



Animal Science 4-H Goat

North Dakota 4-H Project Sheet

In the 4-H goat project, you can select from a dairy animal or a market animal. Dairy animals allow you to start your own herd while market animals produce meat products for people.

- Learn basic principles of animal science by owning and caring for and keeping production and financial records on one or more head of livestock.
- Demonstrate knowledge of sound breeding, feeding and management practices.
- Learn the value of scientific research and its influence on animals and the meat industry.



Pass it on!

Now that you know how, share it with others. Here are ideas to get you started.

Communication

- Teach someone the important traits in a goat.
- Create a poster showing goat products and proper uses.
- Share a presentation on the importance of following drug labels.

Citizenship

- Volunteer to do goat promotion presentations.
- Provide goat product testing at a local vendor.
- Volunteer to help at the county fair.

Here's what you can do all year!

Starting Out Basic/Level 1	Learning More Intermediate/Level 2	Expanding Horizons Advanced/Level 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know your goat breeds. • Select your animal. • Identify parts of the animal. • Train your goat to lead. • Feed your animal. • Learn to show your animal. • Groom your animal. • Learn about all the different goat byproducts. • Determine quality yield and grades of goats. • Recognize a healthy animal. • Learn about milk grades. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramp up your judging and milk-grading skills. • Make ethical decisions. • Understand the digestive system. • Identify common external parasites and other health issues. • Understand medication uses and storage, how to administer the medication and how it relates to food safety. • Learn the appropriate handling techniques and housing for goats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about EPDs and select a sire for your animals. • Balance a goat ration and understand feed quality. • Learn about breeding and reproduction techniques. • Identify and learn to treat common diseases. • Evaluate meat breed carcasses and market your product. • Evaluate dairy breed products.

Leadership

- Arrange a tour of your farm.
- Lead a dairy and meat goat grooming and showmanship clinic for other 4-H members.

Entrepreneurship

- Learn how to make and market products from dairy goat milk.

NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE
NDSU is an equal opportunity institution

Learn more at www.ndsu.edu/4h/ or contact your county NDSU Extension office.



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Opportunities to explore goats:

- Learn about goat quality assurance.
- Visit a local feed mill and see how feed ingredients are mixed, weighed and blended to make a complete ration.
- Learn how to evaluate meat cuts, quality and yield grade, and how these affect taste and cost.
- Compare feed tags from different companies.
- Ride with a local veterinarian to learn about animal health.
- Attend a livestock show to listen to a judge give oral reasons and witness the differences in judging livestock species.
- Exhibit at or attend local, regional, state or national goat shows and conferences.
- Attend livestock camp as part of the ND 4-H Camp and bring your goat, or participate in the community service project, bringing ideas back to your community.
- Take a class on making dairy goat milk products.
- Is it fair time? Consider showing in your county fair goat show or the North Dakota State Fair.
- Contact your county NDSU Extension office for other local workshops, activities and events.
- Interested in a college education in animal science or veterinary medicine? Schedule a visit with North Dakota State University to explore those majors (www.ndsu.edu).



JJ's Photos

Exhibit Ideas

- Participate in the 4-H goat show.
- Consider an exhibit, notebook or display showing what you've learned in a related topic:
 - ⇒ Nutritional goat value of dairy goat products
 - ⇒ Goat meat cuts and proper preparation
 - ⇒ Feeding rations
 - ⇒ Preventive vaccinations
 - ⇒ Photos of different goat breeds
 - ⇒ Daily routine in caring for animals
 - ⇒ Making a rope halter
 - ⇒ Grooming techniques
 - ⇒ Developing a foundation goat flock
 - ⇒ Best care techniques for newborns
 - ⇒ Goat byproducts
 - ⇒ Display of feeds or ration contents or analysis
 - ⇒ How to tattoo
 - ⇒ Research on how check-off dollars are used
 - ⇒ Video on fitting a goat
 - ⇒ Make a scrapbook of your animal(s)
 - ⇒ Continue exhibiting the same animal(s) to show the progression and how they've changed

4-H Resources

[National 4-H Curriculum](#)

Dairy Goat

- [Getting Your Goat \(GBG141\)](#)
- [Stepping Out \(GBG142\)](#)
- [Showing the Way \(GBG143\)](#)
- [Helper's Guide \(GBG246\)](#)

Meat Goat

- [Just Browsing \(GBG144\)](#)
- [Growing with Meat Goats \(GBG145\)](#)
- [Meating the Future \(GBG146\)](#)
- [Helper's Guide \(GBG247\)](#)

Other Resources

- [Goat Showmanship Manual \(GBG091\)](#)
- [Goat Learning Lab Kit](#) — Educational Trunk
- [Educational Videos and DVDs for checkout](#)
- [American Dairy Goat Association](#)

Recordkeeping

- [4-H Dairy Production Record \(GBF095\)](#)
- [Market Animal Project Record \(GB096\)](#)
- [Planning for My Project Adventure \(PA093\)](#)
- [ND 4-H Project Plan \(PA095\)](#)
- [ND 4-H Plan of Action \(PA096\)](#)
- [ND 4-H Participation Summary \(PA098\)](#)