

# GOAT SYMPTOMS

HEALTHY GOAT	SICK GOAT
Alert, lively & curious about surroundings	Little or no interest, stands or lies alone away from other goats
Tail is carried gaily, level or up and over the back	Head and tail droop
Normal interest in food, actively chews cud	Nibbles or refuses food, and may not chew cud
Bright clear eyes free from discharge: nose cool & dry, no thick nasal discharge	Eyes dull, often squinting, thick yellow or greenish discharge oozes from eyes or nose. Grinds teeth indicating pain
Regular unlabored breathing	Labored breathing & coughing{congestion}, rapid, shallow breathing, slobbers, unusually sweet smelling breath {ketosis}
Calls in usual timbre and tone	call tone & timbre unusual, grumbling or crying out in pain
Wide, well developed barrel, indicating well developed Rumen. Body neither blubbery fat nor shake thin. just right	Slab - Sided (poor Rumen developed) Barrel painfully distended ( bloat)
Coat clear & glossy. no obvious knots or abscesses anywhere on body	Coat dull & unthrifty: scabs, abscesses, & bare patches. Continually rubbing, scratching or biting self. Ruffles coat with spine hackles on end
doe's udder reasonably symmetrical, warm & soft, not hard & icy cold or fiery hot	Unusually hot or cold, swollen, or painful udder producing thick, nasty smelling or clotted milk (mastitis)
Most males urinate relatively infrequently when they do they urinate effortlessly & in a steady stream	Male goat cries while frequently attempting to urinate: produces only a dribble or nothing (likely urinary calculi - Requires Immediate Medical Treatment
Droppings firm & pelleted	Droppings extremely smelly, in liquid form tinged with blood or mucus, any change in color or consistency is suspect
Movement fluid: no unusual hitches or limps, no abnormally swollen joints, no rank-smelling discharge from hooves	Moves poorly or not at all, hunched over, limping, grossly swollen joints: knee-walking in front. (CAE or more likely hoof-rot)
Rectal temperature - 101.5 F to 105.5 F	Rectal temperature lower or higher than normal

Courtesy "Hobby Farms Goats" by Sue Weaver