

Should I take a MARKET GOAT as a 4-H project?

Choosing to take a livestock project in 4-H should involve sound decision making. This fact sheet provides basic information to help you make a good decision.

SPACE NEEDED

- 15 square feet per animal in confinement with good ventilation
- It is recommended to allow access to the outside for exercise

COMFORT ZONE

- 45-70° F for optimal performance

WATER REQUIREMENTS

- Access to clean, fresh, cool water is critical
- 1.5-2 gallons per day

FEED CONSIDERATIONS

- Will eat 1.5 - 2 pounds of 16-18% feed per day
- Will gain approximately .25-.35 pounds per day (Average Daily Gain or ADG)
- Needs approximately 6-8 pounds of feed per pound of gain (Feed Efficiency)

MARKET CONSIDERATIONS

- Ideal weights for exhibition are 80-95 lbs. when finished (50-110 pound range)
- Should be finished at approximately 7-10 months of age

BUDGETING

- Minimum purchase cost is \$100 for a 40-70 lb. feeder market goat for show goats
- Projected market price is \$2.00 per pound
- Projected feed cost is around \$125 and includes:
 - Hay (alfalfa, grass or a combination of both)
 - Grain (either pelleted or texturized)
 - Supplements (salt & minerals)

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