

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL NUTRITION

|
TOPIC – FEEDING MANAGEMENT OF SHEEP & GOAT

- Introduction –
- In economic terms, feed cost accounts for about 70% of the total cost of livestock production.
- Small ruminants are the moving bank and means of investment for many marginal and small farmers.
- The feasibility of livestock enterprises is, therefore, a function of the type of feed and feeding system.
- It is estimated that up to a five-fold increase in tropical livestock productivity can be attained if there is optimal feed resource utilization.
- The annual growth rate rates of 3.5% for goats and 2.0% for sheep are higher than for buffaloes & cattle.

- **GOAT NUTRITION -**

- 1. Kid Nutrition-

- ✓ Colostrum feeding

- ✓ Milk feeding

- ✓ Creep ration

- ✓ Grower ration

- 2. Doe nutrition

- 3. Buck nutrition

3 days

up-to 60 days

15- 90 days

90 days onwards



Feeding schedule of Kid

- The kid should be allowed to suck its dam for the first three or four days so that they can get good amount of colostrum.
- Colostrum is given at the rate of 100 ml per kg live weight.

Age (Days)	Milk/colostrum (ml)	Creep Feed (g)	Green Forage (g)
1-3	350, 3 feeding (Colostrum)	-	-
4-14	350, 3 feeding	-	-
15-30	350, 3 feeding	A little	A little
31-60	400, 2 feeding	100-150	Free choice
61-90	200, 2 feeding	200-250	Free choice

- **CREEP FEEDING –**

- This creep feed may be started from 15 days of age and up to 2-3 months of age.
- 50 – 100 gm/animal/day.
- Contain 22 per cent protein.
- Antibiotics like oxytetracycline or chlortetracycline may be mixed @ 15 to 25 mg/kg of feed



Creep ration

Ingredients (%)	%	%
Maize	40	60
Wheat Bran	17	7
GNC	20	20
Fish meal	-	10
Dal chunni	20	-
Mineral Mixture	2	2
Common Salt	1	1
Aurofac	150 g	150g

- 2. **DOE NUTRITON –**

- Feed accordingly to stage of production

- 1. Dry

- 2. Breeding

- 3. Early Gestation

- 4. Late gestation

- 5. Lactation

- 1. Dry Goat Feeding –

- Period between weaning & breeding.

- Lowest nutrient requirements.

- Need dry matter 2% of body weight.

- The DCP level of concentrate mixture should be 12 %.

2. Feeding of breeding goat –

Flushing- Feed breeding age goats extra ration (25% of maintenance) 2 - 3 weeks before breeding.

- Increase ovulation rate
- Improves fertility
- Increases conception
- Increase Multiple births.



- **Early Gestation**

- Gestation: 150 days .
- First 100 days ~Similar to dry feeding .
- Very little fetal growth.
- Take advantage of forage.

- **Late Gestation**

Last 50 days.

- ✓ Most critical time – 70% of fetal growth.
- ✓ Utilize pasture & supplement feeding
- ✓ Grazing 4-5 hours per day.
- ✓ In addition to grazing, animals should be fed with concentrate mixture @ 250 –350 g/animal/day.

- **Feeding lactating Doe –**
- Doe nutrition ~ key to early kid growth.
- Lactation peaks at 2 - 4 weeks.
- Feed at 4 - 5% body weight.
- The following rations may be recommended –
- 6-8 hours grazing + 10 kg cultivated green fodder/day
- 6-8 hours grazing + 400 g of concentrate mixture/day.
- 6-8 hours grazing + 800 g of good quality legume hay/day.



- **Buck Nutrition –**
- Utilize pasture when available.
- Feed intake 3-3.5% of body weight.
- The common practice is allowing the bucks to graze 6- 8 hours.
- Usually, it will meet the nutritional requirements of the buck



Reference – Applied Nutrition By DV Reddy 3 Rd Edition .

<http://.ruminantnutrition.com>

