

Goat and Sheep Information Sheet

Vaccines:

Kids: CD&T: Kids from vaccinated does should receive their first vaccine at 2 months and then receive a booster booster at 3 months of age. Kids from unvaccinated does should start at 1 month of age and be boosted at months 2 and 3. AND Rabies: Start at 4 months and booster annually.

Pregnant Does: CD&T: 1 month before kidding.

Wethers, Bucks, and Non-pregnant Does: CD&T: Annually AND Rabies: Annually

Bo-Se (Vitamin E/Selenium Supplement):

Kids: Kids should receive a Bo-Se injection soon after birth

Adults: Should receive an injection of Bo-Se annually

De-Worming: Resistance to dewormers is becoming increasingly common in small ruminants. A fecal float once or twice a year is recommended to ensure your animals are not becoming resistant. Also using FAMACHA scoring can help pinpoint which animals in your herd are more susceptible to parasites. Care should always be taken when treating a pregnant or lactating doe that the proper anthelmintics are administered.

Kids: Kids are very susceptible to parasites. Deworm at 2 months with Safeguard (Fenbendazole), and at 3 months with ivermectin. Perform a fecal 2-3 months after last deworming.

Adults: Adults should be dewormed rotationally with ivermectin or fenbendazole 2-4 times a year. Pour on ivermectin like Cydetcin may be used for external parasites like lice.

Disbudding: Disbudding should ideally be performed under general anesthesia. This should be performed around 2 weeks old. If animals are too old then the chance of scurs are higher. There are pros and cons to disbudding.

Castration: In goats kept as pets it is best to wait until 4-6 months of age to decrease the chance of obstructive urolithiasis (aka blocked urethra). Banding may be done at an early age for goats raised for meat.

Hoof Care: Hooves should be trimmed once or twice a year to keep the hoof wall even with the sole. It may need to be done more frequently depending on the terrain they are kept.

Nutrition

For most goats a diet of pasture or grass supplemented with a species specific mineral supplement is sufficient. Sheep and goats have different mineral requirements. Sheep are very sensitive to copper and high copper can result in kidney damage. In pregnant or lactating does and goat kids some alfalfa or grain may be appropriate due to increased energy and nutrient demands. Alfalfa and grain should not be feed to wethers as it increases the incidence of stones in the urinary tract. Fresh water should always be available.

Please feel free to call us with any questions!
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