

## CHAPTER 7: RECORD KEEPING

Record keeping is an essential part of good herd management. There are a number of types of records which should be kept.

### GROWTH RECORDS

Using the weight tapes or charts, you can keep a record on the growth of the kids. The following was a summary of weights kept over a period of 8 years as reported by A. A. Plimpton of the British Goat Society.

Age	Wgt. lbs.	Avg. Weekly Gain lbs.
Birth	8.5	--
1 mo.	21.0	3.19
2 mo.	32.0	2.75
4 mo.	57.0	3.12
6 mo.	73.0	2.00
12 mo.	108.0	1.50
18 mo.	136.5	1.16
21 mo.	144.0	.64

Although these figures are not necessarily offered as the "ideal", it should give you some indication as to average growth patterns.  
Source: Dairy Goat Journal, April 1971.

### WEIGHT CHART

We suggest that you use weigh tapes; however, if you are without one, you can use the following chart to aid in determining weight. The measurements should be taken at the heart girth (just behind front legs up to withers). It should be snug, but not overly tight.

Inches	Pounds
10- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	5
11- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	5.5
11- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	6
12- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	6.5
12- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	7
13- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8
13- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	9
14- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	10
14- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	11
15- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	12
15- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	13
16- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	15
16- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	17
17- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	19
17- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	21
18- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	23
18- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	25
19- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	27
19- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	29
20- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	31
20- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	33
21- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	35
21- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	37
22- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	39
22- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	42

23- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	45
23- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	48
24- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	51
24- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	54
25- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	57
25- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	60
26- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	63
26- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	66
27- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	69
27- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	72
28- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	75
28- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	78
29- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	81
29- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	84
30- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	87
30- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	90
31- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	93
31- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	97
32- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	101
32- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	105
33- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	110
33- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	115
34- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	120
34- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	125
35- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	130
35- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	135
36- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	140
36- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	145
37- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	150
37- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	155
38- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	160
38- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	165
39- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	170
39- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	175
40- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	180
40- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	185
41- <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	190
41- <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	195

Adapted from Ralston Purina Company

## **HEALTH RECORDS**

This should include all vaccination programs, any diseases or ailments and the response to the treatment. You may want to keep a daily log which would be an overall view of the herd, and you also may want to keep a separate sheet on each individual herd member. This would be very helpful to pass along to anyone purchasing the animal.

## **BREEDING RECORDS**

Keep a running sheet on each doe, her offspring each year, the sire used and any notations as to presentation at birth, abnormalities, weight of kids and tattoo and description of the kids. If the kids are retained, open a sheet on each kid. A breeding record for each buck can quickly tell you the number of kids on the ground, and any other details on the progeny which you may note.

## **PRODUCTION RECORDS**

Daily milk records are very helpful, even if you are on an official testing. Here you could maintain a daily log and make notations as to weather conditions, heat days, breeding dates, and other pertinent data.

## **FEED RECORDS**

This will give you a good overall view of the cost factor in goat keeping. You may want to make notes of individual feed intakes as compared to milk produced. In addition to grain and hay, don't forget the costs of minerals and other such supplements.

