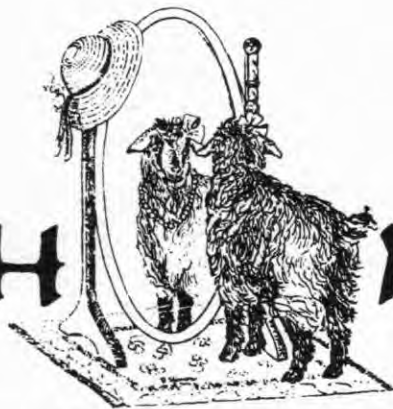


CASH MIRROR



VOLUME THREE, ISSUE ONE

OCTOBER 1991



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CASHMIRROR

CASHMIRROR
REFLECTING THE CASHMERE INDUSTRY

Published each month by: **THE FARM**, P.O. Box 639, Toledo, Wa. 98591 206-864-4200, Fax: 206-864-4201

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No responsibility will be taken for material while in transit or in this office, although it will receive maximum care.

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LETTERS

Dear Editor, CashMirror;

I always enjoy the magazine, and share it with our livestock specialist here. As a USDA writer/editor, and as an inveterate reader, I feel it necessary to comment on a couple of Letters to the Editor Published in your August 1991 issue.

First, the letter responding to the article by Irena Chalmers, "Goat for It." Perhaps Ms. Reker is too close to the subject to read such an article objectively. As a non-goat farmer, I found Ms. Chalmers article very entertaining, and, unlike Ms. Reker, did not view it as maligning the goat, but rather that Ms. Chalmers was championing the goat and trying to explode myths about these noble creatures. People who have never been around a goat would describe one exactly as Ms. Chalmers did--and this was her point. Those who know nothing about the real thing, when forming an opinion, are usually influenced by stereotyping, myths, and fables. They do not say, "I've heard that goats stink... is that true?" They say, "That guy

stinks like a goat."

Although I am not a goat breeder, I am, and have been since childhood, a goat fancier. My grandfather always had two or three milk goats on his farm in Tennessee, where I spent all my childhood summers. In truth, however, I have never been around a buck exuding the "musk" Ms. Reker speaks of so reverently. I do know, however, that what is perfume to one nose is quite often an unpleasant odor to another. I am not in a position to guess which way my own sensory appendage would swing. But I am aware that, to the uninitiated, goat musk is legendary for its pungency. Whether one is of the perfume or P.U. school, I think Ms Reker's knee-jerk defense of these animals showed a distinct lack of understanding of where the author was coming from. As a writer, I see Ms. Reker's sense of smell, humor, and perception measurably lacking. She should stick to reading learned goat journals.

My second comment is directed at Ms. Morning Waters and Steve Stock, who so nobly shared their tips to help novice goat buyers select breeders from whom to purchase healthy producers, whether of fiber or milk. I find their instructions for checking out farm facilities confusing. On the one hand, I should ask myself these questions: "Do the goats have enough room, or are they crowded. Are feeders provided or is hay and other feed merely placed on the ground. Are their water

troughs clean? Are the animals healthy or stressed? Are there any visible signs of health problems?" Yet earlier, they themselves ask, "Does the breeder only point out the features of his/her flock or do they put down other breeders' methods or animals if it is other than the ones they chose?" Come on, fellas. If I don't know anything about goats, and you know so much, are you saying you won't tell me a breeder flings goat food on the ground, allows stock to drink fouled water, and has unhealthy, abused animals? Let me get this straight. Are you telling me that these are things to watch for to prevent my being sold inferior animals, or is your message that these breeders are, instead, only "choosing other methods or animals?"

I think, if I were a novice buyer, I would be pretty angry, Ms. Waters and Mr. Stock, if you advised me to check out a breeder who "chose" to treat animals in such a fashion, rather than warning me to steer clear of that farm at all costs. In fact, it is the humane society, not the unwary buyer, who should be sent to check out that kind of operation.

The Waters and Stock rebuttal to Judith Harelson's comments about naming goats and integrity obviously stuck a tender spot! But if Judith tells me to steer clear of a breeder because they don't know how to treat their stock, and, as a result, their animals have become inferior, unhealthy, and potentially unprofitable, I'll rely on her track record of forthrightness and integrity.

Continued from page 2...

Better that than to deal with someone who deliberately sends me to a poorly run, inhumane, filth farm just to make their own operation look better by comparison.

Sincerely,

JODI HORIGAN
Writer/Editor
U.S. Department of
Agriculture
Extension Service
Communication, Information
and
Technology Staff
Washington, D.C.



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REFLECTIONS

By Judith Haralson
Cascade Cashmere Company

Although summer didn't arrive until July 15th, and lasted but 45 days, it was great! However, by far, the best season in the Pacific Northwest is fall. Warm, sunny, crystal clear and shimmering days, cool nights. Just the kind of weather that makes you want to get out and work. A good thing, as it is the time of year when things have to be done before winter sets in. It is also the time of year when the goats decide to start growing fleece, and I spend as much time as I can in the barn looking at it. By the middle of winter all of the goats run when they see me. No wonder, they are all wearing bare patches on their sides where I have plucked their fleece to examine it. I'd run too!

Duane is in the high country fishing with his horses and pack mules and friends, (It takes one mule to carry the camp stuff, and two to carry the beer, I think.) This leaves

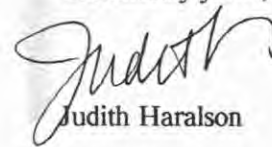
me to watch and tend the farm. But it is a pleasant time. The weather is beautiful and I get to spend some time with my friends, the goats. I enjoy sitting in the sun on the hill with my goats gathered about, and just being able to quietly observe them. I enjoy no longer having such large numbers of goats. They are now taking on personalities and names once more. I will never be a large commercial breeder, I just don't find enough rewards in it. My satisfaction comes from the fleece and the emotional attachment to my goats. I know this isn't for everyone. I know that there are large herds of nameless goats out there. I don't have any problem with that. It's just not for me.

My ego needs to be massaged now and then, and I gain that through my research flock and not my imports. I can hardly wait to shear my two year old research bucks this year and have them tested. I feel that I now have some animals that are superior to any of the imports. And I have the satisfaction of knowing they will never blow their fleece as they have no genetics within them to do so. I also have the deep feeling of accomplishment and the satisfaction of knowing that I created these goats. They are 14 years of crossing and culling 100% registered dairy goats and registered pygmies. Not only do they appear to have good yields, but I am guessing none will test over 17 micron at two years. And the character of the fiber and the

handle is equal or better than China. But the proof will be in the fiber tests and we must wait a few months yet to do that.

Another factor that will give me a great deal of satisfaction is that I will now be able to take my own goat's fiber and spin and knit it into sweaters for my husband and myself. This is due, of course, to our now being able to dehair fleece. There is nothing more satisfying in this world than to wear a garment from animals that you have bred and nurtured... unless it is to put Thanksgiving dinner on the table, having produced it all on your own land....And with that, I am off to dig the potatoes!

Cashmerely yours,



Judith Haralson

**-MORE THAN THREE
MILLION WORK ON
FARMS-**

A USDA report indicated that the farm labor force in July included 1.58 million self-employed farmers, 611,000 unpaid family members and 1.2 million workers hired directly by farm operators, reports the Farm Broadcast newsletter for August 23.

The remaining 374,000 of the total 3.68 million working on farms were agriculture service employees, the USDA said. Farmers paid their hired workers an average of \$5.57 per hour, a 27 cent increase from the previous year, according to the department.

**-FARMLAND VALUES
WON'T RISE MUCH THIS
YEAR-**

The USDA says its farmland values may not rise as much this year as earlier expected due to the weaker economy and lower prices for major farm commodities.

The USDA regularly surveys rural appraisers in 446 areas around the country to assess farmland values. Surveys are released quarterly and the previous outlook was for land values to increase 1.9 percent. That rise, between July 1991 and July 1992 is now expected to be only 0.9 percent, the department said.

**-NEW FARM FACTS BOOK
NOW AVAILABLE-**

Available now from the American Farm Bureau Federation information Division is a new book of farm facts. The colorful new book contains such facts as 86.7 percent of the farms in the U.S. today are owned by individuals, and only 0.3 percent are the property of non-family corporations.

An average dairy cow produces 4.7 pounds of milk in a single day. That is equal to 1.4 pounds of butter or 4 pounds of cheese.

Continued.....



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That is just a sample. There are many additional facts in the book available for \$3.00 a copy, or as little as \$2.50 each for orders of 200 or more.

For a copy of the book call your local Farm Bureau office

PHOTOGRAPHING YOUR INVESTMENT

When placing advertising for livestock many farmers make the mistake of submitting a poor quality photograph with their ad copy. A buyer's first impression can be lasting. A good photograph can help you impress a buyer by supporting visually your advertising "pitch". A poor photo can lose you in a crowd.

A good photograph can be taken by just using a couple simple newspaper-reporter photographing techniques.

1) Get close to your subject. The reader will not be able to distinguish the selling points of the animal if it is too far away.

2) Center your subject in the view finder of the camera. It is a lot easier to center & crop the photograph in the view finder than it is in the darkroom.

3) Focus on the subject. Don't make the mistake of focusing on the nearest object, therefore leaving your subject blurred. If possible, make sure your animal's eyes are in focus.

4) Use contrasting light and dark for a better effect especially if your ad will be used in a black and white

ad. A white goat on a black background or a black goat on a light background makes the subject stand out.

5) Pay attention to what is in the background of your photo. An old truck or rolls of barbed wire next to your prize cashmere may not give your buyer the best impression. Try to place the subject with a background that will not draw the reader's attention away from the subject.

The best way to take photographs for your advertisement is to plan for it. Don't wait until it is time to place an ad to take pictures. Take them when the time and place is right. That may mean carrying your camera more often.

BOUGHT AND SOLD

Blue Sky Cashmere's herd has been sold in its entirety to Victoria and George Mendeluk of California.

Morning Waters and Steve Stock of Blue Sky Cashmeres announced the sale last month after finalizing the agreement with Rainbow Ridge Cashmere Co. Ltd.

Rainbow Ridge Cashmere Co. Ltd. is located in Reedsport, Oregon, and is managed by Goatherd, Jan Davis. Victoria and George Mendeluk will be offering stud service and animals available for sale.

The Blue Sky Cashmere farm in Redmond was sold to Mark and Shelly Stanton. The new owners will be raising cashmeres.

WHERE IN THE WORLD CAN YOU GET YOUR FEED AND FARM PRODUCTS TESTED. The Washington State University publishes yearly, a guide to analytical laboratories and consultants serving agriculture in the Pacific Northwest.

The guide gives names, addresses, and phone numbers, of labs doing analysis on such things as animal nutrition, bee poisoning investigation, water quality, wastewater, irrigation water, pesticides, chemicals, soils, and plants. Companies are listed under the type of service they perform. Each company has specific information about the services it offers, but only the most commonly used services are listed in the publication.

Prices for services are not included, but you can assume there is a fee for analysis or consultation unless otherwise noted.

Anyone wanting to test their hay or grain for nutrients must have this guide. For more information please contact the Ag. Chemicals Specialist, Cooperative Extension, Johnson Hall, Washington State University, Pullman, Wa 99164-6432.



& Hooves

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A Firm Footing

by Miriam Jeswine

I have fantasies of living on a high, rocky, dry hill. The fantasies include a wonderful view, a stream flowing by, and a house with lots of windows, but that isn't the subject for today. The whole point of the high, rocky, dry hill is so that I can quit wrassling goats to trim and medicate their feet. If we lived on that hill, they'd trim their own feet and there

narrow-toed foot becomes distorted easily, and that puts strain on all the joints. The wall of the foot is not thin and papery, nor is it so thick that it can hardly wear down, ever. The heel is deep, so that when viewed from the side, the bottom of the foot is nearly parallel with the hairline.

You can do a little to help the poor foot by keeping

ups do occur. Usually the bleeding will stop by itself since circulation to the foot is poor, and it's a long way from the heart. The goat may limp for a week or two, and glare at you with accusing yellow eyes. Once in a while, however, the bleeding is more serious. It is hard to keep bloodstopper powder on the injury, and gravity is working counter to your efforts. Cautery with a hot iron may be necessary. That will also take care of possible infection, but it is a good idea to keep the animal in a clean place for awhile.

So much for fantasy. The reality is that good feet require less maintenance from people than do poor ones.

wouldn't be the mud required to make footrot.

So much for fantasy. The reality is that good feet require less maintenance from people than do poor ones. I know a dairyman who selects cows partly on the basis of their feet. He says the ones with good feet produce more and require less work from him because their feet don't need trimming and their joints are sound. There are goats like that, and I am fortunate to own some. These animals share several traits.

The very sound foot has wide toes, so that the animal stands level and the foot doesn't bend or twist. A

it trimmed, but that is a lot of work if you have a great many animals. It would be better to select bucks with good feet and try to breed good feet into the flock. Certainly, in choosing breeding stock, if two animals have equally desirable fleeces, but one has poor feet, choose the one with good feet. It is a trait that seems to be fairly easy to develop and maintain in a breeding program.

Meanwhile, problems with feet can develop. One is the injury that occurs when you accidentally trim too short and blood begins to flow. Certainly, you should always trim in very thin slices and quit if you see pink, but slip-

Footrot is an infestation that we who live in damp climates have to deal with. There seem to be two major types. One gets between the toes and causes a lot of pain. The animal limps, and lies down a lot. You will notice a nasty-smelling ooze between the toes as well. This kind is fairly simple to get rid of. Clean out between the toes and apply foot rot medication to the area. A cotton ball soaked in medication will help keep it in contact with the affected area and reduce the possibility of mud getting in and reinfecting. I find it is just as well to go ahead and treat all four feet, since they will eventually get the plague anyway.

The other type of footrot gets between the wall and the sole of the foot. Usually it doesn't cause much pain, but it is harder to get rid of. You have to trim away all of the affected area, even if it means taking off a section of hoof wall clear up to the hair line. You have to get the black junk out, and apply medication every few days, minimum once a week, for about a month. A lot of work, and it is all for nothing if you don't keep the goat in a dry place.

A combination of a bacterium and a fungus causes footrot, and there are several kinds of combinations. If you have the bacteria, but the fungi are not present, there will be no footrot, and vice versa. There are footrot vaccines available for sheep, but I don't know how well they work. A friend of mine tried vaccinating her goats, and they developed enormous abscesses at the injection sites. It has made me reluctant to try the idea myself.

There are a couple of effective treatments for footrot, and a lot of ineffective ones. One of those that works is a combination of a 10% zinc sulfate solution with sodium laureth sulfate (a major ingredient in detergents). This is available in squeeze bottles, in 25 lb. bags of powder, or you can mix it up yourself. It is most effective in a footbath. The best technique is to trim everybody's feet and run the whole herd through the foot bath during dry weather.

Then turn them out onto ground which has been exposed to the sun and dried out, with no animals on it for a week or so. Doing this once a week for four weeks should just about take care of the problem.

Another effective treatment is a mixture of DMSO and tetracycline. This needs to be applied, either as a soak or as a spray, to a foot that has been well trimmed and scrubbed with a brush and disinfectant. It takes several treatments, depending on how serious the infection is.

Running goats through a footbath or soaking their feet is easier to say than to do. Goats get violent about putting their feet in water. Even the mildest little doe can turn around inside her skin, wriggle out of your grasp, or turn into a gyrating mass of flailing hooves and horns when you shove her toward the footbath. It helps to run them through a chute. I put up one rather quickly using fence panels and steel fenceposts. I put the chute at the point of a triangle formed with fence panels so that the goats could be driven or dragged, as the

Sound Foot



Side View



Front View



Bottom View

Poor Foot



Side View



Front View



Bottom View

need arose. It has to be narrow, only barely wide enough, so that no one can turn around upon reaching the dreaded liquid. The bath itself has to be too long to jump over, and preferably too long to be jumped into and out of in a single bound. The longer the feet soak, the better. Some animals will leap through it with big splashes, some will tippy toe and others march through as if it is no big deal. You have to be prepared for all kinds, including the ones who compact themselves so short

that you think you are going to shove them through themselves and have wrong-side out goats. Others will zip backwards through your legs, and goats don't even have a reverse gear normally. If all this appalls you, there are a few alternatives, like the fantasy hill.

Some people use canvas boots on animals prone to footrot, and other use a wrap of electrical tape or duct tape to keep the feet dry. I'd prefer to have animals with sound feet in the first place, and a dry place to keep them.

I did have one doe live to be thirteen years old without needing a trim, and she never had footrot. She also had a very aggressive personality. I wonder if the traits are related. Nonetheless, both the personality and the feet can be selected for in breeding. Aside from that, one could move to a dry area.

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR JET SETTING KIDS

By Pat Showhalter

Reprinted with Permission

"Kinder Communique" July 1991, P.O. Box 1575, Snohomish, Wa 98290

Although this article is written for kinder goats, I'm sure cashmere breeders will find this useful!

This is now the 3rd year that we've been shipping Kinder goats, so the process has become a reasonably comfortable routine, and we have managed to work out the rough spots that gave us uncomfortable surprises in the beginning. In the following paragraphs you'll find some instructions, ideas, and cautions that hopefully will be of help to anyone who plans to ship or receive Kinder goats by air. With the dozen or so goats that have been shipped from our farm, we have had no serious problems, but keep in mind that shipping is a stressful situation. Both shipper and receiver need to do whatever they can to make the traveler comfortable.

FINANCES

Seller and buyer both need to be sure there is a clear understanding of the complete cost of the transaction. Areas that need to be considered: (1) purchasing price of the goat, what the seller owes to the buyer, full disclosure of all pertinent information about the animal and its background; (2) cost of health certificate - will vary from state to state, and with the age of the animal; (3) cost of kennel or

crate; (4) air freight charges - will it be a prepaid shipment of freight collect?; (5) additional charges - transportation to the air port, extra shots, insurance, etc.

HEALTH CERTIFICATE

The health certificate must be supplied by a licensed veterinarian following a complete physical examination (heart, lungs, looking for sign of obvious illness and for infestation by parasites, etc.) Each state has its own set of requirements - the receiving end is the concern. Your veterinarian can check for current information on any states' requirements for you. The cost of the health certificate will be determined by those requirements and the standard things to expect beyond the basic physical are: TB test, often only over the age of 6 months; brucellosis test, again often only over the age of 6 months; and occasionally a permit number must be assigned. Keep in mind that any lab tests involved take time - sometimes as long as 2 1/2 weeks. Be sure to allow for this in your planning. The health certificate will be good for 30 days from the date of issue, and everything must be repeated if the shipping is not done within that time period.

AIR FREIGHT

Airlines require that goats be at least 8 weeks of age before they can be shipped. The simple method is to use one of the standard fiberglass dog kennels approved for air travel (Vari-kennel, Kennel Cab, Pet Porter, etc.). A kinder kid will usually fit in a #200 (19" height) kennel up to at least ten weeks of age. This size is also called "medium", and the weight limit for the loaded crate is 50 pounds. We did have one shipment where the total weight came to exactly the limit - too close for comfort when the next size kennel is an hour-and-a-half round trip away! The kennel must be large enough to allow the goat to stand up and turn around, and the package must come within a certain weight limit. Only one goat per kennel is permitted. There are crate specifications available from the airlines that would allow a shipper to build a special crate that would house no more than two animals.

Freight costs are determined by standard kennel size within set weight limits. Be sure that the airline knows what size kennel you intend to use. If you don't specify, chances are you will be charged for the largest kennel. All the kennels I have seen have the dimensions embossed in the

door frame. These are the numbers that need to be reported on the shipping papers, and when checking costs.

TIMING Reservations are required for goats too - no earlier than 4 days before the flight, no later than 24 hours in advance. Ask for the most direct flight, transportation will not be booked with less than a 2 hour gap to insure that connections won't be missed. On shipping day, call the airline before heading to the airport to see if the flight is on time, and to determine if there are any weather restrictions that affect shipment of live animals. For instance, temperatures over 80 degrees at connection points or at destination may mean that the airlines will not accept your shipment. Be flexible, particularly when planning summer shipments. And most important, shipments must be at the freight office at least two hours ahead of flight time. (Oh well - not much traffic to deal with at 4:30 A.M.!)

If you are receiving a shipment, be sure to confirm arrival time with the airlines, and if your traveler is coming in late, find out where to pick up after-hours shipments.

SHIPPING PREPARATIONS

Of course, never ship a goat unless it is in the best of health. Be sure that he's all spruced up with a clean coat, trimmed hooves, dusted, shots up-to-date. Our vet recommends no preventative shots of antibiotics, but

suggests that the receiver isolate the new arrival for as long as 6 weeks if possible, and be prepared to treat any illnesses that might show up. The shipper will want this Kinder goat to be a prime representative of his herd, and the receiver will appreciate the arrival of a goat in top condition - just plain good business!

When you prepare the kennel or crate, remember that a water dish is required. We put some of the goat's own hay in the back of the crate, then put in a floor pad made of a pillowcase, or case made from old towels or sheeting, and lightly stuffed with wood shavings. The open end of the case can be folded over and quickly stapled shut. It's a good idea to mail ahead a small supply of familiar feed so that the receiver can slowly make the change to the new feed and avoid tummy troubles.

Finally, the kennel must be clearly marked with LIVE ANIMAL stickers (available with a new kennel, or at the freight office) and the names and addresses of both shipper and receiver, and phone number where receiver can be reached.

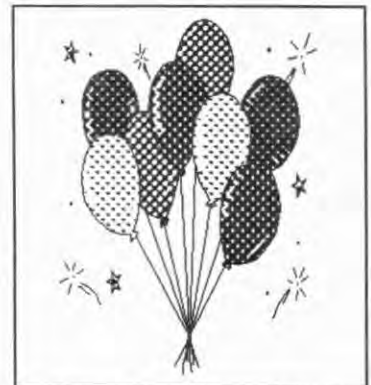
SHIPPING DAY

Make that important confirmation call to the airlines, load up your goat, and be sure you have the original receipt of the health certificate plus one clear copy, and the necessary names, addresses, and phone numbers

that will be needed on the shipping papers. Insurance is available for the value of the shipment for just a few dollars, so consider purchasing it. Remember, if you are sending the goat freight collect, the shipper is liable for all costs if the shipment is refused or not picked up at the other end and must be returned.

At the receiving end, prepare to meet a tired traveler, and the sooner he/she can be settled into the new environment, the better. Offer some of the familiar feed, and encourage the goat to drink - by adding a little molasses to disguise the unfamiliar taste, if necessary. Recently weaned kids can be offered water from a bottle. One of the most serious effects of travel can be dehydration, so extra effort is called for here.

Observe the new arrival closely for several days to make sure he/she is eating, drinking, and eliminating normally and is active and alert. With a little care and some careful planning so that their simple needs are met, Kinder goats make excellent jetsetters.



NEW ZEALAND FIBER HOUSE VISITS PACIFIC N.W.

Growers from around the Pacific Northwest and Canada, (and one from Maine), gathered to listen to John Fitzgerald, General Manager, of Whatawhata Fiber Testing Center, New Zealand. The event was held August 31, 1991 at The Farm in Toledo, Washington.

WFTC provides an objective fiber testing service for goat research at Whatawhata, other New Zealand, and Australian research institutes, and to goat producers worldwide.

WFTC is responsible for objectively defining the New Zealand export clip.

10 - 15g sample is weighed to two decimal places and dehaired. A minimum of three dehairing cycles is used per sample, at which point trained staff determine whether a minimum standard of dehairing has been achieved. Up to a further three cycles is then used, at which point the ease of dehairing is assessed and stated on the test report. The down portion is weighed, also to two decimal places.

Down yield% =

$$\frac{\text{Down sample weight(g)}}{\text{Raw sample weight}}$$

$$\text{Down yield (G)} = \frac{\text{Down yield \%} \times \text{Fleece weight (g)}}{100}$$



Following is John Fitzgerald's presentation notes:

WHATAWHATA FIBER TESTING CENTER is Located in the North Island of New Zealand, approximately 12 miles west of Hamilton. Whatawhata Fiber Testing Center (WFTC) is a commercial entity of Whatawhata Research Center. The latter, with a staff of approximately 50 scientists, technical staff, and support groups, and 810 hectares of farm land is the principal Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) research unit for hill country sheep, Beef, and goat farming.

According to Fitzgerald "The testing methods of the center is based on sound scientific expertise and technology."

DOWN FIBER YIELD MEASUREMENT: The proportion of down fiber by weight is calculated from a dehaired quantity of raw fleece. Whatawhata Fiber Testing Center uses the Shirley Trash Separator, which, like the Shirley Analyzer, mimics the commercial dehairing process. **MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUE:** A randomly sampled quantity of fleece is conditioned for up to 12 hours at high relative humidity. A

Interpreting your fleece test results: 1) The accuracy of the down yield result is dependent on the accuracy of the fleece sampling technique. Like fiber diameter, the error in measurement is largely determined by the extent to which the fleece sample reflects the total fleece. A large part of this can be influenced by the sampling procedure, but the inherent variation in the fleece determines that there will be a small variance between sample measurements. The objective is to minimize this variance.

2) Several factors can influence dehairing ability but the main objective is to select fleeces that have a clear

differentiation between down fiber and guard hair. This is often not the case in young animals which produce moderately fine guard hair, 35-40 microns. Similarly some fleeces are characterized by guard hair which is pliable, with lower values of medullation. Despite being, on average, considerably coarser than the down fiber, this type of guard hair is extremely difficult to remove and contaminates the resulting down fraction. Your fleece report will state whether the sample was difficult to dehair.

3) Animal age and date of shearing potentially affect down yield measurement. There is also evidence that date of shearing can influence the dehairing characteristics of fleece although in younger animals this is compounded by age effect.

4. Although the Shirley Trash Separator produces minimal waste or "sinkage", reliability of the result is reduced if the sample size is reduced below 5g. Normally between 10-15g is processed per fleece.

5) As for Fiber diameter, the precision of the measurement is improved if replicate samples are tested. However, the current test method, ie. 1 sample per fleece, provides a very accurate between-animal ranking measurement.

DOWN FIBER DIAMETER MEASUREMENT

What is measured: A typical objective fiber diameter measurement provides the

average fiber diameter for a given number of counted fibers (Projection Microscope, Fiber Diameter Analyzer (FDA), Image Analysis methods) or a given weight of fiber (Airflow, Sonic Fiber Tester, Liquid Scintillation Counter) and the distribution of fiber diameter in the counted sample (Projection Microscope, Fiber Diameter Analyzer, Image Analysis methods). The Fiber Diameter Analyzer based at Whatawhata Fiber Testing Center measures the mean fiber diameter and distribution statistics on a total count of 1000 fibers. The distribution statistics are discussed below and can be expressed as the standard deviation, the coefficient of variation or even the percentage of fibers above or below a prescribed value. Because down-bearing animals also produce coarse guard hair, the FDA measurement is programmed to only record fibers below 40 microns. The implications of this "micron-cut off" are discussed below.

Measurement technique The randomly sampled fiber that has usually been dehaired is placed in an automated minicoring device that produces 2 mm length snippets. The snippets are washed in a petroleum solvent and force-dried. They are then conditioned for 3-4 hours at 20 degrees centigrade and 65% r.h.

The FDA operates using a light extinction principle whereby the snippets of fiber are carried in a solution and pass through a regulated laser

beam. Each snippet produces a shadow on a light detector as it passes through the beam and by using a sophisticated pre-set calibration table the fiber diameter measurement is recorded. When 1000 fibers have been counted, the FDA immediately produces the mean fiber diameter and the range of fiber diameter measurements that made up the sample. The result is recorded on computer disk, and the information can then be used to generate your result sheet.

Interpreting your fleece test results:

1) The objective measurement is as good as the fleece sample that is prepared. The average fleece contains several million fibers and it is important that the drawn sample is representative of the fleece or that, if for instance, a midside or part-side sample is taken, the sampling method is consistent. Your test report will provide details of the sampling method.

2) WFTC has conducted extensive repeatability measurements to determine the level of precision for their cashmere method. These trials have confirmed that the measurement error associated with sampling is greater than the measurement procedure reinforcing the importance of careful sampling procedures. To independently audit the accuracy of their fiber diameter procedures, WFTC is a member of, and a calibrated laboratory with both the Interwoollabs and Intermohairlabs round trials.

3. Results are both summarized and shown as a graph of fiber diameter distribution. All fiber diameter statistics can be influenced by factors such as age of animal and date of shearing. It is a distinct advantage to you if both these descriptions are also shown on the result sheet.

Standard deviation (SD) and coefficient of variation (COV) are measures of fiber diameter spread in the sample. Adult cashmere animals can have SD values below 3.0 microns and COV values as low as 17 - 18%. Generally SDs and COVs of greater than about 4.2 and 25% respectively are considered high but these high values, that most often occur in kid or hoggets stock, may reduce with age as the fleece structure alters. Distribution is an important trait but is not as economically important as mean fiber diameter or down weight.

4) Your fleece report shows the percentage fibers recorded with a fiber diameter greater than or equivalent to 27 microns. Please note however, that only fibers up to 40 microns are measured. This is an arbitrary value chosen to pick up all down fibers from very coarse fleeces. Well differentiated fleeces, i.e. where there is a clear distinction between down and guard hair will have a very low incidence of fibers in the 27-40 micron range. Similarly, dehaired fleeces from some young animals will have a high proportion of fibers in this range and will have high SD and COV values.

John Fitzgerald also gave some tips for using the Whatawhata testing center to his U.S. clients.

Prices: "Please note that these are in \$NZ. If you are paying in \$USA, multiply the total invoice by 0.6; one \$NZ equals .60 cents USA. A handling charge for overseas clients is included in our prices.

Sampling: Random samples from a whole fleece can be taken by placing the fleece under a subsampling grid made of hard board of plywood. (see page 18)

Import/Export Certificate: A NZ certificate should be attached to the outside of your airmail consignment. Photocopies are acceptable. If you require them, extra copies of the NZ Import/Export certificate can be forwarded to you.

WFTC SERVICE EXTRAS:

INTERPRETATION of test results is an essential part of the service that Whatawhata provides. They show you what the test results mean and how it can be used to improve the quality and profitability of your flock.

SUMMARY LISTINGS sorted on any measured trait are provided with each consignment to assist your collation of results. They will also sort on any combination of tag and animal details. Additional blank columns can be provided in your report so that you can make full use of result lists in the field or in

the yard.

DIRECT DATA TRANSFER SERVICE They can transfer your data onto a floppy disk so that you can enter it directly onto a computer recording system. Simply tell us the appropriate format for your computer.

HIGH QUALITY REPRODUCTION of test reports or graphical display of flock data is available on request. This is ideal for your own promotional material, or for sale and catalogue material.

COMPARISON OF RESULTS with national/international flock averages obtained from our flock recording database will be incorporated for a number of traits.

AN EXTENSIVE WOOL TESTING FACILITY is available for all major wool traits. We also have experience measuring a wide range of other animal fiber types backed up by fiber histology expertise. **GUARANTEE** a maximum 15 day turnaround.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

John Fitzgerald
General Manager
Whatwhata Fiber Testing Center
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Private Bag 3089
Hamilton, New Zealand
Phone: 64 71 298400
Fax: 64 71 298871

Animal ID: 9254

Sample Type: Random
Sampled by: MAF Whatawhata
Fleece Weighed by: MAF Whatawhata

Animal information supplied by client.

Sex: Buck
Class: Cashmere
Year of Birth: 10 JUL 91
Date Sampled/Shorn: Fleece W 245
Previously Shorn: 16 JUL 90

The breeder provides the age of the animal to the test house. Should be on every test

IMPORTANT TO keep track of the growth period. Growth influenced by season

MICRON SIZE
OF FIBERS
% OF FIBERS THAT ARE GREATER THAN THE STATED MICRON EXAMPLE

DISTRIBUTION OF FIBRE DIAMETERS

u Count Cum %

6	1	100.0
7		99.9
8	1	99.9
9	1	99.8
10	4	99.7 *
11	14	99.3 ****
12	56	97.9 *****
13	100	92.3 *****
14	120	82.2 *****
15	157	70.2 *****
16	160	54.4 *****
17	118	38.4 *****
18	95	26.5 *****
19	61	17.0 *****
20	39	10.8 *****
21	33	6.9 *****
22	12	3.6 ****
23	7	2.4 **
24	6	1.7 **
25	1	1.1
26	2	1.0 *
27	1	0.8
28		0.7
29		0.7
30	1	0.7
31		0.6
32	1	0.6
33	3	0.5 *
34		0.2
35		0.2
36		0.2
37		0.2
38	1	0.2
39	1	0.1
40		0.0

(Cut off at 40 microns)

Percent fibres over 27 micron = 0.80 %

Spread of diameter of fibers about the mean. The narrower the spread, the lower the value.

Average fiber diameter of the sample

TEST RESULTS

MEAN FIBRE DIAMETER: 16.1 micron

STANDARD DEVIATION: 3.1 micron

COEFFICIENT OF VARIATION: 19.2 %

AN indication of the degree of spread of fiber diameter about the mean. The objective is to achieve a low spread

DOWN LENGTH: 50.4 %

TOTAL FLEECE WEIGHT: 245 g

CALCULATED DOWN WEIGHT: 123 g

COLOUR: W/W (Superwhite) OF about 20%.

Down yield x Fleece weight

The total Fleece should be weighed before taking a sample. This information is then provided by the grower to the tester, (garbage + all) The entire fleece should be sampled from

It is important to know if your sample was combed or sheared. Combed yield is higher

CLIENT: A SMITH
Whatawhata Cashmere Company
Private Bag 3000
HAMILTON

RECEIVED: 28 JUL 91 BATCH NO: 1209/90
COMPLETED: 10 AUG 91 SAMPLE NO: 194524/90

Use these numbers for future reference. Records are kept for seven years.

STANDARD ERROR OF DOWN YIELD = 2.55%

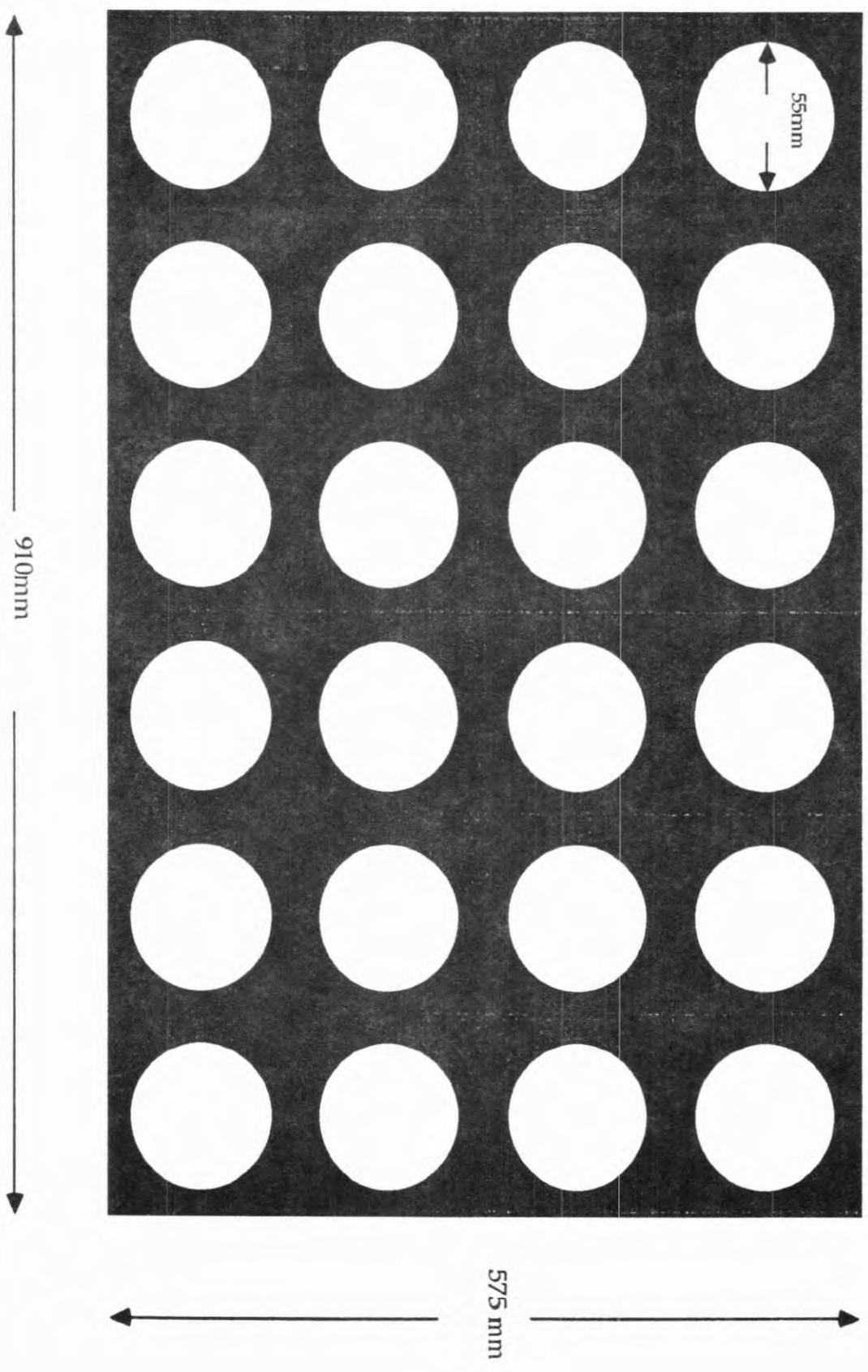
STANDARD ERROR OF MEAN FIBRE DIAM. = 0.19 micron
FDA CALIBRATED BY INTERWOOLLABS TOP

same as standard error of Down yield.

The standard error of down yield is an indication of repeated measurements on the same sample. For example, it is possible this sample could be off by $\pm 2.55\%$

Dimensions for Cashmere Subsampling Grid

*NOTE: Holes are not drawn to scale



FLOCK HEALTH PROGRAM FOR GOATS
RANDALL W. HAVEMAN, DVM, MS
658-5561

IM = In Muscle
SQ = Under Skin

KIDS (at Birth)

- Vitamin A-D3 _____ 1/2 cc IM
- BO-SE (Vitamin E/Selenium) _____ 1/2 cc IM
- C/D Tetanus Toxoid _____ 2 cc SQ or IM
- Tamed Iodine (Pour in navel tube)

KIDS (dehorning/castrating - first few weeks)

- C/D Tetanus Toxoid (booster) _____ 2 cc SQ or IM
- or
- Tetanus Antitoxin _____ 1/2 Vial IM
- Benzapen _____ 1 cc/10 lbs IM

KIDS (3-6 months)

- Worm
- IVOMEC _____ 1cc/110 LBS. SQ
- or
- PANCUR _____ 1 and 1/2cc /50 lbs oral
- Vitamin A-D3 _____ 1 cc IM
- BO-SE _____ 2 1/4 cc/100 lbs IM
- C/D Tetanus Toxoid (booster) _____ 2 cc SQ or IM

DOES & BUCKS (Yearly, 3-4 weeks prior to kidding. Boost in 2 weeks if 1st vaccination.)

- Vitamin A-D3 _____ 2cc IM
- BO-SE _____ 2 1/4cc/100 lbs IM
- C/D Tetanus Toxoid _____ 2cc SQ or IM
- Chlamydia/Vibrio Vaccination _____ 2cc SQ
- Pasteurella Vaccination
- (May Prevent Weak Kids) _____ 2cc IM
- Coccidiostat CORID (Only if Diagnosed by fecal exam)
- CAE (Caprine Arthritis & Encephalitis) Recommend Blood Test
- Worm
- IVOMEC _____ 1cc/110 lbs SQ
- or
- PANACUR _____ 1 and 1/2CC/50 lbs ORAL



BREEDERS DIRECTORY

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CHIVO NEGRO

DW Cox
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Elfrida, Az 85610
602-824-3661

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415-843-0744

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PETALUMA OSTRICH FARM

Greg Gibson
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Petaluma, Ca 707-778-8303

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707-926-5430

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Cynthia Walton
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Fax: 303-776-8758

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Fax: 303-681-2545

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203-642-6965

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Lynn Beattie

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Fax: 406-683-5567

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Fax: 206-983-3676

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USDA SBIR TEST FARM

Michel Paulin
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Toledo, Wa 98591
Phone: 206-864-4200
Fax: 206-864-4201

BARREL SPRINGS CASHMERE

Linda & Steve Pardon
USDA SBIR Test Farm
143 Barrel Spring Road
Bellingham, Wa 98226
206-724-5371

AUSTRALIA

Cashking Cashmere Company

John and Margaret Banks
P.O. Box 333
Forth, Tasmania Australia
7310
Fax: 61-04-231-087

Ceduna Cashmere

Jim and Marg Cooper
Chads Creek Road
Strathewen, Victoria 3099
Australia
Phone: 61-03-714-8214

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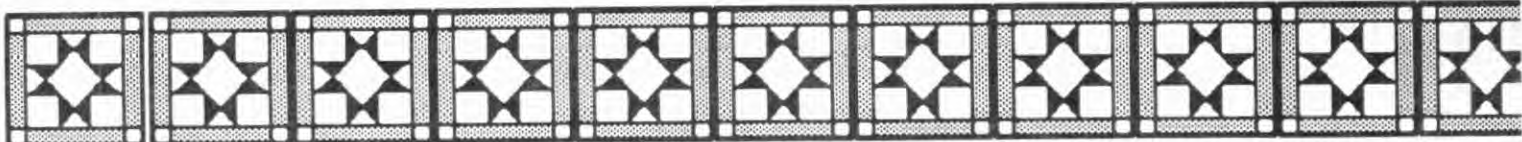
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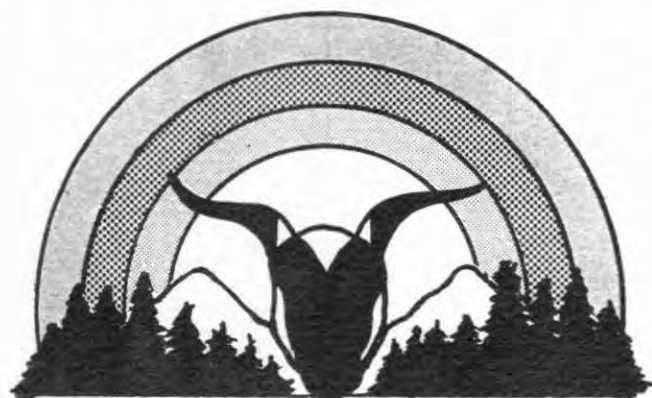
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