

Sheep & Goat Quick Facts

From University of Georgia Extension & Fort Valley State University Extension

Health & Reproduction

SHEEP



102 - 103° F
70 - 90 beats per minute
10 - 20 breaths per minute

Every 16 - 17 days, Aug. thru Jan.
143 - 150 days, average 147 days
5 - 12 lbs, breed dependent
1 - 2 lambs per ewe
~ 3 months, or 2.5x birth weight



TEMPERATURE
HEART RATE
RESPIRATION

HEAT CYCLE
GESTATION
BIRTH WEIGHT
OFFSPRING
WEANING AGE

GOAT



102 - 104° F
70 - 80 beats per minute
12 - 15 breaths per minute

Every 20 - 21 days, Aug. thru Jan.
147 - 155 days, average 150 days
4 - 12 lbs, breed dependent
1 - 3 kids per doe
~ 3 months, or 2.5x birth weight

Breed Characteristics & Selection

Traits of Major Types of Goats in Georgia

Trait	GA Native	Spanish	Kiko	Dairy	Boer
Longevity	+++	+++	+++	+	++
Thriftiness	++++	++++	++++	+	+++
Frame Size	+	++	+++	++++	+++
Muscle	+	++	++	++	++++
Milk	+	+	+++	++++	+++
Udder Conformation	+++	+++	+++	+	+++
Disposition	++	+	+++	++++	++++
Appetite	++	+	++++	+++	++++
Nutrient Requirements	+	+	+++	++++	+++

Classification of Types of Sheep in Georgia

Wool	Meat	Dual Purpose	Other
Fine Wool American Cormo Merino Rambouillet	Hair American Blackbelly Barbados Blackbelly Dorper Katahdin St. Croix	Wool Columbia Corriedale Finnsheep Icelandic Polypay Targhee	Florida Cracker Gotland Gulf Coast Native Herdwick Hog Island Jacob Karakul Kerry Hill Navajo-Churro Racka Shetland Soay Valais Blacknose
Long Wool Border Leicester Cotswold Leicester Longwool Lincoln Romney Teesdale Wensleydale	Wooled Border Cheviot Dorset Hampshire North Country Cheviot Oxford Southdown Suffolk Texel Tunis	Dairy Awassi East Friesian Lacauene	

Stocking Rates

Estimated stocking rates for goats and sheep, including cow equivalent:

Adapted from NC State Extension Pub: Forage Needs and Grazing Management for Meat Goats in the Humid Southeast (2000)

Pasture Type	Goats	Sheep	Cows (for comparison)
Excellent pasture	6 - 8 head*	5 - 6 head*	1 head*
Brushy pasture	9 - 11 head*	6 - 7 head*	1 head*
Wheat/alfalfa sytem	10 - 12 head / acre	8 - 9 head / acre	1.5 head / acre
Brush eradication	8 - 12 head / acre	—	—
Sustainable browse management	1 - 3 head /acre	—	—



Pastures should be maintained with at least 4 - 6 inches of residual growth after grazing. Rotating pastures gives forages time to regenerate and rest, which allows for continued growth. Resting can also help with parasite control. Rest pastures for at least 60 days in the summer, and longer in winter grazing.

* Numbers with only "head" indicate a relative number of animals that would eat comparable amount of forage.
Ex: 6 - 8 goats will eat similar amount of pasture as 5 - 6 sheep or 1 cow.

Dewormer Charts

Sheep

Weight (lbs)	Valbazen (albendazole)	Safe-Guard (fenbendazole)	Ivomec Sheep Drench (ivermectin)	Cydetin Sheep Drench (moxidectin)
25	0.75 mL	0.6 mL	2.9 mL	2.3 mL
50	1.5	1.1	5.7	4.5
75	2.3	1.7	8.5	6.8
100	3.0	2.2	11.4	9.1
125	3.8	2.8	14.2	11.4
150	4.5	3.1	16.0	13.6



1 mL = 1 cc
All dewormers listed here are to be given orally.

Goat

Weight (lbs)	Valbazen (albendazole)	Safe-Guard (fenbendazole)	Ivomec Sheep Drench (ivermectin)	Cydetin Sheep Drench (moxidectin)
25	2.0 mL	1.1 mL	6.0 mL	4.5 mL
50	4.0	2.3	12.0	9.0
75	6.0	3.4	18.0	13.6
100	8.0	4.6	24.0	18.0
125	10.0	5.7	30.0	22.7
150	12.0	6.8	36.0	27.3

Always consult a veterinarian about your specific needs, and use these charts as a guide.

These charts were developed by Ray Kaplan, DVM, and Lisa Williamson, DVM (University of Georgia). Always read the label and adhere to meat/milk withdrawal times.

Sheep & Goat Resources

Supplies

Nasco Farm & Ranch - www.enasco.com
Premier 1 - www.premier1supplies.com
Rural King Farm & Home - www.ruralking.com
Tractor Supply Co. - www.tractorsupply.com
Valley Vet Supply - www.valleyvet.com

Information

UGA Extension - extension.uga.edu
FVSU Extension - ag.fvsu.edu/extension
Parasite Control - www.wormx.info
MD Small Ruminant - www.sheepandgoat.com
GA Sheep/Wool Assoc. - www.gasheepandwool.org



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