

General Guidelines for Livestock Owners to Manage Heat Stress

- Observe livestock frequently during hot days.
- Signs of heat stress in goats, sheep and cattle are heavy panting, slobbering, lack of coordination and trembling.
- Provide an abundant amount of accessible clean cool drinking water. Water consumption may increase by as much as 50 percent during periods of extreme heat.
- Provide shade for animals and use temporary structures if needed. If kept indoors, be sure there is good ventilation. Use fans if necessary to keep the air circulating and animals more comfortable.
- If necessary, use sprinklers or foggers to wet livestock to dissipate heat through evaporation.
- Consider feeding more at night rather than during the heat of the day.
- Avoid the transport or working of livestock on hot days and if absolutely necessary transport or work livestock in the early morning hours.
- Control flies and biting insects.