



# 2009 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.

## Please read all information carefully, as many changes have been made this year to the Dairy and Meat Market Goat Program

### Ownership Requirements

- Animals exhibited must be owned solely by the member or member’s family. The family includes the 4-Her’s parents or guardians and siblings living together as a family unit. The definition of family includes an extended family where the animals may be owned by grandparents with the 4-Her’s parents actively involved with and working on the farm. Meat market goats cannot be leased. **Meat Breeding Does may be leased.**

### Meat or Dairy Birthdates

Market Goat – altered male or female (no bucks allowed)	January 1 – <b>April 30, 2009</b>
<b>Senior Meat Goat Breeding Doe (registered or grade)</b>	<b>January 1 – March 31, 2009</b>
<b>Junior Meat Goat Breeding Doe (registered or grade)</b>	<b>April 1 – May 15, 2009</b>
<b>Yearling Meat Goat Breeding Doe (registered or grade)</b>	<b>Born in 2008 (never kidded)</b>

### Breeds – Registered & Grades

Meat goats may be any breed or cross. Eligible breeds include: Angora, Boer, Cashmere, Fainting, Kinder, Pygmy, dairy breeds, and crosses. Dairy market goats must be 100% Dairy breed. Any other crosses shown in Meat Market class.

### Identification Details

- **An official 4-H Ear Tag is required for each market animal.** Exception: animals with gopher or elf ears must be tattooed with a unique animal ID number in the tail web. Contact local Extension office.
- A Scrapie Program approved tattoo or a Scrapie tag is required for the Scrapie Program. A scrapie tag or tattoo is required but is not acceptable for the individual animal ID.
- Meat Breeding Does must be tattooed with a unique animal ID number. They must also have a scrapie ID (either tag or tattoo).
- **For information or questions about the USDA Scrapie Identification Program, contact the Minnesota Board of Animal Health (651-201-6809 or 1-866-873-2824).**

### Identification Forms and Deadlines

- Meat Goats must be identified on either the “Minnesota 4-H Meat Goat Breeding Doe Ownership Affidavit” (MBGIDA) or the “Minnesota 4-H Market Goat (Meat & Dairy) Ownership Affidavit” (MMGIDA) and returned to your species ID coordinator to be submitted to the Extension Office by May 15.
- If a meat breeding doe is leased, the Lease Form on the backside of Minnesota 4-H Meat Goat Breeding Doe Ownership Affidavit” (BGIDA) must be submitted to your species ID coordinator for the May 15 submission.

### Dates of State Fair 4-H Livestock Encampment & Show Times

- 4-H Livestock Encampment ~ Wednesday, August 26 – Sunday, August 30
  - 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 105 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.

### **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.

### **State Fair Showmanship ~ Age Divisions: Novice=1<sup>st</sup> year showing at State Fair, Intermediate = grades 6-8 & Senior = grade 9+**

- All exhibitors must compete in showmanship.
- Wear the proper attire when showing. White top with jeans is **required. No caps, hats or jewelry in the ring.**

### **State Fair Herdsmanship**

- Animals must be maintained and look presentable to the public from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. daily.
- Hay and straw will be furnished.
- Because of space limitations, only one show box will be allowed per county. A second maybe allowed if > 5 exhibitors/county.
- No decoration of pens is allowed (this is consistent with State Fair rules).

### **State Fair Grooming Information**

- **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.
- **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 clipped and fitted for show.
  - Bracing: Goats can not be braced and must be shown with all four feet on the ground. Animals must be shown with a chain or collar used only to control the animal.

### **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.