

DHIA Continuous Milk Test

- Start by picking a DHIA from the included list. You are not required to use the closest one, and since rules and fees may vary, feel free to select the one best suited for your needs. You will need to become a member of your chosen DHIA, and they will get you set up on your desired test plan from there. They will provide you with various items you will need to get started - forms, empty vials for your milk samples, contact info for potential testers, etc. They will also advise you of various materials you will have to secure yourself - scale, ladle, etc. with the required specs. You will need to have your scale calibrated once yearly, with the calibration date clearly labeled on the scale. Most DHIA's will provide this service for a fee, or recommend where to have it done.
- Select a Test Plan from the included list, and inform your DHIA manager of your choice when signing up.
- Testers. Your DHIA should be able to put you in contact with potential Testers in your area. You will need to contact them and arrange your test schedule in advance. If there is no one local, or no testers that can accommodate you, you can recruit your own tester. They will be expected to go through your DHIA's materials and certification test, as well as meet qualifications to avoid any conflict of interest when testing your herd. Each DHIA's rules may vary.
- If you cannot secure a tester, or choose not to, the Owner Sampler (O/S) plan or Group test may be the right choice for you.
- Submit a KGBA DHIR Application/Renewal form in advance of your first test of the year. Final Doe Sheets should be submitted upon receipt at the end of their lactations.
- Verification Testing. All O/S plans are required to have a Verification Test (VT) performed when the majority of your milking herd is 60-150 days in milk. The KGBA will not accept data from herds on O/S without a VT. A VT is performed by a certified tester and involves a weighed pre-test milk out 24hrs in advance of the final milking, with test day usually involving 2 milkings (weighing and taking samples) 12hrs apart. Your Tester should submit the completed VT form to your DHIA, and the DHIA manager is accustomed to submitting VT to ADGA. Please clarify that the KGBA requires our VT submitted to us in the same way, and that they can accommodate that. If not, please let us know, and we will coordinate with your DHI affiliate as needed.
- It is required that all does in milk be enrolled in DHIA and presented for milking at every test, there is no option to only have some goats participate and not others.
- Make sure to check your goat's tattoos in advance of your first test to ensure legibility (use a flashlight against the back of the ear to help find tricky tattoos), tattoos will be verified!
- If any of your does earned a star, you will then submit your application to be awarded that star, along with the doe's registration certificate, and a copy of your doe's DHIA record to the KGBA.

One Day Milk Test

- For those who cannot participate in continuous milk test, but still want a snapshot of their goat's production and a chance to earn a Milk Star, a One Day Milk Test might work for you! These are common opportunities at shows, evaluations, and conventions, but a One Day Milk Test can also be done at your own home.
- Local Testers are certified through their DHIA of choice, and arrangements will be made directly with the Tester. An application for a ODMT should be submitted to the KGBA in advance of the test. Your One Day Milk Test results will be mailed back to you after the test. The tester should submit the record sheet to their DHIA, who then submits it to the KGBA.
- When participating in a ODMT at a Show or Fair, the Superintendent will usually supervise. When holding a ODMT at your own home, you must find a Supervisor to oversee the test. This can be any person who has no direct benefit from or tie to you or your herd.
- Similarly to a VT, a ODMT involves a pre-test milk out 24hrs in advance of the final milking. Test day including 2 milkings (taking weights and samples) 12hrs apart.
- It is required that all does in milk be enrolled in in the ODMT and presented for milking each time, there is no option to only have some goats participate and not others.
- Make sure to check your goat's tattoos in advance of your first test to ensure legibility (use a flashlight against the back of the ear to help find tricky tattoos), tattoos will be verified!
- If any of your does earned a star, you will then submit your application to be awarded that star, along with the doe's registration certificate, to the KGBA.