

Planning Calendar for Meat Goat Herd Health

Stage	Suggested Health Practices		Additional Practices
Pre-breeding (30-60 days)	Bucks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of heat stress. • Breeding Soundness Evaluation done. • Vaccinate for <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> type C&D, plus Tetanus Toxoid. • Vaccinate for Chlamydia, Campylobacter and Leptospirosis, if necessary. • Trim feet. • Body Condition Score and adjust management accordingly. • Deworm based upon fecal egg counts or FAMACHA score. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vitamin E and Selenium given to does 30-45 days before breeding in selenium-deficient areas. • See Vaccination Schedule for Meat Goats • Put bucks next to doe pens. The “buck effect” will bring transitional does into heat,
	Does	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccinate for Chlamydia, Campylobacter, and Leptospira if necessary. • Vaccinate for <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> type C&D, plus Tetanus Toxoid. • Trim feet. • Body Condition Score and adjust management accordingly. • Deworm based upon fecal egg count or FAMACHA score at least two weeks before breeding. • Final cull of does based on production records, udders, feet, and type. 	
Breeding	Bucks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide additional feed. • Be aware of heat stress, provide shade. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure cats are not defecating in feed to prevent Toxoplasmosis. • Perform fecal egg count or check FAMACHA score and deworm if necessary. • Treat for flukes if a problem in the herd.
	Does	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe for heat or use marking harness on bucks • If desired, check for pregnancy at 45-60 days with ultrasound. 	
Pre-kidding (15-30 days)	Does	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Booster <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> type C&D, plus Tetanus Toxoid. • Deworm based upon fecal egg counts or FAMACHA score. • Body Condition Score, adjust management accordingly • Watch for pregnancy toxemia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform fecal egg count or check FAMACHA score and deworm if necessary. • Begin to collect supplies for kidding.

<i>Kidding</i>	<p><i>Does</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe 3-5 times per day. • Assist if needed. <p><i>Kids</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Clip, dip, and strip</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clip navel cord to 2-4", ○ dip navel in 7% iodine, ○ strip small amount of milk to make sure teat ends are open. 	
<i>Nursing/Lactation</i>	<p><i>Does</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed extra feed to does with multiple kids. <p><i>Kids</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe daily for signs of diarrhea or respiratory disease. • Vaccinate – <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> type C&D and Tetanus, revaccinate at four weeks after first injection. • Castrate males before three months of age. • Start creep feeding by two weeks of age. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Vaccination Schedule for Meat Goats
<i>Weaning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weaning at three to five months or when marketed as young kids. • Check for internal parasites and deworm if needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May want to use coccidiostat in creep feed and post-weaning feed.
<i>Post-weaning/Drying</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About every four weeks, check for internal parasites and deworm as needed. • Reduce feed to does just before weaning. • May want to reduce water availability for a day or two after weaning. 	

Information contained in this document is part of a web-based training and certification program for meat goat producers (<http://www2.luresext.edu/goats/training/qa.html>) that was developed with funding received by Langston University from USDA/FSIS/OPHS project #FSIS-C-10-2004 entitled "Development of a Web-based Training and Certification Program for Meat Goat Producers."

Collaborating institutions/organizations include Alcorn State University, American Boer Goat Association, American Kiko Goat Association, American Meat Goat Association, Florida A&M University, Fort Valley State University, Kentucky State University, Langston University, Prairie View A&M University, Southern University, Tennessee Goat Producers Association, Tennessee State University, Tuskegee University, United States Boer Goat Association, University of Arkansas Pine Bluff, and Virginia State University.