

# Georgia Goat News

Newsletter of the Georgia Dairy Goat Breeders Association

Promoting Dairy Goats since 1976

March/April 2021

\*\*\* If you're interested in selling your goats' milk for pet consumption, you'll need a GA feed license permit and a GA pet food registration.

Goto: <http://www.kellysolutions.com/GA/FeedDealers/newapplication/applynow.asp>

\*\*\* If you currently have a license, you should have received a renewal notice – if not, goto: <http://www.kellysolutions.com/GA/FeedDealers/>

*Help spread the word about the Club's upcoming show! Please print or tear-out the show flyer on page 15 of this newsletter & post it at your local feed store!*

Watkinsville, Spring 2021. Winter is finally moving on and the trees around here are full of blossoms.

Kidding season here at LLAcres has arrived with a flurry of kids ~ Sixteen so far and only 4 does. I hear rumblings of a buck year from the goat community, but looking back over the last 33 years (yes, I've kept track - 1988-2020), our does have had 970 kids with 503 bucks & 462 does ~ a herd average of two kids/doe & and there have been 165 singles, 254 sets of twins, 85 sets of triplets and 9 sets of quads (the numbers won't add up because I keep track of total kids dead or alive but, sometimes, early on, I didn't record what sex a kid was). So, right now, the herd numbers are skewed toward bucks and if I were to add this year's #s, we are looking at a 53 buck lead! A few years ago, my numbers were a lot closer.

While we are on the topic of kidding, I will mention a few things about pregnancy ketosis.

Goats because of their size and ability to have multiple fetuses, are prone to pregnancy ketosis. Those kids not only take up a lot of nutrients from the doe, they also take up much needed space inside the doe as well and limit her rumen capacity. Thus, it is important to make sure your animals are getting high quality feed/hay that is nutrient dense. So, it is imperative to keep an eye on your girls. Anyone acting strange, slightly off feed etc.. needs your immediate attention. And, *Propylene Glycol* is not a recommended treatment - it has been found to interfere with rumen function. Rather, **molasses** and its high iron content are a better choice to supplement your does with. As always, the name of the game in *goating* is **prevention**.

Your pregnant does need to be vaccinated for CD & tetanus 2 to 4 weeks before kidding and dewormed at kidding. Trim their feet before they get too bad and the doe gets too heavy to handle easily. Also, a *dairy clip* will help keep your milk clean and help decrease the kids' exposure to coccidia.

Good luck and happy kidding. ~~ Mandy

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... Difficult Kiddings -----	3	
Being a Smart Buyer/Seller -----	4	<b>May 23<sup>rd</sup></b> – 1:30 pm – Club meeting – <i>Showmanship training</i>
Milking First-Fresheners -----	7	<b>Jun 18-19<sup>th</sup></b> – GDGBA Spring DG Show – Jackson Co. Ag Facility – Judges: Daniel Considine & Scott Horner
... Year Around Milk Production -----	9	
Preventing Disease from Entering the Herd -	10	
Dairy Goat Management Calendar -----	11	<b>Jul 25<sup>th</sup></b> – 2 pm – Club meeting – Latimer Luck Acres, <i>FAMANCHA training</i> – Dr. Niki Whitley, Fort Valley University
Photography & Your Dairy Goats -----	13	Sept 19 <sup>th</sup> – 1:30 pm -- Dr. Gloria Andrews' Vet Clinic, <i>Running your own fecals &amp; deworming your herd</i>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> <b>* Gestation Date Calculator *</b> </div>		** See <a href="http://www.georgiadairygoats.org">www.georgiadairygoats.org</a> for more show info

**Next Meeting – Sun., Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>, 2 pm – see Back Page**