# Feeding Goats or....

Goat Nutrition: We know some things, but more to learn

University of Idaho
Extension

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Photo from E. Bruce Shankle II, NC Dept. Ag & Consumer Services

### USDA Live Goat Grades

- Selection No. 1
- Selection No. 2
- Selection No. 3

Effective Date: October 2001

### Selection No. 1

Selection No. 1 live goat have a superior meat type conformation without regard to the presence of fat cover. They shall be thickly muscled throughout the body as indicated by a pronounced (bulging) outside leg, a full (rounded) loin, and a moderately thick outside shoulder.



Selection 1
Carcass
44 lbs.

Selection 1 88 lbs.

50.0% Yield



### Selection No. 2

Selection No. 2 live goats have an average meat type conformation without regard to the presence of fat cover. They shall be moderately muscled throughout the body as indicated by a slightly thick and a slightly pronounced outside leg, a slightly full loin, and a slightly thick to slightly thin outside shoulder.



Selection 2
Carcass
37 lbs.

Selection 2 79 lbs.

Yield 46.8%



### Selection No. 3

Selection No. 3 live goats have an inferior meat type conformation without regard to the presence of fat cover. The legs, back and shoulders are narrow in relation with its length and they have a very angular and sunken appearance





Selection 3 50 lbs.

Yield 40%

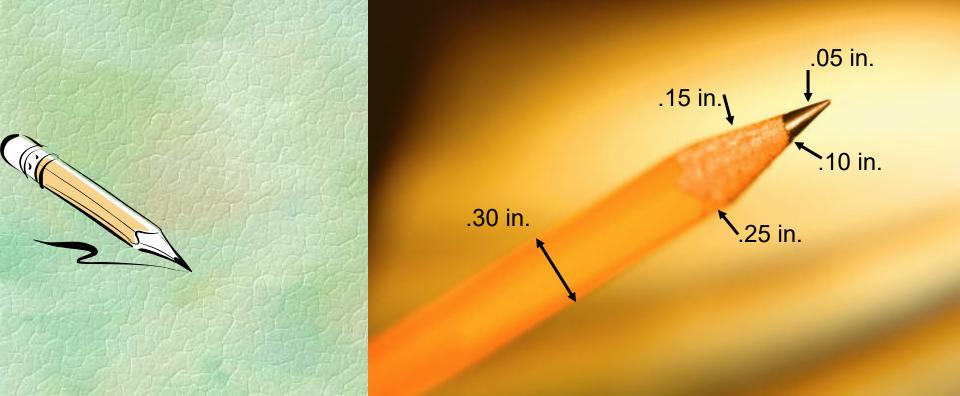
Selection 3
Carcass
20 lbs.

#### **Current Recommendations**

- 0.1 in. fat over loin at 13<sup>th</sup> rib
- Overly fat carcasses have a thin layer of fat over the back and a thick pad of fat over the shoulders and ribs.

From LSUAgCenter.com
Meat Goat Selection, Carcass Evaluation & Fabrication Guide
Judging Meat or Market Goats

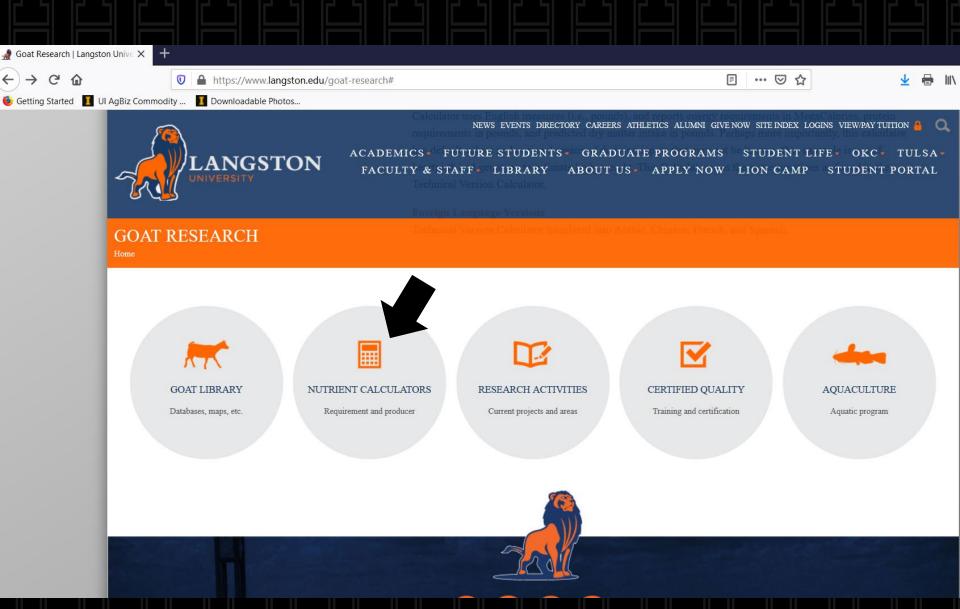
# Estimating Backfat by Feel



# 1987 NRC Nutrient Requirements of Goats Growing Kids 65 lbs. gaining 0.44 lb/day

Daily feed, lbs.	2.3
TDN, %	65.2
Protein, %	13.6
Calcium, %	0.65
Phosphorus, %	6 0.32

### https://www.langston.edu/goat-research#

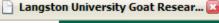














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**Nutrient Calculators** 

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#### **Nutrient Requirement Calculators**

#### Technical Version Calculator

 This Calculator is probably most suitable to individuals with some knowledge of ruminant nutrition and have reasonably accurate values for inputs, such as body weight, body weight change, milk yield and composition, clean mohair fiber growth, diet composition, etc. It is probably most appropriate for nutritionists, graduate students in ruminant nutrition, and extension personnel specializing in nutrition. This calculator reports energy requirements in MegaJoules, protein requirements in grams, and predicted dry matter intake in kilograms. This Calculator is based upon equations derived from research conducted at the Institute to develop expressions of nutrient requirements of goals published in a special issue of Small Ruminant Research (2004, Volume 53, Number 3) published by Elsevier Science, Several ancillary calculators are also available.

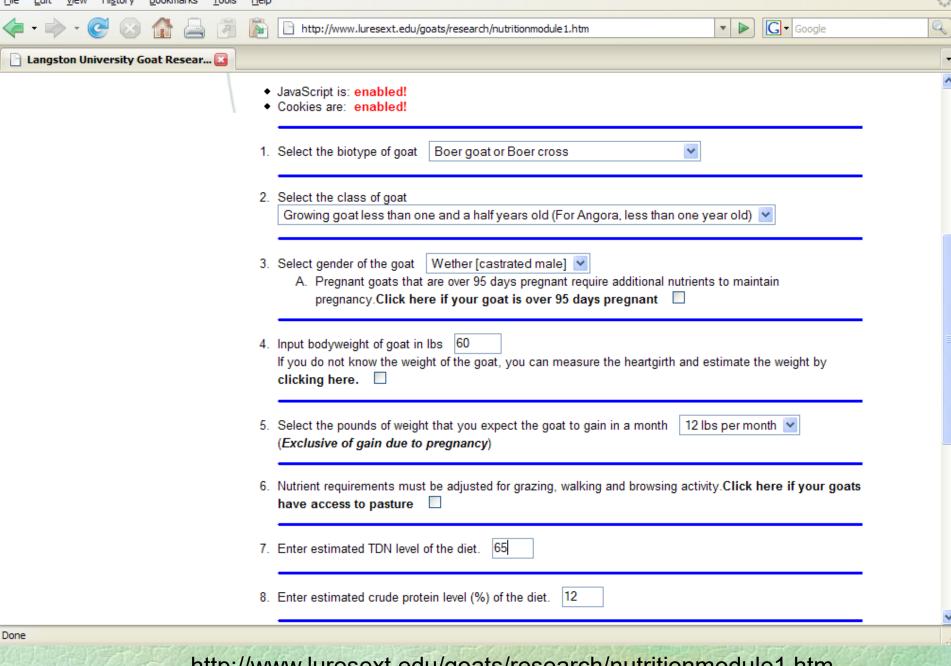
#### Producer Version Calculator

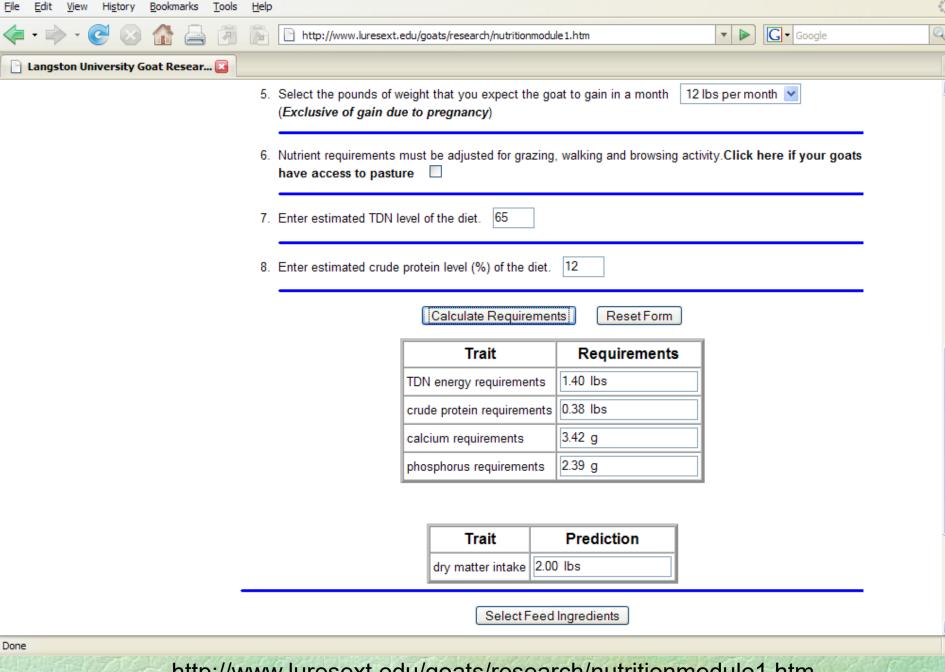
 This Calculator is oriented toward extension agents and many goat producers in the United States. This Calculator uses English measures (i.e., pounds), and reports energy requirements in MegaCalories, protein requirements in pounds, and predicted dry matter intake in pounds. Perhaps more importantly, this calculator has default values and optional means of deriving inputs that may not be known. One example is use of heartgirth and genotype to estimate body weight. This Calculator uses the same equations as found in the Technical Version Calculator.

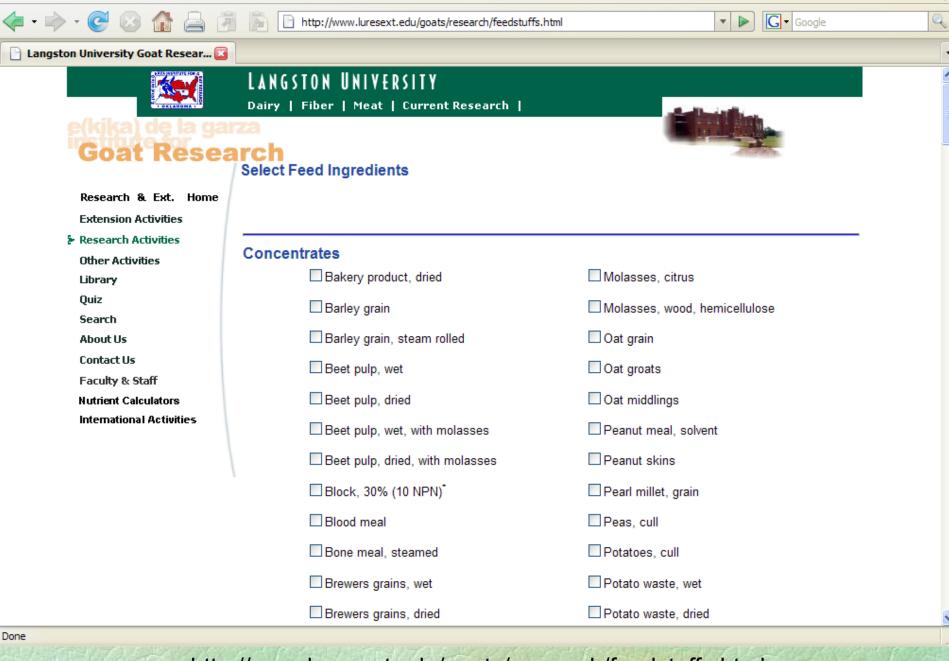
#### Foreign Language version

Technical Version Calculator translated into Arabic, Chinese, French, and Spanish.

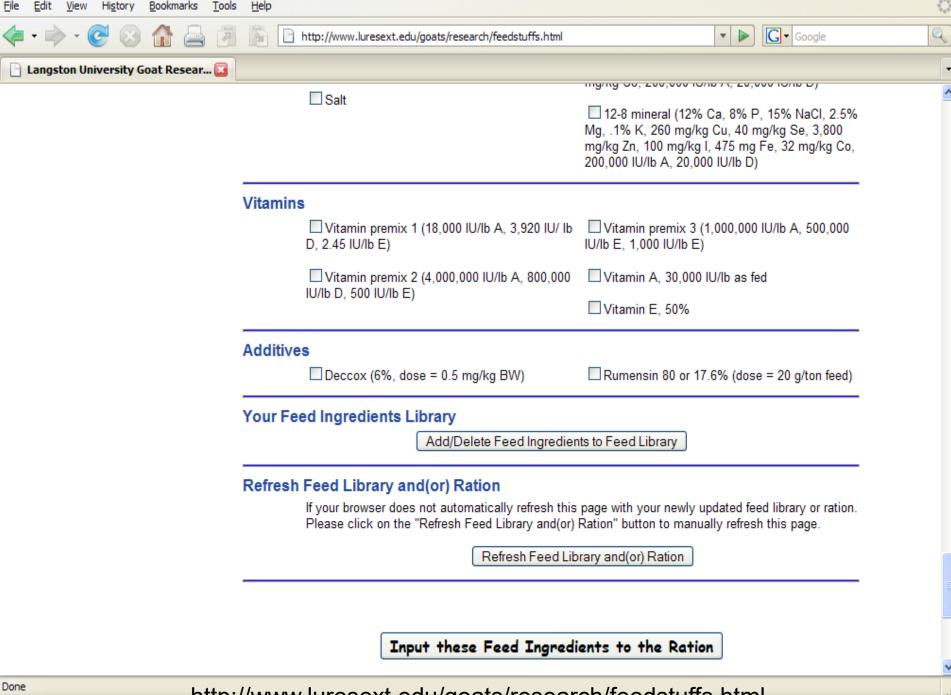
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Enter the amount as fed (lbs) for each feed ingredients. The TDN (%) and CP (%) values for the feed ingredients that you have chosen are also listed in the table. You may modify them, if needed.

Feed Class	Feed Ingredient	Amount (lbs, as fed)	Amount (lbs, DM)	TDN supplied (lbs, DM)	CP supplied (lbs, DM)	TDN (%)	CP (%)	Ca supplied (g, DM)	P supplied (g, DM)
Concentrate	Oat grain	.50	0.45	0.34	0.06	76	13	0.1	0.81
Forage	Alfalfa hay, midbloom	1.5	1.34	0.77	0.23	58	17	8.49	1.45
Minerals	trace mineral	.006	0.01	0	0			0.26	0.16
Runni	ng total	2.01	1.8	1.11	0.29			8.85	2.42
	Requirements			1.4	0.38			3.42	2.39

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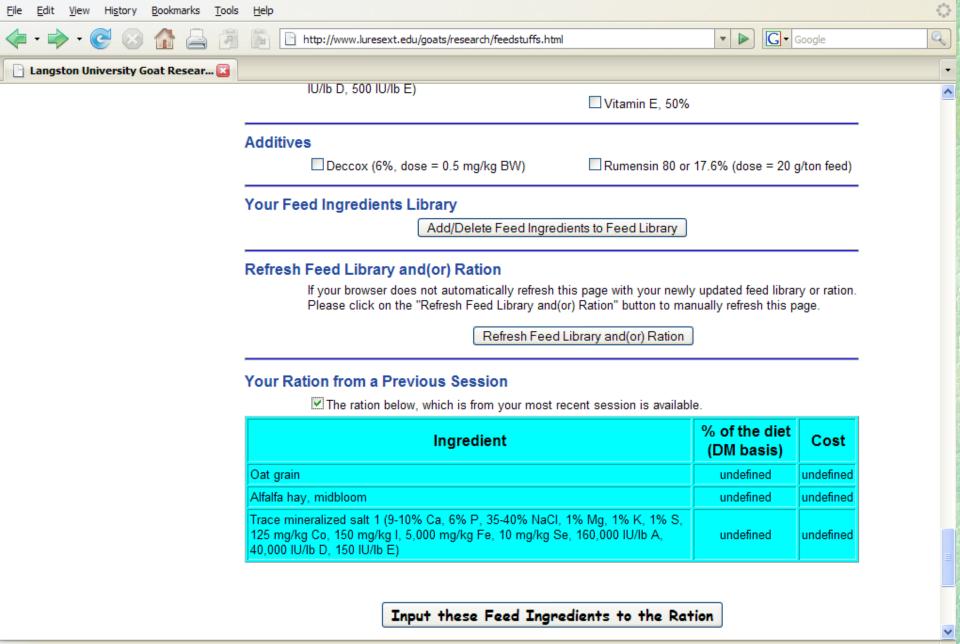
Enter the amount as fed (lbs) for each feed ingredients. The TDN (%) and CP (%) values for the feed ingredients that you have chosen are also listed in the table. You may modify them, if needed.

Feed Class	Feed Ingredient	Amount (lbs, as fed)	Amount (lbs, DM)	TDN supplied (lbs, DM)	CP supplied (lbs, DM)	TDN (%)	CP (%)	Ca supplied (g, DM)	P supplied (g, DM)
Concentrate	Oat grain	1.3	1.16	0.88	0.15	76	13	0.26	2.1
Forage	Alfalfa hay, midbloom	1.0	0.89	0.52	0.15	58	17	5.66	0.97
Minerals	trace mineral	.006	0.01	0	0			0.26	0.16
Runni	ng total	2.31	2.06	1.4	0.3			6.18	3.23
Requirements			2	1.4	0.38			3.42	2.39

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# 1987 NRC Nutrient Requirements of Goats Growing Kids 65 lbs. gaining 0.44 lb/day

Daily feed, lbs	2.3
TDN, %	65.2
Protein, %	13.6
Calcium, %	.65
Phosphorus, %	6 .32

# Langston University Nutrient Requirements of Goats 60 lb. yearling goat ½ Boer

Daily feed,	lbs.	2.0
TDN, %		70
Protein, %		19
Calcium, %		.38
Phosphoru	s, %	.26

If fed 3.0 lbs./day, crude protein requirement = 12.6%



Photo from: http://images.businessweek.com/ss/07/01/0111\_cloned\_foods/image/goat\_03.jpg

### Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN)



10 lbs. fed - 4 lbs. manure = 6 lbs. digested