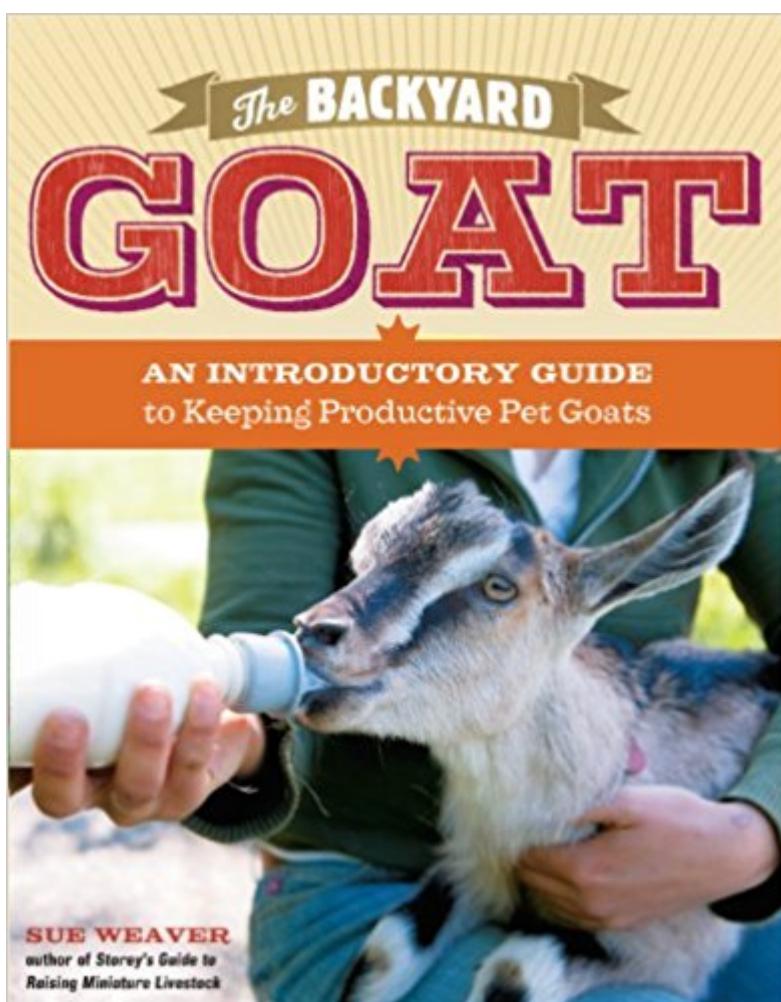


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# The Backyard Goat: An Introductory Guide To Keeping And Enjoying Pet Goats, From Feeding And Housing To Making Your Own Cheese



## Synopsis

Pulling carts around the farm or serving as loyal pack animals, goats are naturally hardworking and make for friendly companions. This straightforward guide teaches you how to choose, house, feed, train, and breed the best goats for your space and needs. Whether you want to churn out fresh dairy products, harvest soft cashmere for knitting, or keep goats as playful pets, *The Backyard Goat* makes it easy to enjoy the benefits of owning goats, with no experience necessary.

## Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Storey Publishing, LLC; 1st edition (April 16, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1603427902

ISBN-13: 978-1603427906

Product Dimensions: 7.1 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (110 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #30,048 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #20 inÂ  Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Cooking by Ingredient > Cheese & Dairy #22 inÂ  Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Sustainable Agriculture #41 inÂ  Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Animal Husbandry

## Customer Reviews

I have raised goats for many years, and have a couple shelves devoted entirely to books about goats and how to care for and raise them. This is truly the best book I know of; both newbies and experienced goat keepers will have the benefit of Sue Weaver's accurate information and years of experience, while enjoying her warm and entertaining writing style. The book is very well researched, combining useful advice with fascinating bits of goat lore, history and anecdotes. My only reservation is that the cover art is an unfortunate choice for the book, not at all in keeping with the grace and style with which Sue Weaver handles her subject. Nevertheless, this is a book you will refer to for years to come, as well as a thoroughly enjoyable cover-to-cover read.

**The Backyard Goat**  
An introductory Guide to keeping Productive Pet Goats  
By Sue Weaver  
Published by Storey Publishing  
The BEST beginning goat farmer book I have read! After having dairy goats for 5 years now, I have perhaps graduated beyond the beginner dairy goat books to know enough if

they are good starter books or not. Sue Weaver covers it all in this book beginning with where goats originated and including breeds of goats I honestly haven't even heard of before. She uses photo's, drawings, and side notes to incorporate as much information in a book as possible. She covers information on milk goats, fiber goats, and pack goats from where to purchase them through their kidding days. Training tips and techniques for pack goats. Milk processing and recipes for milk goats. Shearing know how's for fiber goats. Included are housing and feeding needs, health of the goats and emergency care needs. She includes Goat Tales from literature for a touch of humor. Extremely well written book with insight galore but not in a bogged down know it all way. Even for the seasoned goat farmer I recommend this book as a basic resource. I learned things I hadn't known and found beginning concepts I was unable to find in other books on goats. 5 plus stars! I received a copy of this book from Storey Publishing in exchange for an honest review.

I love goats. I've only spent limited time with them in petting zoo or organic farm settings, but something about them speaks to me. They are like a cat crossed with a horse - I appreciate their personality, their curiosity, and their cleverness. Plus, who could scratch one under the chin while looking into those peculiar eyes and not fall in love? I made a resolution to learn more about homesteading and self-sufficiency this year. I'm not in a place where I can do a lot of it, but I thought I'd teach myself anyway. Do I really want chickens, goats, or sheep? How much trouble are they? What's required? How hard is it to make goat cheese or soap, or to encourage chickens to lay eggs? I ordered this book to tackle the goat questions. Overall, this is a very detailed book. It's got tons of info, from choosing a goat to training one for working or tricks. I'm only about halfway through, but I'm terrifically pleased with it. It's made me realize just how troublesomely fun goats would be and what it would take to have milking goats as opposed to pets. As a complete newbie to any farm animal other than horses, this is a great introduction and has enough detail that I think it could carry you through owning goats for several years. Whether you want pets/friends or you're looking to get into breeding goats, I'd recommend this as a great reference book.

Or should I say "goat in a poke"? In any case, I have always wanted to have goats and once I read this book I came to the conclusion that they're probably a little more work than I can handle and still have a 60 hour a week job. Reading this book saved me a lot of time, effort, and goat-rehoming efforts.

The Backyard Goat is a great starting point for anyone interested in adding a little zing, I mean

goats, to their life. Sue Weaver's writing style is casual and honest. She lays out the challenges and joys of sharing your life with goats. This book will walk you through selection and care of your goats, as well showing you the awesome things you can do with goats including milking, cheese making, carting, and packing. The handy tips and interesting historical and humorous tidbits along the way make this book an easier read and the critical information on care is detailed in a straightforward manner that will make this book a great reference for new and experienced goat keepers alike.

This book is very well written, but for what i was looking for it just didn't do it for me. (Why i gave 3/5 stars). I had gotten the Storey's Guide on raising sheep and was going to get the Guide on Dairy Goats but someone recommended me this book and i don't know why. It gave information; just not nearly enough. It skimmed over topics. And the fact i skipped out on three chapters just because it had nothing to do with Dairy Goats: "Training and Tricks" and "Wagons, ho!" and "Packing with Goats" which happened to be a big chunk of the book. But i will admit I never thought "Goat History" could be so fun to read. The colored pictures were beautiful in this book, the pictures in "Enjoying your Goat" were especially fun to see. I would recommend this book to someone just wanting general information. But for someone who KNOWS they want Goats and want lots of facts on pastures, health, diet etc i would tell them to look else where.

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