

# **SHEEP (OVEJAS)**

**Ewe: Female      Ram/Buck: Male      Lamb: Baby**

- **Females have 1 to 3 lambs/litter; pregnant 151 days; babies weigh 5 to 8 pounds**
- **Lambs know their mom by the smell of her milk**
- **No teeth in upper front jaw, 32 teeth total**
- **About 8 pounds of wool/year**
- **Meat is called Mutton**
- **Fat is called tallow and used in some candles and soap**
- **One pound of wool makes 10 miles of yarn**
- **Poor eyesight, but have a 300° field of vision.**
- **Excellent hearing**
- **Four chamber stomach like cows**
- **If a sheep is on its back, it can't get up and must be helped**
- **More sheep in Texas than anywhere else in the USA**

# **GOATS (CABRAS)**

**Nannies/Does: Female    Billies/Wethers: Male    Kid:  
Baby**

- **Pregnant for 5 months: common to have twins or triplets**
- **Do not have tear ducts; cannot cry**
- **#1 meat consumed worldwide, due to the terrain in some countries and also that the cow is sacred in other parts of the world**
- **Texas is #1 in US for goat production**
- **98% of mohair is from Texas Angora goats; 50% of all goats in Texas**
- **By-products include lanolin, gum, crayons, dice and piano keys**
- **No top front teeth**
- **Leave roots of plants and eat noxious weeds other animals cannot**
- **First animals domesticated by man**
- **First animals to be used for milk by humans**

- Goat's milk is higher in calcium and vitamin A than cow's milk
- Both males and females can have beards
- Do not like to get wet

## **DAIRY CATTLE (GANADO LECHERO)**

- Pregnant for 9 months
- Babies are immediately taken from mother and fed with a bottle
- Texas is #6 milk producer in US
- Texas is #3 ice cream producer, largely due to Blue Bell
- Milked 2 or 3 times a day and produce milk for 3 to 4 years
- Studies have shown that classical music can help cows produce more milk (reduces stress and "relaxes" them)
- Holsteins can produce 14 gallons of milk a day.
- Jersey cows produce milk high in fat that is ideal for ice cream production
- Dairy cows can produce 125 pounds of saliva a day

- One dairy cow can create up to 4 full time jobs within their community
- There are approximately 340 to 350 squirts of milk in one gallon
- Consume at least one bathtub full of water a day

## **BEEF CATTLE (GANADO de CARNE)**

Bull: Adult Male calves	Cow: Female had
Steer: castrated up to 4 mos calves	Heifer: Young, no
Calf: Baby until weaned	Yearling: btwn 1 & 2 yr old

- Texas is #1 in US in number of cattle raised
- 75% of beef cattle ranches have less than 50 heads
- Beef is largest selling grocery item
- Also used for soap, fertilizer, leather, candles, china, crayons and much more

- Cows drink 40 gallons of water a day (a bathtub full)
- Cows can walk up stairs but not down
- Only have teeth on the bottom
- Can smell something 6 miles away
- Cattle are red/green color blind and have nearly 360° of vision
- Cows are sacred in many parts of the world
- More than 5 million calves are born each year in Texas

## **RABBITS (CONEJOS)**

**Doe: Female**

**Buck: Male**

**Kit or Kitten: Baby**

- Does are pregnant for 32 days, Newborns have no fur and are blind
- A Doe and her kits can drink a gallon of water each day

- Use their whiskers to sense touch
- Can run at speeds of 35 MPH
- Large eyes help them see almost 180 degrees around them
- Can sleep with their eyes open, you will know they are awake if their nose is twitching
- Raised for meat, fur, wool, and pets
- Skin and fur are called pelts
- 5 toes on front feet and 4 toes on back feet
- Can be trained to use a litter box

## **CHICKENS (POLLO)**

**Hens: Female    Rooster: Male    Chick: Baby**

- Closest living relative to the T-Rex
- Chickens eyes do not move, they have to turn their head

- 250-350 beats per minute
- Body temperature is 107°F

### **EGG LAYERS**

- Can lay 300 eggs per year, egg laying is stimulated by sunlight
- Can lay different color eggs such as BLUE, PINK, GREEN, WHITE and BROWN
- Egg color depends on breed and ear lobe color
- Hens will often lay an egg where eggs have been laid by other hens
- Eggs must be fertilized to produce a chick, we buy unfertilized eggs
- Hens do not need a rooster around to lay eggs

### **BROILERS (POLLOS de ENGORDE)**

- Broilers are raised until they are 6 to 8 weeks of age
- The younger aged broilers (6 weeks) are typically used in the food industry (buy by the piece)
- Older broilers (8 weeks) are typically used in the grocery industry because people buy by the pound
- People in the US eat an average of 85 pounds of chicken per year
- Most commonly eaten in the form of breast meat
- Broilers in Ag Venture huddle together to keep warm. The temperatures in Ag Venture are cooler than their barns

## **SWINE (PORCINA)**

**Gilt: young female**

**Sow: female given birth**

**Barrow: neutered male**

**Boar: adult male**

**Piglets: babies**

- **Pregnant for 3 months, 3 weeks and 3 days**
- **2 litters/year with an average of 10 piglets**
- **Farrowing houses prevent injury to piglets, sow and piglets remain there for 21 days**
- **Pigs have no neck**
- **Pigs do not sweat and use mud to keep cool**
- **Can sunburn**
- **Use ear notches to ID each piglet, right ear shows litter and left ear shows birth order**
- **Pigs are 50% leaner today than in late 60's**
- **Byproducts include burn dressings, heart valves, insulin, gelatin, glue, plastics, cosmetics**
- **Most popular FFA project in Texas**
- **China is the largest pig producer in the world**
- **Pork and chicken have roughly the same amount of calories**
- **In a litter of 12, and average of 8 piglets survive (90% of those that die are crushed by their mom)**



## **BEES (ABEJAS)**

- Honey has been collected for more than 9,000 years
- Honey bees were introduced to North America by English settlers in 17<sup>th</sup> century
- Honey is made when the water evaporates from the nectar collected from flowers
- Beeswax is made of secretions from a bees abdominal glands
- If a bee stings you it will die
- Bees pollinate plants
- Queen is only sexually developed female in the hive
- Worker bees are sterile females. They make honey, clean the hive and feed the larva
- Drones are larger males and after they breed with the Queen they will die, they do not have a stinger
- They dance to tell the location of food

## **MISCONCEPTIONS IN AGRICULTURE**

- **Natural does not mean better. Nicotine, opium, morphine and rattlesnakes are all natural**
- **Organic farms can use “natural” pesticides and the largest quantity of chemical pesticides are applied to organic crops as approved “natural” pesticides (Sometimes these “natural” pesticides are more harmful than chemical pesticides: Copper sulfate can cause liver disease)**
- **Converting to all organic food production would decrease yield by 30 to 40%**
- **Farmers do not have a higher incidence of cancer due to use of pesticides (only skin cancer due to prolonged exposure to the sun)**
- **It is economics that cause hunger, not a lack of food. Currently the world can produce enough food to feed everyone**
- **The world cannot support more vegetarians than meat eaters. Cattle are generally raised on land that is unsuitable for farming.**

## **HLSR FACTS**

- **A 501(c)(3) charity benefiting youth, supporting education, and facilitates better agricultural practices**
- **First show was held in 1932; organization started in 1931 by 7 men (Houston Fat Stock Show: became HLSR in 1961**
- **Given more than \$400 million to scholarships, research, endowments, calf scramble participants, junior show exhibitors, school art participants and other educational youth program**
- **More than 28,500 volunteers, there is at least one in every zip code in Houston**
- **More than 90,000 turkey legs are consumed each year**

- **Scholarships began in 1957 and since then more than \$12,264,000 has been given**
- **Currently more than 2,200 students are on HLSR scholarships with a value of approximately \$40 million**
- **In 2008 there were more than 2,078 foreign visitors from 84 countries**
- **Financial impact on Houston due to the rodeo is nearly \$350 million**
- **More than 300,000 students participate in the School Arts Program**
- **In 1942 the first star performed. It was Gene Autry; this also marked the first calf scramble.**