



Treatment of Summer Pneumonia By Donna Harbour

Summer pneumonia is a genuine threat to goats. Interstitial pneumonia can kill goats quickly and in large numbers. Wet weather, hot temperatures coupled with high humidity can be very stressful to goats. This type of pneumonia is a silent killer in many cases. One morning the goat appears fine, and that afternoon he is down and dying.

Symptoms

Sluggishness can be the only overt symptom.

Always take a sick goat's temperature with a rectal thermometer. Body temperature tells what direction you should go medication-wise. A fever usually indicates infection.

The goat can run sub-normal body temperature that requires a different medication regimen from a goat running fever.

Normal body temperature for goats is 101-103 degrees F. The sun will bring the normal temperature up as much as 2 degrees. An animal out in the sun with a rectal reading of 106 degrees likely has a fever. Interstitial pneumonia is accompanied by fever. The E Coli bacteria can also cause a fever.

Treatment

Baytril is the ultimate goat antibiotic!!!! Baytril must be obtained from your vet. ½ to 1 CC is enough to do the job on kids. Administer 1cc per 50 lbs to mature goats. I like to give the injections under the skin under the arm. In some cases a small reaction can result in a small sore.

You must give medication to reduce the fever. Banamine is the best but it also must be obtained from a vet. Administer banamine 1cc per 100 lbs. A small kid should receive [0.2cc] or ¼ of a cc.

When it is not possible to get medicine from your vet you can get antibiotics from your feed store. The best over the counter drugs are Tylan 200 and LA 200 (oxytetracycline). I like to mix the two together equal parts. Give 3cc of the mix for 3 days.

For chest congestion give Tussin Expectorant (Guaifenesin) Follow direction for a six-year-old child. Just use your Mom common sense like you did for your two-legged kids.

For fever you can use baby aspirin. Do not use other pain relievers, only baby aspirin.

Usually a three to five day schedule is required.

Preventative Measures

Keep your animals in a shady, dry place with plenty of fresh water. If the goat is not drinking you can drench with electrolytes. Resorb or NRG are the brands I like.

If you have any question feel free to call me any time. I will be happy to tell you all I know, which was learned the old fashioned way, by loosing some and saving some thru the years.