

News Article
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Roger Vines
County Extension Coordinator

Grow Your Own Goats

A short time ago the Coosa County Extension Office initiated a series of classes we call “Grow Your Own” Workshops. The class meets once per month and covers a different topic related to home food production each month. At the first class in September we covered raising backyard poultry. In October and November we covered establishing a home fruit orchard and producing home vegetables. This month we are shifting to livestock.

In recent years, there has been an increased interest in raising goats for meat. The meat from goats is lean and healthy and goats can be raised in a relatively small area compared to cattle. Goats are also a potential source of additional income as there is a high demand among some groups for goat meat. Goats are also useful just for cleaning up pasture weeds and keeping fences clean of vines and encroaching underbrush.

There is a goat auction in Clay County where landowners can go to buy or sell their goats. The auction has a goat sale every second and fourth Saturday of each month beginning at 12:00 noon. The auction barn is located between Goodwater and Ashland on Clay County Road #91.

If you would like to learn more about this topic, come join us for the December “Grow Your Own” Class on “Raising a Goat Herd”. The class will be presented on Monday, December 15, 2008 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the 4-H Club House in Hanover.

There is a \$5 registration fee and space is limited so please preregister by contacting the Coosa Extension Office in Rockford or call 256-377-4713.

Also don't miss other upcoming classes. You can also pre-register for our upcoming classes which will include: “raising beef for the freezer”, “backyard beekeeping”, “raising caged catfish”, “raising rabbits” and “home food preservation”.