2016 Meat Goat Information Sheet

Prepared by the 4-H State Fair Meat Goat Show Committee and the Center for Youth Development

This information sheet gives details on the rules for this year’s Minnesota State Fair 4-H Meat Goat Show. Although some counties may follow slightly different guidelines, these rules will apply at the state level.

Again in 2016: Female market goats will be separated and will have their own class (similar to beef and swine). **Goats participating in this class cannot come back in future years in a breeding class.**

Again in 2016: Breeding Does will be shown immediately after Breeding Doe showmanship followed by Market Goat showmanship and then the Market Goat classes at the MN State Fair 4-H Meat Goat Show.

**OWNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

Ownership Requirements for All Animal Science Projects are uniform for Beef, Cats/Pets, Dairy, Dairy Goat, Dog, Horse, Lama, Meat Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, and Swine. Animals must be owned solely by the 4-Her or the 4-Her’s family. The family includes the 4-Her’s parents/guardians and siblings living together as a family unit. The definition of family includes an extended family where the animal may be owned by grandparents as long as the 4-Her’s parents are actively involved with and working on the farm. Animals owned in partnership with non-family members (as defined above) must be leased and follow guidelines within the lease agreement. Lease agreements must be submitted by May 15 with 4HOnline data. Market animals (with the exception of prospect calves) cannot be leased.

**OWNERSHIP CLARIFICATIONS 2016**

- With the new Online ID process, 4-H families are no longer able to identify animals as a family group. They might, for example, have identified a number of animals as being owned by the “John Doe Family.” Under the new Online ID process, families will need to enter each animal in one of 4-H member’s profiles. A good rule of thumb might be to break all animals to be ID’ed up such that each family member gets about the same number of animals ID’ed in their name. For example, if the John Doe Family is ID’ing 12 barrows and there are three siblings in the John Doe Family, you might consider putting 4 barrows in each sibling’s name. It is also a good practice to put at least one animal under each sibling. The determination of which sibling exhibits which animal at the County Fair can then be delayed until the ID checkpoint at County Fair. It is at the County Fair ID checkpoint for each species that animals must be declared by a specific sibling and cannot be switched to another sibling after that.

- The same animal cannot be identified by more than one 4-H family unit. Let’s say a livestock production operation is a partnership between two brothers – both having children in 4-H. The cousins in this example must identify different animals. They might identify several as the “John Doe Family” and several others as the “Jim Doe Family.” But the same animals CANNOT be identified by both families. Let’s say a similar operation is owned by two unrelated partners. In this case the same philosophy would apply. Each family may identify any number of animals but NO animals can be identified by both families. The exception to this rule is in Horse, Dog and Lama where it is permitted for animals to be ID’ed by two 4-Hers, but with restrictions described elsewhere in the Species Information Sheet.

- Families are eligible to transfer female animals between market/breeding classes up until county fair verification if they meet identification standards (all market animals require a 4-H tag by the market id deadlines for each species). After this point - animals must show in the class that they entered in (if shown as a market animal at county fair - must show as a market animal at state fair). Animals must also meet 3 criteria:
  - Leasing (not available to market animals)
    - Animals under a lease are not eligible to be shown as a market animal.
  - County Requirements (central ID or not)
    - If your county requires a central Identification for market animals - and you did not make it to that ID with your animal - you are not eligible for a market class.
  - ID date (for beef)
    - If you did not identify your beef heifer by February 15th (state ID deadline) - you are not eligible for a market class.
MEAT OR DAIRY BIRTHDATES

Market Goat – altered male or female (no bucks allowed) January 1 – April 30, 2016
Senior Meat Goat Breeding Doe (registered or grade) January 1 – March 31, 2016
Junior Meat Goat Breeding Doe (registered or grade) April 1 – May 31, 2016
Yearling Meat Goat Breeding Doe (registered or grade) Born in 2015 (never kidded)

BREEDS – REGISTERED & GRADES

Meat market goats and meat breeding does may be a full blood, purebred and/or a combination of any of the breeds identified in the National 4-H Curriculum Meat Goat Activity Guide Level 1 Book (found at www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/meat-goat) and/or may be any of the listed breeds crossed with any dairy goat breed.

Dairy market goats must be from the following breeds in any combinations: Alpine, Golden Guernsey, LaMancha, Nubian, Nigerian Dwarf, Oberhasli, Saanen, Sable, and Toggenburg. Dairy Market goats must be 100% dairy. Any other crosses will be shown in the Meat Market Class.

IDENTIFICATION DETAILS, FORMS & DEADLINES

Refer to your County ID letter and online at: www.4-H.umn.edu/animal-ID

Market goats must be tagged with an official 4-H eartag AND Scrapie tag by May 15th. Exception: animals with gopher or elf ears must be tattooed with a unique animal ID number AND Minnesota Board of Animal Health (BAH) scrapie ID number in the tail web by May 15th. Contact BAH for abbreviated scrapie number.

Meat breeding does must be tattooed with a unique animal ID number AND have a scrapie tag or BAH assigned scrapie tattoo in their ears by May 15th.

A USDA scrapie approved tattoo or a scrapie Tag is required for the scrapie program by all meat goats (market and meat breeding does). For information or questions about the USDA scrapie identification program, contact the Minnesota Board of Animal Health (651-201-6809).

All meat goat ID data must be entered online or on the ID worksheet submitted to your County extension office by May 15.

4-Hers exhibiting a leased breeding meat doe must complete “Minnesota 4-H Animal Lease Form” and upload it and/or submit it prior to May 15 as part of the ID process.

DATES OF STATE FAIR 4-H LIVESTOCK ENCAMPMENT & SHOW TIMES

4-H Livestock Encampment ~ Wednesday, August 24 – Sunday, August 28
Show Day & Time ~ Friday – 8:00 am ---- Dairy and Meat Goat Shows run simultaneously.

WEIGHT GUIDELINES

The market show will be split into meat and dairy classes.
Market animals must be a minimum of 40 pounds, but not to exceed a maximum of 110 pounds by State Fair.
Based on the number of entries, classes will be divided at the discretion of the show committee.

MOUTHING OF MEAT GOATS

Goats may have lost 1 or more milk teeth but there may be no evidence of breaking of skin or eruption of 2 permanent front teeth. Goats may be mouthed at the committee’s discretion.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Female Meat Market will be separated from the males and will have their own class (this will be offered for meat breed goats only). Female meat goats participating in the market class (at county or state fair) cannot comeback in future years in a breeding class (as a meat breeding doe).
As per other species, this year female meat goats will be eligible to show as either a Meat Breeding doe or a Meat Market Doe or a Meat Market Doe if all ID requirements are met. This designation must be made by check in/weigh in at county fair. If a 4-H member wants the opportunity to have this option---- the female must have a 4-H tag and be dehorned (as for Market Goats), and have a unique ID tattoo (as for Meat Breeding Does). These animals also must have appropriate scrapie identification (both Meat Breeding Does and Market Does).
All 4-H market goats selected for the 4-H auction at the Minnesota State Fair are terminal and must be drug-free with respect to withdrawal dates and times.
STATE FAIR HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

- Meat Goats will be inspected by the official State Fair Veterinarian on the opening day of exhibition and daily thereafter.
- The official State Fair Veterinarian will order the immediate removal to the quarantine facility or removal from the State Fairgrounds of any Meat Goat with symptoms of an infectious or communicable disease. This includes goats with warts, ringworm or abscesses. Any quarantined animal cannot be shown.
- No females allowed within 30 days of birthing (before or after).

STATE FAIR INTERVIEWS

- AGE DIVISIONS: INTERMEDIATE = GRADES 6-8, SENIOR = GRADES 9 & UP
- To qualify for any awards above and beyond a blue ribbon, exhibitors must participate in the Meat Goat Interviews. Make up interviews are offered only to youth who are not on the fairgrounds on the day of the set Meat Goat interviews. Exhibitor must make arrangements for makeup interview with Meat Goat Interview Chairperson.
- The contents of the questions asked will come from the Minnesota 4-H curriculum and the contents of the educational session prior to the computer quiz.
- State Fair interviews will be conducted on the U of MN campus.

STATE FAIR SHOWMANSHIP

- Age Divisions: Junior=grades 6-7, Intermediate = grades 8, 9 & 10, Senior = grade 11+
- All exhibitors must compete in showmanship.
- Wear the proper attire when showing. White top with jeans is PROPER. No caps, hats or jewelry in the ring.
- Interview shirts MAY be worn during ALL classes.
- There will be no print allowed on tops.

STATE FAIR HERDSMANSHP

- Animals must be maintained and look presentable to the public from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. daily.
- Hay, straw and shavings can be purchased.
- Because of space limitations, only one show box will be allowed per county. A second maybe allowed if more than 5 exhibitors/county.
- No decoration of pens is allowed (this is consistent with State Fair rules).
- Please refer to the Herdsmanship section of the 2016 Premium Book for further updates.

STATE FAIR GROOMING INFORMATION

- All grooming of livestock at the fair, including clipping, trimming and manipulation of the hair/wool (such as blocking on sheep, pulling up hair on beef and working up top lines on dairy) must be clearly done by the exhibitor, members of the immediate family or any other registered Minnesota 4-H member. Immediate family members are defined as being parents, step parents, legal guardians, grandparents, brothers or sisters. The 4-Her exhibiting the animal should be present and involved in the fitting process at the fair.
- All market goats must be disbudded. Re-growth must not exceed 1 inch. Does shown in market classes must be disbudded in accordance with market animal rules. Cut (sawed) off horns are not permitted. Animals in violation of this rule will be recorded in the show record book as no higher than a red ribbon.
- Meat Breeding Does may have horns and they do not need to be capped or blunted. However, if an animal is deemed a safety concern at the discretion of the meat goat committee, additional safety measures may be required.
- All animals must be fitted for show.
  • All Market Goats must be completely clipped. It is optional to clip the legs from the knee in front and the hock in back, down to the hoof line.
  • Meat Breeding Does must be trimmed and fitted for show, but do not have to be completely body clipped.
  • Bracing is allowed in class and showmanship. Goats’ feet may be lifted off the ground for set-up, then immediately set back down. The goats’ front feet must be on the ground at all times.
- Exhibitors may use leather or smooth chain collars in the show ring. Goat training and prong collars are not allowed. An optional 12 inch lead strap may be used for breeding doe classes.

OTHER INFORMATION

- Market goats may be marketed directly from the State Fair. As exhibitors have their goats weighed, they will be asked if they want to market their animal.
- Auction animals will be marketed. Auction animals are terminal and must be drug-free with respect to withdrawal dates and times.