

PREG-TONE®: ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR TESTING GOATS

NOTE: Your new PREG-TONE Series 6 is set up for swine and must be changed if it is to be used on goats. See Animal Selection Chart.

The following is in addition to the information provided in the main instruction guide. The PREG-TONE operates with all goats in much the same manner as with swine and sheep.

Testing may begin 30-40 days after breeding, later times yielding greater accuracies. On the other hand, very late in the gestation cycle probably beginning around 100-days, the increase in size of the litter will have displaced the fluid in the uterus, thus limiting the usefulness of ultrasonic pregnancy testing. Accurate testing is the result of placing the transducer on the proper spot on the goat at the right time, making good skin contact, and aiming the transducer in the proper direction, so as to avoid the bladder and ruminant elements.

TESTING PROCEDURE

You must use a contact fluid, such as heavy 40W weight oil (preferably without additives to avoid allergic reactions), in order to make good contact between skin and transducer. It may also be necessary to clip hair and clean the area.

It is best to quiet and isolate the goat during the test, but confinement is not required. Testing is done with the goat in a standing position on a flat surface. (A 30-inch (12cm) high platform and head-gate make the work easier and less fatiguing.) Having the doe urinate prior to testing will mitigate the possibility of false positives due to bladder detection.

Turn the PREG-TONE on and put contact fluid such as 40W oil on the goat at the testing site. Place the transducer on the RIGHT SIDE of the goat, 2 inches (5cm) in front of the rear leg and 1 inch (2.5cm) above the teat. (See pictorial below.) Work the probe into the oil and skin. The skin must be wetted and all air bubbles between probe and skin eliminated. When good skin contact is obtained, you will hear the Contact tone, an intermittent beeping sound, which means that ultrasound is entering the body and returning properly. Aim the transducer approximately 45° upwards and 45° forwards, (i.e. towards last rib on left side) and scan across the uterus as shown below. If the ultrasound finds a fluid-filled uterus, the Contact tone will change to a Continuous tone, which indicates pregnancy. It is possible to be very lucky and get the Continuous tone immediately with no contact tone preceding it. Note: Avoid scanning the ruminant elements. Scanning those will produce false positives, as will the bladder.

If the Contact tone does not change to a Continuous tone, it means that the goat is open (not pregnant). Remove hair and clean area on all that test open and test again. If the testing on the right side indicates open, then go to the left side, clip the hair and repeat the test in the same relative position there. Remember to apply more contact oil for each test. Liberal use of contact oil is extremely important! Ultrasound will not pass through air or air bubbles.

