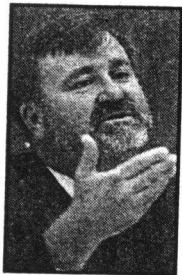


SANTA CRUZ

Goat Ranch 9499

Goats get judge's backing

While the product may be unconventional, the rearing of goats by Santa Cruz



Kelsay

Judge rules that goat rearing is indeed an agricultural activity.

Biotechnology is still an agricultural activity that goes back at least to biblical times, a judge has ruled.

Superior Court Judge Bill Kelsay issued his opinion this week that the raising of goats, which are used to produce antibodies for research, is animal husbandry and an allowed use on agricultural land.

Save Our Agricultural Land had filed suit, contending the goat farm was a feedlot operation prohibited by county rules.

Kelsay, a retired judge who filled in on the case, disagreed. "That the product is serum or blood does not alter the finding that the raising of goats is agriculture."