

### Results for out of season buck odor 2005

As part of our study on out-of-season breeding in Northeast US meat goat farms, I wanted to see 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 2005. All bucks were either full blood or high percentage Boer bucks. Samples were taken from 8 bucks in April '05 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.

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"!

Eight goat producers smelled the samples from 7 of the bucks and the control sample and assigned them a score according to how smelly they thought they were. The sample from the eighth buck was received late and was only sampled by me. It appeared similar in strength to Samples 3 and 6 and I assigned it a score of 2.

	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6	Sample 7	Control Sample	Sample 9
Average Score	1.25	1.37	1.75	1.62	4.12	2.12	1.75	1.5	2
# of times sample was scored as a "1"	5 out of 8	5 out of 8	4 out of 8	3 out of 8	0 out of 8	3 out of 8	3 out of 8	6 out of 8	Not applicable
Range	1 to 3	1 to 2	1 to 4	1 to 3	3 to 5	1 to 3	1 to 2	1 to 4	NA

As you can see from the table, all bucks with the exception of Sample 5 had only a mild odor or less this time of year. Two bucks scored even lower than the control sample.