

ANIMAL HEALTH CHECKS: GOATS



Quality health checks are the first line of defense for protecting humans and animals from contagious diseases at fairs and other animal events. Use this checklist to confirm that animals participating in an agricultural fair or event are visibly healthy. Health checks should be completed inside the trailer or right outside; do not permit the animal to walk through the fairgrounds, barns or event before confirming its health status. Use gloves and other personal protective equipment (PPE) as appropriate. Disinfect footwear between assessments on animals not housed together. Change your clothes after completing the animal assessments. Wipe down any equipment like flashlights or radios between herds. Certain conditions and observations noted within this checklist may not pose a significant public or animal health risk. In such cases, decisions regarding an animal's eligibility for exhibition should be made in consultation with event leadership and/or the on-call veterinarian. Follow any additional policies provided by event leadership and your state's Department of Agriculture.

Identification

- ☐ Valid health certificate
- ☐ USDA approved scrapie identification
- ☐ Registration paper, if tattoo is being used for identification

General Appearance

- ☐ Overall thriftiness, including an appropriate body condition for its age, sex, and physiological state
- ☐ Bright, alert, and responsive
- ☐ No indication of broken bones or injuries
- ☐ No obvious wounds
- ☐ Normal gait and mental activity

Nose, Eyes, and Mouth

- ☐ No signs of respiratory distress or coughing
- ☐ No nasal discharge
- ☐ No excessive salivation
- ☐ Bright clear eyes without discharge, squinting, or signs of injury
- ☐ No sign of lumps, bumps, or lesions around the nose, eyes, and mouth
- ☐ Free of sores or scabs on the lips and /or nose

Skin and Wool

- ☐ No bare or crusty spots
- ☐ No open wounds
- ☐ No hair or fiber loss
- ☐ No skin flaking

Udder

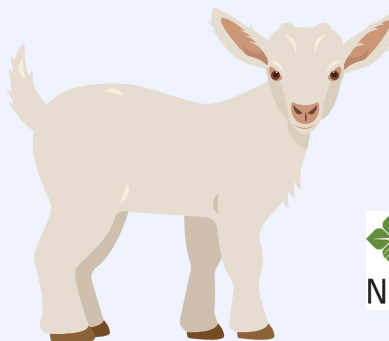
- ☐ No signs of injury or lesions on udder or teats
- ☐ Udder is not enlarged due to infection or hot to the touch
- ☐ No sign of mastitis
- ☐ Avoid expressing milk

Rear End

- ☐ Free of scours
- ☐ No rectal or vaginal prolapse
- ☐ No sign of blood or abnormal discharge
- ☐ No presence of placenta
- ☐ Wethers: no sign of castration infection
- ☐ Bucks: no infection or swelling around the testes

Hooves

- ☐ Trimmed hooves (not overgrown)
- ☐ No signs of lameness or injury to hooves
- ☐ No signs of infection or abscesses (swelling, odor, fluid, redness)
- ☐ No sign of sores around the area of the hoof



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Rear/Udder:

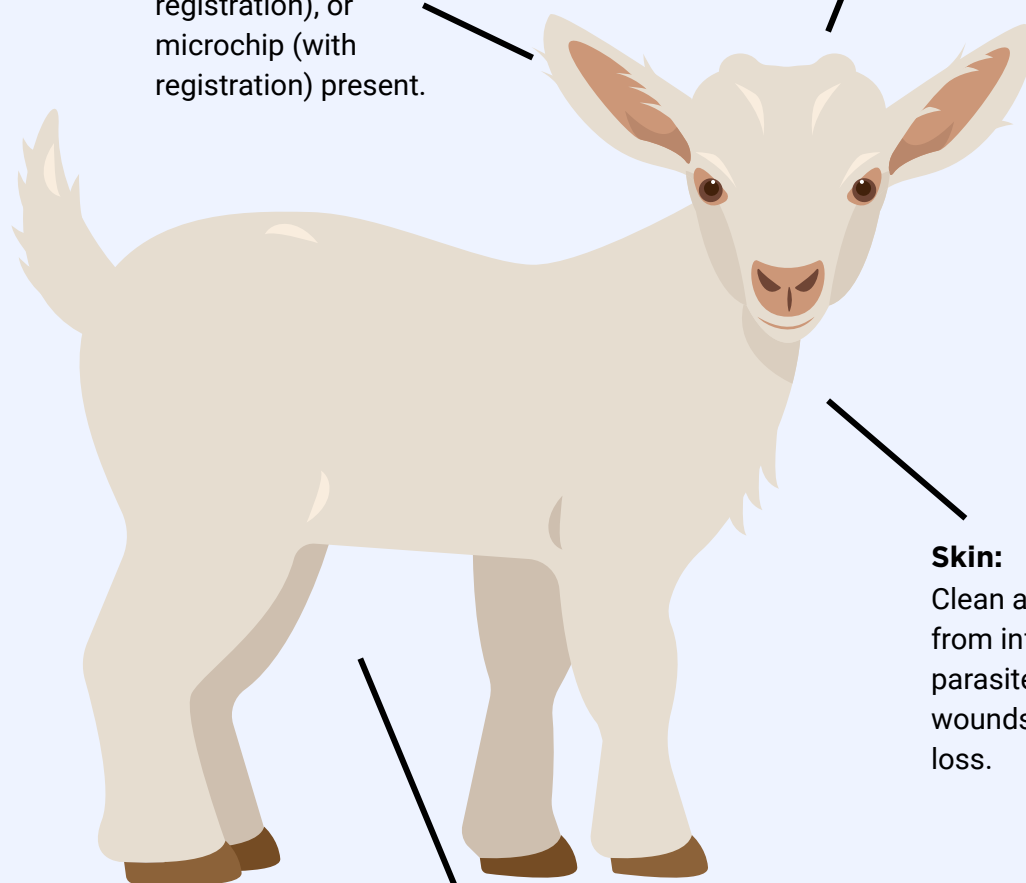
No presence of scours/diarrhea; no signs of vaginal or rectal prolapse; doe in milk does not exhibit signs of mastitis; wethered animal lacks testes and has no open wounds.

Identification:

Valid health certificate; Scrapie tag, tattoo (with registration), or microchip (with registration) present.

Nose, Eyes, and Mouth:

Free of respiratory infection (no breathing irregularities, coughing, nasal discharge); absence of panting, tooth grinding, and excessive salivation; absence of scabs or lesions in/around the mouth (Orf).



Skin:

Clean and free from infections, parasites, wounds, & wool loss.

Feet:

Well maintained hooves, standing/walking on all four feet, no signs of lameness or abscesses (swelling, odor, fluid, redness).

General Body:

Walking straight with a normal gait; absence of head tilt; no hunching, lethargy, bloat, abscesses, broken bones, or other injuries present.

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