

## VACCINATING GOATS

Dr. Mary C. Smith  
NYSCVM Cornell University  
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### VACCINATIONS

#### General Considerations:

- Do not vaccinate wet animals; predisposes to abscesses.
- Refrigerate vaccines.
- Swab top of bottle with alcohol if dust on it (killed vaccines).
- Only a sterile needle ever goes in the stock bottle.
- New needle for each goat if possible.
- Do not mix vaccines with other vaccines or drugs; do use a clean syringe.
- Read label for meat withdrawals.
- Read label for other safety concerns (soremouth).
- Keep written records of vaccination dates.
- Burn needles, syringes, empty or unused vials, especially soremouth.
- Epinephrine is the antidote for anaphylactic reactions. The ruminant dose is 0.5 to 1.0 ml/100 pounds of the 1:1000 product IM or SC.

#### Tetanus - Enterotoxemia

- Enterotoxemia is also called overeating disease.
  - Tetanus can occur after wounds, castration, disbudding.
- Which animals?** All goats should be vaccinated. A full 8-way clostridial vaccine is used by some but not necessary on most New York farms.
- When?** Two doses about 4 weeks apart, then annual boosters or booster more frequently if heavily fed on grain. If kids received colostrum from boosted does, start at 2 months of age. If not, start at 1 month and give 3 doses at 4 week intervals.
- Vaccination site?** Subcutaneous injection is best. Will make lumps. Lumps last a long time if injection in skin rather than under skin.
- Pets and show goats behind shoulders.
  - Meat goats high on neck.
  - Kneel and drape kids across your thigh for restraint.
- Withdrawal period?**
- Milk - none
  - Meat - read label (21 days)

#### Tetanus Antitoxin

- Not a vaccine.
- When?** Provides temporary protection (3 weeks) if unvaccinated animal or young kid that did not receive colostrum from vaccinated doe is injured or undergoes surgery.
- Injection site?** Subcutaneous. Can begin permanent vaccination series at same time, using different syringe and different vaccination site.

**Dose?** 250-300 units to kid, 500 units to adult goat.

**Withdrawal period?** Meat - 21 days.

### Rabies

- No rabies vaccine is licensed for goats in the US.
- Use killed vaccine licensed for sheep; Imrab® favored.
- Only a veterinarian can give rabies vaccine in New York
- be sure vaccine brand and serial number are recorded.
- State officials will not recognize the goat as vaccinated if there is later concern about human exposure, but owner has peace of mind and vaccine probably effective.

**Which Animals?** Pets, show goats, exposure to raccoons, skunks or foxes.

**When?** Annually, beginning at 3 months of age.

**Vaccination site?** Subcutaneous if Imrab®. Defensor® labeled for intramuscular use.

**Withdrawal period?**

Milk - none in cattle or sheep

Meat - 21 days in cattle and sheep, so use 21 days for goats also

### Orf, Soremouth

- Disease causes crusty scabs, especially on mouth or face, rarely inside mouth. Scabs last 3-4 weeks.

- Disease is also contagious to people; similar signs and no treatment.

- Vaccine is live and unattenuated. New York State specifies only a veterinarian should use this vaccine.

**Which animals?** Kids in persistently infected herds. Open herds that show a lot. Vaccine introduces disease to the farm, so do not use in closed, uninfected herd.

**When?** Kids shortly after birth or weaning. Show goats at least 6 weeks before first show, so vaccine scabs have time to fall off.

**Vaccination site?** Scratch skin inside ear, on underside of tail, or on inside of thigh or flank (not in lactating goats). Wear gloves!

**Withdrawal period?** Meat - 21 days.

### Other Vaccines

According to your veterinarian's recommendations.

- FOOTVAX not labeled for goats, footrot rarely a flock problem in goats.

Vaccine commonly causes large lump, so given to sheep subcutaneously behind ear. Meat withdrawal is 60 days.

- CASEOUS-DT not labeled for goats, makes lumps, goats may go off feed or off milk. It does seem to be useful for protecting kids in infected herds. Meat withdrawal is 21 days.