



# *Buckeye Meat Goat Newsletter*



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

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## Professional Meat Goat Symposium

The Professional Meat Goat Symposium will provide educational information on the most current topics of interest for commercial and seed stock producers of meat goats.

The symposium will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, June 22 at the Wilmington College Livestock Center and will continue through Saturday afternoon with featured presenters who will combine lecture along with hands on opportunities to enhance the learning experience.

Dr. Richard Browning, Research Animal Scientist at Tennessee State University, will share research results of Doe-Kid performance to weaning among Boer, Kiko, and Spanish breeds. Dr. Steve Hart, Animal Scientist at Langston University will give a presentation on feeding the doe prior to breeding and during the three phases of pregnancy. Dr. Maria Leity Browning, Extension Animal Scientist at Alabama A&M University, will discuss effective strategies for parasite management. Mark Scarpitti of Amazing Graze Farm in Lancaster, OH will discuss how he designed his forage management system for goats which incorporates warm season forages.

Feed consultants and equipment vendors will be on hand in addition to the ability to view the Wilmington College meat goat operation throughout the event. Don't miss out on this premier opportunity to acquire management information from some of the leading research and application in the meat goat industry.

Participant cost is \$25.00 per person for pre-registration which includes the Saturday meal. Registration the day of the event will be \$35.00. For more information and registration, refer to the enclosed brochure or: [http://ross.osu.edu/agriculture-natural-resources/ag-forms-files/07\\_meat-goat-symposium.pdf](http://ross.osu.edu/agriculture-natural-resources/ag-forms-files/07_meat-goat-symposium.pdf)

## Graded Meat Goat Sale

A GRADED MEAT GOAT SALE will be held for the first time at the Hillsboro United Producers on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, 2007.

Meat Goats will be graded based on muscle, finish, conformation and weight. Goats MUST weigh a minimum of 40 pounds and be under a year of age. Goats will be graded and packaged in groups (GRADES #1, #2, or #3's) and sold to the highest bidder.

Cull animals will be sold as culls in the regular weekly auction and will not be included in the graded goat sale. Goats will be accepted on Sunday, May 27 from 4 pm to 8 pm or can be brought on Monday, May 28 from 7AM until 10 AM.

Monday, goats will be accepted until 10 AM in order to

allow time for weighing and grading prior to the sale. Any goats brought in on Sunday will not be graded or weighed until Monday morning.

For more information Contact United Producers at 1-800-937-5105.

## Market Trends

JWT Study: Food brands not meeting Muslim-American needs.

By: Ann Bagel Storck for Meatingplace.com

Muslim-Americans looking to buy food in compliance with halal principles are often not finding what they need, according to a study on marketing to Muslims by advertising agency JWT.

According to the study, 44 percent of Muslims agreed with the statement that "Most products and brands do not understand my needs," compared to 15 percent of non-Muslims.

"The global halal food market is already worth \$580 billion annually," said Marian Salzman, executive vice president and chief marketing officer for JWT Worldwide. "As it grows, we envision aisles in the supermarket dedicated to halal foods, in much the same way as kosher and ethnic foods, such as Indian and Spanish, do today. Food marketers have to cater to the Muslim population. There are significant opportunities to build relationships with them, especially in the areas of prepared, convenience and pre-packaged halal meals."

Other ideas from the study include:

- The "low hanging fruit" for marketers are those Muslims who are currently using kosher as a "surrogate," given the limited access to halal foods versus the broader distribution of kosher.
- The prospect of halal foods crossing over into the mainstream (in the same way that kosher has done) can be propelled by concentrating on their perceived benefits, including quality, cleanliness and health.

If U.S. companies fulfill this untapped niche market among Muslim-Americans, they will be better positioned to serve significant Muslim populations in other parts of the world.

**Forage Focus: Chemical Weed Control in Pastures -**  
[Keith A. Diedrick](#), Extension Educator, Wayne County

The Problem. Well, it never fails. We go out with the perfect plans and plant the perfect pasture. In seemingly

no time at all, undesirable plants find a way to grow with our crop. We used to say back in school that weed science held a lot of job security for us; weeds sprouting up in the wrong places are one of life's certainties (along with death and taxes). The longer our pasture soils remain somewhat undisturbed, the more biennial and perennial weeds we will see. Some weeds are simply annoying, some aggressively crowd out our forages, and some can be downright deadly to our livestock. For this column, let's discuss a couple of the principles of chemical weed control in pastures.

**Identification of the Weed and Choice of Control:** It sounds like common sense, but when a 2,4-DB application doesn't seem to injure Canada thistle all that much, we ought not be surprised, since Canada thistle isn't even on the 2,4-DB label! Picking the right chemical and rate is very important. As with any herbicide, read the label all the way through. Labels have lists of "labeled crops," "weeds controlled," and "weeds suppressed." Make sure your pasture fits the bill in terms of both crops and weeds. The labeled rates are a good guide to control, and reducing the recommended rate by a large margin may reduce control by an equally large margin. Do your weeds tend to reside in patches? Maybe a spot application of a cheaper, non-selective chemical (like glyphosate) would be preferable to spraying a large area with a more expensive selective chemical, saving time and money, to boot.

**Timing of Control:** Recently, a plant pathology professor related some great wisdom to me: "if we don't know much about the pest's life, how can we expect to control it? During the pasturing season, I get at least three calls a week about chemical control failures of Canada thistle, and my first question to them (after "what and how much did you use") is "when did you spray it?" If the answer is "July" or "August," that's part of the problem. We're trying to kill a thistle when it's not nearly as susceptible as it is right before and during budding (and that goes for most broadleaf perennial weeds). Larger perennials and biennials are most vulnerable in the fall. Perennial grass weeds are most susceptible to herbicide action from boot to seedhead growth stages. Pick the right time and method, and our control dollars stretch further and are used more effectively.

**Grazing Restrictions.** Please take note of grazing restrictions that some chemicals might have at specific application rates; that information is contained in the label. If you use two chemicals tank-mixed, use the longer of the two restrictions.

**Final Thought.** Good grazing and fertility management should accompany any chemical weed control program. Otherwise the same weed problems will soon redevelop.

## **Liability for Visitors to Farm Property**

by Peggy Kirk Hall

**Excerpted from 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 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.

### 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<sup>5</sup> 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.

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Buckeye Meat Goat Marketing

<http://www.ohiomarketgoat.com>