

HEALTH PROGRAM FOR SHOW WETHERS

PURCHASE:

1. Ascertain previous vaccination history.
2. Booster or start overeating and tetanus vaccinations. (I prefer Bayer's Vision CD/T)
3. Administer soremouth (ovine ecthyma) vaccine. (I prefer TAES brand)
4. Deworm with Ivomec sheep drench orally. (4cc per 20 lbs.)
5. Treat with rumen microbial culture to stimulate appetite, get on feed faster. (Bio-vet Pro 55 is best, or Fasttrack, Probios)
6. Insecticide for lice control, i.e., Permethrin or Malathion.
7. Get located, established into a routine, and on feed (with coccidiostat) and drinking before dehorning and/or castration.
8. Injection sites: IM - pectoral (under front leg) or on side of neck; Sub Q - under front leg. Never inject in rear half of goat. Change needles often.

FOLLOWUP:

1. CD/T booster in 2-3 weeks, then every 2 months.
2. Deworm monthly with Ivomec sheep drench.
3. Re-treat with microbial culture at stress, feed change, and treatment with antibiotics.

TREATMENT:

1. Use ruminant food animal approved drugs only. Goats have high metabolic rates and need 1.5 times the label dose. A veterinarian-client-patient relationship is needed. Extend label slaughter withdrawal times, 1.5 to 2 times, because of off-label use.

My Preferences:

Wounds and/or Surgery:

1. Penicillin G - 1cc per 20 - 50 lbs. daily for 3-5 days.

Respiratory:

1. Excenel - 1.5 times the cattle dose daily for 3-5 days, or Nuflor - 1.5 times the cattle dose, alternate days for 3 doses, or Penicillin G - 1cc per 20-50 lbs daily for 3-5 days.

Digestive Upset:

1. Load with microbial culture (Bio-vet Pro 55). Encourage and/or force fluid and electrolytes. Check for worms, coccidia and stress.

Pinkeye:

1. Start ophthalmic antibiotic ointment early, not powders or irritating injectable antibiotics, i.e., LA200.
2. Penicillin G dripped on eyeball works well.
3. May have associated respiratory problems.
4. Prevent by maintaining dust, fly and stress control on premise.

Skin Fungus:

1. Isolate and treat early and aggressively!!!
2. Clip hair, remove scales/crusts, scrub with Nolvasan or Betadine, apply topical antifungals often and continue for up to 6 weeks.
3. May need systemic antibiotics, i.e., Penicillin G or Nuflor if deeper than skin only.
4. May need systemic antifungal (prescription) drugs. These have a long withdrawal time.
5. Always use insecticides to remove lice.
6. Potential human involvement.

Urinary Calculi:

1. Prevent it or find somebody else to treat it - I can't.
2. Demand proper Calcium:Phosphorus ratio (2:1 to 4:1) in feed.
3. Corn based ration is much better than milo.
4. Ammonium chloride should be added in feed at the rate of 10-20 lbs/ton.
5. Don't add junk, i.e., corn, cottonseed, dog food, or skittles.
6. Clean cool/warm fresh high quality water should always be available.
7. High calcium/low phosphorus mineral with added NH₄Cl can be left out free choice.

INAPPROPRIATE DRUG USES:

1. Micotil - not safe for sheep or goats (or people).
2. Gentocin - very long slaughter withdrawal time.
3. Baytril - restricted to beef calves only.
4. Almost any systemic drug should be discontinued 30 days prior to a terminal show or possible slaughter.