

Oregon 4-H

# Fiber Goat Advancement Program



# 4-H Fiber Goat Advancement Guide

## Oregon 4-H Advancement Programs

### *An introduction for leaders, parents and members*

4-H advancement programs consist of a series of steps that provide a framework for progressive learning within a specific project area. Advancement programs encourage 4-H members to learn at their own speed, based on their interests and abilities. Advancement programs are self-paced and age- and skill-level appropriate.

Advancement programs also can be a tremendous help to members as they set their goals each year. In addition, advancement programs are useful to Junior Leaders and more experienced 4-H members who wish to work with younger or less experienced members.

### **Benefits of 4-H advancement programs**

Advancement programs:

- Made projects more interesting
- Assist members in setting and achieving goals
- Encourage self-paced learning
- Help members learn more about their projects
- Encourage age-appropriate building of skill level
- Provide new, enjoyable experiences
- Help prepare members for participation in certain activities and events
- Provide recognition for work well done
- Provide incentive to members to stay in a project over a longer period of time

### **Life skill development and 4-H Advancement Programs**

Participation in 4-H Advancement Programs is instrumental to the development of life skills, a major emphasis of 4-H programming. Young people who participate in 4-H not only gain knowledge about their project areas, they also develop skills they will use throughout their lives. Specifically, 4-H Advancement Programs are designed to develop life skills in:

- Learning to learn
- Making decisions
- Keeping records
- Planning and organizing
- Achieving goals
- Completing a project or task
- Communicating
- Being responsible
- Developing self-esteem

## **About the advancement program steps**

The advancement steps are written to provide a learning sequence for all members. Although all members should start with Step I, advancement programs are designed so 4-H members may advance as quickly as they desire based on interest, effort, and ability. A fourth- or fifth grade 4-H member might take two or three years to complete Step I; an eighth- or ninth-grade member might complete one or two steps in a year.

Members should work on one step at a time. However, there are times when a member may accomplish an activity in another step before completing the step on which he or she is working. Recognize that if there is considerable difference in the level of skill within a group, members may be working on several levels on the program at the same time.

Much of the information leaders and members need to complete the advancement steps can be found in project materials. For more advance steps, members should refer to other sources.

## **Recording progress in the advancement program**

Leaders should encourage members to keep the advancement program with their records. Doing so allows leaders and members to evaluate the 4-H experience, review progress and establish goals for the future. Upon completing a step, the member should fill in the date and have the leader initial the record.

## **Reviewing advancement progress**

Once a member has completed an advancement step, the leader then should arrange for a review of the experience. This review often is conducted through an interview process.

The interview can be conducted by someone other than the leader, if it is feasible. Being interviewed by an expert who has expertise in a particular area, can be a valuable experience for members. Such interviews help prepare members for job interviews and other real life experiences.

Leaders also may want to arrange for an advancement chairperson or committee to review each member soon after he or she has completed the step requirements.

The review is an excellent opportunity to involve parents in club activities. Several parents can serve on the committee, and two or three of them can conduct the interviews. The interviewers should be familiar with the 4-H program, its objectives, and the project area.

The advancement chairperson or committee should approve the advancement only when they are satisfied the member is ready to continue on to the next step.

## **How to use the advancement program**

The advancement program should be presented at the beginning of the 4-H year.

### ***Review what was done last year.***

Before deciding on specific things to include in the club program, leaders should review what the members and club have done previously. A review will allow discussion of the following questions:

- What did we do?
- What did we like?
- What needs improvement/expansion?
- Was everyone involved?

***Review the members' present interests.***

Encourage members and parents to express their interests, needs, and goals. This allows them to feel important and committed to the final club program.

***Share county/statewide special programs.***

Tell your members about activities available to them through your county or the state. Share your special interests with members and parents. This allows members and parents to learn about new opportunities and helps determine whether the club should set specific goals related to them.

***Develop your program.***

If your group of 4-H participants is small, all the members should be involved in determining the group goals for the year. If the group is large, a special committee may identify the goals for the year's program.

Base your goals on the current year members' range of grades, levels of achievement, and interests. Design the program to meet the needs and interests of each member. Establish goals to meet the interests and needs of youth, provide for individual achievement for each member, and to be within the range of accomplishment for each member.

If your club has a wide range of grades, interests, and abilities, divide the club into small groups to work with a junior leader. This enhances the learning and satisfaction for all members.

**Recognizing advancement**

The National 4-H Recognition Model outlines five different ways in which 4-H members can be recognized.

Figure (insert)

***1. Participation***

This type of recognition program emphasizes the importance of acknowledging young people who have been involved in 4-H educational experiences. For some youth, participation in a 4-H learning experience is an accomplishment.

***2. Progress toward self-set goals***

Parents and other adults can help youth set realistic goals. Recognition for progress toward self-set goals, no matter how small, is an integral part of this type of recognition.

**3. *Achievement of standards of excellence***

Standards of excellence are established by experts in a given area. By measuring personal progress against standards of excellence, youth can gain insight into their own efforts and abilities.

**4. *Peer competition***

Peer competition is part of the model for recognition. This type of recognition subjectively identifies, in a concrete time and place, the best team or individual. It is a strong motivator for some youth but is inappropriate for youth under the age of eight.

**5. *Cooperation***

Learning and working together promotes high achievement. Cooperation takes advantage of all the skills represented in the group, as well as the process by which the group approaches the learning task/goal. Everyone is rewarded.

### **Advancement certificates**

The 4-H Advancement Program is an excellent way to promote and recognize members' progress toward self-set goals and achieving standards of excellence through learning. Advancement certificates that are customized for each project area are available from your county Extension office. Contact your local 4-H staff member to request advancement certificates in your project area.

Earning an advancement certificate deserves recognition. When members have completed a level of advancement, recognize it. This could be done at an achievement meeting or other community event. Extension 4-H staff members also can help leaders prepare release pieces about members' achievements for newspaper and radio.

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This section written by Mary Arnold, Extension 4-H youth development specialist, Oregon State University.

## **Using the Advancement Program in the Fiber Goat Project**

### ***A note to 4-H members***

The 4-H Fiber Goat Project advancement program can be an important part of learning and excelling in your livestock project. Your advancements should be included as part of your project records. Most of the answers to the questions in the Fiber Goat advancement program can be found in your project manual. If you need more information about your project, refer to expert sources such as books, articles, and pamphlets on the subject, or the Pygora Breeders Association (PBA) [www.pba-pygora.com](http://www.pba-pygora.com) or American Angora Goat Breeders Association [aagba.org](http://aagba.org). Colored Angora Goat Breeders Association (CAGBA).

**Instructions for using the advancement guide**

4-H members should progress through each of the steps in the order they appear in this booklet. As you do each option, fill in the date and have your leader or parent initial it. When you have completed the required number of options for a step, tell your leader you are ready to be reviewed on the quality of that step. As you will be asked questions on the work you have done. When each step is completed, you will obtain an advancement certificate from your leader and your local Extension System Office.

When you have passed Step I, proceed to Step II, then III, then IV, and finally V. You can do options for higher steps while you are working on a lower step, but you cannot qualify for the higher step until you have qualified for all preceding steps.

Please study each option carefully. Good luck with the program.

***This program will:***

1. Make your project more interesting
2. Help you learn more about fiber goats
3. Help you develop greater skill with fiber goats
4. Provide you with new, enjoyable experiences
5. Allow you to advance according to your ability, interest, and willingness to work
6. Provide you with recognition for work well done

# Step 1

This is the first step in the 4-H Fiber Goat Advancement Program. When you have completed ten skill options and three personal development options, you are qualified to complete Step 1.

## Skill Options

Date Passed \_\_\_\_\_ Approved by \_\_\_\_\_

1. Identify and describe five goat breeds, include three main breeds of fiber goat.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Name and locate the following body parts: muzzle, withers, rump, loin, chine, barrel, heart girth, rib, leg, poll, pastern, hock, chest floor, pin bones, udder, dew-claws and dewlaps.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Describe the characteristics of the mohair, cashmere and Pygora fiber.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Describe/explain and spell the following terms: buck, doe, kid, wether, yearling.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Name four signs to look for that would indicate your goat is not feeling well.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Demonstrate how to set up and lead your fiber goat in a show ring.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Demonstrate to your leader that you have provided adequate shelter from rain and sun and a suitable fence for your animals. Show that you have removed nails, loose boards, wire, machinery, and sharp corners that might injure your animals.  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Demonstrate to your leader that you provide fresh, clean water and minerals for your animals at all times.  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Complete a 4-H Animal Science record for your project.  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Name at least three safety practices in caring for livestock, and tell why each is important.  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. Create a report on your project and present to your club (ask your leader for suggestions).  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Describe six of the following characteristic and tell how they may aid productive ability: strong back, width and depth of rump, width between pin bones, deep chest, strong legs, sound udder, loose skin.  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Give a brief history of a breed of fiber goat.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Personal Development

*(fill in options from page 10 of this advancement guide)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Step 2

This is the second step in the 4-H Fiber Goat Advancement Program. When you have completed ten skill options and three personal development options, you are qualified to complete Step 2.

### Skill Options

Date Passed    Approved by

1. Describe and explain the following terms: foot rot, parasite, castrate, bloat, and scours.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. List and explain the equipment necessary to care for a fiber goat.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Explain how to control three parasites, such as, liver flukes, maggots, flies, stomach worms, ticks, or lice.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Explain the following management practices: de-horning, ear tattooing, castration, hoof trimming, and stomach worm treatment.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Name and describe four things that might cause your goat to become ill.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Name four plants that are poisonous to goats.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Trim a goat's hooves.  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Fit a goat for show.  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Explain what a vaccination is and why it is important. List two diseases goats should be vaccinated against.  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Discuss fiber qualities such as micron, style, characteristics, and uniformity of fiber.  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. Tell your leader the normal vital signs of a goat, and how to measure temperature, respiration, and heart rate.  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. Describe caprine arthritis-encephalitis (CAE) and explain how it can be prevented.  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. Give a presentation on fiber processing or uses of fiber.  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Personal Development

*(fill in options from page 10 of this advancement guide)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



### Step 3

This is the third step in the 4-H Fiber Goat Advancement Program. When you have completed ten skill options and three personal development options, you are qualified to complete Step 3.

Skill Options	Date Passed	Approved by
1. Describe the most desirable body type for each of the main fiber goat breeds.	_____	_____
2. Visit a large-scale fiber goat operation.	_____	_____
3. Make a collection of forage plants and include three pasture plants and three poisonous plants.	_____	_____
4. Explain heat (estrus) cycle, breeding, conception, pregnancy, dam, sire and gestation period.	_____	_____
5. Keep a fiber production record on one or more goats.	_____	_____
6. Read a medication label and calculate the correct dosage of medicine, and how it should be administered to your fiber goat.	_____	_____
7. Name the four parts of a goat's stomach. What are the functions of the rumen? How do the digestion processes differ in a ruminant or non-ruminant?	_____	_____
8. Describe what is done after the birth of a kid to ensure its health.	_____	_____
9. Demonstrate how to give vaccinations and explain the difference between intramuscular and subcutaneous injections.	_____	_____
10. Locate and describe the following body parts: thigh, thurl, tail head, stifle joint, knee, flank, brisket, hip, escutcheon, point of shoulder and point of elbow.	_____	_____
11. What is the procedure to register a fiber goat with a breeder's association. What does purebred and registered mean?	_____	_____
12. Demonstrate a use for goat's fiber: spinning, felting, knitting, or crocheting.	_____	_____
13. Give a presentation to your club on a common goat disease.	_____	_____

#### Personal Development

*(fill in options from page 10 of this advancement guide)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Step 4

This is the fourth step in the 4-H Fiber Goat Advancement Program. When you have completed ten skill options and three personal development options, you are qualified to complete Step 4.

Skill Options	Date Passed	Approved by
1. Demonstrate tattooing or another means of permanent animal identification to your club.	_____	_____
2. Explain advantage and disadvantage of horns on each fiber breed.	_____	_____
3. Explain the advantages of joining a breeder's association.	_____	_____
4. Help shear a goat.	_____	_____
5. Explain when the best time to shear a goat is and what are the signs the goat is ready to be shorn.	_____	_____
6. Explain the functions of proteins, carbohydrate, fats, water, vitamins, and minerals in a ration for livestock.	_____	_____
7. List the inoculations your goat should receive annually. Explain the side effects that can occur when shots aren't kept current.	_____	_____
8. Visit a fiber processing business.	_____	_____
9. Explain the nutritional needs of a wether, dry doe, milking doe, kid, and orphan kid and how to feed them.	_____	_____
10. Learn how to diagnose and find worms and internal parasites in a fecal sample.	_____	_____
11. Study changes in grain and hay prices for at least three types of feed for one year. Prepare a graph comparing prices.	_____	_____
12. Prepare a presentation for your club about proper nutrition for a pregnant doe. Tell when you should give a doe each set of shots. Explain the timing and type of vaccination kids need after birth.	_____	_____
13. Explain the process for fiber from farm to customer. How are prices established?	_____	_____

### Personal Development

*(fill in options from page 10 of this advancement guide)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Step 5

This is the fifth step in the 4-H Fiber Goat Advancement Program. When you have completed three skill options and five personal development options, you are qualified to complete Step 5.

<b>Skill Options</b>	<b>Date Passed</b>	<b>Approved by</b>
Study, research, and prepare a paper, and give a report or presentation on any of the following topics:		
1. General management and raising a goat herd.	_____	_____
2. Feeds, feeding, and nutrition for fiber goats.	_____	_____
3. Goat reproduction, breeding, and genetics.	_____	_____
4. The importance of sanitation, disease prevention and parasite control.	_____	_____
5. Using records as a basis for improving a goat herd.	_____	_____
6. Some aspect of fiber goat husbandry.	_____	_____
7. Shearing, dehorning, castrating or vaccinating fiber goats.	_____	_____
8. Birthing and care of the kid and doe upon birth.	_____	_____
9. Calculate hay for one goat would eat in a day, week, month and year, taking into account nutritional value, weight of feed and age of goat and the seasons.	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____
11. _____	_____	_____

Note: Be creative. If possible use technology to accomplish these presentations. Consider creating a videocast, podcast, or PowerPoint presentation.

### Personal Development

*(Fill in options from page 10 of this advancement guide. Please select options not completed in earlier steps)*

1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____

## Personal Development Options

1. Lead the Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H Pledge at 4-H meeting.
2. Lead a game at a 4-H meeting.
3. Serve as a host for a 4-H meeting. See that everyone is welcomed and made comfortable.
4. Preside at a meeting for your 4-H club.
5. Be a club officer.
6. Serve as a chairperson of a 4-H club committee.
7. Invite a friend to a 4-H meeting or activity.
8. Teach a new member the 4-H Pledge
9. Participate in a community service project with a 4-H group.
10. Organize a community service project for your 4-H club.
11. Develop an educational display related to your project.
12. Present a demonstration or illustrated talk to your 4-H club.
13. Present a demonstration or illustrated talk on a 4-H related topic to a group other than your 4-H club.
14. Participate in the county presentation contest.
15. Secure a speaker to talk at your club meeting.
16. Arrange for a tour by your club.
17. Write a story about 4-H or a 4-H related activity for a local newspaper.
18. Apply for a county medal for fiber goats.
19. Serve as a clerk for a 4-H fair or contest.
20. Serve as a Junior Leader.
21. Serve as a Teen Leader.
22. Serve on a county advisor committee.
23. Attend 4-H Camp.
24. Attend 4-H Summer Conference.
25. Apply to be on Teen Staff at 4-H State Fair
26. Volunteer at a 4-H or sanctioned fiber goat show.
27. Participate in a non-4-H fiber goat show.