Glossary

abomasum  the fourth of four compartments of the stomach.
abortion  the termination of a pregnancy before its natural end.
abscess  an enclosed collection of pus caused by an infection.
acaricide  a chemical that kills ticks.
acute  of disease, appearing suddenly, lasting a short time with severe symptoms.
alley farming  growing annual crops between rows of trees.
anaemia  lack of red blood cells in the blood, shown by pale mucous membranes.
anaesthetic  a drug which prevents the feeling of pain.
anoestrus  period when the obvious signs of oestrus are not shown because of poor nutrition or lactation.
anthelmintic  a drug which kills internal parasites.
antibiotic  a drug which controls bacterial infections.
antibody  a naturally produced substance that circulates in the blood and protects against infections.
anus  the opening of the rectum through which undigested food (faeces) passes.
arthritis  inflammation of a joint.
avitamin  the introduction of male sperm into the reproductive tract of a female by means of a tube.
bacteria  very small living agents which cause infections.
browse  the leaves and stems of trees and shrubs eaten by goats.
buck  male goat.
caprine  to do with goats.
carcass  the body of a dead animal.
castration  making a male animal sexually inactive by removing its testicles or making them shrivel and die.
cervix  the neck of the uterus.
chromosome  the part of the nucleus of a cell that contains the genetic material or DNA.
chronic  of disease, lasting a long time.
clinical  to do with the practical study of a sickness.
colostrum  the first milk produced after birth, containing antibodies.
contagious spreading by contact.
corpus luteum the structure remaining after ovulation. In pregnancy it persists to produce progesterone.
cross-breeding the process of mating different breeds or types for the purpose of improving one of them.
culling the process of removing unwanted animals, usually of poor quality, from a flock.
dam mother.
diarrhoea the frequent passing of liquid faeces.
discharge the passage of liquid from the body.
disinfectant a chemical which is used to kill bacteria.
disposable designed to be used once and thrown away.
DM dry matter
doe female goat
drenching giving a liquid by mouth, often an anthelmintic.
dry matter (DM) the part of the feed, not containing water, that contains its nutrients.
dystocia difficulty giving birth.
drench a liquid given by mouth to an animal, usually an anthelmintic.
ejaculation the release of sperm during mating.
embryo a young animal or foetus, developing in its mother, during its very early stages before the legs and head are clearly visible.
endemic regularly found in a region.
enteritis inflammation of the intestine, causing diarrhoea.
epidemic the occurrence of a disease at a much higher rate than normal.
exotic introduced from outside.
F₁ the name given to the first generation after a cross between parents.
faeces undigested food that passes out of the body through the anus.
fever a high body temperature.
foetus a young animal developing inside its mother before birth.
gangrene death of tissue.
genotype the genetic composition of an animal.
gestation the period of pregnancy. About 150 days in goats.
Graafian follicle the group of cells containing the mature ovum.
heritability the degree to which a characteristic is passed on from parents to offspring.
heterosis the difference between the offspring and the mean of the parents. Can be positive or negative.
hybrid vigour arises when there is positive heterosis and the offspring is better than the mean of the parents.
**Glossary**

**immunity** protection within the body against disease-causing agents.

**indigenous** naturally occurring in an area.

**in-breeding** the mating of two closely related individuals.

**infection** invasion of the body by disease organisms.

**infectious** able to cause an infection.

**inflammation** a response of the body to injury, characterised by heat, pain, redness, and loss of use.

**intersex** a goat born with a mixture of male and female sexual organs.

**intramammary** into the udder.

**intramuscular** into the muscle.

**intravenous** into the vein.

**lactational anoestrus** when signs of oestrus are not shown because the doe is lactating.

**larva** the early form of a parasite.

**legume** a plant able to trap nitrogen from the atmosphere and fix it as protein, e.g. pigeon pea or leucaena.

**libido** the sexual urge.

**lymph nodes** swellings in the body that act as filters for harmful organisms.

**mucous membrane** a surface tissue of the body covered and lubricated with mucus, e.g. inside the skin surrounding the eye.

**mucus** a shiny liquid which covers some body surfaces (mucous membranes) e.g. inside the eyelid, mouth or nose.

**nutritional anoestrus** when signs of oestrus are not shown because the doe is poorly fed.

**oedema** a collection of fluid in tissues.

**oestrogen** hormone which induces oestrus.

**oestrus** period when the doe is receptive to mating. Sometimes known as ‘season’ or ‘heat’.

**orchitis** inflammation of one or both testicles.

**ovum** unfertilised egg. Plural is ova.

**ovary** female organs where ova develop.

**oviduct** tube (Fallopian tube) running from the ovary to the uterus.

**ovulation** time at which ripe ovum is released into the oviducts.

**perennial** a plant which lives for three or more years.

**phenotype** the way an animal's genetic composition is seen in physical characteristics.

**pheromones** a chemical substance produced by one animal that affects the behaviour of another, e.g. substances produced by a buck that stimulate oestrus in a doe.
| **pneumonia** | inflammation of the lungs. |
| **polled** | without horns. |
| **post-mortem** | after death. |
| **prophylactic** | preventative. |
| **puberty** | the age at which a young animal becomes sexually active. |
| **pus** | thick liquid, yellow or green, with or without blood, produced at sites of infection. |
| **rapid rural appraisal (RRA)** | methods used to make a quick assessment of the problems of a rural community. |
| **rumen** | the large first stomach of ruminants that allows them to digest fibrous feeds. |
| **ruminant** | any animal with a rumen, which enables it to digest fibrous feeds. |
| **salivation** | the production of liquid (saliva) from the mouth. |
| **scab** | the dried crust forming over a wound. |
| **scrotum** | the skin bag containing the testicles. |
| **serum** | the liquid that separates from blood after it has clotted. |
| **spermatic cord** | the structures by which the testicles are suspended in the scrotum. |
| **strategic** | carefully selected to have maximum effect and be economical. |
| **subcutaneous** | under the skin. |
| **symptom** | a sign of abnormality indicating disease. |
| **systemic** | widespread throughout the body. |
| **testicle** | the male sexual organ contained in the scrotum. |
| **toggle** | a small growth dangling from the neck of some goats, also known as tassels or wattles. |
| **trait** | a characteristic of an animal. |
| **undersowing** | planting a crop underneath another one. |
| **uterus** | a Y-shaped organ and the site where the embryo is nurtured. |
| **vagina** | organ connecting the uterus with the outside, into which sperm is inserted during sexual intercourse. |
| **vasectomy** | operation whereby the male is made sterile but retains its sexual desire. |
| **vector** | a carrier, especially an insect, which carries an infective agent from one animal to another. |
| **vulva** | outside opening of the vagina. |
| **wattles** | a small growth dangling from the neck of some goats, also known as tassels or toggles. |
APPENDIX

Useful addresses

Export of breeding goats from UK

Agricultural Export Services,
Caudle Farm,
Caudle Green,
Cheltenham, GL53 9PR
UK
Tel/Fax: +44 1285 821659

Goat societies

International Goat Association,
216 Wachusett St,
Rutland, MA 01543,
USA
Fax: +1 508 886 6729
Publishes the Small Ruminant Research Journal

British Goat Society,
34-36 Fore Street,
Bovey Tracey,
Newton Abbot,
Devon, TQ13 9AD
Tel: +44 1626 833168
Publishes a monthly journal for members

Dairy Goat Journal,
W2997,
Markert Rd,
Helenville, WI 53137
Monthly newspaper obtained by subscription
Useful addresses

United Caprine News,
PO Drawer A,
Rotan, Texas 79546,
USA
Tel: +1 817 579 5211
Fax: +1 817 579 2606

Monthly newspaper obtained by subscription

Heifer Project International,
PO Box 808,
Little Rock,
Arkansas 72203,
USA

Produces useful newsletter, 'Heifer Project Exchange'

Film strips on goats and forage and solar-powered projection equipment

World Neighbors
5116 North Portland Avenue,
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
USA
Tel: +1 405 946 3333

Veterinary drug supplies

Veterinary Drug Co. plc,
Common Road,
Donnington,
York, YO1 5RU,
UK
Tel: +44 904 488444
Fax: +44 904 488208
Telex: 57588 VETDRUG

Channelle Veterinary Ltd.,
Loughrea,
Co Galway,
Ireland
Tel: +353 91 41788
Fax: +353 91 41303
Telex: 50857 BURK EI
Appendix

Veterinary and livestock equipment

Alfred Cox (Surgical) Ltd.,
Coulsdon,
Surrey, CR3 2XA
Tel: +44 181 668 2131
Fax: +44 181 668 4196
Telex: 947946 COXSURG G

Temperate and tropical forage seeds

HR Marketing Ltd.,
11-13 Bentham Street,
Adelaide,
South Australia 5000,
Australia
Tel: +61 8 2310640
Fax: +61 8 2310642

Can supply large quantities of high-quality seed

SETROPA,
Postbus 203,
1400 AE Bussum,
Holland,
Tel: +31 2152 58754
Fax: +31 2152 65424

International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI),
PO Box 5689,
Addis Ababa,
Ethiopia
Tel: +251 1 613215
Fax: +251 1 611892
Telex: 21207 ILCA ET

Will supply small quantities (50 g) of forage seed for trials

Weighscales

David Ritchie (Implements) Ltd.,
Whitehills,
Forfar, DD8 3EE
Scotland
UK
Tel: +44 0307 62271
Fax: +44 0307 64081
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