

Feed and Feeding of Dairy Goat



Types of feeds

Goat feeds are classified into roughages, concentrates, minerals and vitamins

Roughages

This include natural and established pasture and fodder



Napier grass



Brachiaria grass



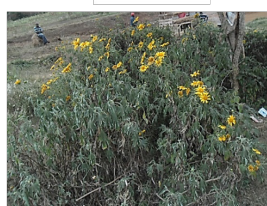
Sorghum



Greenleaf Desmodium



Luecaena



Tithonia

Concentrates

Concentrates are balanced combinations of essential feed ingredients rich in energy and protein. Some of the sources of essential nutrients (energy and protein) are presented in the table below.

Essential nutrient	Source
Energy	Maize bran, maize germ, wheat pollard, maize meal, oat meal, rice bran
Plant protein	Seed cakes from cotton, sunflower, soya seeds, canola and lupin meal.
Protein from animal origin	Meat and bone meals, blood meal, fish meal, whey.

Minerals and Vitamins

Mineral leaks and vitamin supplements



Block salt



Powder mineral salt

Feed preparation and presentation

- Forage feeds can be prepared and supplied in long form or chopped. Chopping improve intake and minimizes selection.
- Concentrate feeds are commonly supplied in crumbs, pellet or block form.
- Minerals can be provided in powder, block form or mixed with other feed concentrates.



Long form



Chopped forages

Feeding of kids

Bucket/bottle feeding is recommended. Feeding schedule for kids is as shown in the table below;

Period	Feeding (milk, solids)
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30-60 ml colostrum in first 2 hrs., then 45 ml every 4 h (total 180 ml)
Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 ml milk 4 times a day (total 240 ml)
Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 75 ml milk 4 times a day (total 300 ml)
Day 4 – week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give increasingly 90-260 ml milk 4 times a day (total 350-1,040 ml) Introduce solid feed (e.g., grass, hay, grain) and water at end of week 2
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce milk from 260 ml 4 times (total 1,040 ml) to 3 times a day (total 780 ml) Kid can freely feed on solids such as hay and grass
Week 4- Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feed increasingly 290-350 ml milk 3 times a day (total of 870-1,050 ml) <p><i>Note: Sweet potato vines (SPV) can be fed ad libitum to replace milk</i></p>
Week 10- Week 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feed a total of 700 ml milk 2 times a day (350 ml per feeding) (with hay and grain)
Week 12- Week 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give 350 ml milk once a day till fully weaned



Group Bottle-feeding of kids

Feeding of different category of dairy goat




Category	Feed requirement
Doelings and dry does	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5-8 kg of fresh feed per day.• 4-5 litres of clean and safe water per day/goat• Water and minerals should be availed through out
Lactating goats	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 kg fresh feed is requirement per day• 300g of dairy meal daily as a supplement for better production of milk.• Water and minerals should be availed through out
Bucks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 kg a day and 8-10 kg/day fresh feed during breeding season• A concentrate (dairy meal) at 50-100 g per day.• Water and minerals should be availed through out

Feed storage and safety

- **Concentrates and feed ingredients-** should be stored in a cool dry place that is rodent proof and fed within six months from the date of manufacture.
- **Fresh forages-** should be wilted before utilization and storage.

Feed conservation

Excess forages during the rainy season, can be harvested and stored as silage, hay or standing hay for future use.

Method conservation	Description
<p>Baled Hay</p> 	<p>Grass or legumes, cut at the right harvesting stage, wilted for one to two days and then stored as hay stack or baled hay.</p>
<p>Silage</p> 	<p>Fodder and legumes chopped and compacted to remove as much air as possible and then covered with waterproof material to allow fermentation. It can be batch or pit silage.</p>
<p>Standing hay</p> 	<p>Grass left in the field uncut (standing) with the purpose of grazing.</p>



Kenya Climate Smart
Agriculture Project



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