

**From:** [jicansley](#)  
**To:** [Rulesinfo](#)  
**Subject:** {External}7 goat or 7 sheep exemption  
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I would like to further address the 7 goats or 7 sheep arbitrary number in the state regulation for the small herd exemption. I suggested that the amount of goats or sheep should be raised to 21 goats or 21 sheep. In the discussion at the last meeting it was suggested that having 21 goats or 21 sheep would be too many animals and then sanitation would be compromised. As stated from several people goats are far cleaner than cows. Goats are very clean in the barn. They rarely urinate or defecate while in the barn leaving a clean environment. Cows not so much. Also when they do you are not dealing with a liquid manure just pellets. In the barn yard it is much the same. Cows leave very runny manure which when they lay in it can get on their udder and leave a mess. Goats and sheep on the other hand their manure is pelleted and rarely leaves any manure on their udder. Thus by comparison goats and sheep are much cleaner.

Another comment was made that maybe other states could be looked at as how they handle raw milk. Dr. Leibsle pulled up 2 States while we were in the meeting. One was Utah. Utah allowed 120 gallons of raw milk to be sold each week. No species was mentioned. All species were considered equal.

With all this information 21 goats or 21 sheep becoming the amount of animals used in the small herd exemption would be more equal to the 3 cows that are allowed.

In regards to testing bacteria as a whole in our testing cycle I do think that bacteria in general is a good thing. After all cheese and yogurt are made with bacteria. We really should be testing for pathogens instead.