



The Goat Source

August 2004 Newsletter Volume 1 Number 4

Hi, here is your August Goat Source Newsletter. Thanks for subscribing!!

What's News this Month...

- Controlling Leafy Spurge
- This Month's Quiz
- Classified Ads
- Answer to the quiz

Controlling Leafy Spurge Using Goats

Leafy Spurge has proven to be an extremely invasive weed in our area. Spraying with RoundUp™ is somewhat effective but is not always practical. Care must be taken around bodies of water and it will kill desirable plants as well as the spurge. Goats will eat leafy spurge readily and can be used to control it in places where chemical control is not the method of choice. In order to use goats, certain basic precautions must be taken. The goats must be attended at all times or fenced with a portable electric fence to control where they graze. Enough animals must be used so that the weeds are aggressively eaten back. Usually, one session of intense grazing will set the plants back, but it is recommended that they be used more than one time a season to achieve good control. Milking animals may pick up off flavors in their milk, so dry animals would be a better choice where milk quality is important.

Feeding and Nutrition Quiz

The most common feeding mistake made by goat owners is:

1. Improper mineral supplementation
2. Feeding to much grain and not enough forage
3. Inadequate protein levels

Classified Ads

Recordkeeping is a snap with the forms available from The Goat Source. Lease forms, Bills of Sale, Animal Record forms, and more! Go to www.goatsource.com and check out what's available. Get them instantly as a downloadable PDF file!

Get Your Copy of The Beginners Resource Guide, a collection of articles and forms for the newcomer to goat ownership. Find them at The Goat Source.

Answer to the Quiz:

- 2) Ruminant digestive systems are designed to handle forages with small amounts of grains, succulents, etc. Most goats get more grain than they need. This can cause an acid rumen and ***FAT GOATS!***

That's all for now!! See you next month....

Leslie, The Goat Source

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