

Georgia Goat News

Newsletter of the Georgia Dairy Goat Breeders Association

Promoting Dairy Goats since 1976

May/June 2018

Hello Everyone, I hope you have been enjoying this wonderful Spring weather! What a nice break from all of the rain we have been having. With all of this Spring pasture growth, animals will get loose stools. The grass in the Spring is usually full of water and sugars. Newly fresh animals that have unloaded kids now have room to spare, and gorging on this grass can lead to some stomach upsets. It is always prudent to have free choice hay to help fill some of that rumen space before animals go out to graze; and giving animals another boost of CD & T can't hurt. I want to remind everyone that the hormones that are associated with kidding result in an awakening of worms in your animals and a flush of worm eggs are released on your pastures. This is the time you need to worm your animals no matter what their Famacha score is [*Famacha* is a method to determine an animals need to be wormed by checking the color of the mucous membranes that surround the eyeball - light pink or white = anemia]. What you worm with is very important. **News flash! - Ivermectin and Safeguard (Panacur) are useless against worms in the South - most parasites are immune to these wormers due to overuse.** It is now recommended that you use a combination of two wormers at the same time for example, mixing Strongid and Quest Plus can be quite effective. Also, worming should be repeated a few weeks later to catch the worms that have emerged since the last worming. But don't throw your Safeguard and Ivermectin out. They

may not be useful in treating intestinal worms at this time but, they are great for treating deer worm cases and I have had good results worming young kids with safeguard as a first wormer. Good luck and keep an eye on your fresh does.

As a note of caution, watch those heavy pregnant does for ketosis. It is always prudent to have some propylene glycol on hand for emergencies. The main ingredient in Nutridrench is propylene glycol so it could work as well or better in a pinch. The symptoms to watch for are: staggering/drunken behavior, head tilt, disorientation and breath or urine that smells sweet.

NOTE: The Club's 2018 show in Monroe is scheduled for May 11-12, 2018 – Judges: Josh Kaplewski [WI] & Julinelle Huffman [IN]

Make plans to attend a show or two this season either showing or just attending as a spectator - you'll have a good time doing either – our Club show is close by - you'll can make new friends, see some very good looking animals & learn something new about goats. Also, we could use your help & we'll surely appreciate it! It takes lots of work to put on a good show, both before & as the show is going on - ***come & give us a hand!*** Donations for the raffle are needed as well!

Mandy

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Next Meeting: Shannon/Jason Lawrence Farm – Sunday, May 20th, 2:00 p.m.