



1. Select healthy, high-quality bucks 1 year or older. Trim hooves and perform breeding-soundness exams. Stock one buck for 25 to 50 does.

2. Select does with body conditions of 2.5 to 3.0. Doelings should be mostly grown, or at least 70% of mature weight, for breeding. Manage obese or thin does accordingly. Begin flushing (improved nutrition) two weeks before breeding and continue two weeks after breeding. Monitor for parasites using the FAMACHA© system.

3. To utilize the buck effect, keep bucks away for 30 days

before introducing to does for breeding. Ensure that does cannot see, hear, or smell the bucks.

4. Turn in bucks. Record breeding dates if possible. Monitor pasture conditions and rotate as needed.

5. Remove bucks. Keep does on a maintenance diet until the last third of the gestation period. Monitor condition of animals and pastures.

6. Administer CD&T yearly booster. Check for internal and external parasites and treat accordingly.

7. Check on kidding supplies and facilities.

8. Iodine navel. Ear tag, and record any management concerns. Provide good-quality forage, vitamins, and minerals. Monitor for parasites (FAMACHA© preferred). Deworm does if necessary. Disbud at about 1 week of age, if desired.

9. Provide a quality feed or browse and quality forage. Observe kids and does for health issues (e.g., starvation, coccidiosis).

10. First CD&T shot at 3 to 6 weeks of age. Booster 2 to 4 weeks later.

11. Nutritional requirements for

does decline after 6 to 8 weeks of lactation.

12. Wean according to management preference and marketing strategy. Wait two weeks between weaning and castration and vaccinations. Weigh kids, monitor for coccidiosis and internal parasites. Evaluate fecal samples for parasite load.

13. Cull problem animals and select replacements. Place “keepers” on high-quality forage and feedstuffs. Provide goat mineral and vitamin mix. Isolate new animals.

14. Market kids and cull animals.

These suggestions may not work for your herd. Obtain additional information and advice from your veterinarian, university extensions, and other trusted goat experts.

Resources: *Meat Goat Management Wheel*, Published by University of Missouri Extension extension.missouri.edu

