

Goat **Seller's** Guide

1. Bill of Sale

All sales should be documented with a Bill of Sale providing details of the animal. Make sure to include name, tattoo number, date of birth, sire and dam, and any other conditions of sale.

2. Registration and Transfer of Ownership

If you sell a registered animal, it is your responsibility as the seller to register, tattoo and transfer the animal to the new owner. As per Section 64 of the Federal *Animal Pedigree Act*, the seller has up to 6 months to transfer registration papers. It is a legal offence to violate this provision.

Registrations and transfers are done through the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation and the downloadable forms are available through the Canadian Goat Society under info and links and then under "for Members" along with the current fee schedule.

If you sell your goat as registered it is your responsibility to attend to the registration and transfer of the animal to the buyer in a timely manner. **IT IS NOT UP TO THE BUYER.**

3. Testing

As an ethical breeder, if you test your herd and are advertising this as a health status of your herd, be prepared to provide current testing results **in their entirety** for anyone wanting confirmation of testing status. If you are advertising a clean herd you need to be able to back up what you are saying with complete testing results.

4. Reputation

The registered goat community is small. Dishonest breeders get a reputation quickly. It is unethical to sell animals with infectious diseases to unsuspecting buyers and cause unnecessary loss. Honesty, integrity and being ethical are critical if you wish to remain in the breeding industry.



Goat **Buyer's** Guide

1. Getting Ready

Where do you start? By doing your research! Looking for registered animals? Start checking... Is the owner a current member with the registry? How long have they been breeding goats? Do they currently use social media or have a web page? Can they provide references? Will the seller provide pictures? What are others saying about their program?

2. Before You Buy

Can you arrange to visit the farm or get a virtual tour? How are things set up, run and organized? Clean areas with lots of room for goats? Watch for overcrowding, cramped spaces, etc. Be aware that some farms limit visitors or have strict biosecurity in place. Be respectful of their protocols.

3. Protocols

Does the breeder test for disease? What do they test for? Ask to see an unaltered copy of their latest results. Ask about vaccinations that are regularly used. Are goats disbudded or polled? (Dairy goats cannot be shown with horns.) What are their feeding practices and regular routines (hoof trimming, etc.)? Ask questions and then ask a few more!

4. Bill of Sale

Ask for a written contract and/or receipt that shows deposits paid and how much left owing. Make sure it includes information on the kid as well as dam/sire name and registration numbers. (This helps protect both the buyer and the seller.) The seller has 6 months from the time of sale to provide you with registration papers. You will want something that the registry can go on if papers don't arrive.

5. Getting Your Goats

Prior to accepting goats... Check them over! Are they properly identified? Do they match the pictures you were given? Do they have tattoos? Does the identification match your bill of sale? Take your time here. Ask about their after sales support. Good breeders are proud of their goats and usually happy to answer questions. If something doesn't feel right, ask! If you are feeling uncomfortable or pressured, be prepared to walk away. Trust your gut!

Information courtesy of the **Canadian Nigerian Dwarf Goat Association.**