

## NCAT Toolbox Presentations—Descriptions

(From NCAT—use as needed) (Listed in alphabetical order.)

**Body condition score, goats**—6 slides. Linda Coffey. Pictures of goats; not formal scores but generally “thin,” “moderate,” “too fat.” Use as needed.

**Building a Workshop**—11 slides. Linda Coffey. This one is to use for discussion purposes when training trainers. Use the slides (all text, bullet points) to trigger discussion among participants of their approaches and experiences in hosting successful workshops for producers. Are these the steps they take? If not, what do they do differently? What additional hints would they suggest? Make this interactive and see what the group will teach and share.

**Checksheet Overview and Whole Farm Planning**—Don’t Miss the Target: Planning for Farm Success—50 slides. Margo Hale and Linda Coffey. Introduces the concept and reasons to spend time and effort doing whole farm planning, and walks you through ATTRA’s *Small Ruminant Sustainability Checksheet*, a tool for planning. You can give this in 45 minutes; have copies of the checksheet available for participants. Use this one when training agents about the toolbox.

**Controlling Internal Parasites in Small Ruminants**—29 slides. Ann Bartlett. What is the problem, and what are strategies for managing internal parasites in sheep and goats? Includes life cycle of parasites, pasture management, FAMACHA, use of copper wire boluses and of tannin-containing forages (sericea lespedeza). Use ATTRA’s “Managing Internal Parasites in Sheep and Goats” as a handout for this topic. The “Tools for Managing Internal Parasites in Sheep and Goats” series will also be beneficial. All are included in the Small Ruminant Resource Manual.

**Getting Started with Meat Goats**—59 slides. Linda Coffey. This is an overview and fits in a one-hour time slot; you may be able to delete some slides to shorten. See the notes section for explanations.

**Grazing Goats**—43 slides. Linda Coffey. Includes forage quality, goat nutritional requirements (Greg Brann slides), goat behavior, principles of grazing goats, a few slides on poisonous plants and on predator control. Optional pictures of dog feeder design at the end. Lots of photos of goats browsing and grazing; this one can be given in 30 minutes, though 45 would be better to allow questions. Fencing is NOT included in this one.

**Health**—14 slides. Ann Bartlett. Nicely formatted, offers a good overview focused on preventing health problems and maintaining good health. Extensive notes.

**Introduction to ATTRA, sheep and goats, whole farm plan**—16 slides. Margo Hale. We used these as the start of a workshop to set the stage. First slides explain the ATTRA project.

Following that are some “warmup” slides to introduce whole farm planning and the benefits and challenges of sheep and goat production. Slide 7 is currently pictures from the teacher’s farms; we suggest you put pictures in from the presenter’s farm as a way of starting conversations about the enterprises of the audience. Slide 8 is questions to ask the audience to get a better feel for their background and find out what they want to learn.

**Introduction to Organic Meat Goats and Lambs**—38 slides. The basics of organic production; should lead to an understanding of what is involved and guide producers to further information.

**Jeopardy for sheep and goats**—Rex Dufour, NCAT. This is set up for some basic questions but it would be excellent to use after 2 or 3 presentations had been given; customize the questions and answers to fit the content taught in the previous presentations, and divide participants into two teams to play the game. It offers a fun way to reinforce concepts and check whether teaching was effective. Change questions to suit your needs by opening in edit mode; when used in full screen, the game allows participants to choose category and level, and when you click the box it will jump you to the pertinent question; the next click takes you to the answer. Five categories and five levels of questions; speakers could send you their set to review their topic.

**Marketing Strategies for sheep and goat producers**—30 slides. Nick McCann and Hannah Lewis. This is a good tutorial about marketing.

**Multispecies Grazing, Fencing, and Housing**—49 slides. Linda Coffey. As the title says—these three topics are addressed in this presentation. You may want additional fencing information; it would be helpful to have some current cost estimates, for example. I like to ask producers to share what fences they are using, and whether or not they find it works well for them. Thanks to Jean-Marie Luginbuhl, NCSU, and Mark Kennedy, MO NRCS, for help with these slides. Lots of pictures, this one can be done in 30 minutes (45 would be better).

**Organic Production**—20 slides. Ann Bartlett. Similar to the other one in this folder in content, but different in approach. Notes make this a good tutorial. Lots of words on each slide; it might take the same amount of time as the longer one in this folder.

**Pasture finishing lambs or kids**—19 slides. Ann Bartlett. This colorful presentation offers extensive notes and information comparing management strategies for finishing slaughter lambs or kids.

**Recordkeeping, Marketing and Economics**—16 slides. Margo Hale. Several sample forms; good place for a discussion from the audience about when and how they keep records, and how they use the records. Marketing options and then a little bit on profitability. This is pretty brief but introduces concepts and is a good starting point for audience participation. Slide 15 illustrates the impact of doe maintenance cost and productivity on breakeven price for market

kids. Can be modified to use for sheep and lambs as well (just change selling weight and adjust the math).

**Small Ruminant Production—An Overview**—92 slides. Linda Coffey. This one was designed to fill 1 ½ hours; it includes review questions and could easily be broken into at least 3 parts.

Roughly broken into:

- overview of sheep and goats
- discussion of grazing preferences, and multispecies grazing
- profitability, and factors affecting it
- how to choose which species to raise

This last part looks at “productivity”—especially gain, exploring more of the differences between sheep and goats and helping to show why “feedlot goats” are not economically viable. It closes with a few slides showing the situations where goats shine. You might want to clip out sections of this rather than use the whole presentation. The original plan was to follow it with “Getting Started with Meat Goats.”

**Using the Toolbox**—11 slides. Linda Coffey. The toolbox contains several types of materials from several sources. This presentation is an orientation to the contents and to the possible uses. We encourage you to make the Toolbox your own by adding folders as space allows. During trainings, allow participants to follow along and explore the toolbox as you talk about each component. This will take 30 minutes at least.

**What Sheep and Goats Can Do For You**—35 slides. Margo Hale and Linda Coffey. This is the framework of the webinar we did in 2009, which is posted on the ATTRA website under “multimedia” section. It was 45 minutes of presentation and we answered 15 minutes of questions. Because of the tight time frame we chose to hit some of the advantages and challenges of sheep and goats, and then spend extra time exploring marketing options. If you want this for a tutorial, feel free to refer clients to the ATTRA webinar.