

## Miracle of Birth Center

### Goat FAQ

#### GOAT TOPICS

**What breed are they?** Boer goats – a South African meat type goat.

**Do you milk them?** No – you typically milk dairy type goats (Alpine, Toggenbergs, Sanaans, La Manchas). Meat type goats keep their kids with them and raise them like a beef cow or sheep would. Dairy type kids are removed from their mother and raised by the farmer, much like a dairy calf is removed from the cow and raised by the farmer so the milk can be harvested for sale.

**How many kids do they have?** From 1-3 kids per doe.

**Do they have horns?** Almost all Boer goats are born with horns – male and female. Some farmers prefer to dehorn the kids a few days after birth. 4H goat projects require the goats are dehorned for safety reasons.

**What do they eat?** Mostly grass from the pasture. Hay and some grains in the winter.

**Why meat type goats?** Goat meat is probably the most commonly eaten meat in the world. With our rising ethnic population in this country, there is a growing demand for goat meat.

**Do they usually kid this time of the year?** No, they usually kid in the spring after coming into heat (estrus) in the fall. We have tricked them into coming into estrus in the spring so they would kid around State Fair time.