

The Master Meat Goat Producer Program is designed as an educational tool to provide information and insight to broaden production management skills and improve the competitiveness in the market place in order to increase profitability for meat goat producers.

The Master Meat Goat Producer Program will be led by a team of specialists and agents from Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee with the support and involvement from representatives of state-level agencies, businesses and organizations that have an interest in the states' meat goat industry.

The Master Meat Goat Producer Program will:

- Include 13 educational topics that focus on meat goat production and issues facing the meat goat industry.
- Enhance the profitability and competitiveness of meat goat producers by providing essential, technical and practical information.
- Provide participants with a meat goat reference manual that covers in detail the educational (technical and practical) information presented in the sessions.
- Encourage producers to interact with trained facilitators and encourages the sharing of ideas with other producers.

Place
Stamp

Tennessee State University
An Peischel
Cooperative Extension Program
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Nashville, TN 37209 - 1561

Master



MEAT GOAT Producer

From the partnership of:



Tennessee State University
Cooperative Extension Program



University of Tennessee
Extension Program



Tennessee Department of
Agriculture



University of Tennessee
at Martin



Natural Resource Conservation
Service



Master Meat Goat Producer Program



Topics to be covered in the educational sessions include:

MARKETING / ECONOMICS / BUDGETING

Goal setting, evaluating objectives, writing a mission statement and planning; all necessary for success. A look at the true economics for a meat goat business: budgeting time, money and resources to the enterprise identified and marketing – how to market your product for profit.

ENVIRONMENT

Producing meat goats that are healthy and function within climatic constraints. Farm biosecurity to keep your livestock and family healthy and best management practices for land stewards.

NUTRITION

The most expensive expenditure on most farms. Understanding the concept of balanced nutrition for production parameters.

FORAGES

The use of pasture grasses, forbs and mixed vegetation for forage-based meat goat production. Use of dried forages as a supplemental feed source. Establishment of mixed specie pastures.

FORESTRY / SILVOPASTURE

Goats as a diversified enterprise in cut over timber, tree plantations, and understory vegetation management.

FACILITIES / FENCING / EQUIPMENT

Economics of portable and permanent structures and fencing. Discussions on equipment and facilities needed based on production management goals and goat behavior under various circumstances.

PREDATORS AND PREDATION

Keeping goats safe from both domestic and wild intruders can be a challenge.

HEALTH / BIOSECURITY

A herd health management program must be incorporated as part of a total operation. Learn to prevent diseases, recognize diseases and avoid internal parasite devastation.

GENETICS

Decisions that impact the quality and performance of goats within the industry and the consumer. Learn basic genetic principles, the use of performance records, planning breeding programs, herdsire selection and selecting and culling females.

REPRODUCTION AND BREEDING

A major factor impacting profitability. This section covers economics, reproductive systems function, management and development of replacement stock, body condition scoring and artificial insemination.

BEHAVIOR

By understanding the agility, aggressive and curiosity tactics of the goat, they can be used to advantage in production management and foraging.

CARCASS QUALITY / FOOD SAFETY AND PREPARATION

The value of a carcass is greatly influenced by genetic decisions. Integrate quality and yield grades into pricing and ethnic group target markets. Wholesome products begin with the producer.

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

This section will discuss body condition scoring, quality assurance management practices, record keeping and practical working “hands-on” sessions.

What are the benefits of the Master Meat Goat Producer Program?

- Participation in educational sessions with specialists that provide opportunities to gain knowledge in meat goat production and marketing
- A reference manual of the 13 topics covered in the sessions and other valuable information - yearly production calendar, DVD and CD's
- Informative interaction with other producers
- An opportunity to identify all the facets of meat goat management and production for a new, novice or experienced producer
- Participation in the Goat Quality Assurance (GQA) certified producer program
- Master Meat Goat Producer Certification to qualify for the Tennessee Agriculture Enhancement program through TDA



The fee for the Master Meat Goat Producer Program is \$160.00 which covers the costs of the training sessions, educational manuals and other teaching / instructional materials.

➤To obtain more information and become involved in the Master Meat Goat Producer Program, contact your local Tennessee State University Cooperative Extension Program or University of Tennessee Extension office.

or contact:

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