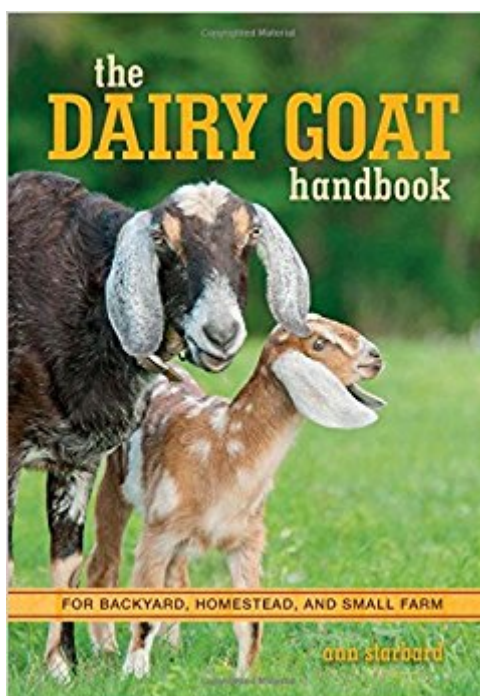


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# The Dairy Goat Handbook: For Backyard, Homestead, And Small Farm



## Synopsis

The Dairy Goat Handbook explains everything goat keepers need to know about their animals, from the best ways to keep them healthy to methods for making delicious goat cheese. The Dairy Goat Handbook is a guidebook for those who would like to raise dairy goats - or dream of raising dairy goats and want to know how to begin and maintain a successful herd. There are other books on the business of keeping dairy goats, but none quite like this. Written by a dairy goat farmer, this guide combines a deep knowledge of the animals themselves with fifteen years of experience running a successful business. Fully illustrated with photographs of life on a working dairy farm the goats, the farm, the dairy equipment, and the cheese and milk this book explains as well as celebrates the life of a dairy goat farmer. The author, Ann Starbard, owns Crystal Brook Farm in Sterling, Massachusetts, where she and her husband raise dairy goats and make fresh goat cheese that they sell onsite, at farmers' markets, and at restaurants. Ann explains the details of raising goats and running a dairy in simple, clear, easy-to-understand language; this is a book for everyone interested in the business of raising dairy goats.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

"...gives a comprehensive breakdown on goat raising, from selecting them to marketing their products, but also doesn't ignore all the adorable by-products of goat farming (the climbing, the hopping, the affection, the playful butting)." - Publishers Weekly  
"This book is an excellent guide for anyone interested in raising goats, breeding, milking, and making or marketing products." -

Ann Starbard was raised on a dairy cow farm in Pennsylvania and has raised dairy goats on Crystal Brook Farm in Massachusetts for fifteen years. She and her husband, Eric, have built a thriving business with the goat cheese they make on the farm. They sell their cheese at the farm, at farmers' markets, at restaurants, and at more than twenty retail outlets, including two Whole Foods stores (one in Boston and one in Cambridge). Starbard maintains the farm's website ([www.crystalbrookfarm.com](http://www.crystalbrookfarm.com)) and has written previously on dairy goats; most recently she co-authored a chapter in a dairy goat management book being released by Winrock International, an international nonprofit group.

Review by Rosalee Sinn, author: Raising Goats for Milk and Meat, a Heifer International publication. The Dairy Goat handbook - FOR BACKYARD, HOMESTEAD, AND SMALL FARM

Ann Starbard's expertise and on the farm experience raising goats and making cheese provides a new excellence in teaching about dairy goat husbandry. This well-written book adds a new word to our vocabulary: Goat-titude. . . be curious, observe, act and enjoy. Most important, Starbard's book adds the dimension of hands-on knowledge about raising goats. She gives the reader points to think about when deciding to raise dairy goats - including choosing a breed, housing and equipment needed, feeding, milking, breeding, birthing, goat health, financial considerations, and every detail of dairy goat management. Starbard puts the technical aspects of raising goats into a narrative that can be understood by the beginner and appreciated by those who are colleagues in goat enterprises. The narrative is accompanied by excellent photographs and helpful charts. I especially appreciated the chart on seasonal tasks in the Northeast, which could be adapted to other areas. The chapter on cheese making provides clear step by step instructions along with technical information. Starbard's experiences in France, Grenada, China, Iceland and the Canary Islands adds to her appreciation for the role of goats in food production world-wide. There are hundreds of books on the market about raising dairy goats and making cheese. This is one of the best.

Lots of information for the novice. This book will help me begin.

This book is full of lots of helpful information. I would recommend this book for anyone considering

adding goats to their family.

Gift for our daughter who is planning to raise goats. She was very happy with the book.

Wonderfully easy to read and full of info and full color pictures!

Good book. I'd buy it again if I needed too.

Simple yet very informative

Excellent info for beginners. I learned a lot to start my herd.

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