

PREGNANCY TOXEMIA



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- A.K.A - Ketosis, twin-lamb/kid disease, lambing paralysis, pregnancy disease
- Occurs during last 2-4 w. of gestation
 - Approx. 70% of fetal growth occurs in the last few weeks of gestation



CAUSES

- Low glucose in the blood → excessive breakdown of body fat to compensate → ketones in blood and urine
 - Toxic by product of fat breakdown
- Multiple fetuses (2 or more)
 - Extra demand for energy
- Poor feed, cold weather, lack of exercise, stress
- Ewe/Doe is too fat
 - not enough room in the stomach to eat enough
 - More fat to breakdown

CAUSES

- Ewe/Doe is too thin
 - Cannot eat enough to meet their own nutritional needs
 - Therefore cannot consume enough for fetus



SYMPTOMS

- ◉ Isolate themselves
- ◉ Anorexia, weakness, depression
- ◉ May appear blind
- ◉ Neurologic signs-tremors, star-gazing, incoordination, circling, teeth grinding, coma
- ◉ SQ edema of lower limbs
- ◉ May last from 12 hrs to 10 days
- ◉ Death of fetus releases toxins that hasten demise of the doe
 - Mortality ~80%



PROGNOSIS & TREATMENT

- C-section, induce parturition
- Try to meet glucose requirements
 - Propylene glycol - 40-60mL twice daily
 - Corn syrup, glucose IV, feed or inject B vitamins, electrolyte solutions
 - Kid/lamb - colostrum from functional ruminant if dam is not available



PREVENTION

- ◉ Increase high energy concentrates and grains during last month of pregnancy
- ◉ Protein balance in ration
 - For ruminal microbe function



PREVENTION

- ◉ Special care for thin does/ewes
- ◉ Do not let dam get too fat
- ◉ Easier to prevent than to treat



SOURCES

- <http://www.case-agworld.com/cAw.LU.ket.html>
- <http://sheepandgoat.com/articles/pregtox.html>
- <https://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/livestk/01630.html>

