

4-H Meat Goat Advancement Guide



Oregon 4-H Advancement Programs

An introduction for leaders, parents and members

4-H advancement programs consist of a series of steps that provide a framework for progressive learning within a specific project area. Advancement programs encourage 4-H members to learn at their own speed, based on their interests and abilities. Advancement programs are self-paced and age- and skill-level appropriate.

Advancement programs also can be a tremendous help to members as they set their goals each year. In addition, advancement programs are useful to Junior Leaders and more experienced 4-H members who wish to work with younger or less experienced members.

Benefits of 4-H advancement programs

Advancement programs:

- Make projects more interesting
- Assist members in setting and achieving goals
- Encourage self-paced learning
- Help members learn more about their projects
- Encourage age-appropriate building of skill level
- Provide new, enjoyable experiences
- Help prepare members for participation in certain activities and events
- Provide recognition for work well done
- Provide incentive to members to stay in a project over a long time period

Life skill development and 4-H advancement programs

Participation in 4-H Advancement programs is instrumental to the development of life skills, a major emphasis of 4-H programming. Young people who participate in 4-H not only gain knowledge about their project areas, they also develop skills they will use throughout their lives.

Specifically, 4-H Advancement Programs are designed to develop life skills in:

- Learning to learn
- Making decisions
- Keeping records
- Planning and organizing
- Achieving goals
- Completing a project or task
- Communicating
- Being responsible
- Developing self-esteem

About the advancement program steps

The advancement steps are written to provide a learning sequence for all members. Although all members should start with Step I, advancement programs are designed so 4-H members may advance as quickly as they desire based on interest, effort, and ability. A fourth- or fifth grade

4-H member might take two or three years to complete Step I; an eighth- or ninth-grade member might complete one or two steps in a year.

Members should work on one step at a time. However, there are times when a member may accomplish an activity in another step before completing the step on which he or she is working. Recognize that if there is considerable difference in the level of skill within a group, members may be working on several levels of the program at the same time.

Much of the information leaders and members need to complete the advancement steps can be found in project materials. For more advanced steps, members should refer to other sources.

Recording progress in the advancement program

Leaders should encourage members to keep the advancement program with their records. Doing so allows leaders and members to evaluate the 4-H experience, review progress and establish goals for the future. Upon completing a step, the member should fill in the date and have the leader initial the record.

Reviewing advancement progress

Once a member has completed an advancement step, the leader then should arrange for a review of the experience. This review often is conducted through an interview process.

The interview can be conducted by someone other than the leader, if it is feasible. Being interviewed by an expert in a particular area can be a valuable experience for members. Such interviews help prepare members for job interviews and other real life experiences.

Leaders also might want to arrange for an advancement chairperson or committee to review each member soon after he or she has completed the step requirements.

The review is an excellent opportunity to involve parents in club activities. Several parents can serve on the committee, and two or three of them can conduct the interviews. The interviewers should be familiar with the 4-H program, its objectives, and the project area.

The advancement chairperson or committee should approve the advancement only when they are satisfied the member is ready to continue on to the next step.

How to use the advancement program

The advancement program should be presented at the beginning of the 4-H year.

Review what was done last year.

Before deciding on specific things to include in the club program, leaders should review what the members and club have done previously. A review allows discussion of the following questions:

- What did we do?
- What did we like?
- What needs improvement/expansion?
- Was everyone involved?

Review the members' present interests.

Encourage members and parents to express their interests, needs, and goals. This allows them to feel important and committed to the final club program.

Share county/statewide special programs.

Tell your members about activities available to them through your county or the state. Share your special interests with members and parents. This allows members and parents to learn about new opportunities and helps determine whether the club should set specific goals related to them.

Develop your program.

If your group of 4-H participants is small, all the members should be involved in determining the group goals for the year. If the group is large, a special committee may identify the goals for the year's program.

Base your goals on the current year members' range of grades, levels of achievement, and interests. Design the program to meet the needs and interests of each member. Establish goals to meet the interests and needs of youth, provide for individual achievement for each member, and to be within the range of accomplishment for each member.

If your club has a wide range of grades, interests, and abilities, divide the club into small groups to work with a junior leader. This enhances the learning and satisfaction of all members.

Recognizing advancement

The National 4-H Recognition Model outlines five different ways in which 4-H members can be recognized.



Participation

This type of recognition program emphasizes the importance of acknowledging young people who have been involved in 4-H educational experiences. For some youth, participation in a 4-H learning experience is an accomplishment.

Progress toward self-set goals

Parents and other adults can help youth set realistic goals. Recognition for progress toward self-set goals, no matter how

small, is an integral part of this type of recognition.

Standards of excellence

Standards of excellence are established by experts in a given area. By measuring personal progress against standards of excellence, youth can gain insight into their own efforts and abilities.

Peer competition

Peer competition is part of the model for recognition. This type of recognition subjectively identifies, in a concrete time and place, the best team or individual. It is a strong motivator for some youth but is inappropriate for youth under the age of eight.

Cooperation

Learning and working together promotes high achievement. Cooperation takes advantage of all the skills represented in the group, as well as the process by which the group approaches the learning task/goal. Everyone is rewarded.

Advancement certificates

The 4-H Advancement Program is an excellent way to promote and recognize members' progress toward self-set goals and achieving standards of excellence through learning. Customized advancement for each project area are available from your county Extension office. Contact your local 4-H staff member to request advancement certificates in your project area.

Earning an advancement certificate deserves recognition. When members have completed a level of advancement, recognize it. You could do this at an achievement meeting or other community event. Extension 4-H staff members also can help leaders prepare releases about members' achievements for newspaper and radio.

This section written by Mary Arnold, Extension 4-H youth development specialist, Oregon State University.

Using the Advancement Program in the Meat Goat Project

A note to 4-H members

The 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program can be an important part of learning and excelling in your livestock project. Your advancements should be included as part of your project records. Most of the answers to the questions in this program can be found in your project manual. If you need more information about your project, refer to expert materials on the subject. Examples of expert resources include books, articles, and pamphlets.

Instructions for using the advancement guide

4-H members should progress through each of the steps in the order they appear in this booklet. As you do each option, fill in the date and have your leader or parent initial it. When you have completed the required number of options for a step, tell your leader that you are ready to be reviewed on the quality of that step. You will be asked questions about the work you have done. When each step is completed, you will obtain a 4-H Advancement Certificate from your leader and your local Extension System Office.

When you have passed Step I, proceed to Step II, then III, then IV, then V. You can do options for higher steps while you are working on a lower step, but you cannot qualify for the higher step until you have qualified for all preceding steps.

Please study each option carefully. Good luck with the program.

This program will:

1. Make your project more interesting
2. Help you learn more about meat goats
3. Help you develop greater skill with meat goats
4. Provide you with new, enjoyable experiences
5. Allow for your advancement according to your ability, interest, and willingness to work
6. Provide you with recognition for work well done

Step I

This is the first step in the 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program. When you have completed ten skill options and three personal development options, you are qualified to complete Step I.

Skill Options

	Date passed	Approved by
1. Identify and describe five breeds of goats, include at least two breeds raised for meat.	_____	_____
2. Name, locate, and correctly spell the following parts: poll, muzzle, leg, point of shoulder, heart girth, brisket, shoulder, pastern, hock, forearm, barrel, rib, pin bone, withers, rump, loin, chine.	_____	_____
3. Describe the following undesirable characteristics of breeding stock and tell why they are undesirable: undershot jaw, overshot jaw, crooked legs, excessive fat, narrow body, weak pasterns.	_____	_____
4. Describe/explain and correctly spell the following: buck, doe, kid, wether, yearling, registered, purebred.	_____	_____
5. Name four signs to look for that would indicate your goat is not feeling well.	_____	_____
6. Demonstrate how to set up and lead your market goat in a showing.	_____	_____
7. Demonstrate to your leader that you have provided adequate shelter from rain and sun and a suitable fence for your animals. Show that you have removed nails, loose boards, wire, machinery, and sharp corners that might injure your animals.	_____	_____
8. Demonstrate to your leader that you provide fresh, clean water and trace-mineralized, iodized salt for your animals at all times.	_____	_____
9. Complete a 4-H Animal Science Record on your project.	_____	_____
10. Create a report on some aspect of your project. Examples: a written report on the importance of quality feed or on your goat's breed and why you chose it.	_____	_____
11. Explain how to raise a kid on a bottle.	_____	_____
12. Explain how to start a market goat on feed.	_____	_____
13. Tell your leader the normal vital signs of a goat and how to measure for temperature, respiration and heart rate.	_____	_____

Personal Development Options

(Fill in options selected from page 10 of this advancement program.)

- | | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Give a demonstration or talk to your club. | _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ | _____ |

_____ (Age __) is qualified and has completed all requirements for Step I of the 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program.

Approved by _____
 Club advancement chair or committee Date

Step II

This is the second step in the 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program. When you can pass ten skill options and three personal development options, you are qualified to complete Step II.

Skill Options

	Date passed	Approved by
1. Describe caprine arthritis-encephalitis (CAE) and tell how it can be prevented.	_____	_____
2. Describe and correctly spell the terms chevon and cabrito.	_____	_____
3. Describe or explain and correctly spell the following livestock terms: parasite, castrate, bloat, scours, syringe, hoof trimmer.	_____	_____
4. Explain how to control three parasites such as stomach worms, ticks, liver flukes, maggots, flies, lice or grubs.	_____	_____
5. Name and describe four things that might cause your goat to become ill.	_____	_____
6. Name four common conformation faults of market goats, and explain how to compensate for such faults while showing an animal.	_____	_____
7. Explain three of the following management practices: hoof trimming, ear tagging, castration or stomach worm treatment.	_____	_____
8. Fit an animal for show.	_____	_____
9. Give a presentation on the animal husbandry of meat goats.	_____	_____
10. Complete a feed and growth record for a meat goat.	_____	_____
11. Explain "scrapie" then explain what a "scrapie tag" is and why it is important.	_____	_____
12. Explain what a vaccination is and why it is important. List two diseases meat goats should be vaccinated against.	_____	_____
13. Describe the following characteristics of breeding stock and tell why they are desirable: well-muscled, long body, strong back and sound udder.	_____	_____

Personal Development Options

(Fill in options selected from page 10 of this advancement program.)

1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

_____ (Age __) is qualified and has completed all requirements for Step II of the 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program.

Approved by _____ Date _____
 Club advancement chair or committee

Step III

This is the third step in the 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program. When you have passed ten skill options and three personal development options, you are qualified to complete Step III.

Skill Options

	Date passed	Approved by
1. Name and describe four undesirable meat goat characteristics: two that are inherited and two caused by feeding and management. Explain the cause of each characteristic and how to correct for it.	_____	_____
2. Describe/define and correctly spell the following livestock terms: scrotum, testicle, semen, sperm, ovary, ovulate, ovum, fetus, uterus, artificial insemination, colostrums, castrate and abortion.	_____	_____
3. Explain heat (estrus) cycle, breeding, conception, pregnancy, and gestation period. Explain how to calculate freshening dates.	_____	_____
4. Make a collection of forage plants, weeds, and poisonous plants. (Include at least three forage plants for hay, three pasture plants, three weeds, and one or more poisonous plants.)	_____	_____
5. Keep a 4-H Production Record on one or more female meat goats for one full year.	_____	_____
6. Describe ways livestock are bought and sold in your community. Common ways are: auction yard, terminal market, county or local buyers, local meat markets and private agreement.	_____	_____
7. Define the term "average daily gain" and explain the market weights and average daily gains expected for market goats.	_____	_____
8. Describe and give treatment or prevention for three of the following sicknesses or diseases: bloat, hoof rot, scours, brucellosis, pink eye, ring worm or shipping fever.	_____	_____
9. Demonstrate how to give vaccinations and explain the difference between intramuscular and subcutaneous injections.	_____	_____
10. Read a medication label, calculate the correct dosage and tell how it should be administered to your meat goat.	_____	_____
11. Name the four parts of a goat's stomach. What are the functions of the rumen? How do the digestion processes differ in a ruminant or a non-ruminant?	_____	_____
12. Describe what a drug withdrawal period is and why it is important.	_____	_____
13. Observe the birth of a kid. Clear the nostrils and mouth, disinfect the navel and give appropriate inoculations for your area.	_____	_____

Personal Development Options

(Fill in options selected from page 10 of this advancement program.)

1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

_____ (Age __) is qualified and has completed all requirements for Step III of the 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program.

Approved by _____
 Club advancement chair or committee Date

Step IV

This is the fourth step in the 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program. When you have completed ten skill options and three personal development options, you are qualified to complete Step IV.

Skill Options

Skill Options	Date passed	Approved by
1. Demonstrate tattooing or another means of permanent animal identification to your club.	_____	_____
2. Learn how to register an animal. Fill out a registration application. Explain the advantages of a membership in a breed association.	_____	_____
3. Explain dehorning and the procedures used to accomplish the task. Explain when it should be done, how it is done and why completely disbudding a male goat is difficult.	_____	_____
4. Participate in disbudding a meat goat.	_____	_____
5. Demonstrate proper hoof trimming to your club members. Explain why and how often hooves should be trimmed. List the signs of hoof rot.	_____	_____
6. Do one of the following: (a.) collect, label, and display five forage plants, four cereals, three protein supplements, and two necessary minerals; or (b.) give or write a report on a pasture program in your area. Include soil preparation, seeding, seed mixture, irrigation, weed control, fertilization, rotation and use.	_____	_____
7. Explain the functions of proteins, carbohydrates, fats, water, vitamins and minerals in a ration for livestock.	_____	_____
8. Calculate a balanced ration for one of your animals.	_____	_____
9. Calculate the cost per pound of a market animal.	_____	_____
10. Study monthly changes in the market price for meat goats for one year. Prepare a graph showing these price changes.	_____	_____
11. Calculate the average daily gain for a market animal while on feed. Calculate the weight per day of age.	_____	_____
12. Demonstrate castration to your club members. Explain the three most common methods.	_____	_____
13. Visit a commercial or purebred breeding and feeding operation, then report on your visit during a club meeting.	_____	_____
14. Explain the marketing procedure from the ranch to the customer. How are prices established?	_____	_____

Personal Development Options

(Fill in options selected from page 10 of this advancement program.)

- | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ | _____ |

_____ (Age __) is qualified and has completed all requirements for Step IV of the 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program.

Approved by _____ Date _____
 Club advancement chair or committee

Step V

This is the fifth and final step of the 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program. When you have completed five or more of the skill options and three personal development options you have qualified to complete the advancement program. Congratulations!

Skill Options

Study, research and prepare a paper, and give a report or presentation on any of the following topics:

1. General management and raising of goats.
2. Livestock feeds, feeding and nutrition.
3. Reproduction, breeding and genetics.
4. Sanitation, and prevention and control of a disease.
5. Using records as a basis for improving livestock.
6. Some aspect of animal husbandry related to meat goat production.
7. Shearing or dehorning, castrating or vaccinating a goat.
8. Birthing and care of the kid and doe upon birth.
- 9.
- 10.

Note: Be creative. If possible use technology to accomplish these presentation. Consider creating a vidcast, podcast or PowerPoint presentation.

Date passed

Approved by

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Personal Development Options

(Fill in options selected from page 10 of this advancement program.)

1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____

_____ (Age __) is qualified and has completed all requirements for Step V of the 4-H Meat Goat Advancement Program.

Approved by _____

Club advancement chair or committee

_____ Date

Personal Development Skill Options

1. Lead the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H Pledge at a 4-H meeting.
2. Lead a song or a game at a 4-H meeting.
3. Serve as host for a 4-H club meeting in your home. See that everyone is welcomed and made comfortable.
4. Preside at a meeting of your 4-H club.
5. Write a news story for the local or community newspaper.
6. Participate in a radio or television program.
7. Present a demonstration or illustrated talk to your club.
8. Present a demonstration or illustrated talk to a group other than your 4-H club.
9. Present a demonstration or illustrated talk at the county fair.
10. Present a demonstration or illustrated talk at the state fair.
11. Participate in a community service project.
12. Serve as chair of a club committee.
13. Participate in a livestock judging contest.
14. Serve as a Junior Leader for a club.
15. Serve as a Teen Leader for a club.
16. Serve as clerk, chair or apprentice judge at a 4-H show.
17. Attend 4-H camp.
18. Serve as a camp counselor.
19. Attend 4-H Summer Conference at Oregon State University.
20. Teach a class at 4-H Summer Conference at Oregon State University.
21. Develop and exhibit a science display related to your project.
22. Develop a presentation about some aspect of your project using technology (vidcast, podcast, PowerPoint, etc.)
23. Arrange a tour for your club.
24. Secure a speaker for your club meeting.
25. Complete your 4-H records.
26. Visit a packing plant.
27. Develop other options with approval from your leader.

Adapted by Lynette Black, Wasco County 4-H faculty, from original advancement publications developed by John Landers, Extension animal scientist emeritus; Dean Frischknecht, Extension animal scientist emeritus; and Duane P. Johnson, Extension specialist, 4-H youth development, Oregon State University; with the assistance of the 4-H development committee for animal science projects. Additional contributions from 4-H leader Andy Smith, 4-H members Samantha Hege and Sydney Hege, and Wasco County 4-H agent Lynette Black.

© 2009 Oregon State University. Extension work is a cooperative program of Oregon State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Oregon counties. Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials without discrimination based on age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran's status. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Published September 2009.