

## SBARE Meeting

November 13, 2025

Thank you for allowing me to talk with you today, about the needs of the meat goat industry, within the state of North Dakota.

My name is Daryl Becker, I am the current President of the North Dakota Meat Goat Association (NDMGA). The NDMGA is a grass roots organization, that has come about by area meat goat producers getting together and sharing ideas and needs. The idea of the group was first discussed during the 2023 ND State Fair. We held our first organizational meeting in early 2024. Our first public meeting and membership drive was held during the 2024 ND State Fair, along with a costume show and goat meal. The association currently has 20 paid family memberships.

Some unique facts about the meat goat industry:

- the industry has seen significant growth, with consumption reaching 31,000 ton in 2024, with in the US, 70% of this is reliant on imports
- goat meat imports surged by 116% in 2024, driven by demand, the market is expected to continue upward over the next decade
- current value of the industry is reported at \$190 million dollars with expected grow to \$218 million dollars by 2035, the global market is currently projected to be \$248.05 billion, with growth to reach \$317.2 billion by 2035
- global consumption has increased by 18% this past decade
- lastly, the meat goat industry is one of the fastest growing segments of the livestock industry

As you can see, the meat goat industry has a lot of things happening and more to come with its growth potential. Here in turn, is why we are here today. We have the chance for noticeable growth and development with the industry. Currently most of the industry information is coming out of southeastern and southern US. Which being helpful to us, is limited due to the environmental differences between regions.

Topics of interests and concerns that we could use help with include, but not limited to:

- determining most profitable kidding time, how does this work into our environment concerns with realistic marketing windows
- use of goats for problem weeds control, fencing or herding concerns, profitability is a business, determining stocking rates and fees to charge
- health and welfare concerns related to our region, effective housing needs, use of feedstuffs and growth performance targets
- along with marketing options and targets, is there a need for farm to market style marketing, or maybe a need to establish some type live or finish product market

As you can see, we have many questions. We are looking for help and guidance, as we work thru developing the industry.

This past summer, we were able to help, put together the ND Buck Test at the Hettinger Research Center. This was cooperative effort that involved producers, from around the county (I believe it was 9 states represented in the test), along with the American Boar Goat Association. This was a buck performance test that was run by the Hettinger Research Center. The producers involved received feedback information, including performance data and carcass quality data. I believe, this was the first test of this type which included both performance and carcass data. These tests are greatly needed, in order to push the industry forward, to help determine and identify both elite and profitable stock.

After completion the buck test, through input of producers and those involved with the test, we greatly feel that the information gained from test will help shape the future of the industry. The facilities were outstanding, and staff was super helpful, would love to see more of these types of test or trails, involving the meat goat industry.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Does anyone have any questions, at this time.

I can be reached at (701) 721-2855 or [highplainsfeed@srt.com](mailto:highplainsfeed@srt.com).

Thank you

Daryl Becker

North Dakota Meat Goat Association President