



Goat Newsletter

Cooperative Extension Program
Langston University

The Newsletter of the E (Kika) de la Garza American Institute for Goat Research

Spring 2011

From the Director's Desk



Winter has almost moved out of Oklahoma and the daffodils and tulips are beginning to poke through the soil. I love this time of year and I am anxious to get outside and begin gardening. Most of you may not know that I am an avid gardener. Ever since I was a small child back in Ethiopia, I have loved tilling the soil. The mathematical rigor with which the garden was laid out and the tender care with which the seeds were planted has always been a comfort to me. I love my vegetable garden, but flowers are my real passion. All of the hard toil of spring is definitely rewarded when I am able to gaze upon the gorgeous blooms of early and mid-summer. However, I must say that I think that there is something cathartic for my soul when I

am able to eat the produce from my own vegetable garden. The extreme satisfaction of consuming the fruits of one's labor. I also believe that a symbiosis exists among all agricultural endeavors. Truly, agriculture is the oldest and noblest profession, even if it did start in conflict, i.e. Cain and Abel. I could wax on poetic about the greenness of the green bean, or the perfect symmetry of a beautifully shaped aubergine, or the sheen of a dew-kissed tomato, or the tangy sharpness of a freshly dug radish but I must return to the work at hand and that is, goats.

Spring is the time of the year when we feverishly prepare for our annual Goat Field Day, which will be held on April 30, 2011. There are so many tasks that have to be successfully completed before that date that it becomes daunting. We have always provided a proceedings of the Goat Field Day for our participants. I like to think of it as a valuable resource for the producer and I hope that you have pulled your compendium off the shelf and have referred to it on occasion. It is no small task to collect, collate, edit and compile the

proceedings. Fortunately, we have an excellent team in place that works to ensure that you will have your neatly printed proceedings waiting for you at the Goat Field Day. I should also mention the enormous task of lunch; feeding all of our participants is no mean feat. Goats must be prepared and barbecued; and food ordered, prepared, and served to more than 300 people. Sometimes the Goat Field Day feels like a sisyphusian task but fortunately we have an excellent team and somehow that boulder makes it to the top of the hill every year.

This year's theme will be Healthy Goats, Healthy Herds. Our featured speakers will be Dr. Susan Kerr of Washington State University Extension and Dr. Jacqueline Johnson of Alabama A&M University. Both are veterinarians with considerable experience with goats. Drs. Kerr and Johnson will be our morning speakers and will also make presentations in the afternoon. We will have several break-out sessions in the afternoon and you should be able to find three sessions that interest you. In fact, one of our common complaints is



Goat Newsletter is published quarterly by the Cooperative Extension Service of the E (Kika) de la Garza American Institute for Goat Research, Langston University, Langston, Oklahoma.

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Dr. Terry A. Gipson

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that there are too many good choices for the afternoon sessions and people find it difficult to make a decision as to which sessions to attend. For us, that is a good complaint. It is much preferable to the alternative, which is that a person couldn't find any session that interested her/him. We also try to have repeat workshops from year to year so that if you don't have opportunity to attend all the workshops you desire, you can return the following year and attend them. An example this year is goat reproduction presented by Dr. Dave Sparks. Last year was the first year that Dr. Sparks made this presentation for us and we have invited him back for a second year so that those of you who missed goat reproduction last year will have an opportunity to attend this year. Sometimes we will alternate years as we have done with presentation on goat budgets by Mr. Roger Sahs and external parasites by Dr. Justin Talley, both of Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Steve Zeng is organizing our ever-popular goat milk cheesemaking workshop, which has been scheduled on Friday April 29, 2011 (the day before our annual Goat Field Day). Mrs. Gianaclis Caldwell, Owner/President of Pholia Farm Creamery, will be our distinguished Invited Instructor for this year's workshop. Ms. Caldwell is an internationally renowned goat cheese entrepreneur, creator, designer, marketer and author in the world of cheese. If you haven't attended one of Dr. Zeng's cheesemaking workshops, I

would encourage you to do so. Even if you are not interested in dairy goats or cheesemaking per se, you will gain incredible knowledge about cheese.

We are also busy making plans for the 2011 Buck Performance Test, which will start on June 4th. The test is open to purebred and crossbred bucks born between January 1 and April 30, 2011. You can find out more information on the buck test by going to our web site at <http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/extension/2011bucktest.htm>. There you can also find an application form or you can call Dr. **Terry Gipson**, buck test supervisor, at 405-466-6126.

On the research side, Dr. **Liping Wu** of China joined the research team of the American Institute for Goat Research as a Visiting Scholar in late December 2010. She is working with Dr. Zeng on a USDA-funded project, which is trying to determine the effect of sub-clinical mastitis on production and quality of goat milk and cheese.

We will soon be welcoming an Iraqi scientist and two Iraqi graduate students for a short research sojourn. Several years ago, we had the opportunity to work with several other Oklahoma universities in the rebuilding effort of Iraqi agriculture and this latest endeavour has grown out of that training partnership. I am always pleased when we can offer a helping hand.

I hope to see you at the Goat Field Day in April.

Healthy Goats, Healthy Herds: Goat Field Day 2011

Our annual Goat Field Day will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2011 at the Langston University Goat Farm with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. This year's theme will be **Healthy Goats, Healthy Herds**.

Adult Activity (morning session): This year our featured speakers will be Dr. Susan Kerr and Dr. Jacqueline Johnson.

Dr. Susan Kerr hails from rural New York State. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Cornell University. Dr. Kerr then practiced private rural mixed animal practice for seven years. After deciding to focus more on disease prevention than treatment, she obtained a PhD in Education from Kansas State University and has been employed with Washington State University Extension since 1995. She has co-authored national 4-H animal science curricula and is a frequent presenter at regional and national small ruminant educational events. She enjoys improving animal welfare and quality of life through owner education.

Dr. Jacqueline Johnson received her Bachelor of Science degree from Tuskegee University, Master of Science degree from North Carolina State University, and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Johnson was in private practice before her present position as Professor in the Department of Food & Animal Sciences at Alabama A&M University in Normal, AL. She provides leadership in developing and implementing educational programs in the area of animal health, with an emphasis on small ruminants.

Our ever-popular goat milk cheesemaking workshop has been scheduled on Friday April 29, 2011 (the day before our annual goat field day April 30). Mrs. Gianaclis Caldwell, Owner/President of Pholia Farm Creamery will be our distinguished Invited Instructor for this year's workshop. Ms. Caldwell is an internationally renowned goat cheese entrepreneur, creator, designer, marketer and author in the world of cheese. She has a owned goat farm, designed a cheese plant and managed the cheese operation in her unique and creative manners. She is also an excellent instructor and speaker with vast personal experiences. She will share with us her rich background, hands-on experience and masterful skills in small-scale cheese

manufacture, particularly goat milk cheeses. She will demonstrate basic principles and practical skills of making soft, semi-soft and hard cheeses using our own Grade "A" goat milk. Milk quality, cheesemaking facilities and marketing strategies will also be discussed. This one-day hands-on workshop will be held in the pilot creamery at Langston University. There is a registration fee of \$50.00/person, which includes a continental breakfast, break snacks, and a lunch consisting of goat meat BBQs, goat sticks, goat milk ice cream and cheeses, etc. To reserve a seat, please send your personal check of \$50.00 to LU Ag Sales (Attn: Dr. Steve Zeng, Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Langston University, Langston, OK 70350). Only the first 15 registrants will be admitted. For more information, please contact Dr. Steve Zeng, Dairy Product Specialist, at (405) 466-6145 or szeng@luresext.edu.

Adult Activities (afternoon session): In the afternoon session, participants will break into small-group workshops. There will be a total of fourteen workshops; however, participants will only have time enough to attend three.

The afternoon workshops include:

- *Goat Emergencies* - learn what to do and not to do in an emergency with Dr. Susan Kerr (1:30p ONLY).
- *Neonatal Kid Care* - feeding, passing a feeding tube, routine procedures and other treatments for the newborn kid with Dr. Susan Kerr (2:30p ONLY).
- *Biosecurity: It's Worth the Effort!* - how to keep disease off your farm and your goats healthy with Dr. Susan Kerr (3:30p ONLY).
- *Internal Parasite Control* - sustainable internal parasite control program with Dr. Jacqueline Johnson (1:30p ONLY).
- *Basic Herd Health* - herd health program including vaccinations, injection sites, and approved drugs with Dr. Jacqueline Johnson (2:30 and 3:30 only).
- *eXtension Goat Information on the Web* - research-based goat production information on the Internet with Dr. David Kiesling.
- *Cheesemaking Overview* - basics of cheesemaking with Ms. Gianaclis Caldwell.

You can register online for the 2011 Goat Field Day
<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/library/fd2011.html>

- *Social Media* - how social media can be used to link producers with Dr. Nelson Escobar.
- *Nutrition for Health and Production* - calculation of energy, protein and feed intake requirements with Dr. Steve Hart.
- *Goat Reproduction* - basics of goat reproduction and techniques and equipment for artificial insemination in goats with Dr. Dave Sparks.
- *DHI Training* - supervisor/tester training for dairy goat producers including scale certification with Ms. Eva Vasquez.
- *USDA Government Programs* - overview of USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service's work with goats and its cost-sharing program with Mr. Dwight Guy.
- *Body Condition Score as a Management Tool* - overview/hands-on of conducting body condition scoring for management use in goat production with Mr. Glenn Detweiler.
- *Fitting and Showing for Youth and Adults* - tips and pointers on fitting and show ring etiquette with Ms. Kay Garrett (this is a full day workshop).

Fun Tent Youth Activity: Ms. Sheila Stevenson will host a full day of activities for youth ages 5-12 in the Fun Tent. This will allow the parents and older teens to enjoy the workshops knowing that their little ones are having fun in a safe environment. Last

year, some activities included goat activities, pony rides, OKC ZooMobile, Oklahoma wood-turners, leather working, pot your own plant, OKC Science Museum traveling exhibit, and many others. This year's Youth Fun Tent activities have not yet been finalized but Sheila says that they will be as much fun as last year.

GPS Scavenger Hunt Youth Activity: Ms. Sheila Stevenson will also organize a ½-day GPS scavenger hunt on campus. Youth will learn the basics of GPS and will use a GPS unit to find "hidden" objects.

Fitting and Showing Youth Activity: Youth and interested adults will be able to participate in a full-day clipping, fitting, and showing workshop conducted by Ms. Kay Garrett of the Oklahoma Meat Goat Association. Participants will have the opportunity to have hands-on practice of clipping, fitting, and showing a goat.

Registration for the Goat Field Day is **FREE** but there is a \$10.00 per person charge for the optional barbecued goat lunch and goat milk ice cream for dessert. You can bring your own lunch and picnic on the grounds or you can pre-register for a lunch of barbecued goat.

For information regarding the 2011 Goat Field Day, contact Dr. Terry Gipson at 405-466-6126 or at tgipson@luresext.edu.

Artificial Insemination Workshops

The Goat Extension Program will be conducting three artificial insemination workshops this fall. **All three workshops will be hands-on and will follow the same format.** The schedule will be:

1. Langston University on Saturday, September 10, 2011.
2. Langston University on Saturday, September 24, 2011.
3. Pushmataha County Fairgrounds in Antlers, OK on Saturday, October 8, 2011.

Registration for each workshop is limited to 20 participants. Registration fee is \$50 per person.

For information regarding the AI workshops, contact Dr. Terry Gipson at 405-466-6126 or tgipson@luresext.edu. Registration forms are available online at: http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/extension/workshops_field_day.htm





GOAT FIELD DAY

Saturday, April 30, 2011

Registration at 8:00 a.m.

Langston University Goat Farm

Registration for the Goat Field Day is FREE

For more information call (405) 466-6126

or register on-line at

<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/library/fd2011.html>

Bring your own lunch or you can Pre-Register for Lunch

**(BBQ goat, beans, potato salad,
refreshments, and goat ice cream; only \$10)**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRE-REGISTRATION (one form per person):

- 1.- Write your name, address, and telephone number below. Indicate if you will be registering for lunch.
- 2.- Select afternoon workshops from each time period to attend from the schedule on the back of this form.
- 3.- Write a check payable to "RESEARCH SALES" for the amount, if registering for lunch.
- 4.- Mail this form and the check as soon as possible.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ **TELEPHONE:** (____) _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ **ZIP:** _____

Email: _____

(If you include an email address, you will receive verification of your registration.)

Registration for Goat Field Day is FREE; however, there is a fee for lunch. You may bring your own lunch.

Lunch Pre-Registration (Deadline April 15, 2011)

**Make checks payable to:
Research Sales**

Adults (\$10.00 each) _____

Children (12 and under) (\$5.00 each) _____

TOTAL _____

Please mail this form and check to:

**Agric. Res. and Ext. Prog.
Langston University
P.O. Box 730
Langston, OK 73050
ATTN: FIELD DAY**

2011 Goat Field Day Registration - Adult

Morning	9:00 - 11:45 a.m.	IMPORTANT!! Adult participants will attend a general morning session starting at 9:00 a.m. and will be able to attend three breakout sessions in the afternoon. Please choose your three afternoon workshops below.	
Afternoon Sessions	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.	Please Select a Workshop for this session and Enter the Workshop number here: _____	Afternoon Workshop Choices: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Goat Emergencies - learn what to do and not to do in an emergency with Dr. Susan Kerr (1:30p ONLY). Neonatal Kid Care - feeding, passing a feeding tube, routine procedures and other treatments for the newborn kid with Dr. Susan Kerr (2:30p ONLY). Biosecurity: It's Worth the Effort! - how to keep disease off your farm and your goats healthy with Dr. Susan Kerr (3:30p ONLY). Internal Parasite Control - sustainable internal parasite control program with Dr. Jacqueline Johnson (1:30p ONLY). Basic Herd Health - herd health program including vaccinations, injection sites, and approved drugs with Dr. Jacqueline Johnson (2:30 and 3:30 only). eXtension Goat Information on the Web- research-based goat production information on the Internet with Dr. David Kiesling. Cheesemaking Overview - basics of cheesemaking with Ms. Gianaclis Caldwell. Social Media - how social media can be used to link producers with Dr. Nelson Escobar. Nutrition for Health and Production - calculation of energy, protein and feed intake requirements with Dr. Steve Hart. Goat Reproduction - basics of goat reproduction and techniques and equipment for artificial insemination in goats with Dr. Dave Sparks. DHI Training - supervisor/tester training for dairy goat producers including scale certification with Ms. Eva Vasquez. USDA Government Programs - overview of USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service's work with goats and its cost-sharing program with Mr. Dwight Guy. Body Condition Score as a Management Tool - overview/hands-on of conducting body condition scoring for management use in goat production with Mr. Glenn Detweiler. Fitting and Showing for Youth and Adults - tips and pointers on fitting and show ring etiquette with Ms. Kay Garrett (this is a full day workshop).
	2:30 - 3:20 p.m.	Please Select a Workshop for this session and Enter the Workshop number here: _____	
	3:30 - 4:20 p.m.	Please Select a Workshop for this session and Enter the Workshop number here: _____	

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In compliance with the ADA Act, participants with special needs can be reasonably accommodated by contacting Dr. Terry Gipson at (405) 466-6126 at least five business days prior to the Goat Field Day.

Cooperative Extension Program

4-H Youth Development

Langston University, P.O. Box 1730, Langston, OK 73050

Phone: (405) 466-3836

Fax: (405) 466-6177

Greetings Goat Field Day Participants:

This letter is to invite you to bring your youth (ages 5-13) to enjoy a full day of Fun, Food & Excitement during Goat Field Day, **Saturday, April 30, 2011**. This is the 10th year that the Cooperative Extension Program has hosted a "Fun Tent" filled with activities to keep your youth engaged while you enjoy your workshops and seminars. This year we are offering some new activities for the youth to enjoy. ***Please Note: If your youth will be signing up for the Fitting & Showing session, do not fill out a youth registration for them, as they will be in that session all day.***

New Activities include: Cool Science (ages 9 & up); Geo Boards (9 & up); Leather Craft (9 & up); Environmental Exploration (9 & up). We will still have a 1/2-day GPS scavenger hunt on campus, (weather permitting), for older youth as well. Youth will learn the basics of GPS and will use a GPS unit to find "hidden" objects.

Youth ages 5 to 8 will enjoy a host of activities throughout the day to include some of our favorites: Pony Rides; Kid Petting Area; Face Painting; Exercise; Photo Greeting Cards; a Movie Room and much more. ***Due to increasing numbers of youth participants, we strongly encourage an adult or older sibling to accompany younger youth.***

Included in this letter is the youth registration form, Waiver of Liability form, and Participant Stamp card. Complete one form per child (make as many copies as needed) and return with your Goat Field Day Registration. Lunch will be provided onsite for youth participants. We are excited to have the opportunity to make a positive investment in the lives of our youth.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sheila Stevenson @ 405-466-6118 or Dr. Terry Gipson @ 405-466-6126.

Sincerely,



Sheila Stevenson
Extension Specialist II
4-H Youth Development
Cooperative Extension Service
Langston University

Youth Registration

**Langston University
School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Goat Field Day 2011**

Please Print

Youth Name: _____
Last MI First

Age as of April 30, 2011: _____ Grade as of Jan. 2011: _____ Male or Female (circle one)

Youth Address: _____
Street/POB/RR Apt# City State Zip

Home phone: () _____ Email Address: _____

Parent or Guardian Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Name and Phone to contact of Parent or Guardian during Field Day Activities:

Name: _____ Cell Phone: () _____

Optional Information

Member of 4-H: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member of FFA: ☐ Yes ☐ No

4-H Club and County: _____

FFA Chapter: _____

Please fill out the attached Goat Field Day Youth Registration forms to complete your packet.

Goat Field Day 4-H Fun Tent 2011 Youth Registration

Waiver and Release of Liability

(Minors must have signature of Parents/Legal Guardian)

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

Name of participant: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

DOB: _____ Age _____ Race _____ Gender () M () F
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Address: _____
Street City/Town State Zip

Emergency & Event Pickup contact:

Name: _____ Relationship to youth: _____

Cell Phone () _____

If you have any serious health issues/problems or food allergies that we should be aware of, please list:

WAIVER, RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

In consideration of receiving permission for _____ to participate in the Cooperative Extension Program "Goat Field Day – 4-H Fun Tent" and any other Goat Field Day sponsored activity, event, contest or meeting, the undersigned hereby releases and forever discharges the Cooperative Extension Program at Langston University and Board of Regents for the Oklahoma State University and Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges, their heirs, executors, or corporations liable or who might be claimed to be liable, none of whom admit any liability to the undersigned but all expressly deny any liability, from any and all claims, demands, damages, actions, causes of action or suits of any kind or nature whatsoever, and particularly on account of all wrongful death caused by negligence, injuries, known and unknown, both to person and property, which have resulted or may in the future develop from an accident which occurred while attending this event.

I acknowledge that I have read the foregoing and have been fully and completely advised of the potential dangers incidental to engaging or receiving instruction in the activity described here in above and am fully aware of the legal consequences of signing this form.

Parent or Legal Guardian (Sign name here)

Relationship to Minor

Undersigned (**Print name here**)

Cell Phone

Address (if different from Minor)

E-Mail address

Date

Sheila Stevenson, Coordinator
Cooperative Extension Representative

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Name: _____					
(Nickname): _____ Age: ____ Gender: M or F Allergies: _____ Emergency Contact Person: _____ Phone with Area Code: _____ Session #s _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ / _____					Team Leader(s)
<u>Age Group Names--(Please circle one)</u> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> 3 to 5 year olds—(Cubs) 6-8 year olds—(Explorers) </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> 9-11 year olds—(Trackers) 12 and up—(Lions) </div> <p>Youth will receive a stamp for each activity they complete.</p>					

Name: _____					
(Nickname): _____ Age: ____ Gender: M or F Allergies: _____ Emergency Contact Person: _____ Phone with Area Code: _____ Session #s _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ / _____					Team Leader(s)
<u>Age Group Names--(Please circle one)</u> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> 3 to 5 year olds—(Cubs) 6-8 year olds—(Explorers) </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> 9-11 year olds—(Trackers) 12 and up—(Lions) </div> <p>Youth will receive a stamp for each activity they complete.</p>					

Kidding and Doe-Kid Behavior

By S. Hart

The first sign of impending birth is that the udder fills with milk one or two days before the doe gives birth. Shortly before birth, the doe will often separate herself from the herd and go to the area she chooses for birthing. The doe is often described as restless or nervous. The ligaments around the tail head relax leaving pronounced hollows on either side of the tail. There may be a mucous discharge from the vulva which may become opaque or slightly yellow. The doe may paw as though she is making a bed. As labor begins, the doe will often look back at the tail head and vocalize. She may repeatedly lie down and stand up with signs of straining. A normal birthing is complete within an hour.

The afterbirth is usually passed within four hours and is often consumed by the doe (one less attractant for predators and scavengers). Some behaviorists have noted that consuming the placenta has a calming effect on the doe; substances identified in the placenta are known to be responsible for this effect.

When a newborn kid rises on wobbly legs, they instinctively seek a rounded ventral surface without hair. Therefore, teat size (i.e. diameter of your pinky finger) and placement (ideally pointing out and slightly downward from the rear flank) is critical to the first suckling opportunity. Udders that are pendulous (low to the ground) or teats that are badly misshapen or extra teats which have no milk can cause problems the nursing kid and may cause the kid to die from starvation (prevent this by culling those does). The kid often develops a preference for a given teat very early. When the kids suckle strongly, twitching of the kid's tail corresponds with the tongue movement (suckling).



Bonding is very important to the kid's livability. A poorly bonded kid is not calmed by the presence of their dam and the doe may have trouble locating her kids. The first few days (especially first few hours) are critical to bonding. It is important that the doe and kid not be bothered during this time. The initial licking of the kid after birth is important to the maternal labeling of the kid so the doe will recognize the kid later. Both licking by the doe and suckling activity are vital for recognition and a good maternal bond. *Disturbance interferes with bonding!*

Observe the birthing process from a distance and let natural instincts prevail. Do not intervene unless birthing difficulties are evident, the doe fails to clean the newborn's nose, or a kid is unable to rise and nurse. If the doe or kid needs assistance shortly after birth, move in quietly and do what needs to be done quickly and efficiently and then get out of the way.

Noteworthy News

► In January, Dr. **Tilahun Sahlu** traveled to Israel to work on the BARD/MARD grant entitled "Enhanced Safety and Product Quality from On-Farm Thermization/Pasteurization of Goat Milk in the Middle East".

► In February, Dr. **Steve Hart** presented research findings at the Southern Section meeting of the American Society of Animal Science and SCC 81 regional meeting for small ruminants in Corpus Christi, TX.

► In February, Drs. **Art Goetsch** and **Lionel Dawson** traveled to Ethiopia to work on activities of the Ethiopia Sheep and Goat Productivity Improvement Program.

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