



Smithson Valley FFA

Lamb and Goat Project Information

How to Care For Your Animal



Smithson Valley High School

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Spring Branch, TX 78070

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Welcome

Welcome to Smithson Valley FFA. This handbook was designed to provide you with basic information regarding your animal project. However, the best way for you to learn what to do is to get help from those who have been in the program and are active showers. Remember; don't be afraid to ask questions. Most people are willing to help. Another good source of information is clinics and camps.

General Program Information

Meetings

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm. The kids' meeting is generally held in the Smithson Valley High School cafeteria, while the parent meeting is generally held in the Smithson Valley High School library. If there is a change in meeting locations or times, you will be notified in advanced.

Communication

Communicating with so many people is very difficult. The best way for you to know what is happening in the program is to register on the website. All emails and newsletters are sent out to those who are registered on the website. It is best if both the parents and the kids are registered so this way everyone receives the information as it is sent out.

Website

You can find a lot of information on our website at www.smithsonvalley.ffa.org. There is a section on the website specifically for lamb and goat projects.

School Barn Facilities

The school barn is located in the back of the school, below the football field. You can enter this area from Smithson Valley Road by taking the bus entrance. Pens are available at the school barn on a first come first serve basis to both junior and senior members. The barn also has an arena, running track and a walker.

Ag Advisor

Cody Cook is the Ag Advisor for the lamb and goat projects. His contact information is as follows.

School Phone Number: 830-885-1084

Cell Phone Number: 832-221-1001

Email Address: cody.cook@comalisd.org

School Address: 14001 Hwy 46 W, Spring Branch, TX 78070

Classification

What type of goat do I have?



Boer Goat

The boer goat is a faster growing, heavier framed, more docile breed than most goats. They are commonly seen as having a white body with a red head.

What type of lamb do I have? How are lambs classified?

Fine Wool



Fine Wool Breed Characteristics

Acceptable breed characteristics

- Rambouillet, Delaine, Debouillet, or a cross between these breeds
- Silky, white face
- Silky ears, medium to moderate in size
- Soft pelt
- Yellow to white hooves (neutral)
- Black pads on hooves
- Nose should be neutral to pink in color
- May be polled or horned

Discriminatory breed characteristics

- Moderate amounts of brown or black spots in the skin and/or wool.
- Moderate freckling or pigmented skin (brown or black) on the ears, eyes, and lips
- Black streaking in the hooves
- Black eye lashes
- Birthmarks

Absolute disqualifications

- Excessively coarse britch and/or harsh pelt
- Excessive coarse, chalky, white hair on the face, in the flanks, and/or down the front and/or rear legs
- Excessive brown or black spots in the skin and/or wool
- Excessive freckling or pigmented skin (brown or black) on the ears, eyes, and lips.
- Brown or black spots in hairline above hooves.
- Solid black hooves.
- Black lambs
- Surgical alterations other than redocking
- Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge gene

Fine Wool Cross



Fine Wool Cross Breed Characteristics

Acceptable breed characteristics

- Must be a cross with evidence of at least 50 % fine wool breeding and the remaining percentage exhibiting predominance of medium wool breeding (Hampshire and/or Suffolk)
 - Soft pelt which is characteristic of ½ blood wool (60's-62's spinning count)
 - Face and ears should be soft and silky
 - Mottling and/or some spotting on face and ears and legs below the knees and hocks
 - Wool must be present below the hocks on the rear legs; wool below the knees on the front legs is not necessary
- White, ring-eyed crosses are acceptable if pelt is acceptable
 - Birth marks are acceptable

Discriminatory breed characteristics

- Solid brown face and ears with little to no mottling
- Excessive black or brown spotting in the skin above the knees and hocks
- Moderate amounts of colored fibers (black or brown) in the wool

Absolute disqualifications

- Excessive black or solid dark chocolate brown color on face, ears, and legs (including wool)
- Excessively coarse britch and/or harsh pelt
- Excessive coarse, chalky, white hair on the face, in the flanks, and/or down the front and/or rear legs
- Total absence of wool on rear legs
- Black lambs
- Surgical alterations other than redocking
- Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge gene

Southdown



Southdown Breed Characteristics

Acceptable breed characteristics

- Hair color on muzzle should be mouse colored, gray to brown
- Nostril pigmentation may be black to purplish-gray
- Muzzle should be broad; head of moderate length
- Ears of moderate length, covered with short hair or wool
- Black hoof color
- Birth marks are acceptable

Discriminatory breed characteristics

- Solid white color or dark chocolate color on muzzle
- Coarse, chalky hair around eyes extending to and including the muzzle
- Coarse hair in flank
- Coarse britch and/or harsh pelt
- Predominately pink nose with few black spots
- Long, narrow nose
- Excessive coloration on ears
- Excessive ear length
- Predominately slick ears
- Scurs
- Open poll on head
- Striped hooves
- Black fibers in wool

Absolute disqualifications

- Speckled face or legs
- Horns
- White hooves
- Intentional alteration of hair or skin pigmentation
- Total pink pigmentation of nostrils
- Black lambs
- Surgical alterations other than redocking
- Steep hip or tendency to show callipyge gene

Medium Wool



Medium Wool Breed Characteristics

This class generally includes the Suffolk and Hampshire breeds, plus all lambs that do not fit in the finewool, finewool cross, or Southdown breed classes

Health

If your animal appears to be sick, take his temperature and call your Ag Advisor right way. Tell your Ag Advisor the animal's temperature and symptoms. He will help you determine what is wrong. If you cannot reach him, call the veterinarian. You don't want to wait to get help. Some illnesses can cause an animal to make a turn for the worst, even death, very quickly if not treated right away. Remember it is always better to ask for help, then to try and figure something out for yourself.

The following are illnesses you may come across. The signs, causes and treatments are listed. A lot of the medications listed will need to be gotten from the veterinarian.

How can I tell if there is something wrong with my animal?

You need to interact with your animal from the very beginning to determine what normal behavior for your animal is. This means watching how he acts when he sees you, looking at his stools and paying attention to how often he urinates. Once you know your animal's normal behaviors, you should have no trouble determining when something is wrong.

What do I do if my animal is not eating?

Take his temperature. If he has a temperature, call your Ag Advisor to help you determine what is wrong with your animal. If he does not have a temperature, don't worry about him missing 1 feeding. If he misses a second feeding, give him some Probiotics and call your Ag Advisor.

What is a normal temperature?

Normal temperature is around 102 to 103 degrees F. An animal is considered to have a fever when it reaches 104 degrees F. If the temperature is around 104 degrees F, you may want to take into consideration the outside temperature. If it is hot outside, your animal's temperature may be a degree or 2 higher than normal.

What do I do if my animal has diarrhea?

Diarrhea is a symptom of several different illnesses: scours, coccidia, ruman aciobsis and intestinal worms. Each one has a different treatment. If you are not sure which one your animal has, talk to your Ag Advisor.

My animal has a runny nose and is coughing. What do I do?



Take his temperature. Then contact your Ag Advisor. He will help you determine what is wrong. If you cannot reach him, call the vet right away. This could be a sign of a respiratory virus.

Signs: Temperature under 104 degrees F

Clear snot

Slight cough

Reduced feed/water

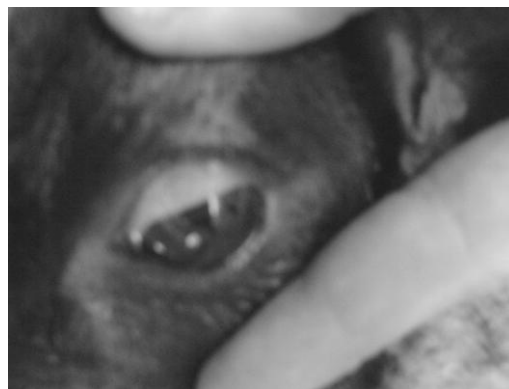
Reduced attitude/slightly elevated respiration rate

Treatment: Watch and monitor the animal and his pen buddy

Provide TLC for animal

Provide shade and fan

What is Copper Toxicity?



Sheep require 8 to 10 ppm of Cooper. This is not a major problem in goats.

Signs: White of eyes are yellow

Urine is red

Off feed
Fever
Cause: Supplements
Feed not labeled for sheep
Feed additives not labeled for sheep
Genetics
Treatment: Drench with Sodium Molybdate
IV with fluids
Drench with electrolytes
Blood transfusion (2 pints over 2 days)

What does ring worm look like and how do I treat it?



Signs: Round circular lesions with crust formation.
Animal may be itching and scratching.
Cause: Fungus which invades the skin and wool fibers.
Treatment: Miconazole shampoos and conditioners.
Solutions to spray lamb with include 2% Chlorhexidine, 3% Captan, or Lime Sulfur Dip – 1 oz/quart
Prevention: Treat lamb/goat and all equipment before leaving show.
Bleach – 1 ½ cups to 1 gallon of water, and immerse for at least 10 minutes

What is urinary calculi or Water Belly?



Signs: Stretching out and straining during urination.
Dribbling of urine or lack of urination.
Stomping of feet and kicking at abdomen.

Cause: CA:P ration should be 1:1 or 2:1
Pelleted feeds increase urinary excretion of P
Molasses has 6% Mg which can lead to stone formation
Poor quality water source.

Treatment: Remove blockage if possible.
Ammonium Chloride – 1 3cc syringe capful to 12 cc syrup 3 times daily
Antibiotics – Penicillin or Naxcel
Banamine for pain

Prevention: Be sure and feed good quality diet and monitor number of supplements used.
Vitamin C once a day will help prevent.

What is thiamine deficiency?



Signs: Blindness
Depression
Incoordination
Head pressing
Convulsions
Death

Cause: Sudden change in diet

Moldy hay
Rumen Acidosis
Dietary stress
Severe coccidia infestation

Treatment: Thiamine 2000 mg/100 lbs minimal IV if possible
Dexamethasone 4 mg/100 lbs.
Repeat both every 12 hours for 2 to 3 days. May take 10 to 14 days to recover sight.

What is scours?



Signs: Diarrhea covering rear of animal

Causes: Overfeeding

Bacteria

Treatment: Treat with Spectinomycin, Imodium Ad, Albon, or Koalin
Sustain Illbolus
Keep hydrated
Give small amount of hay
Reduce feed

What is coccidia?



Signs: Watery diarrhea, may contain mucus or blood
Anorexic

Dehydration

May cause death

Cause: Parasitic protozoan

Treatment: Corid 4 oz/25 gallons for 5 days. Best to treat everyone in the pen.
Primor – same dosage as for a dog for 5 days.

What causes pink eye?



Signs: Increased tearing
Eye may or may not be cloudy
Squinting, unwilling to open eye

Cause: Dust, flies, virus, bacteria

Treatment: Tetracycline – 6 cc /100/lbs SQ (under skin)
Tylan 200 – 5 cc/100 lbs IM (in the muscle)
Terramycin Ophthalmic Ointment – twice daily
Table Sugar – small amount in the eye for 3 days. This will flush eye by causing tearing.

What is foot rot?



Signs: Lameness
Limping
Bad odor

Cause: Bacteria
Wet conditions
Un-trimmed hooves

Treatment: Trim and clean hooves
Tylan 200 or penicillin
Kopertox applied to infected area

What is Rumen Acidosis or Grain Overload?



Signs: Off feed

Depressed

Weak and Dehydrated

Abdominal distension

Diarrhea – varies from paste like to watery

Cause: Usually occurs in animals fed primarily forage based rations or limited rations that are suddenly given access to large amounts of highly fermentable feeds.

Treatment: Banamine – 2 cc/100 lbs IM (in muscles) every 12 hours for up to 3 injections

Penicillin – 8 cc/100 lbs SQ (under skin) daily

Thiamine – 500 mg/100 lbs IM (in the muscle) three times a day

Mix ½ tsp Baking Soda with 1 cup water and drench every 8 hours

Fluids IV if animal is dehydrated.

Probiotics once or twice daily to repopulate the rumen.

Start with dry hay only to get lamb back on feed.

Prevention: Keep feed room door securely closed.

Introduce lambs to new ration slowly.

What is Enterotoxemia or Grain Overload?

Signs: Sudden death of large growthy lambs

Cause: Over growth of Clostridial perfringes type D bacterial following the ingestion of excessive amounts high grain diet.

Prevention: 2 cc SQ (under skin) Clostridial perfringes type D vaccine at 6 weeks of age and again 3 to 4 weeks later. Good rule of them; vaccinate when you get lamb home, again 3 to 4 weeks later and once in December. CD&T is a type of vaccine that can be used. It has tetanus in it.

What is sore mouth?



Signs: Crusting, blister lesions around the mouth and nose.

Cause: There are numerous viruses that can cause the infection.

Treatment: Best to leave alone, can be transmitted to humans.
Antibiotics may be helpful to prevent secondary bacterial infections.

Prevention: Vaccination available.

What is intestinal parasitism (worms)?



Signs: Poor growth
Swelling under jaw

Weight loss
Diarrhea
Anemia, edema, death

Cause: Life cycle of most stomach worms is 21 days.

Treatment/ White Drenches : Safeguard or Panacur – 5 to 10 cc/100 lbs

Prevention: Mectins: Ivermectin – 12 cc/100 lbs
Cydectin – 1 cc/11 lbs
Tapeworms – use Valbazen

How often do I worm my animal?

You should worm your animal once a month. It should be done at the same time every month.

How can I tell if my animal has pneumonia



Signs: Depression
Fever (105 to 108)
Inappetance
Rapid breathing, increased lung sounds
May or may not see nasal discharge
Cause: Bacterial
Viral
Environmental – dust, overcrowding, exposure to weather

Treatment: Tetracycline – 6 cc/100 lbs SQ (under skin). Repeat in 48 hours
Penicillin – 8 cc/100 lbs SQ (under skin) daily.
Naxcel – 2 cc/100 lbs IM (in muscle) daily.
Nuflor – 3 cc/100 lbs SQ (under skin). Repeat in 48 hours.
Banamine – 2 cc/100 lbs IM (in muscle) every 12 hours for up to 3 injections.
Prevention: Once PMH 2 cc SQ (under skin) at 3 months and again at 4 months

What is wool picking?



Wool picking is when a lamb eats the wool of another lamb, which leaves behind black or discolored scars. This takes away from the overall eye appeal and class in the show ring. It is caused by boredom, and/or food deficiency.

Where do I take my animal if he is sick?

You should call your Ag advisor right away to help you determine what is wrong with your animal. If you cannot reach your advisor, call the vet. Time is critical as an animal can die quickly from some ailments if not treated right away.

How can I get my animal to the vet if I don't have a trailer?

The school has trailers and cages that can be used to transport your animal to the vet.

My animal's hoofs are long. What do I do?

They need to be trimmed with hoof trimmers. These can be purchased at most feed stores. Trim the nail to the pad. Do not trim hoofs right before a show. If you trim the hoof too much, your animal may have difficulty walking. A good rule of thumb is to trim at least 2 weeks before a show.

What should go in the Medicine Box?

- Name and phone number of your Ag Advisor
- Name and phone number for Veterinarian
- Thermometer
- Needles, syringes, alcohol
- Medicine (antibiotics, anti-acid, scour treatment)
- Ammonium chloride
- Tropical antibiotic (no lidocaine or Neosporin)
- Thiamine

Medication and their Withdrawal Times

The following pages contain medications and their withdrawal times commonly given to goats. Most of these medications are safe for lambs as well. The withdrawal times will however, vary based on the lamb's weight.

If your animal is sick enough to take to the veterinarian, make sure you let him know that your animal is a show animal and if you are taking him to a show anytime soon. If he is familiar with show animals, he should know which medications are OK to give to your animal because of the withdrawal times.

Neosporin is something you want to avoid if at all possible during the show season. You do not want to use it on you, as it can transfer to your animal and you definitely do not want to use it on your animal. Neosporin will cause your animal to test positive for drugs, even if it was used months before the show you were selected to drug test at.

Before you give your animal any medications that you are not familiar with, talk to your Ag Advisor first. The last thing that you want to happen is have your animal place at a show and then be drug tested to find out that your animal tested positive for drugs because of something you had given him a month before.

Medications Commonly Used in Goats and Approximate Withdrawal Times

Dr. Seyedmehdi Mobini, Georgia Small Ruminant Research & Extension Center, Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley, GA

The drugs listed in this table are commonly used in goats. There are only a few drugs *approved* by the FDA to be used in goats. **Use of drugs listed as "extra-label" is legal *only* if prescribed by your veterinarian in the context of a valid client-patient relationship.** The withdrawal times for various drugs were compiled from different sources. The listed dosages and withdrawal times, as well as drug status and legality of use, is subject to change. Your veterinarian will prescribe the latest, most up-to-date drugs, dosages, and provide the correct withdrawal period. *Consult your veterinarian before beginning any treatment.*

I. Antibiotics:	Brand Name	Approval	Dosage	Route	Frequency	Withdrawal Time	
						Meat	Milk
Ceftiofur	Naxcel®	APPROVED	0.5-1 mg/lb	IM	Once a day	0 days	0 days
Neomycin	Biosol® and other products	APPROVED	5 mg/lb	PO	Twice a day	3 days	NA
Amoxicillin	Amoxi-inject®	extra-label	5 mg/lb	SQ	Once a day	26 days	120 hrs.
Ampicillin	Polyflex®	extra-label	5 mg/lb	SQ	Once a day	10 days	72 hrs.
Benzathine Pen G	Pen BP-48®	extra-label	20,000 IU/lb	SQ	Every 48 hours	30 days	NA
Erythromycin	Erythro-200®	extra-label	1 mg/lb	SQ	Once a day	5 days	96 hrs.
Florfenicol	Nuflor®	extra-label	9 mg/lb	IM	Every 48 hours	28 days	120 hours
Oxytetracycline	LA-200®	extra-label	9 mg/lb	SQ	Every 48 hours	29 days	144 hrs
Procaine Pen. G	Crysticillin®	extra-label	10,000-20,000 IU/lb	SQ	Once a day	16-21 days	120 hours
Sulfadimethoxine	Albon®	extra-label	25 mg/lb Day 1, 12.5 mg/lb Days 2 - 5	PO	Once a day	12 days	5 days
EXTRA-LABEL USE IS PROHIBITED IN LACTATING DAIRY COWS. DO NOT USE IN LACTATING DAIRY DOES.							
Tylosin	Tylan®-200	extra-label	10 mg/lb	IM	Once a day	30 days	96 hrs.
Chloramphenicol	Chloramphenicol	EXTRA-LABEL USE IS PROHIBITED					
Enrofloxacin	Baytril® 100	EXTRA-LABEL USE IS PROHIBITED					
Furacin, nitrofurantoin	Furox®	EXTRA-LABEL USE IS PROHIBITED					
Gentamicin	Gentocin®	DO NOT USE					
Tilmicosin	Micotil®	DO NOT USE – TOXIC TO GOATS					
II. Anti-inflammatory Drugs:	Brand Name	Approval	Dosage	Route	Frequency	Withdrawal Time	
						Meat	Milk
Aspirin	Aspirin	extra-label	100 mg/kg	PO	Once a day	1 day	24 hours.
Flunixin meglumine	Banamine®	extra-label	1.1-2.2mg/kg	IV or IM	Once a day	10 days	72 hours
Phenylbutazone	Bute	extra-label	10-20 mg/kg	PO	Once a day	60 days	DNU
DO NOT USE IN LACTATING ANIMALS							
Dipyrone	Dipyrone	EXTRA-LABEL USE IS PROHIBITED					

III. Prevention of Coccidiosis:	Brand Name	Approval	Dosage	Withdrawal Time		
				Meat	Milk	
Decoquate	Deccox®	APPROVED	13-91 gm/ton of feed	0 days	24 hours suggested minimum, <i>DNU</i>	
Monensin	Rumensin®	APPROVED	15-20 gms/ton of feed	0 days	96 hours suggested minimum, <i>DNU</i>	
Amprolium	Corid®	<i>extra-label</i>	25-50 mg/kg BW in feed or water	2 days	48 hours	
Lasalocid	Bovatec®	<i>extra-label</i>	20-30 gms/ton of feed	0 days	24 hours	
IV. Anthelmintics:	Brand Name	Approval	Dosage	Route	Withdrawal Time	
					Meat	Milk
1. Avermectins:						
Doramectin	Dectomax®	<i>extra-label</i>	0.3 mg/kg	SQ	56 days	40 days
Eprinomectin	Eprinex®	<i>extra-label</i>	0.5 mg/kg	PO	NA	NA
Ivermectin	Ivomec® Drench	<i>extra-label</i>	0.3 mg/kg	PO	14 days	9 days
Ivermectin	Ivomec® 1%	<i>extra-label</i>	0.3 mg/kg	SQ	56 days	50 days
Moxidectin	Quest®, Cydectin®	<i>extra-label</i>	0.5 mg/kg	PO	23 days	56 days
	Cydectin® drench	<i>extra-label</i>	0.3 mg/kg	PO	14 days	NA
	Cydectin® Injectable	<i>extra-label</i>	0.2 mg/kg	SQ	30 days	<i>DNU</i>
2. Benzimidazoles:						
Albendazole	Valbazen®	<i>extra-label</i>	10 mg/kg	PO	7 days	120 hours
Fenbendazole	Panacur®/ Safeguard®	APPROVED at 5mg/ Kg, <i>extra-label</i> as recommended	10 mg/kg	PO	14 days	120 hours
Oxfendazole	Synanthic®	<i>extra-label</i>	10 mg/kg	PO	14 days	120 hours
3. Cholinergic Agonists:						
Morantel Tartrate	Rumatel®	APPROVED	10 mg/kg	PO	30 days	0 days
Levamisole	Levasole®	<i>extra-label</i>	8 mg/kg	PO	10 days	4 days

V. Anesthetics and Tranquilizers	Brand Name	Approval	Dosage	Route	Withdrawal Time	
					Meat	Milk
Ketamine	Ketaset®	<i>extra-label</i>	5-10 mg/kg	IV or IM	3 days	48 hours
Lidocaine	Lidocaine	<i>extra-label</i>	Variable for local anesthesia use, 1% in goats			
Thiamylal Na	Biotol	<i>extra-label</i>	10-20 mg/kg	IV	1 day	24 hours
Xylazine	Rompun®	<i>extra-label</i>	0.05-0.1 mg/kg	IV or IM	5 days	72 hours
Yohimbine	Yobin	<i>extra-label</i>	0.25 mg/kg	IV	7 days	72 hours
VI. Hormones:	Brand Name	Approval	Dosage	Route	Withdrawal Time	
					Meat	Milk
Cloprostenol	Estrumate®	<i>extra-label</i>	125 microgram	IM	0 days	0 days
Dexamethasone	Azium®	<i>extra-label</i>	20-25 mg	IM	14 days	4 days
Dinoprost	Lutalyse®	<i>extra-label</i>	5-10 mg	IM	1 day	24 hours
Oxytocin	Oxytocin	<i>extra-label</i>	10-20 IU	IM	0 days	0 days
VII. Electrolytes	Brand Name	Approval	Dosage	Route	Withdrawal Time	
					Meat	Milk
Calcium	Calcium borogluconate	<i>extra-label</i>	60 to 100 ml of 20 to 25% Solution	IV	0 days	0 days
Calcium	Calcium gluconate	<i>extra-label</i>	50 to 100 ml 10 to 23% calcium ion solution	IV	0 days	0 days

NOTE:

In the table above PO = oral administration; SQ = subcutaneous injection; IM = intramuscular injection; IV = intravenous injection.

DNU = insufficient data available to make WDI estimation, this drug is not approved for lactating goats.

Information contained in this document is part of a web-based training and certification program for meat goat producers (<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/training/qa.html>) that was developed with funding received by Langston University from USDA/FSIS/OPHS project #FSIS-C-10-2004 entitled "Development of a Web-based Training and Certification Program for Meat Goat Producers."

Collaborating institutions/organizations include Alcorn State University, American Boer Goat Association, American Kiko Goat Association, American Meat Goat Association, Florida A&M University, Fort Valley State University, Kentucky State University, Langston University, Prairie View A&M University, Southern University, Tennessee Goat Producers Association, Tennessee State University, Tuskegee University, United States Boer Goat Association, University of Arkansas Pine Bluff, and Virginia State University.

Feeding

How much alfalfa do I give?

Give your animal a large handful at each feeding.

How much do I feed my animal?

There are a lot of things that will determine how much you should feed your animal. When you first get your animal, make sure that you talk to your Ag Advisor about how much you should start off feeding. Keep track of your animal's weight. Periodically, you will want to have your Advisor look at your animal to determine if the amount you are feeding needs to be changed and if you need to add or subtract something from the feed. This is usually done before the major show season starts.

What do I feed my animal?

There are two types of feed: pelleted feed and sweet feed. Pelleted feed contains everything your animal needs in a pellet. Sweet feed contains everything that your animal needs in a loose form. Lambs should be fed Jacoby's KN or Jacoby's KN2, which is a sweet feed. This can be purchased at New Braunfels Feed. Goats should be fed Intimidator. There are a few makers of Intimidator. It does not matter which brand. If you are feeding both lambs and goats, they can both be feed the Jacoby's feed. If you are feeding a sweet feed and it seems like your animal is picking through it, you should talk to your Ag Advisor, as he may recommend you switch feeds.

No matter what brand of feed you decided to use, make sure that it is a high quality feed that is designed specifically for show animals.

How often do I feed?

You need to feed twice a day. If possible, feed your animal every 12 hours. If your animal is kept at the school, you should feed before you go to your first period class and before you leave campus. You want to make sure that you are feeding at the same time every day, including the weekends. If you can't feed, make sure that you call someone to feed for you.

You want to make sure that your animal has fresh water at all times. If you would not drink out of their water bucket, then the bucket needs to be cleaned and the water changed.

Do I have to weigh my feed every time?

Yes. You want to control everything that goes inside your animal. Just being a little bit off in feed (either too much or too little), will have a big effect on your animal in the long run.

What is Dyne?

Dyne is a high calorie liquid diet that provides approximately 150 calories containing vitamins and minerals that maintain constant therapeutic blood levels. When diluted with water it can be used to

combat dehydration. Dyne is especially useful in providing energy. As a supplement to other food, Dyne supplies added calories to aid in weight gain or to resist stress conditions.

Shows

How do I find out about shows?

You will register for the Chapter Show, Comal County Jr Livestock Show and any major shows at the November meeting. You can find out about other shows by looking at the board in the Ag Building or by going online to the Smithson Valley FFA website, www.smithsonvalley.ffa.org or to the TJLA website, www.theshowbox.org.

What shows can I go to?

Everyone needs to attend the Chapter Show, which is a practice show for all Smithson Valley FFA members. Everyone also needs to attend the Comal County Jr Livestock Show. This is the show where you will be auctioning your animal off. If you have more than one animal, and it is not your first year, you can attend the major shows. You just need to remember that these shows are terminal and you need to save an animal for the Comal County Jr Livestock Show. You can also attend jackpot shows. However, if it is your first year, you need to talk to your Ag Advisor about what shows to attend.

Will the Ag Teacher be at the show to help me?

Your Ag Advisor will be at the Chapter Show, the Comal County Jr Livestock Show and the major shows. He does not attend any jackpot shows. If it is your first year and you want to attend a jackpot show, and your Ag Advisor says it is OK, see if someone who has been showing is going to the show. They may be willing to help you.

Are the shows considered a school sponsored activity?

The Chapter Show, the Comal County Jr Livestock Show and the major shows are considered school sponsored. However, you will only be excused on the days you are scheduled to show. You will not be excused on any other day you attend the show. Jackpot shows are not school sponsored activities.

Before you miss school for a show, make sure that you let your teachers know that you will be missing school.

The school district allows a total of 10 school excused absences for the year.

The total is taken from all activities, not just FFA.

What do I need to do to get my animal ready for the show?

The first thing you want to do is read the rules for the show. The rules will tell you what you can and cannot do or bring to the show. It will also tell you what time you are allowed to arrive and when the animal has to be weighed by. For some shows, it will also tell you when you can leave. The next thing

you want to do is wash and shear your animal at least 1 day before the show. You will also want to make sure that you have everything packed that you will need to take to the show.

The night before the show, you will want to pull your animal's water. In the morning you will drench your animal. Depending on the weigh in time, you will either feed your animal $\frac{1}{2}$ of what you normally feed your animal or you won't feed your animal until after he is weighted in.

Going to My First Show

1. Find out the exact dates and times of the show.
2. Know and read the rules and requirements, such as health papers.
3. Find the exact location of the show.
4. Have your animals clipped prior to arriving at the show.
5. Pack your trailer and vehicle.
6. Bring and pack show supplies and equipment
7. Pack enough feed and hay to last you the show.
8. Bring a set of show clothes.
9. Practice, Practice, Practice.
10. Have fun!

How do I take care of my animal at the show?

Once you have weighed in, you will want to feed your animal $\frac{1}{2}$ of what you normally feed him if you are showing late in the day, and you have not fed yet. If you are showing close to the weigh in time, you will want to wait to feed until after you show. You will want to drench your animal periodically throughout the day to make sure he stays hydrated. You will want to wash your animal at the show, even if you washed and sheered the day before. Before you get ready to show, you will want to do any necessary spot cleaning with waterless shampoo and brush out the legs with a wool card comb or dog brush. You will also want to spray conditioner onto the head and body and brush it in with a soft brush.

Show Box Check List

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Show Box/Container | <input type="checkbox"/> Rubbing Alcohol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feed & Alfalfa in plastic buckets | <input type="checkbox"/> Chain for goat/ Halter for lamb |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feed Trough (hanging panel to wire to pens. Only needed at some shows. | <input type="checkbox"/> Muzzles (1 for each animal) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soft Brush & Wool Card | <input type="checkbox"/> Shavings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vitamin B Complex or Thiamine | <input type="checkbox"/> Bleach or Captan mixture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Towels/Chamee | <input type="checkbox"/> Gate & Vehicle Passes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blankets | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Directions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waterless Shampoo | <input type="checkbox"/> Show log Book & Pen/Pencil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo or Dish Soap | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheering Stand |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conditioner | <input type="checkbox"/> Zip Ties |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Short Water hose | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Pins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drench Gun 150 cc for lamb | <input type="checkbox"/> Chairs & Ice Chest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drench Syringe 50 cc for goat | <input type="checkbox"/> Extension Cord |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drench/Electrolytes | <input type="checkbox"/> Fan/Heat Lamp & Extens. Cord |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dyne | <input type="checkbox"/> Ammonium Chloride |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Probias | <input type="checkbox"/> Antibiotics & Syringes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cellblaster Turbo paste & Sheep Paste | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Oil |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Mylanta or Gas-X |

When do I shear my animal?

You will shear your animal a day to a couple of days before the show. If you are attending the Chapter Show, Comal County Jr Livestock Show and/or a major show, your Ag Advisor will have a sheering schedule.

Where do I get clippers?

You can purchase clippers and blades at most feed stores. You can also borrow the schools clippers. However, you will need to purchase your own blades. If you have a goat or a Finewool, you will need to buy fine blades. A few Finewool Crosses and Southdowns will also need fine blades. Some Finewool Crosses, Southdowns and the majority of blacks are shorn with surgical blades. Blades can be bought at most feed stores. Ask for the blades that will fit the Lister Laser clippers. The cost is around \$50. Owning your own set will also help us prevent spreading as much barn itch and ringworm. If you are not sure which blades to buy, talk to your Ag Advisor first.

How do I shear?

Sheering is done with the animal on a stand. You shear the head, neck, body and the legs above the hocks and knees. If you have never sheered before, it is best to schedule a time to shear when there is someone else sheering.

Do I need to put a blanket on my animal?

A blanket should be kept on your animal once you shear your animal. After your first sheering, your animal should never be without a blanket. The blanket helps protect their hide from the elements and from fungus and viruses. Periodically check under the blanket for signs of ringworm, barn itch, diarrhea, and other illnesses. The blanket should be changed if it because soiled, after you shear and after you have been to a show. Make sure that you have at least two blankets per animal. This will help you make sure that your animal is covered at all times.

How do I get my animal to the show if I don't have a trailer?

Arrangements are usually made to have the animals at the barn hauled to the Chapter Show, Comal County Jr Livestock Show and major shows. There are trailers available at the school for you to use if you do not have a trailer or if you are attending a show other than those listed. If you would like to use a trailer, you need to make arrangements with your Ag Advisor first. The trailer may already be promised to someone else.

What is drenching?

Drenching is when you give use a drench gun or drench syringe to give medication or liquid to rehydrate your animal. Generally you are giving a drench mix, such as Cellerator, to your animal during a show to make sure your animal stays hydrated. You use a 150 cc drench gun for lambs and a 50 cc drench syringe for goats. To drench your animal, you fill the drench gun/syringe with the drench mix, put the end of the gun/syringe in the animal's mouth, and slowly dispense the drench mix. If you give it to your animal too fast, you can actually force the mix into their lungs. If your animal does not want to take the

drench, put some Dyne of the tip of the drench gun/syringe. The sweetness of the Dyne will usually encourage the animal to drink the drench mix.

Equipment

What things/equipment do I need to take care of my animal?

Basic items you will need to get started are:

- Food trough
- Water bucket
- Heat Lamb
- Fan
- Garbage Can to keep feed in
- Scale to weigh food
- Halter for lambs
- Chains for goats
- Blankets (at least 2 per animal)
- Muzzle
- 150 cc Drench Gun for lamb or 50 cc Drench Syringe for goat
- Water hose
- 1 gallon spray bottle for bleach or Captan mixture
- Clippers and blades if you want to own your own or blades if you plan on using the school's clippers
- Phone numbers of people who have been showing, your Ag Advisor, a large animal veterinarian
- Medicine box (what to put in it is listed under the health section)

Where do I buy the things I need?

You can purchase most of your items at the local feed stores. Not all the feed stores will have everything so you may have to go to a couple of stores before you have everything you need. You may want to ask someone who has been showing where they get their things so you get a better idea of what to get where.

Some of the local feed stores are:

- Bulverde Feed & Seed - Bulverde
- Struttys - Spring Branch
- Tractor Supply – Bulverde and New Braunfels
- New Braunfels Feed Store – New Braunfels
- Producers Co-Op – New Braunfels

Exercise

How often do I work with my animal?

You should be working with your animal daily. Vary what you do so that you are not doing the same thing each day.

- Walk your animal on the walker
- Practice walking and standing your animal in the show ring
- Run your animal on the track
- Walk your animal around the school or your property

How do I exercise my animal?



There are three ways to exercise your animal: you can run him on a track with a dog that is trained to run animals or you can run after your animal with something that makes noise; you can walk him on a walker; and you can walk /run him on a around the property.

When tracking your animal, you want to start off slow to get him use to the track. You will probably want to start off running him one or two times a week. Then you will slowly increase the amount of laps you do as the animal's endurance builds up. Before you start tracking your animal, you will want to have you Ag Advisor look at your animal's rib fat and conditioning. You can mess your animal up if you track your animal too soon or for too long.

The walker is a good way to exercise multiple animals at once. You will want to start off for 5 minutes a day a couple of times a week. Slowly increase the amount of time he spends on the walker. Periodically have your Ad Advisor look at your animal's conditioning to make sure he his getting enough exercise.

The school barn facility has a track and walker. Everyone in the program, whether their animal is kept at the barn or at your house, is allowed to use them. If you have your animal at your house and do not have a way to bring your animal up to the barn all the time, you can exercise your animal by walking your animal around your property. Once your animal has learned where his "house" is, you can walk him to a location on your property and allow him to run back. Any exercise you can provide to your animal is better than no exercise at all.

Where can I work with my animal?

The school barn facility has an arena for practicing in the show ring. There is also a track that you can use to run your animal. In the middle of the track is a walker that will allow you to walk multiple animals at a time.

If you are keeping your animal at home, you are more than welcomed to bring your animal to the school barn to work with your animal on the track and walker. You will however, want to set up an area at home where you can practice walking and standing your animal.

Barn

Can I pen a lamb and goat together?

Yes. However, if the lamb seems to be picking on the goat even after being penned together for a couple of days, you may need to divide the pen. When you are feeding, make sure they are separated/tied up so that they cannot eat each other's food.

Why are my animals always jumping on each other?

It could be a couple of reasons. In the beginning it is a display of dominance. After the "pecking order" has been established, then it is more than likely they are just playing. If you are not sure why they are doing this, watch them for awhile to make sure that they are not hurting each other. If they are, they will need to be separated.

What should I have in my pen?

Each pen should have a house, water bucket and feed trough. You should also have a heat lamp in the house and a fan in the front of the pen. You will want to provide shavings your animal to bed on in the house.

Where do I keep my stuff at the barn?

There is a community tack room in the barn.

How do I clean my pen?

Pens should be cleaned at least once a day. The feces needs to be scooped out of the pen. This can be done with a rake and shovel. The sidewalk area needs to be swept. Every couple of days the shavings in the house needs to be changed. The area outside of your pen needs to be swept daily as well.

The water bucket and feed troughs should be cleaned at least once a week with soap and water.

The dirt in the pen should be sprayed down at least once a day to keep the dust down.

Where do I dump the stuff after I clean my pen?

There is a dumpster outside of the top barn area when you need to dump the wheelbarrow. Make sure you dump the wheelbarrow every time you use it so that someone else can use it.

How should I hang my heat lamp?

Heat lamps need to be hung securely inside of the house. The cord needs to be kept out of the way so that your animal does not eat it. Run the cord through a hole on the roof of the house or through an opening at the top of the house. Tie the cord with zip ties to the fence to keep it out of the way. This also acts as a secondary method to help prevent the lamb from falling.

What can I do about the flies?

You should keep your pen clean to help keep the amount of flies down. You also should hang some type of fly repellent/killer before there is a fly problem. You should avoid granules that are placed on the ground as your animal will eat it. You should also avoid fly strips as they tend to be very messy. The fly repellent/killer that seems to work real well is Starbar QuickStrike Fly Abatement Strips.

What can I do if I think someone is feeding my animal?

You can ask around. Someone may have seen something. You also need to let your Ag Advisor know. If you find out that someone is feeding them, let them know that your animal is on a special diet and that you can't have anyone else feeding them.

What can I do about the dust?

Make sure that you are spraying the dirt down at least once a day. If the dust is really bad, make sure you are spraying it down at each feeding. This will help prevent respiratory infections.

Resources

Illnesses, Dr. Susan Fritz

Going to My First Show, Texas A&M System

Keeping Your Animal Healthy, by Dr. Shawn Ramsey, Texas A&M

Market Lamb Classification Standards (Revised May 2007)

Medications Commonly Used in Goats & Approximate Withdrawal Times, by Dr. Seyedmehdi Mobini, Ft. Valley State University

What Goes In The Showbox?, by Matt Kennedy, Texas A&M