



GOAT SECTION

Preparing your goat for Ag day:

Goats are to be born between 1st of July and 15th of September.

It is important to remember that goats are NOT sheep and need to be reared and cared for differently. Generally, a goat loves human company and makes a great animal friend.

The kid should be chosen no later than 5 days after birth. It is better to get your goat at about four days. By this time, it will have received the very important 'colostrum' from its mother. Colostrum is high in both vitamins and protein and this protects against diseases.

If you select a buck kid he will need to be wethered with a rubber ring before he is 4 weeks old, otherwise he will become smelly and aggressive as he grows older.

Dehorning goats – the breeders feel for buds on the top of their heads the day the **goats** are born and judge from there when it is time to **disbud**. It can be anywhere from 4 days old to 10 days old, it just depends on your breed of **goat**. Males tend to grow their horns faster and will need to be disbudded sooner, while females can wait a bit longer. Please check with your breeder if they have been dehorned or not.

APPROXIMATE REARING NEEDS:

A warm, dry shelter

Milk powder

Feeding bottle and teats (Malt vinegar, coke bottles work well with the teats or you can buy the bottle and teat together at Falloon, RD1, Farm Source)

Pellets or Meal (from approx. 3-4 weeks)

Collar and lead

Brush

Drench

Vaccine

Cover (Optional) a dog cover is ideal when it is small.

EARLY DAYS: On selecting the kid, give it a name, record the breed and date of birth.

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS: When the goat pen is made choose a sunny position and put an A framed shelter or a kennel into the pen so that the kid can keep out of the rain, cold winds or hot sun. Sacking or clean straw is ideal for bedding as this compensates for the warmth that a kid receives from its mother. The kid must be kept warm, dry and clean and the area free from draughts. Kids are extremely susceptible to pneumonia and will die quickly if they lose the will to live.

FEEDING: Lamb Milk Powders are specially formulated to meet the needs of your goat. Mixing and feeding instructions are clearly written on the bag. Be sure to follow the formula instructions on the back of the bag, as it is important to get the right balance of powder to water. Mum and Dad can be of help to you here for a start.

Your kid may not be used to a bottle and teat, so remember to be patient for a few days. The milk should be body temperature, that is so it feels warm on your skin or 'clean' finger when you test it.

You will notice that about two weeks of age your kid will start to nibble things. Offer small pieces of hay. This helps encourage and develop the digestive system. If the kid is outside it will nibble at grass and trees. Pellets and meal can be purchased from a farm supplies store. They are useful additions to the kid's diet. If your goat is tethered keep moving it regularly so that it has access to fresh grass.

SCOURS (Diarrhea) – if your goat scours - Stop feeding it milk immediately and keep it off milk for 24 hours. Feed it an electrolyte mix to keep it hydrated. (Electrolyte mix is available in small pack sizes from your local farm store or vet and are always good to have on hand when rearing a goat). Continue electrolytes with four to six feeds of 120ml by bottle or tube feeder. Keep your kid in a clean, dry draught free environment and keep it warm.

VACCINATIONS AND DRENCHING: If the mother goat was not vaccinated with a 5 in 1 one month prior to being born or if you do not know if it was vaccinated, it should be vaccinated with a lamb vaccine or PK/Antitet from one week old. If the kid has come from a vaccinated mother and has had adequate colostrum in the first day of its life it will have protection for about 3 months.

Your kid should be vaccinated with a 5 in 1 injection at weaning (3 months) and then given a booster shot 1 month later and thereafter once a year. This vaccine prevents pulpy kidney, tetanus, black disease, malignant odema and blackleg. These diseases can kill the healthiest and largest of kids.

Drench at about 4 weeks old and again at 10 weeks, an oral lamb drench is suitable for goats.

LICE CONTROL: Lice are a common problem. For more information on managing this condition or for advice on the control strategies and products available to you, please don't hesitate to call your local vet. Keep infected kids and gear away from other kids.

POISONOUS PLANTS: Goats have a love of garden plants; however, they are not able to determine which ones are poisonous. There are potentially many poisonous plants in the home garden. Some examples (but not limited to) – plants of the Erica and rhododendron family, camellia, daphne, azalea, daffodils, snowdrops, hyacinths, hemlock, cress, red maple, oak, oleander, arums, ivy, five finger, lilies, poppies, poinsettia, titoki, foxgloves, snap dragons and rhubarb leaves.

DAILY CARE:

- Regular feeding
- Wash its face to remove any milk residue
- Walk it on a lead and play with it
- Brush it at least once a day
- Practice calling your goat before each feed

POINTS TO REMEMBER:

Hooves – need trimming regularly, but let your parents do this (or your local vet or farmer), as it is not easy. Trim the hard part of the hoof even with the central softer part, making it flat.

Make sure your kid's face and ears are clean

Brush it often to get a nice finish on the coat and to remove loose hair

Ensure the collar is loosened regularly so it is not too tight otherwise it will wear the hair off around its neck.

PREPARING A KID GOAT FOR AG DAY: Take the kid for daily walks and introduce it to a variety of interesting obstacles such as walking a plank and jumping on to and over logs.

Introduce one obstacle at a time and once the kid has mastered it move on to the next interesting obstacle. Try to make any challenge to 'fit' the size of the kid. For an example, it is not recommended that little kids try to jump on to hay bales as these may be too high. While out walking you should encourage the kid to walk beside you, ensuring the kid's front legs are in line with your legs and its head held high. This encourages the kid to become confident walking on a lead and close beside you. Allow the kid to run and exercise freely each day. The amount of time you spend with your kid is generally reflected in the bonding between you. You can practice in a ring but do not begin ring practice too soon to prevent boredom.

To train a kid for calling you will need to have someone hold the kid while you stand some distance away with a bottle of milk. You call the kid's name. When the kid comes to you give it a gentle pat on the head, then it's bottle. Continue patting while the kid drinks. NOTE: On show day you cannot use a bottle of milk so ensure during practice the use of the bottle is gently phased out.

ON WAINUI SCHOOL AG DAY: Take your goats food and water requirements for the day. Take a bucket and brushes, an old towel to clean it if it is dirty when you arrive. The goats will be judged on Leading, Calling, High jump and Rearing:

LEADING: When leading your kid, you should stand on the left shoulder of the kid. The right hand should grip the lead palm upwards and the left hand should grip the lead, knuckles upward. Actions which could incur penalties are – pushing your kid with your hand, jerking on the lead, allowing the end of the lead to trail on the ground, buffeting your kid with your leg. Try to lead your kid at a reasonable pace ensuring that you walk at the same pace as your kid with dragging or pushing it.

CALLING: This is when the goat comes to you when you call its name. The distance the kid is called from will be determined by the judge on the day. Ensure you call in a clear, loud voice so it can hear you. You must be able to hook your lead back on your kids collar without moving from your spot.

HIGH JUMP: A high jump is made of a 60-litre drum lying on its side which supports a plank approximately three metres long and 30 cm wide, rough sawn. You will lead the kid to the ramp, up the ramp, pause, and then the kid will jump off the end, with you walking alongside the plank.

REARING: The judge will want to know when your kid was born, what breed it is and what, how much and how often you feed it. The older children should know about health problems such as scours, foot rot and the treatments. You should be able to talk about your kids with confidence, knowledge and to describe strategies that you may have used to rear it.

Well done! Regardless of the results you are a success because you have begun to learn to take responsibility.

If returning your goat, please ring the breeder and check when it is alright to take the kid back. If you are keeping the kid at home for a pet, don't forget it still likes the care and attention you have already been giving it. Enjoy your kid as it grows – it can be a lovely friend.

If you win a 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th ribbon at Ag day, you are eligible to enter the South Kaipara Group day. This is held on the 1st Friday of November at the Helensville Showgrounds. Please register with Mel at the school office. For more information or questions on any of the above, please contact Kylie at fows@wainui.school.nz



LAMB SECTION

Preparing your lamb for Ag day:

Lambs are to be born between 1st of July and 15th September.

A lamb is a wonderful pet to rear at any age and is often easier for smaller children to handle. Lambs can be successfully reared on small sections while young as they do not require large areas.

Your lamb will need to have its tail docked (a rubber ring placed around the tail) by the farmer or local vet. This can be done from a week old, the sooner the better, before the tail gets too big.

If a ram (male lamb) is chosen he should be wethered with a rubber ring from 1 week old by the farmer or local vet, otherwise he could possibly become aggressive as he reaches maturity.

APPROXIMATE REARING NEEDS:

A warm, dry shelter

Milk powder

Feeding bottle and teats (Malt vinegar, coke bottles work well with the teats or you can buy the bottle and teat together at Falloons, RD1, Farm Source)

Lamb or multifeed pellets (optional)

Collar and lead

Drench

Vaccine

Cover (Optional)

EARLY DAYS: You need to give your lamb a name and record its date of birth and breed.

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS: A warm, draught free, dry shelter or Kennel is required. It is most important to keep your lambs sleeping area clean and dry. Make sure it is situated in a warm place especially at night. One of the major causes of death with hand reared lambs is pneumonia caused by sudden changes in temperature. Your lamb will grow better if it is not using energy to keep warm.

FEEDING: Colostrum is essential for good early development. It is high in energy and contains antibodies, which protect the lamb from disease. However, the lamb if under one day old will need to get a replacement mixture if the mother has not been able to feed it.

After it has received its colostrum lambs should be reared on any of the lamb milk powders available. Lamb milk powders are specially formulated to meet the needs of your lamb. Mixing and feeding instructions are clearly written on the bag. Avoid sudden changes in the type (brand), quantity or temperature of milk or milk powder. You should not have weaned your lamb before Ag day – ideally it should still be receiving at least two feeds per day.

If a lamb refuses a feed it must never be forced as this can indicate health problems.

When your lamb gets older supplement milk with lamb or multifeed pellets. They start eating grass early on, so if your lamb is tethered keep moving it regularly so that it has access to fresh grass.

- Thoroughly clean bottles and teats after each feed.
- Never force your lamb to drink too much.

SCOURS (Diarrhea) - If your lamb scours - Stop feeding it milk immediately and keep it off milk for 24 hours. Feed it an electrolyte mix to keep it hydrated. (Electrolyte mix is available in small pack sizes from your local farm store or vet and are always good to have on hand when rearing a lamb). Continue electrolytes with four to six feeds of 120ml by bottle or tube feeder. Keep your lamb in a clean, dry draught free environment and keep it warm.

VACCINATIONS AND DRENCHING: If the mother of your lamb was not vaccinated with a 5 in 1 one month prior to lambing or if you do not know if it was vaccinated, it should be vaccinated with a lamb vaccine or PK/Antitet from one week old. If the lamb has come from a vaccinated mother and has had adequate colostrum in the first day of its life it will have protection for about 3 months.

Your lamb should be vaccinated with a 5 in 1 injection at weaning (3 months) and then given a booster shot 1 month later and thereafter once a year. This vaccine prevents pulpy kidney, tetanus, black disease, malignant odema and blackleg. These diseases can kill the healthiest and largest of lambs.

Drench at about 6 weeks old and again at 10 weeks. Oral lamb drench is available from your local farming outlet or vet. This drench does not cover lice.

POISONOUS PLANTS: Lambs have a love of garden plants; however, they are not able to determine which ones are poisonous. There are potentially many poisonous plants in the home garden. Some examples (but not limited to) – plants of the Erica and rhododendron family, camellia, daphne, azalea, daffodils, snowdrops, hyacinths, hemlock, cress, red maple, oak, oleander, arums, ivy, five finger, lilies, poppies, poinsettia, titoki, foxgloves, snap dragons and rhubarb leaves.

DAILY CARE:

Regular feeding

Wash its face to remove any milk residue

Walk it on a lead and play with it

Practice calling your lamb before each feed

POINTS TO REMEMBER:

Lambs must **not** be washed

Hooves – should be trimmed and clean.

Make sure your lambs face, ears and bottom are clean - do not crutch your lamb's bottom as this will cost you points on Ag Day.

PREPARING A LAMB FOR AG DAY:

- Feed the lamb regularly during the day and remove any soiled bedding from its shelter. Spend as much time as possible with your lamb, make it your pet.
- Do not bath or wash your lamb. You may wash their mouth, bottom and ears with a damp cloth.
- Keep your lamb's hooves and legs clean.

- Keep your lamb under cover when the weather is wet so that it doesn't get too dirty and can keep warm.
- Practice leading (not too soon as your lamb may become bored and uncooperative) and calling your lamb. You should pat, cuddle and continuously talk to the lamb and reward it with praise after working together.
- To train a lamb for calling you will need to have someone to hold the lamb while you stand some distance away with a bottle of milk. You call your lambs name. when the lamb comes, give it a gentle pat on the head then it's bottle. Continue patting your lamb while it drinks. Always practice calling your lamb before feeding it. Move further away as the lamb gets used to coming to you. Practice calling the lamb to you (about 10 metres) and when it gets to you, gently grab its collar and clip on your lead without moving from your spot. This is what is involved on Ag day.

NOTE: Children are not to hold items of food or a bottle of milk in their hands when calling the lamb at Ag day. So, ensure during the practice the use of the bottle is gently phased out.

ON WAINUI SCHOOL AG DAY: Make sure you take your lamb's food and water requirements for the day. The lambs will be judged on Leading, Calling, High jump and Rearing: They will also be judged on Local Trade (meat) or Wool.

LEADING: When leading your lamb, you should stand on the left shoulder of the lamb. The right hand should grip the lead palm upwards and the left hand should grip the lead, knuckles upward. Actions which could incur penalties are – pushing your lamb with your hand, jerking on the lead, allowing the end of the lead to trail on the ground, buffeting your lamb with your leg.

Try to lead your lamb at a reasonable pace ensuring that you walk at the same pace as your lamb without dragging or pushing it.

CALLING: When calling your lamb – it needs to come directly to you. The distance the lamb is called from will be determined by the judge on the day. Ensure you call in a loud voice so it can hear you. You must be able to hook your lead back on your lamb's collar without moving from your spot.

HIGH JUMP: A high jump is made of a 60-litre drum lying on its side which supports a plank approximately three metres long and 30 cm wide, rough sawn. You will lead the lamb to the ramp, up the ramp, pause, and then the lamb will jump off the end, with you walking alongside the plank.

REARING: The Judge will want to know when your lamb was born, what breed is it and how often you feed it. For older children it would be an advantage if they know about the 5 in 1 vaccine given. All children should be able to explain about docking and what this means. They should be able to talk about their lambs with confidence, knowledge and to describe the strategies that they have used while rearing it. The Judges will look at the general appearance of the lamb and look for lice.

Well done! Regardless of whether you win or not you have been a success, and this has been just one step in your onward progress to greater responsibility.

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