

**SYNCHRONIZATION OF ESTRUS IN DAIRY TOGGENBURG GOATS
DURING THE BREEDING SEASON***

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The objective of this study was to investigate the efficiency of two protocols to synchronize estrus in dairy Toggenburg goats during the breeding season. Thirty lactating does were randomly assigned to two treatments (T1 and T2). In T1 (n=15), CIDR was inserted and removed after six days and a dose of 22.5 micrograms cloprostenol was administered by subvulvar via. In T2 (n=15), CIDR was inserted and removed after six days but cloprostenol was administered 24h before CIDR removal. After detection of estrus, animals were bred with fertile buck (T1=6 and T2=7) or artificially inseminated (T1=8 and T2=7) Percentage of does in estrus was the same for T1 and T2 (93.3%). Interval from CIDR removal and onset of estrus did not differ ($P>0.05$) between T1 (40.3 ± 12.0 h) and T2 (41.1 ± 9.3 h). Duration of estrus was not affected ($P>0.05$) by T1 (43.6 ± 13.4 h) or T2 (37.9 ± 13.2 h) either. Duration of estrus was not influenced ($P>0.05$) by natural breeding (36.5 ± 10.4 h) or artificial insemination (44.3 ± 14.9 h) and there was no interaction ($P>0.05$) among treatments and kind of service. Pregnancy rate did not differ ($P>0.05$) between T1 (64.3%) and T2 (64.3%) or natural breeding (64.3%) and artificial insemination (64.3%). During the breeding season, estrus can be efficiently synchronized in lactating does by CIDR plus cloprostenol, independent from time of cloprostenol administration, and a good fertility can be reached with both natural breeding and artificial insemination.

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