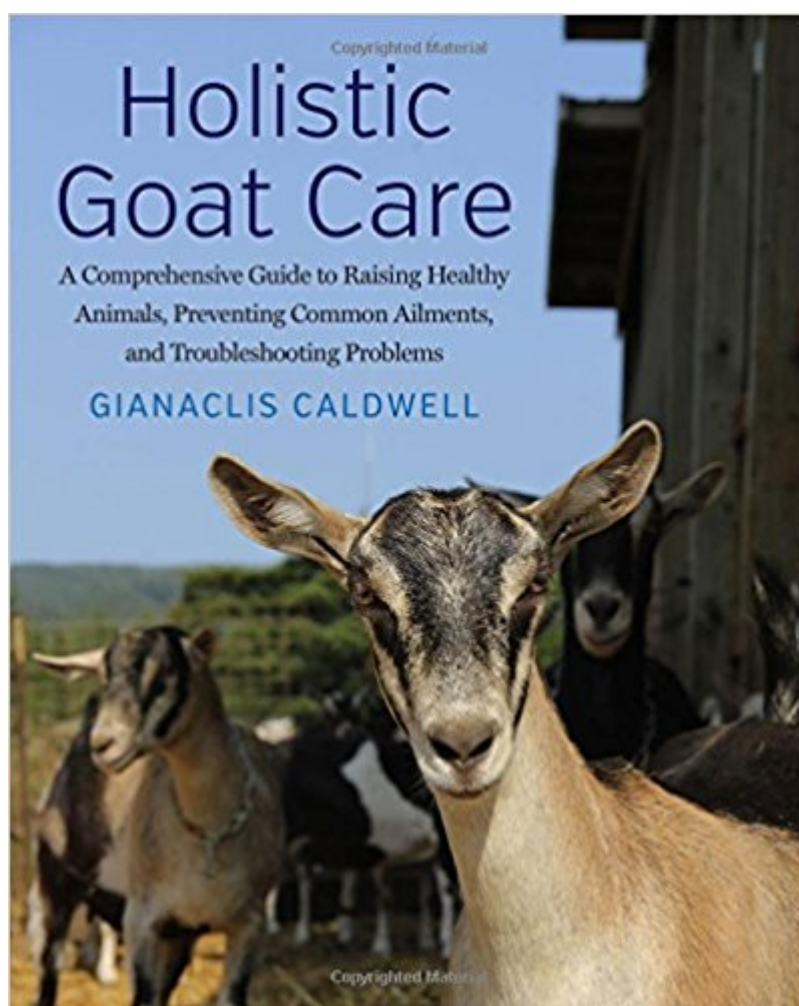


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# Holistic Goat Care: A Comprehensive Guide To Raising Healthy Animals, Preventing Common Ailments, And Troubleshooting Problems



## Synopsis

Goats have provided humankind with essential products for centuries; indeed, they bear the noble distinction of being the first domesticated farm animal. From providing milk and meat for sustenance and fiber and hides for clothing and shelter to carrying packs and clearing brush, there isn't much that goats cannot do. Managing goats successfully requires an understanding of how nature designed them to thrive, including nutritional and psychological needs, as well as how to identify a problem and intercede before it's too late. For more than a decade, Gianaclis Caldwell and her family have operated Pholia Farm Creamery, an off-grid, raw milk goat cheese dairy. In *Holistic Goat Care*, Caldwell offers readers a comprehensive guide to maintaining a healthy herd of goats, whether they are dairy goats, meat goats, fiber goats, or pet goats. *Holistic Goat Care* will empower even novice goat owners to confidently diagnose and treat most of the ailments that goats might experience. For the experienced goat farmer, the book offers a depth of insight and approaches to treatment not found in any other book. Caldwell places special emphasis throughout on holistic, natural, and alternative approaches to caring for goats, including information on:

- Handling and managing goats using their natural instincts as an asset
- Developing good farm management practices such as appropriate housing and fencing systems and manure and mortality management
- Making feeding decisions based on understanding goats' ruminant digestive system and their evolutionary needs
- Growing forage and garden crops as feed and utilizing wild browse
- Troubleshooting health problems based on assessing symptoms
- Implementing advanced health procedures such as pain control, fecal testing, and transplanting rumen microbes from healthy to sick goats
- Diagnosing, treating, and preventing more than 75 common goat ailments

Whether your herd is two or two hundred, this first-of-its-kind, comprehensive book will help you keep your goats healthy, safe, and productive and give you a deep and enjoyable insight into the wondrous creature that is the goat.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"In *Holistic Goat Care*, Gianaclis Caldwell demonstrates that modern, practical, holistic, small-farm methods are the true state of the art. Her unique understanding of goat care—connecting science, real-world farming, and the healing arts—comes alive through her clear and inspiring writing. This much-needed book gifts goat owners with a ready, reliable reference for whatever nature sends their way."—Fred Walters, editor, *Acres U.S.A.* magazine  
"Holistic Goat Care is a rare and refreshing synergy of commonsense goat lore and sound holistic principles—worthy of a place in every goat owner's library. I am impressed with the book's layout, as well as the content."—Richard J. Holliday, DVM, holistic veterinarian; coauthor of *A Holistic Vet's Prescription for a Healthy Herd*  
"Holistic Goat Care" is practical, well written, and comprehensive. Giancalis Caldwell covers everything from browse to barns, breeding to birthing, vitamins to vaccination, and parasites to pizzle rot, in an easy-to-read format. The book reflects both her hands-on experience with goats and her extensive knowledge of their physiological needs and their sometimes idiosyncratic behavior. The examples of goat farms in various climates and countries make the information broadly applicable to many regions. With a light touch of humor and a hearty helping of practical advice, Gianaclis shares her depth of knowledge and her appreciation of the role and value of goats in agriculture both currently and historically. Read this book cover to cover, or keep it handy as a reference for all aspects of goat care."—Sarah Flack, author of *The Art and Science of Grazing*  
"The next best thing to learning about goat keeping through years of experience is to read *Holistic Goat Care*. Gianaclis Caldwell not only provides all the essential details, she frankly describes unhappy events along with successes, to save readers the anguish of making similar mistakes and to demonstrate that sometimes bad things happen even to the most conscientious goat keeper. Rather than dictating a single rigid approach to holistic goat management, Caldwell offers numerous natural and alternative options to help you develop practices that best suit your goals and your herd's specific needs."—Gail Damerow, author of *The*

Backyard Homestead Guide to Raising Farm Animals” “Holistic Goat Care is far and away the most complete guide to goat keeping I’ve ever seen. Gianaclis Caldwell handles basic care and advanced subjects, such as on-farm necropsies, cud transplants, and scur removal, with equal aplomb. Whether you have two goats or two hundred, you need this book!” •Sue Weaver, author of The Backyard Goat “I wish this book had been around when I started raising goats. Gianaclis Caldwell has a friendly, clear style of writing that makes a huge subject much less daunting. I highly recommend that beginners read Holistic Goat Care before starting out on their own goat adventure. Experienced goat owners will definitely find this book a useful reference as well. As a firm believer in providing holistic and humane care for all my animals, I am pleased to finally find a book that covers this slant for goats.” •Molly Nolte, founder, Molly’s Herbs and FiasCoFarm.com “Holistic Goat Care” is an excellent resource for raising healthy goats. Gianaclis Caldwell stresses the importance of preventative medicine, which is a critical aspect of raising goats. The information in this well-written book will be very beneficial for beginners, agriculture-oriented students, veterinary students, and veterinarians. The author stresses the importance of early recognition of conditions and diseases. She also discusses treatment through conventional medicine and alternative or integrative medicine, as well as the use of complementary therapies such as herbal and homeopathic if needed. All sixteen chapters are very informative, and the text is referenced to excellent resources in goat medicine. I believe this book will be an excellent source of information in raising goats.” •Lionel J. Dawson, BVSc, MS, DACT, professor, Center of Veterinary Health Sciences, Oklahoma State University

Gianaclis Caldwell and her family operate Pholia Farm, an off-grid, raw milk cheese dairy in Oregon. She is the author of the award-winning Mastering Artisan Cheesemaking, as well as other books on cheesemaking and running a dairy. Applying a holistic, organic management approach to the health of her goats comes naturally for Gianaclis: She was raised on an organic farm; her parents were chiropractors; and she pursued a career in nursing. Her aged, raw milk cheeses have been recognized and applauded by America’s foremost authorities on cheese, and she travels nationwide to present workshops on cheesemaking and troubleshooting goat health problems.

Such an awesome book! I started browsing through it, then found myself reading for quite some time. It’s hard to put down. SO much great information. A valuable book for anyone with goats.

I've been waiting for this book to be released. It arrived today and I know it will be a great reference for many years to come.

Exceptional book on goat management and care. Even experienced goat owners will glean new management techniques for keeping their herds healthy and productive.

Excelente

Chelsea Green Publishing sent me an advance copy of Holistic Goat Care and I love it! I sincerely think you'll love it too. I'm a goat writer myself, having written The Backyard Goat for Storey Publishing and Hobby Farms Goats and Mini Goats for Lumina Media. My books, like most goat books in print, were written for beginning to intermediate goat keepers, but Holistic Goat Care stands alone. No matter your level of expertise, you need this book. Do you know how to conduct field necropsies and do liver sampling? I didn't, but Holistic Goat Care showed me how. Have you ever dealt with a wattle cyst? You can with this book at hand. Kidding, feeding, every conceivable goat disease, these and slew of other topics are covered in depth and the holistic approach to parasite control is fascinating. And therein is what I like best about Holistic Goat Care. The other 'natural goat keeping' books make you feel that you're a failure if you aren't raising your goats in a 100% holistic manner. In Holistic Goat Care, Gianacis Caldwell takes readers by the hand and gently shows them how to segue into natural goat keeping. And if something doesn't work, she encourages readers to step back, use conventional treatments to remedy the situation and try again. This is not a book that recommends you let your goat die rather than resort to antibiotics or chemical dewormers. Holistic Goat Care is chock full of pertinent, compassionate information that makes holistic goat keeping accessible to everyone who loves goats. You definitely need this book!

Holistic Goat Care is an essential book for those who care for goats. I appreciate the research and personal experience used to help guide best practice in caring for these goofy little animals. This is the book I go to when problem-solving the everyday ins and outs of goat care as well as the inevitable glitches that pop up. I find this book practical, comprehensive and the most up-to-date guide available.

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