

Goat Newsletter

Cooperative Extension Program Langston University

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

Spring 2017

From the Director's Desk



As usual, this time of year is very busy as we prepare for our annual Goat Field Day and conduct research projects.

This year, the theme for our Goat Field Day is Selection: from Eyeball to Genomics and you can read more about it on page 3 of this newsletter. This year our featured speakers will be Dr. Ken Andries, Dr. Brian Sayre, and Ms. Lisa Shephard. Dr. Andries is from Kentucky State University, Dr. Sayre is from Virginia Sate University, and Ms. Shephard is from the American Dairy Goat Association.

Genetic improvement is key to a productive and competitive goat enterprise. We have come a long way from the days of Robert Blakewell, a British agriculturalist born in 1725. Blakewell was a pioneer in selective animal breeding and is well noted for his development of the New Leicester sheep breed and the improvement in the Lincoln Longwool breed. Some of the principles that Blakewell intuited would not be formalized until Gregor Mendel experimented with the garden pea and discovered the basic unit of heredity, the gene, nearly one hundred years later. Nearly another century would pass before modern animal breeding methodology arose from the works of Jay Lush and other geneticists. Lush's and succeeding geneticists' works laid the groundwork for the biometrical approach to animal breeding, that is, the use of statistical methods to derive a numeric breeding value and not to rely upon the animal's appearance. The new world of animal breeding involves genomics, which is an exciting advancement. An aspect of genomics involves sequencing part or all of the chromosomes for the cytosine, guanine, adenine, and thymine nucleobases. That information is then associated with the biometric data to yield an even better estimate of breeding value.

In addition to our annual Goat Field Day, we will be hosting a cheesemaking workshop on the day before the Goat Field Day. Dr. **Steve Zeng**, our Dairy Foods Technologist, will be coordinating the cheesemaking workshop and Dr. **Zeng** will be our instructor for this workshop. This is a limited-attendence workshop and persons interested in attending should contact Dr. **Zeng** (405-466-6145 or szeng@langston.edu).

We are busy with research and extension activities, other than Goat Field Day for the latter. We are always looking to tools that will make our research easier and more efficient. One of the innovations that I hope will be fruitful is a state data logger on Dr. Liu's experiment. I mentioned in the last newsletter that Dr. Haiying Liu from the College of Animal Science and Veterinary Science at Shenyang Agricultural University of China, is joining us for a year-long sabbatical, and working with Dr. Art Goetsch. Dr. Liu is



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The Cooperative Extension Program at Langston University, provides educational programs to individuals regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability or status as a veteran. Issued in furtherance of Extension work, Act of September 29, 1977, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. studying feed intake and feeding behavior in growing Alpine doelings. This experiment is taking place in our Lactation Barn, which is equipped with Calan feeders. We have used the Calan feeders for many years and, briefly, each doeling wears a plastic-chain collar with an electronic "key" encased in hard plastic. The key unlocks the door to only one Calan feeder in the pen, thus enabling the doeling to eat out of her individual feeder in a group pen. Each morning, yesterday's feed remaining in the Calan feeder is weighed. Fresh feed is weighed and placed into the Calan feeder. The difference in weights between the fresh feed place in the Calan feeder one morning and the remaining feed the next morning is the amount consumed. Because only one goat is capable of opening the Calan door and eating, it is possible to calculate the feed intake.

You may recall from reports of our previous Buck Performance Test at our South Barn, we used Calan feeders initially and then we added a different feeding system called FIRE (Feed Intake Recording Equipment). For the FIRE system, there is only



Visual inspection is important but production a better measure of merit.

one automated feeding unit per pen and bucks in the pen would take turns feeding. Feed intake was automatically recorded onto onboard memory with the use of a RFID eartag every time a buck enters into the FIRE system to eat. Both the Calan feeder and the FIRE system uses RFID technology but feed intake is recorded manually for the Calan feeder and automatically for the FIRE system. Not only are we able to measure feed intake with FIRE system but we are able to also monitor number of visits to the system and the duration of those visits, which has been a valuable research tool. I wish that we would have discovered technology that would allow us to automatically monitor feed intake for the Calan feeders but, alas, that is not the case. We are, however, experimenting with technology that will allow us to determine the number of visits and the duration of those visits. Drs. Ryszard Puchala and Terry Gipson, who are assisting Drs. Liu and Goetsch on this experiment, have installed state loggers on each Calan feeder door. The state logger has an internal reed (magnetic) switch and we have installed magnets on the door frame and the state logger on the door. These state loggers monitor the open/closed state of the door every 10 seconds. I am excited to possibly have the same feeding behavior measures on our dairy that we have had on our meat goats for many years. Technology is a wonderful thing.

I hope to see you at the Goat Field Day.

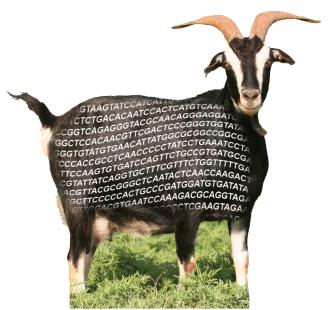
Selection: from Eyeball to Genomics Goat Field Day 2017
Our annual Goat Field Day will be held on Saturday,

Our annual Goat Field Day will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at the Langston University Goat Farm with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. This year's theme will be **Selection: from Eyeball to Genomics**.

Adult Activity (morning session): This year our featured speakers will be Dr. Ken Andries, Dr. Brian Sayre, and Ms. Lisa Shepard.

Ken Andries was raised on a livestock and crop farm in Louisiana. He did his graduate work at Louisiana and Kansas State Universities majoring in animal genetics. Dr. Andries has worked in extension since graduation from Kansas State University in 1996. He is currently an Animal Science Specialist and Assistant Professor at Kentucky State University where he is responsible for the small ruminant extension programming, goat production research, and teaching undergraduate classes. He is a member of the national eXtension Goat Community of Practice, the American Goat Federation, goat representative on the National Sheep Improvement Program board, and has conducted many workshops and programs on goat production since starting at KSU. His extension programs have focused on improved production, health, and genetics for a more sustainable goat industry. He started the Kentucky Goat Herd Improvement Program (KyGHIP), and the program is gaining acceptance by producers around the country as a way to improve animal performance.

Brian Sayre is a Professor in the Department of Biology at Virginia State University. Dr. Sayre's research program revolves around utilizing a systems genetics and genomics approach to identify candidate genes associated with production characteristics or diseases. Recent research is to identify genes in sheep and goats associated with resistance to internal parasite infections and humans for diabetes and obesity. Additionally, Dr. Sayre is a founding member of the International Goat Genome Consortium (IGGC), African Goat Improvement Network (AGIN) and ADAPTmap project. His research program has been involved in the development of the goat radiation hybrid (RH) panel, Illumina Goat 60K SNP panel and multiple sequencing projects for creation of a high quality reference genome sequence for the goat. Partnering with international collaborators for application of these tools to a goat, current applica-



tions include the ADAPTmap project to associate genotypes with GPS and environmental data, development of low-density SNP panels for selection in goat improvement projects in Africa, and partnering with the US goat industry for development of genomic selection tools. Dr. Sayre is a member of a national Critical Thinking Fellows Institute to promote implementation of critical thinking skills into the classroom. The research is focused on the development and identification of the non-cognitive aspects of student learning for improved outcomes in biology courses.

Lisa Shepard currently works for the American Dairy Goat Association as the Performance Programs Manager. This involves efforts with the DHI Production Testing, Linear Appraisal, Sire Development, DNA Typing, Artificial Insemination, and Type programs. Prior to this, she was employed in the laboratory genetics field for 30 years with her work evolving into the areas of quality assurance and regulatory affairs. Ms. Shepard is also a representative to the California Dairy Goat Advisory committee, on the Board of New Mexico's caprine DHIA, and on the local water commission. Lisa and her husband raise a small seedstock herd of Saanens in northern New Mexico. They keep it small so that they can enjoy their other interests in traveling and hiking.

Adult Activities (afternoon session): In the afternoon session, participants will break into small-

group workshops. There will be a total of eighteen workshops; however, participants will only have time to attend three.

The afternoon workshops include:

- Dairy Goat Production Evaluations with Ms. Lisa Shephard. (1:30 p.m. ONLY)
- Dairy Goat Type Evaluations with Ms. Lisa Shephard. (2:30 p.m. ONLY)
- Combining Information for a Selection Index with Ms. Lisa Shephard. (3:30 p.m. ONLY)
- Getting Started Collecting and Using Data in Meat Goats with Dr. Ken Andries. (1:30 p.m. ONLY)
- Using Performance Ratios and EBVs for Selection in Meat Goats with Dr. Ken Andries. (2:30 p.m. ONLY)
- Value of Performance in your Herd: A Look at the Cost and Returns of Using Data in Selection with Dr. Ken Andries. (3:30 p.m. ONLY)
- Applied Animal Genomics with Dr. Brian Sayre.
- Visual Assessment of Dairy Goats from a Judge's Standpoint - basics of dairy goat conformation with speaker to be determined.
- Visual Assessment of Meat Goats from a Judge's Standpoint - basics of meat goat conformation with speaker to be determined.
- Basic Herd Health and Management vaccinations, common disease diagnosis, hoof trimming, body condition scoring, FAMACHA scoring, etc. with Dr. Lionel Dawson and Mr. Jerry Hayes.
- The art of cheesemaking with Dr. Steve Zeng.
- Internal Parasite Control sustainable internal parasite control program with Dr. Barry Whitworth.
- Nutrition for Health and Production calculation of energy, protein and feed intake requirements with Dr. Steve Hart.
- DHI Training supervisor/tester training for dairy goat producers including scale certification with Ms. Eva Vasquez.
- USDA/APHIS: Animal ID with Dr. Michael Pruitt and USDA/ WS: Wildlife programs with Mr. Kevin Grant (1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. ONLY)
- USDA/NRCS: Conservation programs with Ms. D'Ann Peterson and USDA/FSA: Farm loans with Mr. Phil Estes (1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. ONLY)
- USDA/NASS: Animal inventories with Mr. Wil Hundl and Perry Livestock: Livestock auctions and marketing with Mr. Travis Perrin (2:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. ONLY)
- Fitting and Showing for Youth and Adults tips and pointers on fitting and show ring etiquette with Ms. Janet and Messrs. Robbie and Coleman Sanders (this is a half-day afternoon workshop)

Registration for the Goat Field Day is *FREE* but there is a \$10.00 per person charge for the optional lunch of barbecued goat and goat milk ice cream. You can bring your own lunch, if you desire. Regardless of lunch preferences, we ask everyone to pre-register.

Goat Field Day Program for Kids (Old Fashioned Fun): The Goat Field Day for Kids provides

the opportunity for kids to explore and enjoy "old-fashioned fun activities" while their parent(s) participate in the Goat Field Day Program. With all of today's technological gizmos from the iPod to highend smart phones and handheld games, most kids are no longer exposed to the old-fashioned games and activities that shaped the imaginations and innate creativity of their parents and grandparents. The Goat Field Day for Kids Program is intended to challenge and enhance cognitive and social skills. The development of intellectual and socialization practices have been determined as prerequisites for helping children to learn more complex concepts, thereby enhancing their personal capabilities.

Cheesemaking Workshop: Our ever-popular goat milk cheesemaking workshop has been scheduled on Friday April 28, 2017 (the day before our annual goat field day on April 29). Dr. Steve Zeng, Dairy Product Specialist at Langston University, will be the host/instructor for this workshop. He has instructed cheese workshops in many states as well as internationally. He has also judged cheeses for the World, the United States, the American Cheese Society and the American Dairy Goat Association cheese championships/contests in the last decade. He will share his rich background, personal experience and masterful skills in small-scale cheese manufacture, particularly goat milk cheeses. He plans to demonstrate basic principles and practical skills of making hard cheeses using our own Grade "A" goat milk. Milk quality, cheesemaking facility and federal safety requirements 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 \$60.00/person, which includes continental breakfast, break snacks, and lunch consisting of goat BBQ, sausages, goat milk ice cream and cheeses, etc. Only the first 15 registrants will be admitted. To reserve a seat, please send your check of \$60.00 to LU Ag Res. Sales (Attn: Dr. Steve Zeng, P.O. Box 1730, Langston, OK 73050).

For information regarding the cheesemaking workshop, please contact Dr. Steve Zeng at 405-466-6145 (O), 405-404-5171 (M), or szeng@langston.edu. For information regarding the 2017 Goat Field Day, please contact Dr. Terry Gipson at 405-466-6126 or tgipson@langston.edu.

You can register online for the 2017 Goat Field Day http://goats.langston.edu/2017-Goat-Field-Day



GOAT FIELD DAY

Saturday, April 29, 2017 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://goats.langston.edu/2017-Goat-Field-Day

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.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

- 3.- Write a check payable to "LANGSTON UNIVERSITY/RESEARCH SALES" for the amount, if registering for lunch.
- 4.- Mail this form and the check as soon as possible.

TOTAL

Langston, OK 73050

ATTN: FIELD DAY

2017 Goat Field Day Registration - Adult

b 0	15	IMPORTA:	NT!! Adult participants will attend a general morning session starting at 9:00					
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.						
		Please Select a Workshop for this session and Enter the Workshop number here:	Afternoon Workshop Choices:					
	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.		The afternoon workshops include:					
			1. Dairy Goat Production Evaluations with Ms. Lisa Shephard. (1:30 p.m. ONLY)					
			2. Dairy Goat Type Evaluations with Ms. Lisa Shephard. (2:30 p.m. ONLY)					
			3. Combining Information for a Selection Index with Ms. Lisa Shephard. (3:30 p.m. ONLY)					
			 Getting Started Collecting and Using Data in Meat Goats with Dr. Ken Andries. (1:30 p.m. ONLY) 					
			 Using Performance Ratios and EBVs for Selection in Meat Goats with Dr. Ken Andries. (2:30 p.m. ONLY) 					
		Please Select a Workshop for this session and Enter the Workshop number here:	6. Value of Performance in your Herd: A Look at the Cost and Returns of Using Data in Selection with Dr. Ken Andries. (3:30 p.m. ONLY)					
			7. Applied Animal Genomics with Dr. Brian Sayre.					
us	3:30 - 4:20 p.m. 2:30 - 3:20 p.m.		 Visual Assessment of Dairy Goats from a Judge's Standpoint - basics of dairy goat conformation with speaker to be determined. 					
Sessio			 Visual Assessment of Meat Goats from a Judge's Standpoint - basics of meat goat conformation with speaker to be determined. 					
Afternoon Sessions			 Basic Herd Health and Management – vaccinations, common disease diagnosis, hoof trimming, body condition scoring, FAMACHA scoring, etc. with Dr. Lionel Dawson and Mr. Jerry Hayes. 					
Afte			11. The art of cheesemaking with Dr. Steve Zeng.					
Į.		Dlaga Calast	 Internal Parasite Control - sustainable internal parasite control program with Dr. Barry Whitworth. 					
		Please Select a Workshop for this session and Enter the Workshop	 Nutrition for Health and Production - calculation of energy, protein and feed intake requirements with Dr. Steve Hart. 					
			 DHI Training - supervisor/tester training for dairy goat producers including scale certification with Ms. Eva Vasquez. 					
		number here:	 USDA/APHIS: Animal ID with Dr. Michael Pruitt and USDA/WS: Wildlife programs with Mr. Kevin Grant (1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. ONLY) 					
			 USDA/NRCS: Conservation programs with Ms. D'Ann Peterson and USDA/FSA: Farm loans with Mr. Phil Estes (1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. ONLY) 					
			17. USDA/NASS: Animal inventories with Mr. Wil Hundl and Perry Livestock: Livestock auctions and marketing with Mr. Travis Perrin (2:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. ONLY)					
			18. Fitting and Showing for Youth and Adults - tips and pointers on fitting and show ring etiquette with Messrs. Robbie and Coleman Sanders (this is a half-day afternoon workshop).					

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Phone: 404 466 6107 Fax: 405 466 6177

Greetings Goat Field Day Participants:

The Langston University E (Kika) de la Garza American Institute for Goat Research provides the opportunity for children ages 5-13 to engage in the **Goat Field Day for Kids Program** while their parent(s) participate in Goat Field Day workshops and seminars, **Saturday, April 29, 2017.**

The **Goat Field Day for Kids Program** will consist of "hands on fun" and recreational games such as basketball, volleyball, dodgeball and jump-rope. It is intended that these activities will cause the kids to have "so much fun" while challenging their ability to implement creative thinking and socialization capabilities.

Please complete and return the **Goat Field Day for Kids Program Registration Form** along with your Goat Field Day Registration Packet. **Be sure to check their Participation Status indicated on page 2.**

If you have questions or concerns, you may contact Shirlene Hurte at (405) 466 6107 or shurte@langston.edu. We look forward to supporting your Goat Field Day experience.

Sincerely,

Shirlene Hurte, Extension Specialist Cooperative Extension Service

4-H Youth Development

4-H Fun Facts

History

4-H, the current informal, educational program that promotes youth development began between 1890 and 1900. The educational climate of that decade saw educators for the first time recognize the needs of young people; educators began to stress that education should meet those needs. Then progressive educators in town and city schools also introduced nature study into the curriculum, and school gardens attracted attention in many places throughout the country. Rural educators, in response to a demand from farm people, introduced subjects that taught boys and girls to understand and appreciate rural life while emphasizing rural opportunities. College educators in the late 19th and early 20th centuries were reaching beyond the campus to teach. Agricultural college professors in nearly all states were organizing "farmers' institutes" meetings to bring the



latest scientific agricultural information to farmers and their wives. College educators soon recognized the need to also provide some agricultural instruction for farm boys and girls as well as instilling an appreciation for life in the country.

Source: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/page/history-4-h

JOIN THE CLUB

The 4-Hs

Head, Heart, Hands, and Health are the four Hs in 4-H, and they are the four values members work on through fun and engaging programs.

- **H**ead Managing, Thinking
- **H**eart Relating, Caring
- *H*ands Giving, Working
- **H**ealth Being, Living

The 4-H Pledge

I pledge my head to clearer thinking,
My heart to greater loyalty,
My hands to larger service,
and my health to better living,
for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

4-H Mission

4-H empowers youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults.

4-H Vision

A world in which youth and adults learn, grow and work together as catalysts for positive change.



Langston University 4-H Youth Development Informed Consent, Voluntary Waiver, Release of Liability & Assumption of Risks Form

American Institute for Goat Research E (Kika) de la Garza Goat Field Day Program For Kids E. L. Holloway Agricultural Research Education and Extension Center

Enrollment Form April 29, 2017

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT Name of Student					
Last		First	Middle		
DOBAge	Race		Gender [Male	☐ Female
Month Day Year		Optional			
Grade Name of Scl	nool:				
PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFUL MUST BE SUBMITTED BY A PARENT OR LE REFERENCED PROGRAM/CAMP/EVENT SP	GAL GUARDIAN BEFOR				
I, the undersigned, wish for my Child (here date(s) and location(s) indicated above and					program") on the
I acknowledge, understand and appreciate risks to which my Child may be exposed, i as economic and property loss. I further unknown, and have elected to allow my assume all risk of injury, loss of life or da Program.	ncluding the risk of ser realize that participatin Child to take part in th	ous physical injury, tempora g in the youth program may ne Program. Therefore, I, o	ry or permanen involve risks a n behalf of my	t disability, a and dangers, Child, volun	nd death, as well both known and tarily accept and
I, on behalf of my Child, hereby release Ol Staff, Student Leaders, the Program Staff any right of action that may accrue to my be preparing, participating and/or traveling to	and all other officers, d neirs or representatives	irectors, employees, volunte for any injury to my Child o	ers and agents r loss that my C	from any and Child may suf	d all liability as to fer while training,
In the event of an accident or serious illr behalf. I hereby hold harmless and agree resulting from said medical treatment. I fur may derive from any injuries to my Child accident insurance policy carried by A Plan, if any will provide only minimum of	to indemnify LU from ther agree to accept fu that may occur during merican Income Life	any claims, causes of action Il responsibility for any and a his/her participation in the F	i, damages and ill expenses, inc Program. I furth	l/or liabilities, cluding medic nermore und	arising out of or cal expenses that lerstand that an
This RELEASE shall be governed by and or RELEASE, or arising out of any injury, debrought only in Oklahoma.					
This RELEASE contains the entire agreen not a mere recital. The information I have document and I understand and agree to right to sue), and acknowledge that I am and unconditional release of all liability to myself and my Child but also the successor	provided is disclosed a all of its terms and con signing this document the greatest extend all	ccurately and truthfully. I handitions. I understand that I freely and voluntarily, and incoved by law. My signature of	ve been given a am giving up su ntend by my sig on this documer	ample opport ubstantial rigl gnature to pro nt is intended	unity to read this nts (including my ovide a complete
DATE OF EFFECT: I agree to the terms	listed until such time	that I am asked to complet	e a new or revi	ised Consen	t Form.
Parent/Guardian (PRINT)					

Parent/Guardian Signature ___

__ 2017

Date: ____



2017

STUDENT PARTICIPATION STATUS: ■ Will not attend Fitness and Showing Session Will attend Fitness and Showing Session PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT INFORMATION **EMERGENCY CONTACT** Relationship to child Name: _____ Mailing Address City Street/P O Box State Zip Home Address: __ Street City State Zip County CAMPER'S MEDICAL/TREATMENT INFROMATION Family Doctor/Facility: ______ Phone: ______ Medical History: (Diabetes, Allergies, Asthma etc.) I give authorization for (name of student) _______ to self medicate (Name of medication) according to written instructions. NOTE: In the event of an emergency, I authorize all medicinal treatments. In the event of an emergency, I authorize all medicinal treatments except blood transfusion. **MEDIA, PHOTO & VIDEO RELEASE** I, the undersigned parent/guardian of the minor child indicated, hereby grant Langston University, its Board of Regents, Administration, Faculty, Staff, Student Leaders and all other officers, directors, employees and agents (University) the right to reproduce, use, exhibit, display, broadcast, distribute, exploit (market or promote), modify, adapt, and create derivative works of photographs, videotaped images or video/audio recordings of my child (Materials) by incorporating them into publications, catalogues, brochures, books, magazines, photo exhibits, motion pictures films, videos, electronic media, websites, and /or other media, or commercial, informational, educational, advertising or promotional materials or publications related thereto (Works). It is agreed that the Works will be used in connection with University business, the activities of the University, or for promoting, publicizing or explaining University activities or events. I wave my right to inspect or approve any Works that may be created by the University using the materials and waive any claim with respect to the eventual use of which materials may be applied. I understand and agree that the University is and shall be the exclusive owner of all right, title, and interest including copyright. I also understand that neither I nor my child will receive compensation in connection with the use of my child's image or works. The information I have provides is disclosed accurately and truthfully. I have been given ample opportunity to read this document and I understand and agree to all of its terms and conditions. I acknowledge that I am signing this document freely and voluntarily. My signature on this document is intended to bind not only myself but also my successors, heirs, representatives, administrators and assigns. SIGNATURE AND COMPLETED INFORMATION IS REQUIRED

Oklahoma State University and Langston University, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other federal laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Research Spotlight

Breeds and Electric Fencing.

Different breeds can react differently to the same stimulus but goats do learn from one another and can influence each others' behavior. The objective of these experiments was to observe the effect of mixing two breeds of goats and their resulting influence on behavior. In experiment #1, 80 Boer and 80 Spanish does were used to evaluate effects of grouping method, single breed (SGL) and breeds combined (COM), on behavior when exposed to electric fence treatments (FT). Five evaluation pens with one side consisting of a 5-strand barbed wire fence for cattle had electric fence strands added at 6" and 17" (LwHi), 6" and 9" (LwMd), 6" (Lw), 9" (Md), and 17" (Hi) from the ground. After 5 weeks for becoming accustomed to measurement conditions, does were divided into 2 replication sets per grouping. Each of 5 evaluation pens held 4 does for 1 hour exposure to FT while behavior was observed. Grouping method and FT affected the percentage of does exiting pens.

Breed	Group	LwHi	LwMd	Lw	Md	Hi
Boer	COM	0	50	50	88	75
	SGL	0	13	13	50	63
Spanish	COM	25	88	100	100	100
	SGL	75	100	63	100	63

In experiment #2, 78 Boer and 80 Spanish growing kids were used with similar procedures. Grouping method and FT affected the percentage of growing kids exiting pens.

Breed	Group	LwHi	LwMd	Lw	Md	Hi
Boer	COM	50	25	75	86	43
	SGL	13	75	88	75	100
Spanish	COM	63	63	76	88	75
	SGL	25	38	88	100	100

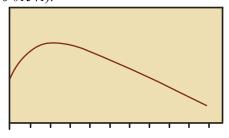
In conclusion, grouping mature but not growing Boer and Spanish goats together was effective in decreasing breed differences in behavior for evaluating electric fence strand treatments.

Tsukahara, Y., R. Puchala, J. Hayes, T.A. Gipson, T. Sahlu, A.L. Goetsch, 2016. Technical Note: Behavior effects of mixing different breeds to evaluate electric fence strand additions to barbed wire fence to contain mature and growing meat goats. The Professional Animal Scientist 32(6):725-735 (DOI:10.15232/pas.2016-01527)

Nutritional Concerns for Lactating Goats.

Dietary concentrate level, forage quality, and production system can have a great effect on tissue loss and gain by lactating goats in addition to milk yield and composition. Opportunities for enhanced performance with high concentrate levels are greater in early than late lactation, with high milk production potential, although there might be an advantage in efficiency of energy use in late lactation when tissue is often replenished. Effects of by-product and alternative feedstuffs on conditions such as ruminal methane emission, milk fat content and fatty acid (FA) composition, and antioxidant status depend on major and minor constituents and what they are substituted for. Research on minor dietary ingredients such as probiotics and plant secondary metabolites is likely to increase with decreased use of synthetic antimicrobials, although specific components responsible for effects are sometimes unclear. In addition to the FA profile of feedstuffs, conditions including dietary concentrate level, supplemental FA sources, and levels of plant secondary metabolites can influence bioactive ruminal biohydrogenation intermediates that decrease de novo FA synthesis in the mammary gland. Supplementation with sources of conjugated linoleic acid has been studied, but use is not common, probably because of less change in milk fat content and FA composition compared with cattle, different considerations regarding tissue mobilization in early lactation with appropriate feeding management practices, and limited or no benefit from low-fat milk. However, inclusion of moderate dietary levels of oils and other fat sources for purposes such as increased energy density, improved palatability, and decreased dustiness is widespread.

Goetsch, A.L. 2016. Invited Review: Current areas of research of feeding practices for lactating goats. The Professional Animal Scientist 32(6):725-735 (DOI:10.15232/pas.2016-01541).



Goat Field Day 2017

Selection: From Eyeball to Genomics

You can register online http://goats.langston.edu/2017-Goat-Field-Day







Goat Newsletter

E (Kika) de la Garza American Institute for Goat Research
Langston University
P.O. Box 730
Langston, OK 73050