

## **Farm 2: summary sheet**

### **Goats:**

250+ goats on the farm most of the time, with 150 milking.  
The herd consists of Alpine, Saanen, Oberhasli, LaMancha and Nubian goats.

### **Buildings:**

Barn 1: milking does, milking parlor and milk room.  
Barn 2: dry goats, birthing area, kid pens  
Shed for young stock. Bucks in separate quarters on one end of that shed.

### **Milking parlor:**

High-line swing parlor, with double 8, metal, herringbone stands and individual stanchion releases.

### **Clusters**

Parts Department goat clusters.

**Inflations:** silicone, changed every 5 months

### **Milk Room:**

Pulsator board, 600 gallon bulk tank, tank washer, pipeline washer.

### **Feed:**

**Forage:** 20 acres of grass/alfalfa pasture, which is cut and baled in large square bales and wrapped for baleage. Buy all other hay, baleage and feed.

**Supplement:** 14% ration for milking does::

Shell corn	3,000 lbs.
Whole oats	1,590 lbs.
Roasted Soybeans	1,050 lbs.
Yeast fortifier	15 lbs.
Molasses, wet	180 lbs.
Niacin	9 lbs.
Vitamin ADE 20/10/1	6 lbs.
Calc N Rich	100 lbs.
Selenium	2 lbs.

Makes about 3 tons of feed

**Mineral:** 20:10 loose dairy mineral mix and buffer (sodium bicarbonate) in all of the pens, free choice at all times.

### **Milking does:**

Forage: 14% alfalfa/grass mixed hay and 20% baleage free choice.

Supplement: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> week lactating: two 1 lb. feedings per day, fed while milking.

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> week lactating: two 1 ½ lb. feedings per day, fed while milking.

Stay on this amount until milk production falls, then go back to 1 lb. per day.

Stay on 1 lb. per day until the goat is dried off at 3<sup>rd</sup> month of pregnancy,

or if not pregnant, until it stops milking on it's own..

Buffer: free choice

Loose mineral: free choice

### **Dry does 4<sup>th</sup> month of pregnancy:**

Forage: 14% alfalfa/grass mixed hay and 20% baleage free choice.

Supplement: none unless body condition score is less than 2. Then ½ lb. supplement/day to bring up condition.

Buffer: free choice

Loose mineral: free choice

### **Dry does 5<sup>th</sup> month of pregnancy:**

Forage: 14% alfalfa/grass mixed hay and 20% baleage free choice.

Supplement: 1<sup>st</sup> week: two ¼ lb. feedings per day.

2<sup>nd</sup> week: two ½ lb. feedings per day.

3<sup>rd</sup> week: two ¾ lb. feedings per day

4<sup>th</sup> week: two ¾ lb. feedings per day

Buffer: free choice  
Loose mineral: free choice

**Replacements (doelings and bucklings):**

Forage: 14% alfalfa/grass mixed hay and 14% baleage free choice.  
Supplement: ½ lb. per day for growth  
Buffer: free choice  
Loose mineral: free choice

(Note: Pregnant doelings need extra feed for fetuses. See Goat Dairy Library, Nutrition, Dietary Needs By Category)

**Newborn Kids:**

-Kids are separated from mothers at birth and are bottle fed by hand until they can eat from a bucket.  
-Bucklings are sold to meat goat producer at 2 days old.  
-We feed Land O Lakes Non-medicated Nursing Formula , with 10.6 cc. of Sulmet per gallon of milk to prevent coccidiosis.  
We mix the milk, then measure according to table below:

**Kid Feeding schedule:**

Week 1 Day 1: 3 feedings of 8 oz. heat-treated colostrum by bottle, or if weak, by tube feeder  
Day 2-7 3 feedings of 8 oz. milk replacer by bottle, or if weak, by tube feeder

Week 2 3 feedings of 12 oz. milk replacer in lamb bucket, bucket or tube feeder

Week 3 3 feedings of 16 oz. milk replacer in lamb bucket. Put 18-20% calf starter in pen cups free choice.

Week 4 3 feedings of 16 oz. milk replacer in lamb bucket, 18-20% calf starter free-choice, 14% grass or alfalfa hay free choice

Week 5 3 feedings of 12 oz. milk replacer and 4 oz. water in lamb bucket, 18-20% calf starter free-choice, hay free choice

Week 6 3 feedings of 8 oz. milk replacer and 8 oz. water in lamb bucket, 18-20% calf starter free choice, hay free choice

Week 7 3 feedings of 4 oz. milk replacer and 12 oz. water in lamb bucket, 18-20% calf starter free choice, hay free choice

Week 8 Weaned. No milk. Only water, grain and hay.

**Bucks:**

Forage: 14% alfalfa/grass mixed hay and 14% baleage free choice.  
Supplement: ½ lb. twice a day. Slowly increased to 1 lb. during breeding season, then slowly decreased back to ½ lb. after breeding season is over.  
Buffer: free choice  
Loose mineral: free choice

**Breeding:**

Half of herd is bred in natural season and half bred out of season.  
Out of season breeding: Lights on 20 hrs. a day starting Jan.1, then off March 1. Heat starts in May.

**Deworming:**

Entire herd is FAMACHA checked and dewormed May 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup> and as needed after that.

**Cleaning the barn:**

Barn cleaner and manure spreader.

**Any advice you would like to give people:**

Buy only certified CAE-free and Johnes-free goats. Insist on seeing testing results on paper. Spend your money on bucks with high producing mothers and grandmothers, and the best does you can get. Better to get fewer, high quality goats, than lots of low quality ones.

**Have you created any equipment or do you have any ideas that you think work very well that you would like to share with other people?** Industrial shelving feed bunks, wooden feed bunks, homemade gates.

**What would you change about your operation if you could do it all over again?**

I would have made the milking parlor at least 4' longer to give us more work room, and 5' wider so we could walk around the stand to fill the cups instead of reaching across the stand. I would fill in the barn cleaner areas with limestone and use a skid steer to clean the barns, instead of hand cleaning into a barn cleaner every day. I would design each building and pen so they could be cleaned with a skid steer.

**Farm layout / Barn diagrams:**

Included.