noted above.

Showmanship

After winning Junior or Senior Showmanship, the contestant must move to the next level the following year. Expert Showmanship may be won any number of times. Winners of each class are eligible to advance to the next level in the same year. Categories are for grade completed. There will be one (1) exhibitor from Dairy and one (1) exhibitor from Meat Goat to participate in Tom Swain. Categories are as follows:

Beginner Showmanship: Grades 3rd – 5th

Intermediate Showmanship: Grades 6th – 8th

Senior Showmanship: Grades 9th – 12th

Expert Showmanship: anyone who has won Senior Showmanship