Forages and Supplements for Goats in the Cross Timbers

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BACKGROUND

Chevon (goat meat) is becoming profitable in Texas as market demand grows.

OBJECTIVES

- Develop year-round pasture systems to compliment rangeland production of meat goats in Texas.
- Identify and test supplements and hays for goat production in Texas.

APPROACHES

- When rangeland is least productive, cultivated forages can fill in those gaps.
- Design pastures specifically for goats.
- Utilize agro-industrial byproducts such as spent distillers’ grains.

OUTCOMES AND BENEFITS

This should alleviate pressure on over-utilized rangeland ecosystems as well as provide heavier, younger carcasses for the chevon market.

FUNDING

- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Advanced Technology Program
- Southern Sustainable Agricultural Research & Education
- USDA-OREI regional grant

COLLABORATION

- Tarleton State University
- Angelo State
- Fort Valley State
- University of Puerto Rico
- USDA-ARS
- University of the U.S. Virgin Islands