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# Invasive Species Control Using Goats

**Possible Academic Connections:** Environmental Studies, Environmental Sciences, Plant Biology

**Recommended project length:** Thesis/dissertation

[**Experiential Learning**](https://www.ohio.edu/academic-excellence/experiential-learning/overview)**?** Yes

[**Community Engagement**](https://www.ohio.edu/university-college/campus-community-engagement)**?** Yes

**Remote learning possible?** Partial

**Connection to** [**OHIO Sustainability & Climate Action Plan**](https://www.ohio.edu/sites/default/files/sites/sustainability/files/2021%20OHIO%20Sustainability%20and%20Climate%20Action%20Plan.pdf)**:** Grounds, Climate

**Brief description:** Investigate goat grazing as a method of invasive species control.

**Project description:**

Investigate the use of goats as a method of invasive species control and elimination in hardwood forests and open areas in Southern Ohio and on Ohio University campus grounds.

Students are encouraged to explore various avenues of study regarding goat grazing, such as goat herd health, timing of grazing, possibilities of reseeding with native species after grazing, cost effectiveness of goats compared with other management techniques, and facilitate invasive species education and community outreach. Expected deliverables include:

1. Cost-benefit analysis
2. Data demonstrating the effectiveness of goat herds used as invasives control
3. Grant or research proposal

**Resources available to students/faculty to complete project:**

* [SARE grant](https://www.sare.org/grants/) (Sustainability Agriculture Research and Education): yearly cycle, due early October
* Access to goats
* Access to trailer to transport goats

**Project alignment to OHIO Sustainability & Climate Action Plan:**

* [Grounds](https://www.ohio.edu/sustainability/operations/sustainability-grounds)(goal #1)
* [Climate](https://www.ohio.edu/sustainability/operations/climate)(goal #1)

**Please send final project deliverables to****sustainability@ohio.edu****for tracking and reporting purposes.**