

# Preparing for your new pygmy goat kids!

## Picking-Up Kids

Bring a dog crate a 300 size or medium size to pick them up or two people to hold them. You need to put some towels in the bottom or shavings or straw so they do not slip around in the crate. You can get one at Petsmart, or Wal-Mart. It should be big enough to hold a medium sized dog.



Or if you have someone to hold them one person for each and bring a towel for each. In most cases baby goats will not go to the bathroom while you are holding them.

## When you get them home

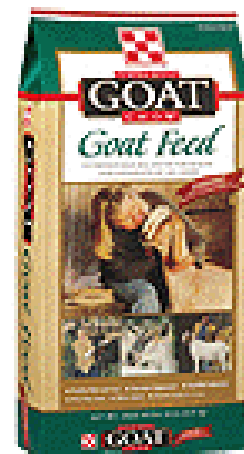
1. When you arrive at home your kids are going to be very scared. Do not take them out of the crate unless you are in a secure area in case they get loose.
2. Put them in a very small area someplace you can catch them without chasing them. If your crate is large enough they can spend a couple of nights in the crate but be sure to keep changing the bedding so it is clean.
3. Hold them and love them a lot. It will take some time for them to tame down. Try feeding them some grain in your hand. Hold them a lot.
4. You can teach them to lead like a dog and they will enjoy going on walks with you.

## What to feed them

1. They should have alfalfa or alfalfa/grass mix hay

### Grain

2. If does they can have grain 2X a day about a ½ of a cup in each feeding. Any commercial goat ration should be fine. We recommend Purina Goat Ration

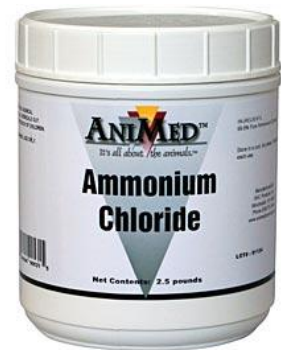


**Purina Mills® Goat Chow®**

***Research Proven for Health & Vitality of all breeds of goats***

A highly palatable supplement of corn, oats, barley and nutritious pellets in a coarse, sweet feed. Purina Goat Chow is fortified with all the essential vitamins and minerals, such as selenium, Vitamin E, and cobalt and provides 16% all natural protein. Goat Chow can be fed to dry does, growing does, bucks, Pygmy goats, Show goats and as a milking ration.

3. If wethers you can feed them grain as a treat but limit their grain ration to prevent urinary calculi.
4. It is also good to feed wethers Ammonium Chloride. Here is a link <http://www.jefferspet.com/ammonium-chloride/camid/liv/cp/AX-AN/>
5. Your goats should have a small dish of baking soda, iodized salt, and goat mineral available at all times. Put the dishes somewhere where they will stay dry. They may eat it and they may never eat it but they should have the option.



## Goat Mineral

(Purina Mills) All-purpose vitamin and mineral supplement suitable for goats of all ages and breeds. Feed free-choice from sheltered feeders or mix into finished rations to provide approximately 1/4 to 1/2 ounce per head daily.



You can get loose salt or a 3 lb salt block or a large salt block. Put it somewhere where it will be kept dry.



Baking soda is the kind you find in the grocery store they should always have it available free choice.

## Treats

Your kids need to learn what treats are you can do this by putting a few in their feed and letting them explore them on their own.

Some treats they like are

- Salted Peanuts in the shell
- Wheat Thins
- Animal Crackers



## Disclaimer

**Most medications used to treat goats, whether they are prescription or over the counter, are "off label" or "extra label" usage. Few medications have been specifically formulated for and approved for use with goats. Therefore, goat producers are always searching for new medications for their goats' health problems. Too much experimentation is going on with medications without the supervision of a qualified veterinarian, the most significant being the improper usage of antibiotics. Further, in many parts of this country vets know little to nothing about goats.**

**First, the usual disclaimers. I am NOT a vet. I have been raising goats since 1982, and I have excellent vet upon whose advice I rely and who are experienced in treating goats. Use the information provided in this article at your own risk and only AFTER you have consulted with a qualified veterinarian.**

## Vaccinations/Worming/Cocci Prevention



- Your babies need to have a series of three vaccinations of CD/T one month apart. Then a booster once a year.

This is something we can show you how to give, or you can have your vet do it for you. You can also set up an appointment for us to show you how to do it. We only charge for the shot.

- Worming your kids should be wormed every month for the first six months then they should be wormed 4X a year. You can get spot-on cattle wormer so you do not have to use an injection.

## Ivomec Pour-On

(Merial) The pioneer in broad spectrum pour-on ivermectin parasite control for cattle. Provides proven results in the treatment and control of roundworms, lungworms, grubs, horn flies, sucking and biting lice and sarcoptic mange. Dosage: 1 ml per 22 lbs. body weight. Rain fast after 6 hours.

You can find this product in the Valley Vet Supply catalog in your package.



## Routine Cocci Prevention

Your babies should be treated routinely for coccidian prevention we use Baycox/Toltrazuril which is only one dose per month vs five or more of some of the other products.

## Or

You can take a fecal sample in to see if your kids have coccidian if they don't you do not need to treat them.

## Baycox/Toltrazuril

Toltrazuril for EMP – 200 ML  
Toltrazuril (Compare to the active ingredients of Baycox)



You can buy it go to <http://horseprerace.com> and search for Toltrazuril

## Finding a Vet That Treats goats

For a list of vets that treat goats check our website.

## Other Supplies to have on hand



### Thermometer

Digital rectal human thermometer if you babies are not acting normal the first thing to do is to take their temperature. It should be between 102-103 if it is higher or lower you should consult with a vet.

### Pepto-Bismol

Pepto Bismol (pink bismuth) - Over-the-counter product to help with irritation/distress caused by diarrhea in both kids and adults. Use up to 2 cc every four to six hours for newborns; 5 cc for kids approaching one month old; as much as 10 to 15 cc for adults. Before using Pepto-Bismol when diarrhea is present, first determine the cause of the problem. See my article on Diarrhea on my website's Articles page: <http://www.tennesseeatgoats.com>. Follow up with oral ruminant probiotics to repopulate the gastro-intestinal tract (gut) with live bacteria needed for digestion. Do not use Immodium AD to control diarrhea in goats; it can stop the peristaltic action of the gut and cause death.



### Probiotic

Probiotics, Oral - Over-the-counter oral ruminant gel which should be used in conjunction with antibiotic therapy, treatment for diarrhea (scours), and when shipping goats. Take along several tubes and administer it to each animal at least once per day during the journey. Helps



lessen stress and settle the stomach. Probios is a well-known brand name, but Register Distributing in Wade, North Carolina sells the best probiotic. It is called Goat Guard Probiotic and can be purchased at <http://www.goatsupplies.com> or call 1-888-310-9606. Register Distributing has a newer version available called Synguard Probiotic. Keep refrigerated in warm climates.

### Goat and Sheep Nutri-Drench

Dramatic response for weak newborns, appetite, diarrhea, multiple birth, antibiotic/vaccine response,



travel and heat stress. Beneficial in any stress condition. Maximize performance and stamina in show. Delivers high energy, vitamins, minerals, amino acids, electrolytes and antioxidants in minutes. Give orally.

**Newborns:** 4 cc at birth

**Adults:** 1 oz or 30 cc per 100 lbs of body weight



## Hoof Trimmers

We now have these in stock they are \$15.95 + Tax

## Milk of Magnesia

Over-the-counter laxative product that is useful for constipation and toxicity reactions (to move toxic materials through and out of the body), including bloat, overeating disease, and Floppy Kid Syndrome. Use as oral drench at a rate of 15 cc per 60 lbs. body weight every four to six hours until the feces goes from normal to clumpy then back to normal 'pills.' Always keep the animal hydrated with electrolytes (ReSorb or equivalent) when using Milk of Magnesia or other laxatives. Keep MoM on hand at all times.



## BABY ASPIRIN (81 mg)

If the goat is teeth grinding, indicating pain, you can crush up one baby aspirin for each 10 pounds of goat. Drizzle with molasses and dissolve in hot water. Give to goat orally, and can be given every 4 hours, as needed. Note: this may seem like a lot of aspirin for a larger goat, but it takes a large dose to cross the brain synapsis and have any effect. Real aspirin, and not Ibuprofen or Tylenol is important, as the vehicle those milk withdrawl.