

# Ag Project Center Safety Practices for Lambs/Goats

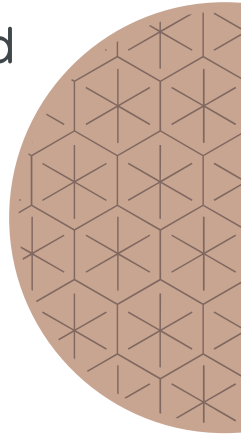


Klein ISD



# Objectives:

- To understand the importance of safety and management practices while raising a FFA livestock project.
- The students will be introduced to lamb and goat terms and characteristics.
- The student will recognize animal behaviors.
- The students will understand proper safety and handling techniques.
- The student will demonstrate safe practices at the agricultural facility and model these practices with their lamb/goat.

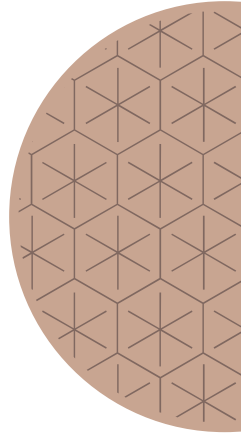


# Why does safety matter?

- The importance of safety is to prevent accidents and injuries.
- Lambs/goat can be frightened and run, jump, butt, or kick which can cause common injuries to the exhibitor which can include:
  - Slips, Trips, or fall over things left laying around, on a slick walkway, in a pen, or on an uneven surface (such as in sand in the show ring or uneven surfaces in the lot).
  - Kicked, stepped on, butted, or tripped while leading, moving, feeding, or grooming your lamb or goat.
  - You can get a burn from the lead rope or pinched in the links of a neck chain.
  - Your fingers can get pinched in a gate latch; poked by a wire, the blades on the clippers, or the teeth on a scotch or curry comb.
  - You can strain muscles in your arms, legs, or back

# Common Hazards in the Barn

- Types of potential dangers
  - Physical (i.e. pens, falling, rope/chain burns)
  - Chemical (i.e. wormers, insecticides, bleach)
  - Equipment (i.e. trim stands, walkers, treadmills)



# Personal Protective Equipment

Practice personal safety by using personal protection equipment and developing safe working habits when working with livestock animals.

Personal protection equipment includes:

- Closed-toe shoes or boots – sturdy, preferably leather with non-slip soles – provide the best protection for feet and ankles **NO**

**CROCS!!**

- Gloves – Different jobs require different gloves
- Leather gloves protect hands from rope burns or pinches from chains while leading your meat goat at home. They also protect your hands while clipping.
- Latex or rubber gloves will provide the best protection for your hands and forearms while doctoring.

# Personal Protective Equipment

Practice personal safety by using personal protection equipment and developing safe working habits when working with livestock animals.

- Frequent hand washing with soap protects your skin whenever you work with livestock. Animals can easily spread disease to humans. Frequent contact with the animal's hide, dander, and feces – especially from feeding, washing, and grooming tasks – creates an opportunity for disease to pass from your lamb/goat to you.
- An example is ringworm. When not wearing long sleeves and long pants, please remember to wash all exposed skin with soap and water.

# Project Center Equipment Safety

- To operated equipment please always ask for help from an advisor if you do not know how to properly use the equipment
- If something breaks please notify your species lead as soon as possible
- If a cord is cut and wires are exposed DO NOT USE!
- Keep buildings, alleys, and lots neat and tidy.
  - Clean up spills as soon as they happen. Don't allow manure or feed to accumulate in alleyways or chutes.
- Keep ALL equipment clean and well maintained.
  - Clean and sanitize grooming tools regularly, not only to keep them operating properly, but also to remove any bacteria that can spread disease or infection. Be extra careful cleaning clipper blades because they are sharp.

# Equipment

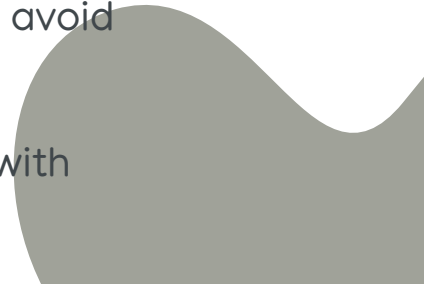
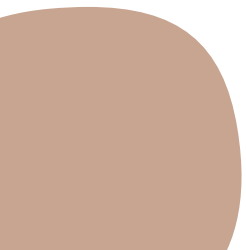
**Scales**—regardless if manual or electric the area needs to be free of debris and feed; cords need to be out of the way to prevent tripping

**Treadmill/Walker**—free of debris; NEVER LEAVE YOUR ANIMAL UNATTENDED

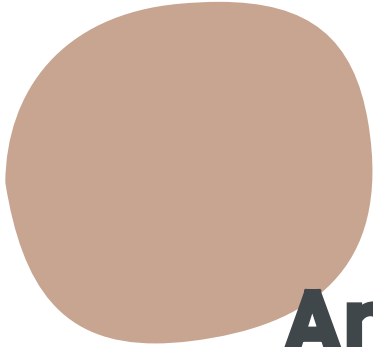
**Trim Stands**—lamb/goats held in place by a neck piece; ensure it is properly secured prior to placing your animal on the stand and the head rack is at a good height; never tie the halter to a fence/pole while your animal is on the stand; NEVER LEAVE YOUR ANIMAL UNATTENDED

**Blowers**—ensure the cord does not cause a tripping hazard to you, your animal and others in the barn; always point the hose up to avoid sand and debris in your eyes

**Clippers**—always clean and disinfect after use; spray regularly with clipper lube to avoid overheating







# **Animal Handling Safety**



# Characteristics of Lambs/Goats



Gregarious—lambs and goats tend to gather in groups; this instinct is also referred to as the “flocking instinct”

Head butters

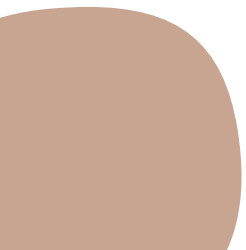
Good sense of hearing

Jumpers

Easily startled

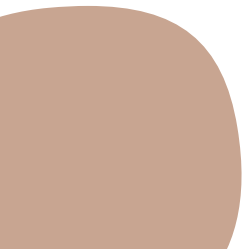
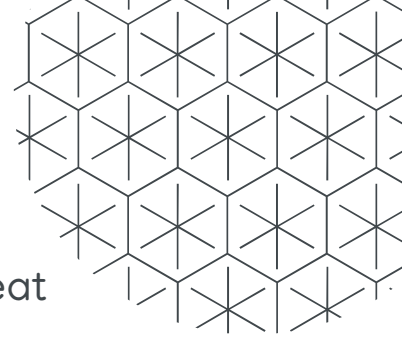
Wide field of vision

Flee instead of fight

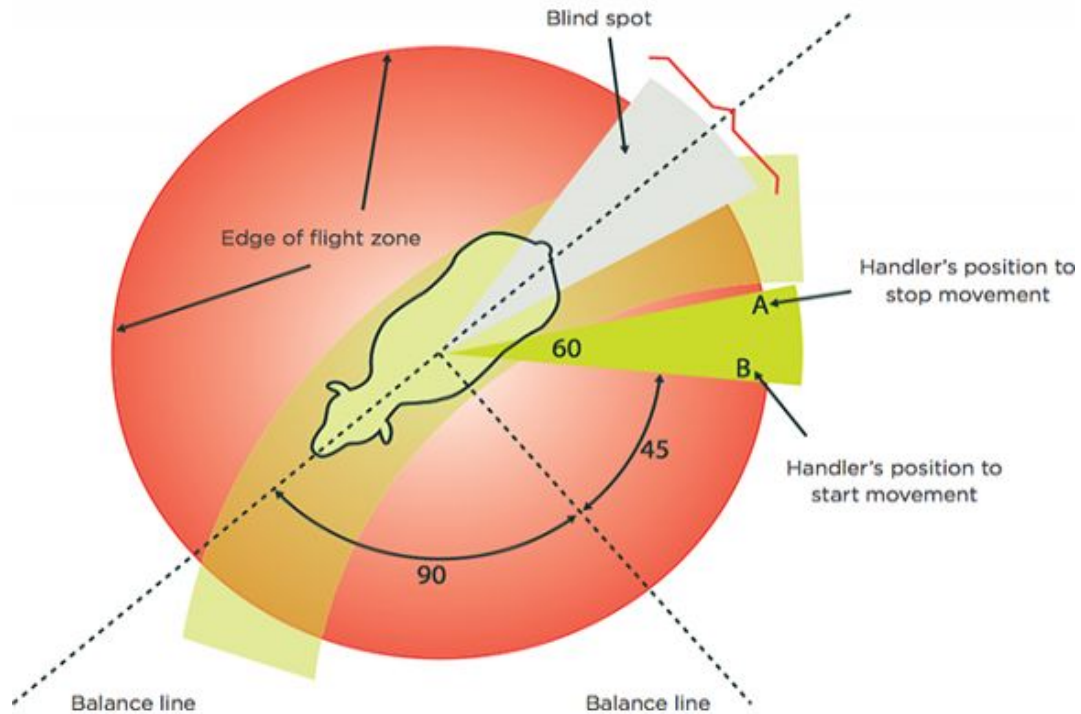


# Flight Zone

- Distance that animals like to keep between themselves and a threat of danger
- Animal's safety zone
- Varies among animals
- Increased when an animal is excited or approached from the front
- Lambs are naturally skittish and first instinct is to run



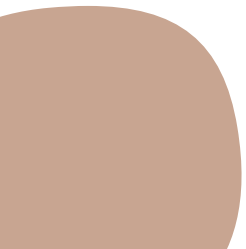
# Flight Zone



# Techniques for Safe Handling Lambs/Goats



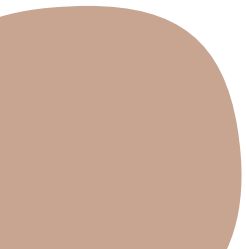
- Approach lambs/goats in a calm manner, their first instinct is to run away
- After bringing lambs/goats to farm, take a few days of just sitting on a bucket and let them approach you
- Once they get familiar with you, start to work on catching your animal. Don't chase your lamb/goat, as chasing will instill fear in the animal
- If needed make pen smaller to make catching them easier



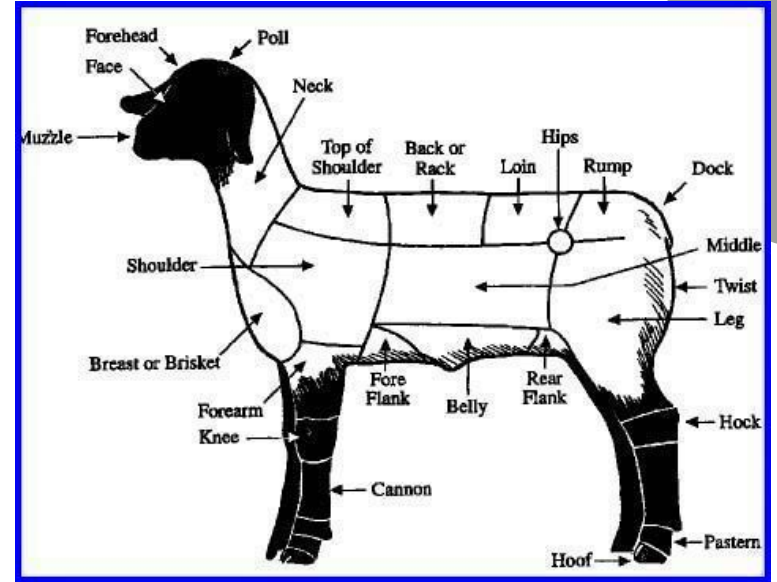
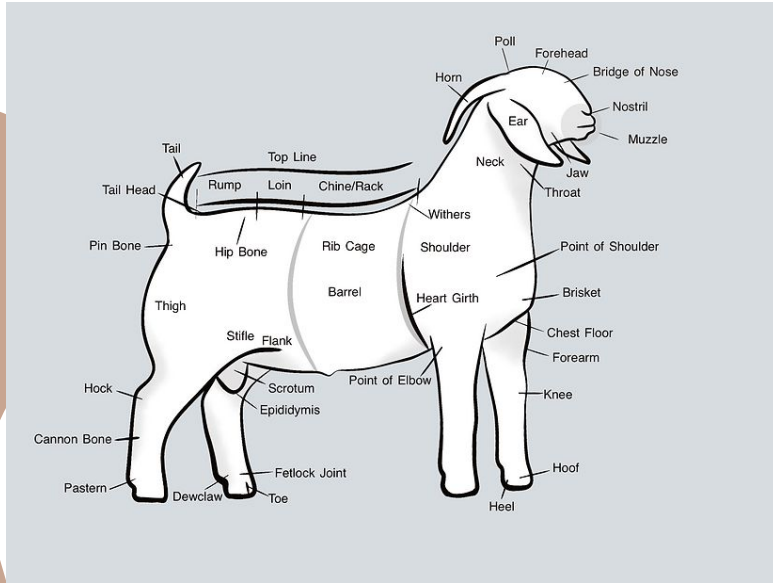
# Techniques for Safe Handling Lambs/Goats



- Halter breaking is important the first few weeks of having your animals and requires patience
- Make sure to put halter on properly, lead should always be on the left side
- Tie them to a secure panel for a few days let them get used to halter. Sit next to them for 15 minutes.
- After time is up, untie and let them relax. Repeat this process for 5 to 6 times over a two or three day period
- To start leading lamb/goat, gently pull on lead for a few seconds, then release, repeat step several times. This will help avoiding flopping over.



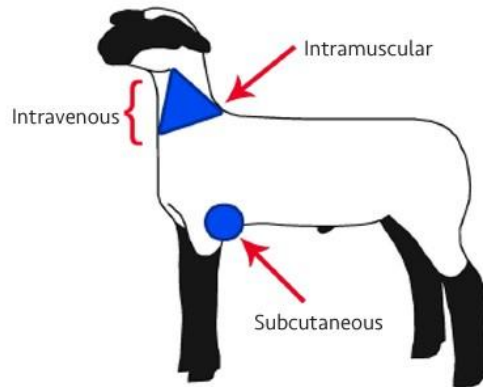
# Anatomy



# Health & Disease Management

- Health and disease management is important in the well being of the lamb/goat
- When animals are under vet care for illness, antibiotics might be administered
- Make sure to properly store medications and follow all directions
- Types of Injections: Intramuscular, Intravenous, Subcutaneous

Injection Sites

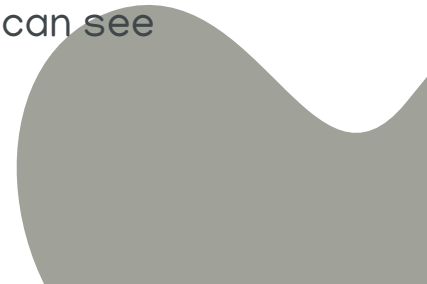
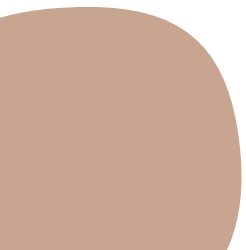




# Behavior Basics

As with all animals, some lambs/goats are naturally gentle while others may take more time to tame and train for show.

- Work with your goat regularly and you will experience positive results. Goats that are handled gently and quietly will have smaller flight zones and be easier to handle than goats that have been handled roughly or have little human contact.
- Lambs/Goats have a strong sense of hearing and may be distracted by loud noises or sudden movements.
- Lambs/Goats have a wide field of vision, which means they can see nearly everything around them without moving their head.



# Behavior Basics



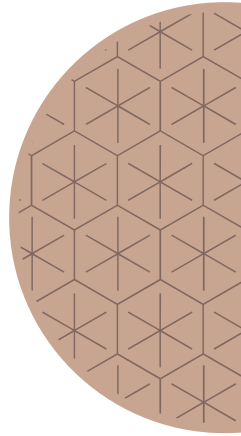
- Halter or collar breaking is a good way to begin to tame your animal to get it ready for showing. Allow time for the lamb/goat to adjust to the feel of the halter or collar on its head or neck. Then work slowly and deliberately at teaching it to lead and most animals will respond positively.
- Fear typically causes an animal to run away from whatever scared it, but your animal may lie down and refuse to move when scared.
- Klein Livestock Show will require lambs/goats to be clipped. Allow time for your animal to calm down after you have caught it and before you begin to clip. Work slowly and carefully so the lamb/goat adjusts to the sound and feel of the clippers on its hide, which will help keep it calm, and avoid cuts to it or you.

# Animal Products Safety

- At times, lambs/goats might need to be drenched. To properly drench them follow these steps:
  - A. Properly restrain animal, place your hand under the animal's jaw and hold it firmly.
  - B. Insert the drench gun from the side of their mouth
  - C. Slowly squeeze the liquid in the drench gun to avoid them dribbling or spitting out the drench
  - D. Once you are done, remove the drench gun while keeping a firm restraint on the head

# Shearing

- Shearing lambs during hot weather stimulates feed intake and improves performance
- Treat blowers and clippers with care; DO NOT DROP/THROW or RIP CORD OUT OF THE ELECTRICAL OUTLET
- Use clipper lube often to prevent from overheating
- Blades are sharp and can cut your animal and/or you
- Disinfect shearing equipment
- Shear when dry



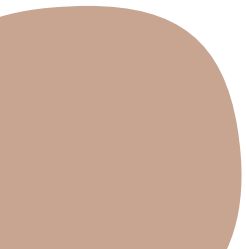
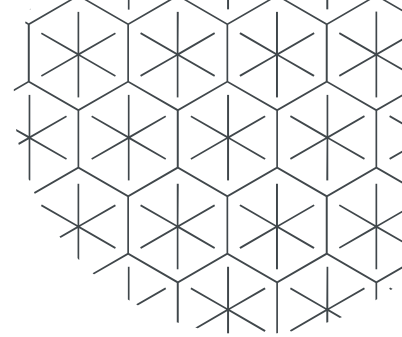
# Recommendations for Transporting

- A livestock transport trailer or livestock box on a truck are the preferred methods. The size and design of the transport vehicle should be compatible with the size and number of livestock being transported.
- Transport animals in trailers or livestock box with adequate ventilation.
- The front of all transport vehicles must provide protection from the wind.



# NEVER!!!

- Drag sheep or goats by their horns.
- Drag sheep or goats with ropes around their necks.
- Pick up sheep by their wool or hair.
- Tie sheep or goats by their legs in order to restrain them.
- Put sheep or goats in vehicles without adequate ventilation.
- Put animals in the trunk of a car, sealed container or any type of transport vehicle that restricts airflow and adequate ventilation.



# Fire Safety in the Barn

Prevention measures

Emergency response procedures

Highly flammable materials may include:

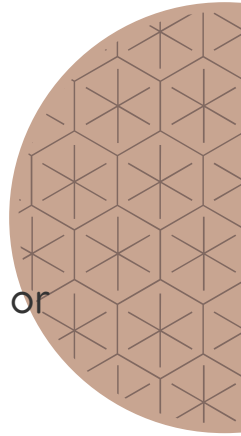
- Hay and straw
- Bedding material (especially sawdust and shredded newspaper)

Hay/bedding storage should not be near lights, fans, electrical boxes, heaters, or outlets.

A halter should be easily accessible in case of an emergency.

Fire Extinguishers

- ABC (all class) should be accessible at each barn, locate yours the first day



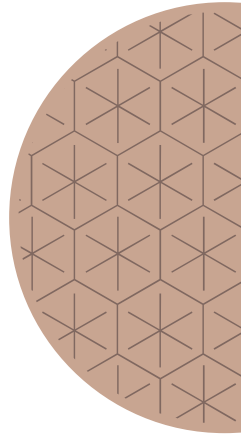
# Electrical Safety

Please inspect all cords on a daily basis and report and exposed wires  
**IMMEDIATELY!!**

No additions, subtractions, modifications, or construction relating to electricity, carpentry, plumbing or location may be made without prior approval.

The student is responsible for the safe use of electricity at the Project Center. The use of electrical devices or extension cords must meet NEC and UL electrical codes. The following guidelines are for use on a farm facility:

- a. Extension cords must be heavy-duty outdoor rated;
- b. No Christmas lights or other lighting (other than heat lamps) is allowed
- c. Multiple cords from one outlet with a splitter are not allowed;
- d. All extension cords may be run only with prior approval from the Agriscience Teacher.

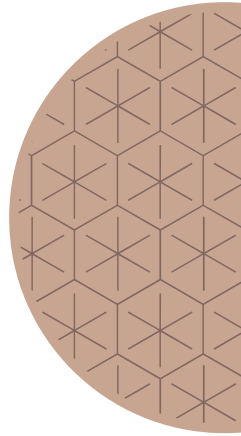




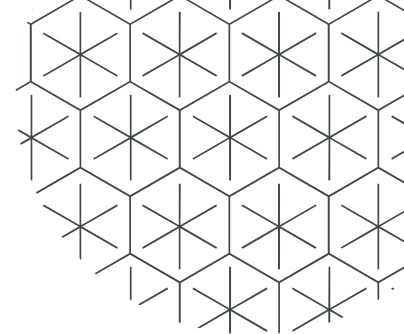
# Emergency Preparedness

Developing and practicing emergency plans

First aid basics

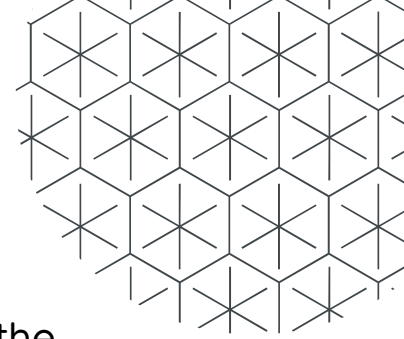


# First Aid Kit



- Remember if you are hesitant, please ask for help
- Be sure to learn first aid and keep a first aid kit in your show box and in the barn in case of minor accidents.
- Some items to keep handy:
  - Band-Aids
  - Gauze
  - Hydrogen Peroxide
  - Alcohol Pads
  - Iodine
  - Antibiotic Ointment

# Reporting & Communication



- Any accident or safety hazard is to be reported **immediately** to the project/specie supervising Agriscience Teacher using the provided phone number.
- It is important to report hazards/incidents to keep everyone safe at the facility.
- Please report any hazards/incidents to your species lead first.

