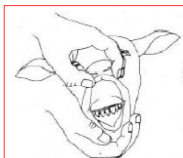


## Ch. 7 Estimating Age of Goat and Sheep by Judging (p.59)

## A. Importance of age estimation

- aid identification of individual
- quick access of animal growth and development
- supplemental to paper records
- practiced during **animal sales**: breeding goat (for reproductive life span) and market meat goat (for carcass yield and quality) → need optimal age

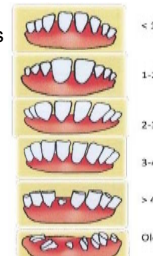
## B. Methods: (1) mouthing dentition: most reliable; (2) horn growth pattern; (3) body appearance: size, hair, skin, dewclaw, etc.



1

## C. Mouthing goats and sheep to estimate age (p.59)

1. Dental pattern? Mouth shape?
2. Milk (temporary, small) vs. permanent teeth
3. Mouthing numbers and conditions of **front teeth (incisors)**
4. Age related to changes in milk and permanent incisors (by pairs): size, number, wear
5. Periodical & sequential changes in incisors
  - up to age of 4 years old
  - (1) At birth: 4 milk incisors
  - (2) At **1 month** old: 8 milk incisors
  - (3) **1 year** old: 2 permanent incisors
  - (4) **2 years** old: 4 permanent incisors
  - (5) **3 years** old: 6 permanent incisors
  - (6) **4 years** old: 8 permanent incisors



6. Meat goats with high market selling price: 1 pairs of permanent incisors and body weight within ideal range of 65-75 kg

## D. Approximate age by horn rings? (p. 62)

1. Horn growth and development by age?
2. Rapid grow after 1 year old
3. Appearance of horn ring by 2 years old, one more each year
4. Influencing factors: nutritional status, reproduction, diseases, etc.



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