



Bottle Goat Project Record Book



Exhibitor's Name _____

Exhibitor Age _____

Exhibitor Club Name _____



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

PURPOSE:

1. To teach proper health care, environmental needs and nutritional requirements of young goats.
2. To teach basic goat management skills without a large investment.
3. To teach basic record keeping and communication skills.
4. To provide a better understanding of the goat.

Guidelines

1. Project open to 4-H or FFA members, grades 4 to 12.
2. Class is open to any newborn or orphan male or female goats, born after January 1, and before April weigh-in date of the current year.
3. Male goats must be **castrated** by April weigh-in date.
4. 4-H'er may identify and ear-tag up to three (3) bottle goats at the April weigh-in. Only one (1) bottle goat may be exhibited at the fair.
5. Bottle goats will be ear-tagged at April weigh-in with a different colored ear-tag than the Market goat ear-tag.
6. Goats need to be separated from mother within 48 hours of birth. No nursing permitted after 48 hours.
7. Goats identified in the Bottle Goat Project may not be shown in the Market Goat Class and vice versa.
8. Bottle goats shown at the Jefferson County Fair may be sold in the 4-H Livestock auction, provided they are market weight, minimum weight 90 pounds.
9. Members may keep female Bottle Goats and exhibit in the following year's Fair Return Bottle goat Class.
10. Entries will be weighed on Fair entry day and classes determined by the superintendents.
11. Classes will be divided by age of exhibitor and weight of goats.
12. The fitting and showing of the goats should be according to goat guidelines with emphasis on what the member has learned.
13. Goats must be shorn at least two weeks prior to show.
14. Evaluation of the project will be based on:
 - a. Record Evaluation..... 200 points
 - b. Interview with Committee...200 points
 - c. Show ring Evaluation.....100 pointsTotal Possible Points.....500 points
16. There will not be a special showmanship class for Bottle Goats because it's already included in the point system.

Words to Know

Colostrum—the first milk produced by a lamb after lambing.

Disposition—the temperament or mood of a certain lamb.

Heredity—is the passing on of traits from parents to their offspring.

Breed—is a specific group of domestic animals having the same appearance, behavior, or other characteristics that distinguish it from other animals.

Consider Each Goat

Age—A bottle goat should be in your possession within one week of birth.

Appearance—A healthy goat should have a smooth, shiny coat; a warm, moist nose; and bright, alert eyes.

Colostrum—A newborn goat should have been fed colostrum for the first 3 days. This special milk gives calves a healthy beginning.

Disposition—Select a goat that is quiet and calm. A wild lamb would be a lot more work for you and would be more difficult to manage and show.

Price—Find out the current market price range for newborn goat so you will know how much to spend.

The Interview might include such questions as:

1. Where and when did you obtain your goat? Was there a cost involved, and how did you finance?
2. How old was the goat when you received it? How old is it now?
3. What health problems did you have with the goat?
4. What did you feed the goat the first day at home?
5. What is colostrum, and did you feed any to your goat?
6. What was your milk feeding program? How long did you feed milk?
7. When did you start giving the goat solid feed? How often did you change the ration?
8. Did you feed any antibiotics?
9. What is in milk replacer?
10. Did you warm your milk and how warm?
11. What kind of housing did you have for your goat?
12. When did you start training your goat?
13. Do you plan to make a profit on your goat?
14. What are your plans for your goat after the fair?
15. What have you enjoyed most in working with your goat?

Identify Your Goals

Clear goals will help you decide what is most important to you. If your goal is to add a goat to your family's herd, breed and heredity may be the most important factors. If your goal is to learn how to care for a goat, gentleness or cost may be more important.

Think about what you hope to learn from the Bottle Goat project. In your goals, include things you want to learn about bottle goat and things you want to learn about yourself. Discuss your goals with your guardian, then write them in the space below.

Project Goals:

(What I want to learn about having a bottle goat)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Observing a Healthy Goat

Ears—Look at your goat’s ears. They should stand up and not appear droopy.

Eyes—Look at your goat’s eyes. Healthy goats have eyes that are alert and bright.

Nose—Touch your goat’s nose to make sure it is moist and warm.

Skin—Touch and look at your goat’s skin. It should appear shiny and free of sores.

Breathing—Listen to the way your goat breathes. You should hear your goat taking breaths in a regular, comfortable rhythm. Your goat should not be coughing or taking labored breaths.

Temperature—Look at your goat’s temperature on a rectal thermometer. A normal temperature is 100.9°-103.8°, but this varies from goat to goat and at different times of the day.

Bowel movements—Look at your goat’s fecal material. They should be solid, with no signs of diarrhea.

Eating and drinking habits— Look to see what your goat eats and drinks each day. Healthy goat’s have a good appetite and do not drink too much water. (It depends on size of goat, weather, etc.) Your adult helper can help you decide what is right for your goat.

Observing Healthy Goat Management

Techniques Housing—A goat’s house should have clean, fresh bedding, with no accumulated wastes or standing water. Good ventilation also is necessary.

Feeding—Fresh food and water should be available every day. The same person should feed a goat at the same times every day to lessen stress.

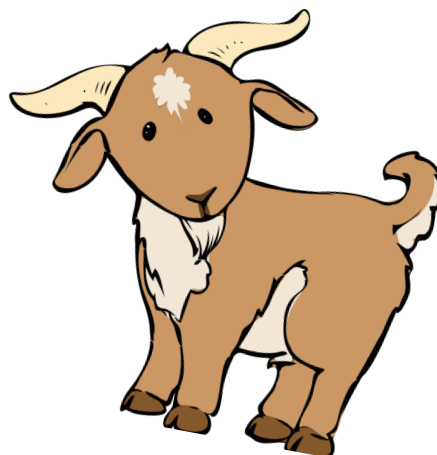
Flies and insects—Try to limit the number of flies and insects in your goat’s house. Your adult partner can help you determine the best method of pest control.

Vaccinations—Goats should receive their first clostridial vaccination when they are approximately 6 to 8 weeks of age, followed by a booster 4 weeks later. Determine with your adult partner or veterinarian what vaccines your goat needs and when

Hoofs—A goat’s hoofs should be trimmed by an adult before the goat is turned out on pasture. An untrimmed hoof forces the goat to walk on its heels.

Observe Your Goat

Observe your goat at least two times each day. Frequent observation helps in early disease diagnosis, and treatment of any disease is more successful when diagnosed and treated early. Practice using your senses to observe your goat. Write down any observation you see about your goat on page 5.



Goat Observations

	Day/Time	Issue
Ears	05/24 at 5PM	Droopy
Eyes	05/24 at 5PM	watery
Nose		
Skin		
Breathing		
Bowl Movements	05/24 at 5PM	Runny
Eating/drinking habits	05/24 at 5PM	Not eating

Example

Now you try to keep some observations on your goat

(If need be you could keep on a separate paper and include with your record book)

Jefferson County 4-H Bottle Goat Project Record

Year in project: _____

Name _____ 4-H Age _____

Years in 4-H _____

Breed of Goat _____

Sex of Goat: Male _____ Female _____

What color is your Goat? _____

When did you get it? _____

If purchased, where did you get your goat? _____

How much did your goat weigh when born or when you bought it? _____

How much did it cost (estimate worth if home-raised)? _____

How old was the goat when you stopped feeding milk? _____

How much should your goat weigh when you sell it? _____

What did you feed your goat each day for the first 90 days? _____

What did you feed your goat each day from 90 days to present time? _____

What equipment did you need to care for your goat? _____

What shots/medicines did you give your goat? _____

COST OF RAISING YOUR BOTTLE GOAT

Birth to 3 Months of Age

Milk or Milk Replacer	\$ _____
Starter	\$ _____
Hay	\$ _____
Medical	\$ _____
Bedding	\$ _____
Miscellaneous	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

Three Months to Present Time

Concentrate Mixture (Grain, Protein, etc.)	\$ _____
Hay	\$ _____
Medical	\$ _____
Bedding	\$ _____
Miscellaneous	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

SUMMARY

1. Value of goat when born or when bought \$ _____
2. Expenses for your goat (from above)
 - Milk or Milk Replacer \$ _____
 - Starter (Commercial) \$ _____
 - Concentrate (Grain, Protein, etc.) \$ _____
 - Hay \$ _____
 - Medical \$ _____
 - Miscellaneous \$ _____
 - Total Cost of Raising Goat (Don't Include Original Cost of Goat) \$ _____
3. Value of goat at Present Time \$ _____
4. Profit or Loss on Project (subtract 1 + 2 from 3) \$ _____

A Look Back

Think about all the experiences you had with your bottle goat project. Write answers to the following questions.

What were your goals for the bottle goat project? Did you meet your goals?

How did you accomplish those goals?

What was the most important thing you learned about your bottle goat?

What is something you learned about yourself during this project?

What is the biggest problem you had with your bottle goat?

What might you have done differently with your project?

Did you have fun in this project?

Include Photos of your Bottle Goat

Include Photos of your Bottle Goat