



2017



11th Annual Oklahoma Forage-Based Meat Goat Buck Test

*Find out how well your animals do on Forage based diets.
Identify animals with lowest parasite loads.*

Yearly reports include information about weather, forages, test results and experiences.

**Eastern Oklahoma State College
In partnership with
Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service**

Rules, Regulations and Protocol

Objective:

To identify individual bucks as well as their sires and dams that carry genetics expressing economically important traits in commercial meat goat production.

Additionally, this test will allow breeders to compare genetics within their herd to make better management decisions as to herd lines that will produce profitable progeny for future herds.

This test will also provide valuable information for all goat producers and the public.

Dates: Weaning Deadline May 24

Nominations May 1 to June 5, 2017

Email verification with nomination form +\$50/hd will reserve your spot in the test.

Check-in: Friday, June 23, 2017 1pm-4pm

Warm-up: June 23- July 3, 2017

Test Period: July 3 to September 26, 2017

Field Day & Awards: September 29, 2017

Enrollment Limits:

Maximum of 54 head of total Goats from all Producers

3 head / producer limit unless spots still available.

Upon check-in, producers must provide the following sire and dam information for each entrant to the best of their capacity:

Sire Name/Number

Sire Registration Number (if registered)

Sire Birthdate

Dam Name/Number

Dam Registration Number (if registered)

Dam Birthdate

WW Ratio

Entry Requirements: (No Copper boluses shall be administer prior to check-in)

1. A producer group will consist of up to **3 bucks** maximum that were born between January 1, 2017 and March 31, 2017. All breeds and crossbreds are accepted.
2. To be considered for the Herdsman Award you must have a group of 3 qualifying bucks.
3. Producers must provide Birth Date and Weaning Date to verify ages.
4. Bucks must weigh a minimum of 35 lbs at check-in.
5. Bucks must be weaned 30 days prior to check in, had a minimum of 1 de-worming and a CDT vaccination. It is preferred all test animals be vaccinated for sore mouth 30 days prior to entry but if they haven't received a vaccination they will be administered at check-in, all animals must have their feet trimmed. **No exceptions.**
6. Bucks must be tagged with a scrapie compliant tag from their state of origin. **No exceptions.**
7. All out of state bucks must be accompanied by an official inter-state health certificate and in compliance with all Oklahoma shipment requirements. For information: Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food & Forestry, and (405) 522-6142.
8. Entry fee of **\$50** per buck will be required to secure a position within the test. A final fee of **\$100 per buck** will be required at check in. The **\$150** entry fee will cover feed supplementation, medication, wormer, routine veterinarian services and other test costs.
9. Producers will be responsible for all vet fees incurred in the case of treatment for serious injury, disease or necropsy (in the case of death).
10. Producers need the signature of a Veterinarian that the Health Certificate and vaccinations are in compliance (provided on the nomination form).

Test Protocol:

1. Bucks will be given a thorough examination by a veterinarian at check-in. Goats showing signs of sore mouth, CL, foot rot or other communicable disease will not be allowed to enter the test. It is recommended that animals have current vaccinations.
2. Bucks will receive a CDT vaccine, fecal egg count, FAMACHA score and an ear tag with test ID at the time of check-in. Goats scoring less than 2000 EPG will be comingled as a group. Goats scoring greater than 2000 will be comingled until the reduction test indicates they can enter the test and join the low EPG group during the warm-up period.
3. Bucks will be dewormed with three different classes of wormer (Fenbendazole, Levamisole, Moxidectin) at the time of check-in. A second Fecal Egg Count will be conducted 10 days after check-in.
4. Bucks that do not show a 90% reduction in there egg count after the initial worming will not be allowed to enter the test.
5. Bucks that display symptoms of disease or illness during the test will be held in quarantine (on forage) until it is determined by the Test Manager or the Test Veterinarian that they may re-enter the general population or must leave the test.

6. Low performing bucks may need to be removed from the test. This decision will be made by the Test Manager in consultation with the producer.
7. Every effort will be made to accommodate the producer if a buck must leave the test.
8. In the case of death, a full necropsy will be performed by the On-Site Veterinarian at the request and expense of the owner.
9. Sufficient forage will be provided for the bucks to perform up to their genetic potential. A feed supplement containing protein, vitamins, minerals and other additive ingredients will be provided as needed to maximize the utilization of forage.
10. Bucks that score a 4 or 5 on the FAMACHA scale and a confirmed high FEC during the test will be de-wormed and devalued from herdsman contention.
11. Dewormer product(s) of choice will be determined by the Test Veterinarian, however, if resistant animals fail to respond to a second deworming they will be assigned to a copper bolus treatment.
12. All decisions made by the Test Manager, Test Veterinarian and staff will be final.
13. Weights, FAMACHA Scores and Fecal Egg Counts will be taken approximately every 17 days with the results posted within a reasonable time frame on http://www.eosc.edu/discover_eosc/eosc_farm/
14. Every attempt will be made to Ultra sound for Loin eye area and measure Scrotal Circumference by EOSC and test staff.

Results:

1. Buck ranking within the test will be classified by Average Daily Gain and Fecal Egg Count.
2. To compete for Grand Champion Herdsman, each producer must qualify 3 or more bucks. This award will be determined by the average of the top 3 bucks for each producer in Average Daily Gain and lowest Fecal Egg Count.

Educational Information

1. A summary sheet containing all data collected for the bucks will be supplied to each producer. A test summary with forage, weather and other important information will also be distributed.
2. A Field Day will be held at the test site to view the bucks, tour the forage test and discuss performance on forage for the meat goat industry.
3. All test data and results will be made public.

Technical Advisory Committee

Test Advisor- Barry Whitworth, DVM OCES Area Food/Animal Quality and Health Specialist

Test Nutritionist- Brian Freking, OCES Southeast District Area Livestock Specialist

Test Staff

Test Veterinarian- Dr. Dustin Hulsey (918) 471-8767

Test Manager- Barney Howard (918) 448-2191

Test Extension Educator- Tony Johnson (918) 465-3349