



Buckeye Meat Goat Newsletter



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An educational publication of the Southern Ohio Meat Goat Task Force

Our Mission: To enhance the production and marketing of meat goats through educational and practical experiences.

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Keith L. Smith, Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, OSU Extension TDD No. 800-589-8292 (Ohio only) or 614-292-1868

Pooled Goat Sales

Just a reminder that the next sale date for pooled goats at United Producers will be targeted to the holiday markets. These sales are direct shipments to the east coast buyers. We are hoping for a whole semi load to get a top price.

The size is important: 45 pounds to 75 pounds male or female GOAT KIDS.

Saturday, November 25, 2006

All collection days are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

More info contact Donnie Everetts at:
office 937-393-3424
800-937-5105

Farm Science Review

**Farm Science Review <http://fsr.osu.edu> or
call 1-800-644-6377**

September 19-21, 2006

**8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday**

Tickets for the Farm Science Review are available through your local Extension office through Monday, September 18th at a cost of \$5.00. Tickets at the gate are \$8.00.

We will be making a presentation at the Small Farms Tent on Tuesday, Sept. 20th at 2:00 pm. We plan to cover the new Ohio Market Goat website and other marketing opportunities.

Goat Meat Nutrition Comparative Chart

| Serving: 3 oz. Cooked | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------|---------|------|------|------|
| TRAIT | GOAT | CHICKEN | BEEF | PORK | LAMB |
| Calories | 122 | 162 | 179 | 180 | 175 |
| Fat (g) | 2.6 | 6.3 | 7.9 | 8.2 | 8.1 |
| Saturated Fat (g) | 0.79 | 1.7 | 3 | 2.9 | 2.9 |
| Protein (g) | 23 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 24 |
| Cholesterol (mg) | 63.8 | 76 | 73.1 | 73.1 | 78.2 |

Source: USDA Nutrient Database for Standard Reference Release 14 (July 2001)

New Ohio Market Goat Website

A newly developed meat goat marketing website has been developed by OSU Extension and the Buckeye Meat Goat Marketing Alliance. The site can be found at <http://ohiomarketgoat.com/>. The site has five areas of interest to meat goat producers. The "Announcements" section will provide information about upcoming marketing and educational opportunities. "Goats for Sale" is an area where members can list commercial breeding stock or market goats that they have for sale or wanted. The "Newsletters" section will archive past issues of the *Buckeye Meat Goat Newsletter*.

The newest information will be in the section on "Goat Research". The "Goat Links" section will provide access to educational and commercial sites for goat related information.

To become a member of the Buckeye Meat Goat Marketing Alliance, simply fill in the sign-up form on the web site. All information is confidential and will not be shared with anyone outside the Alliance. By becoming a member, you will have access to the "For Sale" pages within this website, and be able to post and respond to classified advertisements within. Please note that you will receive an invoice via U.S. Mail for \$35.00, which covers your first year's annual fee.

Questions? Email us at omginfo@ohiomarketgoat.com.

The website will continue to evolve. Please review and share your constructive comments or items you would like to see on the website with Dave Mangione at mangione.1@osu.edu and share with your respective meat goat producers as a helpful resource. The site will be maintained by the Buckeye Meat Goat Marketing Alliance/Chris Cooper-Athens County.

Here is what the home Page looks like. (These are not active links)

[New Member Signup](#) [Member Login](#)

Announcements

Check the latest news from the Buckeye Meat Goat Marketing Alliance

Goats For Sale

Peruse our various categories of livestock sales across the state of Ohio

Newsletters

Download and read about our activities and projects here

Goat Research

Learn more about Goat related research

Goat Links

Meet some of our colleagues in the industry



This web site is a marketing tool for the commercial meat goat producer. Meat goats offered for sale at this site include market kids and breeding stock for commercial meat goat enterprises. The site is not intended for the advertisement of club goats or show stock.

Welcome to the Buckeye Meat Goat Marketing Alliance's website, a resource for goat related matters in the state of Ohio. We invite you to check out our contents, which include features such as a "Goats For Sale" classified section, hot topics such as newsletters and reports, and links to external goat related resources.

We hope you enjoy the site, and hope you will contact us should you wish to become involved. Our email address is omginfo@ohiomarketgoat.com.

JOIN OUR GROUP! Simply visit the "New Member Signup" area and enter your information. Joining the Buckeye Meat Goat Alliance is easy and you will have access to many agricultural related materials that will help you with your farming, bedding, and other activities.

Click [HERE](#) to get started!

[[about us](#)] [[announcements](#)] [[goats for sale](#)] [[newsletters](#)] [[goat research](#)]
[[goat links](#)] [[new member signup](#)] [[member login](#)]

Contact the Buckeye Meat Goat Alliance by email: omginfo@ohiomarketgoat.com Copyright 2006,

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Site Design: [Eden Marketing](#)

Forage Focus: Late Summer and Extended Winter Grazing Forage Options -

[Stan Smith](#), OSU Extension PA, Fairfield County

With many harvested small grain fields that weren't double cropped to soybeans now sitting idle, Livestock producers still have an excellent opportunity to be creating high quality forages that may be grazed well into winter, and even next spring. With four years of experience with summer planted oats under our belts, preceded by several

years of experience with cereal rye, we know there's still plenty of time to 'create' anywhere from two to five tons of forages in wheat stubble or otherwise vacant fields. Better yet, if you are fortunate enough to be in a Conservation Security Program (CSP) watershed and are accepted into the program, the "extended grazing" options that are discussed below may be eligible for an additional "enhancement" payment.

For the balance of this summer we are continuing to demonstrate and experiment with a number of variations on the August seeded oats you've heard

about previously. Based on what we've learned so far, we believe the alternatives mentioned below deserve consideration by anyone needing additional high quality forages to extend the grazing season.

If your primary needs are forage for grazing, hay, or silage later this summer and fall, oats appear to be the most productive, least cost option at this time. Alternatives include:

* No-till 60-90 pounds into harvested wheat or oat fields, or harvested corn silage fields anytime up until early September. It appears that late July or early August may be the optimum time to plant oats when high quality forage is the goal. "Spring" oats seldom make seed when planted after the days begin to shorten in July, but will continue to grow leaf until Thanksgiving or after in Ohio. Consider applying ~ 50 pounds of nitrogen about 60 days before you plan to harvest them, regardless of the harvest method.

* Fly 100 to 120 pounds of oats into standing corn in August. Pay attention to the herbicide program you've used on the corn to be certain it doesn't conflict with oat establishment or grazing/harvest restrictions. Our experiences with this alternative have been variable - some fields produced very well, while others achieved a less than perfect stand. It appears that the best stands come in fields that are totally weed free, and the earlier the corn is harvested, the more abundant the oats become. In nearly every case, the value of the forage produced has exceeded the costs of aerial seeding (~\$10/acre) plus the seed costs. In addition, the high quality oat forage that results will allow for better utilization of the grazed corn stalks.

* Fly 100 to 120 pounds of oats into standing soybeans in early September as the soybean leaves first begin to turn. Again, pay attention to the herbicide program you've used on the soybeans to be certain it doesn't conflict with oat establishment or grazing/harvest restrictions. Results with this alternative have been a little more consistent than what we experienced in the standing corn, but less productive than the best corn stalk fields due to the later seeding date.

This web link has photos and data of a few of past year's attempts at the alternatives described above:

<http://fairfield.osu.edu/ag/graze/wntgraz.htm>

If your primary needs are forage for grazing, hay, or silage next spring, cereal rye appears to be the best alternative. The opportunity exists to graze it in the late summer and fall; however, the most abundant tonnage will come in the spring. In addition to planting it with the options mentioned above for oats, you may also no-till it after row crop harvest - particularly soybeans and silage corn - this fall. See the OSU Extension Agronomy Fact Sheet AGF-0026-00, entitled Winter Rye for Extending the Grazing Season for more details on growing cereal rye. This publication may be found in OSU Extension offices or on-line at:

<http://ohioline.osu.edu/agf-fact/0026.html>

If your primary needs are grazable forage as soon as possible, consider turnips or a combination of oats and turnips. Previous summers we've seen good results locally when planting a 'grazing turnip' such as Appin in combination with oats. If some precipitation is received shortly after planting, this combination could be strip grazed as early as 5-6 weeks after planting. The oats will provide some additional fiber in this grazing mix, and the Appin turnips will continue to regrow after being topped off with an early grazing. These web links will show you what this combination looks like after only 5 weeks of spring growth:

<http://fairfield.osu.edu/ag/beef/OatsTrnp.JPG> and

also after 6.5 weeks of growth:

<http://fairfield.osu.edu/ag/beef/OatsTrnp2.JPG>

As you review your options, realize that at times seed oats are difficult to purchase this time of year. Contact the Ohio Seed Improvement Association (ph: 614.889.1136 or visit <http://www.ohseed.org>) for a list of growers who may have seed oats available. If you take the opportunity to try any of these extended grazing or forage production alternatives, please keep us updated on your progress and success.

Managing Internal Parasitism in Sheep and Goats

A new publication (Purdue Extension AS-573-W) from Purdue and University of Kentucky specialists summarizes many of the topics that we have addressed in this newsletter such as pasture management, fecal egg counts, and FAMACHA. It

is available by calling 1-888-EXT-INFO or can be viewed on the web by following the link at:

<http://www.uky.edu/Aq/AnimalSciences/goats/presentations/goatpresentations.html>

Breed Spotlight: Kiko

The word “kiko” comes from the Maori, New Zealand's native people, to describe substantial meat producing animals. New Zealand has a large population of native feral goats on both islands. A total lack of predators and temperate climate meant that native goats have been able to breed and flourish. In the mid-70's, the New Zealand government promoted the use of Angora bucks in order to develop a mohair industry. Many of the native goats confined as part of the Angora upgrading program exhibited enhanced characteristics for growth and meat production.

The Kiko goat was developed exclusively by Goatex Group LLC, a New Zealand corporation of farmers, who allocated several thousand high quality native goats to a breeding program in which population dynamics would be rigorously applied to produce a goat with enhanced meat production ability under browse conditions. The consortium members focused on traits that would be commercially significant and readily measured. The selection of superior animals and rigorous culling enhanced trait performance.

The primary characteristic of the Kiko goat is its hardiness and its ability to achieve substantial weight gains as an aggressive forager when run under natural conditions without supplementary feeding. In addition, the female is capable of conceiving, carrying, and giving birth to and rearing multiple offspring without intervention under less than ideal conditions. The Kiko is large framed and generally white, although many carry genes for color. The coat ranges from slick in summer to flowing hair in winter.

The Kiko is noted for higher dressing percent than other goats with the meat characterized as lean, tender and succulent with moderate pH and with significant muscling in the leg and loin-eye muscles.

For more information refer to the **American Kiko Goat Association** website:

<http://kikogoats.com/>



Liability for Visitors to Farm Property

by Peggy Kirk Hall

Abridged from OSU Extension Fact Sheet **ALS-1002-00** <http://ohioline.osu.edu/als-fact/1002.html>

Farmers have unique liability concerns for harm that could occur to visitors to the farm property. Compared to a typical residential property owner, a farmer often has more land, guests, trespassers, and dangerous equipment and machinery. These factors increase the potential for injury to visitors and raise the risk of liability for the farmer who is the owner, lessor, or occupant of farm property. One way to lessen liability risk is to understand the rules of legal liability that apply when there is an injury to a farm visitor.

Liability Applies to the "Possessor" of the Property

When a visitor suffers an injury, the "possessor" of the property is the first party to whom legal liability might extend. Ohio law defines the possessor as the party who is "in control" of the property area where the injury occurred. One important indication of control over the property is an exercise of the power and right to admit people to the premises and to exclude people from it.

Liability Factors

A number of factors determine whether the possessor is liable for an injury to a property visitor. First, Ohio law differentiates liability on the basis of the "status" of the injured visitor. Second, allowing dangerous conditions on the property may create liability. Third, the possessor might have a legal defense that prevents or reduces liability. A farmer must consider each of these factors when assessing a liability situation.

The Status of the Property Visitor

The property possessor has a legal duty to prevent harm to a visitor on the property. However, the degree of care the possessor must undertake to fulfill this legal duty depends upon the "status" of the visitor, that is, why the visitor is on the property. If a person visits the property solely for the possessor's economic purposes, the law requires the possessor to exhibit a high degree of care for the visitor. On the other hand, when a visitor has no permission to be on the property, the possessor has a minimal duty to ensure the visitor's safety. Traditionally, Ohio law has identified a visitor's status as an invitee, licensee, or trespasser. Additionally, the law recognizes a social guest as a separate type of visitor, and recently the Ohio legislature created a new type of visitor - the recreational user.

The Condition of the Property

The condition of the property is an important factor when determining liability for an injury. Was the injury the result of a dangerous condition on the property? Could the injury have been avoided if the possessor had inspected the property and eliminated the dangerous condition? Should the visitor have been aware that the condition was dangerous? These questions all relate to the condition of the property.

The possessor must protect invitees, licensees, and known trespassers from dangerous conditions that are known to the possessor, or that the possessor should know of. In the case of invitees, the duty extends also to hidden dangerous conditions, requiring the possessor to actively inspect the property for dangerous conditions.

What is a "dangerous condition"? Ohio courts define a dangerous condition as one that creates an

unreasonable and unnecessary risk of harm that is not readily apparent to the visitor. A minimal or trivial defect in the property is not sufficient to amount to a dangerous condition, such as a nail head popping out of barn siding. A situation that a person ordinarily encounters, such as ice and snow on outdoor steps in winter, is not a dangerous condition for these purposes. Additionally, the law expects a person to appreciate "open and obvious" dangers, such as a pond or a swimming pool, which are not considered dangerous conditions for these purposes.

Liability for Injuries by Animals

Special rules of law apply when an animal on the property causes an injury to a property visitor. The "owner or keeper" of the animal is the party who might be liable. The issue of liability depends upon the type of animal causing the injury, the foreseeability of the injury, and the activity that resulted in the harm.

Dogs and Wild or Vicious Animals. The owner or keeper of a dog, a wild animal, or an animal known to have vicious propensities is strictly liable for injuries caused by the animal, meaning that a showing of fault or negligence on the owner's part is not necessary. Liability does not extend if the injury results from a trespass or from teasing or tormenting the animal.

Animals Lacking Vicious Propensities. An injury by an animal that is not a dog or wild animal and is not of vicious propensities creates liability for the owner or keeper if he or she is negligent in keeping the animal. Negligence often hinges upon whether the owner or keeper could have anticipated the occurrence that resulted in the injury and failed to take corrective action. If so, the owner will be deemed negligent for not having taken steps to prevent the harm.

However, an owner or keeper is not negligent if the animal is in a place where it has a right to be, and a visitor invades that place. For example, liability will not attach to the owner for harm caused by an animal enclosed in a stall or a pen if a visitor willingly enters the stall or pen.

The Liability Process

One misconception about liability is that it occurs

automatically. To the contrary, a visitor seeking to impose liability on a farmer must take action. The visitor could demand payment of medical bills or request insurance carrier information. In these situations, the farmer or the farmer's insurance company may agree to compensate the visitor for the injury. A farmer does not become legally liable to the visitor, however, unless the visitor successfully advances a civil claim in a court of law.

Civil litigation for injuries to a property visitor usually revolves around a claim of "negligence" against the farmer. Negligence actions require the visitor to prove that the farmer breached his or her duty of care to the visitor and that the breach caused the visitor's injuries. The farmer may dispute the allegations and offer defenses to liability. The final judgment of the court or jury determines whether the farmer is liable, the extent of liability, and the amount of compensation due the visitor, if any.

The Farmer's Defenses to Liability

The law provides several defenses to a potential liability situation. A successful legal defense can remove liability completely or reduce the amount of liability. A possessor has three potential defenses where the actions of the visitor affect the injury. A fourth defense, the Recreational User's Statute, provides a defense to liability where property is used for certain recreational purposes.

Exceeding the Scope of the Invitation or Permission. If a visitor goes beyond the scope of the invitation or permission, the possessor is not liable for resulting injury. For example, where a possessor has granted a neighbor permission to cut wood from the wood lot and the neighbor decides also to take a look around the barn, the possessor will not be liable if the neighbor is injured in the barn. Likewise, if a customer of a farm market enters a door that is posted "Keep Out - Personnel Only" and is then injured in the restricted area, the possessor is not liable. In both instances, the visitor exceeded the scope of the possessor's invitation or permission.

Assumption of Risk. The law does not impose liability on the possessor if a visitor ignores obvious risks. The assumption of risk defense prevents liability for the possessor where a visitor is aware of or should be aware of the risk, voluntarily encounters the risk, and is injured as a result of undertaking the risk.

Contributory Negligence. Often, a visitor's own negligent acts cause or contribute to the injury. In this case, Ohio law apportions liability for the injury according to each party's degree of negligence. The judge or jury determines the portion of the injury that can be attributed to the possessor's breach of duty, and the portion of the injury that can be attributed to the visitor's own negligence.

Limiting Liability

There are many actions a farmer can take to limit the potential of liability for injuries to visitors on the property.

- **Inspect the Property.** The possessor should regularly inspect the property for dangerous conditions, being sure to note all hidden and known dangerous conditions. Document the property inspections in writing.
- **Eliminate Dangerous Conditions, Where Possible.** The possessor will have the best assurance of liability protection by eliminating all dangerous conditions. Ensure that the repairs are complete and performed properly, and document the repair work in writing.
- **Provide Warnings.** If a dangerous condition cannot be eliminated, the possessor should provide clear warnings of the condition. A warning can be in the form of a sign, a map, or instructions, or by roping, fencing, or otherwise blocking access to the dangerous condition. Avoid verbal warnings that cannot be documented. Keep a written record and/or copy of all warnings.
- **Educate and Train Employees.** Farm employees should also understand liability rules. The employees must be adequately trained so that they know how to recognize and eliminate dangerous conditions, do not create or contribute to dangerous conditions, and know how to warn visitors of the conditions.
- **Utilize Ohio's Recreational User's Statute.** Where visitors seek to use nonresidential property for recreational purposes such as hunting, fishing, hiking, and camping, the possessor should ensure that the Recreational User's Statute 5 is applicable.

The following elements must exist: the possessor grants the visitor permission to use the property, the possessor receives no benefit of any kind for the use of the property, and the use is "recreational," defined by the statute as hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, hiking, swimming, or engaging in other recreational pursuits.

- Obtain Adequate Liability Insurance. Insurance coverage can provide additional assurance that the farm won't be lost due to a personal injury. Just as important as having the insurance policy is ensuring that the coverage is comprehensive and accurate. Carefully review with the insurance provider all uses of the property and types of visitors to the property. Notify the provider when new activities occur on the property, such as opening a farm market. Constant communication with the provider will eliminate liability exposure for an activity that the possessor mistakenly believed would be covered by the insurance policy.
- Document Injuries. Create an accurate accounting of accidents. When an injury occurs, immediately document how and where the injury occurred, the conditions of the property in the vicinity of the accident, and warnings given prior to the injury. Note witnesses to the injury. If possible, take photographs or a videotape of the accident site.

Conclusion

A farmer will benefit from understanding when and why he or she will be liable for an injury to a farm visitor. The answers to a few simple questions create a framework for reviewing liability issues:

1. What types of visitors do I have on the property?
2. What duty of care do I owe the visitors?
3. Have I fulfilled my duty of care by eliminating or warning of all dangers?
4. What more can I do to limit liability?

Helpful Links:

The Buckeye Meat Goat Marketing Alliance
<http://www.ohiomarketgoat.com/>

Meat Goat Production and Budgeting
<http://ohioline.osu.edu/as-fact/0014.html>

The Ohio State University Department of Animal Science
<http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~ansci/>

The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine
<http://www.vet.ohio-state.edu/>

E (Kika) de la Garza Institute for Goat Research
<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/>

University of Kentucky
<http://www.uky.edu/Ag/AnimalSciences/goats/goat.html>

North Carolina State University
http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/an_sci/extension/animal/meatgoat/ahgoats_index.html

Texas A&M
<http://animalscience.tamu.edu/main/academics/sheep/pubs.html>

American Meat Goat Association
<http://www.meatgoats.com/>

Caprine Supply
<http://www.caprinesupply.com/>

Goat Rancher
<http://goatrancher.com/>

Editor - *Jeff Fisher*

fisher.7@osu.edu