

## Check points of kid's management to identify susceptible animals early and increase the survivability of kids.

Subhash Chandra<sup>1</sup>, Yashwant Singh<sup>2</sup>, Priya<sup>3</sup> and Anand Prakash<sup>4</sup>

College of Veterinary Science, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University,  
Rampura Phul, Bathinda, 151103, Punjab, India

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### Introduction

The finest care should be given to kids and youngsters while they are still growing. In goat farms, the mortality rate for kids varies from 16 to 33%, depending on the management approach. Seasonal mortality rates may vary from 41.07% in the winter, 37.5% in the rainy season, and 21.43% in the summer. The biggest proportion of deaths were attributable to diarrhea (35.71%), followed by pneumonia (28.57%), and other causes (12.5%). In terms of fatalities, diarrhea was the leading cause (35.71%), followed by pneumonia (28.57%), and other causes (12.5%). So there is a clear checkpoint during the management from birth to till weaning, the following is described:

### First three days after kidding

#### Colostrum Feeding

- Newborn goat kids are to ensure intake of adequate amounts of good-quality colostrum. Within 30 minutes, a doe will usually nurse a healthy goatling. Always keep in mind the three Qs of colostrum: quality, quantity, and quickly.
- As a general guideline, administer at least half of the recommended amount of colostrum within two hours after delivery and the remaining amount within six
- Up to 3 days of birth keep dam and young ones together for frequent access of colostrum at least 4-5 times a day.
- Orphaned kids may be placed along with foster mother to ensure colostrum, if that is not available goat milk or cow milk fortified with vitamin A (10,000 I.U feeding per litre) may be given.



- **Birth Defects**: Atresi ani (no rectal opening).
- **Constipation**: Sometimes stressed newborns become constipated. Monitoring fecal production or the absence of feces can identify issues early. Enemas may be carried out in such case in relieve the kids from constipation.
- **Diarrhea**: In many ailments, diarrhea is a symptom rather than the primary cause of whatever is wrong. Take the required action after determining the cause of the diarrhea.
- **Thiamine deficiency**: If the kid's are not able to figure out where the teat is, then there may be thiamine deficiency. Such kid may be given Vitamin B1 injections.
- **Neonatal Diarrhea Complex**: Kids have (generally) grayish or whitish diarrhea with a very distinctive smell, all of these symptoms point neonatal diarrhea complex. Newborn kids tend to produce bright yellow feces, usually thought to be E. coli or Cryptosporidiosis, infections, commonly occurring in young kids in cold and/or wet weather.
- **Coccidiosis**: Blackish diarrhea can be one of the symptoms. These protozoan attacks the goat's intestinal lining and can cause so much damage quickly that the intestine will never be able to absorb nutrition effectively. Sulfa-based medications like Dimethox 12% oral solution or Albon must be used to treat such cases.
- **Pneumonia**: Pneumonia is the common term for a range of respiratory infections that kill goats, especially kids, so quickly that you don't have the luxury of time to determine its type. Prompt treatment is required.
- **Interstitial pneumonia** is the type of pneumonia most often seen in goats. it appears with rapid-onset high fever, no nasal discharge, and often foam comes out of the mouth as it quickly progresses. In less than 12 hours, interstitial pneumonia can quickly cause death. The goat seems to be well during the day but is dead in the morning. Dry and windy conditions can also cause pneumonia. Goats should not be moved through dry pens or lanes without first moistening the ground. Goats live close to the ground particularly kids. As compared to other mammal's ruminants have lungs smaller in relation to the overall size of their bodies than other mammals, making them susceptible to pneumonia.
- **Floppy Kid Syndrome**: Generally, occur due to overeating on milk, can occur when high-milking does and their young are confined in tight spaces.
- **Joint Ill**: occurs when bacteria travel up a newborn kid's infected navel cord and migrates to its (usually) leg joints. To avoid joint ill tie the umbilical cord about 3/4 inch away from the belly and cut it 2 cm below. Dip the naval cord the tying point in a strong iodine solution

(7%) immediately after birth. Dip the naval cord the tiering point in a strong iodine solution (7%) immediately after birth and continue it twice a day for its complete healing falls after drying off.

- **Enterotoxemia:** This can happen when newborns and very young kids consume too much milk and it gets fermented in intestine to produce toxins.

#### From 4 day to weaning day

- After 3 days and up to weaning feed the kids with milk at least 2 to 3 times a day.
- The whole milk should be given at the rate of 1/6<sup>th</sup> of their body weight from 4<sup>th</sup> day to 30<sup>th</sup> days.
- From the 2<sup>nd</sup> week onwards a palatable and easily digestible concentrate mixture and good fodder may be offered to the kids.
- Kids from birth up to weaning should be housed along with their mothers.
- From birth to weaning, body weight of kids should be recorded every week.
- After weaning up to attaining maturity kids should be housed in sheds at the rate of 60-75 animals per shed.
- A deworming schedule should be followed at the age of 4 week to prevent the kids from coccidiosis and endo-parasitic infection.

#### Deworming Schedule

Age group	Dewormer to be used	First Doses	Another dose/ month
4-6 week of age	Benzimidazoles/ Fenbendazole (Panacur) (Against all worms)	1 or 2 months	3-4 months
>4 months, adult and breeders (2 weeks before breeding)	Albendazole/Fenbendazole/Mebendazole (Panacur)	5-10 mg/kg B.wt.	• Mid-February to March
	Ivermectin	1ml/50kg B.wt.	• June to mid-July
	Piperazine salt	0.2-0.4g/kg B.wt.	• Mid-September to mid-October
Other medicines are also used in severe case of diarrhea like.: Biotrem & Griptol-N			

A vaccination schedule should also be followed; primary vaccination for various infectious diseases like E.T., FMD, HS. Goat Pox and PPR should be done at 3-4 months of age.



**Vaccination Schedule for goats**

Sr. No.	Disease	Type of vaccine	Dose and route	Age of vaccination	Revaccination	Month
1	Enterotoxaemia (E.T.)	Multicomponent clostridial vaccine	2.5 ml S/C (Repeat after 15 days)	4 months of age and above	Annually	February
2	Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD)	Polyvalent FMD vaccine (A, O, C, asia-1 strains)	2-3 ml S/C	6 months	Twice in a year (September & March)	June/July
3	Hemorrhagic Septicemia (H.S.)	Oil adjuvant vaccine	2 ml I/M	1 year	Once Annually Before monsoon	June/July (Before onset of monsoon)
4	Goat Pox	Live attenuated vaccine	1 ml	4 months of age and above	Annually	December
5	PPR Peste Des Petits Ruminant	live-attenuated PPR vaccine	1 ml Subcutaneous route	At the age of 3 month for kid or lamb & above	Once in three years	late November to middle of December

**Conclusion**

If the farmer follows the above points during early phase of kid's life, then they can prevent early mortality of kids in their flock and will be able to produce a good number of adult goats for breeding and marketing. This leads to improved overall performance of their goat flock and they may be able to earn a healthy profit from their goat farm.

**Reference**

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