A Little About Livestock

Summer has officially arrived! And with the first official day of summer comes project kick-offs, camps, summer activities, family vacations, and much more!

Throughout the many exciting summertime activities, one thing to keep in mind is the health of your project animals. Summer in South Carolina is HOT! It is up to you to make sure he is able to stay cool and comfortable during these hot temperatures.

Follow these tips to keep your project animal healthy at home in the summer:

- Constant access to clean, cool water
- Provide plenty of shade
- Increase ventilation (open windows)
- Increase air movement (fans)
- Wet animals (except sheep)

Now go check your facilities to make sure your animals can stay cool!

Know the signs of heat stress:
- Seeking shade/bunching
- Panting
- Slobbering/excessive salivation/foaming
- Open-mouth breathing
- Trembling
- Loss of coordination

Next you should learn how to prevent and treat heat stress.

Follow these tips to keep your project animal healthy when traveling to events in the summer:

- Air flow in trailer/open vents
- Travel early or late in the day
- Only stop if necessary and for short periods
- Water animals prior to trip
- Don’t pack too tightly
- Handle animals quietly and calmly

Do some research, use common sense and let’s have a safe and cool summer!

2014 Beef Ambassador Program

The SC BAP is a part of the National Beef Ambassador Program (NBAP). The National Beef Ambassador Program (NBAP) is a national, competitive youth public speaking program for the beef industry. NBAP promotes the beef industry and development of leadership skills in youth. The program spotlights the positive impact the cattle industry has on our economy and families.

Individuals compete on their state level; the winners come to the national competition to vie for cash, scholarships and an opportunity to travel across the nation promoting beef and the beef industry.

This contest is in its 6th year and is held during Jr. Beef Round-Up (contestants do NOT have to be registered to show at Round-Up to compete in the Beef Ambassador Program Competition). This is an amazing opportunity for youth (ages 13-20) to represent the beef industry and develop valuable leadership skills.

For more information contact Robin Long (rlong2@clemson.edu) or visit www.nationalbeefambassador.org
Showmanship classes are judged on how well the exhibitor presents his/her animal to the judge. The goal of the Sales Talk contest is to convince the judges that they should buy your animal.

Training a dairy heifer is a lot of work. They are not trained to walk on a halter when project members receive them at Kick-Off.

Rabbit showmanship gives youth confidence and public speaking skills!

Jr. Beef Round-Up

AUGUST 1-3, 2014
GARRISON ARENA
PENDLETON, SC

Mark your calendars now because Round-Up is approaching quickly! Youth exhibitors should be studying for the Cattlemen’s Contest and brushing up their showmanship skills for the Sales Talk. Make sure to download and READ the 2014 Round-Up Handbook, available on the website!

We are gearing up for a great event this year! But we need all the help we can get. If you are willing to help out there are many ways to volunteer throughout the weekend. You do not need livestock experience to volunteer.

We are also looking for Cattlemen’s Contest prizes and Silent Auction items. These do not have to all be livestock themed.

• Regular Registration ($20/head) ends July 15th
• Late Registration ($40/head) is July 16th-27th
• NO ENTRIES will be accepted after July 27th!

Contact Robin Long rlong2@clemson.edu for more information about Jr. Beef Round-Up or anything listed in this article.

Dairy Heifer Project

With 22 project members in the 2014-2015 and 25 in the 2013-2014 Dairy heifer project, there are a lot of dairy heifers out across the state!

2013 project members should have their heifers bred for this year’s Bred Heifer Sale. MAKE SURE you get the breeding date, sire name, and sire bull ID or registration number! This is VERY important for the sale!! We are also adding a statement about your heifer to the sale catalog. It will only be 3-4 sentences so begin thinking about what you want to say about your heifer. More information about this will be coming to you soon.

2014 project members should be working with and tracking their heifer’s growth. Please don’t forget to be sending in your monthly record sheets! Show season will be kicking off soon so you should be working with your heifer regularly.

Information about this project and miscellaneous forms are posted to the Youth Livestock Opportunities website. Please bookmark this page and check it often!

Rabbits

Record books and curriculum guidelines are being created for the 2014/2015 project year. We will be asking those involved with rabbit projects to use these materials and provide feedback so we can improve upon them and create a final usable curriculum.

Material will not be posted on the website this year so if you are interested in receiving information and materials let us know you want to be added to the Rabbit Curriculum list.
Meat Goat Project

The SC Meat Goat Project had a successful Kick-Off on Saturday, June 21st at the Newberry Fairgrounds. Despite the intense heat and humidity 114 youth members drew for their project goats.

To see a video from Kick-Off or view pictures visit the Project’s website: [http://www.sc4hffameatgoatproject.com/](http://www.sc4hffameatgoatproject.com/) or find us on Facebook (SC Meatgoatproject).

There are a few Goat Project Clinics coming up and all project members should plan to attend at least one:
- **Saturday July 19**—Laurens High School @ 9:00am (Melanie Birchmore 864-200-6271)
- **Saturday July 19**—Harleyville, SC Chris Sweatman
- **Friday, August 8**—Eastern Carolina Agricultural Fairgrounds in Florence @ 6:00pm. All Low Part of the State members are urged to participate in this clinic. (Marie Dorr 803-983-9342)

Show season is coming so make sure you are working with your goat every day! The more you work with him the more likely he will be calmer and act better at shows.

Barrow Project

We are weighing in barrows for the Barrow Project. If you have NOT been contacted about weighing and ear tagging your barrow(s) please let Robin Long know asap!

We have added a Record Book component to the scoring for the Overall Champion of the State Fair Barrow Show. Project members will receive their record books at their initial weigh-ins. Don’t put off filling out your record books! Start on them immediately and work on them continuously throughout the project!

Market Steer Project

The Market Steer Project kicked-off earlier this month with a total of 11 members weighing on their steers. Steers need to reach 1,000 lbs by the State Fair Sale so make sure you are feeding them enough. Here are a few guidelines to keep in mind:
- Keep a consistent feeding schedule
- Make feeding changes gradually
- Keep feed trough clean
- Have salt and minerals available
- ALWAYS provide fresh, clean water
- They tend to lose their appetites in the heat so try to keep them cool

Don’t forget to work on contacting potential buyers for your steers. It is up to you to find buyers for your steer. Be creative, talk to lots of people, and sell yourself!
Upcoming Workshops/Events

Small Ruminant Short Course
Friday, August 15th
Hopkins Farm
Simpsonville, SC
Management and care requirements of goats and sheep.
$65 (4-H discount available)
Cassie Wycoff (864) 984-2514 x117
https://shopping.clemson.edu/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=103&products_id=736

SC NPIP Workshop
Saturday, August 30th
Columbia, SC
- NPIP Breeder Flock Certification
- Small Flock Certification
- SC NPIP Tester’s License
- Biosecurity
$65 (due by August 25th)
Dr. Julie Helm (803) 260-6442
http://www.clemson.edu/public/lph/ahp/npipbreedertesterclass.html

South Carolina 4-H/FFA Livestock Show Calendar
View the full schedule on the South Carolina Youth Livestock Program website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jr. Beef Round-Up</td>
<td>August 1-3</td>
<td>York, South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crescent FFA</td>
<td>August 15</td>
<td>Goat Craze, South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laurens</td>
<td>August 22-23</td>
<td>Anderson, South Carolina</td>
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<td>Newberry</td>
<td>September 4-6</td>
<td>South Greenville, South Carolina</td>
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<td>Abbeville</td>
<td>September 5-6</td>
<td>Orangeburg, South Carolina</td>
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<td>Foothills Heritage Fair</td>
<td>September 30 – October 5</td>
<td>Foothills, South Carolina</td>
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<td>Eastern Carolina Ag Fair</td>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Eastern Carolina, South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Piedmont Interstate Fair</td>
<td>October 6-12</td>
<td>Piedmont, South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sumter County Fair</td>
<td>October 7-12</td>
<td>Sumter, South Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC State Fair</td>
<td>October 8-19</td>
<td>SC State, South Carolina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union County Ag Fair</td>
<td>October 14-18</td>
<td>Union County, South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia-Carolina Fair</td>
<td>October 17-26</td>
<td>Georgia-Carolina, South Carolina</td>
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<td>Western Carolina Aiken</td>
<td>Goat Project Oct. 25</td>
<td>Western Carolina, South Carolina</td>
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<td>Coastal Carolina Ladson</td>
<td>Goats Nov. 1</td>
<td>Coastal Carolina, South Carolina</td>
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<td>Saluda</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Saluda, South Carolina</td>
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