

Feasibility Study, Considerations & Logistics Details

Business and Marketing

- Name of business , business license, logo and Street signs
- Contracts and paperwork for large transactions with other businesses
- Insurance for small business to cover livestock losses
- Phone and contact information
- Marketing strategy;
 - Brush control
 - Selling animals to ethnic groups – they process on site
 - Selling processed meat to retail / wholesale
 - Selling animals to other breeders
- Digital Camera for advertising, documenting injury or theft, equipment sales etc.
- USDA Certs? (USDA Personnel have to be on site during processing for re-sale?)
- Advertising or signs
- ADGA or ABGA registration papers for sale of registered does or bucks.
- Vet contact. First visit by vet after initial setup and with a few goats as demos (for insurance and state reasons vet must visit at least one time)
- Accounting and Finance organized... who does the books?
 - Sales Receipt book management
 - Funds received ledger
 - Outgo ledger
 - Separate banking accounts for simplicity and for audits
- Schedules for:
 - Medications
 - Breeding
 - De- worming
 - Hoof trim, foot and toe inspections
 - Grooming / wellness checks
- Record keeping for;
 - Contacts and past client follow up
 - Grain and food purchases
 - Large item purchases
 - Supply purchases (day to day)
 - Hay and Alfalfa expense records
 - Livestock buy and sell records
 - Ear Tag numbers and IDs for CAE State testing records
 - Petty Cash
 - Business Purchase Card or Purchase Order process
 - Vehicle licensing and purchases

Food

- Hay
- Food grain and bale storage (Rat and mouse proof)
- Alfalfa bale supply (for Calcium and Potassium)
- Feed schedule, amounts
- Safe feeding area out of the weather
- Minerals and Supplements
- Grains, Dry cob, wet cob
- Minerals, copper supplement
- Copper goat licks

Water

- Goats cannot drink our creek or the pond water.
- Potable water ported in via truck and delivered into drinking troughs twice a day.
- Drinking troughs or basins must be cleaned of algae or droppings daily

Shelter

- Lean to or apex shelters (3 sided) for winter and birthing.
- High enough to get to emergency births.. at least shoulder high
- If the roof is slippery then add cleats so goat kids can play on it
 - Goats must be out of the rain and snow. They will die if exposed, unlike sheep
 - Out of wind or drafts when humidity or moisture is high
- Shelter entrance facing East or ESE for direct sun first thing in the morning

Grazing, Fencing and Transport

- Fencing
 - Electric will not hold young kids or Bucks in rut.
 - Chain link will not work without extensive reinforcement.
 - The best is welded wire 2 x 4 inch horse panel in large rolls with T posts.
 - For Bucks the corral has to be 16' cattle panel with wood posts 16' O/C with t-posts at 64 and 128 inches between the wood posts.
- Transport
 - 4x4 truck
 - Large horse trailers with spring suspension, single level for 25+ goats.
 - Gut out a 5th wheel or 28' trailer for transport

- Double layers may not work: if the goats have a hard ride they will not go on top again. It's difficult to drive goats up ramps.
- Too few goats will force them to bed down. Too many will force to stand, hence injury on rough roads or pastured areas.

Health

- Isolation areas for extended time
- Splints (I make from PVC or Syringe covers)
- First aid for wounds
- Order CAE/CL Testing kits from University of Wash (Pullman) (Free kits)
- CAE/CL Blood Draw, name of goat (tag #) and mail off blood samples
- Ivomec for fly and pest control
- Kid starter powder, colostrum powder
- Hoof trimmers (2) and Hoof blood stopper (Powder)
- Polling box and de-horning iron (if wanting polled goats to sell wethers as pets)
- De-Worming pellets

Medications

- Sub q syringes
- Measuring cups
- Vaccinations for Tetanus, CAE etc.
- Vitamins and copper pellets, B complex injectable
- Nutrition emergency supplements

Breeding

- Breeding schedule according to tag # record book (5 month gestation)
- Birthing shelter with private area, esp. for first time moms
- Birthing supplies: Towels, heat lamps, straps
- Molasses for water and placenta passing

Slaughter Area

- Public accessible for several groups at once with close proximity to gantry
- Flat cart for transporting larger animals to gantry

- Come along or pulley
- Cleanable, preferably a cement pad with gantry with hooks for hanging at 8 feet
- Small Ladder
- Running water
- Knife sharpeners
- Waste removal and disposal by each group
- Clean, food grade large baggies or garbage bags
- Each group goes to a dedicated check in, check out area

Processing

- Stainless steel floor, walls, sinks,
- Cooler for storage
- Remains disposal
- Sanitizing chemical storage, out of processing area
- Cleaning schedules
- Blood disposal (flies, ground saturation odors, animals after dark etc.)
- Dedicated band saw
- Wrapping equipment, plastic, then paper
- Markers, labels, branding etc.
- Transportation to other meat producers