

# *Goat Facts*

1. Goats were one of the first animals domesticated by humans, with evidence dating back 9,000 years.
2. Ontario has 52% of the goats in Canada.
3. Ontario has 36% of the goat farms in Canada.
4. Ontario has 225 licensed dairy goat farms
5. There are 53 Sheep and Goat farms in Perth County.
6. They are social animals and thrive in herds, becoming depressed if kept alone.
7. Goats are very social animals that make great pets and companions for other livestock.
8. Goats are excellent climbers and can be found scaling trees, rocks, and even dams.
9. How can you tell if a goat is happy? By its tail Position: A goat's tail can tell you a lot about its mood. A wagging tail usually indicates happiness or excitement, while a tucked tail might signify fear or discomfort. Head Butting: While it might seem aggressive, head butting is often a playful behavior, especially among kids.
10. Goats are not just grazers; they are foragers, meaning they prefer to eat a variety of plants, including leaves, twigs, and bark. They are very picky eaters. They have very sensitive lips, which they use to “mouth” things in search of clean and tasty food. They will often refuse to eat hay that has been walked on or lying around loose for a day.
11. Goats have a four-chambered stomach to digest tough vegetation, and their rectangular pupils provide a wide field of vision.
12. Goat meat, also known as chevon or cabrito, is a popular source of protein worldwide.
13. Goat milk is consumed worldwide and is known for its digestibility.
14. A female goat can be called a doe or a nanny. A male goat is called. A buck or a billy. A castrated male is. called a wether. Baby goats are called kids. Male baby goats are called bucklings, while female baby goats are called doelings.
15. Female goats can be bred when they are at least 7 months old and have reached 70-75% of their mature weight.
16. The average gestation period for a goat is about 145-155 days.
17. On average a goat will have 2 kids, however they can have 1, 2 or even 3.
18. Goat kids are standing and walking within minutes of being born.
19. Each kid has a unique call and scent. It is how its mother recognizes them.
20. Goats are good mothers, and will adopt orphaned animals, even if they are a different kind of animal.