



JUDGE ALONG

at the Missouri State Fair

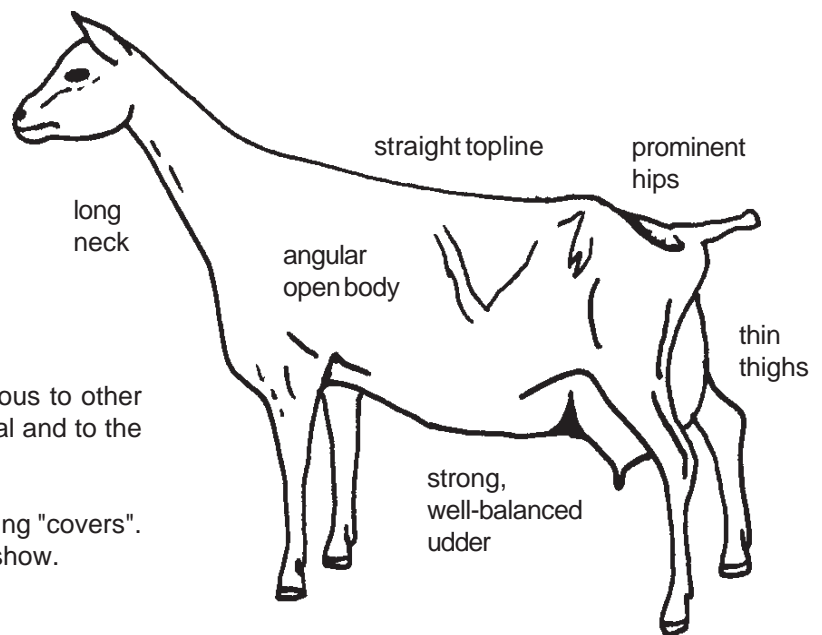
Dairy Goats

What a judge might look for in the female dairy goat:

- ◆ Strong dairy characteristics. Since dairy goats are raised for milk, which will be made into a wide variety of dairy products, the mammary system is especially important.
- ◆ A strongly attached udder that is elastic and well-balanced with adequate capacity to allow for heavy milk production over a long period of time.
- ◆ A relatively large body in proportion to the animal's size, age and stage of milk production. Prominent hips, thin thighs and a long neck.
- ◆ An angular (not round) and open body with a strong, yet refined, bone structure.
- ◆ An attractive framework with femininity, strength, upstandingness, length and smoothness of blending throughout that create an impressive style and graceful walk.

What a judge might look for in the show ring:

- ◆ Showmanship includes general appearance, especially cleanliness of the animal and the exhibitor's ability to lead and pose the animal in the ring.
- ◆ The goats are led around the ring and are kept between the exhibitor and the judges at all times.
- ◆ When the animal is standing still, its legs are positioned squarely under its body to show it to the best advantage.
- ◆ The exhibitor may stroke the goat's belly or rub its hips to keep the animal's topline straight.
- ◆ A good showman is polite and courteous to other exhibitors and pays attention to both the animal and to the judge at all times.
- ◆ You might see goats in the barns wearing "covers". These are to keep the animals clean prior to a show.



Did You Know? . . .

- A goat does not eat what you might think! Goats, like all domestic animals, need nutritious food, including grain and alfalfa to produce quality milk. *Tin cans and other trash items are definitely not food for goats.*

- "Nannies" and "billies" are only in fairy tails! The proper terms for adult goats are does and bucks.

- Some terms you might hear concerning dairy goats:

Doe: a female adult goat

Buck: a male adult goat

Kid: a young, immature goat, male or female



You give it a try and see how your placings compare to the judge's (fill in the exhibitor's number):

Your Choice:

Judge's Decision:

1st Place _____

1st Place _____

2nd Place _____

2nd Place _____

3rd Place _____

3rd Place _____

4th Place _____

4th Place _____

5th Place _____

5th Place _____