4-H/Youth Goat EDUCATIONAL COORDINATOR – tatiana Stanton, 114 Morrison Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853, E-mail: tls7@cornell.edu, (607) 254-6024 or (607) 387-5009
Youth Goat SUPERINTENDENT – Holly Phillips, straitgatefarm@gmail.com, (607) 868-5518 or (585) 362-5833
Assistant Supervisor – Michael Fiorentino, michaelfiorentino1@gmail.com, (631) 875-7115
Assistant Meat Goat Supervisor – Annette Mrzywka, amrzywka@gmail.com, (585) 737-2006
Assistant Dairy Goat Supervisor – Jeff Frey, tractorjef@aol.com, (315) 945-0985

Feed and Bedding – Blue Seal/Kent Feeds will again donate some grain for does being milked in the milking parlor. However, be prepared to supply your own grain to your milkers if necessary. Keep in mind that the donated grain is only to be fed in the parlor! Exhibitors should bring their own grain for all other goats. Sawdust is provided at no charge. Shavings, straw, hay and grain can be brought with you or purchased and delivered to the fairgrounds by calling Mike Teske at 315-374-1590 or Harry Moore at 315-727-0134 at least one week prior to Fair.

Judges – Our Dairy Goat Judge is Robert Bartholomew Jr. from Germantown, NY. Our meat goat judge is Deirdre Hillman from Newfane, NY. Jeremy Lesniak will conduct the judging competition/clinic with Deirdre Hillman assisting for meat goats.

Changes for 2016 - There is lots of new construction going on at the fairgrounds. Give yourself extra time to locate venues. Patsy Graham has resigned as Youth Goat Superintendent due to family and work commitments. We are sad to lose Patsy’s wonderful interaction with youth and vivid enthusiasm but hope she can now get some breathing time in over the summer before she returns to her heavy schedule of teaching each fall. We welcome new Superintendent, Holly Phillips, and new Assist. Dairy Goat Superintendent, Jeff Frey.

Youth may no longer sleep in goat barn! New York 4-H policy has changed and youth, regardless of what county they are from, will no longer be permitted to sleep in the goat barn even when accompanied by their guardian or chaperone. We truly apologize for any inconvenience this may cause but PLEASE make alternative arrangements by referring to the OVERNIGHTER section on the last page of this letter.

The Goat Judging Contest will now be at 3 PM on Monday Aug 29th following the Youth Meat Goat Show while the Goat Obstacle Course Contest will be at 11 AM on Tuesday Aug 30th.prior to our Awards Ceremony.

Reminders - Come prepared to participate in the Team Goat Fitting Contest to be held Thurs., Aug 25th at 3:30 pm. Each county may enter junior and/or senior teams. Youth not having a team will be assigned to a combined county team. Goats (dairy for dairy teams and meat for meat teams) will be provided. However, if at all possible contact our superintendents in advance if anticipating having a meat goat team. Teams must provide their own supplies.

Lease Policy! Remember that youth who own no goats may lease two non-owned goats as 4-H projects but may be restricted to showing only one of these animals per youth fair, youth exhibition, or 4-H show/exhibition at their county’s discretion. Youth owning dairy goats may lease one meat goat. Youth owning meat goats may lease one dairy goat. As with owned goats, all non-owned goats must be designated in the exhibitor’s name and cared for by that exhibitor by no later than June 15 of the current year. A non-ownership certificate, properly filled out and available from county 4-H offices, must be supplied along with registration papers (meat goats do not need to show registration papers if unregistered) to prove designation. A copy of the non-ownership papers must be sent with entries.
Please limit post entries and last minute substitutions. Making major changes to the class lists at check-in causes unacceptable delays in getting class lists finalized and show books printed. We understand that some county fairs occur very close to the August 15th deadline for submitting NYS fair entry forms. If you are in doubt as to which of your animals will qualify, PLEASE list ALL possible entries to the NYS Fair rather than planning on making substitutions. It is far easier for us to delete several extra goats on Thursday rather than typing in lots of new goats.

Although state wide health requirements have loosened slightly with regard to rabies vaccination, requirements for the NYS Fair fall under the Onondaga Health Department requirements. These state that “ALL GOATS OVER 3 MONTHS OF AGE (as of 2 weeks prior to arrival at the fair) MUST BE “OFFLABEL” VACCINATED FOR RABIES AT LEAST 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AT THE FAIRGROUNDS AND NOT MORE THAN 365 DAYS PRIOR.” We strongly encourage you to vaccinate any goat that is 84 days or older at least 2 weeks prior to the fair if your veterinarian agrees. Otherwise, the NYS Fair staff may require that animals that are < 4 months of age and unvaccinated be screened from the public. This would mean that you’d need to crate them or bring along chicken wire to line the pens. So do yourself a favor and vaccinate your 3 mo. old kids!

All youth goats need to be in place by 9 a.m., Thurs., Aug 25th, and depart on Tuesday evening, Aug 30th. We anticipate having no tack pens available. Please note that Youth Meat Goats that are also competing in the Meat Goat Open Show will need to leave the fair by 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug 30th and return later in the week. Dairy Goats competing in both the Youth show and the Dairy Goat Open Show may stay over.

We urge you to compete in the Goat Educational Display Contests taking place in the goat barn during the NY State Fair. One contest is for individuals and the other is for clubs. All entries must be accompanied by an Exhibitor Information Statement Card available from your county’s Cornell Cooperative Extension office and should consist of a poster (at least 14”x 22”) or 3-dimensional exhibit related to goats or the goat industry that can be hung on a wall or fit on a 2’x 3’ counter space. The public will have access to the displays, so please do not use valuables as part of your display. Although not mandatory, we strongly encourage you to have your display judged at the county level first to make sure it is well organized and presented. Counties with a club or individual educational display will receive a one-time bonus score on goat herdsmanship.

The Youth Livestock Judging Competition at the NYS Fair may include a class of meat goats. If you plan to compete in both the Livestock Judging Contest and the Kimber Hamm Goat Rancher Competition at the NYS Fair, you must notify the Youth Meat Goat Assistant Superintendent, Annette Mrzywka, amrzywka@gmail.com prior to August 27th to avoid scheduling conflicts between the 2 competitions.

GENERAL INFORMATION
1. Youth goat events are held in the Goat Barn or the Goat Tent unless otherwise noted. Please consult the 2016 Youth Department Animal Science Premium Book available on the web at http://www.nysfair.org/competitions by clicking on “how to enter” and then scrolling down to Youth Goats – Dairy & Meat. It is also at http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/4H/nysfair_info.html on the horizontal menu. All exhibitors, their families, volunteer leaders, and any other persons who will be supervising exhibitors should read and be familiar with the rules and regulations (particularly Section D). Not knowing the rules will not be accepted as an excuse for failure to adhere to them.

2. Youth participants must be at least eight years old by Jan 1st, 2016 and not have reached their nineteenth birthday prior to Jan 1st, 2016. Junior youth must be 13 years old or younger and Senior youth must be 14 years old or older as of Jan 1st of the current year.

3. Entry forms must be submitted by your County Extension Educators to the State Fair Entry Dept. A photocopy of each exhibitor’s entry form and of the completed non-owned form (leased goats only) must also be sent by the CCE Educator to: Holly Phillips, 8761 Chidsey Hill Road, Branchport, NY 14418.

4. Original health papers and rabies certificates must accompany each goat for inspection upon arrival on the Fairgrounds. Leased goats need to be accompanied to the NYS Fair by their completed non-ownership certificate (available at your CCE office). As with owned goats, the goat must be cared for by the youth and lease papers on file by no later than June 15th or earlier if county rules specify an earlier date. Youth can exhibit no more than two leased goats. Please refer to our new lease policy for clarification.
5. No bucks are allowed during the youth goat activities. No horned dairy goats allowed. Meat goats may be horned, but if unruly may be asked to leave or to have their horns artificially tipped.

6. Only ADGA, AGS, and CGS recorded, registered or applied-for animals recognized by ADGA as dairy animals are accepted in the dairy goat show. ADGA RULES SHALL GOVERN. The junior and senior shows are not separately sanctioned.

7. The original registration certificate is required for all animals six (6) months of age or older in the dairy goat show. The requirement for animals less than six (6) months of age is either the original registration or recordation certificate, a stamped duplicate application, OR a faxed stamped duplicate application. Purchased goats must be transferred to the youth’s name by June 15th, or earlier if county rules specify an earlier date, and transfers finalized by Aug 24th, 2016.

8. Meat goats do not need to be registered with a breed association. All unregistered meat goats must be eartagged or tattooed with their official scrapie identification. Registered meat goats should be tattooed and accompanied by registration papers.

9. Registered dairy and meat goats have a unique tattoo that is acceptable as scrapie identification in conjunction with their registration papers. They DO NOT require eartags.

10. Dress code for dairy goat classes is white shirts and white pants. Dress code for meat goat classes is nice, neat shirts and dark pants. No farm emblems please!

**T-Shirts** – T-shirts promoting NYS 4-H goats are sold at a table during each of our goat shows at the NYS Fair. The proceeds go to our portion of the matching funds program used to pay premiums to youth who participate in the optional goat educational activities at the NYS Fair. We urge you to support our goat youth by stopping by to buy a T-shirt during the fair. We are also in need of donations (from businesses or individuals) for the prizes for the Kimber Hamm Goat Rancher Award. Please contact Annette Mrzywka to donate.

**Absentee Policies** - Youth who cannot participate in the showmanship classes because of work or classes must submit written requests and proof of employment or courses for approval to the Youth Goat Superintendent, Holly Phillips, 8761 Chidsey Hill Road, Branchport, NY 14418, postmarked by Aug 17th. Her decision is final. Youth must be present to show their own dairy goats in the breed show or else their animals will be unable to compete and premiums will be forfeited.

**Open Shows** – All youth who wish to enter their goats in either the Open Dairy Goat Show or the Open Boer Goat Show must enter through the normal Open Show procedure. Entry forms are on the web at [http://www.nysfair.org/competitions](http://www.nysfair.org/competitions) under “How to Enter”.

**Competitions** – Sample questions for **Goat Bowl** and past **Meat Goat Knowledge Exams** are on the web at [http://4h.anisci.cornell.edu/animal-programs/goats/](http://4h.anisci.cornell.edu/animal-programs/goats/) & [http://4h.anisci.cornell.edu/animal-programs/goats/meat-goats/](http://4h.anisci.cornell.edu/animal-programs/goats/meat-goats/). The **meat goat project notebook reviews and meat goat oral interviews** are handled as two separate voluntary activities. Updated project notebooks (record books) for adult does, yearling does, doe kids and market kids are also available at [http://4h.anisci.cornell.edu/animal-programs/goats/meat-goats/](http://4h.anisci.cornell.edu/animal-programs/goats/meat-goats/). The written knowledge exam contest has been eliminated. Entry in the project notebook review is limited to one notebook per youth. Youth do not have to bring their goats to the NYS Fair in order to participate in these events.

**Kimber Hamm Goat Rancher Competition** – This optional competition is in memory of Kimber Hamm, one of NY’s premier meat goat farmers. The competition is open to meat goat youth showing a doe, doe kid, or market kid at the NY State Fair Youth Show. This award is given to the junior and senior youth meat goat exhibitor who most demonstrates the diverse qualities of a good meat goat herdserson. These qualities include, but are not limited to 1) a working knowledge of goat health, nutrition, marketing, and management, and 2) the ability to skillfully evaluate, handle, and raise meat goats, and make financial decisions. There will be cash awards for the highest scoring senior and junior competitor.

1. Competitors must compete in the project notebook competition, the oral interview, fitting and showmanship (Class #73 or #74), and the Kimber Hamm Conformation Class (#92 or #93). Please note, the Written Knowledge Exam has been eliminated but its materials may be covered in other events.
2. All exhibitors who compete in the above 4 activities and thus are eligible for the Kimber Hamm Goat Rancher Award will receive awards. Ribbons are awarded up to 10th place.

THINGS TO DO PRIOR TO THE FAIR
1. You must have been properly entered by Aug 15th, 2016. Please be sure to read over the Youth Livestock Premium Book at http://4h.ansci.cornell.edu/events-2/nys-fair/forms-information/ or http://nysfair.ny.gov/competitions/how-to-enter/. Review the rules and regulations; the animal health regulations; the general information section; the livestock arrival and release schedule; and especially, Section D - Youth Goats.
2. Request and obtain exhibitor passes and parking permits through your County 4-H office.

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU TO THE FAIR
1. All necessary papers and health certificates. These should be left at the barn with animals at all times.
2. Feeding equipment, milking equipment, grooming equipment, health items, clean-up materials, hay, grain, and salt, show clothes, individual or club display educating people about goats.

OVERNIGHTERS
All Dept 51 participants staying overnight on the New York State Fairgrounds are to sleep in the Youth Dormitories. No Dept 51 participants may sleep in the Youth Department animal exhibit areas. Parents (or legal guardians) may request exceptions to these rules to instead stay in area hotels or in campers at the fairgrounds through prescribed written application forms at the discretion of their Cornell Cooperative Extension Offices and will thus assume full responsibility for the action and well-being of each of their children for whom an exception is requested. An adult chaperone must be designated on the form. Forms are available from county offices. However, please note that NYS 4-H policy has changed and YOUTH MAY NO LONGER SLEEP IN THE GOAT BARN. Information about dorm requirements and fees is at http://nysfair.ny.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/2016-Youth-Livestock-info-rules-regulations.pdf on pages 7-11. Contact Mary Ellen Daino at (315) 487-7711 ext. 1337 immediately to find out more about livestock RV application forms and fees and which lots are now available to goat exhibitors. Locations are limited and fill up fast. The sooner you send in a livestock RV application, the better chance you will have of getting a space.

WHAT TO DO UPON ARRIVAL
1. All SHEEP, GOATS, LLAMAS will probably be using the inspection station located just inside Gate #7 past the state troopers check point. All goats and their health papers must be checked. After your vet check proceed to Gate #11, turn left on Belle Isle and go to the Goat Barn. All goats are to be housed in the Goat Barn. Provide your papers to the Assistant Goat Superintendents immediately to ensure that you get your premiums. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to care for their own animals and the surrounding premises. There is a mandatory meeting for all Youth Goat Exhibitors at 1 p.m. on Thurs., Aug 27th.
2. If competing for the Kimber Hamm Goat Rancher Award, submit your project notebook to the Meat Goat Assistant Superintendent by Thurs., August 25th.

CARE OF ANIMALS
All goats will be appropriately fed and watered. It is the youth’s responsibility to care for his or her animals. Keep the area clean and orderly– give the public a positive impression of the goat industry.

OTHER INFORMATION
PLEASE plan on joining us for our picnic gathering for all youth goat exhibitors and their families on Sun., Aug 28th at 7 p.m. Bringing your own table service is appreciated but not required. Food items or monetary donations happily accepted.

Enjoy the Fair!!