

KINDER® GOAT BREEDERS ASSOCIATION



SPRING 2013

In This Issue:

Bamboo - no longer just for Koala Bears!

Administering Vaccines - not a stab in the dark

Caseous Lymphadenitis - what you need to know about this harmful disease

The Udder Story - breeding for improvement

Cover Art -

"Mojave and Triplets"
by Debbie Young.

Debbie is an artist, farmer and fellow KGBA member. She often uses her Kinder goats as her subject of her work, more of which can be seen at debbieyoungart.com

Welcome to Our New Members!!

Myles Paisley
Troy, MI

Teresa Jenkins
Issaquah, WA

Stephanie Griffin
Ellensburg, WA

Jordan Levien
Bellingham, WA

Laura Gallagher
Ellensburg, WA

Vicki Fazzini
Bainbridge Island, WA

Jason Beals
Hughson, CA

Ashley Bunz
Auburn, CA

Gina Kuda
California, MO

Erin Cain
Elgin, TX

Chris Tuhy
North Branch, MN

Mary Jorgensen
Elkton, KY

Marcie Williams
Fayetteville, NC

Hutchison Calvert
Hughes Springs, TX

Billy Farmer
Jacksonville, AR

Kathleen Faunce
Central City, PA

Karmen Martz
Duvaai, WA

Cynthia Krepyk
Carnation, WA

Mildred Sheppard
Monroe, WA



BPK Ebony

The views expressed by our writers and advertisers do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Kinder Goat Breeders Association.

Would you like to join the Newsletter Team?

We welcome submissions of photos, comments, ideas and articles by our members! Please send all submissions to CLamm31167@centurytel.net. Don't be discouraged if you don't see your item used immediately - we keep some in our files for future publications!

KGBA reserves the right to accept or reject ads, articles and other submissions at any time, for any reason.

Those submitting items for publication do so on a voluntary basis, and receive no monetary compensation.

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Member at Large – Deb Ezzati
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Member at Large – Beth Ten Dolle
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JLK Justice

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

Our Website Is Getting a Face Lift!

We've been hard at work, updating the KGBA website. It's not done yet, but it's getting there! Check it out at:

www.kindergoatbreeders.com

We love member feedback!

Are You Attending A Fair With Your Goats This Summer?

Contact Jean Jajan for KGBA promotional packets!



PPF Daisy

It's Showtime!!

Mark your calendars... we would love to see you at upcoming Kinder goat shows! They are a great place to show off your goats, meet other Kinder lovers, and sell and buy goats. They are also tons of fun!!!

Boon Companion Kinder Show - June 7th
Boon County Fairgrounds, MO

Missouri State Fair Kinder Show - Aug 17-18th

Questions? Contact our Show Director Leah:
Leah@Harmonyhillgoatfarm.com

Register your goats early if you plan to show this summer!

It's a busy time of year, so applications may be delayed - planning ahead can alleviate issues.

Pull Out The Albums!

We need photos of your Kinders for our 2014 Kinder Calendar!

Submissions can be sent via email to sue@jabeck.com, or via regular mail to the KGBA address. **

Calendars will be available for sale this fall, and will make great Christmas gifts for all the goat lovers on your list!

***By submitting photos, you are agreeing to allow them to be published in our calendar, without compensation.*



PPF Nicolas

Interested in having a KGBA show near you?

Contact our show director, Leah Rennick on how to get started!

Do you have a nomination for the KGBA board? Please contact our Nominating Committee to have them added to the fall ballot! Contact:
carlacoxxdurham@gmail.com

From the President's Desk

Greetings, Everyone!

After what seems like the longest winter in ages, spring has finally arrived! To many, spring means flowers, mowing, spring cleaning and rain, but to most KGBA members, spring means something else. It means sleepless nights, muddy clothes, anxious waiting, and finally.... BABIES!!!

Yes, spring is exhausting, but it is also thrilling. After months of waiting, we get to see if our hard work and careful breeding pay off. We cross our fingers, hoping the pairings we so carefully made will reward us with desired results, hoping that our does will kid easily, hoping our babies will be healthy, and hoping that our favorite doe doesn't give us triple bucklings. Again.

As we welcome new kids in our barns, we are also welcoming new members to our board. After years of service, Sue Huston, Ramona Birdsall and Dawn Leaming stepped down from the board in December. They have been critical in the success of the Kinder Goat Breeders Association, and I think I can speak for all of us when I say, "Thank, you!" You will all be missed on the board, but will hopefully remain active in our membership and continue to raise Kinder goats for many years to come!

Our new board members – Lisa Naumann, Deb Ezzati, and Beth TenDolle – have come to the board with knowledge, ideas and enthusiasm that guarantee our year to be successful. We have spent the first few months of the year hard at work updating the website, creating promotional items and streamlining paperwork. Our goal is to make the KGBA more user-friendly and accessible than ever before, while continuing to improve the Kinder breed as a whole.

Our membership is growing at an exceptional rate, and enthusiasm in the Kinder goat is exploding around the country and beyond. It is such an exciting time to be part of this association! During this time of incredible growth and opportunity, we need to work together to make our little goats shine. We would not be here without our members, and count on you for support, ideas and suggestions. We look forward to hearing from all of you, and sharing a great year of growth, goats and good times!

Warm Regards,

Sue Beck

President

Help us speed up the registration process!

- Include order forms with all paper work.
- Make sure applications are filled out completely and correctly.
- Make sure payment is enclosed – returned checks cost us time and money!
- Make sure that you notify us of changes in your information – if we have problems or questions with your applications, we need to be able to contact you.

Check the Kinder Communique for current news and announcements:

kindercommunique.blogspot.com

Injections Don't Have To Be A Shot In The Dark

By Jean Jajan

At one time or another all of us goat keepers will likely have to give our goat an injection be it for prevention or to cure an illness. There are two main types of injections that are given. These are subcutaneous (sub q) which is under the skin and intramuscular (IM) into the muscle. The medication bottle will state which method to use. Most of the time a medication can be given sub q but it may take longer to be absorbed. Many meat goat producers tend to sub q almost all injections to avoid causing lesions or abscesses in the meat. Note that while the short acting pen G procaine can be given either way, the combi or long acting pen G benzathine and pen G procaine should only be given sub q.

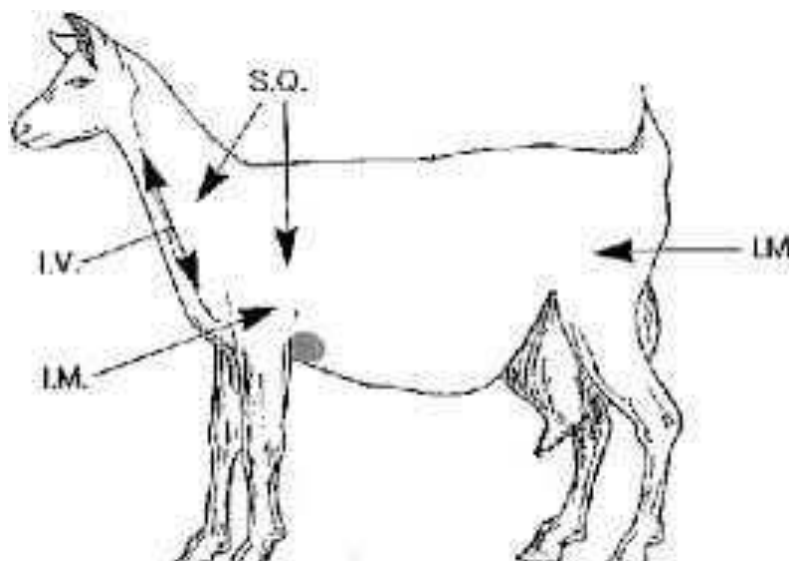
Giving injections

Subcutaneous injections are given using a short $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch needle.

1. Pull up a pinch of skin to make a tent
2. Insert the needle into the tent making sure you don't go through to the other side.
3. Depress the plunger slowly
4. Inject with the needle pointing toward the ground to prevent the drug from leaking out of the hole.
5. Massage the area of the injection.

If you need to give more than 3-5 ml in an injection it is better to divide the dose between two sites.

There are several sites shown for sub q injections but the most common site now used is just behind the elbow (shown by the gray circle). This is in part because if an abscess forms it can be drained easier and it will not show as much if you are showing an animal. Show people also tend to give their CD/T on the left side in case a lump forms. This is the side away from the judge. There can be a problem in doing an injection in the neck area in front of the shoulder because if there is a lesion or abscess it might be confused with a CL abscess



IM injections are usually given in the thigh muscle with a 1 inch needle. If given in the thigh, aim the needle from the side, not from the rear, to avoid hitting the sciatic nerve. The other site for the injection is the neck in front of the shoulder in the thick muscle but use caution as there are major blood vessels.

To give an IM injection:

1. Insert the needle quickly, straight into the muscle
2. Before injecting, draw the plunger out slightly to check if the needle has entered a blood vessel. If blood enters the syringe, withdraw the needle slightly and redirect into the muscle.
3. Slowly press the plunger
4. Remove the needle and rub the injection site to prevent excess bleeding.

Before giving an injection make sure you have a bottle of epinephrine on hand right there with you. Once in a while a goat experiences anaphylactic shock when given an injection. The dose for epinephrine is 1 ml/100 lbs. Even on a bit larger goat 1 ml will usually get them up again. After giving injections of any kind to a goat, it is recommended to keep an eye on the goats for about 15 minutes to see if anyone is going into shock.

I was giving a doe a pen G shot sub q and had just pulled the needle out when she let out a scream, threw herself over backwards and collapsed. I immediately injected her sub q with the epinephrine and she slowly came around and was fine. I have a few friends that have had it happen with other meds.

Equipment

To give an injection properly the correct gauge and length of needle and size and type of syringe must be available.

The two types of syringes are the Luer-lock and the Luer-slip. The lock is used with thick medicines like LA-200, Nuflor, BoSe and many of the vitamins. The slip is used with the thinner vaccines like the tetanus and CD/T. If you only want to buy one type then get the lock so you don't blow your needle when injecting. Also you will need a variety of sizes. The 3 ml and 6 ml are the most commonly used sizes for goats. You should also keep a few of the 1 mls on hand for use with kids when the dose is under 1 ml. It is very hard to accurately dose $\frac{1}{4}$ ml in a 3 ml syringe.

Needles. Needles come in many gauges and lengths. The most commonly used ones with goats are 22 gauge $\frac{3}{4}$ for CD/T and tetanus in kids and 20 gauge $\frac{3}{4}$ or 1 inch for most meds in adult goats. It is advantageous to keep some 18 gauge needles for the thick antibiotics.

When giving an injection use one needle to draw up the meds into the syringe and leave it in the bottle to draw up the same medicine for the other goats. Use a new needle for each goat on the same syringe if you are taking the bottle out to the barn or a new needle and syringe if you are filling them up before going out. Remove the needles from the bottle when you are done for the day.

Calculating Dosage

If drugs are used incorrectly bacteria can develop resistance to those drugs. It is important to follow the label directions. You need to know the weight of your animal for correct dosing. You can use a dairy goat weight tape to get a fairly accurate weight. The goat is measured around the heart girth with the tape pulled fairly tight. If the instructions say to give 1 ml/100 lbs and your goat weighs 110 lbs. you would give the goat 1.1 ml of the drug. In many cases a label will give the dose as so many mg/kg of body weight. Help, what is going on. How do I get from mg (a unit of weight) to ml (a unit of volume) and I weighed my goat in pounds not kilograms.



Step 1 is easy. You convert pounds to kg. There are 2.2 pounds to a kilogram. You need to divide

the goats weight by 2.2 to get the weight in kg. Our doe weighs 110 lbs so 110 divided

Normal Goat Health Information

- Temperature - 102.5-104
- Pulse rate - 70-80 beats per minute
- Respiration - 15-30 per minute
- Rumen movement - 1-1 ½ movements per minute
- Puberty - 7 weeks to 8 months
- Estrus/ Heat cycle - 17-23 days

1. Our animal is estimated to weigh 50 kg
2. The manufacturer recommends 10mg/kg bodyweight of the drug
3. 3 Multiply the animal's weight, 50 kg by the dose rate 10 mg/kg) to calculate the amount of drug required. In this example 500 mg of the drug is needed. (50kg x 10 mg/kg=500 mg).
4. Calculate the amount of injectable solution required. The bottle label states that the injectable solution contains 50 mg/ml of the drug (which means that 50 mg of actual medicine is available in each ml of the solution).
5. Divide the amount of actual medicine the animal needs (500 mg) by the strength of the medicine (50 mg/ml) to find that the animal needs 10 ml of medicine (500 mg divided by 50mg/ml=10 ml. 10 ml of the injectable solution of the drug is needed to provide 500 mg of actual drug.

As a side note, some drugs come in different strengths. Thiamine is one of these. There is one that is 500 mg/ml and one that is 200 mg/ml. If you ask someone how much thiamine should I give my goat you will usually ml. Most people are thinking of the 500 mg/ml. If you have the 200 mg/ml you would need to give 2.5 ml.

Reference: Meat Goat Production Handbook Langston University

BAMBOO FOR GOATS

By Lisa Naumann

Background

A member of the grass family, bamboo is said to be used by more of the world's people than any other plant. The approximately 1500 species of bamboo can be grouped into two categories: running and clumping. Although both types propagate via rhizomes, the running types spread much more quickly than the clumping types. Most clumping bamboos grow best in tropical climates, while running bamboos thrive in sub-tropical and warm temperate regions. The most cold-tolerant varieties have been known to survive in Hardiness Zones 4-5.

In North America, early settlers' livestock reportedly foraged on the leaves and small twigs of native bamboo. Once covering hundreds of thousands of acres of prime bottomland, these vast groves were mostly cleared by settlers and farmers to make way for commercial crops.

During the late 19th century, Chinese bamboos were imported to the US for ornamental purposes. Dense thickets of the tall, graceful plant were originally admired as living privacy fences and windbreaks. More recently, non-native bamboo has found practical environmental application in filtering windborne dust, in controlling erosion, and as a buffer-zone planting between cropland and surface waters. So popular has bamboo become that groves large and small are increasingly common in the American South, Midwest, Pacific Northwest, and Mid-Atlantic states.

Bamboo as Ruminant Feed

Traditionally, bamboo has been used as ruminant forage and fodder in Asia and Africa. Even today, it's a dietary mainstay for cattle, sheep and goats where climate, topography, competition for human food production and locally-available farming technology may preclude large-scale cultivation of ruminant feedstuffs.

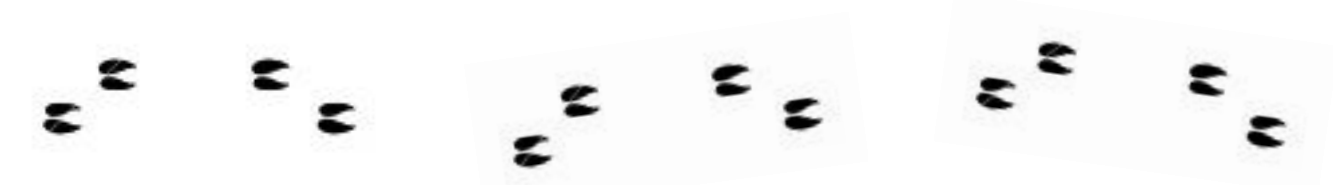
As a forage and fodder crop, bamboo offers several advantages. It grows well in partially-forested areas where shade and terrain prohibit cultivation of legumes, grains and other feeds. Bamboo is a perennial, persisting from year to year. In climates to which it's adapted, bamboo's foliage stays green year-round, providing fresh fodder in the winter, and its upright growth habit allows convenient access to leaves even when the ground is snow-covered. The tall culms minimize leaf contact with soil-borne parasites.

Despite abundant historical evidence of its widespread use as a livestock feed, surprisingly few scientific studies have been conducted to quantify bamboo's nutritional content and digestibility. Research conducted in Ethiopia, Nepal, Oregon and West Virginia suggest that bamboo leaves are, at worst, an average quality browse adequate for basic maintenance of ruminant livestock and, at its best, a good source of protein surpassing most grass hays and even rivaling good legume hay in crude protein, calcium to phosphorus ratio, and trace mineral content. Studies indicate that the variety of bamboo, the maturity of its leaves, the season in which it's harvested, soil fertility and growing conditions all affect the nutrient content of the foliage. More research is needed to understand how best to utilize bamboo in the ruminant diet.

Bamboo is not without its drawbacks. The raw shoots of some varieties contain taxiphyllin, a cyanogenic glycoside. Upon ingestion, taxiphyllin reacts with digestive fluids to produce cyanide. (For this reason, bamboo shoots prepared for human consumption are usually boiled uncovered, allowing the taxiphyllin to dissipate harmlessly.) Livestock should not be allowed to browse in a bamboo grove during April and May when rhizomes are producing new shoots. However, taxiphyllin is notably absent from bamboo leaves. When all shoots have completed their transformation into leafy culms, goats may be allowed access to the grove. Be aware that broken or cut culms protruding from the ground can damage hooves and udders.

Moreover, running bamboo, once established, can spread quickly and is notoriously difficult to eradicate. Before deciding to plant it, be sure to check local ordinances and educate yourself thoroughly about recommended containment practices. Alternatively, find a local grower whose grove needs thinning.

For more information about bamboo and its value as fodder for ruminants, please see the links on page 17.



Old Freedom Krishna snacking on fresh Yellow Groove bamboo leaves on a snowy day.

Feeding Kinder Goats Yellow Groove Bamboo

Decades before I moved to the small Central Missouri farm I call home, a previous resident started a grove of Yellow Groove bamboo here. Whenever the mood strikes me, I cross the creek to the grove and use a pair of long-handled loppers to harvest as many mature, leafy culms as I can carry. The goats come running when they see I'm bringing them bamboo, and within an hour the culms are stripped of leaves. After I accumulate a pile of leafless culms, I remove their spindly side branches with a pair of pruning shears. Up to 1.5" in diameter and 15' or more in length, they're handy for craft projects and staking vegetable plants. Questions or comments? Feel free to email me at misanoel@yahoo.com

Rumps and Udders

By Sue Huston



Good udders are not just a cosmetic issue for those breeders wanting to show their animals. Good udders contribute to the health and hygiene of all does. A good udder is held high and tight keeping the udder and those teats out of harms way. It is hard to keep a healthy udder unless this is the case.

Look for width between the thurls. A good rump structure is very important to kidding, the udder and milk production. The thurls are at the tops of the thighbones where they attach to the pelvis. They are normally placed one third of the length of the pelvis, in front of the pin bones and two-thirds behind the hipbones, and should be level with the pin bones.

Those udder attachments are hung internally from the pelvis. The suspensory ligaments and fibrous tissue that contains all the milk, hinge on a proper rump shape and angle.

When considering keeping or buying a doe kid look for a wide rump. A wide rump will give that doe a good chance of easy kidding. A wide rump also allows for the width of the udder to hold more milk. The width between the thurls helps the legs to be wide enough to walk comfortably around a full and capacious udder.

Always keep in mind that the rump makes the udder. There needs to be a slight slope to the rump for drainage but a very sloping rump is not good. When the rump is very sloping over a 45-degree angle this allows the suspensory ligament to sag causing the udder to be low and loose. Some times so loose allowing the teats to almost drag the ground.

Loose and low udders are easily bumped and bruised; does can even step on them if they are very low. This can be the cause of blood showing up in the milk. When they are low, hanging below the hocks, they easily pick up manure and urine, which is not good. Floppy, low hanging udders can be a cause of a doe to develop mastitis. Poorly attached udders are not going to hold up over time shortening the productive lives of the does.

Kids that are nursing does with very low hanging udders are prone to many health issues picking up dirt just trying to nurse a teat.

What is the most important factor in keeping good udders or improving udders? Herd sires are the most important thing to look for in keeping and improving udders. Only keep a herd sire from your best doe that has a good udder attachment. Few males are born that should be considered as herd sires. You should also remember that there are does with very nice udders but with very little milk in those udders. Bucks from a doe such as this should not be used as a herd sire.

When buying a new herd sire always look at the dam to see if she has a good rump and udder attachment. Ask about her milking ability and how easily she milks. Be sure the doe has good width between those thurls.

Never buy a buck with a narrow or sloping rump. Look for width between those hind legs and a tight scrotal attachment. They say that the buck is 50% of your herd and there are those that believe that the buck is far more. A high, tight scrotal attachment is a good sign that his daughter will have well attached udders.

Remember that a well-attached udder is not just something to admire and to look good in the show ring. A good rump and well-attached udder will mean years of good production and a good and healthier life for that doe.



Seasonal Tips and Tricks

Take advantage of the rainy season to get rogue feet into shape! The moisture in the ground softens hard feet, making them easier to trim.

Make sure your barns are well ventilated during hot summer months, and that all goats have ample shade.



Using coolers as water tanks keeps water cooler during hot summer months.

Check your goats for lice! Thick winter coats and close quarters are perfect breeding grounds for creepy crawlies... if you find them on your goats, clipping them or treating with essential oils usually gets rid of them.

Recipies, Recipies, Recipies *by Jean Jajan*

That's right - we are providing you with three recipes to try! Of course they all involve our Kinders in some way...

#1. First lets treat our girls and boys to a yummy treat to get their attention.

Goat Treats Corn Brittle

Ingredients

*1 cup white sugar
1/2 cup light corn syrup
1/4 cup water
1 cup cracked corn
1 teaspoon baking soda*

Cooking Instructions

Grease a large cookie sheet. Set aside.

In a heavy 2 quart saucepan, over medium heat, bring to a boil sugar, corn syrup and water. Stir until sugar is dissolved. Stir in cracked corn. Set candy thermometer in place, and continue cooking. Stir frequently until temperature reaches 300 degrees F (150 degrees C)

Remove from heat; immediately stir in baking soda; pour at once onto cookie sheet. With 2 forks, lift and pull mixture into rectangle about 14x12 inches; cool. Snap Goat treats into pieces. A little of this treat goes a long way so feed small pieces.

Gleaned from Henry's Milker

#2. Now for what to do with that delicious Kinder milk.

Fresh pressed goat cheese (queso fresco)

Ingredients

*2 gal whole goat milk
1 C buttermilk
1 tsp liquid rennet
1/3 C cool Water
2 tsp non-iodized salt*

Cooking Instructions

Heat milk to 86 degrees, Remove from heat and add buttermilk. Add 1 tsp rennet to 1/3 cup cool water. Pour into milk and gently stir. Cover and let set for 45 minutes.

Cut the curds into cubes. Heat curds slowly stirring and breaking the curds constantly with your hands (wear food handlers gloves) until the temperature is hot to the touch. Remove from heat. Drain off whey. Place curds into a colander and rinse with very warm water.

Drain for 5-10 minutes. Place drained curds into a bowl and mix in the salt and other seasonings (I use Ms. Dash blends especially the Southwest Chipotle or Garlic and herbs). Line a cheese press with cloth and fill with seasoned curds.

Press curds with 20 lbs pressure for 2 hours and then 30 lbs for two additional hours. Remove from press. Set pressed curds onto a plate and cover with plastic wrap. Chill for 6-8 hours before slicing.

This is my favorite cheese and it melts well. You don't have to wait to enjoy it like you would an aged cheese.

Gleaned from Goat Produce Too by Mary Jane Toth with modifications

#3. And last but not least a delicious way to cook that lean, healthy goat meat.

Curried Chevon Stew

From the kitchen of Beth Ten Dolle - Olive Knoll Kinders

Ingredients

2 lbs stew meat or ground goat

3 T. coconut oil or butter

3 onions, diced (you can substitute leeks for onions)

3 carrots, diced

2 stalks of celery

1 can of tomato sauce

3 cloves of garlic, minced

1 qts chicken or beef broth

1 can coconut milk or coconut cream

1 c. quinoa or rice

1/3 bunch of cilantro- (optional but delicious :) add right before serving

Snow peas (optional) add 2 c.s of diced snow peas 10 min. before serving. They add a lovely green with a delightful crunch.

Spices

1 T. salt (or to taste)

2 T. curry powder

2 t. ginger

Cooking Instructions

Brown meat in coconut oil, sprinkle spices over the meat and cook for another 5 min. Add carrots, onions, celery and garlic. Saute for 10-15 min.

Add broth, tomatoes, coconut milk and quinoa. Simmer for at least 1 hour. Right before serving add cilantro and snow peas. This soup is a delicious and nutrient dense dish we make at last a couple times a month. Enjoy!

CASEOUS LYMPHADENITIS IN A KINDER HERD *by Lisa Lamm*

In July of 2010, I took a doe to the University of Missouri School of Veterinary Medicine because she had a cluster of three, marble-sized lumps, cysts, knots, or whatever you want to call them, on the bottom side of her lower jaw. The vet reassured me that CL was unlikely, so I brought the doe home and turned her back in with the herd of 31 other does. A week later, a veterinarian called to tell me the drainage obtained from those cysts tested positive by culture for *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis*, the organism responsible for Caseous Lymphadenitis. That evening, through my tears, I asked my husband to get the gun and shoot every goat.

I called the vet back a few days later and asked him to blood test my entire herd. He said it would cost too much, but agreed to test 12 other goats. Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Lab performed the blood tests. Out of 12 does, one tested positive, six tested weak positive, and five tested negative. I called the vet for an explanation. He said the positive could be false positive or recently infected. The weak positive could mean recently infected, infected a long time ago and fighting off the disease or false positive. Negative could mean negative, or recently infected and too early to test positive. He explained that the test isn't too sensitive or specific. I couldn't make heads or tails of the results, but it didn't look good to me. To confuse the issue further, I had a doe who had just developed a lump at the base of her tail. He cultured the drainage from it, and found nothing but staph organisms. I went to the Internet, and received advice from friends. Some suggested destroying the entire herd and starting over some years in the future. My vet said lots of goats have CL and it's no big deal. He didn't understand why I was so upset. Ultimately, I decided to try a middle of the road approach, because destroying the herd was too hard a pill to swallow.

I asked the vet how my goats got CL. He said the organism entered their skin through a microscopic tear, or they inhaled it. He said a fly or a bird could carry it to my farm on their feet, land on the fence and leave it there for my goats to rub against. People could carry it in on their boots. The sheep-owning neighbors dog could carry it to my place on her fur. My goats could have been exposed at the fair. Ear tagging, tattooing, castrating or vaccinating could have infected them. I badly wanted to know how this could happen. Really? A fly?

At the time of the diagnosis, I had been a Kinder breeder for nine years. I got Kinders for my own milk and meat, but was so taken by them, I grew my herd quite large, was on the KGBA board, started showing, selling and singing the praises of Kinders to anyone that would listen. I thought I had been incredibly careful. I bought goats from reputable breeders. I tested every goat for CAE. I segregated new goats from the rest of the herd. I monitored my goats for signs of illness twice a day. I was convinced they were healthy, and I knew they were beautiful.

I still don't know how, where or when my goats were exposed to CL. Shortly after the diagnosis, one third of my does developed cysts, primarily on their cheeks, near the hinge of the upper and lower jaws. A couple had them on their chest, just above the leg, and a couple had them in their flank. It seems like it happened overnight. We began to take small groups of does with cysts to slaughter, kept the meat for our own use, and had the veterinarian humanely euthanize some. I kept two does that tested negative, and two that tested weak positive. One negative doe has developed two cysts since then. The other one has never had a cyst. Both weak positive does

There is one doe in the herd that was not tested and has never developed outward evidence of infection. The first year, one buck developed a cyst. I've never had blood testing or cultures again. I assume all cysts are CL, regardless of their location. Many articles on CL state the cysts develop at the site of a lymph node. Recently, I read that the cysts can develop at the site where the organism entered the body. To me, that means they can develop anywhere.

Today, I have half as many does as I had then. Fewer goats equals less infection opportunity. I still breed them and sell the kids at market weight through the weekly local livestock auction. Hopefully, all my kids are sold to a meat buyer, but there is no guarantee. I never take an animal with a cyst to the auction.

If a doe develops a cyst, I open the cyst with a scalpel, wearing surgical gloves, and get out all the drainage that I can. I flush the cyst with peroxide and iodine. I segregate the doe until the wound is dry. Then, back to the herd she goes. It might be better to just cull the doe when I see she has a cyst, but sometimes it's not practical, like if she's pregnant or raising kids, for instance, or if I can't get a quick appointment with the slaughter facility. And, I've found that some does had a cyst or two early on, and now haven't had another, two or more years later. I've been told that goats make a finite number of cysts, usually five or less.

New infections have slowed way down, but it still feels like the plague. I watch, and I wait. I'm experimenting with it. I'm living with it. The goats are living with it. My herd looks great. I'm glad my husband didn't shoot them. I'm still working to improve my herd. My prayer is that some day I'll be able to safely sell breeding stock again.

In the meantime, I offer the following advice to all goat owners:

- ▶ If you find a lump on your goat, have it evaluated and cultured by a veterinarian. No exceptions. Assume it's CL, until proven otherwise.
- ▶ Do your best to keep the fly numbers down in your goat areas.
- ▶ If you take your goats to shows, bring along bleach water in a spray bottle. Spray and wipe down the stalls before you unload your goats.
- ▶ Set aside a pair of old boots or shoes to wear when you visit other farms. Don't wear these to your barn. Ask your friends or customers to do the same when they visit your place. Ask your veterinarian to wear boot covers.
- ▶ Thoroughly clean disbudding, tagging, tattooing and castrating equipment between goats. Use a new needle for each vaccination.
- ▶ Testing for CL has improved, even in the last three years. Don't buy a goat without, at minimum, a negative CL and CAE test. Animals can be infected with either one and have no outward signs. Some sources say 80% of the US goat population has CL.
- ▶ Contagious diseases can spread rapidly in large herds. Smaller is safer.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or comments regarding my experiences with CL.

One Man's Trash....

Could be your treasure! These great ideas are easy on your wallet and the environment!

Contact your local or state highway department and ask for a goat scratching post, otherwise known as a street sweeper brush. When the brushes "wear out", the street department will give them away.



After making your morning coffee, that reusable filter can be used to filter your fresh milk!



For More Information on Feeding and Growing Bamboo:

Nutritional analysis test report for leaves of Yellow Groove bamboo -
bamboofarming.server272.com/Fodder.html

Role of indigenous Bamboo species as ruminant feed in northwestern Ethiopia -
www.lrrd.org/lrrd23/9/meku23185.htm.htm

Nutritive quality of bamboo browse for livestock —
www.ars.usda.gov/SP2UserFiles/ad_hoc/19320000PosterGallery/AFGC2004_Bamboo_Final.pdf

Evaluation of Temperate Bamboo Species as Forages for Livestock —
www.bamboodirect.com/bamboo/info/BamboosForage.pdf

The American Bamboo Society website-
www.bamboo.org/BooksOnBambooPages/GrowingOrnamentalBamboo.html



Kinder Goat Breeders Association – “Making the world a little kinder”

KGBA

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