

Last N' News

Iowa Dairy Goat Association

Letter from the President

Spring 2016

Greetings all,

Hopefully the bitterness of winter is behind us and we're knocking on spring's door. My earliest kids are days from weaning and the second wave is staring me in the face. My friends, the busy season is here. Our efforts today pay us back greatly in the months to come. As you're scoring your new arrivals keep in mind an avenue of marketing strategy for the year to come. Do you need replacements? Can you market a good share of your quality stock? The commercial dairies are continually searching for top females and sooner or later great numbers of high quality bucks will also be needed. I can share that a special weaning doe and buckling sale will be held on May 31st In South East Iowa. Watch the magazines for details.

Also we have youth teaching clinics, cheese making classes, and our Great Spring Classic show coming. Not to mention our Share a Kid program. And before all that, Iowa State University is holding their 2nd annual Animal Learning Day at the Hansen Learning Center. This is held in place of VEISHA and it was well attended last year. Ben Lehman, our youth ambassador, and I took some baby kids and IDGA material to the event and had a grand time. It will be held Saturday April 9th. Please consider joining in and help promote our great organization. Keep your eyes on the IDGA website and Facebook page for updates. See ya all soon.

Butch

**Free showing and fitting clinic
May 7th 9am until about 3pm.**

Rain or shine. Lunch provided. If weather is nice bring lawn chairs. Goats and equipment provided. To be held at 9398 NE 100th Ave Bondurant Iowa. Notify Judi if attending 515-250-4836. Side dishes for lunch welcomed but not required. Please let us know if you're bringing anything. We are located 3/4 mi north of the Ankeny blacktop 1/4 mi west of hwy 65. Can be reached by exit 92 off hwy 35 onto 1st street(94th Avenue) going east, then turn north at 94th street just before you reach hwy 65(approx 10 mi) or hwy 65 turn west onto Ankeny blacktop(94th avenue) at mile marker 91. Then turn north at first right hand turn (94th street.) We are the farm at the end of the road at the turn.

Please do not bring your own animals.

Reminder: Be thinking about the raffle for the spring show and the auction at state fair. If you have anything goat or tack related (or not) you would like to donate, please let us know! Don't forget to ask your feed or supply store if they would be willing to donate too!

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Remember to submit your membership form for 2016!

2016 Breeders List

Breed Codes

Capital Letter=
Purebred/American

Lower Case=Grade

A=Alpine
N=Nubian
B=Oberhasli
S=Saanen
T=Toggenburg
L=LaMancha
P=Pygmy
D=Nigerian Dwarfs

Others are listed
*Buck Service

Alecock, Ann
RR #1 Box 94 AA
Smithshire, IL 61478
319-572-4105
alecock@yahoo.com
www.twodogsfarms.com
Two Dogs Farms - D

Altheide, George R
3750 Whispering Ln
Keokuk, IA 52632
319.524.1217
pgalthei@lisco.com
Acorn Acres Nubians - N

Ausmus, Steve
2707 Lucas St
Muscatine, IA 52761
309-582-3128
Ideal Acres - A*, L*, mini-L, N, mini-
N, S, D*, E

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D

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319-240-5338 (cell)
pblank@iowapublicradio.org
Black Eagle - D*

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1170 Tenth St
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123 Bayview St
Storm Lake, IA 50588
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bayviewfarms02@gmail.com
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Bayview Farm - D, N

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25713 Douglas Ave
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319-230-9894
apbkennel@hotmail.com
P'Algo - L

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518-854-9702/ 518-222-0207
info@starlitridge.com
www.starlitridge.com
Stargazer Goats - D*

Churchill, Colt
2997 K. Ave
Toledo, IA 52342
515-554-2797
coltchurchill94@gmail.com
Rockin' T Acres - L, N

Coomer, James and Sarah
2831 274th St
DeWitt, IA 52742
jccoomer@hotmail.com
Smilin' Goat Ranch - D

Dengler, Ron, Anne, Tabitha, & Austin
2394 U. Ave
Clutier, IA 52217
319.479.2504
rnracres@fctc.coop
R'N'R Acres - A*, AA*, a, L, I

Early, Bruce & Delores
2374 120th St
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515.957.8791
earlyacres@windstream.net
<http://earlyacresfarm.weebly.com/>
Early Acres - D

Gethmann, Jim and Aimee
2102 E Ave.
Gladbrook, IA 50635
641-473-2790 641-691-0077
jgeth@iowatelecom.net
Hillstar Farm - A, a, s

Grabau, Linda
2983 240th st
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a_lgrabau@iowatelecom.net
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Guitar, Mary Ann
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Guitar Goats - S

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6142 Roller Coaster Rd
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563-599-1520
ckoopmann@msn.com
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Korver, Justin & Brittany
4312 440th St
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712-541-0125
korver4@c-i-services.com
www.meadowvalleydairygoats.com
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Ranschau Acres - N

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19329 310th St
Sioux City, IA 51108
712-239-4418
krollshillyacres@nettlewb.net
Krolls Hilly Acres - L, D

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Wagner, SD 57380
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B

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3939 130th St
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Linn Farms - N

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J&J Livestock - A, N*

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Jasper Farm - N

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Miller's M100 - T*

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2972 Hwy J20
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Reichert, Lois
1022 Quebec St.
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www.reichertsdairyair.com
Reichert's Dairy Air - L, E

Schmidt, Tim, Mary & Family

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goatsrus@midlands.net
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Gotta Get Some & Just Imagine - N, L,
I, B, b, E

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Nubilop Acres - N

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Ten Oaks - N, S

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Van Wyk Acres - A, N

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Viriden Creek - S

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www.goathollowiowa.com
Goat Hollow - N

Share a Kid Stories

Hannah Bedwell

My doeling, Black Eagle Sweet Clover is about to turn one in February and I plan to help her celebrate with some treats. She is a Nigerian Dwarf. She has been with me since last spring and has continued to grow. I was fortunate to get her from Patricia Blank of Black Eagle Registered Nigerian Dwarfs because of the Share a Kid program. Over the few months I have been able to train her how to show and take care of her. This past July I was able to show her at my county fair. I was fortunate to earn Champion Jr. Dairy Goat Showman my first year exhibiting dairy goats. This is because of the help I was able to receive from my parents, Pat, and my mentor, Butch. Each of them gave me great advice. In the future I plan to show her again and eventually breed her. Milking will be a very new experience for me, but one that I am very eager to do.

Sweet Clover spends her days with about 40 other goats, only 2 are Nigerian Dwarf, though. The rest are Myotonic. I was very excited to receive Sweet Clover because I was new to the Nigerian Dwarf breed and wanted to learn more about it. It is really nice



to have a mentor and breeder that know about the breed. I was very interested in Nigerians because they are a smaller breed of goat. If any youth have the opportunity to participate in the Share a Kid program, do! It has been a great experience for me. Thank you to the Iowa Dairy Goat Association, Pat, and Butch for the experience.

-Hanna Bedwell

Amelia Phillips

Hi! My name is Amelia Phillips. I am 12 years old and I was a winner of the IDGA Share-a-Kid contest! I was very lucky to win an Alpine dairy goat that I named Sylvia. My first memory that I made with Sylvia was the night I received her from Judi Nayeri. We stopped to get McDonalds and I remember sitting in the truck with Sylvia on my lap eating one of my fries! Sylvia became one of my closest companions, following me around the yard, coming inside the house (don't tell my parents though!) and always greeting me when I got home. 2015 Lucas County Fair was awesome with Sylvia and my other two yearling



does I got from Judi. Judi got to come watch me show Sylvia and the other two does. They placed very well for my first year showing them. Sylvia even got first in her class plus getting champion and reserve champion with my other two does! And I got reserve champion goat showmanship for my first year showing! I hope to see everyone at some of the IDGA shows. A special thank you to the IDGA board and especially Judi Nayeri!
Your goat friend,
Amelia Phillips

Notes from the IDGA Board

Greetings fellow Iowa Breeders,
It's kidding time!! We have been preparing here for 7 does due next week. Our program focuses mostly on dam raising the kids so we've been going through our checklist for kidding. I will list just a few of the things we think are important at this time of year for herd management. All does feet have been trimmed, CDT boosters given, vitamin E given and all does wormed, rations are ramping up. Does are tested for CAE and negative. We have individual kidding pens bedded and ready to go (check heat lamps for frayed cords and guards in place and hung at correct height), give copper if needed, have frozen colostrum ready in freezer, iodine for dipping and box of towels for drying off wet cold kids. We "crotch" all does, clipping up the back side around vulva, trim udder hair and make them look more feminine by shaving off those beards which promotes better drinking water quality. Milker is checked and running in good condition. We don't like surprises at kidding time. Remember to get those horns disbudded before they erupt which makes a cleaner show head and give CDT shots to any bucks you might be banding. All kids get CDT at 1 month and booster 2 weeks later. Hope all of you are enjoying kidding time and be sure to get a nap between births!! John

Hi everyone. Well we just got back from vacation to Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee. On the way back, we ran into the rain, then snow. What a surprise. Made us think about turning around. It took two days to recuperate, and then started moving snow.

The 2016 State Fair show will be August 17th to the 21st. I reached Dustin Noble and he has agreed to be our judge for the show. I know a lot of you wait to enter the show, but next year I encourage all of you to get your entries in early as possible. This way Anne and I can get penning done more efficiently and hopefully get more pens back. The ISF web site is on to enter in May.

That's all for now Ron Dengler

SAVE THE DATE!

Second Annual Cheese Making Class with Guinevere and Lori

Saturday, April 23, 2016

Colo Community Building

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Lunch included ~ \$35.00

Join us for a bigger and better full day of cheese making. Guinevere will lead the morning session demonstrating basic cheese making techniques with soft goat milk cheeses including Chevre, Mozzarella and Ricotta.

The afternoon session, led by Lori, will show you how to economically make aged goat milk cheeses like Parmesan and Gouda.

Class is limited to 25 participants. To reserve your spot, contact Guinevere at 641-236-5120 jasperfarm@live.com or Lori at 515-468-5175 wells2674@hotmail.com

Iowa Spring Classic

Jasper County Fairgrounds, Colfax, IA

Saturday June 4 and Sunday June 5, 2016

This is a ribbon only show. No premiums will be paid.

The show will start Saturday morning at 8:00 am with senior does. Showmanship will follow the senior doe show and will be followed by the junior doe show. All four buck rings will follow the junior doe show.

The Sunday morning show will start at 8am with senior does and will be followed by junior does.

Judges

Ring 1 Gary Whitehead

Ring 2 Ben Rupchis

Ring 3 Mark Baden

Ring 4 Ed Cavanaugh

Senior Doe Show Order	Junior Doe Show Order	Buck Show Order
LaMancha	LaMancha	All Other Purebred
Saanen	Saanen	Nigerian Dwarf
Nigerian Dwarf	Nigerian Dwarf	Nubian
Recorded Grade	Recorded Grade	Alpine
Nubian	Nubian	
Oberhasli	All Other Purebred	
Toggenburg	Alpine	
Alpine		

Junior Doe Classes

1. Junior Kid (Born on or after 3/05/16)
2. Intermediate Kid (Born 01/05/16 -3/04/16)
3. Senior Kid (Born 06/05/15 – 01/04/16)
4. Dry Yearling (Born 06/05/14 –06/04/15 NOT IN MILK)
Junior Grand & Reserve Grand Champion
Best Junior Doe in Show

Junior Buck Show Classes

11. Junior Kid (born on or after 3/01/15)
12. Intermediate Kid (Born 12/30/14-2/28/15)
13. Senior Kid (Born 5/31/14-12/29/14)
- Jr. Grand and Reserve Grand Champion

Senior Doe Classes

5. Under 2 years in Milk
6. 2 and under 3 years
7. 3 and under 4 years
8. 4 and under 5 years
9. 5 years and over
Senior Grand & Reserve Grand Champion
10. Champion Challenge
Best of Breed
Best Senior Doe in Show

Senior Buck Show

14. 1 and under 2 years
15. 2 and under 3 years
16. 3 and under 4 years
17. 4 and under 5 years
18. 5 years and over
Senior Grand & Reserve Grand Champion
Overall Grand & Reserve Grand Champion
Best Buck in Show

Show Co-Chairs : James McDaniel & Butch Sowers
Show Secretary: Deb Konen

OFFICIAL RULES OF THE DAIRY GOAT SHOW

1. These shows are sanctioned by the American Dairy Goat Association (ADGA), and its rules shall govern. Nigerian Dwarf dairy goats are dual sanctioned with ADGA and the American Goat Society (AGS).
2. There will be four (4) separately sanctioned shows each for Junior Does, Senior Does, and bucks.
 - The Senior Doe show is sanctioned for Saanen, Nigerian Dwarf, Recorded Grade, Nubian, Oberhasli, Toggenburg, Alpine, and LaMancha.
 - The Junior Doe Show is sanctioned for Saanen, Nigerian Dwarf, Recorded Grade, Nubian, All Other Purebred, Alpine, and LaMancha.
 - The Buck show is sanctioned for Nigerian Dwarf, Nubian, Alpine, and All Other Purebred.
3. The Junior and Senior Doe shows are separately sanctioned.
4. Saturday June 4: Two rings of show will be held simultaneously for each division beginning at 8:00am with Ring 1. Showing will begin in Ring 2 in the same breed order following the conclusion of the first breed in Ring 1 and continuing through breed order in both rings concluding with the last breed finishing in Ring 2. All 4 rings of buck shows will follow the conclusion of the junior doe show.
Sunday June 5: The show will start at 8am with Senior Does followed by Junior Does.
5. Papers will be checked and the Official Show Report signed before the judge begins judging another breed.
6. All animals must be individually identified on a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection and originate from herds or areas not under quarantine. The Certificate of Veterinary Inspection for goats will require clinical inspection by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days prior to date of entry to exhibition grounds. All sexually intact goats must be identified with an individual Scrapie Flock of Origin Identification tag or by an official tattoo registered with the USDA (to register, call 1-866-USDA-TAG), and the complete ear tag number or complete ear and/or tail web tattoo number must be listed on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. If you use tattoos instead of scrapie

tags, complete numbers from both ears (complete tail or flank numbers) must be listed on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.

A statement must be included on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection indicating that the herd participates in the scrapie program, and listing the official tattoo registered to the herd.

Any evidence of club lamb fungus, ringworm, draining abscesses, foot rot, sore mouth, or any other contagious disease will eliminate the animal from the show.

Goats originating from outside of the state exhibiting and/or transported along to be considered for sale at the exhibition must originate from a state-certified brucellosis free herd, or the animal(s) exhibited must have a negative brucellosis test performed within 90 days of the exhibition. In addition, they must originate from a herd having a whole-herd negative Tuberculosis test within the last twelve months, or the animal(s) exhibited and/or brought along must have a record of a negative Tuberculosis test performed within 90 days of exhibition. Brucellosis and Tuberculosis class "free" state status for bovines is not recognized for goats moving into Iowa. Goats originating from outside the state exhibiting and returning to the premises of origin are exempt from testing requirements, with the following statement written by the licensed accredited veterinarian on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection: "The goat(s) listed are for exhibition only and not for resale."

7. In the event of a question as to the health of an animal, a veterinarian will be called at the owner's expense.
8. Exhibitors must furnish their own feed, equipment (including milk stand) and bedding of wood chips. **NO STRAW ALLOWED.**
9. Exhibitors must clean out their pens before being released. Wheelbarrows and other cleaning equipment will be available and there will be a designated area to dump waste. Please have a member of the show committee check your pens before you leave. We will have youth available to clean pens at exhibitors' expense. Please notify Judi Nayeri by Saturday night if you would like your pens cleaned.
10. All registration papers will be checked upon arrival or at a time to be announced.
11. Each owner/exhibitor with an individual registering association ID number shall submit a separate entry form.
12. All animals exhibited must be tattooed and registered with a recognized Registering Association. Owners must provide the reader for microchips used as supplemental identification.
13. The original registration certificate is required for all animals 6 months of age or older. Animals under 6 months of age may show with a stamped duplicate Application for Registration. Signed transfers will not be accepted as proof of ownership.
14. Senior does will start at 8:00am Saturday June 4, 2016 followed by showmanship, then the Junior Does. The show order is not subject to change.
15. Early Bird Discount (postmarked by 5/26/16): \$6 pen fee, \$5 per head one ring, \$10 per head two rings, \$13 per head 3 rings, and \$15 per head four rings.
Regular Fees (after 5/26/16): \$8 pen fee, \$7 per head one ring, \$14 per head two rings, \$19 per head three rings, and \$23 per head four rings.
16. The pen fee is per pen; pens should hold 4 standard adults comfortably. Early bird pen fee is \$6 (postmarked by 5/26/16). 5/27/16 and on, pen fees are \$8.
17. Animals should arrive no earlier than 1:00pm Friday June 3 and must be in place by 7:30am Saturday June 4.
18. There will not be a pre-show milk-out.
19. The base date for computing age will be June 4, 2016.
20. As a courtesy to others, permanent champions are asked to be shown in the Champion Challenge class only. There will not be champion challenge in the buck shows.
21. Iowa Dairy Goat Association and Jasper County Fair Association will not be responsible for accidents, damages, or losses.
22. A food truck (Blue Ribbon Catering) will be available on site for breakfast and lunch both days. Friday and Saturday evenings, IDGA will provide a meal for all exhibitors. If anyone wants to contribute, feel free to bring something that travels easily.

Iowa Spring Classic 2016 ENTRY FORM

Name _____ ADGA ID _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Entry fees (for 1 ring) _____ Goats @\$5 per goat (\$7 after May 26)= _____

Or

Entry fees (for 2 rings) _____ Goats @\$10 per goat (\$14 after May 26)= _____

Or

Entry fees (for 3 rings) _____ Goats @\$13 per goat (\$19 after May 26)= _____

Or

Entry fees (for 4 rings) _____ Goats @15 per goat (\$23 after May 26)= _____

Pens fees _____ pens @ \$6 per pen (\$8 after May 26) = _____

Sawdust Bales* _____ @ \$5.50 per bag = _____

Total = _____

** IMPORTANT: Sawdust must be preordered!*

Please make checks payable to IDGA

Send entries to:

Deb Konen

15582 NE 104th St

Maxwell, IA 50161 (515) 313-5998 konenskids@yahoo.com

You may also enter online at iowadairygoat.org with payments accepted through PayPal with the email iowadairygoatassociation@gmail.com

Breed	Class	Name	DOB	ADGA registration #

PREGNANCY TOXEMIA (Ketosis; Hepatic Lipidosis)

Judi Nayeri

It's that time of the year again, when all our goats are kidding. The time of the year we need to be alert to toxemia of pregnancy.

Pregnancy toxemia most commonly occurs late in gestation although in rare cases it can also occur in early lactation. Pregnancy toxemia stems from the energy needs of the goat coming up short. It is more common in goats with multiple fetuses. Twins have 180% higher energy requirements and triplets 240% higher than single fetuses. The metabolic needs of the kids will be met before the doe's needs are met. If the energy requirements are lower than the energy (carbohydrate) intake the doe will be predisposed to pregnancy toxemia. Anything that causes an energy drain may be a factor such as a doe who goes into breeding season either obese or too thin, or becomes so during their gestation; environmental stressors, including but not limited to, cleanliness, space, ventilation or exercise; chronic illness causing weight loss or decrease appetite; or genetic factors.

Carbohydrates are metabolized into useable energy sources. If there is a negative energy balance, it will lead to alterations in the insulin-glucagon ratio. When this occurs fatty acids and glycerols are mobilized from body fat for energy. This metabolism occurs in the liver. If the energy supply does not keep pace, the liver may become overwhelmed with free fatty acids and they will be incompletely metabolized causing a release of toxic levels of ketones into the bloodstream.

Symptoms include depression, ataxia (incoordination or staggering), circling, teeth grinding, recumbence, tremors, stargazing and/or lower extremity edema. Some people can detect a sweet-smelling breath on their doe. There will be a decrease in stool output, resulting in a few small, hard pellets. The eyes may appear dull. Blindness may occur. If the fetuses die, septicemia can occur. Final stages are coma and death usually from decreased liver and kidney function. Most commonly this occurs in the last several weeks of gestation.

Suggestive diagnosis can be made by observation of the clinical signs in an at risk animal. Keep in mind that some of the symptoms may mimic other conditions such as polio which could be induced by some of the same triggering factors. A definitive diagnosis can be obtained by testing the urine or blood of the doe for the presence of elevated ketone levels. Blood BHBA levels <1.0 mmol/L are normal, 1.1- 1.4 mmol/L are borderline ketotic and levels >1.4 mmol/L demonstrate ketosis. Urine levels would be less specific. An inexpensive meter can be obtained, allowing the goat owners to test BHBA levels at home and help them to monitor the progress of the doe. This will allow them to know if she is improving or if there is a need for the veterinarian to administer more advanced care.

Treatment for ketosis must be immediate and early to save the kids and doe. The easiest treatment is Propylene Glycol. This is relatively inexpensive and keeps well, so it should be part of our "on hand" medications. As long as the doe is still eating, give 50-60cc of Propylene Glycol 2-3 times a day orally for a few days. I add a few cc of Dyne, a carbohydrate supplement, to make the Propylene Glycol more palatable. There is also an option of paste forms of propylene glycol such as ketogels which may be easier to

administer. It also may reduce the risk of aspiration. If the doe stops eating or if she is not improving after about three days, consult your veterinarian. At the same time, while she is still eating, increase the carbohydrates in her diet. You can use corn, alfalfa or soybean supplements. During treatment, additional support should be offered with B-supplements (3cc) and Thiamin 500mg (this should be dosed according to body weight) both twice daily; probiotics and a Penicillin bolus. This would be most important when the diagnosis is not definitive. Alternate treatments are found in the literature. Be cautious with treatments other than propylene glycol and consult your veterinarian. Some of these treatments may alter the pH of the rumen and put the doe at risk for acidosis. Watch doe carefully until she is up, eating, drinking and urinating. Note: scours may occur. Treat with Pepto-Bismol or Kaopectate but it is not a major concern. It is due to the significant dietary changes. Administer water with each treatment; hydration of these does is important. Transplanted cud from a healthy doe may also be helpful. Monitor carefully until the kids are born. If not caught early enough the kids may need to be delivered to save the doe. The kids will most likely be non-viable. More severe cases will require intravenous therapy from your veterinarian. In cases where the dam is the primary concern, induction of kidding, c-section or aborting the kids will remove the primary source of the negative energy balance and often results in significant improvements for the doe.

Prevention of pregnancy toxemia starts before the does are bred. Make sure your does enter the breeding season in good body condition and maintain it throughout gestation. Make sure they have exercise, good sanitation, good ventilation, and are free of parasites. Avoid stress including the stress of predators. Avoid any sudden feed changes especially late in gestation. There should be sufficient bunk space and keep an eye on does at the top or bottom of the pecking order. Make sure the feed meets the energy, protein, mineral and vitamin requirements. Consider feeds with ionophores which increase ruminal utilization of volatile fatty acid proprionic acid which in turn will be used to produce energy. However, this may not be an option if the milk is being sold commercially. Free choice goat mineral may also be beneficial. If animals appear to be having multiples or if known by ultrasound, it may be necessary to feed them individually. It is advised to increase the quantity of feed the last 6-8 weeks of gestation to accommodate the final burst of growth of the kids. Most importantly, maintain close observation of your does and consult your vet when in doubt.

References are available on request.

Special thanks to P. Plummer DVM for his assistance.

Call Judi for information on obtaining a Ketone meter.

Disclaimer: Information provided 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.

Here's hoping for a happy, healthy kidding season.

Tack Pen Philosophy

MY GRAYING HAIR & MY RULE OF 20

How do we make decisions? How do we determine a good sound move from a non logical knee jerk reaction? As I age, and my hair turns a very wise gray, I've slowed down my compulsive decision making and try to ponder the near and far ramifications of important things I do. As we as goat keepers proceed with our hourly, daily, and monthly activities we need to make responsible decisions. Our feeding, showing, milking, trucks, trailers, barns, hay; everything spins around us making logical plans. If we are to succeed or even brake even enough to enjoy our goats we must do what it takes to keep our animals safe, well cared for, and happy. Many levels of goat keeping are witnessed. From simple one animal pets or house milk goat keeping, to hundreds of milkers in a commercial dairy. As we approach these levels or we decide if we want change to another level, perhaps try a rule of 20. I use the rule like this. It doesn't matter if it's about the brand or quality of feed, or a truck for transportation, or a building for protection from the elements, or the desire to travel to a show, try to use the rule of 20. With each topic you're faced with how will your decision impact your family, or your job, or your mortgage, or anything else that can be affected. Now just in case you've won the lottery and you have no worries you can go read something else, otherwise maybe this will help. Let's say a truck is needed, or a new herd sire, or a new barn, or a load of hay, or traveling to a show. Is the new decision a need or a want? As we decide how or what to spend on, pause a second and say to yourself how will this affect my life or my family or my mortgage in 20 seconds, or 20 minutes, or 20 hours, or heck really look at the big picture and go out 20 days then 20 years... yes 20 years, will a twenty thousand dollar truck do or do I want a forty thousand dollar truck. To keep a happy medium, a happy family, and perhaps a home maybe the rule of 20 should be applied. If I choose to buy a new herd sire from across the country for two thousand bucks will that affect my livelihood in the next 20 hours? Probably not, 20 days? Perhaps. Perhaps now the electric bill will be sent late, perhaps a car payment has to be sent late. If you can budget it, if you can manage it, then get that sire, or perhaps a five hundred dollar sire from a nearby breeder that is just as qualified. Or maybe it's a 20 second rule; I've been at an IDGA event ring side at the Iowa State Fair when a short skirmish broke out among the audience. It involved hats being knocked off, bad words being said, and a black eye on our organization. Perhaps the people could have paused and thought, how will this affect me and this public event? Maybe they could have tried to think maybe 20 seconds into the future my actions will look bad. Or perhaps 20 minutes later on their way home a family decided that the dairy goat scene isn't for them after witnessing that scene. Then there's the possibility that 20 days later the people in the skirmish still haven't resolved their problems and it goes on for 20 years. At any rate I've used 20 minutes of your time reading this. Hopefully in 20 seconds you'll chuckle and rule of 20 yourself through a happy life.

Best regards Butch, Tack Pen Philosopher.

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Complete the form and mail with a check made out to IDGA Judi Nayeri, 9398 NE 100th AVE Bondurant, IA 50035. Feel Free to copy this and share this form with all your goat friends. Annual membership dues are \$12 for a standard membership or \$20 for membership plus a breeder listing in our newsletter and on the IDGA website.

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