



ANDDA

American Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Association

VOLUME 31 ISSUE 2

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Valentine Giveaway—Member Appreciation

Valentine’s Day is special at ANDDA! It is a way we show our members how much we value their support by hosting a raffle of gifts and discounts from businesses for paid members. We appreciate your investment in our breed club! Together we make dairy better! Please remember to visit our sponsors! Photos have links!



Month Long Specials for Members!

15% off
online store
CODE:
ANDDA15



Discount on
840 chips and
scanners! Code
GOAT840 and
GOAT POCKET

10%
Code
ND2023

Discount on
products,
including the
Nigerian Dwarf
stanchion!
Code ANDDA

10% off
any order!
Code
ANDDA



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ANDDA NEW BREEDERS—Physical Exams

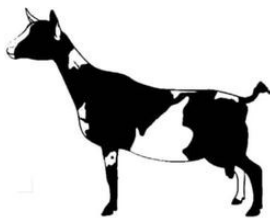
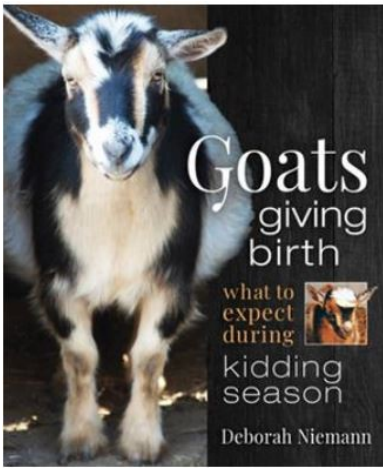
Performing regular physical exams can help you easily and quickly determine when an animal may need a vet.

NORMAL RANGES

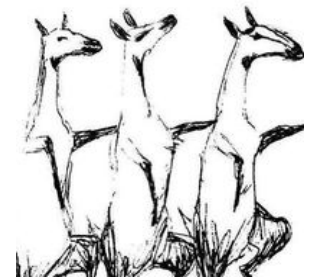
Temperature, rectal	101-103 F—adult 102-104 F—kid
Heart Rate	70-90 beats per minute—adult 80-150 beats per minute—kid
Respiration	12-20 breaths per minute—adult 20-40 breaths per minute—kid
Rumen movements	2-4 per minute

- Take the goats temperature
- Calculate the respiratory rate
- Check for nasal discharge, and if present, note the color
- Check mouth and eye membranes, which should be pink to red
- Check the pulse or heart rate by placing your fingers against the chest near the elbow
- Palpate the udder to make sure it is not hot or painful to the touch
- Look for signs of lameness
- Part the hair and look for signs of lice

Support the businesses that support ANDDA! ❤️ Link on logo!

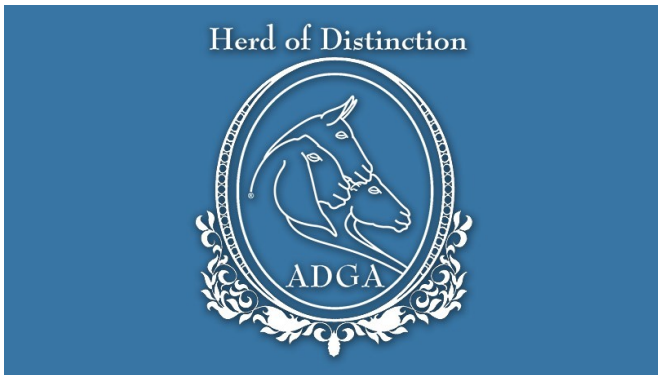


J&T ASHBY FARM



Christina Cassidy





Herd of Distinction Award

By Jennifer Herrscher, [Aries Nigerian Goats](#)

The American Dairy Goat Association began awarding the Herd of Distinction in the Spring of 2021. This new award was approved by the Board of Directors at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

The purpose is to recognize those herds that have demonstrated a level of distinction above all others over time by ADGA programs such as DHI Production, Linear Appraisal and Shows.

Herds qualifying for the current list have met the required criteria between 1990 (when ADGA computerization began) and the end of 2020. New additions will be announced each year at the Awards Banquet during Annual Convention. A herd of distinction is a herd that has achieved a level of distinction within the American Dairy Goat Association in at least two program areas and has either an award rate of 15% and higher or has achieved other notable wins and/or recognition.

To qualify for this award the Herd must have been a Member of ADGA for a minimum of ten years and registered at least eighty goats. Each herd must have ten animals in their herd name who have excelled in any two of the following:

Milk Production with ten animals milking 1080# or above, (for Nigerian Dwarfs) All authorized breeders for the herd name are included and ownership of the animals is disregarded.

A Sire may be considered to contribute to this number - Qualifying bucks must have a current positive PTA for both milk and fat with a reliability of 70 or greater.

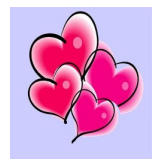
Ten animals whose Final Linear Appraisal Score is 88 or better, again all authorized breeders for the herd name are included and ownership of the animals is disregarded.

Ten Permanent Champions. All authorized breeders for the herd name are included and ownership of the animals is disregarded.

What an Honor to earn this award. Best of luck to those who are working toward this difficult but very achievable goal! For more in depth information please see page 28 and 29 of the ADGA Guide Book

To see the Herds who have qualified for this award go to this link.

[Herd of Distinction Award - American Dairy Goat Association - ADGA](#)



Aries Nigerians is an ANDDA Valentine Sponsor!

Drawing Blood in Goats

By Mackenzie Wood, [Red Castle](#)

The process of drawing blood from a goat is fairly simple, and easy to learn. Goats could need their blood drawn for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to- Biosecurity, Pregnancy testing, diagnosing certain illnesses, etc.

Your first step in running any blood test is finding an accredited lab that can run the tests you need, and filling out your order form. The two main labs most often used and recommended are Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (WADDL), and Universal Biomedical Research Laboratory (UBRL) as they offer a multitude of different tests with minimal false positives and false negatives.

Next step is your supplies. You will need 3-5ml luer lock syringes, 18-20 gauge needles, blood collection tubes, Isopropyl alcohol to thoroughly clean the area, and clippers if you wish to shave the area. Be sure to write the name or tag number of each goat on the tube so you know which animals' results you get back.

Your blood collection tubes can vary between tests, so figure out what you're going to need by your test. Red Top Tubes (RTT) are ideal for most as they do not contain any additives. Lavender Top Tubes contain EDTA which is an anticoagulant used primarily for Complete Blood Counts.

The cost of your testing can vary from lab to lab, and depending on the tests you order. Each lab that was mentioned above has a "Tests and Fee's" portion. A simple Small ruminant Biosecurity Panel can range you \$20-23 per animal. This is not including Tuberculosis, Brucellosis, and Q-Fever if you choose to test for any of those. Pregnancy Testing can average \$6-\$8 per. Supplies also play into a small portion of cost, but those vary from store to store.

Last up is the goats. If you're new at drawing blood an extra pair of hands is always helpful. You'll want to gently restrain the goat with their rear end in a corner, or in a milking stanchion. Have the helper above holding the head up, and slightly to the side to expose their jugular vein. With your non-dominant hand you will want to hold the base of the neck, causing the vein to rise up and be more visible. With the tip of the needle facing the goat, and the hole facing out you'll go upwards into the vein until you see a flash of blood in the connection from the needle to the syringe. Once there, draw the plunger back to the desired amount of blood. Once done, put your thumb over the needle and draw out to prevent any extra bleeding. After, you simply just inject into your marked tube, and you're done! I truly hope this helps anyone looking into starting to learn how to draw blood themselves.



Check with the lab to make sure the correct tube is used for the testing required. Most disease testing requires red top tubes.

Serology Testing

[Delta Livestock Diagnostic](#)

As producers, it feels as if we are faced with a never-ending string of management choices when it comes to the health of our herds. From feed rations to hoof trimming, it can be overwhelming as there can be limited resources for small ruminant owners. Are my animals healthy? Did all my does settle during breeding season? Unfortunately, goats do not come with operating manuals, and finding a knowledgeable mentor or a veterinarian that has goat experience can be difficult at times.

Delta Livestock Diagnostics was created in 2017 with the aim to add another tool to producer's toolbox. Located in Northeast Arkansas, Delta offers a variety of serology tests for cattle, sheep, and goats. Our advertising tagline of "Owner Submitted, Lab Tested" is a clear testament of what we do. Private individuals and veterinarian practices across the country routinely mail in samples for testing. By far the test most utilized is pregnancy. This test uses serum or EDTA plasma as early as 28 days after breeding in cows and 60 post calving. In goats, serum is required, and the test can be used as early as 28 days post breeding and 35 days post breeding in sheep.

Through the detection of pregnancy-associated glycoproteins (PAGs) this test is highly specific. PAGs are only produced in the presence of an embryo or fetus, unlike progesterone that fluctuates naturally during a cycle. Unfortunately, the test is unable to predict the number of kids or sex the doe is gestating or when she is due to kid. Many of our

clients utilize this test as a tool in conjunction with their AI programs.

Other tests available are bovine leukosis virus (BLV), bovine viral diarrhea (BVD), and Johne's in cattle. For sheep and goats Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAE)/Ovine Progressive Pneumonia (OPP), Caseous Lymphadenitis (CL), and Johne's are offered. All of these diseases are endemic and have serious economic impacts on domestic herds.

What is serology testing in the first place? Understanding its advantages and limitations are the first step to being able to thoughtfully integrate these tests into a management plan. Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay or ELISA is a commonly used laboratory test to detect antibodies, antigens, proteins, and glycoproteins in the blood. Antibodies are specific proteins created by the body in response to exposure to a pathogen. With this knowledge in mind, if the animal has evidence of antibodies, then it has probably encountered that particular pathogen.

Always remember that any test is a snapshot of that animal's health in that moment! Serology testing can be an incredibly useful screening tool to monitor herd health due to its lower cost of testing in relation to PCR testing. Using these tests to screen incoming animals prior to adding to the herd and utilizing yearly herd checks can be a way to minimize and pinpoint potential issues in a timely manner. Narrowing the window of opportunity of herd-wide

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transmission of a disease has obvious long-term value to any to any management model.

Accurate testing can absolutely be impacted by improper sample collection, storage, and shipment. When in doubt, reach out to the laboratory on these guidelines. This interaction will be an important bellwether on the quality of future interactions with staff and the laboratory as a whole.

New needles should be used for every animal collected and attention to hygienic standards adhered to. Animals should be at least 6 months of age as maternal antibodies can interfere with the results. Other factors that can skew testing are high parasite loads, injury, situations of high stress (such as right before and after kidding), and vaccination. Caseous Lymphadenitis (CL) is an example of a disease that is routinely vaccinated for and subsequently the animal will have the potential to test as a positive or recheck on future biosecurity screenings.

Here at Delta, the only test our staff wants to see a positive on is a pregnancy test! With this statement in mind, serological positives do happen and what to do next can seem overwhelming. As we are a diagnostic lab, we cannot diagnose or suggest medical treatments for any animals. Each of our staff has a background and training in large and small ruminants as well as hands-on producer experience. To the person, we want to support our clients however we can. With these factors in mind, we can suggest potential next steps in the process

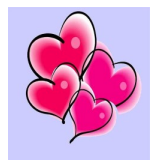
which include more in-depth testing and industry standard management options.

For example, if an animal were to test positive on the Johne's test, we suggest to immediately consult your veterinarian, quarantine the animal, and that a fecal PCR or polymerase chain reaction test be performed. PCR testing is used to detect the virus or bacteria causing the disease and is available at a number of laboratories throughout the United States. With the subsequent negative or positive PCR results, an informed decision can be made for the animal and in turn, your herd.

Producer education and support is something we believe in, and we work as a team to ensure those resources are readily available. Our lab is blessed to work with a wide range of farm sizes, types, and specializations. If a service or diagnostic test is required that Delta does not provide, we happily assist in sourcing the information on where it can be accessed. In addition, any testing results are in strict confidentiality with the client that submitted them.

Everyone at Delta Livestock Diagnostics takes their supporting role to the future of agriculture very seriously and always welcome questions. If you are considering adding serological biosecurity testing as a component of your herd's health management plan or if you have questions about how early pregnancy detection works, we would love to hear from you!

**Delta Livestock Diagnostic is an
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What Minerals Do Pregnant Goats Need?

By Kendra Reeve, Redmond Minerals

Due to a short gestation period, goat health often gets more attention during lactation. However, the foundation for healthy kids and milk production is laid during pregnancy. Let's learn more about which minerals are needed to help your goats thrive before, during, and after kidding.

Goat Gestation

Unlike other animals with longer fetal development, goat gestation is broken into 2 distinct stages:

- Early-mid gestation: Day 1-100
- Late gestation: Day 100-150

Little development occurs during early-mid gestation, so your goats' energy and nutritional requirements are only slightly higher than normal. Most fetal growth and development (around 80%) happens during late gestation (the last 50 days).

Due to this intense growth rate, [Cornell University](#) suggests goat's nutritional needs are **1.5 - 1.8 times greater** during the last 50 days of pregnancy than during regular activity.



Pregnant Goat Nutritional Needs

Well balanced diets during pregnancy lead to healthier kids, higher survival rates, and more productive animals. Consider it an investment in the future health of your does and kids. Proper nutrition during pregnancy comes from 6 nutritional categories:

- Water
- Carbohydrates
- Fats
- Protein
- Vitamins
- Minerals

Proper mineral supplementation can unlock the nutritional benefits from all these categories and helps your goats get the most out of their feed, forage, and hydration.

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According to [Penn State Ag Extension](#):

“goat producers should also provide **free choice access** to a trace **nutrient mix formulated for goats**. These mixes contain **salt to stimulate intake** and contain a combination of **minerals** and **vitamins** formulated specifically to meet the micronutrient requirements of goats. A well-balanced goat mix should be **available at all times** throughout the year.”

Gestation Related Health Concerns

Penn State further states:

“Failure to supplement these micronutrients results in poor fertility, weak kids at birth, reduced milk production, impaired immunity, and can lead to numerous metabolic disorders.”

Offering your goats with a full spectrum of macro and micro (trace) minerals can help protect your does and kids from common gestation related health problems.

- *Pregnancy Toxemia/Ketosis*: a metabolic disorder that usually occurs within 2 weeks after calving. After giving birth, milk production and physical recovery consumes a lot of energy which can cause a negative energy balance. As body fat metabolizes, non-esterified fatty acids (NEFAs) build up in the blood and overwhelm the liver. Mineral supplementation during the dry period can correct metabolic imbalance and prepare your goats for the added strain of kidding and lactating
- *White Muscle Disease*: preventable with mineral based immune support, mainly selenium
- *Hypocalcemia/Milk Fever*: When blood calcium levels are too low, your goat’s body begins “mobilizing” calcium stored in their bones. For short periods, this natural mobilization is not really a concern but can be detrimental over time. However, it is best to avoid heavy supplementation of calcium because your animals can become over-reliant on supplements, excess calcium is wastefully excreted, and can have harmful effects within the body. Metabolic stability can be achieved when animals have access to a balanced profile of electrolytes, other macrominerals, and trace minerals.

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Essential Minerals for Pregnant Goats

The following minerals and their functions are labeled essential by the [National Institute of Food and Agriculture Cooperative Extension](#).

ESSENTIAL MINERALS for GESTATING GOATS*

PREGNANCY MINERAL SUPPLEMENTATION:

- Eases kidding
- Increases milk yield + quality
- Improves reproduction rates
- Protects metabolic health
- Boosts immune response
- Breeds healthier kids

*National Institute of Food and Agriculture Cooperative Extension

A Note About Multiple Pregnancies

During pregnancies with twins or triplets, there is not only competition in the womb for space but also nutrients, especially during the late gestation period. Consult with your veterinarian on how to properly increase energy and nutritional intake for your multiples.

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Macrominerals

- *Calcium*: milk and bone formation, essential electrolyte powering nerve, muscle, and cardiovascular function.
 - *Phosphorus*: bone formation, cell growth, energy utilization, acid base balance, rumen microbe growth
 - *Magnesium*: essential electrolyte, metabolizes fats and carbohydrates, a component of many enzymes
 - *Potassium*: essential electrolyte powering nerves, muscles, fluid balance, cardiovascular function, metabolism, and pH balance
 - *Sodium*: essential electrolyte powering nerves, muscles, fluid balance, and cardiovascular function
 - *Chlorine*: essential electrolyte powering nerves, muscles, fluid balance, and cardiovascular function
 - *Sulfur*: milk and hair production, important component of amino acids, hormones, hemoglobin, connective tissue, enzymes, and vitamins biotin and thiamine
- ### Microminerals
- *Iron*: cellular respiration and transporting oxygen in red blood cells
 - *Iodine*: regulates metabolism and thyroid function
 - *Zinc*: powers immune response, protein synthesis, and enzyme function
 - *Selenium*: essential antioxidant, works with vitamin E to prevent white muscle disease, retained placentas and protect from parasites
 - *Copper*: supports immune and nerve function, formation of red blood cells, hair pigment, connective tissue, and enzymes
 - *Cobalt*: important component of vitamin B12 and rumen microbe growth
 - *Molybdenum*: helps balance copper levels (found easily in forage, typically does not need supplementation)
 - *Manganese*: important for bone formation, reproduction and enzyme functioning

The Vendor Life

By Shelley Cleveland, Artofthespirit1@gmail.com

So, you want to start selling your goods at vendor events, farmers markets, and boutiques. Now what? There are many great opportunities out there, but it can seem intimidating to start when you're not sure where, how, or why! Hopefully this monthly vendor article will help. I am in no way professing to be an expert in the field, however, I have learned through trial and error, which is the best way to get your feet wet in the vendor world. Hopefully my insights will be able to help you avoid some of the pitfalls that I encountered when I first started.

Let me take a moment to introduce myself. I am Shelly Cleveland, owner of Art of the Spirit, high-end original artwork done by my amazingly talented husband and printed on farmhouse wood. We have a range of products that we have been selling at shows for the last 13 years. Do



not let the fact I do not sell the same products as many of you deter you from joining in. The vending world and maneuvering through it is the same for most product lines. I average about 140 days a year on the road. Everyone thinks this sounds glamorous, but it is a lot of hard work. I sleep in motels to save on my bottom line, eat way too much fast food, and set up and take down about 1100 pounds of inventory and decor on my own each time. However, along the way, I have met many amazing vendors, show coordinators, and have learned a thing or two about how to function within the vendor world. Hopefully over the next year, I can share some insights with you that will help you begin your vendor journey!

When we started our business, we began with one 8-foot table at a small high school craft event. We had barely enough inventory to fill the whole space. Now, we



Sarah and her husband have learned a lot over the years on how to run a successful trade show business.

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fill a 20x10 double booth and are packed to the gills with products ranging from our wood art to coasters, card sets, journals, stickers, and more. I have my products in roughly 48 retail locations across the United States and started with a small, local bookstore. We grow yearly and have become a sought-after vendor and now shows come looking for us, not the other way around! Let me help you learn the trade show secrets, tips, and tricks and get you into a comfortable starting point.

We will cover a different aspect of vending each month. We will talk about how to find shows, how to avoid becoming the victim of the ever-growing list of scammers and fake events popping up daily on the Social Media groups. Everything from branding and marketing to eye-popping booth décor and questions to ask show coordinators.

While I have 12 wonderful months of subjects planned, first and foremost, I want to answer the questions you may have. I find when one asks a question, many others also wait on the answer. So, throw those questions out to me! If I don't know the answers, I will find them and we will learn together. My email is always open! I am excited to help you all on your journey to get your products in front of the masses! There is a spot in the marketplace for everyone!



The current booth set up and display has come a long way from their first 8-foot table at a high school craft event.

Recipe of the Month – Goat Cheese Ice Cream

Courtesy of How Sweet Eats

- 8 ounces goat cheese, *at room temperature*
- 2 cups heavy cream
- 2 cups whole milk
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 tablespoon corn syrup
- 2 ounces milk chocolate, *chopped*
- ganache fudge chunk
- 8 ounces semi-sweet chocolate
- 3/4 cup heavy cream

Allow the goat cheese to sit at room temperature for an hour or two so it softens. Once it's soft, add it to a large bowl and whisk it until it's somewhat creamy. This will take a few minutes

Add the heavy cream, milk, sugar, cocoa and corn syrup to a large saucepan and heat over medium heat. Whisk constantly until the sugar dissolves and the mixture comes to a boil, then reduce the heat to low, Whisk in the chopped chocolate and remove it from the heat. Pour it over the goat cheese while whisking. Stir and whisk until the goat cheese melts completely into the cream – this will take about 5 minutes or so, but no little white chunks should remain. Place the bowl in the fridge to chill for an hour or two.

To make the ganache fudge, add the chocolate to a large bowl. Heat the heavy cream over medium-low heat in a saucepan until it's just bubbling along the edges. Pour it over the chocolate and let it sit for 1 minutes, then whisk continuously until a thick ganache forms. Press a piece of plastic wrap directly on top of the surface and refrigerate until thick and chilled, about an hour.

Remove the ice cream base from the fridge and churn according to your ice cream maker directions. The last 5 minutes, remove the ganache from the fridge and spoon chunks of it into the ice cream. Pour the ice cream into a freezer safe container and add a few more ganache spoonfuls where ever you wish. Cover the ice cream and freeze for 4 to 6 hours before serving.



We're on the web
www.ANDDA.org



*Promoting the Nigerian
Dwarf Breed since 1996*

Editor:
Karen Goodchild
OK Doe K Dairy Goats

Please let us know if you have a
comment or article idea!