A quick pen-side test for goat pneumonia

Kenya Agricultural Research Institute
P.O. Box 57811-00200, NAIROBI.
Tel: 254-20-4183301-20, Fax: 254-20-4183344
Email: resource.centre@kari.org
Website: www.kari.org

Compiled by:
Wambugu, A.N

For more information contact:
The Head
KARI Biotechnology Centre
P.O. Box 14733, NAIROBI

KARI information brochure series / 37 /2008
Ksh. 20

A healthy goat
**Introduction**

Goat pneumonia or Caprine pleuro-pneumonia (CCPP) is an important disease particularly for export trade. The current test for pneumonia called complement fixation test (CFT) is time consuming and requires well trained staff.

Latex agglutination test (LAT) is a simple 5 minutes test that can be used by veterinary workers and farmers as well.

**Diagnosis**

**Clinical signs**
- Goats with CCPP stand with their front legs apart and experience difficulty in breathing.
- Their noses are blocked and when they sneeze they spread the pathogens.
- They also exhibit general poor body condition over time.

**Three simple test steps**
- A drop of reagent from the test kit is mixed with an equal volume of undiluted test goat blood or serum on a glass plate.
- The mixture is rocked for one to two minutes to mix and for the reaction to take place.
- Clumping or agglutination signifies that the test sample is from a pneumonia exposed goat.

**Advantages of LAT**
- It is not automated and can be done in the field or at the pen side.
- It takes a maximum of 5 minutes to complete.
- A farmer can perform the test on his/her own due to its simplicity.
- It helps to determine the pneumonia status of export animals.

**REMEMBER:**
Goat pneumonia status check is vital for local and export trade.

---

**Latex agglutination test**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive (+)</td>
<td>Negative (-)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LAT combined with identification of the above clinical signs would confirm presence of CCPP within 5 minutes.