



ANDDA

American Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Association

VOLUME 32 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2024

Epiphysitis in Goats

[Merck Manual](#)

Epiphysitis may result from imbalance in the calcium-to-phosphorus concentration ratio. It occurs in young, rapidly growing kids (more often in males than in females) and in young does in late pregnancy or in the early stages of their first lactation. These does are young (eg, 12 months), extremely heavy milkers, or carrying twins or triplets. Epiphysitis is sometimes compounded by rickets.

Conditions that have been implicated in its cause include an excess of dietary calcium with a calcium-to-phosphorus concentration ratio of $>1.4:1$ (generally $>1.8:1$), excess protein intake, excess dietary iron, indoor housing of kids, or lack of vitamin D due to prolonged overcast weather and low vitamin D levels in the feed. Carotene has an anti-vitamin D effect. Vitamin D has poor stability in prepared feed, especially when mixed with minerals. Alfalfa is high in calcium (1.4% calcium to 0.2% phosphorus) and protein. Owners frequently feed kids milk for prolonged periods because of a lack of commercial outlets for goat milk.

Epiphysitis starts with lateral or medial bowing of one or both radii. Later changes may consist of lateral deviation of the digits on the forelimbs or hind limbs, lameness and reluctance to walk, an arched back, and soft swelling and pain in the carpal, metacarpophalangeal, tarsal, and metatarsophalangeal joints.

Diagnosis of epiphysitis can be confirmed with radiography.

Once the probable cause or causes are identified, the diet should be corrected and the appropriate supplement given—usually injectable vitamin D or phosphorus or oral balanced calcium and phosphorus supplements.

Predisposing factors also must be corrected. The diet of growing kids should be changed to slow growth rate. The mating of young does < 7 months old should be discouraged, and buck kids should be separated from doe kids by 3 months to avoid unplanned matings. The diet for young does in milk with limb deformities should be corrected to allow for normal bone growth. Proper nutritional management stops limb deformities from worsening, and such deformities self-correct over time in most does.

Hooves should be trimmed to maintain as even and normal a weight-bearing surface as possible. Normal conformation may not be achievable in severe, chronic cases; however, regular trimming should be encouraged to maintain comfort and ideal hoof growth patterns.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Kid's Corner	2
BoD Notes	3
Kidding Tea	4
Specialty Shows	6
Recipe—Arbolettys	7



KID'S KORNER



Youth Ambassador, Makenzie Moon, and sister, Kamden, both led a presentation on Dairy goats and the Nigerian Dwarf Breed at the 4-H Animal Adventure Camp in Franklin County, Kansas in March.

ANDDA Youth Member, Paul Goodchild, was invited to teach Soap Making and Cheese Making classes in Washington D.C. during the 4-H Teen Ignite Retreat in March. He met many youth who owned Nigerian Dwarf breed and promoted joining the Association.





From the ANDDA Board:

Kidding season has kicked off for most of us. Kidding season is a perfect time to start Milk Test, even if it is a One Day test. If you need help starting milk test or deciding which plan is right for you, several past issues of our newsletter can point you in the right direction. You can also ask for assistance on our Member-Only Discussion page.

Many areas of the country have already started show season (and some seem to never quit—Texas, I'm looking at you!). Our Specialty Show Coordinator, Jen Dionisio, has put together a list of Specialty Shows in each district that applied for a Specialty, which is listed on page 6. We take applications for ADGA and AGS shows in each District until March 31 every year. Don't see your favorite show on the list? Make a note to ask the Show Chair to apply next year! The cost is \$50 to apply and \$25 is refunded once results and photos are sent in for our website.

Speaking of shows, the ADGA National Show will be held in Louisville, Kentucky this coming July. Show judges are Mark Baden, Tom Biddle, Robert Bartholomew Jr, Joe Pilotte, Scott Bice, and Tim Flickinger. The event ends with an Awards Ceremony and the Annual Colorama Sale. Do you have an animal that might qualify for the sale? Submission includes photos of the animal and relatives, negative test results, and they must be show in the open show.

AGS is not hosting an Annual Show this year but is making plans for DeQuoin, Illinois in 2025.

Our amazing Carolann van Wert is busy coordinating our All American show results. She is the driving force in bringing this virtual show back! The judge is reviewing all the submissions and results should be announced soon.

Our Association is run by volunteers like you. We can always use more hands and talent. If you have knowledge you would like to share in the newsletter, have a knack for coordinating award data, or just want to be involved, reach out to one of your Directors!

Wishing you all the best this spring!



Karen Goodchild

Western Director

Kidding Tea

By Stacey Collins, Haymaker Farm

It is common practice to offer does a bucket of nice warm molasses water after they finish kidding, to rehydrate them after losing so much fluid, and to offer a quick boost of energy after the physical strain of labor. At our farm, we take that a step further and offer what we call “Kidding Tea”. We order organic herbs in bulk and mix up individual portions to be used throughout kidding season. It’s so rewarding to see a tired doe plunge her muzzle into the bucket and drink it all down!

In a quart jar, mix:

- A large handful of dried raspberry leaves
- 1 Tbsp. Alfalfa powder
- 1 Tbsp. Chamomile leaves/flowers
- 2 Tbsp. Nettle leaves
- 1 tsp. White Willow Bark
- 1/2 t. Cayenne
- 1 tsp. Powdered ginger root
- 2 Tbsp. Dandelion Leaf powder
- 1 Tbsp. Catnip
- 1 tsp. Powdered fennel seed

Optional: if the doe has had a particularly hard labor or showed signs of ketosis or hypocalcemia before kidding we will add a tablespoon of Goat YMCP to the mix.

When your doe is close to delivering, fill the jar with very hot water, shake, and allow to steep. When she is finished, mix up a bucket of warm water with 1-2 Tbsp. Molasses, and strain the jar of tea into the bucket

Raspberry leaf, the main ingredient, is a classic uterine tonic. It is astringent, helping to slow bleeding. It also stimulates milk production, helps expel the placenta by augmenting natural oxytocin, aids in the healing and restoration of the uterine system, is anti-inflammatory and soothing. It is also high in Calcium, Vitamin A and C, and Manganese.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Nettle leaf is high in vitamins and minerals and helps jump start milk production. Along with alfalfa, it is a good source of vitamin K, which decreases the chances of postpartum hemorrhage. Both alfalfa and fennel seed help increase milk supply.

White Willow bark contains the same compounds as aspirin, and has traditionally been used for soothing postpartum aches and uterine pains.

Ginger root soothes the gastrointestinal system.

Cayenne regulates blood pressure and can help stop bleeding.

Dandelion leaf helps stimulate appetite and strengthen the immune system.

Catnip and chamomile are gentle relaxants.



SPECIALTY



DISTRICT 1

Pine Tree Classic ADGA

August

DISTRICT 3

Nashville Fair ADGA

September

DISTRICT 4

Hoosier Classic ADGA

DISTRICT 6

**Parker County Goat Rendezvous
ADGA**



NOTES

**Why is my
District not
hosting?**

**We take
applications each
year until March
31. Ask your
Show Chair to
apply!**

Recipe of the Month– Arbolettys (A Spiced Cheese Dish)

4 eggs
1/2 tsp salt
1 c milk
3 Tbl butter
1 c ricotta or cottage cheese
1 tsp fresh parsley, crushed
1/2 tsp ground sage
3/4 tsp finely grated candied ginger
1/4 tsp galingale

Garnish

1/2 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp sugar

Method

1. Beat the eggs and salt with a fork. Reserve.
2. In a large porcelain pot, gently heat the milk, butter, and cheese, stirring intermittently until the mixture is smooth and slowly simmering. Slowly beat 1/2 cup hot liquid into the eggs.
3. Add eggs to pot and stir; simmer for 2 minutes, stirring while custard thickens. Remove from heat.
4. Unite parsley, sage, ginger, and galingale.
5. Stir these spices into the "arbolettys."
6. Spoon into serving bowl. Sprinkle mixed cinnamon and sugar on top. Serve warm.

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!

Courtesy of "Fabulous Feasts, Medieval Cookery and Ceremony" by Madeleine Pelner Cosman)