The Master Meat Goat Producer Program is designed as an educational tool to provide information and insight to broaden production management skills and improve the competitive advantage in the market place; toward increased profitability for the meat goat producer.

The Master Meat Goat Producer Program will be led by a team of specialists and agents from Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee with the support and involvement from representatives of state-level agencies, businesses and organizations that have an interest in the states’ meat goat industry.

The Master Meat Goat Producer Program will provide:

- Participation in educational sessions with specialists that provide opportunities to gain knowledge in meat goat production and marketing
- A reference manual of the 13 topics covered in the sessions
- Master Meat Goat Producer Certification
- Informative interaction with other producers
- An opportunity to identify all the facets of meat goat management for a new or novice producer
- Participation in the Goat Quality Assurance (GQA) certified producer program

What is the cost of the Master Meat Goat Producer Program?

The fee for the Master Meat Goat Producer Program is $150.00 which covers the costs of the training sessions, educational manuals and other teaching / instructional materials. However, a $100 scholarship is available for individuals who have a premise identification number.

To obtain more information and become involved in the Master Meat Goat Producer Program, contact:

Jerry Lamb
UT Extension Director
Rhea County
125 Court Street, Unit 3
Dayton, TN 37321
(423) 775-7807
jlamb2@utk.edu
http://utextension.tennessee.edu/rhea

Classes will be held on
Friday, April 19, 2013 and Saturday, April 20, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day.
MARKETING / ECONOMICS / BUDGETING
The session will entail: goal setting, evaluating objectives, writing a mission statement and planning; all necessary for success. A look at the true economics for a meat goat business: budgeting time, money and resources to the enterprise identified and marketing – how to market your product for profit.

NUTRITION
The most expensive expenditure on most farms. Understanding the concept of balanced nutrition for production parameters.

FORAGES
The use of pasture grasses, forbs and mixed vegetation for forage-based meat goat production. Use of dried forages as a supplemental feed source. Establishment of mixed specie pastures.

FACILITIES / FENCING / EQUIPMENT
Economics of portable and permanent structures and fencing. Discussions on equipment and facilities needed based on production management goals and goat behavior under various circumstances.

PREDATORS AND PREDATION
Keeping goats safe from both domestic and wild intruders can be a challenge.

HEALTH / BIOSECURITY
A herd health management program must be incorporated as part of a total operation. Learn to prevent diseases, recognize diseases and avoid internal parasite devastation.

GENETICS
Decisions that impact the quality and performance of goats within the industry and the consumer. Learn basic genetic principles, the use of performance records, planning breeding programs, herdsire selection and selecting and culling females.

REPRODUCTION AND BREEDING
A major factor impacting profitability. This section covers economics, reproductive systems function, management and development of replacement stock, body condition scoring and artificial insemination.

CARCASS QUALITY / FOOD SAFETY AND PREPARATION
The value of a carcass is greatly influenced by genetic decisions. Integrate quality and yield grades into pricing and ethnic group target markets. Wholesome products begin with the producer.