

## 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**

*Per/Head/Day*

- \*Linseed Meal 1/4 cup
  - \*\*Fast Forward Mineral 1/4 cup
  - \*\*\*Fish Meal 2 teaspoon
- =====
- \*Behrends Feed and Seed (830)997-3410
  - \*\*MoorMan's Feed
  - \*\*\*Feed & Garden (940)761-1227

**Example of a popular drench**

- Dextrose 2 bottles
- Amino Acid 1/2 bottle
- Dyne 1/2 bottle
- NRG 1/2 package
- Biolight 1/2 bottle
- Sodium Bicarbonate 1 cup
- 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)