



The Goat Source

July 2005 Vol. 2, No. 7

Hi, Fellow Goat Breeder. Here is your July issue of The Goat Source News. Thanks for subscribing!

Summer has started off with a bang. Our grass is 3-4 feet high because of all the timely rains we have

had. After 5+ years of drought, they are certainly welcome, but a little hard to get used to again!! Water from the sky - how odd...

What's News This Month...

- Nigerian Dwarf Goats - Dairy or Pet??
- Quiz of the month...
- Classified Advertising
- First Aid kit for the barn
- How come...???
- Answer to the Quiz

The Nigerian Dwarf - Is it a Dairy Goat Or a Pet?

This versatile little goat can be both! Nigerians have been added to the American Dairy Goat Assoc. Registry. They

are a handsome animal, coming in many colors, with a short, soft, coat and upright ears. Adult does weigh in at about

75 lbs. Check out this site (

<http://www.theminiaturegoatclub.com/NIGERIAN%20DWARFS.html>) for a general

description and breed standards. Also check out the registry association specifically for the breed - <http://www.ndga.org/>

If you want to raise goats, but want a smaller animal than some of the more common dairy, meat, or fiber breeds, consider the Nigerian Dwarf!!

July's Quiz Question...

How do you tell the age of a goat?

Classified Advertising

California dairyman seeking dairy goats, doelings to mature milkers.

All breeds and ages

Jim Pacheco (707)763-1025 or pachecogoats@aol.com.

First aid in the barn...

For the every day bumps and bruises (yours AND the goat's) every barn should have a first aid kit.

Some items that I add that are not in a commercially available kit are:

- a small spray bottle of betadyne
- an assortment of syringes and needles (various sizes). I keep at least one really large syringe and needle in case of milk fever. That way if I have to give calcium, I can without going over to my veterinarian at wee o'clock in the morning. I also keep a bottle of Calcium solution on hand. (be sure to consult with your vet before giving this or any medication)
- cotton pads
- scalpel blades
- disposable latex or nitril gloves
- digital thermometer
- saline eye drops
- q tips
- udder salve - I use green salve - a herbal salve that is made by Vicki Kler at castlepinesoap.com/

You will find other items that you will want to keep in your kit. Remember to keep it in a place that is handy and will not freeze!!

A Tupperware (or similar) container with a snap on lid works great.

How come...

- The old doe can balance on her hind legs to get that choice bit in the feeder... and can't get on the milk stanchion without a huge amount of dithering?
 - The prettiest kid in the pen also has the biggest mouth?
 - The \$120/ton hay sits in the feeder, while the goats eat the straw in their house?
-

Answer to the July Quiz...

Goats can be "aged" by their teeth. A kid has small teeth in the front (milk teeth). When she is a yearling, the front two teeth are shed and replaced with two large permanent teeth. Each year the next two teeth, are shed and replaced, until as a four year old, all of the milk teeth

are replaced with permanent teeth. A goat with all her adult teeth is called a "solid mouth". When the goat ages and begins to lose her teeth, she is called "broken mouth".

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

Leslie, The Goat Source

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[Beginners' Packet](#)

[Completely Digital Beginner's Packet](#)

[The Goat Source Quick Course](#)