

# Georgia Goat News

Newsletter of the Georgia Dairy Goat Breeders Association

Promoting Dairy Goats since 1976

January/February 2019

\*\*\* If you're interested in *selling your goats' milk for pet consumption*, you'll need a GA feed license permit and a GA pet food registration.

Goto: <http://www.kellysolutions.com/GA/FeedDealers/newapplication/applnow.asp>

\*\*\* If you currently have a license, you should have received a renewal notice – if not, goto: <http://www.kellysolutions.com/GA/FeedDealers/>

## Happy New Year everyone!

Welcome to 2019 - its New Year's resolution time. This year, I decided to start off with thinking about getting farm records in order (for those of you just starting out with DHIA, I can feel your pain). It really doesn't matter how small your farm is, you really should keep records. Ok, so what do I mean by "records" and "where do I start" you may ask. Records are information about your goat's birth, death, weaning, weights, vaccinations and de-worming - to name a few. The best way to begin is to get a calendar (preferably, one with lots of writing space under the date) and keep it at the goat barn in a clean area. I start the year off by filling in all the kidding dates for 2019 and doe vaccination dates. As my does kid, I write in under the days: #of kids, sex, and color/markings. I even assign tattoos right away, so I have a way of keeping track of a kid's info – i.e., L5 got coccidia treatment, snots, etc. I write in vaccinations, illness, treatments etc. and sometimes the weather.

The idea is to get into the habit of recording important herd information. At the end of each month, I transfer the info from the calendar to my goat Excel spreadsheet at the house. Then, I print out the spreadsheets and keep them at the barn, so I can have a list and history of the herd. That way I know which animal got what - I have also gotten into the

habit of weigh taping the herd once a month and checking eye sclera color. All of which is recorded, of course. Goat keeping is all about prevention; and keeping good records will help you work smarter on your farm.

Mandy

*Make plans to be at the Club's January meeting on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> @ 12:30 p.m. @ the Latimer's - we will have a presentation on DHI Tester training & you can take your certification exam.*

*The GDGBA Club's 2019 show in Monroe is scheduled for May 17-18, 2019. Judges: Cameron Jodlowski [IA] & Richard Grossman [FL].*

*The Southern Goat Breeders Assn. 2019 show in Carrollton is scheduled for May 11-12, 2019. Judges: Daniel Young [GA], Jean Lucas [VA], Paula Reisdorff [GA] & Will Pearson [GA].*

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Scheduled meetings -----	3	Jan. 19 <sup>th</sup> – 12:30 pm – DHI Tester Training & Exam – Latimer's farm
Kid Care -----	3	Mar 16 <sup>th</sup> – 12:30 pm – Club Meeting
Respiratory Diseases -----	7	May 11-12 <sup>th</sup> – Carrollton Dairy Goat Show – Carrollton,
Kidding Difficulties -----	10	May 17-18 <sup>th</sup> – Monroe DG Club Show – Monroe, GA
Keeping Coccidia at Bay -----	12	** See <a href="http://www.gdgba.org">www.gdgba.org</a> for more show info & entry forms
Castration of the Male Goat -----	14	
Predict When a Doe Will Kid -----	15	

**\* Gestation Date Calculator – page 9 \***

**Next Meeting: Latimer's Farm – Saturday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 p.m.**