

# Morgan County Market Goat Project

## Selecting your Market Goat

Whether you are brand new to the goat project, or a veteran with many years under your belt, here are some tips on the animal you are looking for.

- Make sure you pick a reputable breeder if you are purchasing your animal.
- Know the genetic makeup of the animal you are going to purchase.
- Consider the following factors: frame size, muscle, structural correctness, balance, eye appeal, and disposition.
- Keep in mind the average daily gain for a goat is .25 - .35 pounds.
- Goats typically need to eat 7 – 8lbs. of grain for every 1 lb. of gain. Your goat will need to eat between 1.75 and 2 lbs. of grain to ensure a gain of .25 lb. per day.
- Keeping with current industry standards, your goat should weight 60-100 pounds at county fair.
- The feeding period for a market goat is 90-120 days.
- Your goat should be 5-8 months in age at county fair.
- Fresh and clean water should be available at all times
- Feed should contain 16-18% protein
- Use the chart to the right to determine how big your goat should be at purchase to ensure he is properly finished by county fair.



## How Much Should My Goat Weight?

**\*Assuming a .25 ADG**

Days to Goat	Desired Beginning Weight	Desired Market Weight at Show
107 days	33-73 pounds	60-100 pounds
91 days	37-77 pounds	60-100 pounds

## Additional Information

- Barn or shed should have 15 square feet per animal.
- Fence should be minimum of 48 inches tall.
- Goats should be vaccinated for CD/T before going on full feed.
- Exercise a minimum of walking 15 minutes every day approximately 4 - 6 weeks before show.
- The average cost per goat is \$500-\$600. This includes the purchase of the animal, feed for 4 months and show supplies.
- Sore-mouth, ringworm and urinary calculi are three common health concerns in goats. Urinary calculi is the most critical and time sensitive of the goat diseases.
- When treatment or injections are necessary for animal health read the label, administer properly, adhere to withdrawal times, and keep accurate records.
- Dehorning or tipping may be required depending on the rules of the show. Be sure to know this before going into the project.
- Ask For Help: 4-H Agent, Leaders or other members in the 4-H Goat Project.

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## Upcoming Events:

- Market Goat Primary Care begins, 5/6/2024
- Market Goat ID's due to the Extension Office by 4:00 pm, 5/6/2024
- Breeding Goat ID's due to the Extension Office by 4:00 pm, 5/1/2024
- Meat Quality Assurance 5/13/2024 or 5/14/2024 , 4:30-6:30 pm, MCFG
- Fair entries and record books due, 7/10/2024, 4 pm, Extension Office



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