

Last N' News

A publication of the
Iowa Dairy Goat Association

Guinevere McIntyre, Newsletter Editor

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2016 Fall

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Greetings all,

Fall is here and hopefully you are getting all those does bred to the bucks of your dreams! We walk outside in the morning this time of year and get a whiff of that fresh.... rut smell! Sometimes I think a skunk smells more pleasant!

I am your new IDGA president and I want you to know I have an open door for comments, ideas, and questions. We had a very informative, productive and transparent annual meeting at Colo on October 1. I was pleased to see so many new faces at the meeting, along with Share A Kid recipients willing to share about their positive experiences with that program. We also missed those who couldn't make it. So much was accomplished toward planning events for 2017. Please read the minutes of the meeting for comprehensive details.

2017 will hopefully be a great year with the National show being hosted nearby in Madison and many more opportunities for everyone to participate in. James and the show committee are planning another great spring show in Colfax and please watch the events calendars for other symposiums, cheese making classes and fitting clinics.

Your IDGA has something for everyone. I encourage everyone to get involved whether it be as an elected official, serving in other ways, or just helping empty trash containers at the spring show. It takes everyone's help to make an organization successful and everyone's help is certainly appreciated. Wishing every IDGA member a successful 2017 and please let your board members know how we can better serve your organization.

John Walker, President

Letter from the President



John at the IDGA Spring Classic

From the Spring Classic Show Chairman

Our 2016 show was the biggest IDGA sponsored show on record. We had 466 head show in rings 1 and 2. We had 400 head go through rings 3 and 4. A BIG thank you to all of our exhibitors for attending and making the show run smoothly. The results of the show are posted on the IDGA website.

Plans are under way for the 2017 Iowa Spring Classic. We are looking forward to another successful show. The 2017 show will be held June 3 and 4, 2017, at the Jasper County Fairgrounds in Colfax, IA. There will be 4 rings of does and 4 rings of bucks. We are still trying to lock down judges for our show in 2017; stay tuned to our Facebook page and website for updates.

We are still looking for sponsors for the 2017 show. If anyone would like to sponsor a breed, a ring, or be a general sponsor, please email Sara Goemaat at sgoe1908@gmail.com.

Any questions regarding the 2017 show please contact me at 515-249-7799 or mfd5712@gmail.com.

Thanks again for a very successful show in 2016, looking forward to our 2017 show.

James McDaniel

Elizabeth Gunn, New Board Member

My name is **Elizabeth Gunn**. I am a resident of Jefferson, Iowa. I was nominated and selected to serve on the board for the next two years at our fall meeting. I started raising and showing dairy goats 6 years ago as a 4-H project. I started out with a pair of Nubians I called Annabell and Hattie. I sold my Nubians in 2013 and started new with a Toggenburg doe. Today, I enjoy breeding and showing American Toggenburgs and Recorded Grades. I also enjoy showing and raising Babydoll Southdowns as a hobby in my spare time. I look forward to serving as a board member and seeing what these next few years has in store for our organization.



Liz and her Recorded Grade named Faith at the 2016 Iowa State Fair

Dave Peffer, New Board Member

Hi, my name is **Dave Peffers**. I was recently elected to the IDGA Board of Directors. My family is located in Pella and consists of my wife, Wendy, and kids; Liam (14), Taryn (11) and Lainey (9).

We come to the IDGA a little different than many members. This is our 1st year of owning goats...or any livestock for that matter. In September of 2015, my family moved north of town to a home with a small acreage. A friend of ours had always told us that if we were to get some property, we should get some dairy goats. After visiting our friends farm to see her goats and visiting Reichert's Dairy Aire during the 2015 Farm Crawl, we were hooked.



Dave and Faith

Plans were put into motion to buy our first goats and that is where everything began. We needed to prepare our barn for the arrival of goats...not pigs like the original owner had years ago (no inside pens). We needed to build fencing. The existing fencing was great for sheep but wouldn't do for goats. People told us that if we couldn't hold water, we couldn't hold a goat. This

was definitely a new adventure for me (I am an Engineer for Vermeer by trade) and considerable research needed to be done. That is when I discovered the Iowa Dairy Goat Association.

Knowing that we were going to be getting goats, my daughter Taryn joined 4H. The goats were going to be her project. Through the IDGA website and the 4H newsletter, we saw the information for the Share-A-Kid program. Taryn was thrilled. She wrote and submitted her essay on why she wanted a goat and what she planned to do with one should she win. Taryn's essay was selected and she received an amazing Alpine goat, Rosemary, from Judi Nayeri at Ma's Acres.

The 1st time Taryn was able to meet her goat or Judi was at the Showing and Fitting clinic. What an amazing day. That day was our 1st exposure to most of the board members. They went out of their way to make us feel welcome and answered any questions we had...even the really silly ones.

From there, it has been a whirl wind. We were able start our herd with a couple of LaManchas (wether and a doeling) and then were able to bring Rosemary home.

We learned to bottle feed the goats, when and how to wean them, taught them how to lead (still working on that one), learned how to care for the goats including giving meds, watched our

1st goat show at the Spring Classic in Colfax (2nd time we were openly welcomed and any questions answered by IDGA members), showed at the county fair for the 1st time and then showed at the Iowa State fair (3rd time of general camaraderie with multiple people who provided support and answers).

A lot has happened in the last year. Our family has fallen in love with our goats and we are planning for the future growth of Misfit Manor.

I am looking forward to the upcoming year working with the IDGA Board and members in any way that I can.

Annual Meeting Minutes

The Annual All-Members meeting was held on October 1 in Colo, Iowa. Minutes of the meeting are available at www.iowadairygoat.org, on the IDGA Facebook page, or by contacting Guinevere McIntyre at jasperfarm@live.com or 641-236-5120.

The Tack Pen Philosopher



Greetings All,

I would talk about politics but I'm so fed up with it all I'd rather jump off a cliff. As one of the last years of the baby boomers I'm totally embarrassed that we as U.S. citizens have allowed ourselves to bring forth the candidates we have. I don't blame the candidates, I blame myself (us)... We have allowed our so called leadership to run amuck. We have not made them be accountable. They have no restraint, no rules, no morals, and no accountability. SHAME ON US.

It's been a crazy busy summer, I witnessed everyday average non disease free 8 lb average milkers bring \$550.00 each in mid May. Good quality 8 month old doelings are averaging \$345.00. Old retired quality bucks are \$3-5 hundred. And young registered high production bucks have started at \$4000.00 down to \$900.00. Now I hear 1 of the major liquid milk buyers has or is cutting back on many of their producers and the other major buyer may or may not pick up the stragglers. This has toned down the farms being allowed to gain access to a milk route pickup. So for the last 45 days the market has

been very quiet. The demand for liquid milk is still high so it would seem once the dust settles and things get back to a routine the demand will stay strong.

As many of you know I help the Central States Production Sale(Amish) at the Washington County fair grounds. This biannual sale has set the pace for the entire market from coast to coast.

As things progress the committee has ruled out the allowance of non-registered or crossbred bucks in the future. Also starting in January they will instigate the " CAE FREE " portion of the sale. My fellow goat breeders, producers, the time is coming soon where the buyers will demand CAE FREE stock from high production bloodlines. If you've been on the fence with your herd health management decisions, its time to take the leap.

I congratulate the IDGA members who have done all their homework and have sold some of the top selling animals at the Central States Production Sale. I'm talking \$1750 to \$2150 for junior bucks. Milk records are essential. Annual herd blood tests are recommended, most young stock can not give accurate CAE tests .

Congratulations to Jennifer and the participants in the 1 day milk test at the Iowa State Fair. This is a great tool. Monthly DHIR tests give you a more complete sense of what your herd is doing.

As your new Iowa State Fair Superintendent, I look forward to serving you all to the best of my ability. At our annual IDGA meeting we passed some rules changes that we wanted to get passed to the ISF board. On Oct. 10th I attended my first Supts. meeting and all went well. I was welcomed and all our changes were approved. Also, we have been granted a stay of execution for the Oberhaslis. They were on probation and reduced premiums, I have been granted another year to prove we can bring them back. The Lamanchas also need to step it up. If their numbers don't improve they will also go on probation. I asked the ISF board about premiums and how they could help me understand how these could be raised. They explained to me that they have taken a 6 or 7 state average and that we fall right in the middle of pay outs. I was told that it doesn't matter how many animals we pack into the show it is decided by the average of these 7 states. They said they look at and adjust the premiums every 2 or 3 yrs. As most of you do, you come to the ISF for the great event it is, you come for the family feeling, and the fun. If you can present something to me or the ISF board that can convince them to change

premiums quicker please submit them. We show to promote our stock, we certainly can't make mortgage, car , or feed payments off of our winnings. It barely covers your fuel if that. I can't stop you from coming because it's more economical for your to go some where else, we will miss you greatly, and I hope you stay.

A Meat Goat supt. was not in attendance at this meeting and it's my understanding that they don't have one at this time. I was hoping to build an alliance with this person. It would seem that through persistence I can solve our penning problems. I spend a great deal of every July judging several 4H and FFA fairs. I evaluate Dairy Cattle, Meat Goats, and Dairy Goats. I have met and seen a lions share of the meat goats and the people and they are not horrible people. As we go to the ISF lets think about building bridges with the Meat Goat dept. instead of assuming they are enemies from the start. They have had little if any guidance from a Supt. so without organization, they probably have been very tense. I would ask that we the IDGA put our best foot forward.

A hard killing frost hit our place this morning and that reminds us that Fall is underway, and Spring plans better be started...

Looking forward to visiting with you.....

Butch Sowers

Tack Pen Philosopher

CLIPPERS 101

By Mena Nayeri

When it comes to clippers, there is a lot to consider. How many animals am I looking to clip? How warm or cool has the weather gotten to be? What kind of coat do they have? Making the clipper decisions easier can help immensely, making the difficult part clipping the animal, as it always is with goats.

I have worked at The Edge Pro for five years and talked to customers who choose to use small animal clippers to trim the whole goat. While this method may in fact take a bit longer, it does work. I have always opted to use large animal clippers on the body and small animal clippers on the face, legs, and tail. It is much more efficient when you think not only of the time you save, but the fact that a larger clipper has a larger motor that can handle the wear and tear of a goat's rough coat better. The blades will last longer because they are made to handle that type of coat and less time means less friction on the blades. Another reason I like to use both clippers is as most have noticed, clippers do get hot. This gives one set of clippers a chance to cool down while using another set. Small clippers work much better when trying to get into small places and do fine tune clipping on heads, feet and legs, and the tail.

When clipping in the spring it is imperative that you use spray AND oil on your blades about every five minutes. Winter coats can do a number on blades due to the build up of dirt, dandruff, undercoat, and other factors. On our farm we attempt to

Sharpening can extend the life of your blades to years.

do a spring clip on every animal before starting show clipping. This will make show clipping much easier to do and leave your blades in better shape. Many people don't know that blades can be sharpened; sharpening can extend the life of your blades to years, especially when remembering to spray and oil your blades often. While most of the focus is on blades, it is also important to remember to have your clippers looked at about twice a summer if you only show clip your own livestock. If you are constantly clipping I would suggest having your clippers inspected about every six weeks. This will extend the life of your clippers by removing the build up inside and replacing the parts the wear down with heavy use.

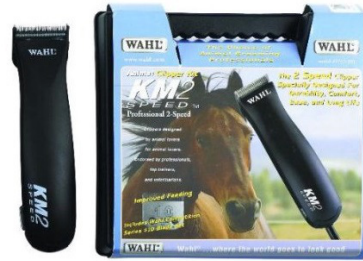
When it comes to buying clippers is important to think about the use. While rechargeable battery clippers may seem to be beneficial, not all hold up to heavy, prolonged use as well as corded pairs. The best brands to look into are Andis, Oster, Wahl, Lister, and Premier. These may cost slightly more than off brand clippers, but those often break down sooner, with replacement parts not as easily available, if at all.

Premier has a heavy duty large animal clipper with a show head. One style can also be switched out with a shear head, making it easy to shear lambs as well.



Premier 4000 Clipper

Lister has another well made large animal clipper. It tends to be a lighter weight than the premier and doesn't heat up as much, but also runs more expensive. Premier is an Iowa based company so getting parts only takes a couple days, while Lister is based in England, so waiting on parts can get quite arduous. Certain parts are interchangeable between the two, including the blades. Lister blades are pricey, and most people who own a Lister don't realize the premier blades will work on the Lister just as well.



Wahl km2 Clipper

When it comes to small animal clippers I personally love the Wahl km2. Wahl came out with a km5 and km10 models this past year; they are quiet and run cool. Andis has very heavy duty small animal clippers; the most popular among groomers tends to be the AGC or AGC2. They have also

recently come out with a VR lithium ion cordless clipper. A pair of clippers that may not be the right choice for clipping goats would be the Andis SMC. These are not meant for the rough, thick coats that goats have. The Wahl Arco, while being a fantastic clipper, may also not be right for goats. The clipper and blades are meant for a much finer coat, while the batteries may not hold a charge for the length of time needed to clip. Oster has also recently come out with a revamped A5 model as well as a new A6 model. I have not personally tested this clipper but have heard many good reviews.



Oster A5 Clipper

Lastly we come to trimmers.

There are multiple ways to clip udders. Some people shave the udders with razors, another way is to put a #40 blade on a small animal clipper. My personal favorite is to use a trimmer to shape the udder and get a surgical clip with less irritation to the sensitive skin on the udder. Andis and Wahl both have nice animal trimmers on the market, but it is also much harder to have trimmer blades sharpened due to the size. Now many people don't clip more than a few goats so spending around \$200 on a new clipper may seem unreasonable, I have worked at a local, family owned shop for 5 years where along with everything else I have discussed, there is a refurbished section. There you can find a variety of these name brand clippers and blades at a fraction of the cost, with the same reliability. The Edge Pro is located in Ankeny with a knowledgeable staff and is a place I would recommend for all your clipping needs. They are helpful with questions you may have if you are just starting out. There is also an extremely knowledgeable group of people that make up the IDGA, who can also help answer questions.

You can find a variety of name brand clippers and blades at a fraction of the cost.

The Goat Quote

*If Providence did beards devise,
To prove the wearers of them wise,
A fulsome goat would then, by nature,
Excel each other human creature.*

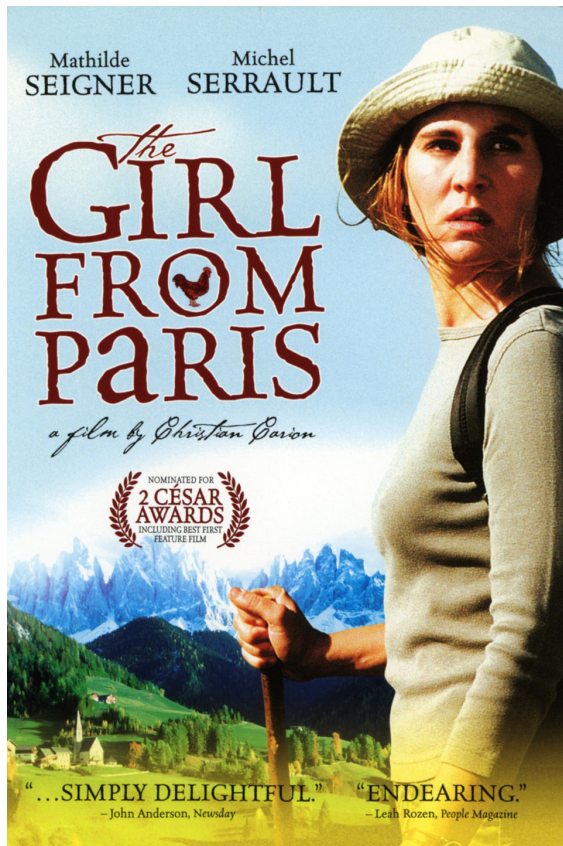
- Thomas D'Urfey (1653-1723)



*Legendairy Law Walden,
picture courtesy Meadow
Valley Dairy Goats*

An English writer and wit who was said to have a slight stutter except when he sang or swore.
Perhaps his most famous quote is:

All animals, except man, know that the principal business of life is to enjoy it.



Goats in the Media: Movie Review

By Lori Wells

If you haven't seen this movie, to me, it is a must watch for dairy goat owners. Although it is in French, it is subtitled for easy viewing. It is the story of a woman who quits her corporate "day job" to study farming. She purchases a goat dairy complete with the former owner on site. Struggles abound as she is faced with many challenges with the goats, farm and the previous owner who undermines her progress. She is very passionate about the dairy and refurbishing the farm house into a bed and breakfast inn. There is a very touching scene with her assisting her favorite goat giving birth to still born twins. At one point, she nearly gives up, but the call of the goats is strong, as we all know. Watch *The Girl From Paris*, I'm sure you will love it!

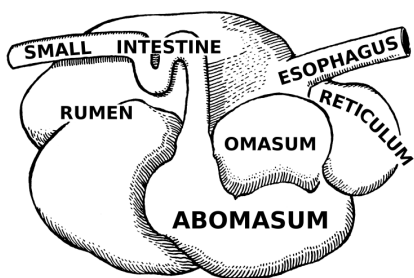
Thanks to Matt Konen, our fearless IDGA newsletter for the past few years!

We want to hear from you. If you have questions or comments about anything in this newsletter, have topics you would like to see covered, or have something to submit, please contact Guinevere McIntyre at jasperfarm@live.com or call 641-236-5120.

Gestational Nutrition in Goats

By Judi Nayeri

There is a lot of detailed information on this subject. To establish an optimal feed for each goat is impractical for anyone with more than a few goats. I have detailed tables I will be willing to email to anyone who is interested. These tables break down dry matter, energy requirements, protein, minerals and vitamins based on goat weight, gestational age and number of fetuses. Instead, I will summarize the ruminant stomach, how it utilizes some of the nutrients, basic nutritional needs of the doe and changes in needs during pregnancy.



The goat is a ruminant with a four-compartment stomach. The reticulum and rumen (reticulo-rumen) is where microorganisms break down the fibrous components of plant matter as well as synthesize B vitamins. They also synthesize

proteins from nitrogen recycled from the goat's body. This is a large fermentation vat that allows ruminants to ingest and digest a wide variety of browse making them economical to feed during times of abundant browse. Some of the processed products are absorbed through the rumen wall providing a portion of the energy requirements of the goat. The rest of the products of digestion, including undigested material and ruminal microorganisms, flow into the omasum. In the omasum, large feed particles are trapped for further digestion and water is reabsorbed. The material then enters the abomasum (true stomach) for acidic digestion and finally the small intestine for further enzymatic digestion and nutrient absorption.

There are a number of nutrients that the goat needs to maintain good health and normal growth and development. Early in pregnancy these needs are similar to maintenance. The last eight weeks of gestation the needs increase. First, I will address the basic needs then I will address the changes. The first of these is energy. Energy itself is not a nutrient but is derived from the breakdown of several nutrients which include fat, proteins and carbohydrates. Energy is necessary for the biological processes that sustain life. A deficiency of energy will cause weight loss, a decrease in productivity and may ultimately result in death. Excessive energy may lead to an overweight animal, also unhealthy. There are significant needs for an increase in energy during

gestation. Carbohydrates are a main source of energy. They can be simple (1-3 molecules) or complex such as starch or cellulose.

Grass or browse is usually high in cellulose which is digested by ruminal bacteria to provide energy. Fiber in younger plants is more digestible than older plants therefore providing more energy. Fats and lipids are also excellent sources of energy. Fats may provide twice the energy of carbohydrates but are not readily available from plant sources. These must be added through commercial feeds. Energy is measured as TDN or pounds of total digestible nutrients.

Protein is made up of amino acids. Protein is needed for growth, production and maintenance. Usually goats are fed protein to make up for dietary shortfalls. The bacteria in the rumen break down most of the protein and convert the amino acids into bacterial proteins. Some proteins are naturally coated to "by-pass" the rumen digestive process to be utilized later in digestion. Goats are also efficient in recycling nitrogen in the body to the rumen to be used in bacterial protein.

Vitamins are necessary for many metabolic functions in the goat's system. There are fat soluble vitamins A, D and K and water soluble vitamins B and C. The bacteria in the rumen can synthesize sufficient amounts of water soluble vitamins but fat soluble vitamins must come from outside sources and then be stored in the liver. Vitamin A can be synthesized from the pigment in hay and grass. Vitamin D is a by-product of the sun or sun-dried hay. Vitamin E is interchangeable with selenium and is supplied from green grass and green sun-cured hay. Vitamin K is produced by bacteria in the digestive tract and not usually required as a supplement. All the vitamins except vitamin K can be supplied by a good mineral supplement.

Minerals required are macromolecules (required at more than 0.1% of the diet) such as calcium(Ca) 0.3-0.8%, phosphorus(P) 0.25-0.4%, sodium(Na) 0.2%, potassium(K) 0.8-2.0%, chloride(Cl) 0.2%, sulfur(S) 0.2-0.32% and magnesium(Mg) 0.18-0.4%. Calcium and

Table 1. Recommended nutrient intakes and dietary nutrient content for a mature 130 lb doe at various physiologic states.¹

Physiologic State	Dry Matter lb/day (% BW)	Digestible energy Mcal (Mcal/lb)	CP g (%)	Ca g (%)	P g (%)	Vit A IU (IU/lb)	Vit D IU (IU/lb)
Maintenance only	2.0-2.4 (1.5-1.8)	2.68 (1.2)	86 (8.6)	3.0 (0.30)	2.1 (0.21)	1,600 (730)	327 (150)
Maintenance, Low Activity	2.5-3.0 (1.9-2.3)	3.35 (1.22)	105 (8.4)	4.0 (0.32)	2.8 (0.22)	2,000 (730)	408 (150)
Maintenance, High Activity	3.5-4.2 (2.7-3.2)	4.7 (1.22)	146 (8.4)	4.2 (0.24)	2.9 (0.17)	2,900 (750)	576 (150)
Late Gestation, Low Activity	3.8-4.5 (2.9-3.5)	5.1 (1.24)	187 (10.0)	6.0 (0.32)	4.2 (0.22)	3,100 (756)	621 (150)
Lactation							
5 lb/d, 5% fat	4.5-5.5 (3.5-4.2)	6.91 (1.38)	291 (12.8)	10.8 (0.48)	7.6 (0.33)	6,770 (1,350)	1,940 (388)
10 lb/d, 3.5% fat	6.5-7.4 (5.0-5.7)	10.2 (1.45)	414 (13.0)	13.1 (0.41)	9.2 (0.30)	8,360 (1,200)	3,660 (525)

¹Adapted from NRC, Nutrient Requirements of Goats, 1981 (1).

phosphorus are major structural minerals, such as in bones, teeth and muscles. The Ca/P ratio is more important than actual quantities. Others function as electrolytes or in nerve functioning. Microminerals are present in minute quantities. These include iron 50-100ppm, copper 10-80ppm, cobalt 0.1-10ppm, manganese 40-100ppm, zinc 40-500ppm, iodine 0.5-50ppm, selenium 0.1-3ppm, molybdenum 0.1-3ppm, etc. Mineral need and usage is not well studied in goats.

The nutrient requirements for a goat in early gestation are the same as for maintenance but in the last two months, the gestational requirements begin to increase. Recommendations for crude protein(CP), digestible energy(DE), calcium(Ca) and phosphorous(P) are 1.5-1.8 times maintenance in late gestation. However, the intake ability drops about 10% due to the growing fetus and developing mammary. The transition from gestation to lactation requires a similar or slightly higher increase. These increases require appropriate modification of the feeding program as well as metabolic adjustments by the doe. If needs are not met, metabolic disease or poor milk production may result. During these transition periods, it is important to maximize dry matter intake, minimize negative energy and ate nutrition of the doe and the efficient nutritional transfer across the placenta. Glucose is the primary nutrient required by the mammary gland and the gravid uterus. The mammary gland converts the glucose to lactose. The gravid uterus oxidizes the glucose to lactate and amino acids to provide its primary metabolic energy source. The does may also

obtain energy from fatty acids, lactate and ketones but these are not efficiently transported across the placenta. They are not therefore utilized by the gravid uterus. Glucose and lactate are transported across the placenta by facilitated diffusion versus active transport for amino acids. Therefore, fetal glucose is dependent on maternal nutrition while the amino acids are not, and usually amino acid levels are

higher in the fetus than the doe. This suggests a greater role for the amino acids as an energy source for the fetus. Trace minerals are lost from the dam to the fetus where they are concentrated in the fetal liver providing a reserve for the needs of the neonate. The neonate also augments its reserves from the colostrum. Some

vitamins such as A and E needed for growth, development and immunity do not cross the placenta and must be derived from the colostrum. Therefore the well-being of the fetus/neonate is directly influenced by the nutrition of the doe.

In order to meet the needs of both the doe and kid(s), several areas need to be addressed. The mammary needs 4-6 weeks dry to allow the udder to undergo involution. Milk secretory cells degenerate and are absorbed. The remaining milk secretory cells will proliferate to initiate milk production. This is necessary for maximum production. Short dry periods and poor late gestational nutrition will significantly affect milk yield.

Goats in late gestation should be fed separately from lactating does or those in early gestation.

The doe needs a dry, clean, stress free environment in which to kid. Also helpful is regular maintenance such as hoof trimming, worming, vaccinations or whatever is the farm's standard. A doe late in gestation should gain 15-40 lbs* due to the growth of the fetus. Since it is almost impossible to mix separate rations for each doe, body condition is important. Body condition in goats is a difficult evaluation since unlike other species fat is stored within the body, not externally. If using a scale of 1-5 where 1 is a thin doe and 5 is an overweight doe, you should aim for a body condition of 3. This requires a knowledge of your does. This evaluation should take

place about 8 weeks before kidding. If a doe is too thin increase feed 0.25 to 0.5 lbs/day* over the amount of concentrate already being fed. This will provide the nutrients but good quality forage is still needed for proper rumen function. Goats in late gestation should be fed separately than lactating does or those in early gestation. They should be fed 0.5-1 lb/day* of well balanced concentrates well as 2-4 lbs/day* of high quality forage. Trace minerals provided in a loose form will be consumed more readily than in block form. As the goat approaches kidding it is essential that she continue to receive her proper complement of nutrients so as not to dispose her to metabolic disease after kidding.

*Standard-sized breeds.

Table 2. Recommended additional daily dietary nutrients above maintenance suggested for late pregnant (last 2 months), nonlactating goats.

Nutrient	Units	Requirement
Dry Matter Intake	lbs/day	1.3 - 1.6
Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN)	gms	397
Digestible Energy (DE)	Mcal	1.74
Metabolizable Energy (ME)	Mcal	1.42
Total Crude Protein (CP)	gms	82
Digestible Protein (DP)	gms	57
Calcium	gms	2
Phosphorus	gms	1.4
Vitamin A	IU	1,100
Vitamin D	IU	213

Langston University Goat and Research Extension developed an interactive nutrient calculator. After about 8 questions it provides energy and protein requirements, estimated dry matter intake, calcium and phosphorous requirements. www2.luresext.edu/goats/research/nutritionmodule1.htm

A successful breeding season to all.

References available upon request. *Disclaimer: Information is general in nature and is provided without guarantee as to results. The information is not intended to be and should not be construed as legal advice.*

The Share-A-Kid Program

The Iowa Dairy Goat Association is always on the look-out for ways to help nurture a life-long appreciation of dairy goats and dairy goat products in youth throughout the state. The Share-A-Kid program provides an opportunity for youth in the state of Iowa, ages 10 to 17, to win a registered dairy goat of their own, by way of a competitive essay application process. Doelings are donated by IDGA members. More information about the Share-A-Kid program and applications for 2017 can be obtained by visiting www.iowadairygoat.org or contacting Guinevere McIntyre at jasperfarm@live.com or 641-236-5120.

This issue we hear from 2 of the 2016 winners. Taryn Peffers received an Alpine doeling from Judi Nayeri of Ma's Acres, and Alec Sernett received a Nigerian Dwarf doeling from Deb Konen of Konen's Kids.



Taryn and Rosemary, newly home

Hello, I'm Taryn Peffers and I'm a 2016 Share-a-Kid winner. I would like to thank the IDGA and Judi Nayeri for donating an Alpine goat to me. Her name is Rosemary and she is amazing. I first met her on May 7, 2016 at the showing and fitting clinic; which by the way was a great way to learn how to prepare your goat for going to a show and taught me the basics of how to show my goat at the fair. Back in May, Rosemary seemed small, but now, she's the biggest of our three dairy goats.

I showed Rosemary at the Marion County Fair in July. I won Junior Reserve Champion with all breeds combined. I also showed at the Iowa State Fair in August and won the 4H Alpine Junior Champion. I was also able to win the 4H Junior Showmanship class and Showmanship in the Open goat show. It was very fun...not to mention that Rosemary got more and more excited as I went into the ring each time.

Again I would like to thank IDGA and Judi Nayeri for giving me Rosemary. I've decided to keep her and we are also planning to breed her next year as well as show her in several shows. We are hoping to eventually have a doeling that we can donate back to someone in the Share-a- Kid program.



Taryn and Rosemary, 2016 Iowa State Fair



Alec and M&M, first meeting

I am Alec Sernett, and I am a 2016 recipient of a share-a-kid goat. I had goats before, but they were not purebred, and they were more of pets than show-goats. Before I got my goats, I went to a 4-H goat-showing clinic, and learned a lot. So far I have had a great experience with my goat, and it has been an amazing learning experience. When I first got my goat, I didn't really know what to expect from her as far as showing goes, and I was pleasantly surprised by how well she did at the county fair (She got first in her class.) I also did showmanship, and I didn't do very well, but I learned a lot about goats while studying for it.

She was extremely easy to train, and she learned quickly. When I took my other goats to the fair, they hated it and couldn't wait to go home, but she loved the attention that she got and was sad when she had to go home.

I also showed her at the state fair, and it was a valuable experience. I got last in my class of four, and it was partially because I wasn't showing her quite the right way, but I got a ribbon and learned a lot of things.

I like goats because they eat a lot of grass in our pasture, they are friendly, and they like people. My future plans for my goat is to continue to show her at the county and state fairs and to breed her to another Nigerian Dwarf so that we can have more goats. I plan on building a grooming table and a livestock insert for my mom's truck so that we can transport them easier. Next year I might show at the IDGA Spring Classic as well as at the county and state fairs.



Alec and M&M, Marion County Fair

2017 Youth Ambassador



Jamy and Havoc

mentors, over the past year I have also gained Jamie and James McDaniel. I truly don't know what I'd do without them.

I used to be big into sports. I played soccer, basketball, and volleyball. During the summer I sustained my third serious concussion, and I will not be able to return to sports for a good long while. Sports were a big part of my life, and to have that ripped out of my life at first crushed me. I then realized that sports don't define who I am. Because of that last concussion I'm able to spend even more time working with my goats, and doing other activities that I was missing out on because of my sports. Although I am not able to play sports, I've found something just as good as playing, coaching. I currently coach a Ug soccer team, and trust me I've learned so many lessons from coaching them. I am an active member in 4H, and FFA. I also play saxophone in my school's band, along with piano for fun. Whenever I need to clear my head, whether it be a migraine or just too many thoughts, I like to pick up my colored pencils and draw.

I can not wait to be the youth ambassador this year! Thank you!

Hello all, my name is **Jamy Randol**, and I am a freshman at Panorama. I've been raising Nubian goats for about 5 years now. My love affair with goats started when my older brother got two boer does as a 4H project. During that first year my brother got busy, so I took over raising his does for him. At the first goat show I went to I was going through all the pens, checking out the competition, when all of a sudden I see these three does with huge ears, and I was hooked. I wanted my own goats like that. I later learned those does with huge ears are called Nubians. My parents are a huge support system for me, but I had to work hard to prove to them that I was capable of taking care of my brother's goats before I could get my own. After the show I worked harder, and that next year I had two little Nubian does I call my own.

With those two Nubians I got an entire new support system. I purchased them from Goat Hollow, and the breeders Lori and Jeff took over mentoring me. At the time I thought I knew everything there was about goats, but boy was I wrong. I hadn't even scratched the surface. I have learned so much from Jeff and Lori, and I'd be lost those first few years without them. For example my very first year of kidding, the very first doe had two very big heads trying to come out at once. Unfortunately I lost the one of the kids, but I managed to get the other two out. Both of the kids were weak and I immediately called Lori and Jeff up and they patiently guided me through what I should do to help the kids. Both of the kids pulled through, and are big happy herdsires. Not only do I have Lori and Jeff as



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