

Hello 4-H Goat Club Members and Family:

I am very excited that you are interested in learning how to utilize artificial insemination to improve your goat herd at home. This class will be very fun, and hopefully result in your doe producing a great kid or two!

This AI project will consist of four, one-hour meetings on November 1, 3, 8, and 10. Classes will begin promptly at 6:00 pm and end at 7:00 pm. There will be a time for questions and answers at the end of class. During these classes, we will learn about the reproductive cycle of goats, how to control the doe's estrous cycle, genetics, and finally proper AI equipment handling. On Saturday, November 12, we will meet at the Rutherford County livestock barn to AI our does. We will need all goats at the barn by noon. For those that are unable to make the meetings, they will be web cast. Please email me for the web cast log-in information if you are interested.

In order for the AI day on November 12 to go well, you will need to bring a doe that is ready to be bred and a goat milking/blocking stand . There are several ways that you can do that, but we will be utilizing a system published by Langston University (<http://www.luresext.edu/goats/training/advrepro.html#estrus>).

IMPORTANT: This protocol requires that you consult with your veterinarian for the off-label use of some drugs. You will not be allowed to participate if you have not spoken with your veterinarian about the project.

1. Day one (October 28); insert progesterone implant (CIDRs) no later than 8:00 am.
2. Day thirteen (Nov. 9 at 8:00 am); 2 cc of prostaglandin administered intramuscular (IM) with dosage dependent on product label and doe body weight.
3. Day fourteen (Nov 10 at 8:00am); 1.5 cc dose of PG600 administered IM and CIDR device removed.
4. Day fifteen (Nov. 11); doe shows sign of estrus.
5. Day sixteen (November 12); doe is carefully monitored and inseminated.

You will also need to have some basic AI equipment for the AI day on November 12. There are several places you can order your equipment through. They are listed at the bottom of the link posted above. For teaching purposes, I will be using the equipment sold through Bio-Genics located in Idaho. They have taught our spring class the past three years and I am familiar with their equipment and they also sell the drugs needed to cycle your doe.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Michael Shirley
Extension Agent I
Rutherford County 4-H
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Hello Producers:

Attached (and within this email) is information that is pertinent to the Artificial Insemination Clinic that is being sponsored on 12 November 2011 at the Rutherford County Lane Agri-Park Facility on 315 John R. Rice Boulevard, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, 37127.

Your main contact is: Michael Shirley, mshirle1@utk.edu (615-898-7710).

The attached letter states the webinar dates held from 6PM to 7PM on: 1 / 3 / 8 / 10 November 2011 will be conducted through Wimba. For those of you not able to attend on 12 November 2011 with a goat, you will still be able to log onto the webinar through Wimba and watch us AI and discuss the process as the producers AI their goats. The session is scheduled to be webcast from 1PM through 5PM.

To log into the webinars: <http://tnstatelive.wimba.com/launcher.cig?room=TSUEXTVCS>

Go to the site BEFORE the 1st of November to make sure you will be able to join us without any problems or down time. You'll sign in as "guest" and your password will be your name (example: an_peischel); do not forget the underscore between your first and last name. As you go through the Wimba directions, you will have to make sure that your popup blocker is turned off for these sessions.

If you are bringing goats, follow the synchronization protocol in the attached letter from Michael Shirley. It is of utmost importance that you contact and work with your veterinarian as some of the products you are using are "off-label". You will be able to purchase your needed supplies from your veterinarian or you can contact: BioGenicsLTD (website) or phone: 208-756-6500.

You can bring your goats to the Lane Agri-Center Friday evening, 11 November 2011, if you're traveling a great distance. Pens will be set up for you to unload but you are responsible for the care of the goats, feed and water. A water source is available in the barn for you to use but bring buckets.

Bring an AI / show / blocking / milk stand to contain the goat during the AI session. Do not forget your semen tank and semen, artificial insemination kit or disposable equipment can be purchased from BioGenicsLTD (but you need to place your order with them in the very near future). There are several other sources for purchasing AI equipment: Caprine Supply, Hoegger's Supply, Nasco, Pipestone and there are more listed on the Langston University website noted in the attached "AI Letter".

Be at the center by Noon on the 12th of November to AI, no later; the earlier you arrive the better, just in case your goat is ready to breed.

Do not hesitate to call me or Michael should you have any questions. We look forward to working with you. Thank you and Best Regards, an

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