

Goat Producer's Newsletter

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Livestock Tracking Systems Demonstration in Spring of 2004

*Terry Hutchens, Extension Associate for Goat
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Protecting American animal agriculture by safeguarding the health of all commodity based animals and there by assuring the wellbeing of U.S. citizens is of paramount importance. The United States Animal Identification Plan (USAIP) will act to insure the wellbeing of the citizenry by enacting a national, state based animal identification program. The USAIP currently supports the following species and/or industries: bison, beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, goats, camelids (alpacas and llamas), horses, cervids (deer and elk), and poultry (eight species including game birds), and aquaculture (eleven species). This is in response to the need for tracking animals suspected to be carrying BSE and/or BSE like diseases.

Due to the importance of the beef cattle industry to Kentucky, UK, KDA, and KCA are far ahead of the national curve and have testing a number of methods for facilitating rapid animal identification through electronic ID tagging [radio frequency chip (RFID)] and a scanner reading device. This process is called EID or Electronic Identification system. The chip does not store any information other than a 15-digit number. Scanners come in many forms from handheld wands to walk thru loop units. The best comparison to EID technology is the bar-code technology used in retail stores.

In the USAIP, the cornerstone of an animal ID program is a premise ID number that would be assigned to each person or location marketing livestock. The number would be a random number with no particular coding or means of using it for traceability by itself. The number would be assigned to the entity after collection of basic contact and location information upon the first entry to the market place. Producers will be able to pre-register for premise IDs through their state veterinarian. The

state veterinarian has the authority to define a premise for the state and has the responsibility to either administer a system for assigning these numbers or contacting with someone to provide that service.

An Excellent Addition to a Record Keeping System

Once this system is in effect, animals should be tagged, and recorded on the farm, before going to market. Going to market may be to a stockyard or marketing directly to individuals. This would include direct marketing for slaughter or for breeding purposes. When breeding stock is sold for slaughter, the last point of residence will be the point of origin (birth) for the animal, if a set of complete records do not follow the goat's life span. Furthermore, if you choose not to tag the market animals on the farm, they will be tagged at the point of market and a fee will be charged to the seller.

The long-term public health issue and traceability of animals going into the food chain is an important part of this program but the potential for attaching production and management records to the animals has an added value advantage in the market place. Animals known to have verifiable records having information regarding goat movement, date of birth, basic production and health information will increase management levels on the farm and at the same time, increase the value of the animals by certification of the production environment.

Data Ownership

Who owns the data? The farmer owns the data and it is up to the farmer to use or open the data for access by others. Security and protection of the data will be of primary interest in the data system design. The need for animal traceability is only necessary if there is a case of animal disease. The traceability function would apply once a mandated national

system is in place. Until that time, you can use the system to accumulate data for your benefit.

Livestock Tracking Systems Demonstration

The tagging and scanning process will be demonstrated for cattle and goats at the **Springfield Kentucky stockyard on February 24, 2004**. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to attend. Jim Akers, Extension Associate and State Beef IRM Coordinator will conduct the demonstration.

Source: Frequently asked question on bovine spongiform encephalopathy (bse) and its impact, 2004: Jim Akers et al.

HEART OF AMERICA GRAZING CONFERENCE (With Small Ruminant Component)

**JANUARY 21 – 22, 2004
HOLIDAY INN CONFERENCE CENTER AT
THE AIRPORT
EVANSVILLE, IN**

University Extension and USDA-NRCS grazing and livestock specialists from Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, Indiana and Ohio have organized the *Heart of America Grazing Conference* that rotates among these five states each year. This year it will be Indiana's turn to host this conference. Livestock equipment exhibitors will be on hand for participants to visit. There will also be nationally known speakers brought in to discuss livestock care and livestock grazing issues. The Conference will kick-off on the evening of January 21st with a dinner, featuring **Dr. Temple Grandin**. Dr. Grandin will talk about "**Selecting Animals for Pastures**." Dr. Grandin is a designer of livestock handling facilities and an Associate Professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University. Facilities she has designed are located in the United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, and other countries.

The Conference starts on January 22nd, beginning at 8:20 a.m. "**Maximizing Dry Matter Intake from Pastures**" will be the first topic discussed by Karen Sullivan, NRCS Animal Scientist from New York. Following her talk, Dave Forgery, an Indiana Dairy Producer and Grazing Pioneer, will discuss the "**Economics of Grazing**." Following a break where participants will have time to visit with the Exhibitors, Terry Gompert, Knox County Extension Educator of Nebraska Extension will speak on "**Extending the Grazing Season Using Brassicas and Small Grains**." Temple Grandin will then address the topic, "**Low Stress Livestock Handling on Pasture**".

In the afternoon, breakout sessions will be provided for producers interested in Beef, Dairy, Horse or

Small Ruminant discussions. All four of these specialty sessions will be running concurrently at 1:00 p.m. **CST** and repeated at 2:30 p.m. This will allow participants the opportunity attend two of the four areas of interest.

The **Beef** topics will be covered by Garry Lacefield, University of Kentucky Forage Specialist, talking about "**Tall Fescue Endophyte, and Animal Relationships**" and Kenneth E. Braun, Indiana Beef Producer talking about "**Raising Beef and Making It Work!**"

The **Dairy** topics will be covered by Charlie Carter, an Indiana Dairy Producer, talking about "**Green, My Color of Opportunity!**" and Michael Schutz, Purdue Dairy Specialist, discussing "**Genetics of Dairy Grazing**."

The **Horse** topics will be covered by Keith Johnson, Purdue Forage Specialist, speaking on "**Overworked Pastures Need Rest and TLC**" and David Redman, Lawrence County Purdue Extension Educator on "**Making a Drylot a Pasture**."

The **Small Ruminants** topics will be covered by Terry Hutchens, University of Kentucky Goat Specialist on "**Raising Goats on Forages and Controlling Parasites on Pastures**" and Bill MacKenzie, Indiana Sheep Producer talking about "**Grazing Sheep for Profit**."

Cost to attend this 2-day event is \$45, including the evening dinner and noon lunch if you register by January 12, 2004. After this date, the cost will increase to \$60 per person. There are price breaks available if you only want to attend the Wednesday evening or Thursday events separately.

Exhibitor and Conference Registration forms are available by contacting Allen Ullom at 812/547-7084 or ullomg@purdue.edu you can also call the Vanderburgh County (Indiana) SWCD office at: 812/867-0729.

(Source: January Kentucky Forage News)

\$ Kentucky Graded Sales Topping National Prices in December \$

Terry Hutchens, Extension Associate for Goat Production, Univ. of Kentucky/ Kentucky State Univ. It is time to stop searching the internet for slaughter goat prices in the west and eastern U.S. At least one of the reference markets is now, Kentucky. The KDA and USDA Dept. of Ag-Marketing have reported that Kentucky's grade and Tel-O-Auction markets have topped the national price paid for slaughter goats in December.

Why is this happening? The KDA reported 5000 head of slaughter goats were sold through the grade and Tel-O-Auction sales in 2003. This is not a large lot of goats when you compare it with the older and more established markets. However, these goats are graded and grouped into uniformed lots. These kids are coming directly from Kentucky farms and not from transport trucks. In most cases, Kentucky farms have abundant pasture and water therefore the quality of the goats marketed are good to excellent.

The 2003 sales averaged \$12.88 / hd above the average of both western and eastern Kentucky reference markets. These efforts resulted in an added value of \$60,000 paid to farmers participating in the auctions. As an example, for each goat sold for \$40 at a conventional market, a farmer selling the same goat at a grade or Tel-O-Auction sale would have received \$52.88.

More Slaughter Kids Needed

Five thousand head is an impressive number for a developing market, however KDA officials hope to have 10,000 hd in 2004. It seems the buyers like the KY-goat quality and the demand for the goats exceeds the present supply. In order to attract and maintain high-end buyers both numbers and quality must be available. If you are not pleased with the prices, you are receiving contact Tess Caudill at the KDA, Livestock Marketing Division (502-564-4983) and ask for additional information or contact the participating stockyards listed below.

☞ Kentucky Goat and Sheep Tel-O-Auction Delivery Locations

- Paris
- Irvington
- Lebanon
- Glasgow
- Mayfield

☞ Kentucky Graded Goat Sales

- Kentuckiana Livestock, Marion (last Saturday of the month)
- Barren River Livestock Market, Bowling Green (Third Wednesday of the month)
- Paintsville Stockyards (First Friday of every other month)

Goat Marketing Opportunities

- ? **Jan. 21** Graded Goat Sale – Barren River Livestock, Bowling Green, KY contact: Marty Lyle 270-843-3224
- ? **Jan. 29** KY Goat & Sheep Tel-O-Auction, Consign 40-100 lb. Market kids by 4:30 pm on Jan 28, call: Tess Caudill (502-564-4983).

Delivery Sat, Jan. 31 8am to Noon at: Marion Co. Fairgrounds in Lebanon, KY.

- ? **Jan. 31** Graded Goat and Sheep Sale – Kentuckiana Livestock Market, Marion, KY contact: Danny Fulkerson (800-264-1452). www.kyagr.com

University of Kentucky and Kentucky State University Extension Activities in December 2003 & Spring 2004

1. **Dec. 6:** A goat artificial insemination clinic was held at the Marion Co. Extension office, Lebanon KY, with hands-on training at the Marion Co. Fair Grounds. Fifteen goat producers from three states attended the workshop. Terry Hutchens, Extension Associate, UK/KSU and Ed Lanham, County Extension Agent, UK and Dan Jacobe of Select Sirs conducted the AI workshop.



2. **Jan. 13:** Rowan Co. Goat Association meeting, Market trends in the goat meat market, contact Robert Marsh, Rowan County Extension Service, 627 East Main Street, Morehead, Kentucky 606 784 5457
3. **Jan. 21-22:** Heart of America Grazing Conference, Holiday Inn, Evansville, IN contacting Allen Ullom at 812/547-7084
4. **April 19-20:** Bi-State Goat Meeting, Cayuga, IN 4-H grounds. It is on IN Hwy 63, and is about 30 miles north of Terre Haute, IN. contact: Lisa Ellis, University of Illinois Extension 210 W. Washington Street Paris, IL 217/465-8585
5. **Coming in the spring 2004:** "Developing a home/farm based business through browsing or grazing goats on Kentucky landscapes".

\$ Putting Your Goats to Work for the Government \$

Once again, KY is a leader in developing alternative sources of income for farmers and farm families. We have discussed on numerous occasions the possibility for using goats in vegetative management activities. Browsing goats are commonly used in the western U.S. for the control of weeds and fire break management. Now the **Kentucky Division of Forestry** is offering goat owners, farmers and forestland managers the opportunity to develop a workable management system for controlling **exotic and invasive** weeds and to **browse down brush** in order to prepare land for replanting of tree seedlings.

Please review the following program that has been proposed by the KDF.

GOATS IN KENTUCKY AND THE KENTUCKY FORESTLAND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (FLEP)

- ? FLEP authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill as a Forestry Title Program
- ? Administered for the USDA Forest Service by the **Kentucky Division of Forestry** (with assistance from Conservation Districts, Division of Conservation, Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources, State Nature Preserves Commission, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service)
- ? 75% cost-share for a wide variety of practices, including the **control of exotic and invasive plants**
- ? This control usually includes herbicides and fire
- ? Supplemental control may be achieved by using goats
- ? Should drastically reduce amount of chemicals needed as well as the intensity of prescribed fire

Service Representatives (Foresters and Wildlife Biologists responsible for FLEP)) need to know...

- ? Where do exotic/invasive plant species fall into the preferred edible plant list for goats (particularly bush and ground honeysuckle, kudzu, sericea lespedeza, multiflora rose, and vinca)
- ? What is a reasonable fee payable to the goat producer by the landowner for the goat forage service (\$1.00 per goat per day seems to be popular, but is it reasonable for Kentucky?)
- ? All contract requirements are between the goat producer and the landowner – KY Division of Forestry only checks practice performance in order to reimburse the landowner 75% of out-of-pocket expenses, not to exceed a certain maximum
- ? The Kentucky Goat Producers Association should canvass its membership and develop a list of goat producers wishing to make the goat forage service available

Advantages:

- ? Goat producer gets paid to allow his goats to eat someone else's forage
- ? Landowner gains satisfaction in helping control exotic/invasive plants, not to mention the 75% reimbursement from FLEP for the goat forage service
- ? Amount of chemicals and fire applied to the land is greatly reduced
- ? Seems like a win-win-win situation for KY landowners, goat producers, and natural resource professionals

For more information, contact Mr. Robert L. Volk, Kentucky Division of Forestry, Frankfort, KY (502-564-4496) or Robert.Volk@mail.state.ky.us

PARASITES

Dewormer Chart

By Ray Kaplan, DVM, PhD

The following chart was developed by Ray M. Kaplan, DVM, PhD and is provided as a possible Guideline for Anthelmintic Dosages (deworming) for goats. Please consult your veterinarian for advice on your specific management situation for determining dosages for your herd. These drugs are not approved by the FDA for use in goats, and when used in goats are considered extra label use. The FDA regards extra-label use of drugs as an exclusive privilege of the veterinary profession and is only permitted when a *bona fide* veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists and an appropriate medical diagnosis has been made. The following chart is intended to serve as guideline for improving accuracy when dosing goats with anthelmintic, but these drugs should be used in goats only when appropriate veterinary advice has been received.

All dosages given orally Note: 1 ml = 1cc		LEVAMISOLE (Tramisol)	MOXIDECTIN (Cydectin)	ALBENDAZOLE (Valbazen)	IVERMECTIN (Ivomec)
		12 mg/kg 3 ml per 25 lb	400ug/kg 1ml per 25 lb	20 mg/kg 2 ml per 25 lb	400 ug/kg 6 ml per 25 lb
WEIGHT (LBS)	WEIGHT (KG)	Tramisol Sheep Drench: To prepare use 1 packet (11.7 gm) dissolved in 262 ml of water (44.7 mg/ml)	Cydectin pour on for cattle (5 mg/ml)	Valbazen Oral Drench (114 mg/ml) Not for Pregnant Does	Ivomec for Sheep Oral Drench (0.8 mg/ml)
10	4.5	1.2	0.4	0.8	2.4
11	5.0	1.3	0.4	0.9	2.6
12	5.5	1.4	0.5	1.0	2.9
13	5.9	1.6	0.5	1.0	3.1
14	6.4	1.7	0.6	1.1	3.6
15	6.8	1.8	0.6	1.2	3.6
16	7.3	1.9	0.6	1.3	3.8
17	7.7	2.0	0.7	1.4	4.1
18	8.2	2.2	0.7	1.4	4.1
19	8.6	2.3	0.8	1.5	4.6
20	9.1	2.4	0.8	1.6	4.8
21	9.5	2.5	0.8	1.7	5.0
22	10.0	2.6	0.9	1.8	5.3
23	10.5	2.8	0.9	1.8	5.5
24	10.9	2.9	1.0	1.9	5.8
25	11.4	3.0	1.0	2.0	6.0
26	11.8	3.1	1.0	2.1	6.2

27	12.3	3.2	1.1	2.2	6.5
28	12.7	3.4	1.1	2.2	6.7
29	13.2	3.5	1.2	2.3	7.0
30	13.6	3.6	1.2	2.4	7.2
35	15.9	4.2	1.4	2.8	8.4
40	18.2	4.8	1.6	3.2	9.6
45	20.5	5.4	1.8	3.6	10.8
50	22.7	6.0	2.0	4.0	12.0
55	25.0	6.6	2.2	4.4	13.2
60	27.3	7.2	2.4	4.8	14.4
65	29.5	7.8	2.6	5.2	15.6
70	31.8	8.4	2.8	5.6	16.8
75	34.1	9.0	3.0	6.0	18.0
80	36.4	9.6	3.2	6.4	19.2
85	38.6	10.2	3.4	6.8	20.4
90	40.9	10.8	3.6	7.2	21.6
95	43.2	11.4	3.8	7.6	22.8
100	45.5	12.0	4.0	8.0	24.0

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