



WHO LET THE GOATS OUT?!

THE SECRET TO RAISING GOATS NATURALLY AND
HEADACHE-FREE!



WHY GOATS?

- Dairy : opportunities to make soap, cheese, and more.
- Brush management.
- Pets



A GOAT'S FOUR BASIC NEEDS

- 1. **Food.** Good quality hay is a MUST. Feeds and grains are optional.
- 2. **Fresh water.** Spring water if available.
- 3. **Shelter.** At least a 3 sided structure to offer protection from wind and rain.
- 4. **Minerals.**

HAY + FEED AND GRAIN

- Goats are ruminants: they have four stomach compartments instead of one. The first is called the RUMEN, and the long fibers in hay keep the rumen working properly. Also produces heat.
- Hay needs to smell sweet, not musty or moldy. you want to see some green!



HAY + FEED AND GRAIN

- Purchase bales from local farmers if possible. Craigslist and FB marketplace also.
- Store under cover away from rain or runoff water.
- Stock up in the summer, it'll be hard to find good quality hay later in the winter.



HAY + FEED AND GRAIN

- Give all grains + feeds in a trough OFF the ground to avoid contamination.
- Whole oats, alfalfa pellets, beet pulp, black oil sunflower seeds.
- Give daily through the winter. Oct- March. Especially if pasture is low.



WATER

- Keep fresh, cool water available at all times.
- Have a spigot in the pasture if possible to easily add to and refresh the water.
- Especially in hot humid areas, keep the water on a slow drip during the summer to maintain freshness.



GOLDFISH



There are surprising benefits to keeping goldfish in your water troughs!

- Controls algae growth by feeding on it as it grows.
- They feed on mosquito larvae and other water parasites.
- The constant movement also hinders algae build up and scum on the surface.
- Goldfish are very inexpensive and can be bought for pennies at any pet store.

SHELTER

- A simple structure is all they need to stay warm and dry.
- Provide fresh bedding weekly (or as needed). Straw or pine shavings.
- Provide access to hay from inside if possible. Hay helps them to produce heat.





MINERALS + SALT

More important than you think!



- Minerals are vital to keep a goat's immune system strong, coat smooth, and for proper growth.
- Keep salt and minerals separate.
- Offer loose salt + minerals 24/7. Goat's will self regulate their intake to fit their individual needs.

MINERALS + SALT

slow release copper bolus

- Goats need copper for proper growth, parasite resistance, and a healthy coat.
- Give every six months, depending on your location.
- Can be purchased at your local farm supply store, or online.
- Open the capsules and give individually by hand to ensure proper dosage.



GOAT BREEDS: HOW TO CHOOSE WHAT'S BEST FOR YOUR FARM

- **Nigerian Dwarf:** About 75 lbs. Quality milk with a high butterfat content of 7-10%. Great breed for limited pasture space. Soap making, cheese, butter, etc.
- **Nubian:** About 150 lbs. "Gentle giant" of goats, also holding the highest butterfat content of any standard size breed. High producers!! Soap, cheese, etc.
- **Boer:** Stocky, sturdy goats bred for meat. Sweet temperaments and great mothers. Great for pets and land clearing.

GOAT BREEDS: HOW TO CHOOSE WHAT'S BEST FOR YOUR FARM.

- **Pygmy:** Small, hardy goats with BIG personalities! Great for pets.
- **Angora:** Long, curly-haired goats bred for their fiber known as mohair. Their high level of production makes these goats the most efficient fiber producing animal in the world!
- **Lamancha:** Large high production dairy breed known for its ears... or lack of ears!

REMEMBER!

Goats are herd animals.

**A lonely goat is a dead goat.
Never keep a single goat: goats are meant to live
in a herd and can very quickly sicken and die
from the stress of being alone!**



PROTECTING YOUR HERD

- Fencing
- Livestock Guardian Dogs (LGD's)
- Parasite prevention.



Woven wire fencing



Secure gates + latches



Moveable electric netting



Livestock Guardian Dogs



LGD BREEDS

- Great Pyrenees
- Anatolian Shepherd
- Maremma

Buy as a puppy to grow up with your animals. Early exposure is key!

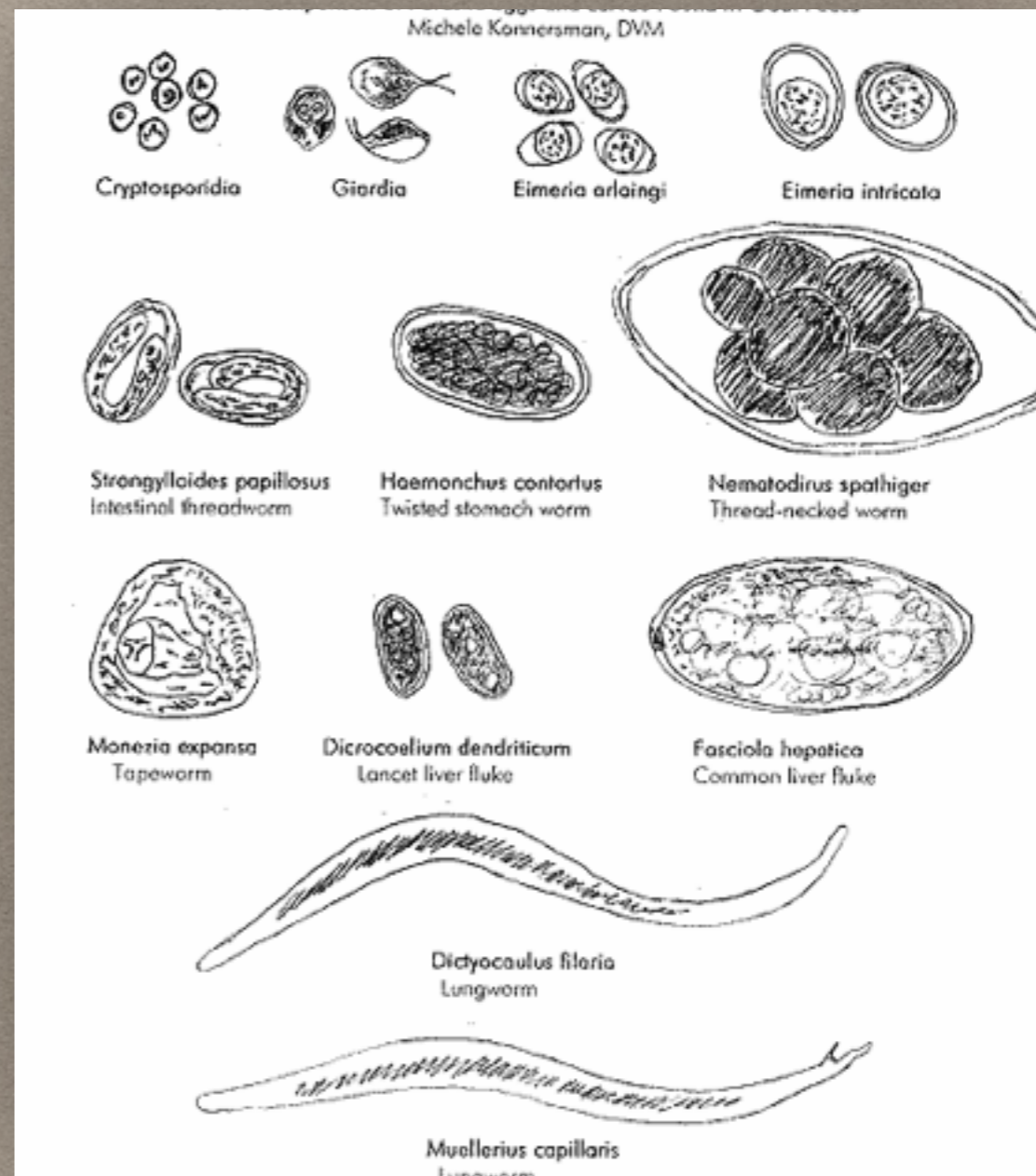


GOAT'S MOST DANGEROUS PREDATOR....

Internal Parasites

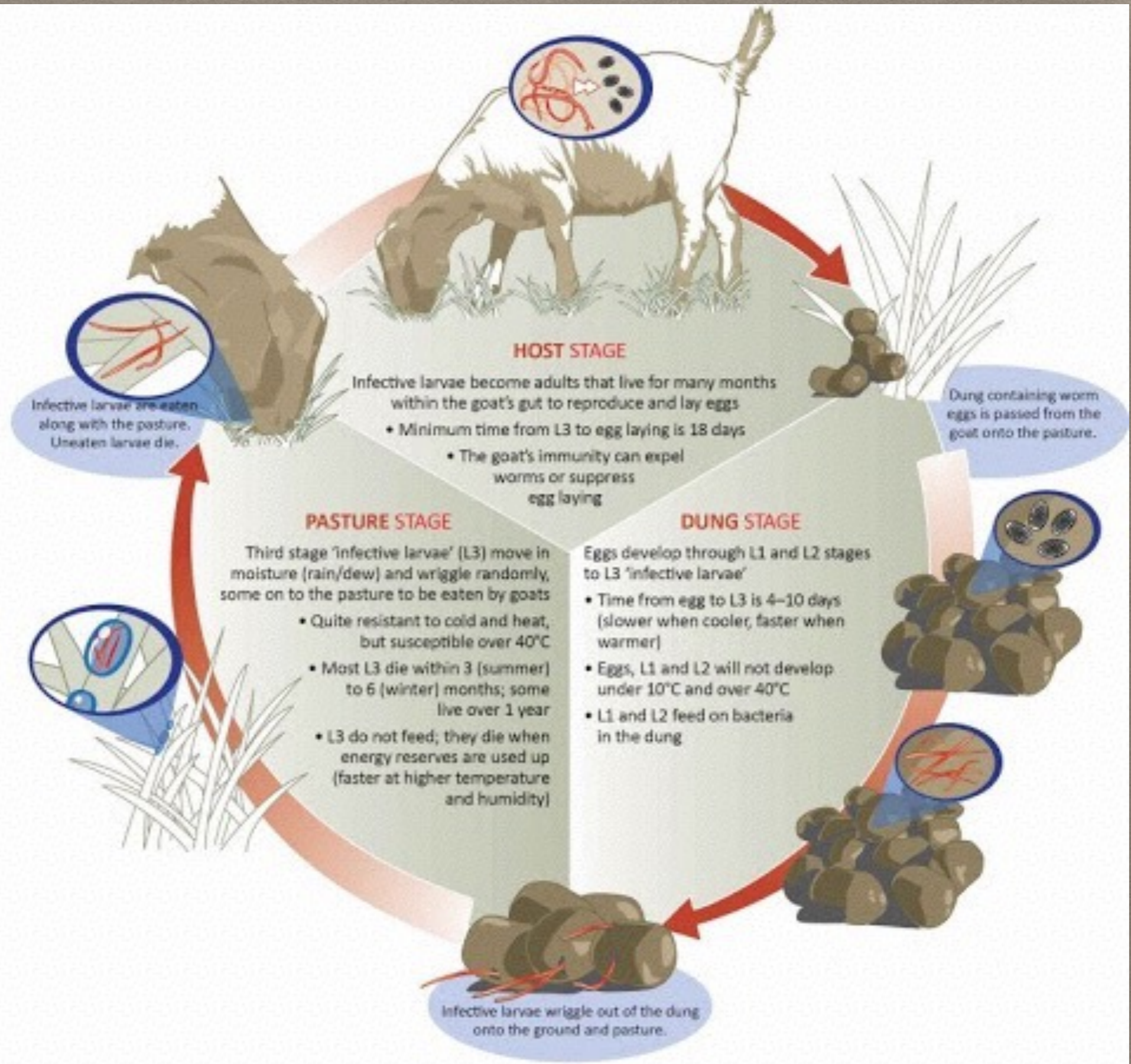
Parasites live and reproduce in warm, damp environments. Animals, such as goats, that live in these environments are at high risk of becoming infested.

Some parasites are normal and not reason to worry, but an overload can easily become life threatening to the animal.



GOAT'S MOST DANGEROUS PREDATOR...

Worms and parasites damage the internal organs and feast on the blood of the host, robbing it of needed nutrients and the ability to digest its food properly resulting in weight loss, anemia, diarrhea, and ultimately death. damage from parasites leave the goat weakened and susceptible to any disease it may be exposed to, including more parasites.



SIGNS OF PARASITE OVERLOAD

- Weight loss.
- Pale eye membranes.
- Diarrhea.
- Rough, course coat.
- Lethargy.
- Bottle jaw.



METHODS TO COMBAT INTERNAL PARASITES

- Rotational grazing.
- Keep all hay and feed off the ground.
- Change bedding in the shelter regularly.
- Spread wood chips or straw in especially wet areas around the shelter.
- Use sustainable, natural ways to build strong immune systems **BEFORE** parasites become an issue. Herbs, garlic, oils, and minerals.

GROWING HEALTHY GOATS; NATURALLY!

Fresh herbs such as oregano and thyme are full of nutrients, as well as having antibacterial and antiviral benefits. Oregano also helps to heal the intestine after parasite damage.

Add fresh oregano and thyme leaves to your goats food daily, or every few days at least to boost their immune system.



GARLIC: NATURE'S ANTIBIOTIC.

Garlic is well known for its health benefits. Give it as often as possible to your herd by chopping it finely and mixing it with grain.

Garlic has strong antibacterial properties helping you and your herd fight against any infection or illness.

1 FRESH clove per goat, daily if possible!



APPLE CIDER VINEGAR

ACV strengthens the immune system, improves digestion, and balances internal pH, as well as containing lots of nutrients.

Be sure to use raw, unfiltered ACV with the "mother."

Add ACV to water troughs, 1-2 cups per 20 gallons, and use in individual dosing along with herbs and molasses.



HERBAL BLENDS TO FIGHT PARASITES



- Land of Havilah parasite prevention herbal blend.
- Fir Meadows "

Mix dry with grain, or mix individual doses with ACV and, water and molasses.

Dose = 1/2 tsp per 50lbs.

Give in an oral 10 ml syringe weekly, or 3 days on 4 days off in times of stress and high risk.

ESSENCIAL OILS FOR GOATS

- Lemon
- Lemongrass
- Wild orange
- Cinnamon
- DigestZen
- Oregano
- Clove (NOT for pregnant goats!)



1 dose = 1 drop of each, diluted in 3 ml olive oil.

THE RISK OF DEWORMER RESISTANCE. WHY NATURAL METHODS?

By routinely giving strong dewormers, many farms and regions no longer have a way to treat sick, parasite ridden animals. By overusing these harsh chemicals, the worms and parasites are over time becoming stronger and more resistant, and are eventually unaffected by the medication, leaving you with no options, and a dying animal.

Keeping medication on hand is very important, but you never want to depend on that in order to have a healthy herd. Use it only when you must.

Standard medications are often filled with harsh chemicals and toxins that are also harmful to the animal, so use natural methods as much as possible to prevent issues.

TESTING FOR PARASITES

Fecal egg count

- 1. Take the goat to your local vet.
- 2. Take a bagged and labeled fecal sample to your vet for testing. 10-15 pellets.
- 3. Collect samples yourself and ship to a lab. Meadow mist lab.



ALWAYS TEST FIRST, THEN MEDICATE!

- Each medication targets a specific type of worm/parasite. In order to administer medication effectively, you have to test first to know what you are fighting.
- Giving the wrong medications leads to resistant parasites, which is very dangerous.
- Test before symptoms get bad.
- Consult with a "goat mentor" if possible!!!





ITEMS TO KEEP ON HAND

- Herbal parasite prevention blend. 1/2 tsp per 50 lbs. Weekly.
- ACV + water 50/50 -30 ml daily.
- Garlic : 1 clove per goat, daily.
- Probiotics : see instructions on packaging.
- Vitamin B complex (injectable) 6 ml per 100 lbs.
- Red cell : 6 ml per 100 lbs orally.
- Quest Plus Paste: 1ml per 100 lbs orally.

- *Ivomec Injectable: 1 ml per 40 lbs.
Orally 1 ml per 33 lbs.*
- *Toltrazuril 5%: 1 ml per 5 lbs (oral)*
- *Cydectin: 1 ml per 40 lbs.*
- *Syringes : 3,5,10 ml.*
- *Needles : 20 gauge, 1".*

* *use medications as instructed by your vet or goat "mentor"*

BOOKS + REFERENCES

- *Raising Goats Naturally* by Deborah Neimann.
- *Holistic Goat Care* by Gianaclis Caldwell
- *Caldwell Goat's Giving Birth* by Deborah Neimann
- Meadow Mist Lab (fecal testing)
- *The Giving Goat* blog (goat mentor) @goatlifegoodlife
- Land of Havilah (herbal blend)
- My contact : happyinmuddyboots@gmail.com
- Message me on Instagram @the.freckled.herd