



The Goat Source

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Hello , Here is your February issue of The Goat Source News. Thanks for subscribing!

What's News This Month...

- What is Extra Label Use of Drugs?
- Are You Ready For Kidding?
- I can't find a good vet for my goats.....
- Toys for Goats...
- This Month's Quiz...
- Where can I get my goats tested for...(fill in the blank)
- Answer to the February Quiz ...

What is Extra Label Drug Use?

Often when your goat is sick, there will be no approved drug for treatment of her condition. In this case your vet is allowed to prescribe a drug for "Extra Label Use". What does this mean? Extra-label drug use refers to the use of an approved drug in a manner that is not in accordance with the approved label directions (such as using a wormer approved for horses on goats). Regulations define just when and how a vet can do this.

There **MUST** be a veterinarian- client- patient relationship, there is not an appropriate drug for the intended use, and the veterinarian must follow all the rules and regulations regarding prescribing these drugs and keeping the records concerning them

Are You Ready For Kidding?

Congratulations! Every one is bred (and pregnant)!! Now it's time to get ready for kids. Check your kidding supplies and replace any that you are low on. You should have on hand:

1. Plenty of clean towels and/or newspapers for drying off newborns.
2. Betadyne for dipping navels
3. Nipples for kid bottles - both regular and the Prichard type for weak kids.
4. Clean bottles
5. Large box for newborns to rest in after their first meal (I put mine in the kitchen where I can keep an eye on them).
6. Supply of frozen, heat treated colostrum.
7. Milking supplies for taking care of the new mother.

I Can't Find A Good Vet For My Goats!!!

This is the most common thing I hear from goat raisers. Here are some resources to help you!

http://www.cybergoat.com/goat_vet.htm

List of vets that treat goats.

<http://www.aasrp.org/>

Assoc of Small Ruminant Practitioners

Vets that treat small ruminants.

<http://www.vetplace.com/>

Type in your zip code and get a list of vets in your area – they may or may not treat goats.

Toys for Your Goats

Goats like high places - and while you can't make a mountain in your goat pen you can make some cool toys for your goats - very cheaply!! Used wire spools are great for goats. They like to play king of the spool and also use them as a place to sun themselves. Spools come in many different sizes. Just take a piece of scrap wood and nail or screw it over the holes in the top so goats don't get their feet caught in them. Put different sizes of spools in a series and they will soon be occupied by all of your goats!! Another great use for the spools is outside the pen as a table to use as a work space. When I trim feet, or when the vet is here, there is a nice place out of the reach of goat feet to put your tools. Check with your electrician for empty spools. The local phone company sometimes has them in the trash. Keep you eyes peeled for these mountains in the making!!

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Quiz for the Month...

What is the difference between "disbudding" and "dehorning"?

Where can I get my goats tested for (fill in the blank)...

When your goat is sick, where do you get tests run to determine what's wrong? Usually it is a diagnostic lab. Your vet will send in the samples she takes and request tests. The lab runs the tests and reports the results to your vet. For a more in depth look at a diagnostic lab, check out <http://www.dlab.colostate.edu/> This is the Colorado State Diagnostic Lab.

Answer to the February Quiz...

"Disbudding" is the removal of horns on a very young kid (usually around 3-4 days to 1 week old) with a hot "disbudding iron", while "dehorning" is the surgical removal of horns on an older animal. Owners usually disbud their own kids with a commercial iron. Surgical dehorning is much more serious - your vet needs to do this!!

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

Leslie, The Goat Source

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