



4-H DAIRY GOAT PROJECT



In the Dairy Goat project, members learn about the production of milk, cheeses, and other products. The project involves raising animals and learning about showmanship, and judging.

- Members experience all aspects of raising a dairy goat from general care to kidding and milking
- Youth will gain knowledge of milk processing and dairy products
- Acquire skills in management and care of dairy goats through ownership and project support.
- Learn processing, consumption, nutrition and use of dairy products.

4-H Thrive!

Help Youth:

Light Their Spark

A spark is something youth are passionate about; it really fires them up and gives them joy and energy. Help youth find how this project excites them.

Flex Their Brain

The brain grows stronger when we try new things and master new skills. Encourage youth effort and persistence to help them reach higher levels of success.

Reach Their Goals

Help youth use the GPS system to achieve their goals.

- Goal Selection:** Choose one meaningful, realistic and demanding goal.
- Pursue Strategies:** Create a step-by-step plan to make daily choices that support your goal.
- Shift Gears:** Change strategies if you're having difficulties reaching your goal. Seek help from others. What are youth going

Reflect

Ask project members how they can use their passion for this project to be more confident, competent and caring. Discuss ways they can use their skills to make a contribution in the community, improve their character or establish connections.

Starting Out *Beginner*

- Know your dairy breeds
- Identify parts of the animal
- Learn about diseases and immunization
- Research how and what to feed your dairy goat
- Learn to evaluate your animal
- Study showmanship techniques and grooming

Learning More *Intermediate*

- Research necessary and recommended feed supplements
- Be able to identify a sick animal, and learn both treatment and prevention
- Learn about breeding and kidding
- Learn body condition scoring
- Design a plan for safe milking procedures.

Exploring Depth *Advanced*

- Learn judging skills and how to use ADGA scorecards
- Explore career opportunities
- Learn herd management for both farm and backyard goats
- Design a breeding program
- Learn how to properly administer injections

The activities above are ideas to inspire further project development. This is not a complete list.



Expand Your Experiences!

Healthy Living

- Create a biosecurity plan for taking your animal to competitions and shows.
- Learn about food safety and how it relates milk handling procedures
- Study the quality and health benefits of goat ,milk

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

- Evaluate milking machines, both hand held and electric
- Study about concerns in animal welfare and how to make ethical decisions for your animals.

Citizenship

- Educate the community about dairy goats and their importance in global agriculture.
- Participate in outreach activities with your goat

Leadership

- Become a junior or teen leader in your project group
- Recruit others into the dairy goat project
- Start your own herd and sell animals to youth and community members

Resources

- American Dairy Goat Association
www.adga.org
- Dairy Goat Journal
www.dairygoatjournal.com
- Goat Wisdom
www.goatwisdom.com
- FiasCo Farm- goat care, health & husbandry
www.fiascofarm.com

The UC 4-H Youth Development Program does not endorse, warrant, or otherwise take responsibility for the contents of unofficial sites.

Connections & Events	Curriculum	4-H Record Book
<p>Presentation Days – Share what you’ve learned with others through a presentation.</p> <p>Field Days – At these events, 4-H members may participate in a variety of contests related to their project area.</p> <p>Contact your county 4-H office to determine additional opportunities available, such as a field day.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available from 4-hmall.org http://www.4-hmall.org/Product/4-hcurriculum-dairy-goat/08352.aspx • Getting Your Goat Level 1 • Stepping Out Level 2 • Showing the Way Level 3 	<p>4-H Record Books give members an opportunity to record events and reflect on their experiences. For each project, members document their experiences, learning and development.</p> <p>4-H Record Books also teach members record management skills and encourage them to set goals and develop a plan to meet those goals.</p> <p>To access the 4-H Record Book online, visit http://ucanr.edu/orb/</p>

