

**GOAT/FORAGE EXTENSION AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES
2005 SUMMARY**

Ken Andries: KSU Land Grant Program

David Ditsch and Brandon Sears: UK Robinson Station, Plant and Soil Sciences

Terry Hutchens: UK Animal and Food Sciences

General

- Regional project started to develop easier access to goat related research based information.
- Completion of a goat education module for use as a regional producer and extension education and certification program
- Completion of a basic foot care video and start of work on a more advanced foot care video

Agent Training

- FAMACHA Agent train-the-trainer meetings (3 Regions).
- Annual Animal Science Agent Update.
- Various training opportunities and resources

Producer Meetings/Field days

- "Third Thursday Thing" in March and October
- Scott County 4-H
- Counties: Breathitt, Bullitt, Carter, Clay, Elliot, Floyd, Grant, Greenup, Hardin, Harrison, Laurel, Lawrence, Letcher, Lewis, Marion, Mead, Mercer, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Owsley, Rowan, Russell (and others)
- Four counties in West Virginia
- Mayfield area
- American Boer Goat Association in Louisville
- Bluegrass Goat Association field day
- KSU farm field day
- Fort Harrod Goat Association
- Northern KY Goat Association
- Pine Mountain Goat Association
- FAMACHA training (Laurel, Clay, Jessamine, Pulaski, Bourbon Counties, KSU, Sebastian Farms, S. Indiana Purdue Ag Center)
- East Kentucky Beef Cattle Council Annual Hay Contest and Tour
- Statewood Farms

Presentation Topics Provided

- Genetic resistance to parasites in sheep and goats
- Selection of goats for improved performance
- Kid care and management
- Concerns and issues of goat producers through the year.
- Nutritional information for goats and sheep.
- Proper fence construction for goats
- Crossbreeding in the goat industry
- Getting bucks ready for breeding
- Parasite control in goats
- Breed differences in goats

- Goat production overview
- Goat/forage update
- Goat/cattle co-grazing
- Pasture management and grazing strategies for goat production
- Goat/forage production
- Fecal egg count workshops
- Foot trimming demonstration
- Goat management prior to the breeding season
- Pasture renovation demonstration
- Forage management class
- Goat nutrition and mineral needs
- Artificial insemination of goats
- Using goats for vegetation management
- Raising goats on a few acres
- Goat Production 101 for cost share participants

Other Goat-Related Activities

- Goat production presentation at the Tri-State Diversity Conference
- Round Table discussion at the Kentucky Women in Ag program meeting
- Discussed development of a Master Goat Producer program.
- Provided goats and information on goats to elementary school children at Chenoweth Elementary School
- State-wide Extension radio spots and Farmers Pride articles
- Goat Producer's Newsletter (also distributed to WV, TN, OR, IN, Mo)
- National 4-H Skillathon
- UK AI course demonstration

Goat-Related Research Activities

- Discussed possibilities of research with Alltech related to goat nutrition and health.
- Started a CL vaccination trial at KSU with Dr. Patty Scharko
- Forage and feeding study started at KSU research Farm
- Kidding season research trial started at KSU
- Research into improved control of Foot Scald and Foot Rot conducted
- Continued research into forage utilization for goats, both perennial and seasonal forages
- Continued research into parasite control through use of different forages in goats
- Start of research into doe and kid performance in different kidding seasons
- Start of research on controlling CL in goats.
- Rotational grazing/internal parasite research for goat production in Laurel and Knox counties funded by SARE.
- Goat/cattle co-grazing research at Sebastian Farms in Breathitt County funded by ADB
- Rotational versus continuous grazing goat research in Greenup Co. funded by ADB

- Winter feeding trial for goat production at Sebastian Farms in Breathitt County in cooperation with Burkmann Feeds of London KY
- Goat grazing preference forage study at KSU and UK Robinson Station Research Farms in cooperation with Dr. Ken Andries
- Chicory variety performance and sesquiterpene lactone evaluation on low, medium and high phosphorus soils/chicory suitability for goat production study at UK Laurel Fork reclamation site
- Foot Scald Study (Nelson, Mercer, Marion Co.)
- Analyzing production systems to improve the marketability of KY goats (Warren, Daviess Co.)
- Supplementation of goats grazing Johnsongrass with distillers dried grains and soy hulls (Barren Co.)

Future Activities

- Goat production basics and roundtable discussion in Boyd Co. on Jan. 31
- Goat forage production clinic to be held in the spring 2006 at Sebastian Farms in Breathitt Co.(tentative)
- Goat production workshops, tours, goat show and showmanship clinic to be held at UK College of Agriculture All Commodity Field Day at the UK Robinson Station, September 2006.
- Present findings of rotational grazing/internal parasite research at a national SARE conference in Aug. 2006 in Wisconsin.
- Develop UK extension publication on "Forages for goat production".
- Hold a Small Ruminant Summit in Spring 2006