



## ANIMAL HEALTH STUDY

IN ORDER TO ADDRESS HIGH-PRIORITY HEALTH CHALLENGES TO DAIRY GOAT PRODUCTION WHILE IMPROVING ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP.

**How We Will Do This:** perform key research to investigate the causes of respiratory disease in dairy goats & identify appropriate antibiotic & non-antibiotic treatment & prevention tools for both respiratory disease & mastitis.

**Why:** these are key issues to dairy goat sustainability, especially in light of rising antimicrobial resistance.

**What You Get:** farms that participate will receive valuable herd diagnostics information & will be the first to know about new health intervention tools.



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## OUR STORY

In 2024, Iowa State University was awarded funding by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to improve the sustainability of dairy goat production in the US. Reaching this goal would allow for environmentally sustainable intensification of dairy goat production while assuring continued access to value-added markets that support a diverse population of farmers & small rural farming communities.

 **USDA** National Institute of Food and Agriculture  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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UNIVERSITY OF  
ARKANSAS

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AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE



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## OUR MISSION

SDGA SUPPORTS & ENCOURAGES HEALTHY, REGENERATIVE & PROFITABLE DAIRY GOAT PRODUCTION SYSTEMS BY PROVIDING THE NECESSARY TOOLS & RESOURCES TO PRODUCERS & VETERINARIANS.

This project explores how **dairy goat production systems** may be integral to sustainable agricultural intensification, promoting workforce development & contributing to their community's vitality.

Our work will provide a model of an integrated farm system that will provide valuable insight & decision-making power to farmers working to build resiliency into their operations to manage economic & environmental uncertainty that feed back into their production system.



**Empowering Dairy Goat Producers' Sustainability, Prosperity & Resilience**





## FINANCIAL Assessment

IN ORDER TO PROVIDE DAIRY GOAT PRODUCERS WITH INFORMATION ON THEIR FINANCIAL HEALTH.

**How We Will Do This:** farm visit & survey on inputs & outputs of production.

**Why:** to assist dairy goat producers in aspiring to what can be a profitable dairy goat enterprise.

**What You Get:** this tool can improve production sustainability by providing strategies to increase productivity & profitability. You will also receive a monetary stipend for participating in the first & third years.

### COMPONENTS OF QUESTIONNAIRE

- Income
- Expenses
- Farm Assets
- Inventory
- Labor Inputs
- Site Visits



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## LIFECYCLE Assessment

IN ORDER TO PROVIDE DAIRY GOAT PRODUCTION WITH SOME OF THE SAME RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO BEEF & COW DAIRY PRODUCERS.

**How We Will Do This:** develop a dynamic farm system computational simulation model that will consider the entire production system.\*

**Why:** this model will predict long-term performance & economics of the production system.

**What You Get:** this tool can improve sustainability by providing strategies to increase productivity, profitability, & climate adaptability, as well as decrease environmental impact of your production system.

\*e.g. crop & pasture production, feeds & storage, grazing, etc

### COMPONENTS OF QUESTIONNAIRE

- Upstream Inputs
- Farm Operations
- Emissions & Waste
- Final Products
- Waste Management
- Broader Benefits



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## COMMUNITY CAPITALS Assessment

IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A SNAPSHOT OF THE CURRENT COMMUNITY SUPPORT & POTENTIAL FOR MARKET GROWTH.

**How We Will Do This:** interview producers & a selection of community members on entrepreneurial potential in dairy goat products.

**Why:** to assist dairy goat producers to aspire to what can be a profitable dairy goat enterprise.

**What You Get:** market insight & information on business planning & goal setting for scaling your operation.

### COMPONENTS OF QUESTIONNAIRE

- Marketing
- Investments
- Farm Management
- Opportunities
- Farmers' Support



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