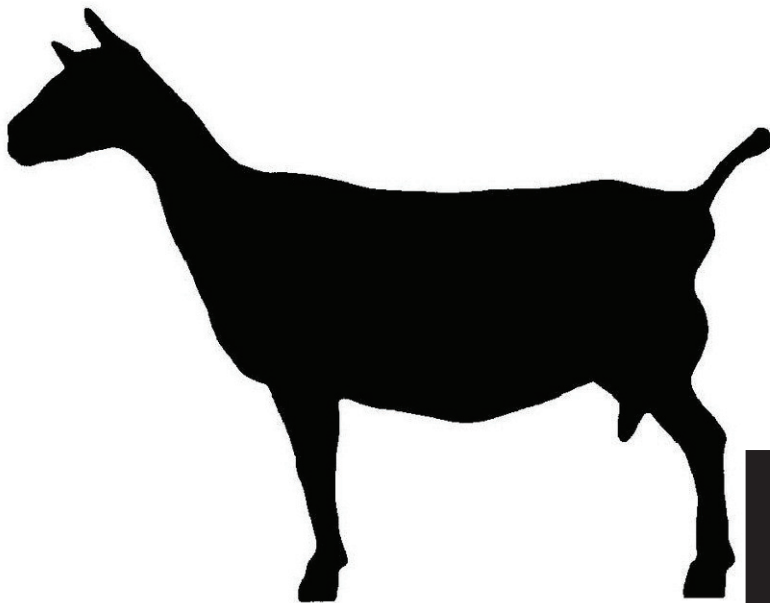
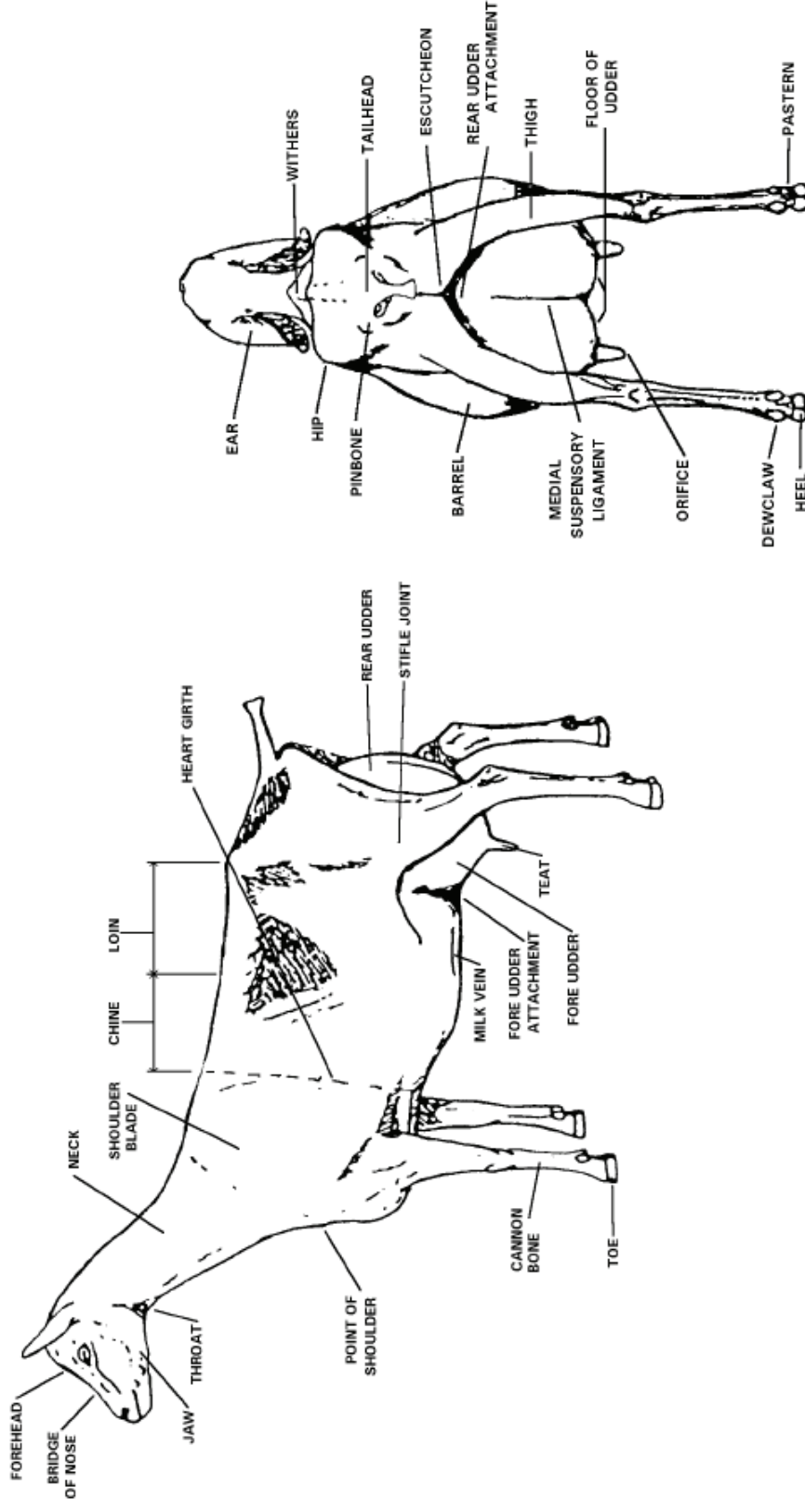


Coweta AgDiscovery 4-H Club
July 2025

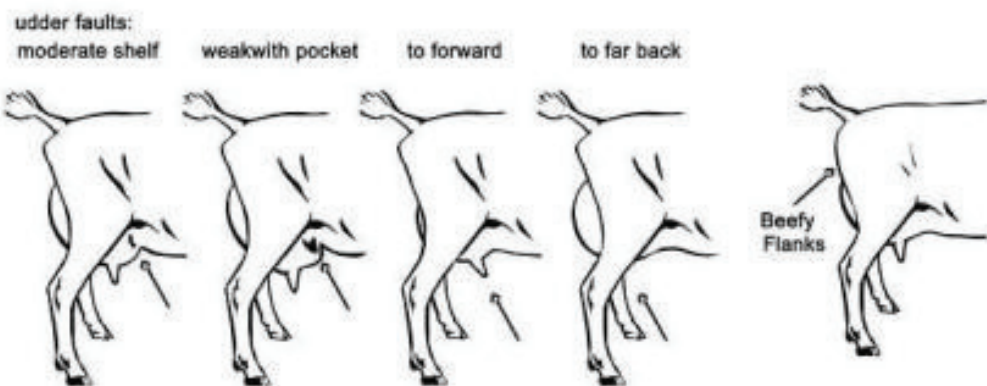
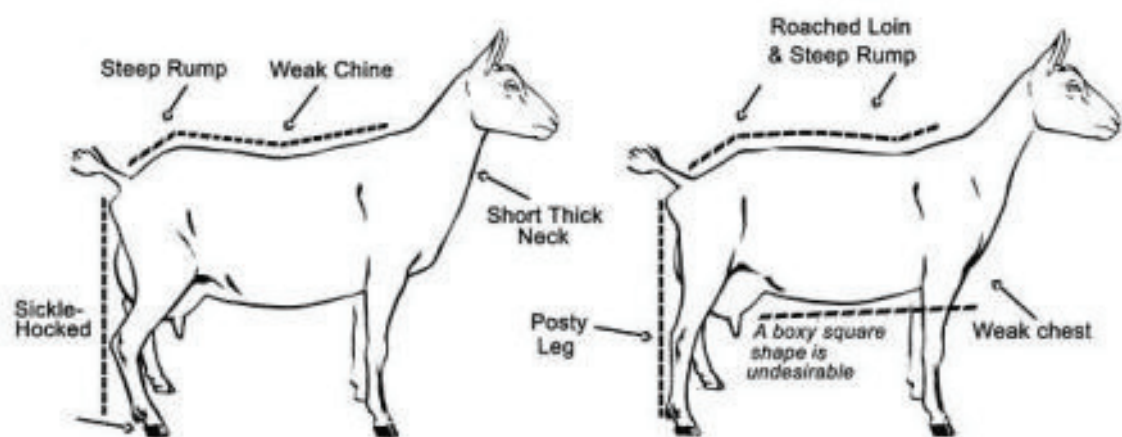
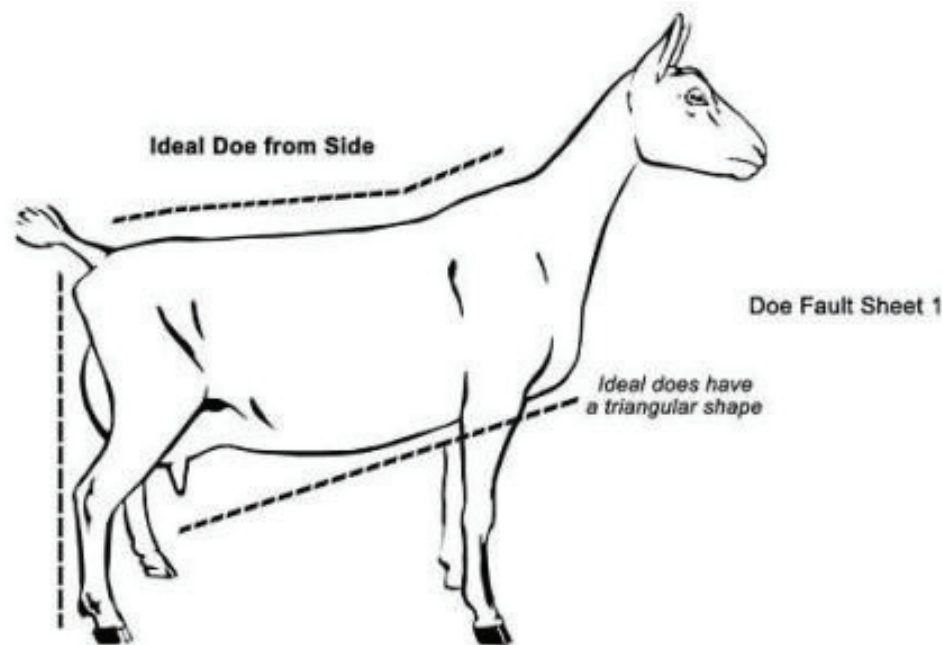
Dairy Goat Showmanship

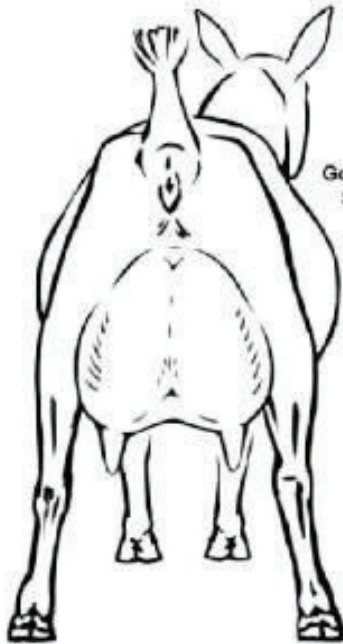


Parts of a Dairy Goat

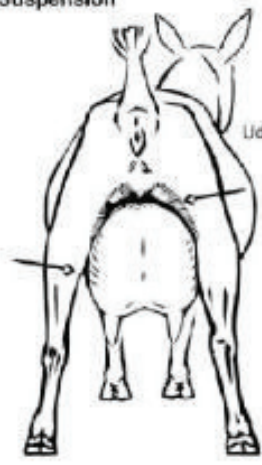


Ideal Dairy Goat





Ideal Doe from rear
 Plumb Teats
 High Round Escutcheon
 Good Rear & Side Attachments
 Strong Medial Suspension



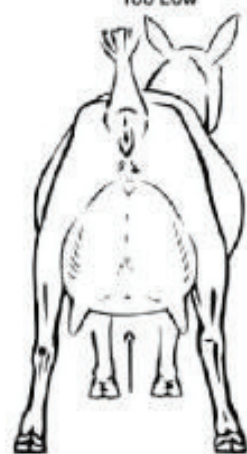
PROBLEM
Weak Attachments
 Udder attaches further under doe and has poor side attachments



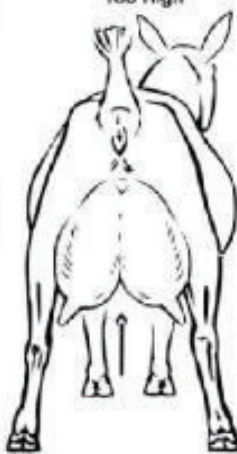
PROBLEM
Escutcheon Too Low
 Distance from Escutcheon to Vulva too long

PROBLEMS WITH LOWER UDDER

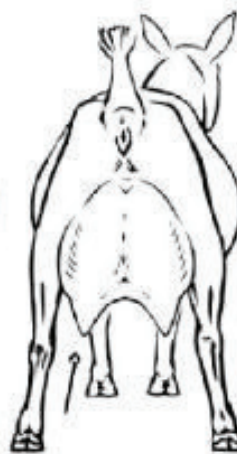
Medial Suspension Too Low



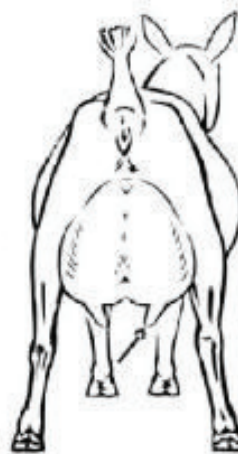
Medial Suspension Too High



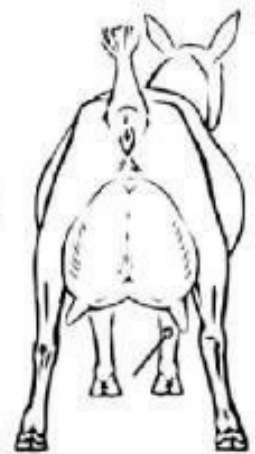
Teats Too Bulbous



Teats Tilt In



Teats Tilt Out



Dairy Goat Showmanship

Dairy goat showmanship is similar to Market goat showmanship, however you DO NOT BRACE your goat in dairy goat showmanship.

Evaluate the show ring prior to showmanship, paying close attention to where low spots are located. You want to make sure the goat's front feet don't end up in the low spots. You always want to set the goat going uphill.

Enter the ring going clockwise. Lead the goat from the left side with the right hand when possible. Keep the goat between you and the judge. Keep the goat's front shoulder even with your leg and the goat's head in front of your body. Showmen should hold the collar using their right hand palm facing upward and toward the goat's head (Figure 1). Showman should let their left arm and hand relax at their side. There is no need for the showman to place their left arm behind their back.



Figure 1. Hold the collar with your right hand palm up.

If you must encourage the goat to lead by pulling its tail, change hands and hold the collar with the left hand, lightly pull the tip of the goat's tail with the right. As the goat begins moving, change your hands to their original position.



Figure 2. Pull tail lightly to encourage the goat to move.

If the judge pulls you into line, your goat's shoulder should line up with the shoulder of the first goat in line. Keep your goat parallel to the other goats. If the judge lines you up head-to-tail, always line up straight behind the goat at the front of the line. **KEEP THE LINES STRAIGHT**—this will make it easier for the judge to evaluate and compare goats.



Figure 3. Keep just enough space between you and the animal in front of you. You don't want to crowd but yet you don't want too much space either.

A goat's feet should be placed on the four corners of its body, and the goat should not stand too wide or narrow on either the front or the back legs. On the profile, goats should not have their hind legs pulled forward too far underneath them or stretched backward too far behind them. Keep the goat's head straight over its body. The goat should look eye appealing and alert. You should remain standing at all times.



Figure 4. Goat is properly set with all four legs square underneath him. Showman is attentive to where the judge is at and does not block the view of the animal.

Know where the judge is and stay alert. The judge may handle your goat at any moment or ask you to move to another place in the show ring. Moving goats from one point to another is just as important as correct positioning of their feet. When a judge asks a showman to move to another location, take the most direct path available. The showman should maintain eye contact with the judge while occasionally looking at the desired destination. When the showman is required to change sides, he/she must move around the front of the goat always facing the animal. Never change hands behind your back. Do not step behind the goat.

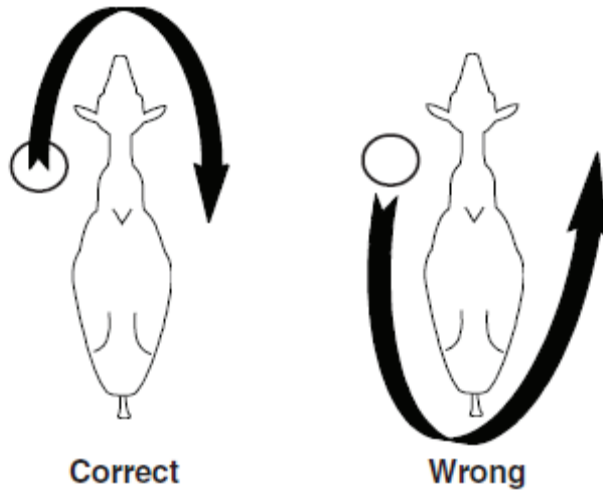
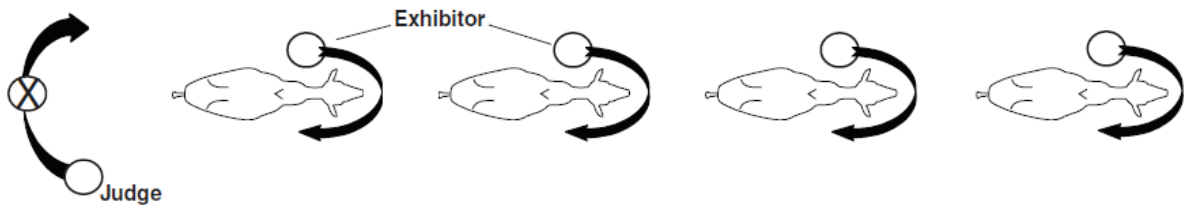


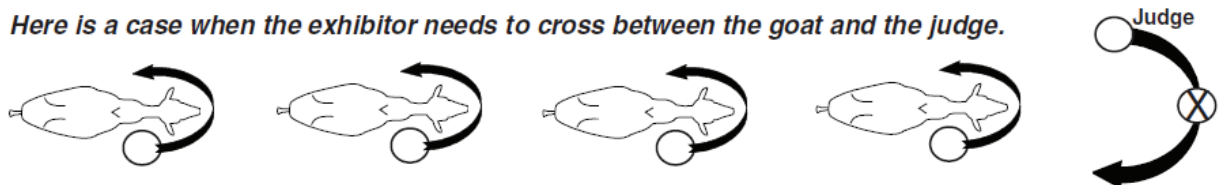
Figure 5. Proper way to move around animal.

Cross in the front, never in the rear

These illustrations show the exhibitors movements as the judge moves to view from a different side. The exhibitor should cross when the judge is at point. (X)



Here is a case when the exhibitor needs to cross between the goat and the judge.



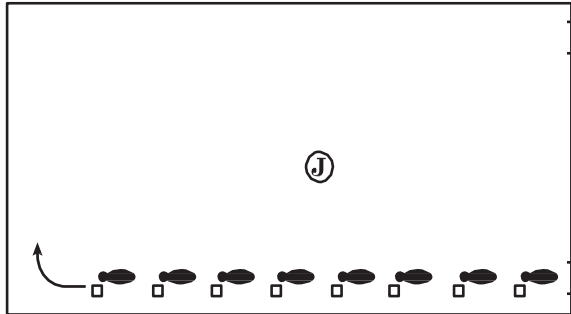


Figure 6.1. Animals entering the show ring on a profile. Notice the animal is always between the showman and judge.

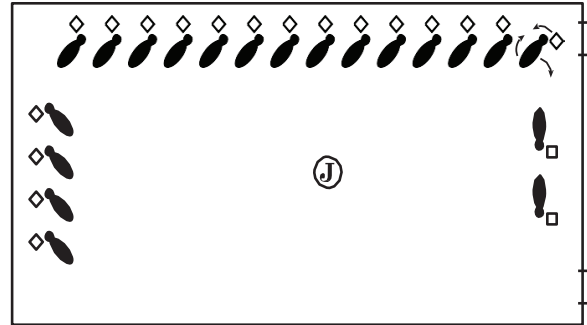


Figure 6.4. All animals begin to move to a profile or side-view. Move to the animal's left side, push their front end away from you, and follow the goat in front of you.

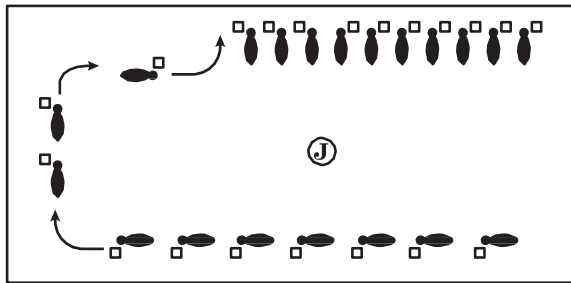


Figure 6.2. Animals entering the show ring and line up on a rear-view. Notice the position of the judge and showman.

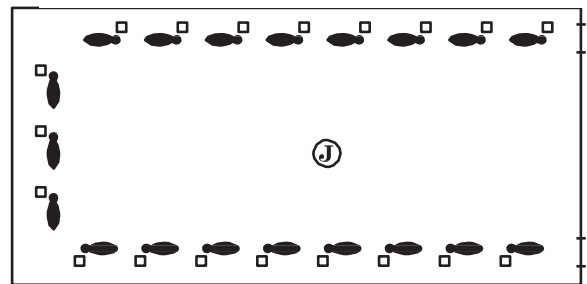


Figure 6.5. All animals lined up on a profile or side-view.

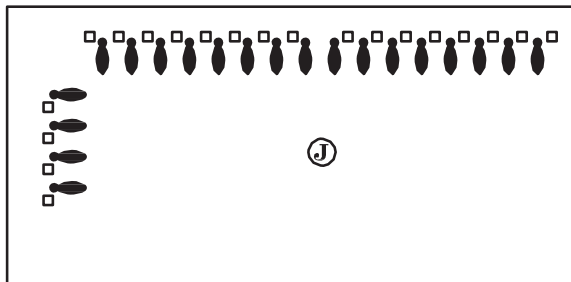


Figure 6.3. All animals lined up on a rear-view.

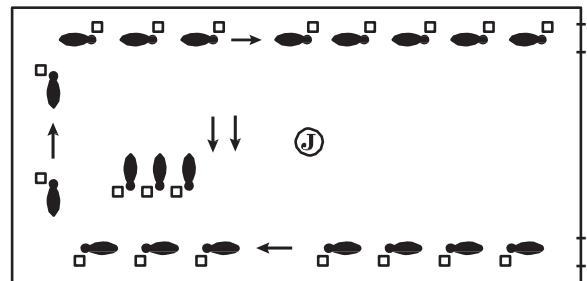


Figure 6.6. As animals move out of line to another location, move animals forward to fill gaps.

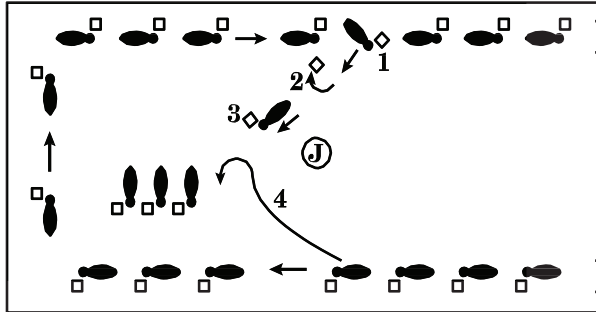


Figure 6.7. Showman 1 (top) 1) Push the goat out of line, 2) move around the front of the goat to change sides, and 3) proceed to the designated location.

Showman 2 (bottom) 4) Push the goat out of line and proceed to the designated spot in line.

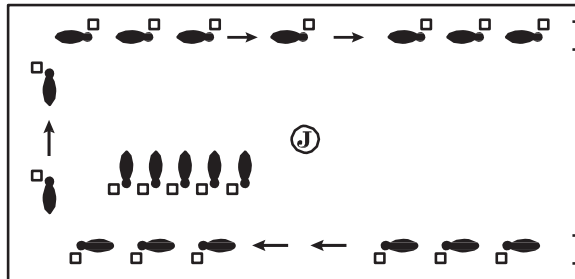


Figure 6.8. Completed moves from Diagram 7. Arrows show the need to fill gaps that have been left by the goats in the middle.



2025 Showmanship Terms and Questions

Kid: a baby goat

Doe: an adult female goat

Buck: an adult male goat

Dam: a mother of a goat

Wether: neutered /castrated male

Doeling: immature female goat, under 1 year

Buckling: immature male goat, under 1 year

Sire: a father of a goat

1. What do we call the act of giving birth?
 - a. Kidding, freshening, and parturition
2. What is the "first milk" of a doe that is secreted after kidding called?
 - a. Colostrum
3. Why do kids need colostrum?
 - a. Antibodies from the mother and laxative
4. What is the technical term for afterbirth?
 - a. Placenta
5. What are the gestation periods for standard / full-sized and miniature breeds?
 - a. 5 months – 145-150 days for miniature breeds, and 150 days for standard
6. What is the average length between heats?
 - a. 21 days
7. What is the typical number of kids born to full-size and miniature breed goats?
 - a. 2 kids for standard breeds and 2-3 for miniature breeds
8. What is the normal position of a kid at birth?
 - a. Front feet and nose first
9. What is the description of a dairy goat's ancestry called?
 - a. Pedigree
10. What are three ways to mark your goat with a permanent identification mark?
 - a. Tattoo, ear tag, and internal chip
11. Where are LaMancha goats tattooed?
 - a. In the tail web
12. Washing the doe's udder stimulates what?
 - a. Milk letdown
13. Why is a stainless-steel container the best for milking?
 - a. Easiest to sanitize
14. How soon after kidding does peak milk production occur?
 - a. 6-8 weeks

15. What disease is defined as "inflammation of the mammary gland caused by specific disease-producing organisms?"
 - a. Mastitis
16. What problem is caused by feeding too much calcium in the diet in late pregnancy?
 - a. Milk fever
17. What is a dry doe?
 - a. A doe that is not giving milk
18. What is the most important factor for determining when to breed a doe for the first time?
 - a. Weight: she needs to be 80% of grown weight: standard breed at least 75 lbs.
miniature breed at least 60 lbs.
19. What information does a BCS – (Body Score Condition) give you?
 - a. provides a quick way to monitor the health of your animals
20. How can you check to see if your goat is anemic?
 - a. Check the color of the inside of eyelids and gums for dark pink or lighter colors
21. What is the FAMACHA score?
 - a. Gives you a quick way to determine if a parasite load is affecting goat's health.
22. What are the four major parts of the dairy goat doe on the ADGA scorecard?
 - a. General appearance, dairy character, body capacity, and mammary system
23. What are three regular maintenance tasks owners should do for their goats?
 - a. check/trim hooves, check the body condition score, and do anemia check
24. What is anemia?
 - a. A shortage of red blood cells which can deprive the body of oxygen and makes it harder for the body to absorb nutrients.
25. What is the most common cause of anemia in goats living in Georgia?
 - a. Barber pole worm
26. What else can cause anemia in goats?
 - a. Large numbers of mites and/or lice or other types of parasitic worms
27. What is the best way to determine the cause of anemia so it can be treated correctly?
 - a. A physical exam to look for mites and lice; a fecal exam of its feces to determine the type of worm, and 5-point body score to determine overall health.