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Doe Pre-kidding Management

Pre-kidding management is vital for promoting good health in kids and the doe at the time of kidding. The four areas of importance include the following at roughly 1 month (3-6 weeks) pre-kidding:

- Vaccination for enterotoxemia and tetanus- 2cc CDT vaccine subcutaneously
- Vitamin E and Selenium supplementation- Bo-Se 1cc/40 lb. subcutaneously
- Deworming- Ivermectin or Cydectin are safe dewormers to use during pregnancy. If does are being housed in a dry lot situation or it is winter (no grass), an injectable of either of these works well to eliminate any encysted larvae of the Barber Pole worm (*Haemonchus contortus*). Ivermectin or Cydectin may be injected subcutaneously at 1cc/50 lbs.
- Increase energy intake (grain or pellets) in does pre-kidding. The amounts depend on hay quality, size of does and type of doe (meat, pygmy or dairy). For example, boer does in good condition can be fed fiber (hay or grass) only until the last month pre-kidding and then may be given 2 lb. per day of a basic 16% crude protein goat pellet. This program has served many clients well by creating healthier kids and stronger does. However for each herd there are many factors that must be considered, so one nutritional program cannot fit all situations.