NEW YORK STATE FAIR YOUTH GOAT ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE PACK GOAT PROJECTS IN 2019!!!

Do you have any goat youth in your county that are training or working with a pack goat? We will be offering two pack goat classes at the NYS Fair this year for youth with pack goat projects.

Please keep in mind that if you have youth who are owning or leasing a potential pack goat but do not have equipment to train them with, the NYS 4-H Working Goat Committee has a lending program which allows youth to borrow packs for miniature and standard sized goat breeds for up to 3 months.

The youth pack goat classes at the NYS Fair are not intended for dairy or meat goat exhibitors who want to run an obstacle course for “the fun of it”. There is a fun class for just that purpose on the last day of the youth goat activities at the NYS Fair. Instead, pack goat classes at the NYS Fair are intended for youth training and/or conditioning their goat for packing at the county level.

In order to exhibit at the NYS Fair, pack goats must be at least 6 months old. They may be wethers, fertile does, sterile does or hermaphrodites. They may be ANY breed and can be disbudded, polled or horned depending on county criteria. However, no bucks may be shown in any youth goat classes at the NYS Fair. The Youth Pack Goat Show will be held Saturday, August 24 at 9:00 am. Just like all other youth goat exhibitors, pack goats and their youth need to be in place at the fair by 9 am Wednesday, August 21 and leave the fair on Tuesday evening, August 27.

If your county does not have competitive pack goat classes at your 4-H show, pack goat projects may still qualify for the NYS Fair by 1) being judged on their own merit in an exhibition class at their county show, 2) competing in 4-H pack goat classes in another county, OR 3) by being quality endorsed by a 4-H working goat leader or member of the NYS 4-H Working Goat Committee who observes the youth working their goat at home. For more information on how to have your county youth qualifying, contact Dr. tatiana Stanton at tls7@cornell.edu or 607-229-9066.

NYS Pack Goat Project Record Books and other working goat resources are available on the web at http://4h.ansci.cornell.edu/animal-programs/goats/working-goats/. A list of county pack goat judges is available on the sidebar at http://4h.ansci.cornell.edu/animal-programs/goats/.

In order to show at the NYS Fair, all goats must have official scrapie identification, either registration tattoo or scrapie eartag or tattoo. All goats over 3 months of age (as of 2 weeks prior to arrival at the fair) must be “extra label” vaccinated for rabies at least 2 weeks prior to arrival at the NYS Fairgrounds and not more than 365 days prior. All goats must be accompanied to the fair by a valid intrastate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) issued by a Category 2 accredited veterinarian on or after May 1, 2019.

The 2019 NYS Fair youth goat exhibitor letter, goat entry forms, youth livestock premium book are all available online at http://4h.ansci.cornell.edu/events-2/nys-fair/forms-information/. The actual pack goat classes are also listed below for your interest.

Thank you, tatiana

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NYS FAIR YOUTH PACK GOATS
Section DN – Fitting and Showmanship

a. All pack goat exhibitors are automatically entered in this mandatory class and are limited to one entry – no animals under 6 months.
b. Senior youth must be 14 to 18 years old as of Jan. 1 of the current year. Junior youth must be 8 to 13 years old as of Jan. 1 of the current year; Novice are youth (Junior or Senior) who have never shown in a goat showmanship class at State Fair.
c. Entry shown must also compete in one of Classes 104-105.
d. Packs must be worn by both goat and exhibitor (cross buck not recommended for miniatures). Youth must wear appropriate hiking attire including long pants, sleeved shirt (t-shirts ok), hiking sneakers/boots and back, knap or fanny pack. The exhibitor should carry in their pack, or on their person, the following emergency survival essentials including, but not limited to: filled one liter water bottle, no-cook snacks, map, compass, sunscreen, insect repellent, first-aid kit, fire-starter kit in waterproof container, flashlight/headlamp with extra batteries, whistle, signaling mirror, strong twine or rope, and an emergency space blanket. Fire starter kit should not include real matches; instead, please use an empty matchbox or matchbook. Additional essentials/supplies may be carried by the goat.

Class #100 – Pack Goat Fitting and Showmanship – Senior Exhibitor
Class #101 – Pack Goat Fitting and Showmanship – Junior Exhibitor
Class #102 – Pack Goat Fitting and Showmanship – Novice Exhibitor
Class #103 – Pack Goat Fitting and Showmanship – Master Showmanship
   (first and second place entries from the previous 3 classes)

Section DP – Trail Challenge

a. These classes consist of a judged course testing the youth exhibitor and their goat’s ability to work as a partnership to navigate challenges similar to those they might encounter when hiking. Challenges will be suitable for both miniature and larger breed goats and for goats ≥6 months old. The pair should maintain an efficient hiking pace when not navigating challenges.
b. Youth may show a maximum of two project goats in their division.
c. After 3 attempts to complete a trail challenge, the exhibitor will be asked to continue on to the next trail challenge. The judge may also ask the exhibitor to continue past the challenge if he/she feels it is counterproductive to continue confronting that challenge.
d. Trail Challenge Senior and Junior Division Champions will be the top ranking youth/goat pair in each division. Trail Challenge Senior and Junior Division Reserve Champions will be the second ranking youth/goat pair in each division.

Class #104 – Trail Challenge Senior Division – Youth 14 to 18 years old as of Jan.1 of the current year.
Class #105 – Trail Challenge Junior Division – Youth 8 to 13 years old as of Jan. 1 of the current year.