

BLOAT IN KID GOATS

Most bloat in kid goats is Enterotoxemia. Baking soda alone to counter acidosis is not sufficient to prevent death.

An antacid is needed, but I use Pepto Bismol, which is antacid, anti-gas, and anti-bacterial (the Bismuth).

For a young kid, I give 15cc Pepto Bismol oral, 5-7cc Penicillin SQ (depending on the kid's weight), 5-7cc oral of Penicillin (to topically kill bacteria in the rumen and small intestine causing acidosis, and gas) 5-7cc CD Antitoxin SQ. I also give 500mg Thiamin SQ to most kids. The symptoms usually subside very quickly. I repeat the Pepto Bismol 6 or so hours after the first dose. Wait at least 7-10 days, and booster with a Clostridial vaccine (Covexin-8 or Calvary 9), then again 3 weeks later.

ON day two, I repeat the CD Antitoxin, and the SQ Penicillin. I also give a dose of Calf Pac (to restart the rumen), 1 scoop mixed with a little water and drenched. (Calf Pac is a live probiotic product with 5 live organisms). Factor the dose for grown animals: NEVER USE VEGETABLE OIL IN ANY GOAT THAT IS BLOATED. Vegetable oil is digestible, and only adds to the digestive load.

In case of bloat and acidosis from grain overload, I use Mineral oil. Mineral oil is not digestible, and helps speed the grain on it's way, but does not add to the digestive load. Goats that have grain overload are in serious trouble.

I have had does break into the feed barn, and eat too much corn: They had vandalized a ton, and done so much damage, I had no idea how much they had eaten. When I found them they had been in the barn so long, that they were no longer in the barn. There were 30 fullbloods involved, and all were bloated, and some were so sick, that they were vomiting whole corn.

I got all of them in the working pens, and started treating. These were really big does, so I gave them each 5-6 oz of Pepto Bismol oral, depending on weight, 10cc Penicillin oral, and Banamine 1cc IM/100lbs, and Penicillin 10cc SQ, and 10cc CD antitoxin SQBi. I waited 5 hours, and most were visibly better, with bloat decreasing. Some were scouring by then, so they were getting rid of part of the overload. I gave each one 2 oz of Mineral oil, and the ones that had been vomiting got 2 oz more of Pepto Bismol. On the morning of day two, all were still alive, and all but one were significantly better. The really sick one had not been able to walk when I treated them the day before, so I repeated her Banamine, and gave her 3 scoops of Calf Pac. I gave all of the others, which were by then significantly better, only 1 scoop of Calf Pac to restart the rumen, and provided dry hay to all. On day three, the really sick one was dead. I opened her, and she had sloughed the lining of her rumen from the acidosis. The other does were all well. I kept them on

plain hay for three more days to be sure they were recovered. None of the recovered does have had complications from the acidosis.

This is how I do it.

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