COCCIDIOSIS IN SHEEP AND GOATS
Can be known as bloody scouers

Coccidiosis is caused by coccidia- a group of single celled parasites

Intercellular parasites

Infection is caused by ingestion of the oocyst (egg) from the environment

Eimeria ninakohlyakimovae and Eimeria arlongi are particularly troublesome in goats
They live and grow within the cells lining the gastrointestinal tracts of the host. The oocyst is passed in the feces of infected hosts. Oocysts must undergo a period of development after being passed before becoming able to infect another host.
After a susceptible goat ingests developed oocyst, "spores" are released and enter the cells lining the intestine

The intestinal cells are destroyed and thousands of smaller forms of coccidia are released

These smaller forms attack other intestinal cells

Eventually sexual stages are reached and new oocysts are passed into the environment

The complete cycle usually takes about 2-3 weeks
Loss of appetite
Slight, short-lived diarrhea
Severe bloody diarrhea
Chance of causing death
Severity of symptoms depends on the number of parasites in the infected animal
- Coccidia can be detected by microscopically testing fecal samples from your herd.
- The presence of coccidia in samples does not guarantee that the animal has coccidiosis.
- Healthy goats have some immunity.
- The most susceptible are the very young and kids and lambs that are being weaned.
- Adults can contract it due to stress or from a heavily infected area.
Treatment

- Sulfa drugs
  - Sulfamethazine
  - sulfadimethoxine (Albon)
  - Sulfaguanidine
  - Tetracycline
  - amprolium (Corid R)
- not all are for goat use
- Treatment is usually given for five days
- These are known as coccidiostats
Best way is to feed rations that have coccidiostats in it such as decoquinate (Decox) and lasalocid (Bovatec)

Treat kids at three weeks of age and then again in three weeks

Isolate infected animals from the herd
sources

- http://goatconnection.com/articles/publish/article_111.shtml