



## **Goat Resources 2017: Your Free Guide to All Things Goaty on the World Wide Web**

Compiled by Sue Weaver

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**All links in this publication are live as of May 10, 2017**

# **Table of Contents**

**[Goat Care](#)**

**[Holistic Goat Care](#)**

**[Periodicals](#)**

**[Breed Associations](#)**

**[Veterinary Organizations](#)**

**[Supplies](#)**

**[Driving](#)**

**[Packing](#)**

**[Facebook](#)**

**[YouTube](#)**

**[PDF Downloads](#)**

**[Behavior](#)**

**[Breeding](#)**

**[Dairy goats](#)**

**[Diseases](#)**

**[External parasites](#)**

**[Feeding](#)**

**[General health topics](#)**

**[Goats for vegetation control](#)**

**[Hoof care](#)**

**[Housing and Fencing](#)**

**Internal parasites**

**Kidding and neonatal kids**

**Misc.**

**Predator control**

**This and That**

**Recommended Reading**

**Excerpt from *Goat Tips & Tricks*;**

***500+ ways to take care of goats better, easier, cheaper***

**About the Author**



## **About this free ebook**

I am a fulltime writer. My first articles were published in 1969 and I haven't stopped writing since. I originally wrote mainly for horse publications but switched to livestock topics in the late 1990s. I donated a lot of work to horse magazines that couldn't pay for articles and that made me feel good. Now I'm offering an array of free ebooks, article reprints, and resource compilations in the same vein—I'm grateful for the paying work I've been given (all of my income is used to support my large animal family) and this is my way of paying back.

I hope you'll visit my Ozark Writer website to buy my books, read my blog, or download a passel of free goodies. I'm also happy to field your questions if you have some.

**Sue Weaver – Ozark Writer**

[www.ozarkwriter.com](http://www.ozarkwriter.com)

[goatberrypie@gmail.com](mailto:goatberrypie@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/sue.weaver.writer](https://www.facebook.com/sue.weaver.writer)

**Note:** If you find links in this publication that don't work, not to worry. I'll upload link-checked new versions of my free resource ebooks to my webpage every year.



## **Goat Care**

Amber Waves Pygmy Goats

<http://amberwaves.info/articles.htm>

Visit this great site to access a fantastic amount of archived information

Biology of the Goat

[www.goatbiology.com](http://www.goatbiology.com)

Check out Karin Christensen's educational animations and order her complete CD. Be sure to download her free goat gestation software (it's a small download and so nice to have). Also check out her holiday treat, The Carol of the Goat Bells; it's fun! Take some time to navigate around this fascinating site—you'll learn a lot

Dairy Goat Links at Purdue University

[www.ansc.purdue.edu/goat/goatlink.htm](http://www.ansc.purdue.edu/goat/goatlink.htm)

E (Kika) de la Garza Institute for Goat Research at Langston University

[www.luresext.edu/?q=Library](http://www.luresext.edu/?q=Library)

Visit this library to access an array of great resources, including step-by-step instructions for conducting your own fecal exams

Fias Co Farm

<http://fiascofarm.com/sitemap.htm>

This site is fantastic! It's my first stop for information about anything goaty. The material is slanted for dairy goats but applicable to goats of all kinds. The Fias Co Farm home dairying and cheesemaking pages are every bit as useful. Note that site owner, Molly Nolte, makes and sells a great line of holistic products for animals; very highly recommended

Goat-Link

<http://goat-link.com>

Here's another source of scores of great articles about goats and their care

Goat Wisdom

[www.goatwisdom.com](http://www.goatwisdom.com)

Yet another comprehensive goat information site

Goat World

[www.goatworld.com](http://www.goatworld.com)

Goat World is a huge educational site replete with breeders' directories, articles, a goat forum and much more

Jack & Anita Mauldin Boer Goats

[www.jackmauldin.com](http://www.jackmauldin.com)

This is another must-visit educational Web site. The Mauldins were long-time breeders of highest quality Boer goats. Click on *Management*, *Health*, and *Videos* to access a huge amount of useful information. Highly recommended

Kinne's Minis

<http://kinne.net>

Kinne's Minis are Pygmy goats. Like Amber Waves, this is a first-class place to access a huge number of articles about goats

Maryland Small Ruminant Pages

[www.sheepandgoat.com](http://www.sheepandgoat.com)

A not-to-be-missed compendium of pages and pages of links to specific topics such as health, breeding, feeding, kidding, management--most any goaty (and sheeepy) topic you can think of. Their listed in the pull-down menu under *Resources*

North Carolina State Extension – Meat Goats

<https://meatgoats.ces.ncsu.edu>

A lot of useful information applicable to all breeds

NSW (Australia) Department of Primary Industries - Goats

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/goats](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/goats)

A fantastic collection of articles about goat keeping, all downloadable as PDF files

Oklahoma State Meat Goat Manual

<http://agecon.okstate.edu/meatgoat/manual.asp>

This is an excellent resource for all goatkeepers; each chapter is downloadable in PDF format

Penn State Meat Goat Home Study Course

<http://extension.psu.edu/courses/meat-goat>

This meat goat producer's course is very good no matter what type of goats you keep. Online lesson materials are free

The BoerGoats.com Library

[www.boergoats.com/clean/library.php](http://www.boergoats.com/clean/library.php)

Access over 1000 archived articles at this site (be sure to click on Nanny Berries to read Connie Reynolds' fun and heartwarming Nanny Berries stories)

## **Holistic Goat Care**

~ **Suppliers** ~

Fir Meadow Herbal Products

(Jerry & Kat Drov Dahl)

<http://www.firmeadowllc.com>

Molly's Herbals

(Molly Nolte)

<http://fiascofarm.com/herbs>

~ **Articles and webpages** ~

Natural and Alternative Treatments and Medicines  
(Fias Co Farm/Molly Nolte)  
<http://fiascofarm.com/goats/medications-natural.htm>

The Goat Mentor  
(Eliya Forster)  
[www.greengablesmininubians.com/thegoatmentor.html](http://www.greengablesmininubians.com/thegoatmentor.html)  
Recommended!

Alternative Medicine for Goats  
[www.alternativevet.org/goats.htm](http://www.alternativevet.org/goats.htm)

Natural Goat Medicine  
[www.naturalark.com/natgoathealth.html](http://www.naturalark.com/natgoathealth.html)

~ **Facebook groups for holistic goatkeepers** ~

Common Sense Holistic Goats & Goat Care  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/52502006206>

The Natural Goat Discussions  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/thenaturalgoatdiscussion>

Totally Natural Goats & More  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TotallyNaturalGoats>

~ **Books** ~

*Goats: Homeopathic Remedies*  
George Macleod MRCVS, DVSM, Vet FF Hom  
The C. W. Daniel Company; 1991  
Out of print but well worth searching for

*Holistic Goat Care: A Comprehensive Guide to Raising Healthy Animals, Preventing Common Ailments, and Troubleshooting Problems*  
Gianaclis Caldwell  
Chelsea Green Publishing; 2017  
[www.amazon.com/Holistic-Goat-Care-Comprehensive-Troubleshooting/dp/160358630X](http://www.amazon.com/Holistic-Goat-Care-Comprehensive-Troubleshooting/dp/160358630X)  
An absolutely must-have book for all goat owners!

*Natural Goat Care*  
Pat Colby  
Acres U.S.A. Publishers; 2001  
[www.amazon.com/Natural-Goat-Care-Pat-Coleby/dp/0911311661](http://www.amazon.com/Natural-Goat-Care-Pat-Coleby/dp/0911311661)

*Raising Goats Naturally: The Complete Guide to Milk, Meat and More*

Deborah Neimann  
New Society Publishers; 2013  
[www.amazon.com/Raising-Goats-Naturally-Complete-Guide/dp/0865717451](http://www.amazon.com/Raising-Goats-Naturally-Complete-Guide/dp/0865717451)

## **Goat Periodicals**

Dairy Goat Journal  
<http://countrysidenetwork.com/subscription-offers/dairy-goat-journal-print-subscription>  
Get their free dairy goat guide here: <http://countrysidenetwork.com/get-download/?dtd=110266>

GoatKeeper Magazine (Canada)  
[www.goatkeeper.ca/home.html](http://www.goatkeeper.ca/home.html)

Goat Rancher  
<http://goatrancher.com>

Goat Tracks: Journal of the Working Goat  
<http://goatracksmagazine.org>

Meat Goat Monthly News  
[www.ranchmagazine.com/index.php/Meat-Goat-Monthly-News/meat-goat-monthly-news.html](http://www.ranchmagazine.com/index.php/Meat-Goat-Monthly-News/meat-goat-monthly-news.html)

United Caprine News  
[www.unitedcaprinenews.com](http://www.unitedcaprinenews.com)

The Boer Goat  
<http://abga.org/resources/the-boer-goat-magazine-2/>

## **Goat Breed Associations**

~ **United States** ~

Alpines International Club  
[www.alpinesinternationalclub.com](http://www.alpinesinternationalclub.com)

American Angora Goat Breeders Association  
[www.aagba.org](http://www.aagba.org)

American Boer Goat Association  
[www.abga.org](http://www.abga.org)

American Dairy Goat Association  
[www.adga.org](http://www.adga.org)



American Fainting Goat Organization  
[www.americanfaintinggoat.com](http://www.americanfaintinggoat.com)

American Goat Society  
[www.americangoatsociety.com](http://www.americangoatsociety.com)

American Kiko Goat Association  
[www.kikogoats.com](http://www.kikogoats.com)

American LaMancha Club  
[www.lamanchas.com](http://www.lamanchas.com)

American Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Goat Association  
[www.andda.org](http://www.andda.org)

American Nigora Goat Breeders Association  
<http://nigoragoats.homestead.com>

Arapawa Goat Breeders - USA  
[www.arapawagoat.org](http://www.arapawagoat.org)

Cashmere Goat Association  
[www.cashmeregoatassociation.org](http://www.cashmeregoatassociation.org)

Colored Angora Goat Breeders Association  
[www.cagba.org](http://www.cagba.org)

Guernsey Goat Breeders of America  
<http://guernseygoats.org>

International Dairy Goat Registry  
[www.idgr-ifbr.com](http://www.idgr-ifbr.com)

International Fainting Goat Association  
[www.faintinggoat.com](http://www.faintinggoat.com)

International Fiber Breed Registry  
[www.idgr-ifbr.com](http://www.idgr-ifbr.com)

International Kiko Goat Association  
[www.theikga.org](http://www.theikga.org)

International Nubian Breeders Association  
[www.i-n-b-a.org](http://www.i-n-b-a.org)

International Sable Breeders Association

[www.sabledairygoats.com](http://www.sabledairygoats.com)

Kinder Goat Breeders Association

<http://kindergoatbreeders.com>

Miniature Dairy Goat Association

[www.miniaturedairygoats.net](http://www.miniaturedairygoats.net)

Miniature Goat Registry

[www.tmgronline.org](http://www.tmgronline.org)

Miniature Silky Fainting Goat Association

[www.msfgaregistry.com](http://www.msfgaregistry.com)

Myotonic Goat Registry

[www.myotonicgoatregistry.net](http://www.myotonicgoatregistry.net)

National Miniature Goat Association

[www.nmga.net](http://www.nmga.net)

National Pygmy Goat Association

[www.npga-pygmy.com](http://www.npga-pygmy.com)

National Saanen Breeders Association

[www.nationalsaanenbreeders.com](http://www.nationalsaanenbreeders.com)

National Toggenburg Club

<http://nationaltoggclub.org>

Nigerian Dwarf Goat Association

[www.ndga.org](http://www.ndga.org)

North American Savanna Association

<http://northamericansavannahassociation.com>

Oberhasli Breeders of America

<http://oberhasli.net>

Pedigree International

[www.pedigreeinternational.com](http://www.pedigreeinternational.com)

Registers American Royal, American Spanish, Savanna, Cashmere, Kiko, Boer, TexMaster, Tennessee Meat Goat, Sako, and Myotonic goats

Pygora Breeders Association

[www.pygoragoats.org](http://www.pygoragoats.org)

San Clemente Island Goat Association  
[www.scigoats.org](http://www.scigoats.org)

Spanish Goat Association  
[www.spanishgoats.org](http://www.spanishgoats.org)

United States Boer Goat Association  
[www.usbga.org](http://www.usbga.org)

~ **Canada** ~

Canadian Goat Society  
[www.goats.ca](http://www.goats.ca)  
Registers Alpines, Saanens, Toggenburgs, Nubians, Oberhaslis, LaManchas, Nigerian  
Dwarfs, Pygmy Goats and Angoras

Canadian Meat Goat Association  
<http://canadianmeatgoat.com>

Registers Boers and Boer crosses

~ **United Kingdom** ~

Anglo-Nubian Breed Society  
[www.anglonubian.org.uk](http://www.anglonubian.org.uk)

Bagot Goat Society  
[www.bagotgoats.co.uk](http://www.bagotgoats.co.uk)

Bilberry Goat Heritage Trust  
[www.bilberrygoatheritagetrust.com](http://www.bilberrygoatheritagetrust.com)

British Angora Goat Society  
[www.britishangoragoats.org.uk](http://www.britishangoragoats.org.uk)

British Boer Goat Society  
[www.britishboergoatsociety.co.uk](http://www.britishboergoatsociety.co.uk)

British Feral Goat Research Group  
[www.britishferalgoat.org.uk](http://www.britishferalgoat.org.uk)

British Goat Society  
[www.britishgoatsociety.com](http://www.britishgoatsociety.com)

English Goat Breeders Association  
[www.egba.org.uk](http://www.egba.org.uk)

Golden Guernsey Goat Society  
[www.goldenguernseygoat.org.uk](http://www.goldenguernseygoat.org.uk)

Lynton Feral Goat Preservation Society  
[www.lyntongoats.org.uk](http://www.lyntongoats.org.uk)

Old English Goat Society  
[www.oldenglishgoats.org.uk](http://www.oldenglishgoats.org.uk)

Pygmy Goat Club  
[www.pygmygoatclub.org](http://www.pygmygoatclub.org)

~ **Australia** ~

Australian Cashmere Growers Association  
<http://acga.org.au>

Boer Goat Breeders Association of Australia  
[www.australianboergoat.com.au](http://www.australianboergoat.com.au)

Dairy Goat Society of Australia  
[www.dairygoats.org.au](http://www.dairygoats.org.au)

Miniature Goats Australia Association  
[www.miniaturegoatsaustralia.com](http://www.miniaturegoatsaustralia.com)

Miniature Goat Breeders Association of Australia  
[www.miniaturegoatbreedersassociation.com.au](http://www.miniaturegoatbreedersassociation.com.au)

~ **New Zealand** ~

International Arapawa Goat Association  
[www.arapawagoats.com](http://www.arapawagoats.com)

New Zealand Boer Goat Association  
[www.nzgba.co.nz](http://www.nzgba.co.nz)

New Zealand Dairy Goat Association  
[www.nzdgba.co.nz](http://www.nzdgba.co.nz)

~ **South Africa** ~

SA Boer Goat Association  
[www.boerboksa.co.za](http://www.boerboksa.co.za)

SA Milch Goat Breeders Society  
[www.milkgoats.co.za](http://www.milkgoats.co.za)

## **Veterinary Organizations**

### **~ United States ~**

American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners  
[www.aasrp.org](http://www.aasrp.org)  
419-496-0696  
Fax: 419-496-0697

American Holistic Veterinary Medicine Association  
<http://ahvma.org>  
410-569-0795  
Fax: 410-569-2346

American Veterinary Medical Association  
[www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org)  
800-248-2862  
Fax: 847-925-1329

### **~ Canada ~**

Canadian Veterinary Medical Association  
<http://canadianveterinarians.net>  
  
800-567-2862  
Fax: 613-236-9681

### **~ United Kingdom ~**

British Veterinary Association  
[www.bva.co.uk](http://www.bva.co.uk)  
020 7636 6541  
Fax: 020 7908 6349

### **~ Australia ~**

Australian Veterinary Association  
[www.ava.com.au](http://www.ava.com.au)  
Contact through Web site

### **~ New Zealand ~**

Veterinary Council of New Zealand

[www.vetcouncil.org.nz](http://www.vetcouncil.org.nz)

+64 4 473 9600

Fax: +64 4 473 8869

## Supplies

Caprine Supply

[www.caprinesupply.com](http://www.caprinesupply.com)

Everything for goats plus how-to information on goat keeping; free print catalog

Hamby Dairy Supply

<http://hambydairysupply.com>

Hoegger Supply Company

<http://hoeggerfarmyard.com>

Everything for goats plus a great deal of information on goat keeping and cheesemaking (click on *Farmyard*); free print catalog

Jeffers Livestock Supply

<http://www.jefferspet.com>

Click on *Goat* in the menu bar. Vaccines, antibiotics, supplements, handling supplies and much more, all at genuinely low prices; free print catalog

Premier1 Supplies

[www.premier1supplies.com](http://www.premier1supplies.com)

Separate fencing, poultry, and sheep and goat equipment catalogs; all print catalogs are free. Premier1 Super-Lube is the best kidding and lambing lubricant on the market (we wouldn't be without it)

Quality Llama Products

[www.llamaproducts.com](http://www.llamaproducts.com)

Quality Llama Products carries goat halters, harness, and driving vehicles (they sell an exceptionally nice nylon driving halter for harness goats); their print catalog is free

Valley Vet Supply

[www.valleyvet.com](http://www.valleyvet.com)

Valley Vet carries the same types of products as Jeffers. Their print catalog is also free

## Driving

My Storey book, *The Backyard Goat*, contains detailed information on clicker training goats to drive, pack, and do tricks. Borrow it from your library or buy it at TSC, your favorite book store, or through Amazon.com

~ **Information** ~

4-H Harness Goat Manual

[https://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/Resource002489\\_Rep3659.pdf](https://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/Resource002489_Rep3659.pdf)

~or~

[http://4h.ansci.cornell.edu/files/2013/11/harness\\_goat-vk0wdl.pdf](http://4h.ansci.cornell.edu/files/2013/11/harness_goat-vk0wdl.pdf)

If you're interested in driving your goat, download this file

Converting a Child's Wagon to a Cart

[www.cartingwithyourdog.com/cwagonconvert.html](http://www.cartingwithyourdog.com/cwagonconvert.html)

Goat Harness Making Instructions at eHow

[www.ehow.com/how\\_5644865\\_make-driving-harnesses-goat.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_5644865_make-driving-harnesses-goat.html)

Harness Goat Society (U.K.)

[www.harnessgoats.co.uk](http://www.harnessgoats.co.uk)

Harnessing a Goat

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=-YvaSpUHLI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-YvaSpUHLI)

This video shows how

How to Train a Goat to Pull a Cart

[www.dummies.com/home-garden/hobby-farming/raising-goats/how-to-train-a-goat-to-pull-a-cart](http://www.dummies.com/home-garden/hobby-farming/raising-goats/how-to-train-a-goat-to-pull-a-cart)

Martok Shows How to Sew Your Own Pulling Harness

(Martok and I wrote this for you)

<http://www.hobbyfarms.com/sew-a-goat-harness-for-pulling-2/>

Remembering the Harness Goats

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=WH7k3D3eoWI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WH7k3D3eoWI)

Goats at work in the olden days

Working Goats

[www.workinggoats.com](http://www.workinggoats.com)

Don't miss this information-rich site

Working Goats – Your Journey Starts Here

<http://thriftyhomesteader.com/working-goats-your-journey-begins-here>

Good!

~ **Driving equipment** ~

Caprine Supply (above)

[www.caprinesupply.com](http://www.caprinesupply.com)

Great Goat Gear

<http://greatgoatgear.com>

Very nice goat harnesses and driving gear

H & S Horse Cart Company

[www.hscart.com](http://www.hscart.com)

Click on *dog cart*

Hoegger's Goat Supply (above)

<http://hoeggerfarmyard.com>

Northern Tool

[www.northerntool.com](http://www.northerntool.com)

A good place to mail-order utility wagons to convert for goats

Ravenwood Ranch

[www.ravenwoodharness.com](http://www.ravenwoodharness.com)

Custom made goat harnesses

Tractor Supply Company (TSC)

[www.tractorsupply.com](http://www.tractorsupply.com)

A good source for utility wagons to convert for goats

Wilczek Woodworks

[www.wilczekwoodworks.com](http://www.wilczekwoodworks.com)

Stunning wooden dog carts and wagons that are easily adapted for goats

## **Packing**

~ **Organizations** ~

North American Packgoat Association

[www.napga.org](http://www.napga.org)

~ **Information** ~

Getting the Right Gear

<https://packgoats.wordpress.com/home/how-to-hike-with-goats/getting-the-right-gear-equipment-for-training-and-packing-goats/>

Goat Tracks Magazine; Journal of the Working Goat (above)

<http://goattracksmagazine.org>

High Uinta Pack Goats

[www.highuintapackgoats.com](http://www.highuintapackgoats.com)

A great source of information about packgoats

Northwest Pack Goats

[www.northwestpackgoats.com](http://www.northwestpackgoats.com)



Great information plus a full line of goatpacking supplies

Ottawa County 4-H Pack Goat Handbook

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/234/40399/Pack\\_Goat\\_Handbook.pdf](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/234/40399/Pack_Goat_Handbook.pdf)

Packgoat Central

[www.packgoatcentral.com/forums/](http://www.packgoatcentral.com/forums/)

Packgoat forum

Packgoats (blog)

<https://packgoats.wordpress.com>

Sopris Goats

[www.soprisunlimited.com/goat.html](http://www.soprisunlimited.com/goat.html)

Sopris makes packing equipment for both goats and llamas; also, lots of info at this site

Summit Pack Goats

[www.summitpackgoat.com/info.html](http://www.summitpackgoat.com/info.html)

Another source of extensive information about packgoats

*The Packgoat*

John Mionczynski

Westwinds Press; 1992

Out of print classic – there are usually used copies at Amazon

[www.amazon.com/Pack-Goat-Prueett-Mionczynski-John/dp/0871088282](http://www.amazon.com/Pack-Goat-Prueett-Mionczynski-John/dp/0871088282)

~ **Goatpacking gear** ~

Bantam Saddle Tack

[www.bantamsaddletack.com/Sawtooth-Synthetic-Goat-Packsaddle\\_p\\_18.html](http://www.bantamsaddletack.com/Sawtooth-Synthetic-Goat-Packsaddle_p_18.html)

Butt-Head Packgoats

[www.buttheadpackgoats.com](http://www.buttheadpackgoats.com)

Get Your Goat Gear

[www.getyourgoatgear.com](http://www.getyourgoatgear.com)

Northwest Pack Goats (above)

[www.northwestpackgoats.com](http://www.northwestpackgoats.com)

Sopris Goats (above)

[www.soprisunlimited.com/goat.html](http://www.soprisunlimited.com/goat.html)

Wind River Pack Goats

<http://goatpacking.com/goatpackingSupplies.htm>

## **Facebook**

There are loads of goats and goat people at Facebook.

Goats and Sheep in the House

[www.facebook.com/groups/goatsandsheepinthehouse](http://www.facebook.com/groups/goatsandsheepinthehouse)

For folks who have goats or house sheep or who would like to learn more about them

Goat Behaviour and Welfare

[www.facebook.com/goatbehaviorwelfare/?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/goatbehaviorwelfare/?fref=ts)

Goat Behaviour Chat

[www.facebook.com/groups/goatbehaviour](http://www.facebook.com/groups/goatbehaviour)

Goat Emergency Help and General Questions

[www.facebook.com/groups/499743150065823](http://www.facebook.com/groups/499743150065823)

Goat Gear for Sale

[www.facebook.com/groups/341021375983968](http://www.facebook.com/groups/341021375983968)

Goat Health Care

[www.facebook.com/groups/349359988418734](http://www.facebook.com/groups/349359988418734)

Goats of Anarchy

[www.facebook.com/thegoatsofanarchy/?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/thegoatsofanarchy/?fref=ts)

Goat Tips and Tricks

[www.facebook.com/groups/1036600709770744](http://www.facebook.com/groups/1036600709770744)

Hiking with Packgoats

[www.facebook.com/groups/330191150406380](http://www.facebook.com/groups/330191150406380)

Katja Rose

[www.facebook.com/KatjaRose-649135941870405/?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/KatjaRose-649135941870405/?fref=ts)

Mia, the Cutest Baby Goat in all of Denmark

[www.facebook.com/CutestGoatEver/?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/CutestGoatEver/?fref=ts)

Miniature Dairy Goats

[www.facebook.com/groups/MiniatureDairyGoats](http://www.facebook.com/groups/MiniatureDairyGoats)

Puget Sound Goat Rescue

[www.facebook.com/PugetSoundGoatRescue/?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/PugetSoundGoatRescue/?fref=ts)

My favorite animal rescue

Sisterhood of the Goat

[www.facebook.com/SisterhoodOfTheGoat](http://www.facebook.com/SisterhoodOfTheGoat)

This is Mimi Foxmorton's group and I love it!

Sue Weaver - Ozark Writer

[www.facebook.com/sue.weaver.writer](http://www.facebook.com/sue.weaver.writer)

That's me. You'll always find goat-related stuff at my public Facebook page

The Lynton Goats

[www.facebook.com/groups/53212836898](http://www.facebook.com/groups/53212836898)

Gorgeous!

To find more goat-related groups and pages, enter *goat*, *goats*, or the name of your favorite breed in the Search box at the top of any Facebook page. To find local groups, enter *goat* and your state (for example, *goat Missouri*)

## [YouTube](#)

The Goat Mentor

[www.youtube.com/user/TheGoatMentor](http://www.youtube.com/user/TheGoatMentor)

Don't miss this series of fantastic how-to videos

All of Jody Morris' great goat videos

[www.youtube.com/user/snowflakesherd](http://www.youtube.com/user/snowflakesherd)

Be sure to check out Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves—it's my favorite!

Spotty's Tricks

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7Y-gmSIR90](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7Y-gmSIR90)

SO sweet!

Vegan Pie Crust – Baking with Goats

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbvoE0cUcsg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbvoE0cUcsg)

This will make you smile

## [PDF Downloads](#)

The following are mostly university-generated publications that you can download as PDF files. I've sorted through what's available and selected a few of the best in each category. Enjoy!

### **How to use PDF files:**

1. Print the information you like and file it, bind it in a 3-ring binder, or take it to a print shop and have it spiral-bound as a book.
2. Download the PDFs you like to a flash drive or burn them to a CD.

## **Behavior**

Behavior of Goats - Herd Behavior

(Cornell University - 2 pages)

<http://4h.ansci.cornell.edu/files/2015/01/factmg19a-1hbys2c.pdf>

Behavior of Goats - Mating and Maternal Behavior

(Cornell University - 2 pages)

<http://4h.ansci.cornell.edu/files/2015/01/factdg19-1jau3ej.pdf>

DIY Goat Playground

(3 pages)

[www.farmandgardencarpentry.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/eBook-goat-playground-REV-08-AUG-2016.pdf](http://www.farmandgardencarpentry.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/eBook-goat-playground-REV-08-AUG-2016.pdf)

Goat Enrichment

(The Enrichment Record – 3 pages)

<http://enrichmentrecord.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/goat-enrichment.pdf>

## **Breeding**

Criteria for Selecting Breeding Stock

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities - 4 pages)

<http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0110/UNP-0110.pdf>

Reproductive Management of Sheep and Goats

(Alabama A&M and Auburn University – 12 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/A/ANR-1316/ANR-1316.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/A/ANR-1316/ANR-1316.pdf)

Texas 4-H Breeding Goat Guide

(Texas A&M – 13 pages)

<http://agrifecdn.tamu.edu/4hlivestockmentor/files/2012/05/TEXAS-BREEDING-GOAT-GUIDE.pdf>

## **Dairy goats**

A Guide to Starting a Commercial Goat Dairy

(University of Vermont Center for Sustainable Agriculture - 168 pages)

<https://www.uvm.edu/~susagctr/resources/goatguide.pdf>

Dairy Goat Management

(University of Wisconsin – 166 pages)

[www.milkproduction.com/Global/PDFs/Bestmanagementpracticesfordairygoatfarmers.pdf](http://www.milkproduction.com/Global/PDFs/Bestmanagementpracticesfordairygoatfarmers.pdf)

Your Dairy Goat; Washington 4-H Manual  
(Washington State University - 24 pages)  
<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/cepuplications/em4894/em4894.pdf>  
A very good guide for beginning goat owners of all ages

## **Diseases**

Common Diseases and Health Problems in Sheep and Goats  
(Purdue University – 12 pages)  
[www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/AS/AS-595-commonDiseases.pdf](http://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/AS/AS-595-commonDiseases.pdf)

Common Nutritional & Metabolic Disease in Goats  
(Penn State – 12 pages)  
<http://goatdocs.ansci.cornell.edu/Resources/GoatArticles/GoatFeeding/GoatNutritionalDiseases1.pdf>

Goat Diseases and Farm Herd-Health Safety  
(Lincoln University – 21 pages)  
[http://dawog.net/Goats/Goat%20Diseases%20&%20Herd-Health%20Safety%20\(UMLU\).pdf](http://dawog.net/Goats/Goat%20Diseases%20&%20Herd-Health%20Safety%20(UMLU).pdf)

Infectious Reproductive Diseases of Small Ruminants  
(Utah State University – 12 pages)  
[http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1466&context=extension\\_curall](http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1466&context=extension_curall)

Meat Goat Herd Health - Common Diseases  
(Louisiana State and Oklahoma State – 32 pages)  
<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/library/field/olcott07b.pdf>  
Applicable to all breeds

### **~ Acidosis ~**

Acidosis  
(ABGA – 2 pages)  
<http://abga.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Acidosis-Grain-Overload-Founder.pdf>

Acidosis in Goats  
(Sweetlix – 4 pages)  
[www.sweetlix.com/media/documents/articles/010314044042\\_goat-acidosisingoats.pdf](http://www.sweetlix.com/media/documents/articles/010314044042_goat-acidosisingoats.pdf)

Ruminal Acidosis – Understandings, Prevention and Treatment  
(RAGFAR – 56 pages)  
[www.ava.com.au/sites/default/files/documents/Other/RAGFAR\\_doc.pdf](http://www.ava.com.au/sites/default/files/documents/Other/RAGFAR_doc.pdf)

~ **Bloat** ~

Bloat in Kid Goats

(2 pages)

[www.ilmeatgoat.org/Bloat%20in%20kid%20Goats\(7\).pdf](http://www.ilmeatgoat.org/Bloat%20in%20kid%20Goats(7).pdf)

Bloat in Small Ruminants

(University of Florida – 2 pages)

[http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/AgNatRes/Pubs/Factsheet-Bloat\\_in\\_Small\\_Ruminants.pdf](http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/AgNatRes/Pubs/Factsheet-Bloat_in_Small_Ruminants.pdf)

~ **Caseous Lymphadenitis (CL)** ~

Caseous Lymphadenitis, Cheesy Gland, CLA, Abscesses, Boils

(Navajo Sheep Project – 4 pages)

<http://navajosheepproject.com/images/pdf/health/cheesygland.pdf>

Caseous Lymphadenitis in Goats and Sheep

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0085/UNP-0085.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0085/UNP-0085.pdf)

Caseous Lymphadenitis in Small Ruminants

(University of Arkansas – 2 pages)

[www.uaex.edu/publications/pdf/FSA-3095.pdf](http://www.uaex.edu/publications/pdf/FSA-3095.pdf)

~ **Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAE)** ~

Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis

(New South Wales DII – 3 pages)

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/342969/Caprine-arthritis-encephalitis.pdf](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/342969/Caprine-arthritis-encephalitis.pdf)

Caprine Arthritis & Encephalitis

(Iowa State University – 5 pages)

[www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Factsheets/pdfs/caprine\\_arthritis\\_encephalitis.pdf](http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Factsheets/pdfs/caprine_arthritis_encephalitis.pdf)

Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis Virus

(APHIS – 5 pages)

[www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/emergingissues/downloads/prcaevinfosheet.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/emergingissues/downloads/prcaevinfosheet.pdf)

~ **Coccidiosis** ~

Coccidiosis in Goats and Prevention

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0109/UNP-0109.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0109/UNP-0109.pdf)

Coccidiosis of Lambs and Kids

(University of Guelph – 9 pages)

[https://www.uoguelph.ca/~pmezies/PDF/Handbook/Handbook\\_Coccidia\\_2012.pdf](https://www.uoguelph.ca/~pmezies/PDF/Handbook/Handbook_Coccidia_2012.pdf)

Very good

Coccidiosis; the Most Common Cause of Diarrhea in Young Goats

(North Carolina State University - 4 pages)

[http://www.meatgoats.ncsu.edu/PUBS\\_files/Coccidiosis.pdf](http://www.meatgoats.ncsu.edu/PUBS_files/Coccidiosis.pdf)

### ~ **Enterotoxemia** ~

Enterotoxemia (Overeating Disease) in Sheep and Goats

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0089/UNP-0089.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0089/UNP-0089.pdf)

Enterotoxemia [Overeating Disease] of Sheep and Goats

(Colorado State University – 2 pages)

<http://extension.colostate.edu/docs/pubs/livestk/08018.pdf>

### ~ **Foot rot and foot scald** ~

Contagious Foot Rot – an Update

(Utah State University – 4 pages)

[http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1461&context=extension\\_curall](http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1461&context=extension_curall)

Foot Rot and Foot Scald in Goats and Sheep

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0087/UNP-0087.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0087/UNP-0087.pdf)

Foot Rot in Sheep and Goats

(Purdue University – 5 pages)

[www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/As/As-596-footrot.pdf](http://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/As/As-596-footrot.pdf)

Why Can't I Get Rid of Foot Rot and Foot Scald?

(Purdue University 3 pages)

[www.ansc.purdue.edu/SP/MG/Documents/Why%20Can.pdf](http://www.ansc.purdue.edu/SP/MG/Documents/Why%20Can.pdf)

### ~**Johnes Disease** ~

Goats and Johnes Disease

(Australia – 3 pages)

<http://dpi.pwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Johnegoat2.pdf>

Johnes Disease in Pygmy Goats

(NPGA - 3 pages)

[www.npga-pygmy.com/resources/health/Johnes%20Disease%20in%20Pygmy%20Goats%20NPGA%20final.pdf](http://www.npga-pygmy.com/resources/health/Johnes%20Disease%20in%20Pygmy%20Goats%20NPGA%20final.pdf)

Applies to all breeds

Johnes Disease – What Do I Need to Know?

(Colorado State – 2 pages)

[www.cvmb.colostate.edu/ilm/proinfo/cdn/97articles/JDSept97.pdf](http://www.cvmb.colostate.edu/ilm/proinfo/cdn/97articles/JDSept97.pdf)

### ~ **Listeriosis** ~

Listeriosis [Circling Disease]

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0064/UNP-0064.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0064/UNP-0064.pdf)

### ~ **Mastitis** ~

Mastitis in Dairy Goats

(University of Florida – 7 pages)

[http://mysrf.org/pdf/pdf\\_dairy/goat\\_handbook/dg5.pdf](http://mysrf.org/pdf/pdf_dairy/goat_handbook/dg5.pdf)

Mastitis in Ewes

(ADHB Beef & Lamb, U.K. – 17 pages)

<http://beefandlamb.ahdb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/BRP-plus-Understanding-mastitis-in-sheep-180716.pdf>

About sheep but applies to goats

### **Mastitis in Goats**

(Alabama A&M and Auburn University – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0102/UNP-0102.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0102/UNP-0102.pdf)

Pneumonia in Sheep and Goats

(Colorado State – 2 pages)

<http://veterinaryextension.colostate.edu/menu2/sm%20rum/Pneumonia%20in%20Sheep%20and%20Goats%20final.pdf>

Pneumonia in Sheep and Goats

(Tarleton State University – 9 pages)

<http://faculty.tarleton.edu/morgan/documents/Pneumonia.pdf>

### ~ **Pinkeye** ~

Keratoconjunctivitis [Pinkeye] in Goats

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities – 2 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0088/UNP-0088.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0088/UNP-0088.pdf)



## ~Pneumonia~

Bacterial Pneumonia in Goats

(Alabama A& M and Auburn Universities – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0091/UNP-0091.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0091/UNP-0091.pdf)

Pneumonia in Sheep and Goats

(Colorado State – 2 pages)

<http://veterinaryextension.colostate.edu/menu2/sm%20rum/Pneumonia%20in%20Sheep%20and%20Goats%20final.pdf>

Pneumonia in Sheep and Goats

(Tarleton State University – 9 pages)

<http://faculty.tarleton.edu/morgan/documents/Pneumonia.pdf>

## ~ Polioencephalomalacia (Goat polio) ~

Polioencephalomalacia [Goat Polio]

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0065/UNP-0065.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0065/UNP-0065.pdf)

Polioencephalomalacia (Polio, PEM) in Goats

(Pipestone Vet – 2 pages)

[www.webpages.uidaho.edu/ruminant\\_nutrition/Optional%20Reading%20Materials/Polio\\_Vlietstra.pdf](http://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/ruminant_nutrition/Optional%20Reading%20Materials/Polio_Vlietstra.pdf)

## ~ Pregnancy toxemia ~

Just What is Pregnancy Toxemia?

(ABGA – 4 pages)

<http://abga.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Pregnancy-Toxemia-Lauren-Green.pdf>

Pregnancy Toxemia in Goats

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0106/UNP-0106.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0106/UNP-0106.pdf)

Pregnancy Toxemia [Ketosis] in Ewes and Does

(Colorado State – 2 pages)

<http://extension.colostate.edu/docs/pubs/livestk/01630.pdf>

Pregnancy Toxemia in Small Ruminants

(Colorado State – 2 pages)

<http://veterinaryextension.colostate.edu/menu2/sm%20rum/Pregnancy%20Toxemia%20in%20Small%20Ruminants%20v1.pdf>

Pregnancy Toxemia, Ovine Ketosis, Twin Lamb Disease, or Sleepy Ewe Sickness

(Navajo Sheep Project - 2 pages)

<http://navajosheepproject.com/images/pdf/health/ovineketosis.pdf>

Applies to does too

~ **Soremouth** ~

Contagious Ecthyma [Soremouth/Orf] in Sheep and Goats

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities – 2 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0063/UNP-0063.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0063/UNP-0063.pdf)

Controlling Sore Mouth in Meat Goats

(North Carolina State University – 2 pages)

<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/controlling-sore-mouth-in-meat-goats>

~ **Urinary calculi** ~

Urinary Calculi in Bucks and Wethers

(Bending Tree Ranch – 4 pages)

[www.bendingtreeranch.com/images/uc.pdf](http://www.bendingtreeranch.com/images/uc.pdf)

Extremely valuable information for anyone who keeps male goats

Urinary Calculi in Sheep and Goats

University of Arkansas – 3 pages

[https://www.uaex.edu/4h-youth/activities-programs/docs/Urinary%20Calculi%20in%20sheep%20and%20Goats\\_.pdf](https://www.uaex.edu/4h-youth/activities-programs/docs/Urinary%20Calculi%20in%20sheep%20and%20Goats_.pdf)

Instructions for using ammonium chloride as preventative or treatment

Urinary Calculi in Wether Lambs and Kids

(Colorado State – 2 pages)

<http://extension.colostate.edu/docs/pubs/livestk/01629.pdf>

Urolithiasis in Small Ruminants; Surgical and Dietary Management

(American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners – 11 pages)

[http://c.ycdn.com/sites/www.aasrp.org/resource/resmgr/Docs/VanMetre\\_urolith\\_surgery\\_04.pdf](http://c.ycdn.com/sites/www.aasrp.org/resource/resmgr/Docs/VanMetre_urolith_surgery_04.pdf)

~ **Tetanus** ~

Goat Health – Tetanus (New South Wales Agriculture - 1 page)

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/178431/goat-tetanus.pdf](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/178431/goat-tetanus.pdf)

Tetanus in Goats

(ABGA – 1 page)

<http://abga.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Tetanus.pdf>

## **External parasites**

Biology of External Parasites of Dairy Goats

(University of Florida – 5 pages)

[http://mysrf.org/pdf/pdf\\_dairy/goat\\_handbook/dg1.pdf](http://mysrf.org/pdf/pdf_dairy/goat_handbook/dg1.pdf)

External Parasites of Goats

(Oklahoma State – 8 pages)

<http://pods.dasnr.okstate.edu/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-5175/EPP-7019web.pdf>

External Parasites of Goats

(Langston University – 6 pages)

<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/library/field/talley07.pdf>

External Parasites of Sheep and Goats

(Florida State – 4 pages)

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/IG/IG12900.pdf>

Fly Control Measures

(University of Massachusetts – 2 pages)

<https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/fact-sheets/pdf/FlyControl08-15.pdf>

Managing Stable Flies on Livestock and Around Livestock Facilities

(Montana State University – 4 pages)

<http://store.msuextension.org/publications/AgandNaturalResources/MT201111AG.pdf>

Products Used to Treat and Control External Parasites in Livestock

(Maryland Small Ruminant Pages—Insecticides – 4 pages)

[www.premier1supplies.com/sheep-guide/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/insecticides.pdf](http://www.premier1supplies.com/sheep-guide/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/insecticides.pdf)

## **Feeding**

Goats and Their Nutrition

(Manitoba Goat Association - 4 pages)

[www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/livestock/production/goat/pubs/goats-and-their-nutrition.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/livestock/production/goat/pubs/goats-and-their-nutrition.pdf)

Feeding Goats (University of Connecticut – 2 pages)

[www.extension.uconn.edu/pages/department/litchfield/documents/FeedingGoats.pdf](http://www.extension.uconn.edu/pages/department/litchfield/documents/FeedingGoats.pdf)

Introduction to Goat Nutrition

(Langston University – 34 pages)

<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/training/nutrition.pdf>

Tips for Buying Hay

(University of Georgia - 2 pages)

[www.caes.uga.edu/commodities/fieldcrops/forages/Ga\\_Cat\\_Arc/2009/GC0901.pdf](http://www.caes.uga.edu/commodities/fieldcrops/forages/Ga_Cat_Arc/2009/GC0901.pdf)

## **Goats for vegetation control**

Bush Control with Goats  
(Kerr Center – 16 pages)

[http://kerrcenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/brush\\_control\\_with\\_goats.pdf](http://kerrcenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/brush_control_with_goats.pdf)

Goats for Vegetation Management  
(Langston University – 16 pages)

<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/training/vegetation.pdf>

Goats in the Woods (Cornell University – 47 pages)

<http://goatdocs.ansci.cornell.edu/Resources/GoatArticles/GoatsInWoods/GoatInForest.pdf>

About using goats to control forest vegetation but it incorporates lots of useful information for every goat owner

Successfully Controlling Noxious Weeds with Goats  
(5 pages)

[www.beyondpesticides.org/weeds/publications/Goat\\_weed\\_management.pdf](http://www.beyondpesticides.org/weeds/publications/Goat_weed_management.pdf)

## **General health topics**

Body Condition Scoring in Goats  
(Langston University – 8 pages)

[http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/research/BCS\\_factsheet.pdf](http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/research/BCS_factsheet.pdf)

Common Diseases and Health Problems in Sheep and Goats  
(Purdue University – 12 pages)

[www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/as/as-595-commondiseases.pdf](http://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/as/as-595-commondiseases.pdf)

Flock Health

(Canadian Sheep Federation – 15 pages)

[www.cansheep.ca/User/Docs/VTBox/Flock%20Health%20Section%204.pdf](http://www.cansheep.ca/User/Docs/VTBox/Flock%20Health%20Section%204.pdf)

Written about sheep but applicable to goats

Giving Injections to Sheep and Goats  
(10 pages)

[www.esgpip.org/PDF/Technical%20bulletin%20No.%2010.pdf](http://www.esgpip.org/PDF/Technical%20bulletin%20No.%2010.pdf)

The best information I've seen

Goat Health

(University of Florida – 54 pages)

[http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/AgNatRes/Pubs/Goat\\_Health.pdf](http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/AgNatRes/Pubs/Goat_Health.pdf)

Herd Health Program for Dairy Goats

(University of Arkansas - 6 pages)

[www.uaex.edu/other\\_areas/publications/pdf/fsa-4006.pdf](http://www.uaex.edu/other_areas/publications/pdf/fsa-4006.pdf)

Understanding Vaccination Programs—Timing is Everything

(Michigan State University – 4 pages)

[www.danekeclublams.com/Vacsbmlt.pdf](http://www.danekeclublams.com/Vacsbmlt.pdf)

Use, Handling, and Care of Vaccines

(Oklahoma State – 4 pages)

<http://pods.dasnr.okstate.edu/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-2037/VTMD-9100web.pdf>

Vaccination Protocol for a Goat Herd

(Alabama A&M and Auburn University – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0090/UNP-0090.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0090/UNP-0090.pdf)

## **Hoof care**

Trimming the Hooves of Sheep and Goats

(Ethiopia Sheep and Goat Productivity Improvement Program - 9 pages)

[www.esgpip.org/PDF/Technical%20bulletin%20No.21.pdf](http://www.esgpip.org/PDF/Technical%20bulletin%20No.21.pdf)

Hoof Trimming Guide

(Minnesota Dairy Goat Association - 1 page)

<http://minnesotagoats.org/pdf/MDGA-Hoof%20Trimming.pdf>

## **Housing and fencing**

Building an Electric Anti-Predator Fence

(Oregon State – 16 pages)

<http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1957/20669/pnw225.pdf>

Fencing (for goats)

Oklahoma State – 14 pages)

<http://agecon.okstate.edu/meatgoat/files/Chapter%2011.pdf>

Goat Facilities

(Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities – 8 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0103/UNP-0103.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0103/UNP-0103.pdf)

Housing and Working Facilities for Dairy Goats

(New Mexico State University - 8 pages)

[http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/\\_d/D703.pdf](http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/_d/D703.pdf)

Planning and Building Fences on the Farm

(University of Tennessee – 18 pages)

<https://utextension.tennessee.edu/publications/documents/pb1541.pdf>

Planning Sheep and Goat Fencing

(University of Illinois by way of Premier1 – 6 pages)

<https://www.premier1supplies.com/sheep-guide/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Final-sheep-goat-fencing-publication.pdf>

Shelters and Housing for Sheep and Goats (17 pages)

[www.esgpip.org/PDF/Technical%20bulletin%20No.32.pdf](http://www.esgpip.org/PDF/Technical%20bulletin%20No.32.pdf)

Traditional and alternative approaches, especially for warm climates

Types of Fencing for Goats

(Langston University – 7 pages)

<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/library/field/hart01.pdf>

### **Internal parasites**

Barber Pole Worm Infestation in Goats

(Alabama A&M – 4 pages)

[www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0078/UNP-0078.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/U/UNP-0078/UNP-0078.pdf)

Dewormer Chart for Goats

(Cornell University – 2 pages)

<https://ahdc.vet.cornell.edu/programs/NYSCHAP/docs/GoatDewormerChart.pdf>

Goat Parasite Dewormer Chart

(University of Kentucky – 3 pages)

[www.ca.uky.edu/anr/PDF/GoatDewormerChart.pdf](http://www.ca.uky.edu/anr/PDF/GoatDewormerChart.pdf)

Identification of Internal Parasites of Sheep and Goats

(University of Maine – 29 pages)

<http://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1025&context=honors>

Internal Parasites in Sheep and Goats

(Oregon State – 4 pages)

<http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1957/36666/em9055.pdf>

Managing Internal Parasitism in Sheep and Goats

(Purdue University – 10 pages)

<https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/as/as-573-w.pdf>

Secret Life of Goat Parasites

(ABGA – 5 pages)

<http://abga.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Parasites-Worm-Types-The-Secret-Lives-of-Goat-Parasites.pdf>

Tools for Managing Internal Parasites in Small Ruminants: Copper Wire Particles  
(ATTRA via Purdue University – 8 pages)

[www.ansc.purdue.edu/SP/MG/Documents/copper\\_wire.pdf](http://www.ansc.purdue.edu/SP/MG/Documents/copper_wire.pdf)

### **Kidding and neonatal kids**

Kidding

(Oklahoma State – 5 pages)

<http://agecon.okstate.edu/meatgoat/files/Chapter%208.pdf>

Kidding with Confidence

(Cornell University – 38 pages)

<http://csetompkins.org/resources/kidding-with-confidence>

Very good, very complete—recommended!

Kidding Season

(Kentucky State – 5 pages)

[www.extension.org/sites/default/files/w/0/0b/Kidding\\_Season09-color.pdf](http://www.extension.org/sites/default/files/w/0/0b/Kidding_Season09-color.pdf)

Managing Kidding and Lambing

(Cornell University – 8 pages)

[http://nydairyadmin.cce.cornell.edu/uploads/doc\\_92.pdf](http://nydairyadmin.cce.cornell.edu/uploads/doc_92.pdf)

Tube Feeding Neonatal Small Ruminants

(Washington State – 8 pages)

<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/eb1998/eb1998.pdf>

If you raise kids, even a single bottle baby, you need this publication

Raising Dairy Goat Kids

(University of California – 20 pages)

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8160.pdf>

### **Misc.**

Anatomy and Physiology of the Goat (New South Wales Agriculture - 8 pages)

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/178336/goat-anatomy.pdf](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/178336/goat-anatomy.pdf)

This is very, very good!

Emergency Euthanasia of Sheep and Goats

(University of California – 10 pages)

[http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/local\\_resources/pdfs/pdfs\\_animal\\_welfare/emergEuth\\_sheepgoat-1.pdf](http://www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/local_resources/pdfs/pdfs_animal_welfare/emergEuth_sheepgoat-1.pdf)

Goat Medications

(Julies Funny Farm - 16 pages)

[http://juliesfunnyfarmlibrary.tripod.com/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/medicines\\_big\\_list.pdf](http://juliesfunnyfarmlibrary.tripod.com/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/medicines_big_list.pdf)

Includes over-the-counter medicines and home remedies

Goat Medications and Goat Diseases

(Southern Goat Producers – 14 pages)

<http://southerngoatproducers.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/MEDICATION-LIST-+-DISEASE-+-SYMPTOMS.pdf>

Medications Commonly Used in Goats and Approximate Withdrawal Times

(Langston University – 3 pages)

<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/training/Goatmeds.pdf>

Print and save!

Small Ruminant Clinical Diagnosis and Therapy

(University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine – 296 pages)

[www.rmncsba.org/SMALLRUMINANT.pdf](http://www.rmncsba.org/SMALLRUMINANT.pdf)

Mostly of interest to those with a more than passing interest in veterinary medicine

Zoonoses of Goats and Sheep

(Colorado State University – 3 pages)

[www.ehs.colostate.edu/WOHSP/PDF/Sheep\\_and\\_Goats.pdf](http://www.ehs.colostate.edu/WOHSP/PDF/Sheep_and_Goats.pdf)

## **Predator control**

Using Guard Animals to Protect Livestock

(Missouri Conservation Commission – 14 pages)

<http://icwdm.org/Publications/pdf/Repellents/guardanimalsMissouriDFG.pdf>

Guard Animals for Protecting Livestock

(New South Wales Agriculture - 46 pages)

[http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/178908/guard-animals.pdf](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/178908/guard-animals.pdf)

Very good!

Guard Llamas

(Iowa State University - 12 pages)

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/publications/pm1527.pdf>

Livestock Guardian Dogs

(Texas A&M – 8 pages)

<http://sanangelo.tamu.edu/files/2013/08/Livestock-Guardian-Dogs1.pdf>

Protecting Livestock with Guard Donkeys

(3 pages)

[http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex9396/\\$file/684-18.pdf?OpenElement](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex9396/$file/684-18.pdf?OpenElement)



Raising & Training a Livestock-Guarding Dog  
(Oregon State – 8 pages)

<http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1957/18914/ec1238.pdf>

## **This and That**

### **Behavior**

Behavior

[www.goatwisdom.com/behavior.html](http://www.goatwisdom.com/behavior.html)

Behavior

[www.goatworld.com/articles/behavior/behavior.shtml](http://www.goatworld.com/articles/behavior/behavior.shtml)

Bucks and Herd Dominance

<https://mvalidus.wordpress.com/2011/03/05/goat-behavior-101>

Goat Behavior, Characteristics, and FYI

<https://fiascofarm.com/goats/behavior.htm>

Goat Behavior and Children

<http://wildrootshomestead.blogspot.com/2011/02/goat-behavior-and-children.html>

Goat Behavior/Woolshed blog

[http://woolshed1.blogspot.com/2008/11/animal-behaviour-and-welfare-goats\\_4915.html](http://woolshed1.blogspot.com/2008/11/animal-behaviour-and-welfare-goats_4915.html)

[http://woolshed1.blogspot.com/2008/11/animal-behaviour-and-welfare-goats\\_9338.html](http://woolshed1.blogspot.com/2008/11/animal-behaviour-and-welfare-goats_9338.html)

[http://woolshed1.blogspot.com/2008/11/animal-behaviour-and-welfare-goats\\_23.html](http://woolshed1.blogspot.com/2008/11/animal-behaviour-and-welfare-goats_23.html)

<http://woolshed1.blogspot.com/2008/11/animal-behaviour-and-welfare-goats.html>

[http://woolshed1.blogspot.com/2009/03/angora-mohair-goat-basics-handling\\_22.html](http://woolshed1.blogspot.com/2009/03/angora-mohair-goat-basics-handling_22.html)

The BEST goat behavior info online

### **Health**

Goat Medications

<https://fiascofarm.com/goats/medications.htm>

### **Meningeal worm**

Life and Times of the Meningeal Worm

[www.petmd.com/blogs/thedailyvet/aobrien/2013/aug/a-passion-for-parasites-meningeal-worm-30746](http://www.petmd.com/blogs/thedailyvet/aobrien/2013/aug/a-passion-for-parasites-meningeal-worm-30746)

Meningeal Deerworm Infection in Goats

[www.tennesseemeatgoats.com/articles2/meningealworm.html](http://www.tennesseemeatgoats.com/articles2/meningealworm.html)

Meningeal Worm

[www.sheepandgoat.com/deerworm](http://www.sheepandgoat.com/deerworm)

Includes links to other resources

Meningeal worm animations at Biology of the Goat

[www.goatbiology.com/animations/brainworm.html](http://www.goatbiology.com/animations/brainworm.html)

Meningeal Worms

[www.pipevet.com/page.asp?p\\_key=919456F22DF045308DFFC417FC51B903](http://www.pipevet.com/page.asp?p_key=919456F22DF045308DFFC417FC51B903)

### **Misc.**

Names by China Road

[www.lowchensaustralia.com/names.htm](http://www.lowchensaustralia.com/names.htm)

If you need a great name for a goat (or anything else), visit this Web site. It's fantastic!

### **Old-time goat books**

Biodiversity Heritage Library

[www.biodiversitylibrary.org](http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org)

The Biodiversity Heritage Library is another source of hundreds of free vintage horse books. Just enter *goat* or *goats* in the search box, click on the titles you want, and download them in PDF format.

Free antiquarian goat books at Google Books

<http://books.google.com>

Enter *goat* or *goats* in the search box. When a page comes up, click on *Tools*, then *Any Books*, and then *Free Google eBooks*. This will bring you to many pages of vintage titles that you can download in PDF or EPUB formats for free. To do so, click on your chosen title. When it comes up, look for the download symbol at the top far right (it looks like a wheel with 6 knobs). Click on *Download* and choose from PDF and sometimes EPUB formats. Some are very large downloads, so you might want to download them to a flash drive for storage or download them to your desktop and then burn them to CD.

### **Parasites**

American Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control

[www.wormx.info](http://www.wormx.info)

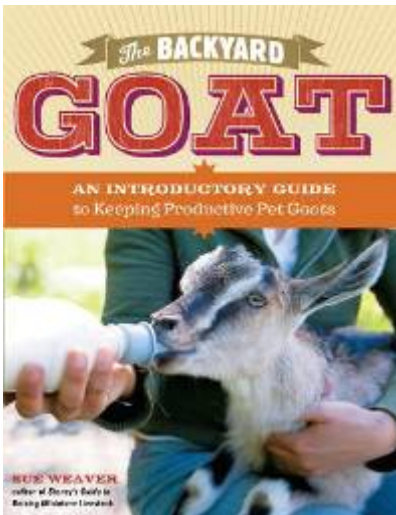
The definitive site for internal parasite information

Emerging Concepts in Small Ruminant Parasite Control

<http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/sfn/sp08ruminant>

Parasite animations at Biology of the Goat

[www.goatbiology.com/animations/parasites.html](http://www.goatbiology.com/animations/parasites.html)



## Recommended Reading

- Caldwell, Gianaclis. *Holistic Goat Care: A Comprehensive Guide to Raising Healthy Animals, Preventing Common Ailments, and Troubleshooting Problems*. Chelsea Green Publishing, 2017.
- Eddy, Carolyn. *Diet for Wethers*. Eagle Creek Publishing, 2001.
- Eddy, Carolyn. *Field First Aid for Goats*. Eagle Creek Publishing, 2008.
- Eddy, Carolyn. *Packable Guide to Field First Aid*. Eagle Creek Publishing, 2008.
- Eddy, Carolyn. *Practical Goatpacking*. Eagle Creek Publishing, 1998.
- Grant, Jennie P. *City Goats: the Goat Justice League's Guide to Backyard Goat Keeping*. Skipstone, 2012.
- Mionczynski, John. *The Pack Goat*. The Reavis Company, 1992.
- Sayer, Maggie. *Storey's Guide to Raising Meat Goats, 2nd Edition: Managing, Breeding, Marketing*. Storey Publishing, 2010.
- Smith, Cheryl K. *Goat Health Care: The Best of Ruminations 2001-2007*. Karmadillo Press, 2009.
- Smith, Cheryl K. *Raising Goats for Dummies*. For Dummies, 2010

Stewart, Patricia Garland. *Personal Milkers; a Primer to Nigerian Dwarf Goats*. Garland Stewart Publishing, 2008.

Weaver, Sue. *Goat Tips and Tricks; 500+ ways to take care of goats better, easier, cheaper*. Self-published, 2017

Weaver, Sue. *Goats; Small-Scale Herding for Pleasure and Profit* (i-5 Publishing; 2006)

Weaver, Sue. *Mini-Goats: Everything You Need to Know to Keep Miniature Goats in the City, Country, or Suburbs* (Lumina Media; 2016)

Weaver, Sue (writing as Maggie Sayer). *Storey's Guide to Raising Meat Goats*, second edition. North Adams, Mass.: Storey Publishing, 2010.

Weaver, Sue. *Storey's Guide to Raising Miniature Livestock*. North Adams, Mass.: Storey Publishing, 2009.

Weaver, Sue. *The Backyard Goat: An Introductory Guide to Keeping and Enjoying Pet Goats, from Feeding and Housing to Making Your Own Cheese*.

Adams, Mass.: Storey Publishing, 2012.

Winslow, Ellie. *Making Money with Goats, 6th edition*. Freefall Press, 2006.



**Excerpt from *Goat Tips & Tricks*;**

**500+ ways to take care of goats better, easier, cheaper**

## **Table of Contents**

Introduction

38 things you should know before buying goats

Training goats

New goats

Goats and sheep

Goat treats

Memorializing goats

County Extension  
Everyday tools  
Save money on equipment  
Neck ropes, collars, halters, and leads  
Keeping goats in the pink  
Essential oils for goat care products  
DIY goat shampoos and conditioners  
Homemade fly repellants  
DIY skeeter cheaters  
Wound care  
DIY ice packs  
DIY heating pads  
Cleaning Lamancha ears  
Ringworm fixes  
Beer  
Red raspberry and blackberry leaves  
Bottle jaw vs. milk goiter  
Copper  
Health care this and that  
Bucks  
Kidding and kid care  
House training and house goats  
Milking misc.  
Water  
Feeders  
Grain  
Buying hay  
Hay alternatives  
Mineral supplements and salt  
Weighing goats  
Worms and worming

Reuse feed bags  
Reuse baler twine  
Duct tape  
Save those socks  
Pallets This and that  
About the author

An excerpt from *Frugal Horse Keeping; Buying and Keeping Horses without Going Broke; Volume 1 – Buy the Right Horse* by Sue Weaver

## **Introduction**

Have you ever seen something in a book or posted at Facebook and thought, "I need to write that down so I remember it"? Well, I do that all the time. If there's a way to take better care of my goats more easily and in a less costly manner, I want to know it. With that in mind I've collected goatkeeping tips for years and I've compiled them in this book for you to enjoy.

I'll be writing more books in this series as time goes by, so if you have tips to share with others, please let me know (you'll find contact information at the back of this book) and I'll give you a credit line and a free copy of the book they appear in.



## **38 things you should know before buying goats**

\*Don't get goats unless you know what you're getting into. Goats are gentle, intelligent, sweet and loving but sometimes annoyingly independent, mischievous, determined, and frustrating. Meet some goats and talk to experienced goat owners before you commit. And don't get goats unless you have a good sense of humor.

\*Be aware going in that it's possible to make money with goats, but don't plan on it. If you raise commercial meat goats or top flight, registered dairy or meat goats, or you

produce and market niche dairy products to a lot of customers—you might. Otherwise, probably not.

\*Goats are social creatures. Don't plan to buy one goat. Every goat needs a companion, preferably another goat. A single goat is lonely and sad and she'll probably let you and your neighbors know it by screaming at the top of her lungs. The only exception would be a single bottle kid raised in the house with people, dogs, and other pets. But even a house-raised single needs companionship when and if he moves outdoors.

\*Find a goat-savvy veterinarian before you buy your goats. Ask him what types of emergency medications to keep on hand and stock up before you need them. Program his number into your phone.

\*Try to find a local mentor to advise you when you need it. Barring that, join goat-oriented Facebook groups or online forums like the Homesteading Today goat forum where experienced goat folks will be happy to answer your questions. Putting together a reference library of goat books or a folder of printed material downloaded from the Internet is a good idea too.

\*Have good fencing in place before getting goats. Really good fencing, tall and stout. You'll need good fences to keep your goats in and predators like free-ranging dogs and coyotes out. If you don't know what to build, talk to your County Extension agent or do an Internet search for *fences for goats*.

\*Don't plan to tether your goats instead of building good fences. A tethered goat is at the mercy of predators, including wild animals, free-roaming dogs, and ornery children. Tethered goats tip over their water buckets, wrap their ropes or chains around trees, and get injured more quickly and seriously than you can imagine.

\*Goats don't need fancy housing but they do need draft-free shelter where they can get away from bad weather, and they need good shade in the summertime. Avoid pressed-



wood and cheap plywood when building new structures or redoing old ones. Most goats chew wood and they'll quickly destroy pressed-wood or flimsy plywood panels, both of which are processed using chemicals that can harm a goat.

\*Even when sick, in quarantine, or kidding, goats should be within sight and sound of other large animals, preferably goats. Bucks need companionship too; another buck or a wether works well.

\*Goats love routine and get upset when the routine changes. Try to feed and, especially, milk your goats within half an hour or so of the same times every day.

\*Don't stress your goats any more than you have to. Stressed goats are prone to a host of health-related problems.

\*Don't underestimate how high and how far a goat, even a mini goat, and especially a goat that doesn't want to be caught can jump. The same applies to hauling goats. Don't use a conveyance your goat can jump out of.

\*Goats are climbers and they're very good at it. Don't leave your car, truck, or tractor where your goats can reach it. You'll be sorry if you do.

\*Horse owners take note: goats move into pressure instead of away from it. Pushing against a goat is counterproductive.

\*Don't buy goats at sale barns unless you want to bring home foot rot, caseous lymphadenitis, sore mouth, ringworm, and a lot more nasty diseases and parasites. Buy healthy goats from experienced goat keepers, preferably those who test their stock for major diseases and have the paperwork to prove it.

\*Each goat has his or her own distinct personality, which is partially but far from totally influenced by breed. Nubians are said to be noisy and clingy, Alpines aloof and ornery,

Saanens and Sables ultra-laidback. Don't believe it. These qualities vary from individual to individual in every breed.

\*Keep your feed room door securely latched. In fact, install two latches. Or a lock (and use it). Build goat-proof feed bins inside the feed room or install an old chest freezer as a grain bin. Accidental grain overload kills countless numbers of goats every year.

\*Goats don't eat tin cans. In fact, they're astoundingly picky eaters and famous for wasting a lot of hay. Once it's on the ground, they won't touch it. Waste hay, however, makes good bedding.

\*Don't abruptly change types or the amounts of feed you give your goats. Make changes over a period of a week or more so your goat's digestive microbes can adapt.

\*Goats were designed to eat forage (browse, grass, hay). Feeding too much grain can lead to serious, even fatal digestive problems and it contributes to UC (urinary calculi) in bucks and wethers.

\*Avoid poor-quality hay. Learn to recognize good hay (you'll find hay-buying tips later in this book) and then buy more than you think you'll need. Store it correctly, so it doesn't spoil.

\*Goats are browsers, not grazers. Don't buy goats to mow your yard (you need sheep for that). They will, however, clear brush, brambles, saplings, and weeds from your pastures or woodlots.

\*A goat doesn't have upper front teeth; instead, she has a hard dental palate on the roof of her mouth. Goats do have lower front teeth and back teeth on the top and bottom. Those back teeth are razor sharp. Don't put your hand where your goat might accidentally bite you.

\*Goats are a 'laying out species' like deer, rather than a 'following species' like sheep and horses, meaning that does sometimes hide their newborn kids and go off with the rest of their herd for a nosh. If you can't find a doe's young offspring, don't panic. A careful search will usually turn them up.

\*Don't over- or under-feed bottle kids and don't scrimp on what you feed them. Never feed milk replacers formulated for other species or replacers that contain soy instead of milk products. Homemade milk replacers are better than commercial versions; we'll talk about some of them later in this book.

\*Horns are beautiful but horned goats tend to get their heads caught in fences, they accidentally poke their handlers (and it's painful), and they use their horns to bully their herdmates. Most goat owners prefer hornless goats. Nearly all goats grow horns unless they're disbudded as tiny kids. Disbudding means burning a kid's horn buds before they start to grow. It's generally done at 5 to 10 days of age, depending on sex and breed. If disbudding is done incorrectly, the kid will grow scurs—deformed hornlike structures that (usually) aren't firmly attached to the animal's skull. Scurs tend to break off and bleed and if they grow toward the goat's skull, they'll have to be trimmed, which is a painful and gory chore. If you're a beginner, find an experienced goat breeder who can disbud your kids for a fee. Or, if you choose to do it yourself (if you do, you'll have to buy an expensive disbudding iron and a disbudding box to hold your kids while they're being disbudded), ask an experienced person to show you how it's properly done. Look at their goats if you can; if you see a lot of scurs, find another teacher.

\*If you don't want goats with horns, don't buy horned goats thinking you can saw their horns off. A veterinarian can dehorn a goat but it's a bloody, painful, and dangerous process, and many vets refuse to do it. Horns are part of a goat's skull and the big holes left from dehorning open directly into the goat's sinus cavities. It takes a long time for those holes to heal and requires lots of nursing and packing materials. It isn't worth it and it's inhumane. Buy polled (naturally hornless) or disbudded goats or resign yourself to having horned goats.

\*You can raise goats 'naturally' but it isn't easy and you'll need a knowledgeable mentor to do it right. Goats are host to serious internal parasites like barberpole worm, which can kill them unless they're wormed when they need it. Natural wormers work really well in some instances and not at all in others. Likewise, goats can quickly die of diseases that might respond to natural therapies if the goat survives long enough, but often doesn't. If you're not up for learning about natural/holistic goat care from the ground up, it's okay to combine regular wormers and veterinary care with natural therapies—that's what I do, The most knowledgeable holistic goat keeper that I know says she falls back on chemical wormers and antibiotics if a goat will die without them. You should too.

\*It's amazingly easy to house train a goat if you start with a young bottle kid. Goats, especially mini goats, can make good house pets but since they're strong climbers and dedicated counter surfers, and they chew everything in sight, they aren't for the easily discouraged or faint of heart.

\*Whether you have 2 goats or 20, your goats will establish a pecking order among themselves. Higher-ups pick on newcomers and on goats lower in the herd hierarchy than they are, and they can be very mean about it. Don't be surprised by a certain amount of in-fighting.

\*If you plan to milk your goats, keep in mind that you'll have to milk once or twice a day (depending on how much milk your doe produces), morning and evening, the entire time she's lactating. Milking does don't take vacations or sick days; unless there's a reliable person to milk in your stead, neither can you.

\*In most cases, a doe must be bred and have kids every year to produce milk. Some does 'milk through', meaning that they produce a significant amount of milk for one or more additional years without rebreeding, as long as they're kept in production through daily milking. The Swiss breeds (Saanens, Alpines, Oberhaslis, and Toggenburgs) are more

likely to milk through than other breeds, but the ability varies from individual to individual between all of the dairy goat breeds.

\*Don't jump into breeding right away. If you've never had goats before, get some experience by starting with pets or recreational wethers, or at least older bred does who know their job and can teach you the ropes. Especially, don't start with bred doelings. If you do breed, plan ahead. What will you do with excess kids, especially bucklings?

\*If you breed your doe, plan to be with her when she kids. Yes, goats have given birth without assistance since the dawn of time, but many of those goats and their offspring died in the process. A doe may occasionally take you by surprise, but for the most part, there are plenty of signs that will make you aware of imminent kidding. Know what to do in emergencies and be there to save the day.

\*Don't underestimate a goat's sex drive. It isn't unheard of for kids to be conceived through gates and fences—it's happened here—so it's best to avoid keeping bucks and does in adjacent paddocks. Bucks, especially horned bucks, should be kept behind tall, sturdy gates and fencing; otherwise they'll get out.

\*Bucks pee on themselves during rut (breeding season), which, depending on where you live and what breed you keep, can be from 3 months to all year. If you don't like strong, musky aromas, you might not want to keep a buck.

\*Finally, never take a buck for granted. Bucks, even mini bucks, are extremely powerful and strongly hormone-driven, especially during rut, when even easygoing bucks sometimes misbehave. Don't turn your back on a buck and always plan an escape route when working in a buck's enclosure. Barring that, at least carry a walking stick or shepherd's crook for self defense. If a buck threatens you, smack his nose, not his forehead; if you whack his forehead, he'll think you're issuing a challenge. And if you're cornered by a buck, grab his beard and yank, then use his beard to lead him to the fence or gate before letting him go.



## Training goats

There are lots of ways to train goats. Here are some worth considering:



### Clicker training

Goats work their hearts out for food, making them ideal candidates for clicker training. Clicker training, also known as operant conditioning, is widely used to train sea mammals, horses, and dogs.

\*Horse training methods can be easily tailored for clicker training goats but if

you've never tried clicker training before, start by reading my Storey book, *The Backyard Goat* (where I cover clicker training in some detail), or *Clicking With Your Dog; Step-by-Step in Pictures* by Peggy Tillman (Sunshine Books; 2000). While you probably won't want to teach your goat to fetch a soda from the fridge (although then again you might), most of the training routines in *Clicking with Your Dog* work well with goats.

\*To see clicker trained goats in action visit YouTube ([www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)) and do a search for *clicker trained goat*.

### Don't chase the goat

\*If your goat is doing something wrong, like climbing on your car, don't yell and wave your arms and chase her away. To most goats, chasing is play behavior; you're rewarding your goat for misbehaving when you do it.

### Stop bad behavior now

Reward-based training always works best but sometimes you need to nip dangerous behavior like jumping up against people or head-butting in the bud.

\*When you do, reach for a high-powered water pistol or a household pump sprayer with a long, strong jet. Goats despise water, especially when it's squirted in their faces. A loud "No!" coupled with a blast or two of water tends to work.

\*If water doesn't work, try juice from a ReaLemon, the lemon-shaped plastic squeeze bottle from the grocery store. Hide it in your hand and when your goat misbehaves, say "No!" and squirt a stream of juice at her mouth. Yuck!



### **New goats**

Getting a new goat or two? Here's how to make their transition into your existing herd easier and safer.

\*Always quarantine newcomers for at least 2 weeks, though a month is better. Multiples can be quarantined together. If you're adding just 1 new herd member, keep her somewhere she can see other goats but not touch noses with them. Keep in mind that goats and sheep share many diseases and parasites, so quarantine the species separate from one another.

\*Be sure to worm new goats as they enter quarantine. Have your vet run a fecal 10 days later and worm again if needed. If you didn't get health records with the new goat, assume the worst and vaccinate her as she enters quarantine as though she's never been vaccinated before

\*To give her added respect via scent recognition, switch the newcomer's collar with that of the highest-ranking goat in your herd's social hierarchy.

\*When a new goat leaves quarantine, make sure she has a friend rather than dumping her with your other goats to duke it out. Begin by placing her in a pen or paddock next to the main group where they can see and smell her. Then pick out a friendly, laidback goat and house her with the new goat until they get along well. Only then add those 2 to the main herd.



### **Goats and sheep**

Lots of us keep both goats and sheep. If you don't but you want to, here are some things you should know:

#### **Getting along**

Goats tend to dominate sheep but they can peacefully coexist, given enough room.

\*However, it's best to feed in species-specific groups to avoid sheep being battered around (they usually get along well enough to eat free-choice hay together).

\*It's wise to remove late-gestation ewes from communal groups to avoid them being bashed in the sides by aggressive goats, which can cause them to abort their lambs.

#### **Copper and sheep**

Copper blousing (see Copper elsewhere in this book) is especially important when people keep both sheep and goats. Sheep need copper but usually get enough through their diets. Sheep that consume bagged feed or mineral products formulated for goats retain excess copper in their livers. This builds up and eventually kills them. If you keep both sheep and goats you can do one of several things.

\*Goats are great climbers (Myotonic/fainting goats excepted), but most sheep aren't, so it's usually safe to put goat mineral where goats can hop up on something to eat it but sheep can't. The disadvantage is that the sheep need sheep mineral down at their own



level and if goats eat that instead of their goat mineral, they might not ingest enough copper.

\*Separate your sheep and goats at night and provide species-specific minerals in each group's sleeping area.

\*Put out sheep minerals for everyone and copper bolus your goats 2 or 3 times a year.

### **Worms and diseases**

\*Sheep and goats are susceptible to the same parasites and also most diseases. If one group gets sick or shows signs of parasite infection, the other group likely will too.

### **Scrapie ID**

If you keep both sheep and goats, chances are that your goats must be permanently identified in compliance with the USDA's National Scrapie Identification Program.

\*Although it's a Federal program, exact rules vary from state to state, so it's best to ask your county Extension agent for more information.

\*Or, Google *goats USDA scrapie program* but be prepared to wade through a heap of gobbledygook.

### **Ram daddies**

\*According to a study, "The Interbreeding of Sheep and Goats" ([www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1576582](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1576582)), that first appeared in the April 1997 issue of the Canadian Veterinary Journal, rams can successfully impregnate does but the resulting fetuses die at 5 to 10 weeks after conception. Bucks cannot successfully impregnate ewes, though they'll certainly try. Since conceiving and aborting early term fetuses is hard on does, it's unwise to comingle does and rams.

### **Rams and bucks don't mix**

\*Because of differing fighting styles, rams can kill bucks and wethers. A goat fights (and play-fights) by rearing and swooping down on his opponent. A ram fights by backing off for a distance, then charging and bashing into his opponent. The buck or wether is rearing just as the ram slams into his belly or side. Internal injuries and subsequent death are fairly common.

### **Goats as foster moms for lambs**

\*Some goats are very open to raising orphan or rejected lambs. This can be perilous for the goat. Goat kids bunt their dams' udders but not as forcefully as lambs do, especially older lambs, are wont to do. It isn't unusual for bunting lambs to hoist their mothers' hindquarters up off the ground. This can injure a dairy doe's large, fine-skinned udder. Some does assertively put rough lambs in their places and they learn not to bunt so hard. But that's not a given, so approach cross-fostering with certain misgivings.

~\*~\*~\*~

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### **About the Author**

Sue Weaver began writing professionally in 1969 when her first article was published in The Western Horseman magazine. Since then she's written hundreds of articles, first specializing in horse magazines, then publications affiliated with Hobby Farms magazine. She's also written 12 books for mainline publishing houses: five in the Hobby Farms series, including a new book about miniature goats, for Lumina Media (a.k.a. Bowtie Press and i-5 Publishing)



and seven for Storey Publishing. All relate to livestock or poultry including pigs, goats, sheep, cattle, chickens, donkeys, llamas and alpacas. She is a self-taught writer and a goat fanatic.

Sue lives on a 29-acre property in the southern Ozarks, along with her husband of 43 years and a huge animal family composed of horses, full-size and miniature; a donkey; Classic Cheviot sheep; Boer, Nubian, Alpine, and mixed breed goats; a llama; a tame razorback hog; guinea fowl; chickens; and a passel of dogs, most of which are former rescues. The money she earns from writing is used solely to buy animal feed. Thank you for buying her books!

**~ Print books by Sue Weaver (buy them wherever books are sold) ~**

*Chickens; Tending a Small-Scale Flock, 2nd Edition* (Lumina Media; 2005 and 2011)

*Sheep; Small-Scale Sheep Keeping for Pleasure and Profit* (Lumina Media; 2005)

*Goats; Small-Scale Herding for Pleasure and Profit* (Lumina Media; 2006)

*Llamas and Alpacas; Keeping a Small-Scale Camelid Herd* (Lumina Media; 2009)

*Storey's Guide to Raising Meat Goats; Managing, Breeding, Marketing, 2nd Edition* [written under the pseudonym, Maggie Sayer] (Storey Publishing; 2007 and 2010)

*The Donkey Companion; Selecting, Training, Breeding, Enjoying and Caring for Donkeys* (Storey Publishing; 2008)

*Storey's Guide to Raising Miniature Livestock: Goats, Sheep, Donkeys, Pigs, Horses, Cattle, Llamas* (Storey Publishing; 2010)

*The Backyard Goat; an Introductory Guide to Keeping and Enjoying Pet Goats, from Feeding and Housing to Making Your Own Cheese* (Storey Publishing; 2011)

*The Backyard Cow; an Introductory Guide to Keeping a Productive Family Cow* (Storey Publishing; 2012)

*The Backyard Sheep; an Introductory Guide to Keeping Productive Pet Sheep* (Storey Publishing; 2013)

*Homegrown Pork; Humane, Healthful Techniques for Raising a Pig for Food* (Storey Publishing; 2013)

*Mini-Goats: Everything You Need to Know to Keep Miniature Goats in the City, Country, or Suburbs* (Lumina Media; 2016)

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