**DAIRY GOAT FACTS**

* In the United States, dairy goats are found in every state. According to the USDA, as of January 1, 2020, there are 440,000 milk goats in U.S.
* Florida milk herd consist of 9,000 goats (NASS 2020).
* Overall, 10.0 percent of U.S. goat operations focus primarily on dairy production.

### BREEDS

![Alpine](image1.png)
- Hardy, adaptable, thrives in any climate

![LaMancha](image2.png)
- Calm, produces well in various climates and conditions

![Nigerian Dwarf](image3.png)
- Small, produces milk with high butterfat

![Nubian](image4.png)
- Produce milk with high butterfat and protein

![Oberhasli](image5.png)
- Calm disposition

![Saanen](image6.png)
- High milk production and calm

![Sable](image7.png)
- High milk production and calm

![Toggenburg](image8.png)
- One of the first purebred imported to U.S.

### MILK

#### Uses
* Goat milk is used for drinking and also to make cheese, yogurt, ice cream, butter, and beauty products.
* Because of its unique nutritional and biochemical properties, goat milk is preferred by people with cow milk allergies and gastrointestinal disorders.

#### Production
* Milk Production ranges from 1,200-2,600 pounds per doe per year depending on feeding, genetics and other management practices.
* Lactation average is 284 days.

#### Dry Period
* Does should have at least a 60-day dry period to allow their mammary systems to prepare for the next lactation.
* Does that do not have a long enough dry period will have a lower milk production in the next lactation cycle.

#### Quality
* The key to producing quality milk is a sanitary environment, properly cleaned and maintained milking equipment/supplies, following proper milking procedures and milking does with healthy udders.
* Two major parameters monitored as indicators of goat milk quality are somatic cell counts (SCCs) and bacterial levels in milk.
* In general, milking young goats before old goats and milking goats without mastitis before milking goats with mastitis is recommended to reduce new infections and improve milk quality.

#### Milking Procedures
* The production of high-quality milk depends on routinely following the proper milking procedures.
  - Three methods are generally used to milk dairy goats:
    * By hand, collecting milk in a bucket;
    * By using a milking machine and collecting the milk in a bucket;
    * By milking machines in a parlor, collecting milk directly into a pipe system and bulk tank.

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**Nutrition Facts in One Cup of Goat Milk (8 ounces)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrition</th>
<th>Value (Calculated)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calories</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protein (g)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fat (g)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbs (g)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lactose</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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