



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:

Citizenship/ Leadership

- Volunteer your dairy goat for a clinic or other educational event
- Volunteer to help with weigh-in at a livestock show
- Mentor younger 4-H youth interested in raising and showing dairy goats

Communication

- Design a poster on parts of the animal or how milk is produced
- Participate in a judging contest giving oral reasons
- Participate in a skill-a-thon
- Conduct a showmanship clinic
- Conduct a milking clinic

Healthy Living

- Identify zoonotic diseases and prevention measures
- Practice bio-security safety measures for livestock
- Design a poster to discuss the safe handling of goat milk
- Analyze the nutritional value of goat milk and cheese

Science

- Design and build dairy goat housing, fencing, and holding facilities
- Analyze soil samples to determine fertilizer needs and forage types
- Learn the bio-chemical process of how milk is made

Are you Into It?

Discover the fun of raising goats for dairy products!

In the dairy goat project, you can:

- Discover opportunities in the dairy goat industry by selecting your project animal, raising it, developing your own herd, and exploring careers in the industry
- Learn how to make products such as soap and cheese
- Understand the nutritive value of dairy products and promote their use
- Acquire skills in dairy goat production through ownership and care of dairy goats
- Learn marketing, processing, distribution, consumption, and use of dairy products

Here's what you can do all year!

Starting Out Basic

- Know your dairy goat 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 expense records
- Research on where to find answers to all your dairy questions
- Showmanship techniques

Learning More Intermediate

- 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 goats
- Evaluate feed quality and how it affects digestion
- Find a career in goat production

Expanding Horizons Advanced

- Learn body condition scoring
- Debate animal welfare issues
- Use records to make management decisions
- Investigate signs and causes of mastitis
- Balance a goat ration
- Learn about breeding and reproduction techniques
- Promote the dairy industry
- Explore different career opportunities

Learn more at florida4h.org

or contact your local UF/IFAS Extension County Office



Take Dairy Goat further!

- Interested in a college education in the area of Animal Science, Food Resource Economics, Veterinary Science or Agriculture Education and Communications? Schedule a visit with the University of Florida: www.ufl.edu
- Register for 4-H University to attend workshops, participate in community service events, hear keynotes, compete in contests, have fun, and meet other youth from across Florida who may share common interests: www.florida4h.org/programsandevents
- Check out camps at the Florida 4-H Center: www.florida4h.org/camps
- 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
- 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
- Contact your county Extension Office for other local workshops, activities, and events

Project Sharing Ideas

- Create a poster on a dairy goat related topic like proper feed rations or how to properly register and keep records on your animals
- Prepare an example emergency medical kit or dairy goat show kit
- Make a scrapbook of your animals
- Develop a presentation on how to start a dairy goat herd
- Make a YouTube video on how to milk a goat or how to make soap
- Continue exhibiting the same animal to showcase the animal's development

Resources

4-H Project Resources

Project materials to assist youth in learning may be available through your county 4-H office or you can order directly.

Available at National 4-H:
www.4-hmall.org

Dairy Goat

Level 1: Getting Your Goat

Level 2: Stepping Out

Level 3: Showing the Way

Available at EDIS:

edis.ifas.ufl.edu

4-H Livestock Judging: a 4-H Animal Science Project

Help With Judging Cards:

animal.ufl.edu/youth/Cards.shtml

Connections and Events

Attend other statewide events. Check them all out at florida4h.org and animal.ifas.ufl.edu

National Dairy Conference
florida4h.org/programsandevents/nationaldairy/

Dairy Goat Journal
dairygoatjournal.com

Florida Dairy Goat Association
fdga.org

American Dairy Goat Association
adga.org

Florida State Fair has a youth Dairy Goat show and judging contest

floridastatefair.ag.com/livestock

Record Keeping

Learning to keep good records of what you do and what you spend for your project is a 4-H life skill.

Record keeping forms can help you keep a record of your activities:

• 4-H Dairy and Dairy Goat Project Record Book
edis.ifas.ufl.edu/

Project Report Forms can be found at florida4h.org

- Junior (ages 8-10)
- Intermediate (ages 11-13)
- Senior (ages 14-18)
- Financial Summary
- Member Portfolio (ages 8-13)

Awards and Recognition

Florida's Recognition Program involves feedback through:

- Participation
- Setting Goals
- Meeting Standards
- Peer Competition
- Cooperation

Certificates, pins, ribbons, trophies, trips and/or scholarships are awarded based on quality of performance at the county, district, state and national levels.

To learn more about current recognition opportunities visit the Florida 4-H website at florida4h.org or contact your county 4-H agent.

Learn more at florida4h.org
or contact your local UF/IFAS Extension County Office

4-H
GROWING TOGETHER