

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 weigh 60-100 pounds at county fair.
- The feeding period for a market goat is 90-120 days.
- Your goat should be 6-8 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 Weigh?

***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, 5/5/2025
- Market Goat ID's due to the Extension Office by 4:00 pm, 5/5/2025
- Breeding Goat ID's due to the Extension Office by 4:00 pm, 5/1/2025
- Meat Quality Assurance 5/12/2025 or 5/13/2025, 4:30-6:30 pm, MCFG
- Fair entries and record books due, 7/9/2025, 4 pm, Extension Office



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