

Ingham County 4-H



Goat Project Handbook

REVISED AUGUST 18, 2016



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What is the Ingham County 4-H Goat Project?

Goats make wonderful 4-H livestock projects for 4-H members. The Ingham County Goat Project includes the dairy types, pygmy and market types. Members involved in the goat project will learn about traditional animal care including housing, feed and nutrition, as well as show preparation. Members can also learn about the products that come from goats such as milk and meat. There are a number of opportunities in the goat project area for members to share and test their knowledge through county and state activities.

How do I get Involved in the 4-H Goat Project?

You can contact the Ingham County 4-H Extension office at (517) 676-7207 or click on the link below to find a club that offers the goat project:

<http://ce.ingham.org/Portals/CE/4HDocs/Become%20a%20New%20Member/4H%20Club%20Directory%202015.pdf>

If you are a member of a club that wishes to get involved in the goat project you will need a willing project leader. This must be an adult that has completed the Volunteer Selection Process with MSUE Ingham County 4-H Youth Development program. Please contact the office for more information regarding project leaders. Some clubs may have additional requirements such as club or project meetings.

Are you looking to enroll or re-enroll your child in Ingham County 4-H? Please visit <https://mi.4honline.com> to enroll in 4HOnline.

Registration for members to show goats at the Ingham County Fair: Ingham County Fair Show Works Online Site: <http://ingham.fairwire.com>

4-H members between the ages of 9-19 (as of Jan 1 of the current 4-H year) may participate in the goat project. These members may enter and show their goats at the

Ingham County Fair in the 4-H youth classes. Members must be currently enrolled in a 4-H club, FFA or FHA.

A Cloverbud (Ages 5 – 8 years of age) showmanship class may be offered, in which case the younger member must make arrangements to “borrow” a goat from an older member prior to the show to participate.

The Ingham County 4-H Goat Council

The Ingham County 4-H Goat Council was organized by a group of goat leaders, members and 4-H staff that were interested in working together to encourage and promote the project area. The original constitution was written in 1995 and recently revised (2009). Council members work with the current 4-H Goat Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and the council’s board of officers.

The Goat Council meets five times a year in the months of February, April, June, October and December at the Hilliard Building at 6:30pm.

Stay Informed and Get Involved

The members, parents and project leaders of the Goat Council make decisions concerning trophies and awards for the 4-H goat show. Committees are formed to plan potlucks and fun days during the week of fair. Bio-security and health issues are a priority of the council regarding the latest regulations and/or requirements. Council suggests changes to the fair book classes.

Council encourages each club to send a representative to these meetings for the project leaders to stay informed.

There are goat leaders within the project who are willing to teach outside of their own club and/or are willing to have other clubs be a guest at their meetings. Attending Goat Council is a great place to make these connections and build new friendships. Remember, each adult that works with council does so as a volunteer.

Council members also volunteer their time at the May weigh-in for the market goats, help prepare the show ring and auction ring, and help at fair check-in and check-out.

Council has also hosted countywide skill-a-thons and workshops. It provides a place for clubs and members to display their knowledge in the barn with posters and sponsors a Club Herdsmanship Award during the week of fair.

It is important to be as informed as you can about the Goat Project. You can do this by reading this handbook, reading the fair book rules and regulations, and as well as attending Goat Council meetings. Project leaders and parents; please take the time to go over them with your club members. This handbook is provided to project leaders, members and their parents to help all members to have a pleasant and rewarding goat project. If you still have questions or concerns come to a council meeting or call one of the members. If they cannot answer your questions they would be happy to contact the Superintendent or Assistant and find the answer for you.

A current copy of the Ingham County 4-H Goat Council Constitution and By-Laws is provided on pages 8 and 9.

Ingham County Fair Livestock Rules and Ethics and Chain of Command is on pages 10, 11, and 12.

The Goat Project Show Ring Dress Code

If you are showing a Dairy Goat...

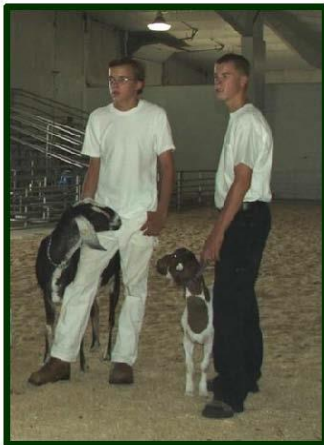
- White pants and white shirt

If you are showing a meat type breeding animal, market wether or a pygmy goat...

- Black pants with a white shirt

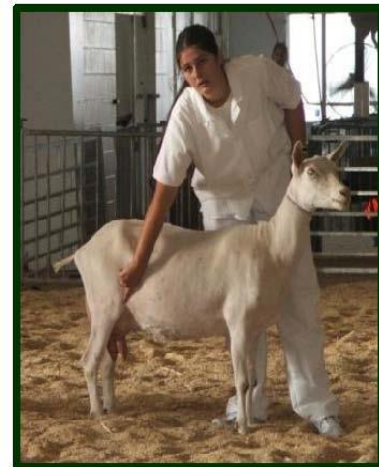
If you are showing both types of goats...

- Wear dairy white
- No sandals, closed toed shoes or boots only
- No excess jewelry
- Keep long hair pulled back
- No tank tops, bare midriffs or shorts
- No club names/advertising in show/auction ring



The object of a show person is to make the animal appear the best it can while drawing as little attention to themselves as possible. Therefore, do not stare at the judge or over show the animal, unduly fuss with the animal, unduly maneuver the animal, or place yourself between the judge and the animal. Avoid exaggerated positions such as crossing behind the goat, stepping over the goat, or behind the back changing of lead hands. Maintain a distance from the other animals in the ring. Avoid overcrowding. If your goat misbehaves, be gentle, pull your collar up higher under the ears and keep working with it. Smile at the judge. Be courteous to the other showman in the ring. **And be sure to thank the judge after the show!**

**Originally prepared by Rusty Plummer and revised by the Goat Council Committee 2009*



Wash your animal; dirt easily dulls your clipper blades. Make sure your animal is properly restrained (i.e. milk stand or clipping stand). Don't feed grain to get them to stand still... you could easily put them into overeating disease. Get help, having someone else there to help you restrain the animal will be safer than trying it all by yourself.

Guidelines for Preparing Dairy Goats for the Ring

Clipping: Sunbeam, Oster, and Wahl clippers all have easily read numbers on the back of their blades. When using an adjustable clipper, use the setting that will leave the longest hair.

Use a #10 blade on the body of the goat, belly, feet and legs. Clip against the grain of the hair. Do the sides, belly and back first (all the large areas) and don't forget the arm pits and leg pits. Make sure that the hair is neatly clipped where the feet and leg join (even in between the hooves. Clip the tail but leave a 2" "poof" on the end.

Neck, head, and ears need to be trimmed, make sure to get ALL the hair out of the ears. On wethers or intact males blend the hair at the jawline, but leave the facial hair on the animal.

Dark brown and/or black animals will need to be clipped about a week before the fair. Lighter or white animals can be clipped just before the fair. This helps to eliminate that chopped up look.

Milkers need to have their udders clipped with a number#30 blade or a #40 blade to eliminate long hair. This is easily done if they are full of milk. Udders that have been milked out are harder to clip.

Additionally: Removing any skurs at this time gives a neater appearance to your animal. Trim the hooves prior to the show day to prevent lameness.

**Originally prepared by Jan Kelley and revised by the Goat Council Committee 2009*

See the Resource Pages of this handbook for additional resources on Showmanship, Preparing Goats for the Ring and more.

Guidelines for Preparing Pygmy and Meat Breeding Stock for the Ring

Clipping: The animal shall NOT be body clipped like a dairy animal or market wether. Long guard hair should be trimmed. The long hair on each side of the tail and the hair on the feet around the coronet band should be trimmed. The long hairs along the floor of the chest should be trimmed to match the rest of the hair in those areas. Long hairs around the throat and jaw should also be trimmed. Long hairs along the top of the neck and the back of the legs should be trimmed as well to give the animal a neat overall appearance while still giving the appearance of mass. The inside of the ears should be clipped to again give an overall neat and clean appearance. The hooves shall be trimmed and shaped to enable the animal to walk correctly and stand naturally.

Posing the Animal in the Ring: The animal should stand in a natural position with the front legs at a natural width and squarely beneath the withers. The hind legs should be a natural width, squarely beneath the animal, and placed even in the back with the pin bones. The handler shall stand or kneel on the side of the animal away from the judge and avoid at all times being between the judge and the animal.

**Originally prepared by Rusty Plummer and revised by the Goat Council Committee 2009*

Guidelines for Preparing Market Goats for the Ring

All market goats need to have a full body clip similar to dairy goats. This is so that the judge can effectively judge the animal for the market. See guidelines for dairy goats.

Reminder: Under the general rules of the fair book all goats must be properly fitted prior to check in on Sunday.

Barbara Godby Award

The Barbara Godby Award will be awarded to a deserving Ingham County 4-H Goat Project member that has completed the following requirement. This award is available to all members ages 9-19. Bring your completed essay to the Sunday morning check-in at fair. The winner will be announced during the goat judging show.

How to Apply for this Award: Write a short essay telling what you have accomplished and learned through the 4-H goat project. Include how many years you have been in the project, your age, your 4-H club and community involvement, and put your name on the essay!

This award is given in honor of Barbara Godby, a former MSU 4-H Extension staff member. Barbara enjoyed the 4-H members and encouraged their participation in many areas. This award is given in her honor to promote and encourage members in the goat project.



Abby Richmond with Barbara Godby.
Abby was the first award recipient in 2002.



Ingham County 4-H Goat project members 2002.

State 4-H Workshops, Events, Activities and Opportunities for the Goat Project

4-H State Goat Expo (Springtime)

The State 4-H Goat Expo is designed for young people who are interested in live animal evaluation and in testing their knowledge of the goat project. This event includes contests in judging, quiz bowl, skillathon, creative writing and problem-solving. For members aged 9 to 19. Contests include both team (junior and seniors) and individual classes.

4-H State Goat Show (Summer) The State 4-H Goat Show is open to participants aged 9 to 19. Exhibitors have the opportunity to compete in showmanship and breed classes as well as pack, obstacle and driving. Exhibitors must be Michigan 4-H members and must own the goats they enter. Non-competitive class for Cloverbuds. Michigan health regulations apply.

4-H Goat Teen and Adult Volunteer Leaders Workshop (October)

This weekend workshop is held in the fall every other year. It is designed to help adult and teen goat volunteers aged 13 and up share ideas and explore goat management. Volunteers will learn about goat health, nutrition and various other areas of interest. Numerous workshops and knowledgeable speakers are provided. The State Goat Committee plans and coordinates this great event.

4-H Communication Contest By participating in a variety of contests young people will have the opportunity to practice and strengthen their communication skills through demonstrations, public speaking, photography, art, educational exhibits, graphic design, web design, and cookery. This is a fun contest for sharing the goat project area with others 4-H members across the state.

Beef, Sheep and Swine Teen and Volunteer Leaders Workshop

Although not aimed specifically for the Goat project this is a good workshop where participants learn about animal health, management and nutrition and is open to adults and teens aged 14 and up.

Veterinary Science Teen and Leaders Workshop

Adult and teen volunteers aged 14 and up will explore animal health and animal systems by sharing experiences, asking questions and quizzing

veterinarians. Participants can also take part in hands-on demonstrations that will teach them how to help members recognize healthy, sick or injured animals.

4-H Exploration Days (June)

4-H Exploration Days is an annual state youth conference with nearly 3000 participants from around Michigan. Many sessions related to livestock and animal sciences are offered at 4-H Exploration Days including goats.

Michigan Livestock Expo (July)

The Michigan Livestock Expo is a multi-species livestock event including beef, sheep, swine, and goats, designed to enhance the livestock industry, educate youth and showcase Michigan's agriculture industry. Champions in each species will be sold at a special "sale-abration." Additional award winning animals will be chosen in each species for the sale. For more information visit www.milivestock.com.

Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference and the Michigan 4-H Dairy Expo

Both of these events deal with information regarding the large dairy animals but with good information that will relate directly to dairy goats.

Vet-a-Visit and Small Animal Day

Both of these events are hosted by MSU and held at the MSU Campus

For registrations and/or more information about these events go to the resource page of this handbook for the Michigan 4-H Website or contact the Ingham County 4-H Extension office.

*All ages are as of January 1st of the current 4-H year

Several resources have been gathered to help project leaders, parents and members with their quest to learn more about goats and the 4-H goat project. Please see the supplement at the end of the handbook.

Contact Information

Ingham County 4-H Goats

4-H Extension Staff

Mark McCorkle – Program Coordinator
mccorkl5@anr.msu.edu - (517) 676-7303

Eric Dobbrastine – Program Coordinator
dobbras1@anr.msu.edu - (517) 676-7300

Superintendents and Council Officers

Superintendent: Julie Grimm – **517-435-8383**
Assistant Supt: Jackie Parkhurst – **517-623-6879**
Assistant Supt: Jackie Wilcox - **517-442-3206**
President: Summer Mason
Vice President: Kayleigh (Kat) Grimm
Secretary: Jackie Parkhurst
Treasurer: Mary Saltman

Livestock Committee:

Superintendent: Julie Grimm
Junior Representative: Summer Mason

All clubs with goat members are invited to join the council and participate with decisions affecting the Ingham County 4-H Goat Project. Council feels it is important to have ALL clubs represented. Council members can be contacted via the 4-H office.

4-H Pledge

I pledge

My head to clearer thinking
My heart to greater loyalty
My hands to larger service
My health to better living
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.

4-H Motto

To Make the Best Better

Michigan 4-H Guiding Principles for Positive Youth Development

- 1.** Youth develop positive relationships with adults and peers.
- 2.** Youth are physically and emotionally safe.
- 3.** Youth are actively engaged in their own development.
- 4.** Youth are considered participants rather than recipients in the learning process.
- 5.** Youth develop skills that help them succeed.
- 6.** Youth recognize, understand and appreciate multiculturalism.
- 7.** Youth grow and contribute as active citizens through service and leadership.

The Ingham County 4-H Goat Council Constitution

- Article I** The name of this organization shall be the Ingham County 4-H Goat Council.
- Article II** The objectives of this group are:
- A. To work together with the Ingham County 4-H MSUE Staff, the Goat Project Superintendent and/or Assistant Goat Superintendent to govern and create a positive 4-H Goat Project area for all 4-H members, project leaders and parents.
 - B. To teach 4-H members, parents and project leaders how to effectively work as a unit with respect for each other.
 - C. To promote the goat project and educate 4-H members, project leaders and parents about the goat project through county and state 4-H events and activities.
- Article III** Membership is open to all active Ingham County 4-H members involved in the goat project, project leaders and parents who have gone through the VSP process. [Please note that under the MSUE Volunteer Policy any parent that works with 4-H members, other than their own child, must go through the Volunteer Selection process, which includes an application, provided references, an interview and a criminal history background check. This is for the safety and well-being of all the Ingham County 4-H members.]
- Article IV** The officers of this council shall consist of:
- A. President:
The president shall run the meetings.
 - B. Vice President:
The Vice President will run the meetings if the President is absent.
 - C. Secretary:
The Secretary will take the minutes, turn them into the 4-H office, have copies of the minutes prepared for meetings and for the County 4-H Website. The Secretary will also work with 4-H staff to send out reminders to meetings etc.
 - D. Treasurer:
The Treasurer takes care of the checking account, all incoming monies, pays the bills and files the proper financial forms with the 4-H office at the end of the 4-H year.
- Article V** Committees for special purposes may be appointed by the president at any time or by a general consensus of the goat council members. Committees may be appointed for: awards/trophies, Goat Fun Day and/or Potlucks, preparing handbooks or educational materials, weigh-in/check-in, bio-security and/or health related issues, or any other issue/project the membership votes to assign to a committee.
- Article VI** This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting, notice having been given at a previous meeting.
- Article VII** Ingham County 4-H Goat Superintendent
- A. The position of the 4-H Goat Superintendent is completed by filling out an application and submitting it to the Ingham County 4-H Staff. The position requires an interview with members from both 4-H Staff and the Fair Manager. Members of the Ingham County 4-H Goat Council

may be asked for recommendations and/or to sit in on the interview. This position is reviewed by the 4-H Staff and the Fair board periodically.

- B. The 4-H Goat Superintendent will be the Ingham County 4-H Goat Council representative at the regular Livestock Committee meetings. The Assistant Superintendent may be a representative as well as a youth member that has been appointed by the Superintendent.
- C. The 4-H Goat Superintendent may chose his/her own clerks, show secretary and ring stewards or other assistants for the County 4-H Goat Show (see Article VIII).

Article VIII Assistant Goat Superintendent and/or Assistant Teen Superintendent

- A. The position of the Assistant Goat Superintendent and/or an Assistant Teen Superintendent is made on the recommendation of the Goat Superintendent. 4-H Staff and the Fair Board can approve or disapprove the position.
- B. The Assistant/s will work closely with the Goat Superintendent and the Goat Council by helping with paperwork, assisting at check-in/weigh-in and help should issues arise during the Ingham County Fair week if the Superintendent is unavailable at that time.

The Ingham County 4-H Goat Project By-Laws

Article I There shall be no monthly dues unless arranged by special order of business.

Article II The officers shall be elected annually at the beginning of the club project year, except for Treasurer which holds a two year term.

- A. The President and Vice-president positions should be filled by a youth member of the council.
- B. The Secretary and Treasurer positions should be filled by an adult member of council.
- C. Council may elect a youth member for the Secretary and Treasurer positions to assist in the duties of these offices.

Article III The regular meetings of the Council shall take place at the Hilliard Building at 7:00 pm.

- A. Meetings will be held on the third Thursday in the months of February, May and October (or as close to these dates as a room can be obtained).
- B. A fourth meeting for the month of July is optional. The club's stall assignments for the goat barn will be available to the project leaders the week before fair begins.
- C. A representative for each club wishing to exhibit goats at the Ingham County Fair will be required to attend the May meeting.

Article IV A majority vote of members shall decide any questions.

Article V Reed's or Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the meetings.

Article VI The order of business for all regular meetings shall be:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Call to order | 5. Treasurer's report | 8. Announcements of 4-H events related to the goat project |
| 2. Pledges | 6. Committees reports | 9. Adjournment |
| 3. Roll call or sign-in | 7. Old business | |
| 4. Minutes of last meeting | 8. New business | |

Ingham County Fair Livestock Rules and Ethics

1. **EACH EXHIBITOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COMPLETE CARE OF THEIR ANIMALS AT THE FAIR. IF ANIMALS ARE FOUND NOT WATERED, FED, MILKED, OR PENS/STALLS NOT CLEANED, THE EXHIBITOR AND ANIMAL MAY BE EXCUSED FROM THE FAIRGROUNDS AND FORFEIT ABILITY TO SHOW NEXT YEAR AT THE DISCRETION OF THE LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE AND FAIR MANAGER. THE EXHIBITOR MAY FORFEIT ALL SALES AND OTHER AWARDS EARNED!**
2. It is the expectation of the fair management that all animal exhibit areas and pens will be cleaned **daily** and animals are fed by 8:00 a.m. or prior to the species show, whichever is earlier. Exhibitors may complete evening chores after the conclusion of the show activities for the day. It is an expectation that all exhibitors participate in barn duty assignments per club and/or species requirements. **Exhibit animals are on display to the public—exhibitors should strive to maintain cleanliness at all times.**
3. Livestock must be fed and cared for until they are released. Animals must have access to water from the time they arrive until they are loaded out Sunday morning.
4. Acceptable bedding materials will be announced by the fair management. All exhibitors are expected to comply with the guidelines set forth.
5. Keeping the exhibit space assignments clean is the responsibility of the exhibitor.
6. Unethical and inappropriate, otherwise inhumane treatment of animals for show preparation is not acceptable. The exhibitor will be disqualified if a violation is determined.
7. **ANY VIOLATION OF THE FOLLOWING RULES WILL AUTOMATICALLY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.**
 - a. Drug use policy & procedures: Refer to Livestock Drug Testing Policy/Procedure in the General rule section of the Fair Book.
 - b. Any attempt to change natural color of an animal, either purebred or crossbred, by changing the color of hair, fleece or skin at any point, spot or areas of the animal's body. False switches are not permitted.
 - c. Misrepresenting the age of the animal for the class in which it is shown.
 - d. Minimizing the effects of cramping by feeding or injecting drugs, depressants or applying packs or using any artificial contrivance or therapeutic treatment except normal exercise.
 - e. Striking the animal to cause swelling in a depressed area.
 - f. Surgery of any kind preformed to change the natural contour or appearance of the animal's body or hide.
 - g. Insertion of foreign material under the skin.
 - h. The use of alcoholic beverages in the feed or administered as a drench.
 - i. Criticizing or interfering with the judge, exhibitors, sale committees, superintendents, and other show officials or other conduct detrimental to the exhibition or show.

Ingham County Fair

Communication and Chain of Command

ENFORCEMENT AND HANDLING DISPUTES:

The project superintendent or his/her designated representative reserves the right to reject any exhibit in violation of rules. This includes specific project rules printed in this Fair book contained under general or specific project sections. Should there be a dispute regarding handling of a 4-H rule violation the complainant should first:

1. Contact the appropriate superintendent or his/her representative and discuss concerns to determine if rules have been violated.
2. If there is not satisfaction with the determination or resolution of the rules violation, a committee consisting of the superintendent, the designated MSU Extension staff member and
 - a. Horse or Livestock projects: three representatives (as determined at the July meeting) from the Livestock Committee or Horse Superintendent Committee (as appropriate) shall be designated to collectively review the rule violation.
 - b. Non-animal projects: three representatives (as determined at the July meeting) from the 4-H Council shall be designated to collectively review the rule violation.
3. The 4-H/Fair liaison shall be kept informed of what decisions are being made should it be considered this may impact the Fair management/board.
4. The dispute resolution should be handled as quickly as possible. Situations occurring at the fair should be handled at the fair when possible.
5. Complaints regarding the conduct of an exhibitor should be addressed by 4-H staff and fair manager. All sanctions or disciplinary actions to be carried out by 4-H staff or fair management (as appropriate to the situation).
6. **Infractions that involve breaking the law will be turned over to law enforcement.**

Communication and Media

To avoid misinformation, the chain of command will be used to disseminate all information. The fair manager will be the designated spokesperson for all communication. The spokesperson may request others within the chain of command that has technical knowledge of a topic to speak to media directly in instances where specific information is necessary. For example, the

spokesperson may request the fair veterinarian to relate information about a specific animal disease or public safety to issue explicit directions for a circumstance. When applicable, written communication on specific diseases will be requested from MSU Extension or Michigan Department of Agriculture to be included in media releases. A list of media release sources can be located in the contact list.

Internal Communication

The chain of command will also be used to disseminate information from the fair manager to exhibitors. Regular updates will be provided to exhibitors, parents, and leaders in the event that there is an animal disease issue to ease tension and ensure that everyone has accurate information. Internal communication will be channeled through specie superintendents. In the event that an event will affect exhibitors in more than one specie area, a larger meeting area will be set up in the arena or grandstand.

In the event that quarantine is placed on market animals, the committee chairs of the large and small animal committees will be responsible for establishing communication with packers, processors, and truckers related to the incident. The committee chair may work with superintendents of affected species to complete this task.

Education

Education about biosecurity and animal disease is essential to preventing and reducing the risks of an animal disease outbreak at the fair. Education around this topic should happen throughout the year and be a part of the 4-H learning experience. Educational information throughout the year will be dispersed by the MSU Extension office using the chain of command. Dispersed information will include: “[Biosecurity for livestock exhibitors](#)” (MSUE publication), “[Biosecurity for livestock and poultry exhibitions](#)” (MSUE publication), and “[Vaccination recommendations for animals attending livestock exhibits](#)” (MSU College of Veterinary Medicine publication).

Additional preventative recommendations and literature may also be dispersed through the chain of command as seen fit by the MSU Extension Educator.

Shortly before the beginning of the fair, the spokesperson will send a local media release reminding the public to be mindful of personal health and safety while visiting fairs and exhibitions. The release should outline precautions the public should take: hand washing, wearing clean footwear, and limiting exposure of animals at fair with animals at home. The media release should also communicate to the public the biosecurity plan and procedures being used by the fair to protect public and animal health.

Quarantine

In the event that an animal is diagnosed with an infectious, contagious, or toxicological disease during the fair a meeting of the primary animal health plan (biosecurity) committee will be convened by the fair manager at the first possible occasion. The committee will decide under the recommendation of the fair veterinarian (and/or Michigan Department of Agriculture) if the incident is isolated and contained or if further action or quarantine is needed. The fair manager will have the final decision. The communication strategy will be determined at this meeting and will follow the chain of command.

If it is decided that the animal health issue warrants quarantine the fair manager with the committee will need to appoint leadership to the following issues. Communication to secondary contacts in the animal health plan committee will happen through the fair manager.

- Security and traffic control
- Animal care (who does it?)
 - Feeding—all animals will receive same ration
 - Medicating
 - Cleaning
- Volunteer management—recruitment, scheduling, assigning tasks
- Supplies (where to get supplies; who is paying for supplies?)
 - Feed
 - Bedding
 - Medication
 - Protective clothing
 - Cleaners
- Fair schedule (remainder of week)
- Clean up
- Will this affect: camping, carnival, other species, fall activities at the fairgrounds
- Who has ownership of the animal
 - Market animals
 - Death loss
- Livestock Sale
 - Buyers
 - Processors
 - Packers
 - Truckers

Resource Page for the Goat Project

General 4-H Resources:

- Ingham County 4-H Extension at 517-676-7207 or go to the web page at: ce.ingham.org/4H.aspx
- For Goat project, click “Projects” on the sidebar, then “Goats”
- For 4-H Volunteer Information click on “How to be a 4-H Volunteer”
- The Ingham County 4-H Record Keeping book is also a great resource for members to use
- Michigan 4-H Youth Animal Science: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/aniscipr.html>
 - From this page you can get info on all 4-H livestock projects, events and workshops
- Michigan 4-H Volunteer Information: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/msue/cyf/youth/volunteer.html>
 - Housing Policy: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/downloads/housingpolicy/policy.html>
- Guiding Principles: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/guidingprinciples.html>
- Members Personal Record Keeping Book (see 1st link)

4-H Goat Resources (available for loan through the 4-H Office)

- 4-H Goat Resource Handbook, published by Ohio State Extension, 184 pages
- Goat Learning Laboratory Kit, available for loan to project leaders through the 4-H office
 - Kit includes posters, breeds, anatomy, scorecards, and much more
- [4-H Skills for Life: Dairy Goat Project Series](#) (4 books on dairy goat information)
- [4-H Skills for Life: Meat Goat Project Series](#) (4 books on meat goat information)
 - The two series above are also available at the 4H Mall <http://www.4-hmall.org/Curriculum.aspx>

Books

Here are just a few books to get you started:

- Storey’s Guide to Raising Dairy Goats: Written by Jerry Belanger
- Storey’s Guide to Raising Meat Goats: By Maggie Sayer
- Raising Milk Goats Successfully: Written by Gail Luttmann
- Barron’s Goat Handbook: Written by Seyedmehdi Mobin
- Goat Keeping Manual: Written by Alan Mowlem
- Dairy Goat Judging Techniques: Written by Harvey Considine
- Dairy Goats for Pleasure and Profit: Written by Harvey Considine
- All About Goats: Written by Lois Hetherington
- Raising Meat Goats for Profit: Written by Gail B. Bowman
- Goat Medicine: Written by Mary C. Smith and David M. Sherman
- Goat Husbandry: Written by [David Mackenzie](#)

Magazines

- Dairy Goat Journal: www.dairygoatjournal.com
- Countryside: www.countrysidemag.com
- Goat Rancher: <http://goatrancher.com/>

Web Pages

This is just a sample of what is available on the web. The dairy breeds and market type breeds each have their own association that you should be able to locate as well as several University Extensions sites across the US.

- Dairy Goat Anatomy Quiz: www.goats4h.com/Java/GoatPartstest.html
- Michigan Dairy Goat Society: www.mdgs.org
 - *The MDGS sponsors two events per year with several good workshops, Spring Goat Day and Fall Round-up, both events are highly recommended. Also has a quarterly publication with great information about dairy goats "Goat News".*
- American Dairy Goat Association: www.adga.org
 - *ADGS's Linear Appraisal Systems for Dairy Goats, National Breed Clubs Info on Tattooing, Goat Milk, Management Calendar, Scorecards*
- National Pygmy Goat Association: www.npga-pygmy.com
 - *NPGA's Pygmy Goat Basic Owner's Manual*
 - *Illustrated Standard of the Pygmy Goat*
 - *Showmanship, Health issues, Scorecard*
- American Boer Goat: www.abga.org
 - *Breed Standard, Gestation Chart, Boer anatomy, Teat chart*
- American Meat Goat Association: www.meatgoats.com
 - *Health Facts, Selection, So You Want to do Meat Goats?*
- Nigerian Dwarf Goat Association: www.ndga.org
 - *Breed Standards*
- Poisonous Plants: <http://netvet.wustle.edu/species/goats/goatpois.txt>
- Poisonous Plants: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/PLANTanswers/publications/poison/poison.html>
- American Livestock Breeds Conservancy: <http://www.albc-use.org>
- Virtual Livestock Library from Oklahoma State: <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/library>
- Maryland Small Ruminant Page: <http://www.sheepandgoat.com/>
 - *Fact sheets, record keeping, reference helps, both sheep and goat information*
- Michigan Boer Goat Association: <http://www.michiganboergoat.org>
 - *Breeders, Show information and more*

Internet Keywords and search terms

The following terms are a few words to help you start a search of the Internet related to the goat project:

- Angora goat
- Animal ethics
- Dairy goat
- Goat breeds
- Goat carts
- Goat judging
- Livestock judging
- Market goats
- Pygmy goats
- Market goat
- Boer goat
- Kiko
- Toggenburg
- Alpine
- Saanen
- Oberhasli
- Nubian

Suppliers

- Jeffers Livestock, 1-800-533-3377, www.jefferslivestock.com
- American Livestock Supply, Inc., P.O. Box 8441, 1-800-356-0700, www.americanlivestock.com
- Caprine Supply, 913-585-1191, www.caprinesupply.com
- Nasco, 1-800-558-9595, www.nascofa.com
- Premier1 Supply, 1-800-282-6631, www.premier1supplies.com
- Sheepman Supply, 800-331-9122, www.sheepman.com
- Sydell Sheep & Goat Equipment, 1-800-842-1369, www.sydell.com
- Hoegger Goat Supplies, www.hoeggergoatsupply.com

Michigan Sheep and Goat Official ID



Sheep leaving a Michigan premises must have official ID.

In Michigan, all sheep and goats must be identified with official identification (ID) approved by the national scrapie program to move off a premises. There are many forms of ID which qualify as official ID for the scrapie program. To order any scrapie program ID, a scrapie flock ID is required. A scrapie flock ID is a unique identifier assigned by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and is different from a state or national premises ID. Contact the USDA at 517-337-4705 to get your scrapie flock ID.



Plastic and Metal Scrapie ID Tags (Free from the USDA)

At this time, the USDA is providing official plastic or metal eartags free of charge to producers. Producers who want to order tags should contact the USDA Michigan office at 517-337-4705. Each scrapie tag has the flock ID, the production number and an official US shield. Blue tags (metal or plastic) may only be used in animals intended for slaughter.



Tattoos

Scrapie Tattoos

A scrapie tattoo must be legible and include both the scrapie flock ID and the unique herd management number. Scrapie tattoos can be placed in the ear, tail web or flank.

Official Registry Tattoos

For goats, legible official registry tattoos must be recorded in a goat purebred registry association's book and official documentation must accompany the animals.



RFID Tags

Visual Electronic Tags

Only tags approved by the national scrapie program are permitted. Contact the USDA Michigan office at 517-337-4705 for more information.



Microchips

Use of microchips is strongly discouraged. There are many requirements to use a microchip as the sole official ID. For more details contact the USDA Michigan office.

Biosecurity Tips



#1 Keep your distance:

- Restrict animal access to wildlife and other domestic animals that could potentially be carrying disease.
- When new animals are added to a farm, they should be separated from other animals to ensure they are healthy before introducing them.



#2 Keep it clean:

- Wash your hands, clothes and footwear thoroughly before and after working with animals.
- Regularly clean and disinfect your equipment.



#3 Don't bring in disease:

- Avoid sharing equipment or supplies with your neighbors. If you do, always clean and disinfect it before and after.
- Clean and disinfect your shoes, boots, vehicle and other items after leaving another farm, fair, exhibition or livestock market.



#4 Recognize a sick animal:

- Early detection of unhealthy animals helps prevent the spread of the disease. It is always wise to consult with your local, licensed veterinarian.



Good biosecurity helps stop the spread of germs to your farm and keeps your livestock healthy!



Exhibitors should call the fair vet if GOATS show any of these symptoms:

Normal temperature: 101.3 – 103.5 F

General Signs of Illness:

- Depression
- Fever
- Lethargy (lack of energy)
- Dull coat
- Watery eyes
- Lameness, arthritis, or hot and painful feet

Respiratory Signs:

- Coughing
- Nasal discharge
- Difficulty breathing

Gastrointestinal Signs:

- Weight loss
- Decreased appetite
- Diarrhea and abdominal pain
- Food coming out of nose or mouth

Skin Signs:

- Itchy, dry brittle fleece
- Red mouth and nose
- Blisters or ulcers around muzzle, mouth, lips, gums, tongue, teats and/or feet

Neurological Signs:

- Behavioral changes
- Excessive scratching and rubbing
- Loss of coordination
- Abnormal gaits (high stepping)
- Biting feet and limbs
- Head tilt or head pressing
- Inability to rise or convulsions



Infected foot

*Credit: Phil Scott DVM and
National Animal Disease Information Service*



Sores on Mouth

