

The Wether Goat Program

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Equation for Success

$$\text{Time}^3 + \langle \text{Knowledge (Skill)} \rangle^2 + \text{Investment}^2 + \text{Luck}$$

- Time** 99% of the work must be done at the house.
If you try to squeeze the 99% at the show, plan on placing in the bottom 1% of your class.
- Knowledge** “Know what to do and when to do it”.
- Skill** How well you execute each discipline: (feeding, showing, exercising, etc).
- Investment** Monetary and commitment to the program.
In short, ‘Finish what you start’ and ‘Don’t start what you can’t finish’.
- *Luck** You create your own luck when the levels of Time, Knowledge, Skill and Investment are met.

Disciplines of the Program

- ✓ Feeding Program
- ✓ Exercise Program
- ✓ Selection
- ✓ Facilities
- ✓ At the Show
- ✓ Breeding Your Own
- ✓ Miscellaneous

Feeding Program

- 1) Feed a complete feed:
 - ✗ ACCO
 - ✗ SureFed
 - ✗ Moorman's
 - ✗ Other

- 2) Supplements:
 - ✓ If you feed a supplement, feed it through the whole program.

 - ✗ Oxy-Gen "Grand Goat"
 - ✗ Showbloom
 - ✗ Magic
 - ✗ Others

- 3) - Don't be the Gambler - "Know when to Hold'em & Know when to Fold'em"

Exercise Program

- 1) Why?
 - ✓ Keep them Lean
 - ✓ Control Weight
 - ✓ Stamina in the show ring
 - ✓ Generates more expression of muscle
- 2) Types:
 - ✓ Good Dog
 - ✓ Average Dog
 - ✓ Bad Dog
 - ✓ Everything else
- 3) Something is better than nothing

Selection

- 1) Start with a good one - End with a good one: Start with a junk'er - End with a junk'er
- 2) What to look for?
 - I) Muscle
 - Top
 - Hip
 - Hind Leg
 - *When looking at young goats, the fore arm is the best indicator of muscle.
 - II) Look
 - Profile (levelness and/or Lines)
 - Smooth front
 - Sound moving
 - Tight hide
- 3) What to cull for?
 - ✓ Too narrow (not enough muscle)
 - ✓ Poor Structure (weak top, cow hocked, in at the knees, etc)
 - ✓ Coarse/wing shoulders
 - ✓ Too much hide (wrinkled)

Facilities

- 1) Goats need enough space to be goats. One goat should have no less than 15 square feet of pen.
- 2) Shade - 10' x 5' shed on one side of the pen.
- 3) Feed off the ground under the shed.
- 4) Pen should lead into your running track (if you have one).
- 5) If you have run dogs, keep them away from your pens.
- 6) Fill your pens with sand.

At The Show

- 1) What you do at the show starts no less then 2 to 3 weeks before you get there.
- 2) Melt down?
 - ✓ Lack of moisture in the muscle
 - ✓ Stress
 - ✗ How can you stop the “Melt Down”?
 - ✓ Keep water in the system
 - ✓ Leave the house a touch “Juicy”
 - ✓ Travel
- 3) Drenches at the show?
 - ✗ Sugar
 - ✗ Amino Acids
 - ✗ Vitamins (B1 and B12)
 - ✗ Hydrates (Electrolytes)
 - ✗ Custom Mixes (Fire Water, For-Sure, Top)
- 4) Shear Monthly
 - ✓ Revive
 - ✓ Cover, Blanket

Breeding Your Own

- 1) Doe Base
 - ✗ No Boer, Percent Boer, All Boer? Who Cares- 'A good one is a good one'
 - ✓ Percent Related – The more the better
 - ✗ Half Sibs (same sire)
 - ✗ Three Quarter Sibs (same sire, dams are from same sire, different maternal grand dams)
 - ✗ Full Sibs

- 2) Buck Base
 - ✗ As advanced as goat reproduction is, and with less than 25 does - - It is would be more cost effective to:
 - ✗ A.I.
 - ✗ Rent
 - Than own a buck

- 3) Don't use too many bucks. The key is consistency!
- 4) Unless they are proven, buy bucks and does at the age you plan to show the wethers.

Miscellaneous

Calculating Average Daily Gain

- ✓ Start with the beginning weight of the animal
- ✓ Weigh the animal any time during the feeding period
- ✓ Subtract the starting weight from the current weight
- ✓ Take that number and divide by the number of days from the starting weight date and current weight date
- ✓ The number is the average daily gain of your project

Example:

On June 1 your goat weighed 65 pounds.

On July 1 your goat weighed 77 pounds

$$\begin{array}{r} 77 \\ -65 \\ \hline 12 \text{ pounds gained} \end{array}$$

There are 30 days in June, so

12 divided by 30 = 0.4 pounds per day

Monthly List

Shear through November: weather will dictate Dec - March

- 1) Weigh - you cannot make changes with feed etc., when you don't know how much your animal weighs.
- 2) Trim Hooves - you can take an unsound animal and make him sound with foot care.
- 3) De-worm - (every 2 months)

Weekly List

- 1) Run animals no less than 2 times - if you don't run your sheep and goats with a dog or 4-wheeler etc., it will be extremely hard to place anywhere.
- 2) Tie up no less than 2 times - if your sheep and goats don't know who you are, you can't show them properly.
- 3) Brush no less than 2 times - the key here is working with your sheep and goat.
- 4) Make brace no less than 2 times - I understand you have been told not to brace your goats. This has been hotly talked about in the show ring, and I can tell everyone one thing - I have seen very few champion goats in the last 2 years that were not braced. Keep the front legs on the ground, but make them push. If the judge tells you to stop - stop.

Tricks of the Trade

| Fat Burn | <i>Per/Head/Day</i> | Example of a popular drench |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| *Linseed Meal | 1/4 cup | Dextrose 2 bottles |
| **Fast Forward Mineral | 1/4 cup | Amino Acid 1/2 bottle |
| ***Fish Meal | 2 teaspoon | Dyne 1/2 bottle |
| ===== | | NRG 1/2 package |
| *Behrends Feed and Seed (830)997-3410 | | Biolight 1/2 bottle |
| **MoorMan's Feed | | Sodium Bicarbonate 1 cup |
| ***Feed & Garden (940)761-1227 | | Propylene Glycol 100 cc |
| | | *Fill with water to make one gallon |
| | | *Drench 30-100 cc daily depending on the goat. |

***Add Fat**

| | <i>Per/Head/Day(start)</i> | <i>Per/Head/Day(finish)</i> |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Milk Replacer (Calf Manna) | 4oz | 10 and up |
| Power Plus | 5cc | 30-60cc |
| <i>Golden Flow</i> | 10cc | 40-80cc |
| Corn Oil | 10cc | 40-100cc |

**You can pour these products over the feed, and/or drench orally.*

Scours

(At shows) Mix as much cinnamon into 40cc of water until no more can be absorbed and drench animal. Repeat every 6 hours until scours stop. Drench with electrolytes (~200cc/day) to combat dehydration.

(At the house) 4 to 5 cc scour stop intramuscular. Stops scours in 4 hours:
Fredericksburg Vet. (830) 997-4308

Daily Supplements

ShowBloom - 2-3 oz/day
Grand Goat @ 3-4oz per head per day

Fast Forward @ 1/4 cup per head per day
-watch the tops, fast forward can burn the tops out.

MoorMan's - Fast Fat @ 6-8 oz per day

Feeds

Goats: most goats should start off on 1-2 lbs per day: most goat will not eat more than 5lbs per goat per day

N-Timidator

Acco Exxpress

Moorman's Goat Grits

**N-Timidator and Exxpress work best when feed 1/2 and 1/2*

Shots

8 way vac. (2cc subcutaneous) this will leave a knot, so give in skin under front leg. Give three times: 3mo, 9mo & 12 mo.

Ivomec: give orally

B12: when sick or not eating (5cc-10cc/day orally)

B1: give 2cc with any antibiotic (orally or intramuscular)

Penicillin: for most snotty noses etc. (10 day withdraw)

Naxcel: for tougher infections and closer to show time (no withdraw)

Baytril: for respiratory infections (28 day withdraw)