

## Handling Kidding Season *by Pat Bloomer*

### Pre-Kidding:

Give your does a booster of CD&T vaccine

Keep mineral mix w/selenium available or consider a Bo-Se shot (Vitamin E/ Selenium)

Gradually increase grain ration, depending on condition of does and quality of forage/hay

### Check facilities:

Jug (small individual pen useful for helping does bond to kids) for does as necessary

Plan for smaller post-kidding pens

Warming box

### Gather supplies:

7% iodine navel dip

paper towels or absorbent rags

Order Vitamin E/Selenium (Bo-Se) from a veterinarian for injecting kids to prevent white muscle disease)

syringes (12cc & 3cc) and needles (20ga-1 inch)

bucket

soap (Ivory bar or flakes)

disinfectant scrub (Iodine, Betadine, etc.)

plastic sleeve or glove

collar

Procaine penicillin G/ or other antibiotics

feeding tube, syringe, jar

colostrum (have some frozen for emergencies or purchase a dried product))

50% dextrose or glucose solution (for weak kids)

pepto bismol (for mild cases of diarrhea)

baking soda (for acidosis or floppy kid syndrome)

official scrapie ID tags

barn sheet records

dehorner – if disbudding kids

tattooer if tattooing kids

CD&T vaccines

Wormer

Kidding signs: (Sometimes!)

- Bleating
- Standing apart at feeding
- Appropriating a "spot" and defending it
- Teats appear stiff and full
- Tail bone prominent / tendons on either side relaxed

Problems:

- All signs and nothing happening for hours
- Hard labor and nothing showing
- Tissue hanging and no labor or progress

Know how to assist with the following situations or skills. And know what to expect --

Hypothermia

Tube Feeding

Dextrose / Glucose injection

Check for reason that intervention was necessary with kids and figure out how to prevent it in future years: Mastitis Rejection Illness, floppy kid condition, serious diarrhea