Results for out of season buck odor surveys for 2006 and 2007

2006

As part of our study on out-of-season breeding in NE meat goat farms, we kept track of how smelly our bucks actually are since this should have a role in encouraging the females to come in heat. The following table indicates the smelliness during the anestrus period of the bucks used in our out-of-season breeding study in 2006. Samples were taken from 15 full blood Boer bucks in April through June '06 by rubbing their polls with a "buck rag" for 60 seconds and storing the rag in a sealed canning jar. A control sample was created by taking a clean rag and sealing it in a canning jar.

15 "odor" surveys were filled out by either individual meat goat producers or meat goat producer family pairs as they smelled the samples from 15 of the bucks and the control sample and assigned them a score according to how smelly they thought they were. Three empty canning jars were dispersed along the line of buck jars so that producers could clear their noses periodically.

Bucks were rated as follows:

1 = no odor or just a trace, 2 = mild odor, 3= moderate odor, 4 = strong odor, 5= "phew! Buck in raging rutt"!

Of the 15 bucks were sampled in 2006, none had an average score as low as the one control sample. However, several bucks were scored as low as the control be samplers 6 or more times. One third of the bucks had average scores of <2, 2 to <3, and 3 to <4.

	Sample #															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Control
Average Score	1.93	2.40	3.00	2.20	3.47	1.60	1.87	1.53	3.20	3.53	3.00	2.93	2.60	2.53	1.93	1.20
# of times sample was scored as a "1"	6	3	2	3	1	6	6	8	1	0	1	1	2	2	6	13
Range	1 to 4	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 4	1 to 5	1 to 2	1 to 3	1 to 3	1 to 5	2 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 4	1 to 3
	1 to 3	1 to 4	1 to 5	1 to 3	1 to 4	1 to 2	1 to 3	1 to 3	1 to 4	2 to 4	1 to 4	1 to 5	1 to 4	1 to 3	1 to 3	1

2007

The table of results from the odor survey for bucks being used for out of season breeding in 2007 is below. The 17 bucks sampled in 2007 included twelve full blood Boers, two Kikos, two Savannas and a vasectomized pygmy teaser. Twelve people smelled the buck rags and rated them as follows:
1 = no odor or just a trace, 2 = mild odor, 3= moderate odor, 4 = strong odor, 5= “phew! Buck in raging rutt”!

Average scores for the Boer, Kiko, and Savanna bucks ranged from 1.18 to 4.18, 1.45 to 2.18, and 2.55 to 3.27, respectively. The pygmy teaser buck had an average score of 3.1. In total, one buck had a score greater than 4 (4.18), six bucks scored between 3 and <4, four bucks scored between 2 and <3, and six bucks scored between 1 and <2. Of these last six, three of them scored similarly to the controls. Results for 2007 indicated that although weak buck odor is a problem in most meat goat breeds during the anestrous period, there is considerable variation among bucks within the same breed.

	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Control	Sample 5	Sample 6	Sample 7	Sample 8	Sample 9	Sample 10	Control	Sample 12	Sample 13	Sample 14	Sample 15	Sample 16	Sample 17	Sample 18
Survey1	1	1	3	1	2	1	1	4	2	3	1	1	2	1	4	3	1	1
Survey2	2	1	3	1	5	4	3	5	2	4	3	2	5	1	5	4	4	3
Survey3	2	1	3	1	5	4	3	5	2	4	3	2	5	1	4	4	3	3
Survey4	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	3	1	2	2	1	4	3	3	1
Survey5	2	1	4	1	3	1	1	4	2	2	1	1	3	1	5	3	1	1
Survey7	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Survey8	1	1	2	2	3	1	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	4	5	4	5
Survey9	1	2	5	1	3	2	2	5	3	3	2	3	4	1	5	1	4	3
Survey10	2	1	4	2	3	2	3	4	3	4	1	2	2	1	5	4	2	2
Survey11	1	2	5	2	2	1	2	3	4	3	2	2	3	1	4	2	1	1
Survey12	3	2	4	1	3	4	1	3	4	3	1	4	4	3	4	3	4	3
Average	1.55	1.36	3.27	1.27	3.00	2.09	1.91	3.55	2.27	3.09	1.55	1.91	3.00	1.18	4.18	3.00	2.55	2.18
Range	1 to 3	1 to 2	1 to 5	1 to 2	1 to 5	1 to 4	1 to 3	2 to 5	1 to 4	2 to 4	1 to 3	1 to 4	1 to 5	1 to 3	2 to 5	1 to 5	1 to 4	1 to 5

Results 2007

1 sample is =>4

6 samples are 3 to<4

4 samples are 2 to <3

6 samples are1 to<2 and of these 3 score similarly to controls