

Working Goat Project Handbook



Niagara County

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Working Goat Project Handbook

Introduction

This project record book has been created specifically for members enrolled in the 4-H Working Goat Project. Keeping a record book is an important part of the project. It will help you set goals for the project year, record your accomplishments and help guide your efforts to keep important records on your goat(s).

What is a 4-H project?

A project is a subject or topic that you learn about in 4-H. More important, a project is something you do or make, which results from knowledge and skills you learned in the project. In this case, your project is a goat. You learn about your project from attending club meetings and educational workshops, and working with adult leaders and other 4-H members. You can also learn from field trips and camps, by participating in shows and competitions, as well as through your family and self-study.

Why complete a record book?

A record book is not meant to be a chore. Instead, it is a way for you to learn. Here are some important reasons why 4-H expects you to complete a 4-H record book for your project.

Keeping a 4-H record book will help you . . .

- Learn how to organize yourself
- Learn how to set reasonable goals for yourself
- Appreciate what you've learned this year from the goals you reached
- Recognize what things you learned in your 4-H project this year and compare your progress and successes from year to year
- Explain what you've learned
- Keep track of costs of your project
- Gather information needed to apply for awards and scholarships
- Complete applications and resumes for jobs and college
- Meet requirements to participate in some county, state, or national 4-H events.

One record book can be completed for your project animals. You start your record book at the beginning of the 4-H year and keep all your expenses and receipts during the year. It is important to keep your record book up to date monthly. Keep your book neat and complete.

- Start your year by setting at least three goals for the year.

In order to set your three goals, refer to the project goals for beginners, intermediate, and advanced. Pick three of these goals and work to obtain them throughout the year. Take pictures of your accomplishments.

The record book has been three-hole punched so that it may be easily kept in a three ring binder. With each new project year, add your new record book to the binder. It is recommended that you save your record books from previous years in your binder. That way, you can easily compare your progress and achievements throughout the years. It will also help you when you apply for awards, jobs, college, etc.

How this record book is organized

Besides this introduction, this record book is organized into five main sections:

- Starting Out - My goals for the 4-H year - page 4
- Along the Way - Keeping track of what I do - page 7
- Looking Back - What I learned this year - page 17
- Appendix (including project goals) - page 23

Starting Out

My goals for the 4-H year

The beginning of the 4-H year is a good time to begin thinking about what you'd like to do or learn in 4-H during the upcoming months. List some of your goals for the year and what plan you have to accomplish your goals. Talk to your leader and parents to decide what goals are realistic to try and possible to finish this year.

During each year in the 4-H Goat project, members should choose a minimum of three goals to pursue. Choices are listed in the Appendix starting on page 23.

Write your choices below. Don't be afraid to challenge yourself! Of course, you may aim to reach more goals. For now, write your goals below and your plan for reaching each goal. If the items on the list have all been accomplished, develop some of your own. You may also choose special ones not listed.

My Goals For This Year	What I Need To Do To Reach This Goal
<i>Example: I will learn how to give a public presentation.</i>	<i>Attend county public presentation workshop. Have my leader and parents help me pick a topic that will be good for me. Practice my presentation. Give the presentation at the public presentation day.</i>

Taking Inventory:

For each working goat project animal. You are going to show, at the start of the project year, list the following information

Your name: _____

Name of your goat: _____

Date of birth of your goat: _____

Is your goat a (circle the correct answer): Doe Wether

Number of years in the working goat program: _____

Do you: Own Lease

Breed of your goat: _____

Is your goat: Disbudded Have horns

Your goat's tattoo or tag number: _____

Weight of your goat: _____

How much weight can your goat pack: _____

Attach a picture of your goat:

Along the Way

Keeping track of what I do

For this section, it is best to write down what you have done shortly after completing it so you won't forget important events and activities. This section includes the following parts:

- What I did in this project this year
- Animal care & management
- Project finances
- Other clubs and projects

What I did in this project this year

The following page is where you can list what you did in this 4-H project. Don't forget to include these types of 4-H events and activities you might have done this year:

- Program meetings
- Hikes attended
- Events attended
- Events participated in
- Junior Leadership Projects
- Special meetings & clinics
- Community service
- Public Speaking
- Field trips
- County 4-H Fair
- Awards or recognition earned

Name of Activity	Date and Location	What I did	Level	Recognition Rcvd?
<i>Example: Combined Meeting</i>	<i>10/5/17 at training center</i>	<i>Learned about the different goat areas to show in</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Example: Visited a nursing home</i>	<i>10/12/17 at Odd Fellows Nursing Home</i>	<i>I discussed with residents about my goat and how I trained it</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Received a thank you from the center's director</i>

Name of Activity	Date and Location	What I did	Level	Recognition Rcvd?

Animal Care & Management

Because your project is a living creature, it requires regular care and management. Here is the place to explain what you regularly do for or with your animal on a daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly basis. Be as specific as possible.

Do not forget to list the following:

- Feeding and watering practices
- Grooming (clipping, trimming hooves, check health)
- Cleaning pens, food and water containers
- Manure removal
- Checking and repairing as needed: fencing, pens, barns, etc.

What I do for/with my project animal...
Daily
Weekly
Monthly
Yearly

Animal Record Keeping

Project Finances

It is likely that you spent money on your 4-H project this year. This section will help you add up what it cost to complete your project.

Expenses

This section is where you can keep track of what you purchased this year. Include equipment and feed used for your project and what each cost. You may add more copies of these pages if necessary.

Expenses are divided into categories (E1 and E2):

- (E1) Equipment expenses (including hardware for repair of pens)
- (E2) Feed expenses (Remember the cost of feed = number of pounds of feed x price per pound. Also, when homegrown feeds are used, list feed cost at market value.)

(E1) Equipment expenses

Date	Description of Expense (include Quantity)	Price
10/1/2017	<i>Example: Pitchfork (2)</i>	\$50.00
Total ~ Add Up All Expenses		

(E2) Feed Expenses

Date	Description of Expense (include Quantity)	Price
10/11/2017	<i>Example: 2 bags goat feed</i>	\$18.00
Total ~ Add Up All Expenses		

Financial Record

I. Project Goat Expenses

Purchase of Animal\$_____ (A)

Health/Medical expenses (including veterinarian & medicine)

Date	Description of Expense (include Quantity)	Price
12/11/2017	<i>Example: Veterinarian visit to treat Patches (stepped on nail)</i>	\$75.00
Total ~ Add Up All Expenses		

Other Expenses (Breeding, Shows, Transportation, and etc.)

Date	Description of Expense (include Quantity)	Price
4/11/2017	<i>Example: Transportation to hike</i>	\$75.00
Total ~ Add Up All Expenses		

Total Expenses from all expenses:

Goat Observation Sheet

Date of Observation _____ Name of Goat: _____

Tag/Tattoo Number: _____ Sex: Doe Buck

Breed: _____ Age: _____

Females:
Bred: YES NO Date Kid Due: _____

Males:
Wethered: YES NO Testicles Descended: YES NO

Current Feeding Schedule: (circle all that apply)

Hay Free Choice Pasture Grain (how much and how frequent)
With Mom Bottle Fed Amount each bottle Frequency

Weight _____ Temperature _____

General Appearance: Good Shiny Coat Dull Coat Hair Loss
Other: _____

Activity Level: High Medium Low Lying Down

Legs and Hooves: Strong Intact Drainage Odor Cracked
Other: Hooves Trimmed Yes No

Eye Mucosa Color: Red Pink White

Condition of Eyes, Nose, and Mouth: Bright Eyes Dull Eyes
Other: _____

Condition of Feces: Pellet Ploppy Loose Diarrhea

Eating Habits: On Feed Off Feed

Milk Production - if lactating: Cups per Day _____
Udder Condition: Healthy Reddened Warm to Touch

Circle any of the following signs of illness the goat may be displaying:

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| No Cud Chewing | Circling Movement | Standing off from group |
| Dehydration | Clots/Bloody Milk | Abnormal temperature |
| Head Pressing | Pale gums or eye lids | Heavy mucus in nose/mouth |
| Limping | Labored Breathing | Swelling at point in body |

Looking Back

What I learned this year

This section is to be completed at the end of the 4-H year. It is meant to help you look back on all that you learned during the past year. This section includes the following parts:

- My goals completed
- A summary of knowledge and skills I gained
- The three most important things I learned
- Telling my story

My goals completed

Look back on the goals you set for yourself at the beginning of the year. How well did you meet those goals? Use the space below to tell how well you did in reaching your goals. If you added new goals during the year, also included them below.

My Goals for This Year	How well did each goal get met?
<i>Example: I will learn how to give a public presentation</i>	<i>I attended the public presentation workshop. I had to change my topic three times. I should have practiced my presentation more before I gave it. I will start planning and practicing earlier next year.</i>

<i>My Goals for This Year</i>	<i>How well did each goal get met?</i>

Knowledge and skills I gained

There are many things to learn in 4-H. Check each item below that you learned or improved in 4-H during the past year.

I learned or improved . . .

Feel free to add any other items not listed above in the space below.

Personal Skills

- To set goals for myself
- How to organize myself
- How to finish something I started
- How to pay attention to instructions
- To feel good about myself
- Knowledge of my project
- To be proud of my accomplishments
- To make something with my hands
- To follow directions
- To try something new
- To accept change
- How to keep records of important information in my project
- To take responsibility for my own words and actions
- What is important to me
- What I am interested in
- How to get more information about something I am interested in

- How to satisfy my curiosity about a new subject
- To deal with winning and losing gracefully
- How to be careful and practice safety
- To explore a career interest
- How to make wise choices and decisions
- New words and how to use them
- How different things relate to each other
- To keep track of finances

Working with other people

- How to listen to other people
- How to lead others
- How to solve problems
- How to work with adults
- How to give a public presentation
- To feel comfortable speaking in front of a group
- How to help others succeed
- To understand my strengths and weaknesses
- To make new friends
- How to get along with other kids
- To accept people who are different from me

- How to work on a committee
- How to work with the club to complete a community service project
- How to give the 4-H Pledge
- How to work with other kids
- To respect someone else's feelings

Feel free to add any other items not listed above in the space below.

Telling my story

Keeping in mind the knowledge and skills you said you learned from the items you checked above, write a story that explains what you gained this past year in 4-H. Use specific examples that are unique to you whenever possible. Feel free to relate what you learned in 4-H to school, family, or other activities in your life. Use extra pages if needed. Attach photos or clippings on additional pages of this book if it helps tell your story better. Don't forget to label them with captions if you do.

Appendix

The Appendix contains the following parts:

- Goat Knowledge & Skills
- Personal Development Activities

Goat Knowledge & Skills

During each year, members may choose several goat knowledge and skill goals. Do not be afraid to challenge yourself!

Beginner Project Skills - These areas need to be completed prior to moving to the next level.

1. Be able to explain the desired conformation that are valued in a working goat.
2. Be able to identify 5 parts of a goat.
3. Be able to verbalize information on your goat. (name, age, breed, etc.)
4. Define housing needs of your working goat.
5. List the annual vaccinations your goat should receive.
6. Be able to catch and release your working goat. Demonstrate how put on a halter, collar, or lead and teach your working goat to walk using them.
7. Basic Health (normal temp, hair/coat, weight, hooves, etc.). Demonstrate how to estimate your goat's weight using a weight tape
8. Explain how to tell your working goat is ill and when to contact a veterinarian
9. Know the first aid essentials at home and on the trail
10. Know what your working goat eats on a daily basis and list 5 plants found around your home that may be poisonous to your pack goat
11. Demonstrate how to tie a quick release knot
12. Show that your working goat can follow basic commands: go, stop, up, down, and back up
13. Desensitize your working goat to a pack/saddle and demonstrate how to saddle or put a pack on your working goat
14. List the 10 essentials you need to have on your hikes and how you would use them
15. Explain how to load your working goat into a vehicle/trailer
16. Explain how the environmental temperature can affect your working goat

Intermediate Project Skills - to be completed when all the requirements for a beginner have been met.

1. Describe the nutritional requirements of your working goat such as protein, vitamins, and minerals. Read and understand your animal's feed tags.
2. Know and identify at least 10 parts of your goat. Identify their strengths and weaknesses in their structure as it applies to conformation.
3. Know and identify the parts of a goat's digestive tract.
4. Demonstrate good hoof care and explain how it is achieved.
5. Weigh your working goat or determine the goat's weight and verify how much weight it can carry in a pack
6. Explain and demonstrate a basic health check. For example: Temperature, Scrapies, Urinary Calculi, Worming
7. Know the parts of a soft pack and/or saddle/panniers and be able to put them on and remove them from your working goat properly.
8. Develop an equipment and clothing check list for a short day hike
9. Plan a day trip. Include a sample itinerary, list of supplies, and plans for what may go wrong. Estimate the weight of the supplies and make a list of the distribution between the pack goat's and your pack. List 5 plants native to your hike area that are dangerous to your working goat.
10. Begin to understand the guidelines/rules of taking working goats on the trail. Explain what to do when encountering other hikers, livestock, or dogs on the trail.
11. Explain and demonstrate how you coach your working goat to three trail challenges such as: 1) make a water crossing, 2) walk on a log or a bridge, 3) go under an obstacle, and 4) cross fallen branches. Teach your working goat commands, easily walk with your working goat, not dragging or pulling them.
12. Describe the basic first aid requirements for you and your working goat during a hike and create a first aid kit for you and your working goat

Advanced Project Skills - to be completed when all the requirements for an intermediate goals have been met.

1. Describe 3 different types of pack saddles and panniers. Compare the advantages and disadvantages
2. Demonstrate how to properly pack panniers or soft pack for an overnight hike. Explain what items go into which pack and the reason for that decision.
3. Determine your pack goat's fitness level using lumbar scoring and explain why it is important to know this. Compare this to your fitness level. Describe similarities and differences. Condition you and your pack goat by taking walks on trails increasing strength and endurance. Don't forget to take pictures to show your progress.
4. Discuss the food/nutritional requirements for you and your working goat on a hiking trip
5. Using a map, plan an extended hike possibly overnight. Include an itinerary, list of supplies needed, maps, food, and plans for what might go wrong. Develop clothing and equipment list for your trip. Demonstrate the ability to read a map legend. Demonstrate you can read a Topographic map. Demonstrate how to find directions using a map and compass. Do the same with a portable handheld GPS unit. Describe the advantages and disadvantages of each. Don't forget to take pictures to show your progress.
6. Demonstrate "high lining"
7. Describe "minimal impact hiking/camping" "Leave no trace"
8. Demonstrate the ability to take your working goat for a walk without a leash/collar. Desensitize your working goat to a larger variety of trail challenges.
9. Identify three (3) diseases/conditions that may be prevented by immunizations/medicines. Plan and implement a schedule for your working goat's health care needs, and determine the drug withdrawal period if needed. Identify and treat basic illnesses and the use of certain medications.
10. Explain the symptoms and treatment for 4 contagious goat illnesses
11. Describe how and why you sanitize your pack goat's equipment and housing/facilities.
12. Teach a younger 4-H'er a topic your choice related to working goats

Source: http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/4h/4HProject_Book/Goat_Project_Book.pdf