

2024 Goat Skillathon Study Guide

The Morgan County Jr. Fair Skillathons will take place on Saturday, August 17 at the fairgrounds. All goat exhibitors should bring their completed goat record book.

Age divisions for Skillathon are as follows (your age as of January 1): Juniors 8-11, Intermediates 12-14, and Seniors 15+

This study guide describes each station that will be included in the Goat Skillathon. The Goat Skillathon is for all youth exhibiting goat animals including dairy and meat market and breeding, fiber, harness, and pack goats. If your animal is unable to exhibit at the fair, Skillathon will serve as a judging requirement.

Station 1: Project Record Book & Quality Assurance

Present your project record book to the judge and the judge will review your record book and award points for completion. ***All youth must have their project books with them and completed or else they will be turned away at Skillathon***

***ALL youth must have a picture of their project animal in their books regardless of what the project is (Market, Breeding, Pack Goat, etc.) and regardless of what the book states. ***

You will be asked 5 questions about the Good Production Practices (GPP) 2, 4, and 5.

- ▶ GPP #2: Establish and Implement an Efficient and Effective Health Management Plan
- ▶ GPP #4: Properly Store and Administer Animal Health Products
- ▶ GPP #5: Follow Proper Feed Processing Protocols

To be eligible to show at the Morgan County Fair, you must attend a Quality Assurance Training by July 27, 2024. To be eligible to show at the Ohio State Fair, you must attend Quality Assurance by June 10, 2024.

Station 2: Project Interview

You will have an interview for the goat project you are exhibiting at the Morgan County Jr. Fair. You will be asked 5 questions by an interview judge. Sample interview questions are included in this study guide. All questions are based on the Goat Resource Handbook.

Station 3: Hands-On Activity

Juniors: Will be asked to identify and label 5 different breeds of goats. Information can be found on page 12 of your Goat Resource Handbook (135R).

Intermediates/Seniors: Will be asked to label parts of the skeletal system of a goat. Intermediates must label 10, Seniors must label 15. Information can be found on page 23 of your Goat Resource Handbook (135R).

Goat Study Guide Sample Questions

135M Market Goats Projects (Meat, Dairy, or Crossbred)

Juniors:

1. When giving your goat an intramuscular injection, where is the proper place to give it?
2. What is chevon?
3. Name two breeds of goat used mainly for meat.
4. Name 2 essential nutrients for a goat.
5. What are 3 ingredients commonly found in a goats concentrate feed.
6. Name one type of permanent identification for goats
7. Name 2 external parasites affecting goats.
8. What is a blind spot? Where are a goats blind spot located?
9. At what age should a buck kid be castrated?
10. Know the weight range for market goats at the Morgan County Fair.
11. At what age should you dehorn your kids?
12. What do the 4 H's of the 4-H Pledge stand for?
13. When showing your goat where should you stand in relation to the judge?
14. Describe two pieces of equipment you have used in raising a meat goat.

Intermediates:

1. What is the main source of energy for goats?
2. What are two best types of fencing to use for your goat?
3. Name three parts of a goat's foot and leg.
4. Name three parts of a goat's topline
5. Name three essential nutrients for goats.
6. What are the two most common housing methods for goats?
7. What does enrichment mean?
8. What are the two most commonly chosen bedding for goats?
9. What are 3 ingredients commonly found in a goat's concentrate feed?
10. What is a condition that can be caused by overgrown hooves?
11. What is the two types of housing for goats?
12. What vitamin is needed by goats for strong bones and teeth? It is known as the "sunshine vitamin."
13. Name two external parasites that affects goats.
14. What is a zoonotic disease?
15. What is the first thing to do to a kid after birth?
16. What are two forms of forage commonly fed to goats?
17. How long is the gestation period for goats?
18. What are two diseases common to goats?

Seniors:

1. What are three conditions that can be caused by overgrown hooves?
2. Why do goats have good peripheral vision??
3. Name two external parasites affecting goats.
4. What is the most important external parasite prevention method?
5. Fencing for goats has two goals, what are they?
6. What is heterosis?
7. What type of vision do goats have?
8. What is the main purpose of feeding concentrates to goats?
9. True or False? Worldwide goat meat is consumed more than any other meat.
10. What are 3 ways according to your goat resource book to minimize accident or illness from livestock?
11. What is a zoonotic disease?
12. How long is the gestation period for goats?

13. What are two diseases common to goats?
14. At what age is a meat goat kid typically weaned?
15. What is the first and largest compartment of the goat's digestive system?
16. What are two forms of forage commonly fed to goats?
17. What is the first and most important food for a newborn goat?
18. What is the recommended amount of square feet that each animal should have inside a barn or shelter?
19. After a doe kids, she is often in a state of "negative energy balance". What does this mean?

135 BD Breeding - Dairy Goats

Juniors

1. Name one type of permanent identification for goats
2. What is a blind spot? Where is a goats blind spot located?
3. What is reproduction?
4. What is fertilization?
5. What is a sire?
6. True or False? In general, Goats are seasonal breeders.
7. When is the typical breeding season of does?
8. What breed of dairy goat is the only dairy goat that was developed in the United States?
9. How long is a gestation period for goats?
10. At what age should you dehorn your kids?
11. How long after pre-milking should milking begin?
12. Name two methods used to dehorn goats.
13. Name two essential nutrients for goat.

Intermediate

1. What is hot milk?
2. The milking process should be started how long after the pre-milking procedures take place?
3. What do the ovaries do in the female reproduction system?
4. What is dystocia?
5. When is the typical breeding season of does?
6. What is the first thing to do to a kid immediately after birth?
7. True or False? Goats are very efficient at converting feed to fat tissue.
8. What is the most popular use of goat milk?
9. How long after pre-milking should milking begin?
10. What is the most important nutrient?
11. What is mastitis?
12. How can estrous cycles be induced out of season?
13. How long is the gestation period for goats.
14. What is the first and most important food for a newborn goat?

Seniors

1. Why should bucks be housed downwind from the milking herd?
2. What type of vision do goats have?
3. What are the two main roles of the female reproductive system?
4. Control of the reproductive system begins in what part of the brain?
5. Where is the site of production for the hormone oxytocin?
6. What is the most widely recognized and most commonly used rumen buffer?
7. What are ionophores?
8. What is the first and most important food for a newborn goat?
9. How much should a doe weigh when first bred?
10. What does the guaranteed analysis on a feed tag not tell you?
11. Which vitamin can prevent white muscle disease in kids?
12. What six dairy goat breeds are commonly found in the U.S?
13. Why should kids receive colostrum within the first few hours of birth?
14. Why do goats have good peripheral vision?

135BM - Breeding - Meat Goats

Juniors

1. Name one type of permanent identification for goats
2. What is a blind spot? Where is a goat's blind spot located?
3. What is reproduction?
4. Name two meat goat breeds.
5. What is Chevon?
6. What is fertilization?
7. What is the first thing to do to a kid after birth?
8. At what age should you dehorn your kids?
9. At what age is a meat goat kid typically weaned?
10. What is a zoonotic disease?
11. What are the six essential nutrients for a goat? Name 2.
12. What is a sire?
13. AT what age should a buck kid be castrated?
14. True or False? In general, Goats are seasonal breeders.
15. When is the typical breeding season of does?
16. What breed of dairy goat is the only dairy goat that was developed in the United States?
17. When is the typical breeding season of does?
18. What kind of digestive system does a goat have?

Intermediate

1. What is the main source of energy for goats?
2. When giving your goat an intramuscular injection, where is the proper place to give it?
3. What are two best types of fencing to use for your goat?
4. What are the two most common housing methods for goats?
5. What is a zoonotic disease?
6. At what age is a meat goat kid typically weaned?
7. What do the ovaries do in the female reproduction system?
8. What is dystocia?
9. Name three of the six essential nutrients for goats.
10. True or False? Goats are very efficient at converting feed to fat tissue.
11. What are the two types of housing for goats?
12. What vitamin is needed by goats for strong bones and teeth? It is known as the "sunshine vitamin."
13. What is the first thing to do to a kid after birth?

Seniors

1. What are the two main roles of the female reproductive system?
2. Control of the reproductive system begins in what part of the brain?
3. Where does fertilization occur?
4. What is standing heat?
5. What is the recommended amount of square feet that each animal should have inside a barn or shelter?
6. What are the two main roles of the female reproductive system?
7. Name four careers that you might pursue in the meat goat industry.
8. Why should kids receive colostrum within the first few hours of birth?
9. What is heterosis?
10. Name all six of the essential nutrients for goats.
11. When is the typical breeding season for does?
12. What is another name for heterosis?
13. How much should a doe weigh when first bred?
14. What is the first and most important food for a newborn goat?
15. At what age is a meat goat kid typically weaned?

135P - Pygmy Goat Project

1. Where were the first pygmy goats in the United States imported from?
2. What is the common coat color of a pygmy goat, and what does this color mean?
3. True or False? Unlike most goat breeds pygmy goats breed out of season.
4. What is the weight range of a typical mature pygmy buck?
5. What is the weight range of a typical pygmy doe?
6. Name two disqualifying traits for pygmy goats (as found on the Scorecard for Pygmy goats)
7. Is having a pygmy goat that is polled a disqualifying fault?
8. What does NPGA stand for?
9. Can a pygmy goat be used as a meat animal, a milk animal, both or neither?
10. What country did pygmy goats originate from?

135F - Fiber Goats

Juniors

1. What is a cashmere goat?
2. What are Angora goats primarily raised for?
3. How much mohair can an Angora goat produce per year?
4. What three countries are the largest producers of mohair in the world?
5. In cashmere production, why is the length of fiber an important quality consideration?
6. How often should Angora goats be shorn?
7. Name three characteristics that define cashmere quality.
8. What are six things to remember about Angora goat care?
9. What characteristics should you keep in mind when selecting an Angora goat?
10. What three solid colors of goats are preferred for cashmere down production?
11. Why should you not wash Angora goat?
12. Why should Angora Goats and Cashmere-producing goats not be bred together?
13. What type of collar do you use when showing an Angora goat?
14. At what age does fleece production peak in Angora goats?
15. What are the two types of secondary fibers produced by goats?

135H - Harness Goat Project

1. Why might you consider selecting a crossbred goat as a harness goat?
2. What are the 3 basic parts of a pleasure cart?
3. How much weight can a goat pull?
4. At what year in your harness goat project should you be able to pull a child driven cart?
5. Name the three parts of the simple harness.
6. What steps did you take to train your goat to pull a cart?
7. About how long have goats been used in society as harness goats?
8. What is a goat called that is trained to pull a harness?
9. What five voice commands should a yearling harness goat respond to?
10. What is the first step you must take when training a goat to pull a cart?

135P - Pack Goats

1. List four things you should consider when selecting a pack goat.
2. Name the 2 types of packs your goat can carry.
3. At what age can a goat carry a full pack?
4. What percentage of a goat's weight can a soft pack carry? What percentage of a goat's weight can a cross buck pack carry?
5. Besides the pack, what are two other things you should take with you while hiking with your pack goat?
6. Why is it important to make sure the panniers are equal in weight and balanced when loaded?

7. What is the first step in training your pack goat?
8. At what age should you start to introduce the soft pack to your goat?
9. Why is it important when using panniers and a cross buck pack that the panniers are equal in weight?
10. Name 5 qualities you should seek when selecting your pack goat

