

The Sherman Lewis School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences (SL/SAAS) at Langston University will again participate in the Sheep and Goat Birthing Centers at the 2024 Oklahoma State Fair and Tulsa State Fair. Since 2000, SL/SAAS has provided goats and, more recently, sheep for the Oklahoma Veterinary Medical Association's (OVMA) Birthing Centers at the Oklahoma State Fair. OVMA organized the Birthing Centers with support from practicing veterinarians, the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine, and the OSU Cooperative Extension. Later, SL/SAAS partnered with OVMA to provide goats, enhancing the experience.

SL/SAAS will contribute 10 Boer does and 36 ewes, comprising 12 each of *Dorper*, *Katahdin*, and *Saint Croix* breeds. The Birthing Centers will be housed inside the Oklahoma Expo building with pens, fresh bedding, water, and feed. The goats and sheep will be under the vigilant care of a team consisting of veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary students, and Langston University animal science students during fair hours. A supervisor will stay overnight in a camper trailer to ensure the animals are well-monitored around the clock. This setup allows the goats and sheep to kid and lamb naturally in a safe, controlled environment for both the mothers and their offspring.

Additionally, the Langston University Cooperative Extension and Outreach Programs (LU-CEOP) will feature its Program Cluster Community Outreach Programs during the Oklahoma State Fair in the Oklahoma Expo Hall. Junior Master Gardner LIVE Demonstrations with fresh produce recipes will take place during the School Academy Days Sept. 17-20. The Birthing Center and the LU-SL/CEOP Booth at the Oklahoma State Fair (Fairgrounds) will be operational from September 12 to 22, 2024!