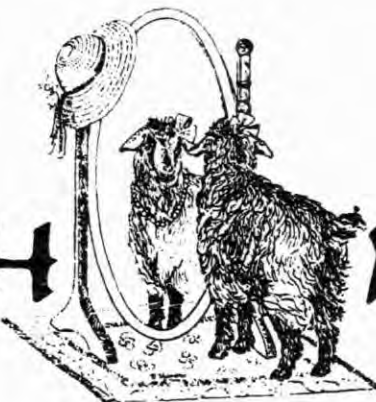
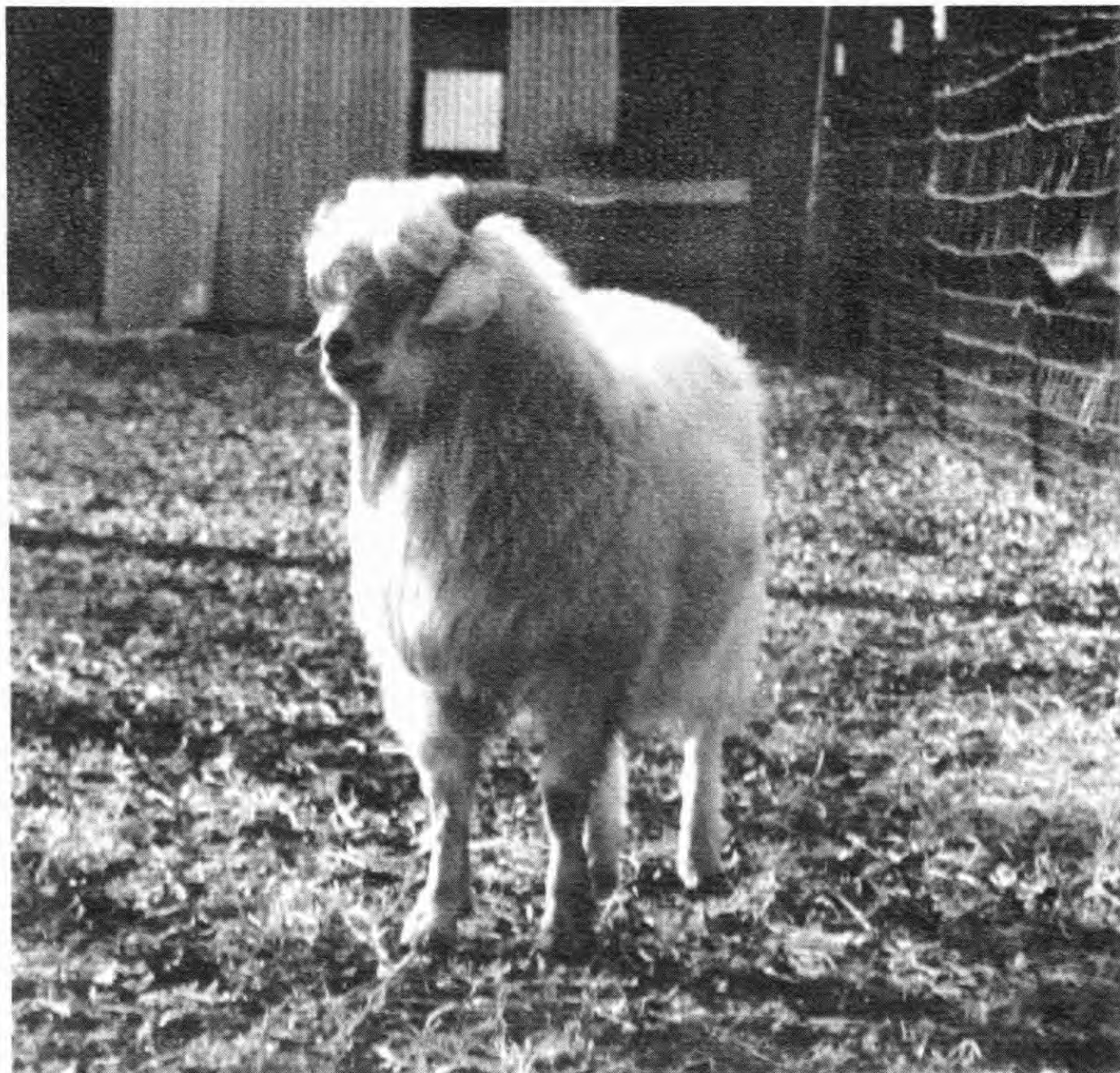


A black and white illustration of two goats standing on a small patch of ground. They are both looking into a large, oval-shaped mirror. A hat is hanging on the left side of the mirror's frame. The word "CASH" is written in a large, bold, serif font to the left of the mirror, and the word "MIRROR" is written in the same font to the right of the mirror.

CASH MIRROR

VOLUME THREE, ISSUE FIVE

MARCH 1992



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CASHMIRROR

CASHMIRROR REFLECTING THE CASHMERE INDUSTRY

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PHOTO CURTESY OF FURRY DOWN FARM:
"Furry Down Benrolf"

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The CASHMIRROR welcomes contributions of articles and photographs. If possible type articles in double spacing on one side of the paper.

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

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-The secret of happiness is this: Let your interests be as wide as possible, and let your reactions to the things and persons that interest you be as far as possible friendly rather than hostile. BERTRAND RUSSELL - FORBES, MARCH 17, 1980.

REFLECTIONS By Wendy Paulin

Following is a brief history of the cashmere industry in the United States:

The United States cashmere industry came to be in late 1988 and early 1989. Several people in different parts of the U.S. heard about the blossoming cashmere industry in Australia. As a result, a few starter flocks and a couple major herds were imported from Australia for breeding. Goat farming in the U.S. has not been the same since.

Historically Texas has been the center of goat production because of their close proximity to Mexico and their big demand for goat meat ("Cabrito"). Texas goat herds would select the fuzzy goats for breeding because they would bring a better price in the sale ring. The result is that many of the feral goats in Texas have been unknowingly selected for cashmere for generations. When the word was out they carried some quality cashmere the price of spanish feral goats jumped from an average of U.S.\$30.00 to about U.S.\$75.00.

It was in October of 1989 the first issue of CashMirror was published. It seems the word cashmere conjures up the smell of money and the days of the snake oil salesman in the old western town were back. There were a few "get rich quick" cashmere schemes going around and it became difficult to find the truth. Those interested in the cashmere business had so many questions that the best thing to do for breeders is to help educate them. And so we began our monthly mailings of the latest developments in the industry.

Also in 1989 the few cashmere owners in the U.S. formed a national breeder's organization called Cashmere Producers of America or CaPrA. Forte' Cashmere Company, a U.S. dehaired and spinner of cashmere, provided seed money for the new organization. They also promised to purchase the first American cashmere clip. In 1990 Forte' purchased fine cashmere - 16.5 micron or less for U.S.\$45.00 a clean pound. Those days are gone.

Things have changed in the world market for cashmere since then. This year Forte' did not announce a price for the American clip. While they did promise to purchase fiber in quantity from regional fiber pools it seems as though the number of goats in the United States may not yet be at a level to support a commercial clip. Given that the marketing arm of the Australian Cashmere Growers Association has temporarily suspended activity and the New Zealand Cashmere Marketing pool is sitting with fleece unsold from last year there is not much hope for an American sale this year. But if there is - we are ready. An American Cashmere Grower's Marketing Co-operative has been established in Colorado and regional organizations are gearing up to pool their fleece to sell.

The cashmere scene in the U.S. will always be complex just because of the mere size of the country. Texas seems like a foreign country to me and that doesn't mean I don't like Texans. But, just to give you an example, I could fly to London right now for the same price I can fly to Texas. So if Texas or Colorado has a show or sale, no matter how good it may be, it is just not economically feasible for many growers in different parts of the country to attend. Distance is a problem.

The U.S. industry is also split between choosing breeding goals. And they fight about it regularly. Who thinks what is more important: meat, fiber or geography. (And who knows what else?) Well, what makes sense is in fact what is naturally happening. The economics of the region dictates the breeding goals of the region. For example the southwest, south central, and any other dry rangeland region will more likely be the commercial growers. CaPrA has just negotiated with a southern meat processor to market up to 200 cabrito carcasses per week. Southern cashmere breeders are raising large flocks of Spanish ferals in an area where range land is highly accessible and feed and maintenance costs are very low. Some use imported herd sires to improve their fiber. When the price of fiber dips low, like it has in the last two years, they shear their goats then send them to the slaughter house. Nothing will be lost in investment or return.

A cashmere producer in the northern most states

has a different economic situation all together. The meat market is not well established, Spanish feral stock is not as accessible, and imported breeding stock that is accessible is expensive. Northern breeders are breeding to Toggenburg and Sannen goats for a good F1 cross. Those that have imported cashmere herds have invested heavily to have them. Because of the rainfall levels, maintaining goats is more expensive in all respects. And because it is more expensive many breeders have small herds - 200 or less. Small cashmere breeders don't have enough fleece to sell to the Forte', Amical, and Dawsons of the world so they turn to local markets to sell their fiber - not to the slaughter house. It didn't take long for small cashmere producers to find out that if they comb, spin, weave and knit their own fiber they could make a living instead of a pittance. Combed fiber prices range from U.S.\$75.00 to U.S.\$100.00 per pound to hand spinners. A hand spun, hand knit sweater will sell for U.S.\$500. And that opens up the market for goats - suppose every rural handspinner could have their own cashmere goat?

Up until now there has been one small problem - dehairing. I say up until now because this month a cottage industry dehairing machine has been introduced by a group of interested developers. The machine will dehair individual fleeces and is portable enough to be carried in a van or pick-up truck. The machine retails at about U.S.\$6,000 which makes it available to small groups of producers and or regional organizations. The small farmer now has an outlet to process a small amount of fleece. Also, two other larger dehairing companies that will do quantities of fleece have come into being. Because of this there are already new buyers of cashmere in Washington and Montana and it won't be long before California and Vermont join the club.

The U.S. cashmere industry has developed rapidly. There are many commercial producers and there are even more small breeders. The net result is a lot of committed and innovative breeders that are producing some fine cashmere. They are willing to work hard, cull heavily, make their own products and develop markets. But they refuse to be held hostage by any one part of the industry. This is what it takes to make a successful cashmere industry in the United States.

Editor's note: Thank you for your interest in the small Independent Dejarreuse. At this time we can give you only some very basic information because of patent registration.

The "Independent" is made in the U.S.A. but can be shipped anywhere in the world. It can be operated by one person, but for increased production you may use two. It is easy to operate and suitable for an on farm operation.

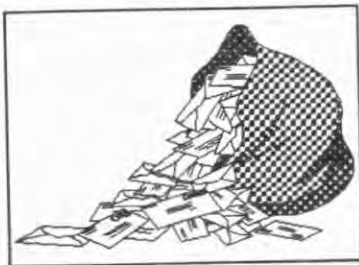
The "Independent" is made for the cottage industry not for commercial production. It will not compete, nor can it be expected to compete, with any major processor. It is designed to enable small growers to process and sell their fleece independently to hand spinners and knitters for a price that will support a growers investment. It ultimately will encourage goat numbers that will support a commercial clip.

The amount of cashmere produced in a work day will depend on the yield, the quality, the cleanliness of the fleece, and whether or not the fleece was combed or sheared. With all of these factors in mind, we average between 3 to 8 lbs of clean cashmere per day.

The Farm is currently negotiating a distribution contract for the sale of the Independent Dejarreuse. For those who would like more information on the machine please write: P.O. Box 639, Toledo, Wa. 98591.

-EUROPEAN FARM PROTESTS CONTINUE- Reprinted from the Farm Bureau Newsletter

The European Community is having difficulty maintaining peace among its own farmers. Over the past several weeks French farmers have seized Italian grapes, blocked highways with their tractors, disrupted cabinet meetings and set fire to government buildings and police stations. The group demonstrations recently subsided but renegade bands of farmers are hijacking shipments of imported sheep and goats. President Mitterand and other government officials are described as becoming fed-up with the farm antics.



Dear CashMirror,

I move, and I can do this officially as a CaPrA board member, that we bury the hatchet. The "meat vs fiber hatchet", the "imports vs bred-on hatchet", the "them vs us hatchet", and any other hatchet one might carry that perpetuates the editorial mudslinging that CaPrA members continue to represent. Please let me explain.

Two months ago the Northwest members were asked to represent our region on the CaPrA board. Eventually, I was "gingerly pushed" to the representative position. Once accepted I was genuinely excited about the job. As a result, last month I attended the CaPrA general membership and board meeting in Denver as well as the CaPrA sponsored Cashmere Show at the nationally known Denver Stock Show. All of which I might add were very interesting to me.

I am impressed that the North and South central state members have so effectively promoted the diversification of the cashmere goat. Spanish bred-on goat farms abound, weed control education is growing, and varied and

creative meat marketing ventures are in the works. The Denver goat show and sale was professionally executed and exhibited what is in my judgement some quality import and bred-on goats. It was a pleasure to meet the dedicated cashmere breeders.

What didn't impress me however was that the Northwest, which I represented, was not even introduced at the board meeting. We really do have some experienced Cashmere growers out here who have made a great impact in promoting cashmere for all of us.

When I introduced myself to fellow breeders, I was met with such disapproving remarks as, "Oh Yeah, your out there with all those high-priced goats." This kind of remark represents the "them vs us" attitude I'm opposed to.

The Northwest breeders are primarily geared towards growing fiber. They are very interested in participating on a national level. They are experienced cashmere growers who have made an impact in promoting cashmere for all of us. They have spent a great deal of time demonstrating fiber at spinning clinics, county fairs and cashmere exhibits. They have developed ingenious cottage industries promoting cashmere goats and their fiber products. They are even working to encourage dairy goat breeders to consider the bred-on method with the Toggenburg goat. The Northwest growers have

and continue to spend a great deal of time promoting CaPrA as one of the best sources of information on raising cashmere. So it was a disappointment to be greeted in such a way.

Since CaPrA's inception it has been divided, political and at times uncommunicative. New buyers doing their homework on the industry recognize that simply by reading *Concerning Cashmere* and *CashMirror*. In some cases it has become a deciding factor whether or not to enter this industry. Who wants a headache instead of a good investment?

The Northwest wants to be on the CaPrA board - but on condition - can CaPrA objectively and openly reflect the cashmere industry as it truly exists in all parts of the nation? Does it effectively represent all breeders? If it doesn't then it is not qualified as a national organization. This board member believes it can and should represent all breeders in a constructive professional manner. But that means the CaPrA board and all of its members will have to "bury the hatchet" on more than one issue.

Sincerely,
Linda Pardon
Northwest Region
Representative.

P.S. January/February's Concerning Cashmere has just arrived in the mail, and I am pleased with its "fibemews", and the attention given to cashmere growers across the U.S. - That's a step in the right direction.

POLIOENCEPHALOMALACIA (OR GOAT CRASHES)

I went to the barn early to give the goats some apple cores and there she was, stretched out stiff, her belly swollen. A horrifying sight. I scrambled over the tops of the mangers into the pen and looked at her. She was alive, but not moving.

"Damn it!" I hollered, "Don't you dare die!" I dashed into the house, grabbed the thermometer and dashed back. (You should always take the ailing animal's temperature before you call the vet.) With some difficulty, because her pucker strings were tight, I got the thermometer into her, and then realized I had it backwards. (I wasn't excited, not me.)

Her temperature was 100.5 degrees, subnormal. Her legs were out straight, and her head was thrown back. They would move if I moved them, but I couldn't bend her legs at the hocks. She moaned when I moved her or felt her belly, and when I tried to get her to stand, she fell over. I called the vet. It was almost time for him to close up shop and go home, so he took a guess over the

phone and suggested B-complex, aspirin, and because he thought it might be a digestive disruption, milk of magnesia. I gave her the B-complex and aspirin, and then had to dash to the drugstore, ten miles away, for the milk of magnesia. Before I dosed her, I raised her up on



Photo courtesy of Champagne Cashmeres

her sternum and lifted on her belly to cause her to burp. She seemed willing to stay up, so the B-complex and aspirin helped already. I gave her the milk of magnesia, plus some ginger, a good remedy for a belly ache. Then I stood her up. She was willing to stand, but a goat with a belly ache will stand with the legs spread back and the rump flattened. Her rump was tucked under, so it was almost vertical.

What's more, her jaw was clenched and her head was pulled back. I didn't think it was a mere belly ache.

I called the vet again. By this time it was an hour after closing, so I told the answering service that she wasn't acting like a goat with a belly ache, but had other

symptoms. When the vet called back, I told him what I had observed and he, bless his heart, said he'd meet me at the clinic in a hour. That gave me time to finish chores, load her, and drive the 35 miles to the clinic. Loading an inert goat into a truck, even a small one, isn't easy. I put a big piece of cardboard on the tailgate, oofed her up like a sack of

potatoes, and slid her into the truck on the cardboard.

By the time we got to the clinic, she had sat herself up onto her sternum. I had to wait about ten minutes and when the vet arrived, I backed the truck to the examining room door. As I did so, she got to her feet. When we opened the back of the truck, she lurched to the front and crashed into the canopy wall. Curiouser and curiouser.

she lurched to the front and crashed into the canopy wall. Curiouser and curiouser.

"Aha," said the vet, as he shone a flashlight into her eyes. Her pupils were dilated, and they didn't shrink when the light hit them. She also didn't flinch when he flapped his hand at her.

We let go of her and she began to wander, drifting in circles, bumping into things. She moved stiffly, and her rump was still tucked under. She lurched to the right in aimless spirals, tripping over shovels. When she collided with a wall, she stood there, pressing her forehead against it. When the vet pushed her backward, she fell into a sitting position.

All these are symptoms of a neurological disorder, and, since she had clearly responded to the B-complex, it was most likely a case of polioencephalomalacia. He gave her a small dose of steroid for the pain, and a big dose of thiamine (vitamin B1), and sent me home with two more doses of thiamine.

These symptoms are characteristic of a number of neurological problems, and the way to separate this particular problem from others is whether the vitamin clears up the problem.

So, home we went, and she was actually able to climb down out of the truck onto a hay bale and then the

ground and walk into a convalescent pen by herself. I gave her some good yogurt, (unsweetened, with acidophilus culture) to help her rumen along, and I put a smorgasbord of goat goodies where she could find them. She nibbled a bit of hay. By that time it was ten o'clock so off to bed for all of us.

The next morning she got up by herself, stretched her legs and greeted me. I gave her a dose of Red Cell, a vitamin-mineral liquid with lots of B vitamins, watched her for awhile, and felt encouraged. She still couldn't see well, but had a little vision, and was moving much better. That evening showed even



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TWO FINE YOUNG BUCKS FOR SALE

PREMIER #SBIR 29

White/white, born March 31, 1991

Sire: Greenmount King Billy 7601 MFD: 17.4 at 28 months, long dense fleece.

Dam: Yarrum Rowella 834 MFD: 16.14 at 10 months

BANJO #SBIR 27

Tan/white, born April 1, 1991

Sire: Greenmount Banjo MFD: 17.42 at 26 months

Dam: Maitland Brenda 24 MFD: 16.61 at 18 months

Cashmere Breeding Stock

U.S.D.A. - S.B.I.R. Research Test Farm

Maremma Livestock Guardian Dogs

At any rate, she would have died in 2 or 3 days if she had not received prompt treatment.

more improvement, and she even jumped when I gave her the vitamin shot.

The following day, the vet called to check on her and suggested that when the thiamine shots were done, that I give her B-complex for a couple of days to get her appetite going. I did that, and also let her out for a little green grass that was growing on the sunny side of the barn. She like that, and it helped get her digester going again. She felt good enough to come and go between rain squalls, and to gripe about living alone. I sure felt happy to see her recover, because my experience has been that when a goat feels bad enough to lie down flat on her side, it is really difficult to save them.

There isn't a lot known about polioencephalomalacia. It is more common in spring than in winter, and this happened in January. Normally, ruminants make plenty of their own B vitamins, so why this metabolic process gets disrupted is a puzzle. There is a slight connection, maybe, to moldy hay. It seems to happen more often with young animals, particularly when there is a feed change to a higher level of protein. The rumen bacteria, which normally make plenty of B vitamins to supply any goat, get out of balance. Bacteria which make thiaminase, an enzyme which destroys

thiamine, take over and the animal goes into a severe deficiency state.

Supplementing with B1 does not prevent the disorder, only cures it. Maintaining proper rumen flora prevents it.

Diagnosis is a bit tricky. The symptoms are similar to a number of neurological and muscular disorders, and there is no test that can be made to differentiate them. The proof of the diagnosis is whether the B1 injection reverses the symptoms. Aside from that, good supportive treatment is all the rest that is needed.

The early symptoms include depressed appetite and a tendency to isolate from the rest of the flock. I found my doe at a later stage, stretched out on the floor. I had noticed her not being enthusiastic about food earlier, and had resolved to keep an eye on her. Maybe I should have given her a B shot then. At any rate, she would have died in 2 or 3 days if she had not received prompt treatment. Fortunately, the vet recognized it and she has recovered. In fact, she is back to her normal feisty self. Hooray! I think I might add injectable thiamine (B1) to my stash of emergency supplies.

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NORTHWEST GROWERS CLASSING CLINIC

The Northwest Cashmere Growers Association invites you to join them in a unique cashmere experience April 4th and 5th in Newberg, Oregon.

At last, a two-day fiber classing clinic for the cashmere grower!

Instructor for the cashmere clinic is Terry Sims, General Manager for the American Cashmere Growers Marketing Cooperative (A.C.G.M.C.). Simms is a recent import from Australia where he was employed by the Australia Cashmere Growers Association as a fiber classer. He also worked as a consultant for a term with the Western Australian Department of State Development.

Sims was hired by the Colorado based cashmere and meat co-operative (A.C.G.M.C.) as their general manager. He has been given the task of directing the cashmere pool as well as coordinating the marketing of fiber from producer to processor.

Thankfully he is also available to help educate U.S. farmers via fiber classing clinics.

The Northwest Grower's Association hopes to enable cashmere growers to better understand fleece and prepare it for market. After attending the clinic a farmer will have the necessary tools for classing and managing their own fiber.

There has been a need for a clinic such as this for some time. Until Terry Simms was available there was no one of this caliber on the west coast for this sort of program. We are fortunate to have him! Thank you ACGMC!

Cost for the two day program is \$125.00. There is a \$25.00 pre-registration fee payable to Linda Pardon program organizer.

Please contact Linda by March 16th to confirm a seat. Call (206) 724-5371 or fill out and return the enclosed form. 143 Barrel Springs Road, Bellingham, Wa 98226

Lunch for both days is included in the registration fee. Hotel accommodations and rates is available by

Registration Fiber Clinic:
April 4th and 5th.
\$125.00. Pre-registration
fee \$25.00

Name: _____

Number of attending _____

Amount enclosed _____

Address _____

DAY ONE

8:30	Registration
9:00	Clinic and ACGMC Introduction
9:30	Management for fleece quality and quantity
10:30	Live Goat Classing
11:00	Morning Break
11:30	Color Notes, Practical Classing
12:30	Lunch
1:30	Fiber Type/Style Notes, Practical Classing
2:30	Break
3:00	Packaging, Classing Philosophy
4:30	Close

DAY TWO

8:30	Revision color and type, practical classing
9:30	Micron Notes, Practical Classing
10:30	Morning Break
11:00	Cast Lines, Down Length and Yield, Practical
12:00	ACGMC single fleece service, Charge Codes
12:30	Lunch
1:00	Line making, line codes, ACGMC Lines
1:30	Practical line session, classing
2:30	Break
3:00	More Classing, Forum
4:00	Close

NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW

Cashmere Producers of America held their second annual "Cashmere Classic Cashmere Show" at the National Western Stock Show in Denver January 15, 1992.

According to Kris McGuire CaPrA President, Bob Buckholz from Driftwood, Texas, judged the 52 animals entered in the show. There were 31 does and 21 bucks shown by 5 owners/exhibitors. **The Grand Champion Doe, Best Doe of Show, and Champion Doe two-four tooth class** was owned by Colorado Cashmere Breeders of Colorado and shown by Russ Nelson - Ranch Manager.

Grand Champion Buck is owned by Cashco Goats America and was shown by Bron Scheutze partner.

GRAND CHAMPION DOE:
Owned by Colorado Cashmere Company - "CCB Rocket"
Shown by Russ Nelson.

GRAND CHAMPION BUCK:
Austco Envoy - Owned by Cashco Goats America.

BEST OF SHOW:
Owned by Colorado Cashmere Breeders - "CCB Rocket"

SHOW DOES

Milk Tooth Does

1. Capricorn
2. Cashmere Int'l
3. Smoke Ridge
4. Cashco

4 Tooth Does

1. Colorado C. Breeders
2. Airy Knoll Fm
3. Cashco
4. Colorado C. Breeders

6 Tooth Does

1. Capricorn
2. Capricorn
3. 3 Mill Ranch
4. Capricorn

SHOW BUCKS

Milk Tooth Bucks

1. Capricorn
2. Airy Knoll Farm
3. Capricorn
4. Cashco

4 - Tooth Bucks

1. PMF Cashmere
2. Cashco
3. Airy Knoll Farm
4. Cashco Goats

6 - Tooth Bucks

1. Cashco
2. Capricorn
3. PMF Cashmere
4. Colorado Cashmere Breeders

Pen of Three

1. Colorado Cashmere Breeders
2. Capricorn Cashmere
3. Cashco Goats America
4. Capricorn Cashmere

SHOW SALE RESULTS

Champion Doe: Nickeson Farms

Champion Buck: Airy Knoll Farms

Showmanship Award:
Nickeson Farms

Milk Tooth Does

1. Nickeson Farm
2. Airy Knoll Farm
3. Nickeson Farm
4. Nickeson Farm

4 Tooth Does

1. Nickeson Farm
2. 3 Mill Ranch
3. Nickeson Farm

6 - Tooth Does

1. Nickeson Farm
2. Turney Ranch
3. Turney Ranch
4. Nickeson Farm

4 - Milk Tooth Bucks

1. Airy Knoll Farm
2. Airy Knoll Farm
3. Airy Knoll Farm
4. Cashco Goat USA

4 - Tooth Bucks

1. Cashco Goats
2. Cashco Goats
3. Airy Knoll Farms



SOME CASHMERE TIPS

By Susan Stutz of Mountain Lake Farm, Gaston, Oregon 97119

Scouring: I like to scour small quantities at a time (1/2 oz), in nylon mesh bags. Slowly dip the bags into medium-hot water with a mild biodegradable soap - Tide, Orvus, Ivory Liquid or Dreft (particularly good for removing odors), are also used. **DO NOT AGITATE!** Leave about 20 minutes. Remove and dip into rinse water (same temperature - cashmere will felt if the temperature changes too quickly). Remove and dip into rinse until water is clear. Do not add water to the rinses while fiber is in - just gently remove from one and set into the next. You may want to do a rinse with a small amount of vinegar to remove the soap completely, and then a final rinse. Remove and place on dry towels to air dry.

Dehairing Raw Cashmere:

After scouring, you may want to card to separate the fibers and remove some debris and guard hairs. (Beware of Commercial carding machines - very few are designed for really fine fibers. Hand card, or work with someone who understands cashmere.)

Next, you may want to locate several sheets of construction paper, (light to dark in value), a flat Tupperware container, and some needle-nose tweezers. I place the sheets of paper in the Tupperware container, with the top one contrasting to whatever fleece I am working on. Gently pull apart, and

squeeze some fiber to locate the guard hairs. The tweezers are helpful as the cashmere will stick to your fingers otherwise. The guard hairs and debris will fall onto the construction paper, and the top sheet can be lifted occasionally to allow them to fall underneath (you may want to keep the guard hair for weaving or other purposes). The fiber you are working on can then be stored in the Tupperware, and ready to continue on as you have time.

Storing cashmere and cashmere blends:

Although, to protect our fiber in shipping we package it in plastic bags, we do not recommend storing cashmere or fine fibers in plastic for long periods of time. The fiber will tend to felt and become unusable for spinning. Paper or breathable containers are recommended for cashmere fiber and yarns. Cedar chests or cardboard boxes with cedar pieces are recommended for garments.

Spinning Cashmere: We

recommend spinning woolen, fairly fine. There should be a high twist, as with any fine, shorter fiber, but not so tight as to lose the soft feel of the cashmere. Cashmere is naturally low in grease, and indeed, seems to shed grease and dirt. For the dehaired fiber, you can either take a handful and spin, or make a thin rolag with a knitting needle and spin from an end. I find it helpful for control to use a slower ratio (7:1). After spinning, the skein can be washed or gently dropped into warm-hot water, removed and left to air-dry.



CONCERNING CASHMERE...

The Newsletter for the
Cashmere Producers of America
(CaPrA)

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- ✧ Current News and Developments in the American Cashmere Industry
- ✧ Readable and Easily Understood Articles on Fiber, Breeding, Selection, Genetics, Spinning and Husbandry
- ✧ Photos and Full-Color Advertising in the Breeder's Directory Issue
- ✧ Concise and Well-written Articles, Editorials and Opinions from Recognized Industry Leaders and Experts

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NO SECOND CUTS PLEASE!

Many breeders shear their goats in January - right after the winter solstice. On our farm we shear when we start to see the cashmere drip from the goats or about one month from kidding time.

Last year we had the shearer that normally does our Angoras shear our cashmere. I remember watching with horror as he second cut much of our valuable cashmere fleece.

In my book the law of shearing cashmere is "No second cuts please!" A second cut is when the clipper blade is angled to the goat's skin such that part of the fiber is cut at the skin and part of the fiber is cut at about 1/4 inch off the skin. The result is a lot of short fiber that can not be spun or sold.

Because of the losses last year, I decided to clip my own goats. For a small flock of goats this can be a tremendous cost savings. Last year our shearer charged \$3.00 per goat to ruin our fleece. In the southern part of the United States however, the cost for shearing is considerably less, and there are far more experienced shearers available.

My shearing technique may not have been completely orthodox nor correct, but I emerged from my first shearing experience intact.

(goats too!) I was satisfied with my shorn fleece. In fact, I would encourage all small cashmere farmers to shear their own goats. Here is why: It's easy, fun, and puts you in intimate contact with the fleece you regularly make judgements about.

I used the "Go-down" shearing technique which was developed in Australia specifically for shearing fiber goats. The goat is shorn standing up instead of on its butt like a sheep. I have a New Zealand head bail that makes it easy to adjust the standing position of the goat. It also keeps them comfortably

been short, slow, and careful, but they were accurate.

My fear of shearing in the past has been the wide tooth combs found on clippers typically used on Mohair and Sheep wool. I was afraid I would snip a waddle or tendon and have everyone lame and bleeding. For my own self comfort I used heavy Sunbeam horse clippers to shear my goats. The clipper blades were a fine tined 84 AU. Surprisingly, they glided easily through cashmere and guard-hair even on most of my buck's fleeces. Although for the bucks I would recommend a wider tined comb. I didn't

My shearing technique may not have been completely orthodox, but I emerged from my first shearing experience intact. (Goats too!)

in a quiet position while you attempt to control the clippers.

The go-down method of shearing assumes the fiber on the stomach, legs, head, and crutch is not worth shearing. Therefore the mid-section of the goat is carefully shorn with shearing strokes or "blows" as they are better known, from tail to head. Professional shearers, can rip through a fleece in nothing flat. I found myself being very careful.

My shearing blows may have

have one bleeding goat when I was finished. The fleece was shorn close to the skin and fell from the goat in a sheet. It was more like peeling than shearing.

When I sheared the right side of the goat I pulled the skin in front of the clippers with my left hand and drove the clippers with the right. I switched sides and hands to do the other side. That way the goat can kind of lean against your legs or body when they try to move away from the clippers.

It is important to keep the clippers well oiled and rest them if they get hot.

Also remember the goat will need more energy to keep warm after being shorn so you will probably need to adjust your feeding program.

My husband weighed each fleece then laid it out flat to pick fiber samples for testing. (We tested all of our goats this year). Then each fleece was labeled and went into individual bags. We sheared the white animals first then cleaned the shearing area and sheared the colored animals.

Shearing my own goats gave me a chance to put my nose in every fleece. I was able to check pregnancy and the health of each animal. That is worth a lot.

I would highly recommend you shear your own goats if you have less than 100 goats. Any more than that and you may have to get a new back.

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Texas Cashmere Association

Texas Cashmere Association held its second annual cashmere show and sale in Kerreville Texas on January 31 through February 1, 1992. The sale was considered a success as 42 goats sold for a total of \$15,548.00. Average sale price for does was \$264.00. Average sale price for bucks was \$541.00. Total sale average was \$370.00.

High selling Reserve Champion sale buck was consigned by Kris McGuire of Capricorn Cashmere of Colorado, and sold for \$2,150. High selling doe was consigned by 3 Mill Ranch of Texas and sold for \$500.00.

SHOW FOR SALE

Doe Kids

1. Panhandle Cashmere
2. Coni Ross
3. Bob Stone
4. Bob Stone

2 Tooth Does

1. 3 Mill Ranch
2. Jim Hale
3. Carroll Looney
4. Joe Tipton

4 tooth Does

1. 3 Mill Ranch
2. Jim Hale
3. 3 Mill Ranch
4. Carroll Looney

6 Tooth Does

1. Carroll Looney
2. 3 Mill Ranch
3. Kay Largent
4. Carroll Looney

8 Tooth

1. 3 Mill Ranch
2. Carroll Looney
3. Panhandle Cash.
4. Glen Ratliff

Grand Champion:
3 Mill Ranch - Native Doe

Reserve Champion: Panhandle Cashmere

Pen of Three:
1st Kris McGuire
2nd Coni Ross

Breeder's Flock:
1st 3 Mill Ranch
2nd Kris McGuire

SHOW DOES

Doe Kids

1. Kris McGuire
2. Cashco
3. Conni Ross/Rose
4. Jim Hale

Two Tooth Does

1. Cashco
2. Betty Nagle
3. Fuzzy Harmon
4. 3 Mill Ranch

4 Tooth

1. Greg Ryan
2. Kris McGuire
3. Cashco
4. Greg Ryan

6 Tooth Does

1. PMF Cashmere
2. PMF Cashmere
3. Cashco
4. 3 Mill Ranch

Grand Champion Doe:
PMF Cashmere - Imported doe - 8 tooth

Reserve Champion Doe: Joe Tipton - native doe - 6 tooth

SHOW BUCKS

Buck Kids

1. Kris McGuire
2. 3 Mill Ranch
3. Coni Ross
4. Joe Tipton

2 Tooth Bucks

1. Kris McGuire
2. Kris McGuire
3. James Barton

4 Tooth Bucks

1. PMF Cashmere
2. Betty Nagel
3. Coni Ross
4. Standing Rock

6 Tooth Buck

1. Coni Ross
2. Jim Hale
3. Patrick Walker

8 Tooth Bucks

1. 3 Mill Ranch
2. PMF Cashmere
3. Joe Tipton

Grand Champion Buck: Coni Ross - Import, 6 Tooth Buck.

Reserve Champion: PMF Cashmere - Import, 4 tooth buck.

SHOW FOR SALE BUCKS

Buck Kids

1. Kris McGuire
2. Don Hass
3. Coni Ross
4. Turney Ranch

2 Tooth Buck

1. PMF Cashmere
2. PMF Cashmere
3. Bob Stone

4 Tooth Buck

1. Jamie Smith
2. Kris McGuire
3. PMF Cashmere
4. Bob Stone

6 Tooth Buck

1. Bob Stone
2. PMF Cashmere
3. Jamie Smith

8 Tooth Buck

1. Kris McGuire

Grand Champion: Bob Stone - Native Buck

Reserve Champion: Kris McGuire - Import Buck



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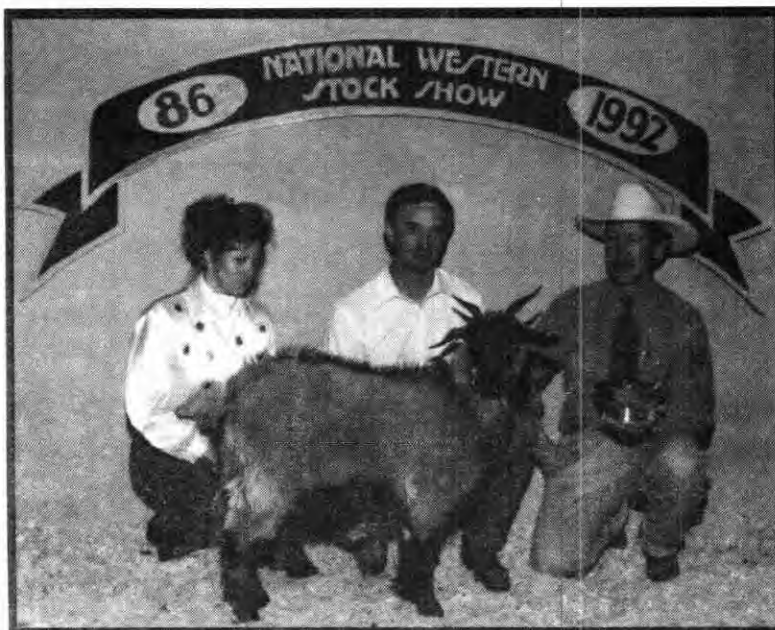
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Colorado Cashmere Breeders



Winners! National Western Stock Show

1992

Champion Best of Show
Champion 2-4 Tooth Doe
Champion Doe of Show
Champion Pen of Three

1991

Reserve Champion of Show
Reserve Doe of Show
Reserve 2 Tooth Doe
Reserve Milk Tooth Buck

Contact: Russ Nelson 1762 W. Fox Farm Larkspur, CO 80118
Phone: (303) 681-3832 Fax: (303) 681-2545

NATIONAL WESTERN STOCK SHOW

Cashmere Producers of America held their second annual "Cashmere Classic Cashmere Show" at the National Western Stock Show in Denver January 15, 1992.

According to Kris McGuire CaPrA President, Bob Buckholz from Driftwood, Texas, judged the 52 animals entered in the show. There were 31 does and 21 bucks shown by 5 owners/exhibitors. The **Grand Champion Doe**, **Best Doe of Show**, and **Champion Doe two-four tooth class** was owned by Colorado Cashmere Breeders of Colorado and shown by Russ Nelson - Ranch Manager.

Grand Champion Buck is owned by Cashco Goats America and was shown by Bron Scheutze partner.

GRAND CHAMPION DOE:
Owned by Colorado Cashmere Company - "CCB Rocket"
Shown by Russ Nelson.

GRAND CHAMPION BUCK:
Austco Envoy - Owned by Cashco Goats America.

BEST OF SHOW:
Owned by Colorado Cashmere Breeders - "CCB Rocket"

SHOW DOES

Milk Tooth Does

1. Capricorn
2. Cashmere Int'l

3. Smoke Ridge
4. Cashco

4 Tooth Does

1. Colorado C. Breeders
2. Airy Knoll Fm
3. Cashco
4. Colorado C. Breeders

6 Tooth Does

1. Capricorn
2. Capricorn
3. 3 Mill Ranch
4. Capricorn

SHOW BUCKS

Milk Tooth Bucks

1. Capricorn
2. Airy Knoll Farm
3. Capricorn
4. Cashco

4 - Tooth Bucks

1. PMF Cashmere
2. Cashco
3. Airy Knoll Farm
4. Cashco Goats

6 - Tooth Bucks

1. Cashco
2. Capricorn
3. PMF Cashmere
4. Colorado Cashmere Breeders

Pen of Three

1. Colorado Cashmere Breeders

2. Capricorn Cashmere
3. Cashco Goats America
4. Capricorn Cashmere

SHOW SALE RESULTS

Champion Doe: Nickeson Farms

Champion Buck: Airy Knoll Farms

Showmanship Award:
Nickeson Farms

Milk Tooth Does

1. Nickeson Farm
2. Airy Knoll Farm
3. Nickeson Farm
4. Nickeson Farm

4 Tooth Does

1. Nickeson Farm
2. 3 Mill Ranch
3. Nickeson Farm

6 - Tooth Does

1. Nickeson Farm
2. Turney Ranch
3. Turney Ranch
4. Nickeson Farm

4 - Milk Tooth Bucks

1. Airy Knoll Farm
2. Airy Knoll Farm
3. Airy Knoll Farm
4. Cashco Goat USA

4 - Tooth Bucks

1. Cashco Goats
2. Cashco Goats
3. Airy Knoll Farms



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PIONEER MOUNTAIN FARMS ANNOUNCES NEW VENTURE

Tom and Ann Dooling of Pioneer Mountain Farm, Inc., Dillon, Montana announced the advent of their new cashmere venture - Great American Cashmere Company.

G.A.C.C. will purchase "qualifying" bales of cashmere for \$25.00 per pound yield of cashmere.

The new company plans to produce and market its own sweaters and knits to compete with China.

According to Great American Cashmere Company "American Cashmere is superior to Chinese and well worth marketing on its own merits." China dehaurs its own

cashmere as well as produces its own cashmere garments.

Forte' Cashmere Company of Woonsocket, RI. has not announced a cashmere purchase price in 1992. Representatives of Forte', have indicated the company will be looking at American fiber pools to purchase its quality cashmere.

Australian Cashmere Growers' Association has recently announced that it is suspending activity of its marketing arm. The most recent pool price in Australia, announced in November, averaged \$20.05 per pound for all lines.

New Zealand Cashmere Growers' Association has also suspended activity in 1992.

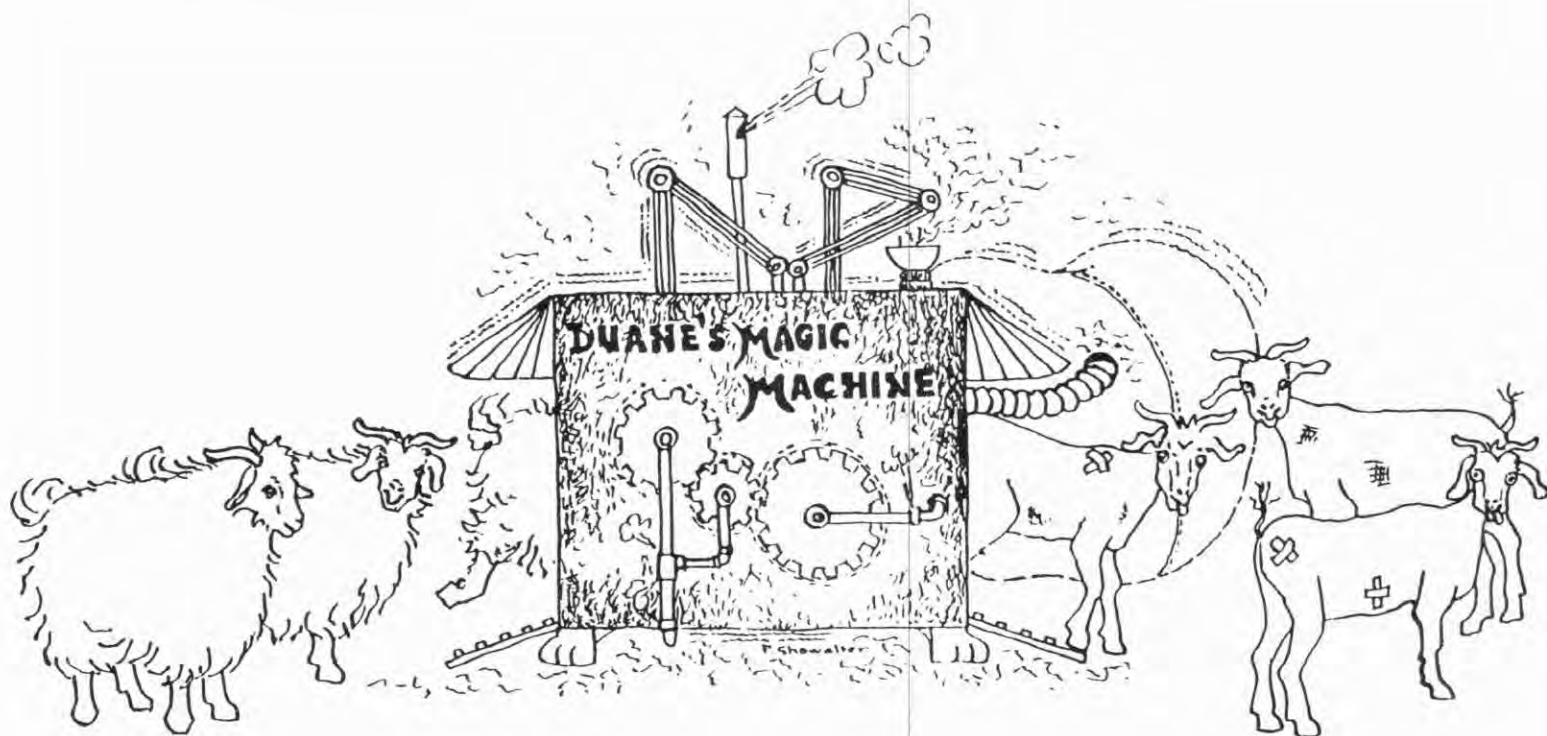
LE CHEVON MENU

Goat Bar-B-Que

Butterfly leg of goat for Bar-B-Que. Remove leg and end bones. Carefully cut leg in half - do not cut true end Butterfly. Brush inside with a little Dill seasoning, salt, pepper and plenty of Garlic.

Place on the Bar-B-Que with the inside of the leg over the coals first. Cook until done.

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PLEASE DO NOT ASK US TO MAKE COMMENT ON THE QUALITY OF YOUR FLEECE OTHER THAN TO TELL YOU IT WAS BADLY STAINED, EXCEPTIONALLY CLEAN, ETC. WE WILL NOT MAKE JUDGEMENT CALLS ON ANYONE'S FLEECE. PLEASE DO NOT ASK US TO.

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