

MEAT GOAT PROBLEMS

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MOST COMMON HEALTH PROBLEMS FOR GOATS IN THE SOUTHERN U.S.

Internal Parasites

Barber Pole Worm
Coccidia
Tapeworm
Lung Worm
Liver Fluke
Meningeal Worm



MOST COMMON HEALTH PROBLEMS FOR GOATS IN THE SOUTHERN U.S.

Hoof Problems

Foot Rot

Foot Scald

Respiratory Problems

Pneumonia

Digestive Problems

Scours

Acidosis

Bloat



CONTROLLING INTERNAL PARASITES

Pasture rest/rotation

Multi-species grazing

Zero grazing

Browsing

Manage grazing height

Alternative forages

Genetic selection
within/between breeds



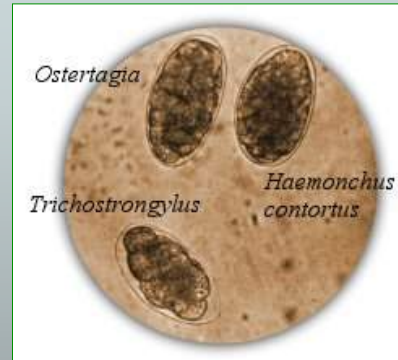
CONTROLLING INTERNAL PARASITES

Selective deworming
Not everyone, not every month

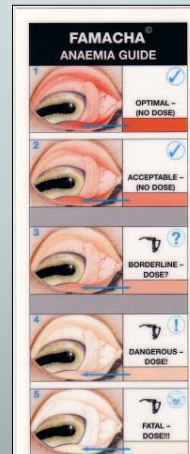
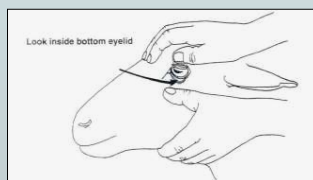
Proper drug use
2-3 TIMES CATTLE DOSE!

Fecal testing to determine effectiveness of drugs

DRUG RESISTANCE IS A MAJOR ISSUE!



THE FAMACHA[®] SYSTEM For assessing anemia and barber pole worm infection in small ruminants



Clinical Category	Color	PCV (hematocrit)	Deworming recommendation
1	Red	≥ 28	No
2	Red-Pink	23-27	No
3	Pink	18-22	?
4	Pink-White	13-17	Yes
5	White	≤ 12	Yes

The FAMACHA[®] system should be used as part of an integrated parasite management program that employs other best management practices.

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

Deworming

Establish a program

Check fecal samples

Use FAMACHA

Deworm only when needed

Rotate wormers **ONLY** when there is no response, then change class of product

Give orally

Use proper rate to avoid resistance



CONTROLLING INTERNAL PARASITES

Tapeworm-

Lung Worm-

Liver Fluke-

Meningeal Worm-

Minor problems
with good herd
health
management



COCCIDIA

****Can be a serious problem in kid goats****



Single-cell protozoa that damage lining of small intestines and cause diarrhea in kids.

Species and site-specific.

Prevention

Good sanitation

Proper stocking/penning rates

Use of coccidiostats in water, feed, or mineral.

Bovatec®, Rumensin®
and Deccox®

Corid

Treat with Corid or sulfa drugs

*****Rumensin®, Bovatec®, and Deccox® are toxic to horses, donkeys, and mules.*****

HOOF PROBLEMS

Frequency of hoof trimming varies among goats, people, and farms.

Restraint: lift hoof while goat is standing on table, platform, or ground.

Harder to tip goats on rump.

There are tilt tables available

Don't buy goats with foot rot.

Foot scald can occur seasonally when it is wet.



HOOF PROBLEMS

Foot Rot

Damage to the hoof

Foot Scald

Irritation between
the toes of the hoof

Foot scald can occur seasonally. Wet conditions. Both foot scald and rot are inherited traits. Cull animals that are regularly infected.



RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS

Pneumonia

- Wet, dirty pens
- Poor circulation
- Dry, dusty pens
- Stress



RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS

Pneumonia

- Elevated temperature
- Runny nose
- Rapid, rough sounding breathing
- Off feed or poor appetite



RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS

Coughing, Nasal Discharge, Congestion, Wheezing, Sneezing, Fever

Infectious

Pneumonia

Often occurs as a secondary infection associated with ketosis, milk fever, bloat, acidosis, etc.

- Viruses
- Bacteria
- Parasites

Non-infectious

- Lungworms
- Nasal bots
- Poor ventilation
- Dusty feed
- Stress



Normal body temperature is usually 102-103°F.

DIGESTIVE PROBLEMS

There are many different causes of diarrhea (scours) in goats.

Infectious

Bacterial, Viral, Protozoa

Non-infectious

Nutrition, Management, Stress

Most digestive problems (bloat, acidosis) are caused by diet changes, usually sudden.

Know what you're dealing with and treat symptoms.



TREATING DIGESTIVE PROBLEMS

Scours/Diarrhea

Pepto-bismol
bismuth subsalicylate

Kaopectate
Kaolin-Pectin

Probiotics (yogurt)

Electrolytes (Gatorade®)

Nutri-drench
(corn oil + karo syrup + molasses)

Bloat, Acidosis

Mylanta

Vegetable oil

Mineral oil

Baking soda



QUICK HITS

URINARY CALCULI CAUSES

Diet, water, genetics

Improper Ca:P ratio (2:1 recommended)

Stones usually lodge in the bend of the urinary tract known as the sigmoid flexure, or at the tip of the tract called the filiform; either situation prevents urination

URINARY CALCULI SYMPTOMS

Restlessness, getting up and down

Straining to urinate

Pawing the ground

Tail twitching

Looking at abdomen

Vocalizations of pain and discomfort

Final stages; grinding of teeth



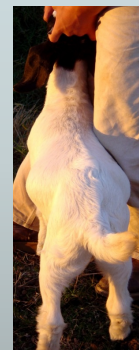
URINARY CALCULI TREATMENT

Treatment for Urinary Calculi should be done by experienced veterinarians

- In most cases the tip of the urinary tract must be removed
- Blockage must be removed with a catheter

URINARY CALCULI PREVENTION

Proper, balanced feed ration
Ration containing ammonium chloride or ammonium sulfate
Free choice mineral
Provide clean, fresh water



Know your water source!

OVEREATING AND TETANUS

Prevention

Vaccinate for clostridium perfringens and tetanus (CD&T)

Give a booster 2 weeks later

Booster young goats every 1-2 months

**If you didn't see the goat vaccinated,
do it yourself anyway!**

OVEREATING AND TETANUS

TREATMENT?

Usually the first sign of overeating is death.

Possible to inject tetanus antitoxin if diagnosed early, but not likely to help.

**If you didn't see the goat vaccinated,
do it yourself anyway!**

DISEASES OF CONCERN

Caseous Lymphadenitis (CL)

- Internal and lymph node abscesses
- Chronic, contagious



DISEASES OF CONCERN

Caprine Arthritic Encephalitis (CAE)

Arthritis,
encephalitis
Colostrum is
primary mode of
transmission



DISEASES OF CONCERN

Johne's Disease

More common than
we think?

Digestive (Wasting)



Scrapie

Regulatory issue
USDA ID
requirements
Neurological,
Wasting



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

www.msucares.com
livestock/goats and sheep