Sheep and Goat Management

Set Goals:
What are your goals?
What do you want to produce?
Can you market those products?
Can you be profitable?

Nutrition/Health:
Nutrition is costly and important
Proper vaccinations and parasite management important for overall health

Ewe/Doe Nutrition
Timeline of ewe/doe
Lamb/Kid Survival
Feeding lambs/kids

Goals
- Do what you love, love what you do
- Have goals and priorities before you set out to buy/start an operation
- Use them to redirect/adjust

Nutrition
- Small Ruminants: ________ - ________ stomachs
- Largest Cost; be efficient
- Really, we are just controlling body condition
- Lifelong effects on the female and her offspring
- BCS: 1 to 5 scale; hit targets for improved efficiency
- Proper nutritional management can prevent health problems in the females and progeny

Health
- Vaccinations: annual boosters in females and breeding males for Clostridial C and D
  - Others to consider annually: Pi3, Vibrio, Chlamydia
  - Boost 30 d prior to breeding and boost pregnant females 3-4 weeks before parturition
  - Lambs/Kids: give CD-T 2 weeks prior to weaning and at weaning
- Parasites:
  - External: easy to treat and minor
  - Internal: main concern is ___________ contortus
    - Main contributors to problems are overstocking, overgrazing, improper deworming strategies
  - Tests to determine: ________, ____________ (1 to 5 scale; certification)
  - Goal is to have a manageable and responsive population of worms

Things to Consider:
- Do you currently run cattle or horses?
  - How can you adapt those facilities for sheep/goats?
- What will you have to adapt?
  - Fencing (wool sheep vs. hair sheep vs. goats)
  - Equipment
  - Lambing/Kidding
Resources

- **Predators**

- Ration balancing software (Free):
  - OSU Ration Software: [http://agecon.okstate.edu/meatgoat/](http://agecon.okstate.edu/meatgoat/)
  - [Https://msusheepration.montana.edu/](https://msusheepration.montana.edu/)

- Record-Keeping:
  - [http://agecon.okstate.edu/meatgoat/record.asp](http://agecon.okstate.edu/meatgoat/record.asp)

- American Goat Federation: [https://americangoatfederation.org/](https://americangoatfederation.org/)

- Genetic information: Nsip.org


- Purchase feeds on nutrient costs (APP)
  - [https://www.igrowlivestocktools.org/#!/calculators/feed-cost](https://www.igrowlivestocktools.org/#!/calculators/feed-cost)

- WYO Ranch Tools: [https://uwyoextension.org/ranchtools/](https://uwyoextension.org/ranchtools/)

- KSU: [https://www.agmanager.info/decision-tools](https://www.agmanager.info/decision-tools)

- Parasites: [https://www.wormx.info/](https://www.wormx.info/)

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