

Keeping Urban Goats

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COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



Keeping Goats:
Goat
Types/Breeds





Dairy – Standard

Avg. 30in tall, 150lbs



Dairy- Dwarf

Avg. 20in tall, 40lb



Meat Breeds

Avg. 24in, 170lb



Dual Breeds

Avg. 20in, 50lb

Recommended Considerations:

1. Enforcing breed/size adherence is very difficult
2. Typically “floppy ear” breeds are louder and more vocal
3. Owners should accommodate goat size when providing fencing/housing
4. Goats are very social animals and should be housed with another goat



Keeping Goats:
Housing





Shelter from heat and cold

Goats should be provided with housing to provide shade in the summer and warmth/wind cover in winter



Fencing

Should be sturdy enough to stand on and tall enough to not jump (48inches)

Rail fencing and woven wire fencing are typically not adequate to keep goats in.



Spacing

The standard minimum requirement for space for goats is 10-12 square feet of indoor space per goat with outdoor exercise space provided

Recommended Considerations:

1. Inadequate fencing may lead to escaped animals putting them at risk for predator attacks or causing property damage
2. Stimulation such as "climbing equipment" should be kept far enough off fence to prevent jumping out.
3. Bucks (intact males) cannot be housed with does (female goats)



Keeping Goats: Health





Federal Tag Requirement

Goats are required to have a Federal Scrapie Tag or a permanent tattoo in ear at all times



Breeding/Milk Production

Cleanliness and herd health considerations for milk to be consumed by humans. Milks handling basics



Livestock Vets

Limited livestock vets in or near Brighton

Recommended Considerations:

1. It is highly recommended bucks (intact males) are not allowed.
2. It is highly recommended that sale of milk meat, or milk shares are not allowed
3. Dairy goats must be bred and kid to maintain milk production. It is recommended to allow goat kids to remain on property and not count as a "goat unit" until the age of 4-6 months.



Keeping Goats: Feeding/Manure Management





Feed Storage

Goats must be fed a balanced diet of dry matter (hay) and concentrates (grain)

Hay and grain feed should be stored securely to prevent rodents, flies, or nuisance species from feeding on it.



Manure Management

- Goats typically excrete .05% of their body weight in manure each day. Ex: 100lb goat makes 5lb manure each day
- Manure and manure piles should be completely removed at least every 2 weeks to prevent flies.

Recommended Considerations:

1. Inadequate feed storage may attract rodents and other nuisance species such as raccoons.
2. Will Brighton garbage services allow disposal of manure in trash bins.
3. Inadequate manure management may attract flies and other insects.

Thank you



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