

GOOD GOAT HUSBANDRY PRACTICES

Breed: Black Bengal

Tolerant to humid climate; Prolific breeder; Dual purpose for skin and meat



Selection and Management of Bucks

- Born as twins or triplets with high body weight and typical breed characters
- Shape: Small size, straight back and broad chest; shiny body coat, aggressive. Free from physical deformities, with both testicles symmetrical and ascended in the scrotum
- Age: 15–18 months (2 teeth)
- Free from diseases; Screen for Brucellosis and John's Disease
- Maintain one buck for 30-40 does. Replace after 2 years
- Buck should be kept away from does

Selection and Management of Does

- Preference for does born as twins or triplets, 12–15 months age, healthy with pinkish eye balls and shiny skin
- Attain puberty at 9-10 months with oestrus cycle of 18-21 days and duration of 24-48 hours
- Heat symptoms: Excited with swollen vulva, discharge of mucus, twitching of tail and frequent urination
- Gestation period: 150 days
- Signs of Pregnancy: Cessation of subsequent heat symptoms, quietness and reduction in milk



Care and Management of Pregnant Does

- Supplementary feeding of 150-200 gm of additional concentrate, with green fodder
- Stall feeding during last 4 weeks of pregnancy
- Provide plain, dry floor with soft bedding material
- Signs of Kidding: Swollen udder and visible labour pain
- Watch for expulsion of placenta which takes 2-4 hours after kidding

Management of New-born kids

- Wipe the kid with dry cloth to avoid cold
- Tie the umbilical cord 2 cm away from the abdomen, and cut the lower portion with sterile blade; apply tincture iodine for 3 days
- Facilitate suckling within 15 minutes of birth to ensure colostrum feeding
- 10 day old kids may be fed with tender green fodder
- Feed 50-100 gm concentrate at 15–20 days age
- House the kids above 3 months age separately

Good Management Practices

- Stall feeding is ideal
- Adult goat requires 1-2 kg green; 0.2-0.4 kg dry fodder and 250-300 gm concentrate per day
- Plant fodder trees along bunds and backyards for feeding
- Good Housing: Thatched roof, sides covered with bamboo / mud walls, levelled dry floor, with adequate clean water
- Regular weighing of goats is helpful to monitor the growth
- Selling should be on live weight basis



Deworming: First at 3 months age; Repeat every 3 months; Faecal examination before deworming is desirable

Vaccination: Against PPR, Enterotoxaemia, Goat pox (if prevalent) at 3 months

Castration: At the age of 2-4 weeks, to improve growth rate, quality of skin and meat, except for prospective bucks



Housing



Castration



Weighing



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