

GOATS: MEAT GOATS

PLEASE NOTE: Any changes/updates from the previous year will be *BOLDED and ITALICIZED*! Pay special attention to any projects with *BOLD, ITALICIZED WORDS* because they have changed from last year.

The 4-H Meat 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. State Fair Entries: Check with the Indiana State Fair website (<http://www.indianastatefair.com/>) for sign up deadlines without penalties.

Completion, exhibition participation, and State Fair information for Goats			
Division/Level	Grades	Completion Activities Needed	Maximum State Fair Entries
Level 1	Grades 3-5	EXHIBITION –or– RECORD SHEET	Check IN State Fair Website
Level 2	Grades 6-8	EXHIBITION –or– RECORD SHEET	Check IN State Fair Website
Level 3	Grades 9-12	EXHIBITION –or– RECORD SHEET	Check IN State Fair Website

SUGGESTED REFERENCE MATERIALS (available for purchase in Extension Office or shop4-h.org)

- Level 1: Just Browsing
- Level 2: Get Growing with Meat Goats
- Level 3: Meating the Future

GUIDELINES

1. Refer to the Hendricks County 4-H Livestock and Animal Section for General Guidelines related to all livestock projects. See 4-H Policies, Entry & Exhibit Guidelines for poster and general display guidelines.
2. Be sure to enroll in the project on 4HOnline and enter exhibit information into FairEntry by designated date.
2025 designated FairEntry Deadline is Tuesday, July 1st at 11:59 p.m.
3. Complete the Record Sheet (if not exhibiting at the Hendricks County 4-H Fair).
4. If wanting to exhibit a poster/display/notebook related to this species, 4-H members may do so under the “Animal Education” Project. (see page 24 for details)

MEAT/PYGMY GOAT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The following limits apply to meat goats shown at the Hendricks County Fair:
 - Ten (10) total goats; limit two per class.
 - Due to space constraints, an exhibitor will be assigned no more than 4 total pens, with a minimum of 2 (two) goats per pen.
2. Hendricks County Born and Raised goats must be declared in 4HOnline by May 15th.
3. Buck goats are not permitted. Any animals with traditional buck appearances or odors are not permitted. Goats with testicular tissue are not permitted.
4. Age of animal shall be computed from actual date of judging.
5. Exhibitor pens for small kids will need a small mesh liner to contain goats.
6. The show will be conducted according to appropriate national goat association Official Show Rules.
7. All meat goats entered in the 4-H goat show must be enrolled on 4HOnline with their tattoo, ear tag number or microchip number by the county deadline. Birthdate must also be entered on 4HOnline by designated time.

SHOWMANSHIP

- ***See Page 134***

MEAT GOATS Terms and Conditions

- Breeding stock classes will be offered for Purebred/Full-blood (FB) Boer, Percentage (%) Boer, Myotonic, and Commercial does. An exhibition class may be offered for other registered goat breeds provided there are at least 3 registered does of the breed.
- Meat goats may be shown with or without horns.

Meat Goat Does (breeding stock)

1. All Fullblood Boer, Percentage Boer, and Myotonic does entered in the 4-H meat goat show must have been enrolled and their breed registry tattoo entered in 4-H Online by May 15th.
2. A registration certificate is required for all FB and % Boer does and Myotonic does three months of age or older. A stamped duplicate or faxed duplicate application showing the date received by a registry office is required for all animals under 3 months of age.
3. All 4-H Fullblood and Percentage Boer does and Myotonic does must have a readable tattoo identical to the one recorded on their registration certificate. Only one number sequence per ear will be permitted. Any FB, %, or Myotonic doe that does not have a legible tattoo corresponding to the 4-H animal enrollment and its registration certificate will be ineligible to show in the 4-H meat doe show.
4. Commercial Meat Does are Purebred and Crossbred Goats that are kept by the owner and used for Breeding in a Commercial Herd. They must exhibit the primary traits associated with meat goat breeds including: Boer, Kiko, Pygmy, Spanish, and Myotonic (Fainting Goat) breeds.
 - A 5-digit county ear tag, applied under the supervision of the county 4-H committee by May 15 is required on the enrollment form. Any Commercial doe that does not have a 5-digit county ear tag corresponding to the animal enrollment will be ineligible to show in the 4-H meat goat show. Additionally, all commercial does must have Indiana scrapie ID.
 - ALL COMMERCIAL MEAT DOES MUST COME TO COUNTY TAGGING. No prior tags can be used. New tags must be placed each year to assist with eliminating duplicates.

Market Meat Goats

1. Both wethers and doe kids are eligible to show in the market meat goat show. Doe kids that show in the Wether Dam class are ineligible to show in the breeding stock show. These does will not be judged unfavorably for disqualifying faults of breeding stock (i.e. teats, mouth, lack of pigmentation.)
2. Market Goats must be owned and cared for by the 4-H member and enrolled through the online animal website by May 15th.
 - Wethers: A 5-digit county ear tag #, applied under the supervision of the county 4-H committee by May 15th is required on the online enrollment. During check-in, any Meat Goat Wether that does not have a 5-digit county ear tag corresponding to the animal enrollment will be ineligible to show in the 4-H meat goat show.
 - Wether Dams: A 5-digit county ear tag number, applied under the supervision of the county 4-H committee by May 15th is required on the enrollment form. During check-in, any Wether Dam that does not have a 5-digit county ear tag corresponding to the animal enrollment will be ineligible to show in the 4-H meat goat show.
 - ALL MARKET GOATS MUST COME TO COUNTY TAGGING.
3. Meat Goat Wethers and Wether Dams entered in the Indiana State Fair must meet the Indiana State Fair ID guidelines in addition to a 5-digit county ear tag.
4. All market goats must have their milk teeth in place, and must be born after August 1 of the previous year.
5. Market goat classes will be divided according to the weight of the animals.
6. All meat goat breeds and crosses are eligible. These Wethers and Wether Dams do not need to be registered.

MEAT GOAT CLASSES

The following breeding classes will be offered for Purebred/Full-blood and Percentage Boer Does:

- Junior does – under 3 months
- Junior does – 3 months old to under 6 months
- Junior does – 6 months old to under 9 months
- Junior does – 9 months old to under 12 months
- Yearling does – 12 months old to under 16 months
- Yearling does – 16 months old to under 20 months
- Yearling does – 20 months old to under 24 months
- Senior does – 24 months old to under 36 months
- Senior does – 36 months old and older

The following breeding classes will be offered for **Myotonic** (registered) does:

FULLBLOOD DOE CLASSES

- Junior does – under 6 months
- Junior does – 6 months old to under 1 year
- Senior does – 1 year to under 2 years
- Senior does – over 2 years

PERCENTAGE DOE CLASSES

- Junior does – under 6 months
- Junior does – 6 months old to under 1 year
- Senior does – 1 year to under 2 years
- Senior does – over 2 years

Commercial meat goat breeding does will be shown by weight.

Market Goats – Market goats will be shown by weight

- Meat Goat Wethers
- Wether Dams

PYGMY GOAT Terms and Conditions

1. All 4-H pygmy goats must be tattooed, ear tagged or microchipped. Pygmy goats do not need to be registered, but they do need to be properly enrolled and identified. Any 4-H pygmy goat that does not have a legible tattoo, ear tag or microchip matching the enrollment will be ineligible to show.
2. Pygmy goats may be shown with or without horns.

PYGMY GOAT CLASSES

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| • Junior does – under 6 months | • Junior wethers – 1 year and under |
| • Junior does – 6 months to under 1 year | • Senior wethers - over 1 year |
| • Senior does – 1 year to under 2 years | |
| • Senior does – over 2 years | |