



Ag Mag

AGRICULTURAL GAZETTE FOR KIDS



SHEEP & GOAT



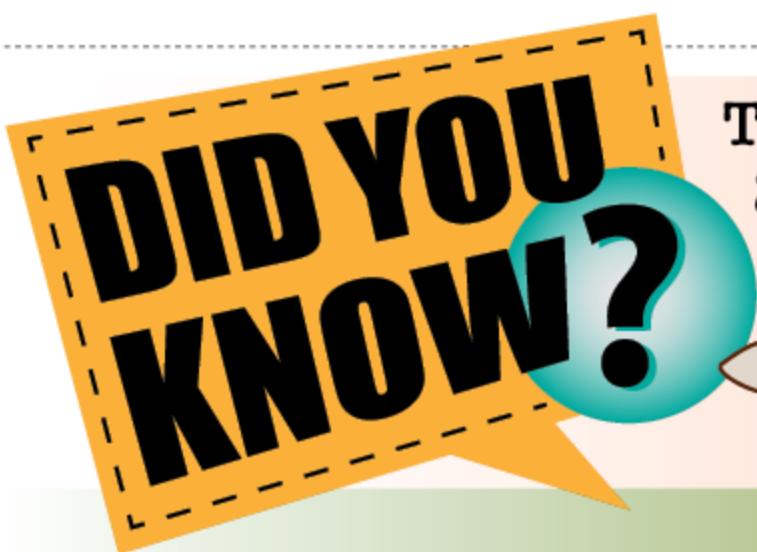
SHEEP AND GOATS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

Sheep and goats can be found all throughout history. In fact, many American presidents liked the animals and kept them as pets.

- Pres. George Washington (1st) had sheep on his Mount Vernon estate.
- Pres. James Madison (4th) wore an inaugural jacket made of wool from sheep on his Virginia farm.
- Pres. Abraham Lincoln's (16th) sons had two pet goats that lived in the White House.
- Pres. Benjamin Harrison (23rd) had a goat that would pull his grandchildren around in a cart on the front lawn.
- Pres. Woodrow Wilson (28th) grazed sheep on the White House lawn.

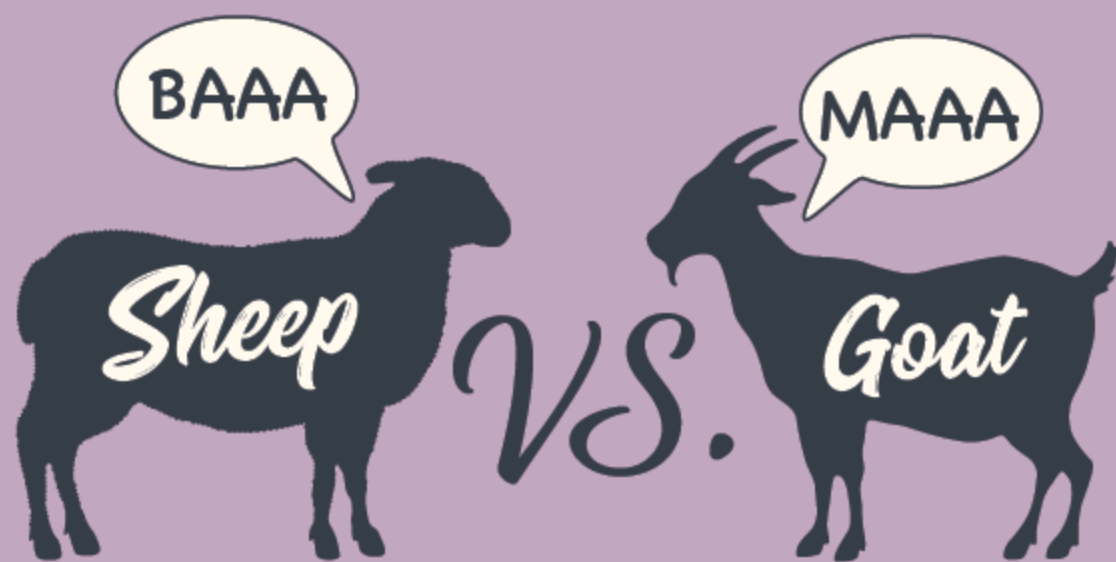


- The first cloned mammal in history was a sheep named Dolly.



There were over 5 million sheep and 2.5 million goats in the U.S. at the beginning of 2019.





1,000 breeds	210 breeds
Female - Ewe	Female - Nanny or Doe
Male - Ram	Male - Buck or Billy
Baby - Lamb	Baby - Kid
Graze for food	Browse for food
Do not have teeth in upper front jaw	Do not have teeth in upper front jaw
Make the "baaa" sound	Make the "maaa" sound
Can live 6 to 11 years	Can live 8 to 12 years
1 to 3 lambs per litter	1 to 3 kids per litter
Used for meat, milk and wool	Used for meat and milk
Live in a flock	Live in a herd
Can be born with or without horns	Can be born with or without horns

DID YOU KNOW?

Tennessee Stiff-Leg goats, also known as "fainting goats," will fall over when frightened or excited.



SHEEP & GOAT

Eating Habits

- Sheep and goats are both herbivores and enjoy strolling through the pasture eating grass and any other great forage they can find.
- Sheep are very good for the environment. They eat brush and other natural vegetation, which helps prevent wildfires.
- Sheep minimize the need for farmers to use herbicides by eating weeds and other unwanted plants.
- Sheep consume about 2 to 4.5% of their body weight in dry food a day.
- Goats eat 3 to 5% of their body weight in dry food a day.
- Goats are not able to convert feed to energy as well as sheep.



WOOL

Wool is the fur on the outside of the sheep that is cut to help make clothes, blankets and other goods. Sheep will get hair (wool) cut once a year, producing over 8 pounds of fleece.

The process for getting wool includes



Shearing

Fleece is removed before ewes lamb.



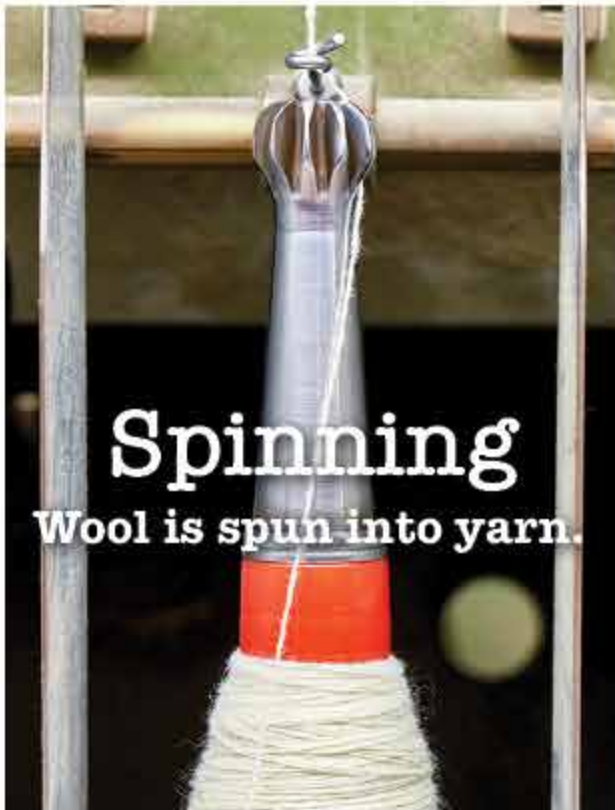
Scouring

Fleece is washed. Dirt and lanolin are removed.



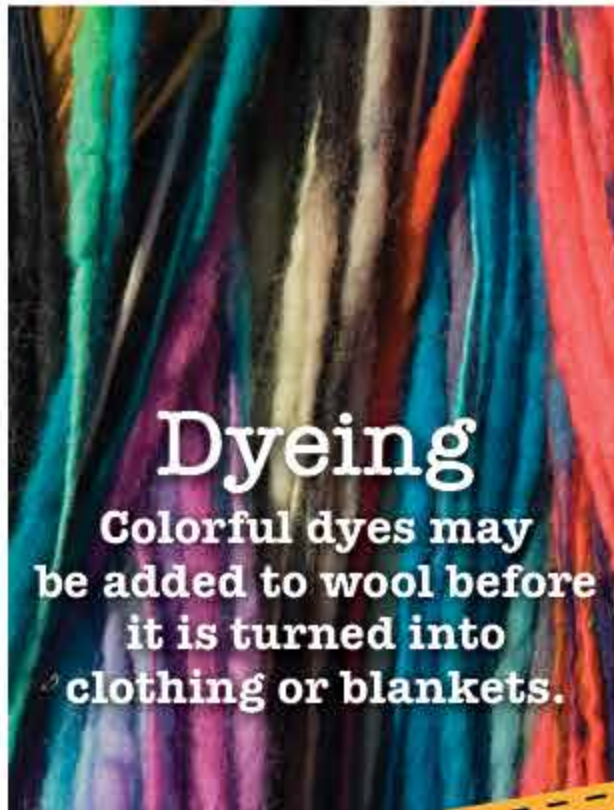
Carding

Clean, dry wool is combed.



Spinning

Wool is spun into yarn.



Dyeing

Colorful dyes may be added to wool before it is turned into clothing or blankets.



Knitting

Wool yarn is knitted or woven into fabric.

Alabama Sheep & Goat Facts

Alabama currently ranks 10th in the nation for meat goat production.



There are approximately 51,316 goats on 2,256 farms in Alabama.

There are approximately 24,650 sheep on 1,062 farms in Alabama.

There are approximately 45,000 meat goats in the state.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are 450 feet of yarn in a baseball.

Alabama's hot climate is more suitable for hair sheep, or sheep with more hair follicles than wool. Hair sheep are raised for meat instead of wool production.

Sheep Products

MILK – often used to make gourmet cheese

MEAT – called “mutton”

LANOLIN – wool wax used for cosmetics such as lipstick, mascara, lotions, shampoos and conditioners

WOOL – 2/3 used for clothing; 1/3 used for blankets, insulation and absorbent pads for soaking up oil spills

TALLOW– sheep fat that is used to make soaps and candles



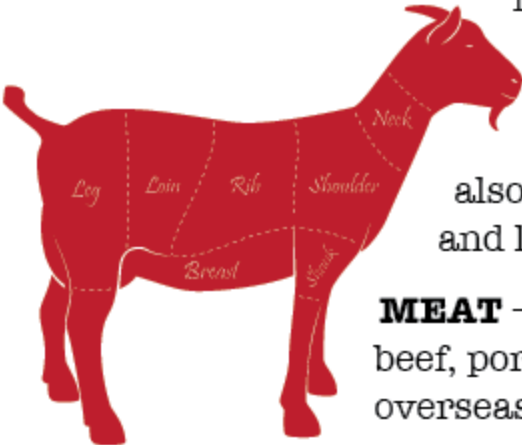
DID YOU KNOW?

One pound of wool can make 10 miles of yarn.

Goat Products

MILK – does not have allergens like dairy milk. It is naturally homogenized and can be digested faster than traditional milk. Goat milk is also a popular ingredient in hand-made soaps and lotions.

MEAT – lower in fat and cholesterol compared to beef, pork, mutton and poultry. It is mostly eaten overseas.



WORD SEARCH

Find and circle the hidden words listed below. Words may appear up, down, left or right. Good luck!

- KNITTING

FAINTING GOAT

SHEEP

FORAGE

LAMB

EWES

SPINNING

HERD

PETS

GOAT

DOE

DOLLY

WOOL
- RAM

LINCOLN

YARN

SHEARING

MILK

FLOCK

MEAT

HERBIVORE

KID

NANNY

PASTURE

WASHINGTON

MUTTON

K N I T T I N G O P L U Q R F L A E M T
N O Z T A O G G N I T N I A F G O G J H
I T S H E E P R O N T E W D A N L A U A
R X O O R L S G R E E B P A E I L R E L
L I N C O L N I B O W O O J Y N I O L A
V T D I E E P O M K E R Z O A N I F B M
A T R E P L G D H I S E R N R I X L A B
P I E C F D O E H J P O A T P P S G F E
E N H T G W A D I D O L L Y P S K L V E
T R T U O P T A R H T S W O O L H Y U W
S U Y N O T G N I H S A W M E F G B J L
Q H P A S T U R E K L O Q A H M A R O I
O A L C R A Y N N A N N J R T Y S C V M
N K Y U O P L K G J E E Z X E Y O N N U
E I F N S H E A R I N G L O A R T B R T
A D E U K L S G I A M I L K M V E T A T
Y W P R A I B L H G D D I O L H S J Y O
A O F N F L O C K U S T A A Y W X M G N
R O I A L P O M N G D O U M E A T D L K
K H E R B I V O R E Z R T O U W Y I D Z