Effects of Heat Stress on Bucks

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Abstract
Climate change associated with heat stress impacts negatively on animal’s reproduction; particularly to farm animals. In males, the exposure to harsh climatic conditions, namely, high ambient temperature affects the spermatogenesis process quality and quantity of semen causing important changes in biochemical and physiological parameters of blood. The goats are living in harsh, hot and dry conditions. Thus both male and females are affected by adverse effects of climate. To cope this uncomfortable thermal condition, bucks develop some physiological and behavioral adaptation by reducing their heat production, increasing heat loss, decreasing feed intake and increasing water consumption. Also to alleviate heat stress some strategies such as such as use of sprinklers in feedlots, evaporative cooling, feeding and nutritional techniques may be used. In this paper the effects of adverse effects of climate and some alleviation methods to decrease these effects on bucks will be determined.

Keywords: Heat stress, Buck, Spermatogenesis, Semen, Alleviation.