SAE’s @ Barbers Hill

**SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE**

The Chambers County Youth Project Show is held in May. This is our county show.

All Rulebooks may be picked up at the Chambers County Court House Annex in Anahuac sometime after the December tag in for Steers, Scramble Calves and FI heifers.

More detailed Information on projects may be found at

<http://www.barbershill.ffanow.com/SAEprojects.html>

The **SAE** seems to be an area in which both students and parent’s questions. Hopefully, some of the basic questions will be answered here.

One of the first questions to be asked is**,**

**“Do I have to raise an animal to be in Ag and/or the FFA?”**

The answer is

**“No, you do not have to have an animal project, but yes you**

**must have an SAE”.**

We realize that not all students are available to raise an animal project for various reasons. There are many other activities available to students who are unable to participate in the animal project area to do so. This area of the Agriculture program is important and will enable students to receive a more complete concept of the total program. Students enrolled in an Agri-Science class are provided a list of activities related to that class which can be used as a supplement or in place of an animal project. These activities are valued in a point per semester per Agri-Science class to receive credit. There are many ways to accomplish an SAE

**Other frequency asked questions include**:

* **What kind of animal?** Student are able to exhibit the following animals at the Chambers County Youth Project Show: Beef cattle (market steers & breeding beef) swine, (market swine), sheep, goats, turkey, chicken (broilers), and rabbits (fryers, breeding stock, fur, or meet), open poultry (quail, pheasants,)
* **How much do they cost?** Obviously, steers cost more than a pen of broilers to raise. For this reason, we have asked some of our students to address this issue later on for each of the species include in our program.
* **When do I get my animal?** This will depend on two factors: The type of animal and which show you want to participate in. Market steers, for the Chambers County Youth Project Show need to be purchased and on feed by Nov. 1. Market lambs & goats need to be purchased in Sept-Oct-Nov. Broilers and turkey projects for CCYPS will be ordered during the school year. Turkeys in December and Broilers in February usually. \*\*\*\***Students desiring to raise poultry for, San Antonio, or Houston must have ordered them by late spring. Major show Turkeys will be picked up in October. Check the shows website for more specifics**
* **What kind of facility/pen do I need for my animal?** This will depend on the type of animal that you raise. Once you have made this decision, contact one of the Agri-Science teachers and we will be glad to assist you in planning your facility. We have a school Ag Barn if you need it for lambs/goats/cattle only.
* **Where is a good place to buy my animal?** There is a definite need to understand that we are dealing with **SHOW ANIMALS**, not commercial grade animals. Animals that are exhibited in livestock shows are not ordinary “farm animals”. They are bred to be of a higher quality, specifically for shows. We will be happy to assist you in locating quality show stock if you ask. All of the poultry projects (broilers and turkeys) are purchased through the CCYPS from one hatchery.

**Which Ag Teacher do I go to for help with my SAEs**

We have 3 Ag Teachers here at BH and we all work cooperatively with the kids. We each have general livestock species that we oversee to make it easier for the kids to know who to go to for input etc. For instance, if you email the ag teacher because your child is in her/his class and you have a goat question, they will most likely forward it to Mr. Otto to reply if it’s more than a general quick answer like date of the show, etc. we each work to help with all the projects but generally will refer kids with questions on specifics to the specific teacher that handles that species. When you get to many chiefs telling kids what to do it can get confusing. We have found it just works better this way. You will find that people will offer tons of advice and it can vary a bit due to experience. Everyone wants to help. Help is good but it can get overwhelming when you get started.  We will all 3 be glad to help but just remember we will refer those particular questions to each other as needed. We can help the student acquire the animals or you can secure them yourself. We have a show list of shows sanctioned by BHISD that we attend as a chapter during the year listed in the handbook. We will assist with hauling animals to and from the shows listed. We are glad to help and support our youth in these positive and rewarding youth shows.

* Mrs. Lide: lambs/rabbits/cooperatively with breeding heifers & Eagle Paws Therapy program
* Mr. Otto: goats & cooperatively with swine, breeding heifers & steers
* Mr. Wilson: F1 market heifers, poultry & cooperatively with swine, breeding heifers & steers

We do have nontraditional projects (research projects, exploratory projects, parakeets, quail, deer management (deer leases), mini donkeys) that kids have and we just work with them as needed.

Our Chapter Website

www.barbershillffa.com

When you begin to consider/look for animal projects:

The most important thing you can do is to:

1. Read the rules for the show you are buying an animal for.
2. Select and purchase a quality animal
3. Feed consistently the protein requirements for your animals’ age and condition. But stay consistent. Do not switch feeds just because you forgot to get to the feed store before they closed. That can upset their digestive system and be a problem.
4. Always offer free choice clean cool water.
5. Keep them healthy by de-worming as needed. Watch their feces and de-worm as needed.
6. Don’t over exercise them. But do exercise. Generally, 30-45 days out before the market show start working up to a exercise program. Unless you are prospecting on the weekends at practice shows then you will revise your exercise program to fit.
7. Go to as many prospect shows as you have time to get to for practice. Watch other exhibitors that are successful.
8. Have fun and make as many friends as you can.

Show Pigs



**Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension Service**

**has up to date info we recommend reading**

At

http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/library/files/publications\_resources\_swine\_project\_guide.pdf

A few thoughts

\*Tag in is the first Saturday in February 9am-11am at Whites Park

\*usually pigs are picked up in late December early January to start the SAE

**Selection**

Selection is the first step in starting your project. A few key points to remember are:

1. Buy from a reputable SHOW PIG breeder. If you need help in

Locating pigs see your Ag Teachers; we will help you find pigs. The chapter will be going in January to purchase YPS pigs. You may go with us or find a pig on your own.

1. Age: It is extremely important that you purchase the right age pig. The pigs should be between 5 ½ to 6 ½ months of age at the time of the show.
2. Weight limits: check current show book.

**Facilities**

Good, functional facilities are essential to a successful swine project. The ideal pen set would be as follows:

 water

 10’ 20’ waterwat

 10’

 Feed

**Pens** should have a covered area (grey area) that is open to the south side. The pens should not have any obstructions such as exposed sharp edges on which the pig may hurt itself. The pen needs to stay as clean and dry as possible. Pens should have some type of bedding material in them. Sand and shavings work the best. Hay should be avoided as it provides an environment for parasites.

**Feeders and waterers:** Feeders may be as simple as a common feed pan or automatic feeders may be used. An important thing to remember is that the feeder should not be on the ground, it should be elevated slightly so that the pig does not eat “bent over”. The feeder may be set up on a concrete block or built on a stand. The best type of waterer to use is the automatic type. If an automatic waterer is used the area directly around it should be filled in with concrete or some type of concrete blocks to prevent mud holes. If buckets are used, they should be firmly secured to prevent the pig from tipping them over and making a mud hole.

Feeds and Feeding

Many pig shows are won and lost in the feed pan. Many students have started out with very high quality animals and have ended up with an inferior animal at show time due to improper management. There are no real “secrets” of feeding animals. Consistency is the best advice that can be given. It is important to stick with the same feed. A couple general guidelines to follow are:

**Feeding Procedures:**

The best method is hand feeding. The amount of the feed is limited to a certain amount at set times during the day. This type of feeding is used to prepare your pig for the show (regulating the pig so that it will go into the show at the weight you desire). There are some rules of thumb for hand feeding: The pig should be fed two times a day. If you decide to feed at 7:00am and 6:00pm then feed at that time everyday (weekends included!!!) for best results. Animals get used to routines just as you do. Most pigs will need to be “held” or “drawn” before the show. We can give you advice on this depending on the appearance of your animal at that time if you like. Offer automatic water 24 hours per day unless advisor instructs you differently.

Equipment and Supplies

You will need various types of equipment and supplies for your pig throughout the year and at the show. The following is a list of needed items:

**Paint or Id. your name on every item. They tend to look like everyone else’s at show.**

 Show Stick Feed and water pans

 Brush Soap

 Show Sheen (watch rule book) Towels

 Short Water Hose 1lb coffee can

 Kitchen Scale

 Pig $450-750.00

These supplies will be needed mainly at show time.

The kitchen scale will be used to measure feed.

The feeder should always know the brand of feed, protein of feed and lbs fed daily.

De-Wormer/Antibiotics

At first sight of any changes in eating habits, runny nose, coughing, etc., take care of it immediately. Do not put it off.

**LAMBS & MEAT GOAT**

**SAE**

Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension Service

has up to date info we recommend reading

At

http://animalscience.tamu.edu/images/pdf/sheep-goats/AS34060-meatgoatguide.pdf

<http://animalscience.tamu.edu/images/pdf/sheep-goats/AS34059-showlamb.pdf>

A few thoughts

\*Tag in is the first Saturday in February 9am-11am at Whites Park

\*usually LAMBS/GOATS are picked up in the Fall early

\*Print out your show rules and keep up with weights for the show.

\*We also have a school Ag Barn that you may utilize if you do not have one available.

* It is REQUIRED that you purchase your own set of clipper blades to be used to sheer your animal. Ringworm and many other problems can be eliminated if you keep your own personal set of clipper blades ready for use: sterilized and sharp. The Advisors have clipper motors you may check out from the department.

WHAT TO DO FIRST

* Decide what shows you are going to and get a copy of the show rules the show office for major shows.
* Read the rules, most shows have age requirements (tooth rule), weight limits, shearing, and horn rules. This will determine what breed and age goat you need. Most county shows have a validation date. Some shows require a health certificate from the vet within 30 days of the show.
* All goats need access to clean fresh water and clean fresh feed and very limited amounts of hay.
* Be prepared - goats need a good fence and some shelter. Goats need shelter to be able to get out of the wind, rain, and hot summer sun. DOG PROOF
* Make a commitment to take care of your goat twice a day. When you feed you need to watch your goat long enough so you can tell when he is sick or something is not quite right.

**Lambs & Goats**

**Supplies needed for your lamb**

\*I.D./paint name on every item

* Halter and lead rope
* Socks-Muzzle- Lamb blanket
* Clipper Blades \* should keep on hand sharpened good to purchase your own set
* Feed pan and water bucket to travel with.
* Wound Dressing & Drench gun
* Probias with Vitamins -give 3-4 days prior to transport and after

## Medical

* Probias w/ vitamins- give after antibiotic treatments or anytime they are hauled or stressed
* De-Wormer
* Koapectate or Pepto Bismol or scours
* Clorox to clean water trough
* Betadine Solution-Spray bottle for cuts or scrapes

Feed Equipment

* Feed (for 1-2 goats, you can put separate feeding in small plastic bags with supplements per feedings instead of hauling 50# bags to show)
* Fresh Alfalfa Hay; Feed only a handful every couple of days

**Feeding and Health and Exercising** is key to success. But also the initial investment of a quality animal can make all the difference in the SAE success.

* It is recommended that you feed 2# a day and start with the higher protein. Go to a lower protein higher fat, to stop growth spurts and thicken the animal.
* If holding back on feed crimped oats can be given in place of what you cut back on. When you are ready to start pushing them on weight, muscle, exercise, etc you can lower the % protein and up the fat with a finisher.
* 2#/feed/day is considered a maintenance ration and 3#/feed/day they will be on the gain.

Whatever feed you choose follow their requirements as they pay a lot of $ for animal nutritionists to mix rations professionally.

* Watch stool for shape and condition. Normally a round pellet means they are holding and an elongated pellet would give indication that the animal is on the gain (or gaining weight) Stool should be soft and pelleted not sticky or clumpy or loose.
* They do not need hay other than a handful of alfalfa every couple of days. De-worming is needed when the stool is loose or you can do it routinely once a month.
* Can use a small bucket for water clipped to pen, PVC pipe cut long wise in half and caped on ends with wood(2x6) strap metal hangers for feeder or buy a small hanging trough.
* A teaspoon of ammonium chloride may be given daily to prevent urinary calculi (buy at feed store) Most feeds have a % of AC but it doesn’t hurt to add it daily as preventative. Urinary Calculi can be researched on the internet. It is similar to kidney stones in humans.
* Monitor the animal’s growth and talk to your advisor about additives that may be beneficial.
* A young lamb or goat normally only needs a good grower ration to grow for the first few months. Depending on the growth and by watching your weight chart you should be able to monitor if the animal needs additives. But always keep up with how many pounds you feed daily.

**Exercise**

* Should be worked up slowly, just as a human would work up to an exercise program.

Every other day up to 4-5 minutes of pulling a tire, a treadmill, walker, walk out away from pen and a good steady 200 yard run back, walk out again and good run back 3 times, (don’t let them run back to the pen and tank up on water right away-just a few sips till they settle down-then back on fresh water)

* The day they are not exercising work on standing on the ramp (never leave alone on the ramp or tie) Let them stand on the ramp rail or sling tie for 10-15 minutes, then work a few minutes on driving.
* Don’t overdo it -but do it !
* Start exercise program at least 30-45 days out from show date.
* Weight weekly and record your weight.

**Signs to watch for:**

**Urinary Calculi**

1. If your animal is not urinating or showing any signs of stress trying to urinate, rubbing along the fence continually or showing signs of stress at all. Talk to your advisors asap. Read up ahead of time on urinary calculi as it is fatal very quickly if not caught early within 24 hours. Stop feed and give fresh hay and water but it will probably not eat or drink anyway. Immediate drenching of ammonium chloride, vinegar, etc may help. Sometimes clipping off the tip of the penis will alleviate blockage and allow them to urinate but most often a vet will need to intervene or put the animal down. You do not want them to suffer and it will be very costly. Preventative: add the ammonium chloride as above mentions.

**Scours**

* Talk to your Advisors immediately
* Remove all feed: supply fresh water and hay only for 48 hours to settle stomach
* Possibly test for Giardia or coccidia (talk to advisors but a spoonful or two of fresh manure in a zip lock bag drop off at the vet to be tested)
* Review your calendar and it may be time to de-worm or just need to do it again.

**Estimated Expense List**

Here is an example list that a lamb feeder has provided to us. We hope that this list of expense will help you see what type and how much expense goes into raising a lamb.

Supplies Amount

Lamb or goat $ 500-1000.00

Feed ------------------------------------$ 20.75 + for a 50#bag/total for 1 yr=**avg** feeding 2.5lbs/day

Halter and lead rope------------------$ 18.00

Socks-------------------------------------$ 19.00

Muzzle --------------------------------- $ 7.75

Blanket----------------------------------$ 15.00

Clippers---------------------------------$225.00 \* OR JUST BUY A SET OF BLADES TO USE ON THE CHAPTER CLIPPERS not mandatory

lumber for your pen------------------$ 250.00 or rent a stall at the ag barn . See barn rules

To have on hand or in show box

Showing Equipment

* It is required that you purchase your own set of clipper blades to be used to sheer your animal. Ringworm and many other problems can be eliminated if you keep your own personal set of clipper blades ready for use: sterilized and sharp. The Advisors have clipper motors you may check out from the department.
* Hoof nippers
* Extension Cord
* Scissors
* Shampoo
* Short Water hose and Nozzle
* Baby Wipes
* Brushes
* Extra Towels
* Notebook containing all paperwork, registration papers if applicable, and health papers if required for show.
* Entry information
* Name Board or Signs
* Small box containing wire pliers, small rope, wire, hammer, pencil, maker.
* Rake, Shovel, Broom etc to clean pen
* Lawn chair

**Broilers**

**(Market chickens)**

**Check show rules for ordering chicks**

Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension Service

has up to date info we recommend reading

At

Broilers/Roasters

<http://gallus.tamu.edu/library/extpublications/L5431.pdf>

YPS Broilers are generally ordered at the small animal tag in- in Feb

**Or**



**Open Poultry**

**Ducks**

**Quail**

**Parakeets**

**?**

Turkeys

Turkeys for the Chambers County Youth Project Show

are generally ordered in the Fall for YPS

Check the YPS website for details

More information at

http://gallus.tamu.edu/library/extpublications/ps-5145.pdf

* All Major Show broilers you must check that shows website and rulebook.
* There are many different suggestions for feeding and caring and selection for SAE’s
* Whoever you choose to follow just be consistent.

**RABBITS**

**MEAT PENS AND BREEDING RABBITS**

Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension Service

has up to date info we recommend reading

At

http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/library/files/rabbit\_project\_reference\_manual.pdf

For our county show in May we recommend California rabbits for the meat pens.

The above website is very helpful and stays up to date withTAMU recommendations.

See our Chambers County Youth Project Show website for all dates, rules and show information.

Meat pens can also be shown at Trinity Valley Exposition (Liberty) http://www.tvefair.com/ in October and the South Texas State Fair http://www.ymbl.org/ (Beaumont) in March.

Steer or Breeding Beef

Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension Service has up to date info we recommend reading

At

<http://animalscience.tamu.edu/images/pdf/beef/as1-2-managing-beef-cattle-for-show.pdf>

We encourage our students to utilize all facilities that they have, but if new facilities must be built we recommend the following:

16’ X 32’ pen 10’ X 16’ shed

2’ X 3’ feed box with a mineral box on one end

Adequate water container to hold 25 gallons of water.

We also have a school Ag Barn that you may utilize if you do not have one available.

Locate pen so that it will drain correctly, and the calf will have a dry place to lie down. Then pen should also be located in such a manner that the shed will block the north wind. It may be necessary in some situations to fill dirt or sand into raise the level of the pen so that proper drainage will occur. We have found that 16’ X 52’’ stock panels make excellent construction materials for pens. Corrugated sheet metal can be used to make a good water tight shed.

Estimated cost of pen if new materials are used is $250-$300. Breeding cattle projects can be raised in the same type pen, but pastures should be provided for grazing and exercise.

Cost of animal------------$ 2000.00 + 4000.00 +

 Clipper Blades------------$50.00

Feed cost----------------$700.00+

 Vet. Expenses------------$75.00

 Misc. expenses-----------$100.00

\*\*\* It is recommended that you purchase your own set of clipper blades to be used to groom your calf. Ringworm and many other problems can be eliminated if you keep your own personal set of clipper blades ready for use: sterilized and sharp. The Advisors have clipper motors you may check out from the department.

A few items to remember:

Feeding:

* Feed 2-3% of their body wt. Upping the amount as they grow. Keep a wt chart
* If calves have not been on feed already you can start calves off with a pre-conditioning feed or grower ration. Feed a bag and then graduate them into a higher protein feed 14% +/- and go to a lower protein and up the fat with a finishing ration to condition (finish/fat)
* To stop growth spurts and thicken the animal go to a higher protein. Monitor the animals growth weekly. But do not switch feeds quickly. Graduate into a new feed over a 7 day period. The less you switch up feeds the better the digestion and growth will be for the animal. But watching the needs of the animal are very important.
* Provide plain salt and mineral block free choice in the pen.
* If holding back on feed crimped oats or cotton seed hulls can be given in place of what you cut back on. When you are ready to start pushing them on weight, muscle, exercise, etc you can lower the % protein and up the fat with a finisher.
* Lots of free choice fresh hay.
* Fresh water ALWAYS
* De-Worm every 45-60 days. Watch feces for signs of blood or scours. Either should be dealt with asap.
* Bathing and/or watering down as much as possible every day is great for hair growth.
* Probias or yeast is always good to give after hauling, times of stress or after antibiotics(½ pkg. Yeast every 3-4 days added to feed for digestion or probias is best as a paste to add microbes in rumen)
* Keep a weekly wt chart!
* Know your show rules on weights

If you animal has scours:

* Talk to your Advisors immediately
* Remove all feed: supply fresh water and hay only for 48 hours to settle stomach
* Possibly test for Giardia or coccidia (talk to advisors but a spoonful or two of fresh manure in a zip lock bag drop off at the vet to be tested)
* or it may be time to de-worm or just need to deworm it again with a different dewormer

If you see abnormal swelling on the left side of the calf:

* There are certain animals that experience bloat or other digestive disturbances. If you see any signs of swelling or bloat on the left side of belly. (That is where the rumen is located) let your advisors know. It may be that the calf needs to be off feed for 24-48 hours and given fresh water and hay. If bloat is suspected, it can be fatal. Begin walking the animal and try to get it to belch or pass gas by walking.
* There is a bloat treatment at Tractor Supply or the feed store that can be given to degas but if necessary, drench the animal with 40-60 ccs of mineral oil and walk for 20 minutes. If it continues the vet should be called immediately.

Suggested

SHOW SUPPLIES CHECK LIST

**FOR LONG HAIRED CATTLE**

* REGISTRATION & OR HEALTH PAPERS
* **WATER BUCKET \* Never share buckets!!!!! With ANYONE**.
* FEED BUCKET \*\*\* BRING YOUR OWN BUCKETS!!!
* FEED & HAY

**SHOW BOX**

* Show sign
* Show halter
* Blue stall halter
* Blue neck rope
* Show stick
* Scissors
* Comb and brush
* Short water hose with nozzle
* Hay bag
* Towels or rags
* Number& or comb holder
* Hair care and adhesives cannot be used at Most Major Shows. Check the rulebook ahead of time.
* Dawn or Joy soap-to wash calf

**EXTRAS**

Lawn chairs

Camera

* ALWAYS WASH CALF THE DAY BEFORE THE SHOW
* REMEMBER STALL DUTY AND FEED TIMES.
* TAKE CARE FOR YOUR ANIMAL, TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, THEN YOU CAN PLAY
* HAVE FUN



Short Haired Cattle

SHOW SUPPLIES CHECK LIST

**FOR Humpies and short haired cattle**

* REGISTRATION papers
* **WATER BUCKET \* Never share buckets!!!!! With ANYONE**.
* FEED BUCKET \*\*\* BRING YOUR OWN BUCKETS!!!
* FEED & HAY
* Rake

**SHOW BOX**

* Show sign
* Show halter
* Stall halter
* Neck rope
* Show stick
* Scissors
* Comb and brush
* Short water hose with nozzle
* Hay bag
* Towels or rags
* Baby wipes
* Number holder & or bandanna for pocket
* SHOW SHEEN OR Hair care and adhesives canNOT be used at **Most Major Shows**. But bring show sheen for shows that allow. Check the rulebook ahead of time.
* Dawn or Joy soap-to wash calf

**EXTRAS**

Lawn chairs

* ALWAYS WASH CALF THE DAY BEFORE THE SHOW
* REMEMBER STALL DUTY AND FEED TIMES.
* TAKE CARE FOR YOUR ANIMAL, TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, THEN YOU CAN PLAY
* HAVE FUN