

4-H DAIRY GOAT PROJECT



Step It Up!

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

Communication

- Design a poster on dairy goat breeds
- Teach others about showmanship techniques
- Give a speech on the importance of the dairy industry

Are You Into It?

The dairy industry is one of the foundations of agriculture. There's so much more to it than just producing milk! Most think of just dairy cattle that produce dairy products. Think again!!

- Acquire skills in dairy goat production through ownership and care of dairy goats.
- Learn marketing, processing, distribution, consumption, and use of dairy products.
- Discover selecting your project, to raising it, to finding a career in the industry.
- Learn nutritive value of dairy products and promote their use.

Citizenship

- Have your animal as part of a petting zoo sharing the importance of dairy
- Be a part of a dairy promotion event

Leadership

- Arrange for your class to tour a dairy goat farm
- Be a mentor for a younger 4-H'er
- Organize a county grooming clinic
- Attend a national or regional conference and encourage other youth to attend

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 dairy breeds • Select your animal • Identify parts of the animal • Learn to evaluate your animal • Feed your animal • Demonstrate multiple showing techniques • Grooming your animal • Keep cost records • Research on where to find answers to all your dairy questions • Showmanship techniques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramp up your judging skills • Make ethical decisions • Identify a sick animal, how to treat it and future prevention • Understand medication uses, storage, administering of medication and how it relates to food safety • Learn appropriate handling techniques and housing of dairy cattle • Evaluate feed quality and how it affects digestion • Find a career in dairy production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn body condition scoring • Debate animal welfare issues • Use records to make management decisions • Investigate signs and causes of mastitis • Balance a dairy ration • Learn about breeding and reproduction techniques • Promote the dairy industry • Explore different career opportunities

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER



Take Dairy Goats further!

Here are other opportunities to explore Dairy Goats:

- Tour a dairy goat operation
- Participate in regional or statewide quiz bowl events and judging contests
- Market and sell project animals to other 4-H'ers
- Start your own dairy goat herd
- Educate communities about the dairy goat industry
- Participate in a community service project, bringing ideas back to your community
- Enjoy a summer internship working at a dairy goat farm
- Research dairy goat by-products
- Compare the differences in dairy cattle and dairy goat milk and cheese production
- Attend a local or state dairy goat show and listen to the judge give oral reasons on the classes
- Is it fair time? Consider showing in your County Fair dairy goat show or the Iowa State Fair
- Contact your county ISU Extension Office for other local workshops, activities, and events
- Interested in a college education in animal science or veterinary medicine?
Schedule a visit with Iowa State University to explore those majors. www.iastate.edu

Resources

4-H Resources	Other Resources	Record Keeping
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iowa 4-H Dairy Goat www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/dairy-goat • Getting your Goat Level 1 (4H 396A) • Stepping Out Level 2 (4H 396B) • Showing the Way Level 3 (4H 396C) • Dairy Goat Leader Guide (4H 396 LDR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iowa Dairy Goat Association www.iowadairygoat.org • American Dairy Goat Assoc. www.adga.org • Dairy Goat Journal www.dairygoatjournal.com 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dairy Animal Project Worksheet (4H 392 WS) • Dairy Animal Lifetime Record (4H 393 WS) • WS Dairy Goat Lifetime Record (4H 393A) • Dairy and Dairy Goat ID Report (4H 106A)

Exhibit Ideas

- Create a poster on a dairy goat-related topic
 - Assemble an emergency medical kit
 - How to properly tattoo your dairy goat
 - Design a poster on the many dairy breeds
 - Proper selection and how to judge your animal
 - Fitting techniques for show day
 - A display on proper feed rations
 - Prepare a dairy goat show kit
 - Describe the proper terms when talking about dairy goats
 - How to properly register and keep records on your animals
 - Compare and contrast the dairy breeds and their positive traits
- Make a scrapbook of your animal(s)
- Develop a presentation on the following:
 - Grooming your animal
 - How to start a dairy goat herd
 - Comparison on the nutritive value of dairy vs. non-dairy products
 - How to properly show your animal
- Continue exhibiting the same animal(s) to show the progression and how they've changed