



Goats

Shelby County Junior Fair Board



Check-in

- Pygmy Goats
 - No check-in necessary; just bring the animals in on the Saturday before the fair



How to Show

- Pygmy Goats
 - Walk around the ring in a circle, always facing the judge
 - Listen to the judge; they will tell you when and where to stop
 - When you stop your animal, take the front legs and line them up so they are perpendicular to the goat's chest and even horizontally. Take the back legs and place them slightly behind the animal so they are stretched.
 - Always have the animal between you and the judge



Tack and Supplies

- Pygmy Goats

- Walk around the ring in a circle, always facing the judge
 - Listen to the judge; they will tell you when and where to stop
 - When you stop your animal, take the front legs and line them
- Pygmy Goats
- Dog collars work great as goat collars—don't need a specific one for showing
 - Goats really like cheerios and fruit loops!
 - Hoof trimmers, some sort of hair trimmers, and a brush
 - For bathing, use a hard-bristled brush and some animal shampoo, like Mane and Tail



Grooming

- Pygmy Goats
 - Pygmy goats do not need their hair cut—they can have their beards and tails trimmed, but do not need sheared
 - These goats only really need bathed twice a year and it is best to do so the night before the show.



Food and Water

- Pygmy Goats
 - Any goat feed works; I use a mixture of pellets and grain
 - Make sure they are getting hay with the grain as well; when it's colder outside, give them more hay because they can't graze on the grass outside
 - Feeding should be done once or twice a day
 - Water should be changed at least twice a day, more if it's hotter outside

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Exercise

- Pygmy Goats
 - They really like to climb on stuff, so old tables and tires work well as exercise
 - As long as the animal has plenty of space outside, they will get enough exercise by climbing and playing
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Space and Housing

- Pygmy Goats
 - These animals need lots of space outside for grazing and exercise
 - They won't spend much time inside a barn unless it's cold outside
 - Heat lamps are a good idea in the winter, even though pygmies can withstand very cold temperatures
 - Straw or wood shavings can both be used as bedding inside a barn
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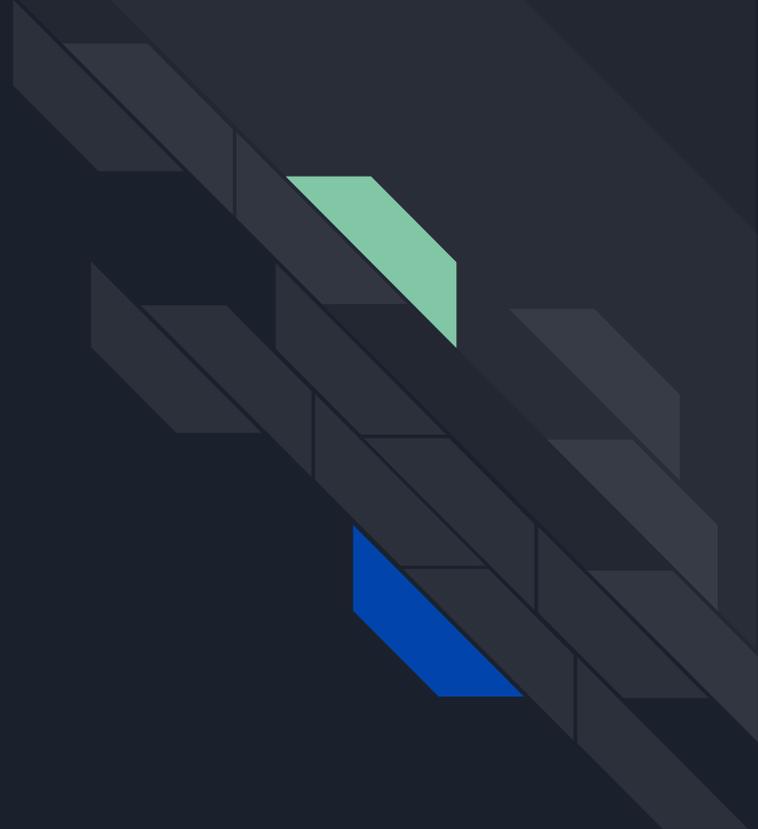


How the Show Runs

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Market Goats





Check In

- There is a weigh in the first Sunday in May
- The goats are also tagged by the vet
- The market goats weigh in is optional but if you want to be in the competition for rate of gain you will need to be weighed



How to Show

- Walk around the ring in a circle, always facing the judge
- Listen to the judge; they will tell you when and where to stop
 - Try to keep eye contact with the judge as much as possible
- When you stop your animal, take the front legs and line them up so they are perpendicular to the goat's chest and even horizontally. Take the back legs and place them slightly behind the animal so they are stretched.
 - The back legs could also be stretched back even further depending on the goat and the side profile that looks the best
- Always have the animal between you and the judge
- The judge will come up to you and your animal to feel the muscle/meat along his back
 - This is when you could brace your goat. Bracing helps to make the muscle/meat more prominent which is good. If you choose to brace your goat, when the judge comes to feel the brace is when you should be bracing
 - Try not to full on brace your goat throughout the whole show because they will tired them out
 - Bracing Tip: You don't need to pull them up in the air or really high off the ground to get a good brace

Grooming

- Market Goats should have their hair trimmed for the market goat show
 - Grooming Tip: Trim/clip goats about three days before a show
- Goats can be trimmed when it starts to warm up outside to keep them cooler
- Hooves should be attended to regularly
 - Keep an eye on the length of the goat's hooves so when they get to long they can be trimmed

Example of Hoof Trimmers



Tack and Supplies

Show Chain Options:



The prongs allow them to breathe, It doesn't hurt them

- Halters and Chains
 - Halter
 - One halter per animal for exercise and getting from place to place
 - Show chain
 - Used in the show ring
 - Several examples above
- Hoof Trimmers
- Clippers
- Brush
 - Depends what you prefer for show day
- Adhesives
 - If you are planning to pull leg hair on show day
- Soaps
 - An adhesive remover if that is used for show day
 - Livestock soap



Food and Water

- Feedings
 - Should be feed at least two times a day
 - Any goat feed that you prefer
 - Also depends on if the goat likes the feed you are giving them
 - Some good examples are Show Rite Climatizer or High Noon Feeds
 - Hay should be giving once a day preferably at night
 - May have to not give hay every once in a while if the goat becomes bloated
- Water
 - Should be changed twice a day at least
 - Should be changed more if it becomes hotter outside
 - Cooler Water Tip: Freeze plastic water bottles filled water. Make sure there is no paper on the bottles or anything else. The frozen water bottles can be placed in the waters throughout the day to make it cooler for the goats.



Exercise

- Goats should be exercised at least once a day
 - The amount of exercise the goat needs depends on the goat. Some goats need more exercise compared to others
- Try to have a balance between walking the goat on the halter and on the show chain
 - If working their goats twice a day which is fine, walk in the morning on the halter and at night on the chain
 - Walking your goat on the chain will help to be more prepared and get the goat ready for the show ring
- When walking your goat on the show chain, practice setting up your animal
 - This will help you understand how your goat looks and your goat will learn to not move when you are setting them up
- DO NOT exercise your goat in the heat of the day
 - Try to work your animal in the morning when it is cooler out and later at night when it is colling down



Space and Housing

- Market Goats are normally housed in a barn
 - They can be in fenced in and normally do not go out on pasture.
 - They can be placed with another goat or by itself
 - Whether or not you place another goat with it is up to you depending on if the animal needs to gain weight or cut back a little
- Bedding
 - Shaving
 - Straw
- What should be in the pen
 - The goats should have a feed trough and a water bucket in their pen
- It is also beneficial for your goat to have a fan blowing the air around in the barn on hot summer days.



How the Show Runs

- On Show Day Showmanship goes First
 - There are three levels beginner, intermediate, and senior then at the end showman of showman
 - Showmanship tests how well you show your animal so the judge is judging you and not your goats
 - You want to have one eye on the judge and one eye on your goat at all times
 - The judge could ask you questions about your goat and the names of some of its body parts so come prepared
 - Once all the levels are done showing the winners move onto the showman of showman where they final winner of all the levels are chosen
- Second- The Market Breeding Show
 - The market does are shown according to their age
 - The judge will place the does in each class
 - The final drive will consist of all the classes of market does but only the first and second place animals
 - The judge will then pick the overall winner



How the Show Runs Continued

- Lastly Comes the Market Goat Show
 - Classes are divided by weight
 - The judge will place the animals in each class
 - The first and second place animal of each class will move on to the final drive at end where the grand and reserve champion are selected.
- The judge will normally have you walk with your goat around the area once you enter and then you will set them up. The judge will then come around and begin to judge you animal. Next you will have to walk around the area and come back lining up head to tail. The judge will then evaluate again and begin to place the goats
- At all times there will be a ring man in the area helping you know where you should go
- Also their will be a check in person before you go into the area to make sure you are heading into the right class and everyone is there



Tips and Tricks

- Study the goat body parts before going into showmanship because you never know what questions you could get about your goats
- Always make sure your goat is clean for show day
- Sometimes wearing a bright colored shirt could make you stand out more to the judge so they remember you and your goat
- Remember to bring safety pins or something to attach your number too on show day
- Also thank the judge either at the end of the show or after your class and congratulate the winners