

Help us learn more about goats!

Radiographs of the thorax can be essential to identify potential abnormalities such as pneumonia, heart disease, cancer, megaesophagus, and trauma. Unfortunately, there is limited information published to help us determine the normal size for some of the organs in the thorax of goats.



Purpose of study

We are currently conducting a study to evaluate the normal radiographic appearance of the thorax in healthy, non-dwarf breed goats, which will help us develop radiographic reference values.

Inclusion criteria

We are in need of more healthy goats to complete this study. To qualify for this study a goat must fulfill the following requirements:

- At least 1 year old
- Regular size breed/breed cross - *no dwarf/miniature breeds will be included*
- Healthy (no ongoing disease)
- No history of disease in the previous 6 months

Study procedure

Each goat participating in the study will undergo a physical exam. If deemed healthy, the goat will be sedated and radiographs of the thorax will be obtained. Sedation is necessary because the goats have to lay on their side and on their back briefly for the radiographs to be obtained.

Any time sedation is used there is a risk for complications and, potentially, death. However, the chances for complications are very low. Our team will work to overcome complications if they arise. As of February 2019, we have collected data on

34 goats and none of them have had noticeable complications associated with the sedation or anything else done for this study. ***Participants will be required to sign a consent so that the goats can be sedated.***

Study benefits

- Support research and advancement in veterinary medicine
- Thoracic radiographs will be stored in our computer system and available as baseline. If problems arise in the future we could compare the new images with the ones obtained here.
- We will assess weight, body condition score, and FAMACHA, **free-of-charge**.
- We will trim their claws **free-of-charge**, if desired.

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