

**ANGORA GOAT
ADVANCEMENT
PROGRAM**

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

- 1) Run a 4H meeting
- 2) Write a news story for a local newspaper
- 3) Participate in a radio or television program
- 4) Present a demonstration or illustrated talk for your club
- 5) Present a demonstration or illustrated talk for another group or club
- 6) Participate in a community service project
- 7) Participate in a judging contest
- 8) Serve as a teen leader
- 9) Serve as a junior leader
- 10) Attend 4H camp
- 11) Attend 4H summer week at OSU
- 12) Serve as a clerk, chairman or apprentice judge at a show
- 13) Develop and exhibit a science display which is related to your breed of goats
- 14) Serve as a camp counselor
- 15) Make arrangements for a tour by your club
- 16) Arrange for a film to be shown at your club meeting
- 17) Secure a speaker to talk at your club meeting
- 18) Develop some options of your own with your leaders approval**
- 19) Prepare and give a public demonstration on some aspect of fiber goat care
- 20) Report on how to Register your breed of goat
- 21) Attend a livestock field day or seminar and report to your club
- 22) Give a judging demonstration to your club
- 23) Make a 4H poster or display
- 24) Make a report on a goat management practice to your club
- 25) Develop a first aid kit for your barn and shows
- 26) Learn about another breed of fiber goat.

ANGORA GOAT BASICS

Angora goats are delightful, beautiful, curious and productive animals. They are rather small with mature females weighing 80-110 pounds and mature males weighing 100 - 150 pounds, and so are fairly easily handled. Angoras are very friendly when they get to know you and they respond quickly when a feed bucket is shaken. Some old does live as long as 17 years, but a more average lifespan is about 10-12. Prime mohair comes from young goats, kid mohair from goats up to a year of age. As the goat gets older the mohair gets coarser, very quickly in some and only slightly in others, usually faster in bucks. Reproduction takes its toll on mohair quality and so wethers (neutered males) often grow the nicest fleeces.

Angora goats like to hang out with other angora goats, and don't even like to be isolated when they are sick. They can be kept with sheep or llamas but it is best to offer them separate eating spaces. In fact it is best to offer the goats a number of eating spots. The goats will need a shelter from wind and rain and sun and especially hate getting wet. . You will need a fence to keep them in, 47 inch woven wire works great.

Angora goats require lots of good feed to grow their beautiful fleeces. Alfalfa is a good dietary staple with grains added to the does' diets when they are pregnant or nursing. Growing kids will need grain the first year of life. Kelp meal is an excellent source of salt and minerals. If kept in good nutritional condition the angora is a hardy goat. A high priority in goatkeeping is to keeping feeders and water buckets clean, keeping dirty feet out of feeders, and keeping the goats out of feed storage bins. Most health problems involve internal and external parasites, or overindulging in a feed bin. A good veterinary handbook is useful. You will need to provide fresh drinking water all year round and a float valve in the water bucket ensures they are never out. Weedy pastures are a goats delight and they will eat the weeds and trees first.

Angoras have their kids easily, but should wait until two years of age before their first kid. Young kids are susceptible to cold and should be warmed and placed in a draft free environment with their mums for the first few days of life. Twins are common. Kids are delightful and tame easily if handled a lot in their first few days of life.

Shearing time comes twice a year, at least for the young goats. Kid and yearling fleeces are prized by handspinners and knitters. Doll hair makers prefer curly adult mohair and they like it extra long, so it may be worth it to shear the older goats once per year. Angora goats now come in a variety of colors including white, tan, almond, copper, brown, silver, grey and black with some multicolor patterns as well.

Angora goats are beautiful, delightful and easily handled animals that with proper care will produce pounds of mohair and bouncy babies.

STEP 1

This is the first step in the Angora goat 4H advancement program. When you have completed eight skill options and three personal development options, you are qualified to complete step 1.

SKILL OPTIONS

- 1) Identify and describe four important characteristics of the angora goat. Know the past history and origin of the angora goat.
- 2) Name locate and be able to spell the following parts of an angora goat: muzzle, withers, back, pin bones, rump, hock, pastern, teats, flank, chest, heart girth, udder, barrel, loin, wattles, dewlap.
- 3) Learn the spelling, definition and pronunciation of the following: colostrum, dam, sire, micron, registered, recorded, kid, yearling, gestation, mohair, style, character, uniformity.
- 4) Describe six of the following characteristics and tell how they may aid productive ability: strong back, width and depth of rump, width between pin bones, deep chest, strong legs, sound udder, loose skin.
- 5) Describe why six of the following undesirable characteristics are undesirable: undersize, narrow shallow chest, weak pasterns, overshot or undershot jaw, split scrotum, wattles.
- 6) Teach an animal to lead.
- 7) Learn to show and show an animal.
- 8) Provide adequate shelter and feed your angora daily.
- 9) List six important items you would tell someone about to buy an angora goat for the first time.
- 10) Control lice on your angora goat and know what to use.
- 11) Describe the qualities of a good mohair fleece.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

_____ has completed Step 1 of the angora goat advancement program.

Leader : _____ Date : _____

STEP 2

This is the second step in the Angora Goat 4 H Advancement Program. When you have completed 10 skill options and three personal development options, you are qualified to complete step 2.

SKILL OPTIONS

- 1) Learn locate and be able to spell: ribs, britch, briskit, thurls, thigh, knee, heel, hock, stifle, topline.
- 2) Learn the meaning of and how to spell : bacteria, conformation, contagious, infectious, contaminated, inheritance, medulated, follicle, kemp, progeny, scours, vaccination, antibiotics.
- 3) Learn the meaning of and how to spell : carbohydrates, legume, protein, succulent.
- 4) Groom your angora for show and show your goat.
- 5) Describe two different methods of worming and deworm your goat.
- 6) Know the purpose of and recognise the following : hoof trimmers, burdizzo, tattoo kit, feeding tube.
- 7) What is a parasite. Name three goat parasites.
- 8) Describe the recommended method of control for : flies, lice, stomach worms.
- 9) Learn the protein value of dry cob, wet cob, alfalfa pellets and soybean meal.
- 10) Learn the nutritional requirements of your goat, and how much food it needs.
- 11) Name two procedures for giving vaccinations and antibiotics. Give routine vaccinations to your goat.
- 12) Read and discuss fleece judging criteria. Show a fleece.
- 13) Spin a skein from your goats fleece.
- 14) Help shear your goat and skirt the fleece.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

_____ has completed Step 2 of the Angora Goat Advancement Program
Program ___ Leader: _____ Date: _____

STEP 3

This is the third step in the Angora goat 4H advancement program. When you have completed eight skill options and three personal development options you are qualified to complete step 3.

SKILL OPTIONS

- 1) Visit an angora goat farm and learn some of the things the operator is doing to make their farm successful. Report your observations to a club meeting.
- 2) List the symptoms of coccidiosis. How can you be sure this is coccidiosis, what are the treatments?
- 3) Learn to recognise four of the following sicknesses and at least one recommended treatment for each : hoof rot, pink eye, shipping fever, scours, mange, lice.
- 4) What are the causes, symptoms and treatment for overeating disease?
- 5) Make a collection of four pressed or mounted forage plants grown in your area.
- 6) Describe how to best use your pasture for parasite prevention. List five deworming options.
- 7) Learn the length of gestation and interval of heat period of angora goats and how to figure kidding dates.
- 8) Learn the names of the colors and patterns of angora goats.
- 9) Breed your goat and help her raise the kids, doing the work yourself.
- 10) Read and discuss the angora show standard.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

_____ has completed Step 3 of the Angora goat advancement program.
Leader: _____ Date: _____

STEP 4

This is Step 4 of the Angora goat advancement program. When you have completed the four skill option and five personal development options you are qualified to pass step 4.

SKILL OPTION

- 1) Name the four compartments of the goats stomach.
- 2) What is the function of the rumen?
- 3) Write a report on one of the following :
 - A. How does mohair grow?
 - B. How does nutrition affect the quality of mohair?
 - C. How do you prepare mohair from goat to yarn?
- 4) Explain style and character.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

_____ has completed Step 4 of the Angora goat advancement program.

Leader: _____ Date: _____

STEP 5

This is the step 5 in the Angora goat advancement program. Complete four skill options and four personal development options to complete step 5.

SKILL OPTIONS

- 1) Write a report on five of the following :
 - A. Housing arrangements for a herd of angora goats.
 - B. Nutritional requirements for a nursing doe.
 - C. Reproduction, breeding and genetics.
 - D. Prevention and control of a disease common to angoras.
 - E. Prevention and control of parasites.
 - F. Growing a good fleece.
 - G. Color genetics.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

_____ has completed Step 5 of the Angora goat advancement program.
Leader: _____ Date: _____

STEP 6

This is the sixth step in the Angora goat Advancement program. When you have completed all of the skill options and five personal development options you are qualified to pass step 6.

SKILL OPTIONS

- 1) Know the breed standard for the Angora goat.
- 2) Know the Registry process for the Angora goat.
- 3) Know the mohair fleece judging standard.
- 4) List possible presentations of angora kids and how to correct them.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

_____ has completed Step 6 of the Angora goat advancement program.

Leader: _____ Date: _____

4H angora goat showmanship

Black pants and white shirts and close toed shoes.

Goats are not shown wearing halters, some shows do allow them to.

Showmen are not to touch goats legs or feet with hands. Use your feet to nudge a goats leg into place.

Hold goats under chin and behind horns.

Smile and be aware of the judge at all times.

Keep the goat between you and the judge at all times.

Go around your animal not over when switching sides.

Learn to show the judge your goats mouth

Learn to brace the goat for the judge to touch him.

Hold the goats head up

Be able to walk your goat around the ring

Be patient with your goat if it balks in the ring

You should be able to identify a goats body parts and have a knowledge of the breed and care of the animal appropriate to your level. See advancement program.

Your goats fleece should be picked clean of vegetation prior to the show and feet trimmed.

Know how to pick up a foot to show the judge (lean over the goat and show the judge the front foot that's on the opposite side of you)

Goats should be free of lice

4H PREPARING YOUR ANGORA GOAT FOR SHOW

To do well with your goat, it must be trained to know what to expect and conditioned to look its best. Training and conditioning take time and patience.

CONDITIONING

It will take six months to get your angora goat in top show condition. Since half of the points in a show are for mohair, you want the fleece to look its best.

A show fleece begins when the goat is shorn 4-6 months prior to the show. The skin must be in good health - free of dandruff and parasites - in order for the outside of the fleece to look its best.

If the goat has dandruff or lice the first fleece that grows out may clump or matt or contain remnants of skin or just be dull looking. It is best to shear the goat again when good, healthy, shiny hair begins to grow in again. This will give the fleece a nicer finish.

The fleece needs to grow in a healthy condition without lice for the whole time from shearing to show. If the goat gets lice the fleece can matt or break as the goat scratches. The fibers lose their luster and the fleece deteriorates as eggs accumulate and adults eat through the mohair fibers. Goats should be treated whenever lice are noticed.

Control of internal parasites is also important. Deworming 1-3 weeks prior to the show will ensure your goat is utilizing the feed you are giving and will help reduce the physical stress on the goat at the show. Kids especially must be kept free of coccidia.

Keep your goats fleece as clean and free of vegetable matter as possible. Several weeks prior to the show trim feet and stained hair, clean ears and check tattoos, wash horns if necessary.

TRAINING

Begin 6 weeks prior to the show, training a few minutes a day and working up to 15 minutes daily. Start by holding your goat in the pen or pasture until she stands quietly with you. Hold the goat with one hand under the chin and the other behind the horns. Get the goat comfortable with you fussing with her fleece and placing her feet. Gently nudge the goat's foot with yours to get her to move it. You want your goat to stand with its head up and tail up, and its feet squarely under its shoulders and hips. Once your goat is comfortable with this try walking her around the barn and out into the pasture and out into unknown territory.

Teach your goat to walk slowly with its head up. If you can practice with a friend and take turns having the lead goat. Swap goats. Have strangers approach and fuss with them.

Set up your goat whenever you stop.

GETTING YOURSELF READY

Assemble your outfit - white shirt, dark pants, close-toed shoes.

Gather the other items you will need: buckets, first aid kit, feeders, feed, registration papers, health certificates, etc

Know your goats' birth date and when she kidded. You should be able to identify a goat's body parts and have a knowledge of the breed and care of the animal appropriate to your level. (See 4H showmanship questions and Advancement Program.)

SHOWING

Tidy your goat before entering the ring.

Keep your eye on the judge, but pay attention to your goat too.

Smile.

Keep your goat between you and the judge.

Open your goats mouth and show its teeth when asked to.

Brace your goat when the judge approaches to inspect.

Go around, not over, your animal when switching sides.

Be patient with your goat if it balks.

Thank the judge at the end of the show.

Judging 4H Fiber Goats and Showmanship

Often when you are asked to judge at county fairs, as well as being asked to judge the open classes you will be asked to judge 4H Fiber Goats. This may be a mix of angoras, pygoras and cashmeres. In the breeds classes you will judge them according to the scorecards of their respective breeds. In the showmanship classes, the handlers are judged on the appearance of their animals, but not necessarily their quality, the appearance of themselves, and the handling of their animal in the ring. In addition participants are expected to answer questions from the judge to exhibit their level of knowledge of their animal.

The following scorecard reveals 40 points for presentation and preparation of the goat for show, 10 points for handlers appearance and 30 points for handling and showing of the goat. In many cases the 4Her's are so well prepared and practiced it will be the showmanship questions that will decide the winners.

A 4H show preparation list and a list of showmanship questions by level of experience have been included.

4H SHOWMANSHIP SCORECARD

GOAT:	POINTS
Condition – good size and weight and in good health	10
Fleece – well grown, free of matts and lice	10
Neatness – feet trimmed, horns clean, stained hair removed	10
Cleanliness – fleece free of vegetation	10
HANDLER	
Neat and clean appearance	10
SHOWMANSHIP	
Ability to show and pose goat	10
Ability to lead and control goat	10
Ability to pay attention and good attitude	10
Knowledge of animal and fleece *	20
	100

- See list of Showmanship questions
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4H Showmanship questions:

NOVICE

What type of animal is this? Breed? Age? Sex?
Why do you raise these animals?
What is the fiber called?
How do you get the fiber off of the goat?
What can you do with it?
Name the body parts: muzzle, withers, rump, hoof, hock, ribs, dewclaws.
Name three things you need to provide for your goat.

JUNIOR

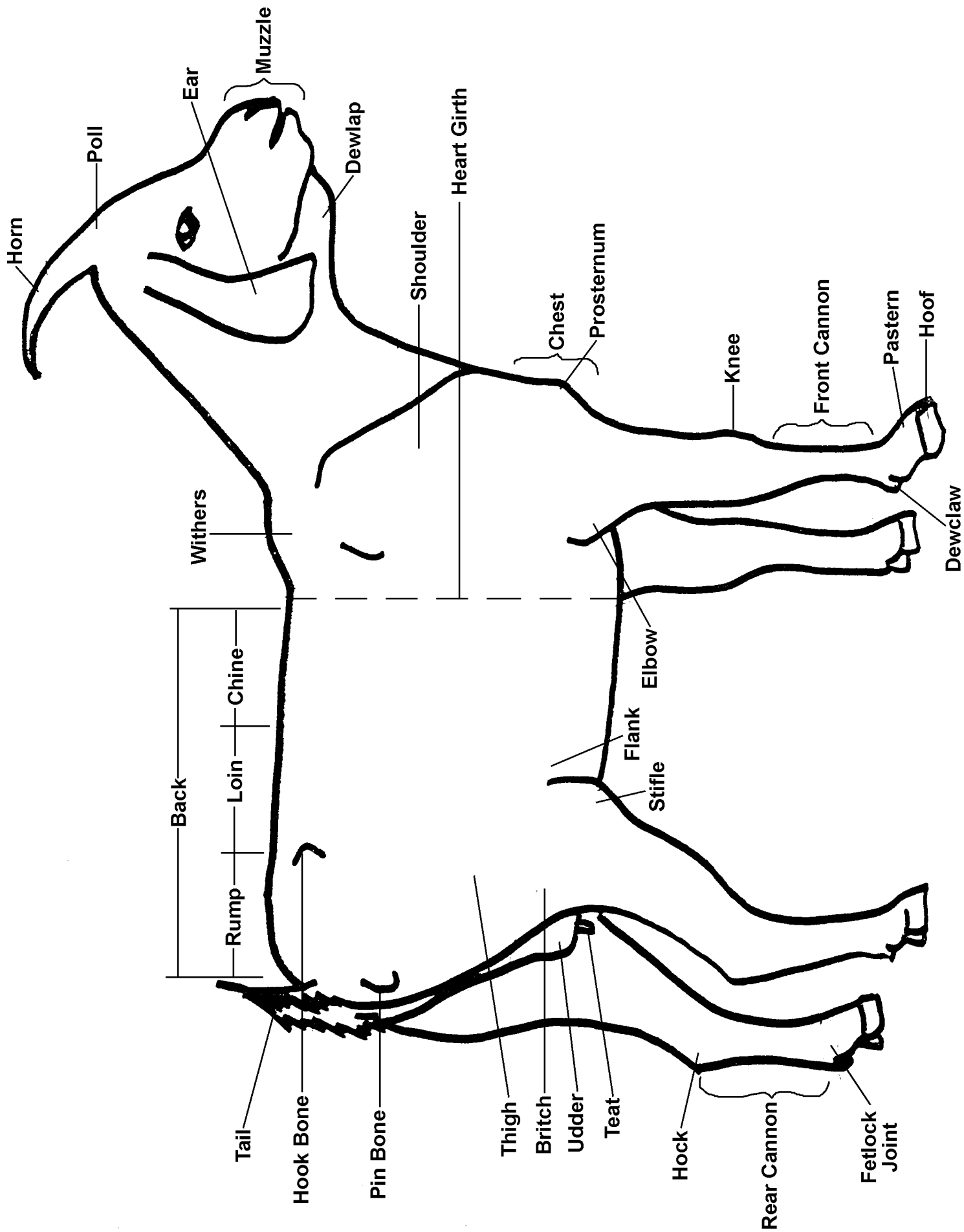
What is the origin of your goat?
At what age does a goat have her first kid?
When is the breeding season?
What does gestation mean? How long is gestation?
When are kids born and what is it called?
What must kids ingest within 12 hours of birth to ensure a healthy immune system?
When do angoras wean their kids?
How long do they live?
Name the body parts: Chest, front and rear canons, knee, loin, heart girth, poll, pastern.
What is the fiber used for?
How much fiber per shearing?
Why is it special?
List three things you would tell someone about to buy a fiber goat for the first time.
What do you feed your goat?
What are the three types of angora fiber and how are they different?
What is the season of growth for cashmere?
How long and how fine does a fiber have to be to qualify as cashmere?

INTERMEDIATE

What is the fiber diameter of mohair/angora/cashmere?
How does it compare in fineness to other fibers?
Have you done anything with the fiber? How do you prepare it for use?
Define style and character.
What is kemp and how is it different from medulated fiber?
What is a normal temperature range for a healthy goat?
Find these body parts: thigh, heel, topline, britch, pin bones, flank, stifle, chine, elbow.
What are the meanings of terms: conformation, kemp, scours, vaccination, ruminant.
What routine vaccinations do you give your goats?
What are two common goat parasites?
How do you manage lice?
List three components of good conformation.
What is the average protein content of alfalfa hay?

SENIOR

What are some possible causes, symptoms and treatments for overeating disease?
What are the symptoms of coccidia. How would you be sure? How would you treat?
Name the four compartments of a goat's stomach.
How does nutrition affect mohair growth?
Why is it advantageous for an angora to have loose skin?
Name two very undesirable yet heritable traits and explain why they are undesirable.
Identify where you would watch for rumen contractions.
Describe how to manage a pasture for parasite control.
What is the treatment for pneumonia?



**4-H Market and Breeding Animals
Visual Inspections Checklist for Leaders**

- 1.) General Attitude: Bright and alert?
Responsive to people and stimulation?
Standing squarely and alert?
- 2.) Eyes: Bright and clear (not dull or bloodshot)?
Same size and shape?
Excessive tear production or staining?
- 3.) Ears: Clean?
Alert and not droopy?
Abnormal odor?
- 4.) Mouth: Chewing and eating normally?
Excessive salivation or odor?
Blisters or lesions on lips or around mouth?
Internal mouth exams should only be done by a veterinarian, not leaders or members.
- 5.) Nose: Clean and clear?
Moist?
A slight clear nasal discharge is normal for all species.
- 6.) Organ Systems: Coat and skin healthy looking?
No discolorations or hair loss anywhere?
Hair coat shiny or dull? Color good or diluted?
Color of skin good?
Any visible parasites?
- 7.) Chest: Breathing is normal and even?
Any coughing, sneezing or wheezing?
- 8.) Abdomen: Normal shape (not pot-bellied or gaunt or sunken)?
Normal manure and urinations?
Navel normal (not swollen, red, any discharge, no hernia)?
Castration completed and healed?
- 9.) Muscle/Skeleton: Muscle has good tone?
Feet and legs sturdy and sound (no lameness, swelling, abnormalities, or foul smell)?
Hooves trimmed and well maintained?

This visual inspection must be done 2-4 weeks prior to County Fair check-in. Seek help if anything changes before fair.

<u>Ear Tag #</u>	<u>Weight Goal</u>	<u>4-Her Signature</u>	<u>Witnessed by Leader's Signature</u> or parent, Jr. or Teen Leader	<u>Date</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

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