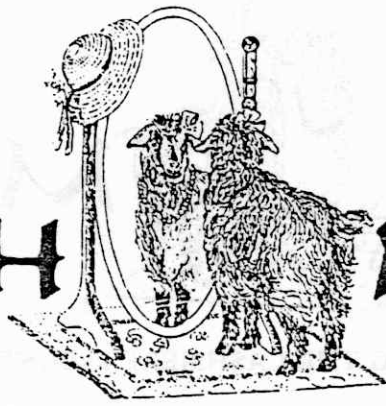
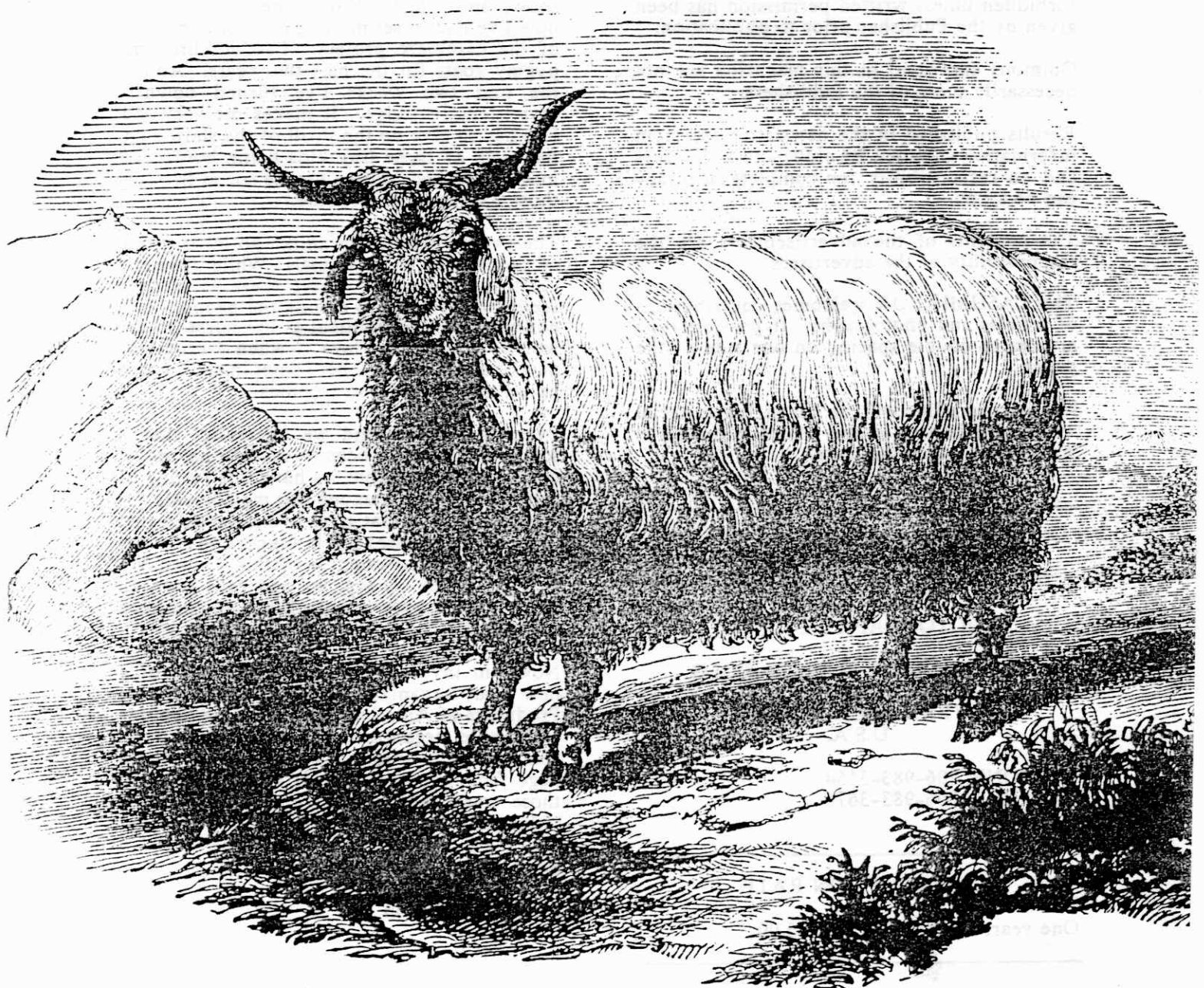


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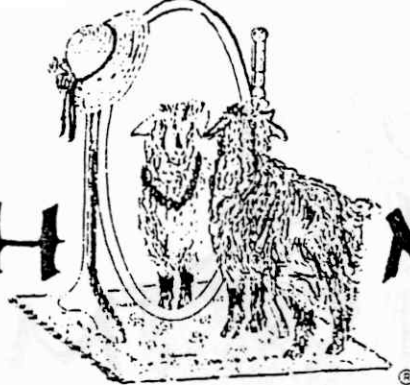


VOLUME ONE, ISSUE FOUR

JANUARY 1990



CASH MIRROR



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I need to be two people. It seems when I want to do something these days I have to give up something else. Many of you know I was in pygmy goats for years in a big way. I was one of the founders of the National Pygmy Goat Association many years ago and have shown and judged all over the country. And now I've had to set my pygmies aside because of the cashmere project. I've not bred my pygmy goats for the past two years. And in the past two weeks I've turned down 7 invitations to judge. It makes me very sad. I've had to give up the thrill of the show ring, the thrill of those tiny kids being born. But mostly I've had to give up the social life that those darling goats provide.

The pygmy people are unlike no other group of people who show animals. While there is a healthy competitive spirit there is a deep feeling of friendship among the people. It is not cut throat or political as the horse or dog world. And we all love it when a relatively new or unknown member comes in and swoops up all the ribbons and trophies.

Pygmies are pets and we all realize that. I sometimes think its because of their having no commercial value that we have this feeling of warmth and unity among our membership. It is a membership that gives to one another, that rejoices in successes and is supportive in times of need. A good example of this - when Mt. St. Helen blew its top, we had calls from all over, volunteering to help evacuate and keep our animals.

Now I'm involved in the development of a new goat organization - CaPra (Cashmere Producers of America). It is my hope that this embryonic organization, even though it be commercial in interest, can somehow take a page from the pygmy goat people and form those warm bonds of give and take, called "friendship".

Sincerely,

Judith Richardson

FEEDING FOR TWO (OR THREE)

By Miriam Jeswine

Mongolian herdsman say there are four seasons. In summer animals get fat, in fall they maintain their weight, in winter they lose, and in spring they die. The "treat 'em rough" school of goat management gets the same results because of malnutrition.

Pregnant does, contrary to popular belief, do not rob their bodies to supply their developing young. Undernutrition can result in a weak doe, weak kids and difficult birthings. Optimal nutrition can result in easy kiddings and strong, healthy kids. It makes good sense, then, to give does the best opportunity to do their jobs well.

One of the main nutrient needs is for sufficient calories, or energy during the pregnancy. Does eat more, to provide for developing kids, maintain body heat in the winter when pregnancy is the norm and to lay in body stores for lactation. Under-

sized, weak kids can result from a diet deficient in energy, especially in the last 6 weeks of pregnancy, and in does carrying twins. Uneven birth size in twins, one much larger than the other, indicates an energy deficiency. The disadvantage continues after birth as the larger kid may monopolize both teats and deprive the smaller one of milk. Another result of underfeeding late in pregnancy can be pregnancy toxemia. The signs are depression, unsteady gait, lack of appetite, grinding teeth, coma and death. It is much easier to prevent than to cure.

High energy feeds include cereal grains such as corn, oats, barley, wheat, and sorghum, especially if coated with molasses. Goats do better than other livestock at using whole grains efficiently, so if you can locate a grain grower to buy from direct, you can save some money on energy supplements. Most grains will provide 8 to 12% protein as well.

The other major nutrient need during pregnancy is for protein. Any time you have rapidly developing tissue, you have a high need for protein. The kids put on about 75% of their final size during the last six weeks. Timing kidding for warm, spring weather when pastures are growing rapidly is the most economical way to provide protein for late pregnancy and lactation. Other sources of protein are legume hays; clover, alfalfa, ladino, and trefoil, and meals such as

soybean, linseed, and cottonseed. A good feeding plan if does are not too fat might be free choice grass/clover hay and a pound of 14 to 16% grain mix, or alfalfa hay and a pound of rolled grains with molasses. Vitamin and mineral supplementation may also be necessary.

Certain vitamins and minerals are important for successful pregnancies. Forages such as pasture, browse, grass and especially legume hays tend to be fairly low in phosphorus. Grains, on the other hand, are high in phosphorus, and can be used to help balance the calcium-phosphorus ratio of the diet. Generally speaking, the ratio should not be more than about 2 parts calcium to 1 part phosphorus. Grass hays will be about 3 parts Ca to 1 part P, but alfalfa will be more like 4 or 5 parts Ca to 1 of P, and much more.



A Newsletter discussing

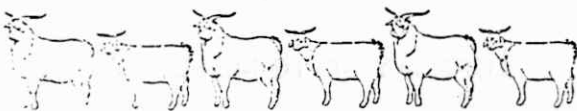
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FEEDING FOR TWO.....

Phosphorus supplementation may be a good idea for grass hays or pastures, and essential if you use alfalfa. Corn is about 33 parts P to 1 part Ca and oats is about 6 to 1. If does get too fat to think of grain as supplemental phosphorus, Manna Pro makes a good high phos mineral mix.

I have noticed that when the livestock act like beavers and start doing serious damage to wood, it is time to get out the phosphorus mineral supplement. After a week or so of eating the mineral they quit eating wood.

Other basic minerals are iodine and selenium in some parts of the country such as the Northwest, the East Coast, Great Lakes region, New England, and Florida. To find out if you live in an area of deficiency or excess, contact your local extension office or state agricultural university. Inadequate selenium intake has been associated with retained placentas and difficult births. Sources of selenium include whole grains, if grown on selenium-rich soils, brewer's (not baking!) yeast, wheat germ and bran. Injectable selenium is available through veterinarians. Studies at Oregon State University indicate that selenium is used or excreted in about three weeks. Frequent, small injections would be needed. Mineral mixes with selenium are helpful, and there are selenium/vitamin E powders to sprinkle on feeds.

The other trace mineral is iodine. Inadequate iodine causes goiter, hypothyroidism, slow growth, and coarse, thin hair. Good sources of iodine include kelp and iodized salt. Goats like kelp which also provides magnesium, B-vitamins, and vitamins D, E, and K.

Certain vitamins are particularly important in pregnancy. B complex can help a doe through a period of stress. Diets heavy in corn can produce deficiencies of some B vitamins, especially niacin. Vitamin A can help prevent dead or weak kids, retained placenta, and abortions as well as vision problems and poor quality fleeces and hooves. Bright green forages are sources of carotenes, precursors of A, but drought conditions or heavy nitrogen fertilization can inhibit the conversion of carotenes to vitamin A.

Vitamin D is essential to the appropriate use of calcium and phosphorus. Animals kept

indoors, or living in areas of long, sunless periods can deplete body stores of D. Finally, vitamin E works with selenium in preventing white muscle disease. Feeds which have been heated by steaming, rolling, or pelleting may be deficient in E, even if it was added during the milling process. A friend lost several kids to white muscle disease even though they showed adequate selenium levels. E may have been the deficient one. Supplemental injections of A, D and E can be helpful to pregnant does and their kids.

So far, emphasis has been on preventing undernutrition in pregnancy because goats usually do not lay on the fat the way meat-bred livestock do. Overfat animals will also have reproductive problems, so the important thing is to be observant. Pounce on them and feel their ribs, behind their elbows, and along the flanks. Goats put fat around the elbow and flank before they do along the back or ribs. If a doe has flab wads, restrict her calories so she doesn't get fatter, but don't make her lose a lot of weight just before kidding. The time to adjust fat condition is before breeding season.



'JUST SAY NO TO MOLD'

Continued next page.....

FEEDING YOUR DOES.....CONTINUED.

Beware of moldy feeds, no matter how wonderful they may be otherwise. Mold will cause abortions. Moldy grains look moldy and clump together. Moldy hay may not clump, but it has gray dust which will poof up in your face when you open the bale. A bale may look good on the outside but be moldy throughout, and bales which sit directly on the ground, even in a barn, may mold on the bottoms. Don't be tempted. Just say no to mold.

Finally, make sure your animals get the benefit of the good feed you are giving them. Deworm them before breeding, and delouse them if necessary. There's no need to be feeding a bunch of freeloader parasites.

Goats so rarely have problems reproducing that they have become a symbol of sexuality and fertility. If your animals are not reproducing well, look to your management and feeding before you blame them. Don't expect them to do well in spite of you. They shouldn't die in spring. Give them what they need. Your management can make or break the productivity of your flock.

Next month: Signs of kidding.

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COMMITMENTS, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, WHERE ARE THEY?

By Judith Richardson

Having cashmere goats is a long term commitment. And in order to be profitable, one must have clear goals and objectives. In other words, a design - as well thought out and as complete as if you were producing a new model automobile.

As this very embryonic cashmere industry evolves in the United States, the farmers will become more sophisticated in their skills and knowledge. As a result, there will most probably evolve three types of farm operations. They are: 1) Hobby farmer 2) Commercial farmers 3) Breeders. While it is possible, and highly probable, there will be farms with a combinations of the three; I will address the latter two independently.

If you are a Commercial farmer your goal might be sales of fleece and meat. If you are a breeder, your goal may be sales of superior

progeny and genetic material. The objective for both operations will be the road map to reach your goal.

A Commercial farmer will need to purchase replacement animals from the Breeder in order to maintain their production herd. Their objective will be production and management of commercially viable fleece and meat.

A Breeder will breed their own replacements with an eye to heavy culling and genetic advancement. Their objective will be genetic selection and improvement.

The results of both types of operation's goals are theoretically reflected in profits. While, the profits from each organization are realized from different sources, they are mutually dependent on each other. The Breeder will produce animals that will assist in the

Continued.....

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Commitments.....continued.

Commercial farmers profitability by providing superior stock. The result, in theory, is increased profitability for the Commercial farmer and thus for him/herself.

In addition to identifying goals and objectives of your Cashmere farm, you need to establish a realistic idea of the profitability of your goal. A revenue and cost projection is a great way to look at your potential future.

In simple accounting terms, it would look like this:

REVENUE - EXPENSES=NET INCOME

For a Commercial farmer the on-farm cost projection for feed may be easy, as it is proportionate to what goes in the goat's belly. Your revenues may not be that easy. For example, fiber prices, while they seem straight forward are subject to fluctuation and are directly related to the fiber micron and yield of your cashmere herd. For example: The average goat with a micron of 18.5 micron will cut 300 to 700 grams of cashmere. 400 grams of 18.5 micron will garner approximately \$35.00 at the current pricing schedule, (16.5 micron or less: \$45.00/clean lb; 16.6 - 19 microns: \$35.00 per pound). The average goat at 15.0 microns will cut 100 to 150 grams. At the current price the superfine goat will garner \$16.87. Does it pay to run a commercial flock of superfine goats?

For a Breeder, revenues will also fluctuate depending on the market for animals. Therefore, it will be difficult to predict prices over the long term. Certain breeding characteristics should always retain its value. For example, a buck that is 2 years or over and has a micron of greater than 18.5 probably has little or no value as a breeder. But a 3 year old buck at 15 micron is probably worth thousands of dollars. Assuming that fiber yields are sufficient.

It would be wise to match up the goals and objectives of your farm operation and review them periodically. If your program is designed well, it will be fine tuned as you go along. I can tell you from experience, when you have a lot of goats, it is easy to get side tracked and to lose sight of your goal.

So what are you? Breeder or Commercial producer? And if you have that answer does

your objective meet that goal? Is it profitable? A formal definition of the breeding goal is the first and most important step in the design of a cashmere farm. Without it your chance of success is at a very high risk. °

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THIS IS RETIREMENT ?

When Richard and Harriet Jensen retired in 1987, after 36 years in the dairy business, they purchased one hundred angora goats for brush control in their pasture. That was their first experience with goats. Then when the Jensen's discovered that some goats produce cashmere and could be sold for meat; what started out as a quiet retirement from the dairy business, has now turned out to be a major force in the Cashmere goat industry.

They first became interested in Cashmere goats through advertisements they had seen in different farm publications. It was also there that they found out about the newly formed Cashmere Producers of America (CaPra). As a result, in 1988, they attended the first cashmere conference in Longmont Colorado. "We went to the conference with the idea of learning about cashmere and using our Angora goats for cross breeding", said Richard, "but we soon learned from the collective experience of the fiber processors and other cashmere breeders that it was the wrong approach." After the conference the Jensen's decided to try a "bred-on" breeding program using Spanish goats. On the way home from the conference, the Jensen's took home their first spanish goats and a top bred-on buck from Cashco Company called Cassie, a son of Ausum, Cashco's Australian imported buck.

"Harriet thought we might be a little old, at 66, to start to develop a cashmere herd from Spanish goats", said Richard, "so we decided to buy ten head of cashmere producing Australian imported goats. This includes one top cashmere producing black, blue-eyed buck from Cascade Cashmere Company. "We plan to continue developing our Spanish herd along with our herd of imports." Harriet said. And now, since the kids from imported does have arrived, the Jensen's have both imported and domestic stock for sale.

A year later, In 1989, the Jensen's attended CaPra's second Cashmere conference in San Angelo, Texas. And with their first herd of spanish does showing some promise for cashmere production, the Jensen's brought home their second load of bred Spanish does. "One thing I have learned about bringing in Spanish does from the south" says Richard, "Is that the does need time to become acclimated to our northern environment. The next time I bring up spanish does, If I have a choice, I will buy open does to give them more time to adjust."

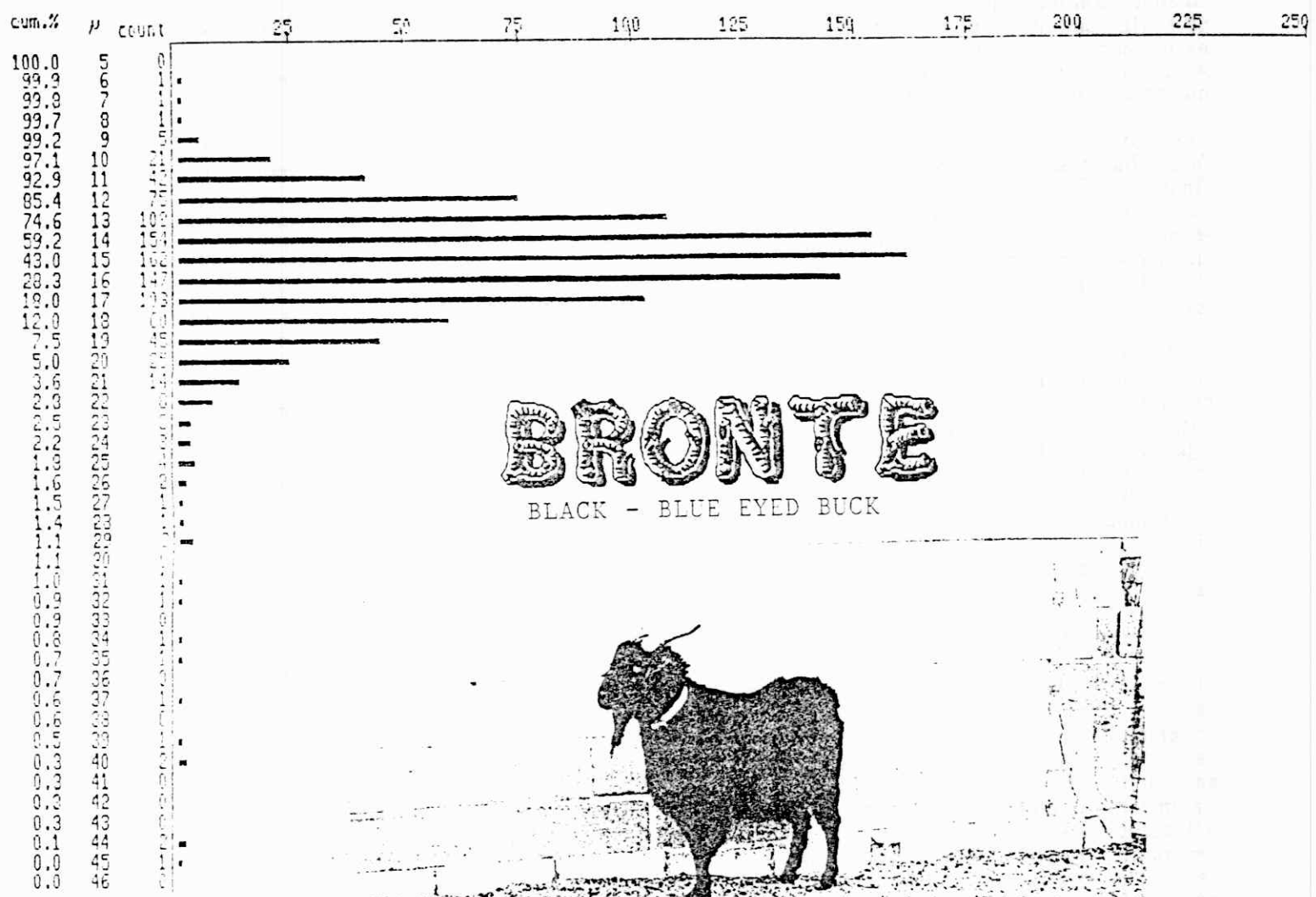
Since the purchase of their Spanish goats, imported goats, and their resulting kids, its a good thing Richard and Harriet have a dairy farm to grow into. Their farm, Airy Knoll Farms, Inc., has shelter that was used in the past for 1000 head of dairy cows. The buildings range from open front buildings to heated calf barns. In addition, they have storage for five thousand tons of silage and one thousand tons of alfalfa hay. "We are a little over built for the goats," said Harriet, "but since the cattle have already paid for the facilities, they really come in handy for the goats." The two calf barns have four foot by six foot individual pens that they use for does and kids. These were very helpful when the Jensen's were kidding this year in minus 30 degree Nebraska weather. Since January they have kidded 37 kids from 23 does. Their kidding facility is complete with baby monitors between the buildings to keep an eye on the newborns and their mothers. "The monitors have saved me more trips to the nursery than you can count", said Harriet. A point that is worth noting since Harriet had to manage the kidding herself last year while Richard was in the hospital.

The Jensen's, are very active for "retired" farmers. They invite anyone visiting Nebraska to stop by and see the action on their cashmere farm "Finest Fibers" operation. They are located in Cozad, Nebraska, just a few miles off of Interstate 80.

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SBA FARM FINANCING

By Wendy Paulin

According to a recent publication from the Small Business Administration, the SBA 7(A) guaranteed loan program can be used to finance farm operations. In this program the SBA will guarantee up to 90% of a loan made by the bank, to a qualifying small business. A farm operation is considered a small business if its sales do not exceed \$500,000.

The program can be particularly useful for farm businesses in need of long term financing. It allows real estate loans of up to 25 years, and working capital loans of up to seven years. The loan proceeds may be used to finance working capital, fixed asset acquisition (including equipment, land and buildings), and leasehold improvements.

While the rates for an SBA loan may not always be the most competitive, a bank may be more inclined to loan to a small business with this program because their risk is significantly reduced by the guarantee. The rate for an SBA (7A) guaranteed loan may not exceed the prime rate by more than 2-3/4%. For example, if the prime rate is 10% - the SBA rate for a guaranteed loan would be about 12-3/4%. SBA (7A) loans usually have a variable interest rate.

It has been my experience that many small business people will get confused about the difference between collateral and equity when applying for a loan. It is important that you understand this difference as the amount the banker will loan you is primarily based on an analysis of these two items on your financial statement. Collateral is the assets the banks will accept as security for a loan. In the SBA program, collateral may include personal assets, mortgages on commercial land, buildings or equipment; or assignment of receivables or other business assets. Equity is the total amount invested in the business. Often times a lender will test the solvency of a company to meet its long-term obligations on its equity position. This refers to the amount of resources provided by the two possible equity sources: creditors' equity and owners' equity. Since the sum of these two equities equals total investment, certain relationships are significant. A good benchmark for analysis of your equity position would be that for every dollar you have invested, you should not be more than two dollars in debt. Your banker may prefer a ratio less than this or in some cases depending

on your credit rating or management skill, allow for more.

This loan guarantee program can be obtained by submitting an application through a lending agency. These loan applications require the same type of information a bank normally requests when making a credit decision:

- 1) Financial statements for the prior three years and a current ninety days statement;
- 2) Personal financial statements of the principals and affiliate businesses;
- 3) Information on the project to be financed including estimated project costs; and some information indicating the management experience of the principals.
- 4) Cash projections, with assumptions, for at least one year.

Preparing for financing can be a time consuming project and therefore a business plan should be put together well in advance of financing needs and updated regularly. There are sources of free help in preparing a financial proposal and business plan and I would recommend you contact your Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Council or Small Business Administration office for assistance.

Wendy Paulin has her B.S. in Business Administration. From 1986-1988, she was a Business Development Specialist for the Lewis County Economic Development Council. She is now serving on the board of Directors for the Council and is active in economic development issues in the state.



QUESTION: What does big foot and a rich farmer have in common? Everyone has heard of him, but no one has seen him.

OUR OWN TASSIE DEVIL

Jenny Eddington, our Australian correspondent, and her husband Tim farm roughly one thousand acres in North Central Tasmania, the island State of Australia

"Summer is well and truly here in Tasmania".

As you are all tucked up for Winter we are sweltering in the midst of Summer. This year is really very hot early which has been nice. We had an exceptionally lush Spring so the grass is very high and the goats are revelling in the hot weather and great feed. It is not without it's problems however, as the growth is so long, authorities predict a very bad fire season.

In our area we have a lot of city people who have moved to the tranquility of rural life. Unfortunately many of these people do not appreciate the dangers of building in the bush. They plant lots of shrubbery around their house. Then the Australian bush gets tinder dry in summer and forms potential death trap should a brush fire occur.

We have been busy preparing a group of seventy eight does and two bucks for export to the U.S.A.. As is usual with an export, nothing ever goes smoothly. We are continually solving problems, not with the animals-they are in fine fettle; but, with transportation arrangements. The goats have now completed all the blood testing, dipping etc., and they are just relishing the feed trolleys arrival each

day. There have recently been a number of deaths of livestock on airliners for various reasons so the airlines will now only carry animals on certain types of aircraft which are limited in the routes they operate on. This has meant quite some shuffling to get the shipment routed to comply with the U.S.D.A. protocol.

This particular export shipment contains does from six top herds. So as they get to know each other, there has been a pecking order to be sorted out. As animals - particularly goats, have a very defined pecking order. They have now been together for two months so it seems they have sorted out their differences. As usual, I will be sad to see them leave as I have become very attached to them with the daily contact of feeding and testing. I always feel apprehensive sending them off for the long flight and quarantine period.

It is coming up to weaning time for the kids and they are now all little bundles of fluff as their first cashmere fleece comes through. It is now that you see the success or failure of last seasons mating choice. Although it will not be until winter that they are shorn and tested. Any exceptionally good animals stand out from the crowd, as do the bad ones. Any that are not up to standard will be marketed to the meat market in the next few weeks. The show season begins in a few weeks so the team of animals for showing will be selected now as well, so we can begin to train them to at least behave like winners.

Continued.....



LADAKH CASHMERES, AUSTRALIA
Carcoar, New South Wales. Photo courtesy of Jim Cooper
Victoria

TASSIE.....Continued.

Our buck flock is quite large with older stud bucks and younger boys, some who still have some growing up to do, in order to go through our rigorous selection process. They are all beginning to sense that breeding season is around the corner and bitch and squabble. The old boys don't bother with this "teenage" stuff. They look on with mild amusement. But, the young boys are always scrapping. Usually they don't cause any injury, but this week we had one suffering from a swollen head. This happens often with rams and sometimes with goats. The injury is slight from butting but allows some clostridial bacteria to enter the fluid around the brain. The bucks head and ears then swell suddenly. The swelling is very "bubbly" when pressed rather than puffy. The only way to cure the buck is a massive dose of antibiotic. And, we have found a jab of vitamin B complex and two grams of vitamin B1 powder orally seems to help. You then cross your fingers and hope. Our buck has survived and is now well.

The use of semen in breeding programmes in very popular in Australia. This season we have three bucks selected for collection of semen for sale in Australia, New Zealand and the United States. We are in the process of doing the blood tests and preparing the bucks to enter the collection center. We are also going to artificially inseminate a group of does and do a small fresh embryo transfer programme. Once the kids are weaned those does will begin their preparation for programming. Since, last seasons shows were especially successful for us we will embryo transfer some of our prize winning does.

Good by for now from us on the other side of the world. o



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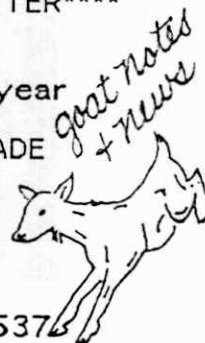


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HANDLE

By Jim and Marg Cooper
CEDUNA CASHMERE
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Cashmere garments are noted for luxury fine textured appearance. The mystique of cashmere is its HANDLE - the 'feel' of the end product.

This HANDLE is evident in the fleece on the goat, but more so after shearing and dehairing. All the required components must be present: softness, warmth, fineness, flexibility, smokey-matt appearance, crimp or crinkle, and good felting properties.

Processors continue to stress the type of fibre they require, and the fibre they do NOT want. Yet, there are continued attempts by some Australian growers to find markets for the inferior poor HANDLE fibre of cross-bred white heavy cutting goats.

These growers with a history of Angora infusion, produce a percentage of young fine micron goats, that will invariably inherit the undesirable harsh HANDLE of their angora-infused parents.

Americans are in a position to benefit from noting wrong directions taken in both Australia and New Zealand. Learn to identify the luxury handle of Chinese type cashmere which the processors seek. Learn to distinguish this from harsh handling down, cashgora, and fine mohair. Seek plenty of "hands on" experience, preferable with authentic samples provided by processors.

Remember, there is no substitute for quality, and that the ability to correctly assess HANDLE, is not necessarily possessed by all 'classers.'

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TEETH GRINDING

*Reprinted with permission from Australian
Goat Farmer*

Teeth grinding, a commonly accepted sheep management practice, may also prove a useful tool for goat breeders.

Southern Hills Angora breeder Chris Highet, McLaren Vale, has found that teeth grinding is as successful on goats as it is on sheep.

An experiment in which he trimmed the teeth of 20 seven-year old does has worked so well that he now plans to introduce it as a regular management practice.

The length and awkwardness of the doe's teeth had forced them to adapt their grazing habits, and Chris found they were damaging pasture.

"At first I thought the clumps of grass which had been pulled out of the pasture had been pulled out by cookies, but they seemed to large"

"It was only when I saw the does grazing that I realized what had happened," Chris said.

"Their teeth had grown so long that they couldn't graze normally, so they were tilting their heads sideways to grab the grass and ripping out the pasture in mouthfuls."

He tackled the job with an angle grinder and a special gag so that he could actually slice the teeth off rather than having to file or grind them down. He felt this would reduce friction and heat, and avoid burning the goats' mouths.

The procedure was quick-the 20 goats took about a minute each-and apparently painless because the goats went back to grazing as soon as they were released from the yards.

Within a week of the grinding, the teeth that had been loose enough to move by hand had set rock hard.

Now, three months after the operation, the does are in far better condition than they were at the end of spring when more feed was available.

He now plans to teeth grind his goats when they are about 4 1/2 years old.

YEAST IN RELATION TO BLOAT

Courtesy of Chapparral N.W.

Basically there are two types of bloat condition in ruminants: (1) Free-gas bloat and (2) Frothy bloat. Free-gas bloat is a result of excess gas, carbon dioxide, and methane, building up in the top of the rumen because of inhibited eructation. It has been observed that an increase of microbial population in the rumen is the only change which is known to cause this bloat condition; it is due primarily to decrease in salivary flow which acts as a buffering agent. This is not to say that pH change is the ultimate cause of free-gas bloat, but there are strong indications to this effect.

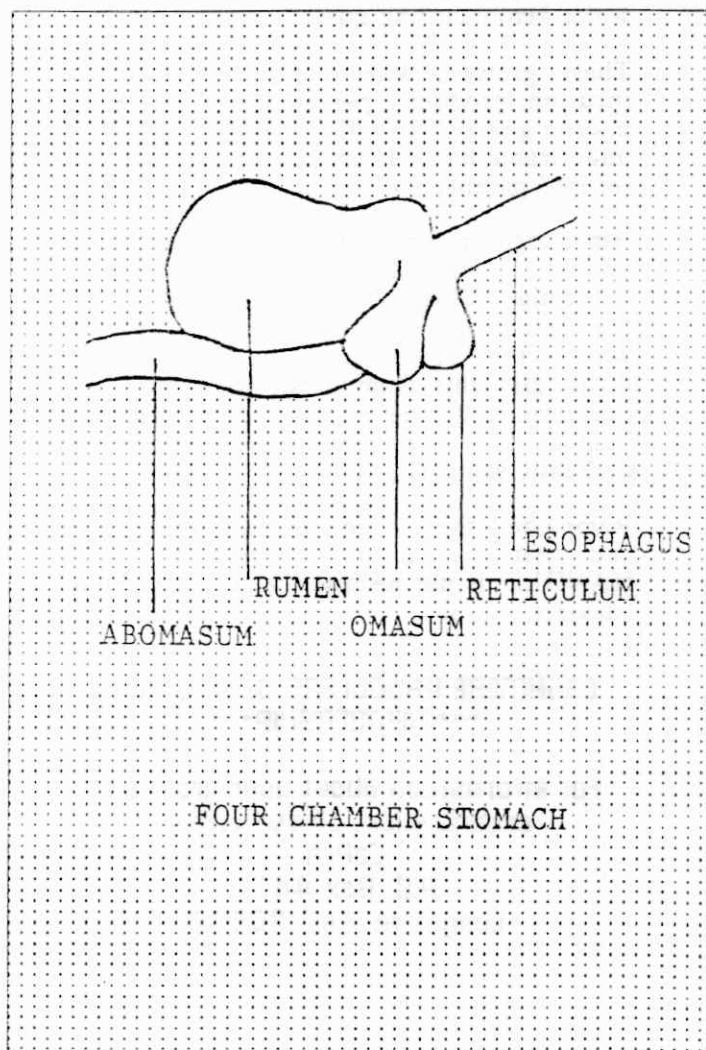
Frothy bloat is the more severe of the two types of bloat, usually being associated with feeding legumes or high concentrate feedlot rations. Excess gas in the rumen forms small bubbles within the digesta, rather than accumulating in the top of the rumen; thus the more gas produced, the larger the frothy digesta swells. Eventually the pressure becomes so great in the rumen that it stops bloodflow through the adjacent vascular system, causing the animal to drop and eventually die. Legume bloat is probably the best known to the livestock producer, the cause of which is not known. Several hypotheses have been presented in relation to possible causes of frothy legume bloat conditions; (1) formation of toxins, (2) failure of microorganisms to destroy fatty acid soaps (saponin) formed through alkali hydrolysis and glucoside, (3) high level release of free nucleic acids and (4) an increase in surface tension with a decrease in relative viscosity of the rumen fluid contents.

Prevention of bloat is a difficult task; however, several products have been found effective in bloat inhibition --- live cultured yeast and Poloxalene being the best known to us. Poloxalene is an excellent free-gas bloat preventative, but performance against frothy bloat has not been extremely favorable. A daily consumption of 1-2 grams per 100 lbs. body weight is required for Poloxalene to be effective against bloat conditions --- the compound is very expensive and usually does not pay for itself.

Live cultured yeast, on the other hand, has proven to be very effective against both types of bloat conditions, especially the more severe frothy bloat. The exact biological reactions of live cultured yeast in relation to bloat inhibition and neutralization are not fully known; however, certain properties and

reactions are known to take place in the presence of yeast culture which may explain its being amphoteric which allows it to neutralize excess acidity in the rumen, thus giving it the ability to neutralize a free-gas bloat condition. Concerning, the neutralization of frothy bloat conditions, the "live" yeast cell's activity is known to guard against toxin buildup due to its amphoteric property, it can enzymatically break down fatty acid compounds such as saponin, and utilize free nucleic acids and other forms of non-protein nitrogen.

Incorporation of live cultured yeast as a bloat preventative is relatively inexpensive because the live cell activity also increase feed utilization, provides essential cellulytic factors and enzymes, is a readily available source of B Vitamins along with many other digestive and metabolic benefits to the animal's health and well being. °





CASHMERE TERMINOLOGY

Barrel: Midsection of the body of the goat

Broken Mouth: A goat is described as "broken mouthed" when some of the incisor teeth have fallen out or become badly worn and irregular, usually the result of old age or bad grazing.

Burry: A term applied to Cashmere containing certain seed pods, mainly of the Medicago species.

Castrate: To remove the testes of the male.

Comback: The term used particularly in sheep-breeding to describe the progeny of a cross bred animal backcrossed to one of his parent breeds. In this work a cashgora (Angora and feral) backcrossed to a feral type goat is classified as a comeback.

Cotted: Means fleece that has become matted while still on the animal. Can be caused by partial shedding.

Dermis: The inner layer of skin into which the fleece follicles are buried.

Dry Goat: A goat that is not rearing a kid, being without milk.

Fly: Fibers that fly out into the atmosphere during carding, drawing, spinning or other textile processes including dehairing of cashmere.

Four Tooth: A goat which has four permanent incisors (front teeth) which normally would be two years old.

Full Mouth: A goat which has eight permanent incisors (front teeth) which normally would be four years old.

Goat: A horned ruminant of the genus Capra.

Hair: Natural animal fibre other than sheep wool or silk.

Hocky: A term used to describe a goat when its hocks are inclined inward, sometimes referred to as "cow hocked"

Joining: The placing of bucks with does for mating.

Mane: Long hair growing down the back of the goats neck and sometimes over the shoulders. It may extend the full length or part thereof of the dorsal line.

Medulla: The more or less continuous cellular marrow inside the cortical layer in some medium and coarse fiber.

Noil: The shorter fibers separated from the longer fibers in the combing process.

Pedigree: A table presenting a list of ancestors.

Roving: A loose assemblage of fibers drawn or rubbed into a single strand, with very little twist. In spun yarn systems, the product of the stage, or stages, just prior to spinning.

Shorn: The term used to describe an animal that has had its fleece removed by shearing.

Short Hair: Hair which is shorter than fifty millimeters. A goat is said to be short haired when its cashmere is longer than its hair.

Standard Deviation: This is a statistical term used to describe the variation of values about their mean in that population.

$$s.d. = \frac{(\bar{x} - \bar{x})^2 \times}{n}$$

x = fiber size
 $\bar{x}$ = mean fiber size
 n = total # of fibers

Tip: The outer ends of the fibers in a fleece.

Weave: Is to form a fabric by the interlacing of warp and weft.

Yarn: A generic term for a continuous strand of textile fibre, filament or material, in a form suitable for knitting, weaving, or otherwise intertwining to form a textile fabric.

Clean: The proportion by weight of down fibers in sample of fleece following removal of natural grease and other impurities, including guard hair, normally expressed as a percentage.

EMBRYO IMPLANT UPDATE

Cascade Cashmere Company has announced the start of their USDA/SBIR research grant. The company was awarded phase II funding on June 29, 1989. But, they have been preparing for the program months in advance.

According to Judith Richardson, project manager for research, the study will show if a farmer can successfully supplement his income raising cashmere goats. Phase I feasibility study proved that the small farmer could not raise QUALITY cashmere economically. To import cashmere producing goats at such a high level made the cost prohibitive. The study did prove that the cost of these animals could be brought in line by using embryo transfers. Phase II will test this hypothesis.

The project spans approximately three years and involves the participation of fifteen test farms of different economic levels, goat rearing experience and climatic regions. Each farm has twenty surrogate does and is responsible for monitoring costs associated with the maintenance of the animals throughout the program. The Angora does were purchased out of New Mexico with Bob Buchholz, of Driftwood, Texas, acting as agent for the sale. "We were really pleased with the quality of the animals", said Richardson. "Bob did a great job at selecting exactly what we needed to start the program. We had to find three hundred and fifty, four tooth does that had kidded, were in good health, and available for sale in one lot."

The New Mexican surrogates were shipped in September to the Silver Creek farm to join the research herd of surrogates for their first embryo transplant in October. Southern Angora Breeders of Australia, headed by veterinarian Lynn Davies, assisted by embryologist Jorge Gamez of Mexico, and reproductive physiologist, Doug Gilbert, of Texas/Victoria Australia, performed the surgery on the first does. It was determined on the second day of surgery that the New Mexican born Angoras had not yet settled after the stress of transportation to the colder environment of the Northwest so had not properly ovulated. The project director and the team of reproductive specialists decided the surrogate does should wait for embryo transfer. This will take place on the test farms in the fall. The research herd, that did not suffer the stress of transportation and climate change, had cycled properly and were

implanted with cashmere embryos. This implant was 47% successful.

The researchers will now begin working on other aspects of the project. They have data collection and other goat management issues to address between the embryo transplant surgeries. "This is a little like being a band leader," added Richardson, "We don't get the sound of music unless we; the test farmers, researchers, and veterinarians, all work together." o



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