

The logo features the text "HEART OF TENNESSEE JUNIOR MEAT GOAT CLASSIC" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a brown, irregular shape that resembles the outline of the state of Tennessee. A stylized heart is formed by two overlapping outlines, one in a darker brown and one in a lighter brown, positioned behind the text.

HEART OF TENNESSEE JUNIOR MEAT GOAT CLASSIC

Heart of Tennessee Junior Meat Goat Classic was HOT Success!

Exhibitors, parents, family, friends and goat enthusiasts from across Tennessee came together Oct. 21-22 for the inaugural Heart of Tennessee (H.O.T.) Junior Meat Goat Classic at the Tennessee Livestock Center on the MTSU campus, where 4-H and FFA youth competed to win show honors, prizes and scholarships.

Some 39 young people exhibited 132 goats in the event, which organizers say was “an excellent start” for this first-time show.

“There are many people in Tennessee who enjoy raising these fascinating animals,” says show manager Mitchell Mote. “Goats fit the rural lifestyle that is very much a part of Tennessee. Goats and the people that raise and show them are fun and enjoyable to be with.”

In Tennessee, goats are a major animal commodity reflected by the fact that only Texas raises more goats than Tennessee. The industry provides a major source of food protein to a growing segment of our nation. Worldwide, goat is the No. 1 meat consumed.

Here are some other important facts and figures about the 2011 H.O.T. Junior Meat Goat Classic:

- Sponsors provided over \$15,000 in premiums and awards that were shared by these young goat exhibitors.
- The Champion Wether, shown by Colten Dotson from Lincoln County, sold for \$2,500. The buyer was Dr. Dave Whitaker on behalf of the Directors of the 2011 H.O.T. Junior Meat Goat Classic.
- The Reserve Champion Wether, shown by Abigail Mote from Rutherford County, sold for \$2,000. The buyer was Mr. Mark Anderson on behalf of the Directors of the 2011 H.O.T. Junior Meat Goat Classic.
- The costume class was possibly the most popular event, with 12 innovative entries. The entries were all so good that the judges were unable to select a winner, so all the contestants split the prize money.
- Three separate shows of meat goats were included: wethers, registered breeding does and commercial breeding does. Not only was showing of animals featured

but skills and knowledge of the young people were exhibited in the skillathon contest.

- Exhibitors paid \$10 per goat to participate. For that, each exhibitor got a commemorative T-Shirt, abundant snacks and MTSU Chocolate Milk, a very nice meal for exhibitors and their families and friends as well as generous awards for all the participants.
- The Premier Exhibitor awards were based on a combination of results from the H.O.T. Goat Show, Showmanship, and Skillathon. Winners were presented with attractive belt buckles and a \$300 cash award.
 1. Wether Senior Premier Exhibitor – Kaitlin Davis, Bedford Co.
 2. Wether Junior High Exhibitor- Colten Dotson, Lincoln Co.
 3. Wether Junior Premier Exhibitor- Kaitlin Taylor, Rutherford Co.
 1. Commercial Doe Senior Premier Exhibitor- Abigail Mote, Rutherford Co.
 2. Commercial Doe Junior High Premier Exhibitor- Tanner Herring, Rutherford Co.
 3. Commercial Doe Junior Premier Exhibitor- Tyler Teague, Decatur
 1. Registered Doe Senior Premier Exhibitor- Courtney Eledge, Lawrence Co.
 2. Registered Doe Junior High Premier Exhibitor- Cannon Smith, Overton Co.
 3. Registered Doe Junior Premier Exhibitor- Justin Howell, Dickson Co.

Platinum Sponsors included:

Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture, Julius Johnson, Commissioner

Farm Credit Services of Mid-America

Tennessee Farmers Co-op

Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Cooperative's Customer's Care program

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Griffith of Dixieland Ranch were Silver Sponsors.

Bronze sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Motes/Clear Creek Farms, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Anderson/F & H Ranch, the MTSU School of Agribusiness and Agriscience, Mr. and Mrs. Pit Kemmer/Kemmer Ranch, Rutherford County Farm Bureau, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Pearcy/Sunshine Boer Goats and Dr. Dave Whitaker.

Brass Sponsors were Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Mote/BDM Club Goats, Mr. Zeb James/Creek Wood High FFA, Hooper Supply Company (Murfreesboro), Lascassas Feed Supply (Lascassas), Ms. Alanna Neely/John Buyrl Neely's Red Barn Farm and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Melton/Sun Valley Farms.

Sponsorship opportunities and other information are available on the website:

<http://www.hotmeatgoatclassic.com>

The H.O.T. Jr. Meat Goat Classic was presented by people from MTSU, UT Extension, and representatives from Agri-Business and the goat industry. For more information please contact Show Managers Mitchell Mote (615-898-7710; mmote1@utk.edu) or Mark Anderson (615-967-1415; tnmeatgoats@aol.com).