

August 1997

Volume 8, Issue 10

The monthly
magazine devoted to
cashmere goats and
their fiber

CASHMERE MIRROR



Breeders' Showcase

Table of Contents

Contest!	3
Breeders' Showcase Intro	3
Reflections— Taking the Kids to the Fair	4
Readers Talking Back	5
Bronwyn Schuetze	7
Teamsters' Goat Grievance	11
Patchouli!	12
Michelle Milking	12
BREEDERS DIRECTORY	14
Goats as Leaders	16
Altai Mountain Goat	17
When is Fluffy in Heat?	18
Boy	18
XXX Goat Sex XXX	19
ECA & Virginia Fair	22
Oregon Flock & Fiber Fest	22
Association Contacts/ Calendar of Events	23
Sunshine Says	24
Geeps	24
Wil's Boys	24
Mt. Vernon Fleece Winners	25
Classified Ads	26
Internet Links	26
Goat Shelf Life	26
Subscription Info/ Ad Rates/Deadlines	27



CASHMIRROR

ISSN 1090-736X

Published each month by:

CashMirror Publications

2280 S. Church Rd.
Dallas, Oregon 97338

(503) 623-5194

Fax: (503) 624-1704

E-Mail: goatknol@teleport.com

Home Page: <http://www.teleport.com/~goatknol>

Publisher and Ace Reporter:

Paul Johnson

Editor: Linda Fox

The entire contents of this publication are copyrighted. Reproduction in full or part, in any manner, is strictly forbidden unless written permission has been given by the publisher prior to publication.

Opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the publisher. *CashMirror* limits its liability for errors, inaccuracies or

misprints in advertisements, opinion papers and letters to the editor. Advertisers and agencies assume liability for the content of advertising and assume responsibility for claims arising from advertisements made against the publisher. In case of error, the publisher is responsible only for costs associated with the space occupied by the error.

Results published in the magazine are from information supplied by clubs and organizers and no responsibility for complete accuracy can be taken.

The *CashMirror* welcomes contributions of articles and photographs. Submissions may be made by mail, fax or e-mail.

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

Cover photo:

Joel Stettenheim

"Aegisthus (LLC/CB92) out standing in his field"

The Fat Big Neck Contest!

Designed by Steve Hachenberger

This contest has been designed to answer that age-old question, "Whose buck has the thickest neck?"

Steve knows that you too must have layed awake many nights wondering about this. So Steve can get some sleep (and also because he may have designed the contest thinking that he had a sure-fire winner) enter your buck in this first (and last) Fat Neck Contest.

Rules (Gotta have 'em)

Measure 4" to 5" back from the base of the horns.

Must use a cloth tape for measuring.

Must provide photo of both the buck and owner with front and side view of each.

No cheating (at least not a lot of cheating!)

Deadline

Submissions due by October 1, 1997.

Mail all submissions to CashMirror Publications.

Prizes

The staff of CashMirror will be the judges.

Prizes include:

1. Wooden goat cut-out with appropriate saying.
2. New (color) CashMirror poster to be out soon.
3. An almost full set of back issues of CashMirror (October 89 - September 97).
4. MacDonald's gift certificate in an undetermined amount.
5. Three cashmere hairs each, hand dehaired, suitable for framing, from both Black Bart and Silver Bart (post-rut).
6. Other valuable stuff which may be added between now and then by us or other people who care.

Other

If you have appropriate prizes to add to the "pot" for the contest winner, let us know.

Breeders' Showcase Issue (This is it!)

Well, at last, here it is! We wanted to let you know that we had fun with this issue (even more than usual). We had great participation from readers and a lot of ads.

And we learned a couple of things while doing this issue.

1. Readers like cheap ads!

2. Readers have a bunch of great looking bucks—from the Taylors' gorgeous guy gracing the cover to Wil Clouser's promising young men on page 24.

We like seeing what other breeders are up to and we think you will as well!

Enjoy!



Goat Knoll's JR likes to play Elvis—No that isn't hair oil on his head!

Reflections

by Linda Fox

Taking the Kids to the Fair

I took a couple of goats and my spinning wheel to two local County fairs this summer. I thought it might be interesting for people to see the raw cashmere product growing on the goat compared to the fine finished yarn this goat hair produces. It seems that a good share of the population still has difficulty believing that the luxurious cashmere products are produced by this lowly weed eater. The experience was fun and as usual, I learned as much from the experience as I taught.

At the Benton County Fair, I and several other spinners and their fiber goat of choice (angora, pygora and cashmere) sat under the oak trees and spun and talked goats and spinning to anyone who would listen. I took two leash-trained wethers. Husker and Worf are a year and a half old and weigh 75 pounds. They are accustomed to traveling and weathered the daily 45 minute ride in the back of a tarp-lined Bronco without major incident—if you don't count the scattering of several cups of small brown marbles as a major incident. They dutifully hopped in the Bronco at the farm when lured with a little grain and hopped out at the fairgrounds because they were glad to get out.

I learned (quickly), when transporting goats, it's better to tether them in the back as they will invariably want to climb into the front seat with you. I also learned not to place the Tupperware food container on the ground behind the truck, where it will be forgotten and flattened by the back tire when backing out.

The three of us walked in the main gate with the regular fairgoers and spent the day under the oak trees. When the boys got bored or I needed a break from spinning (or from all the people), I took them for a walk to visit the animals in the petting zoo or to check out the apples on the ground in the civil war encampment.

The boys were a hit partially because of their major horns. These two wethers were neutered later in life so they would have time to develop more distinctive horns. People aren't used to seeing goats with horns and children like to touch them. My most frequent saying to curious children was, "Don't play with their horns, please."

From this first fair I learned to not leave your elephant ear where the goats can eat it. I also learned to not hold them on their leash outside their pen while explaining to someone the unwarranted bad rap that goats have regarding their eating preferences—no they

don't eat tin cans! They will blow the effectiveness of your talk by greedily eating several cigarette butts within their reach.

I also learned that children read far too many fairy tales! A common question about the spinning wheel was, "Where is the sharp thing where Sleeping Beauty pricked her finger?" Several wanted to know if I was going to spin straw into gold. One toddler passing by in his father's backpack had a series of questions for his father:

"Daddy! What's that?"

"It's a spinning wheel, Son."

"Why is it a spinning wheel, Daddy?"

"I don't know, Son. Maybe because it spins."

"Daddy! Is that the bad fairy?"

"Shhhhhh!"

One evening, as the fair closed, Paul and I walked the goats back out the main entrance and the guard at the gate wanted to know if we could prove that those were our goats. We were tired and just kept walking mumbling something about the DNA testing possibilities for the brown berries in the back of our Bronco. No one shot us as we left, so I guess they weren't too worried.

I ended my allotted time at the Benton County Fair deciding that several days of this was very tiring for me and the animals and maybe I wouldn't do this again. The next day, I checked in the with Polk County Fair to see if they needed a spinner and a couple of goats. They did.

For the Polk County Fair, we drafted two new recruits the day before the fair. We cornered two fuzzy four-month old kids from the pasture, bathed them, brushed them, and showed them the ins and outs of the collars and leashes. At the fair, we tethered Prince and Stardust to a concrete block inside a discarded television box. The kids delighted fairgoers by jumping in and out of the box and fighting for the spot on top of the concrete block. Human kids also had interesting questions at this fair:

"Are those real goats?"

In response to a spinners habit of spinning without shoes—"Are those special socks?"

In response to my comment that "I'm spinning my goats."—"Do they get dizzy?"

In response to nothing we said—"I had a goat and it had glands. The dog had hair and it died. I'm almost four."

After the second fair ended, even though exhausted, I'm firmly addicted and plan to get my bid in early next year to take my kids and my spinning wheel to the fair.



When Readers Talk...

Paul and Linda,

Thought you might enjoy this set of ads I put in the WGW (Wild Goat Women) newsletter last October. I actually got a number of calls for the "Handsome Buck..."

Handsome Buck seeking meaningful relationships with available cashmere does! Will travel to your place!! Call after noon; I need my manly morning rest.

Straw spun into gold by cute little elves. Book your spinning for the holidays! Call Repunzel, anytime.

Also, we had someone at Estes Wool Market agree that our fiber rivals that of China's--He'd just come back from there. He bought some of our combed cashmere and took a card for future requests. Neat! Huh?!

Julie Becker
Hi-Plains Cashmere
Mitchell, Nebraska
August 12, 1997

Hi Paul and Linda,

Many thanks for the back issues of *Cashmirror* which you donated to the Cashmere Kids 4-H group. They are a very welcome addition to our small but growing collection of resources. It is very interesting to read the older magazines and see how, in some respects, the industry has grown and yet many of today's concerns appear to be ongoing. I have already marked several articles on topics that

club members have researched.

I was very proud of the Kids at the Marion County Fair! This was the first time for cashmere goats to be shown and the kids (2-footed and 4-footed) were quite successful. Each 4-H member created a poster explaining some aspect of goat care or explanation of cashmere fiber. They all earned blue ribbons, three were selected for State Fair, and two were Reserve Champion in their divisions.

As for showing the cashmere goats - the somewhat nervous owners did great! Susan Stutz was the judge and I appreciate her ability to present information at the same time that she presents ribbons. The club members did a good job of grooming and showing their goats. We even had a young cashmere doe kid and her boy win the pygmy goat obstacle course competition!

Thanks again for the magazines, we'll put them to good use.

Candy Washburn
Cashmere Kids 4-H Group Leader
Salem, Oregon
July 28, 1997

To Brush or Not to Brush? That is the question!

When I purchased my first cashmere, I thought I knew what I was doing, after all, I had raised dairy goats in Alaska for over twenty four years, a goat is a goat. Partly this was true. Basic body confirmation, basic husbandry was similar. I still needed to look for straight backs and legs, good barrels for food processing and milk conversion for lactating does. Basic husbandry such as hoof trimming was old hat.

And that is where the similarities stop.

Continued on next page

More Readers Talking Back

My product was no longer milk, but fiber, and the whole diet question seemed to have as many opinions as goat owners.

The biggest questions I ran into were on fiber processing and handling. I began with three cashmeres and am now up to 42 (with this year's babies, which are still coming). I was instructed that brushing would be reasonable for a small herd (at that time three). I believe this is still true, if your herd is small, if you have no other commitments, if you know when to do it, if you have patience, and the right equipment or help.

Goats do not shed on schedule, nor at the same time, nor in the same manner. Their fiber is as individual in characteristic as the goats themselves. Some you can brush and brush, and if they are not ready, they are not ready, so go take a walk!

You must be constantly monitoring the individual animals to know when they are ready to brush, and then have the time to do it when they are ready. (again, on their schedule, isn't that just like a goat?)

Brushing does have some advantages, if your timing is right, if you know when to do it, if you can be there to completely brush out all the fiber, (which is usually more than one brushing), you could have a fairly clean fiber that could be spun with a minimum picking of guard hairs. Again, this depends on the goat also, and how they shed. I have a few that you can brush and get a pretty clean fleece. I have others that no matter when they release their fiber, you will have too many guard hairs to hand pick, and will need to professionally process the fleece.

I certainly have too many animals to brush. I would much prefer shearing the lot and being done in a few days, not a month or more of brushing! (I do have good arm and hand muscles!)

My uncertainty comes from both my climate

and animals. Living in Alaska, as with most northern states, February and March can still be very severe weather months. I have about five animals that begin to shed fiber at this time, continuing into the spring with the whole herd. Once I begin brushing, shearing is not an option. I do not feel I am able to get the whole fleece (check some of my fences out!), my yield is difficult, if not impossible to measure. Brushing means a loss in fiber and valuable time (I work a full time job).

So, fellow readers and cashmere people, do you have some suggestions for these early shedders! Has anyone in the northern states tried shearing in February or March, did you coat your animals against the cold? Did you shear and just let them rough it? I am opened to ideas or suggestions. For those that did coat, do you have a good pattern for cashmere goat coats and what did you find as the best fabric to use. (more for warmth than fiber protection)

Any suggestions, ideas, or general thoughts, please write.

Lee Coray-Ludden
Shepherds Moon Farm
Soldotna, Alaska
August 5, 1997

Editors note: Lee has suggested that any correspondence regarding these issues be sent to the CashMirror to generate a dialogue for everyone's use.



Bronwyn Schuetze

American Cashmere's First Lady

By Paul G. Johnson



Bronwyn searching for an AWOL buck on a Texas ranch

Photo courtesy of Wes Ackley

The beginning of the US cashmere goat industry is found in the fledgling Australian cashmere industry. While a high school student in Colorado, Bronwyn's family hosted an exchange student from Australia, Robin Kissel. Robin's sister, Leal Squire-Wilson, lived on an Outback ranch of sizable proportions. The ranch was so large that Leal had to fly a plane to the front gate of the ranch to get milk for her babies. (This ranch was large even by Texas standards!)

Leal had a private pilot's license and flew for area ranchers to spot sheep herds and direct round-ups. Often feral goats were found in with the sheep and because the Outback was experiencing a drought, ranchers would kill the unwanted goats to preserve the scarce water and browse for their sheep.

About the same time, the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CRSO) reported that some of these native feral goats had an undercoat which appeared to be cashmere. This was confirmed by an international fiber group.

After this discovery, Leal worked out a program where she sorted through the captured feral goats and took her choice as partial payment for her

Bronwyn's Definition What is a Cashmere Goat?

Per Bronwyn, there is no such thing as a cashmere goat. "Cashmere" is a textile term, not a breed.

Cashmere can be found in the undercoat of many goats, including dairy breeds. There is no important definition of cashmere other than what the market demands—which is fiber under 18.5 microns with at least 1-1/4 inches in length.

White Bucks for Sale or Rent

5 W/W Breeding Bucks
Sim graded style 3+
Complete history on each
including fiber length
and progeny history

Breeding Fee \$75



JMJ Cashmere
Jim and Josie Baine
9817 381st St. E.
Eatonville, Washington
98328

360-832-4442

Member of ~~Mild~~ Mighty Goat Men

Continued on page 9

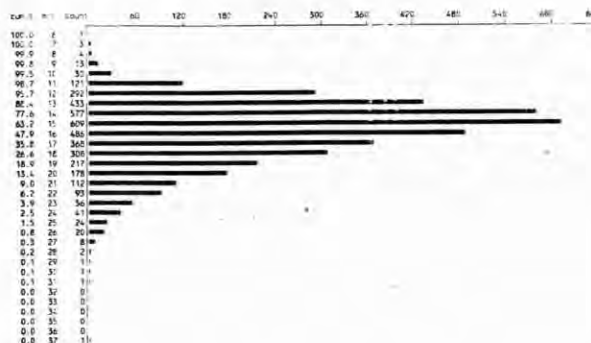
ROYAL CASHMERE GOATS

pic

AFM OFDA Analysis

Date	: 31 Oct 96	Mean	= 15.90 u
Sample ID	: 9437	SD	= 3.20 u
Description	: 73-96	CV	= 20.1 %
Lot/Client	: E. Cornwell	Sample size	= 4000
Operator	: sk		

0.1% of fibres are ≥ 30 u. 5% of fibres 6.6 u above mean.
 OFDA0 77.2.05 Cal: D=4.9381*WH-1.71, wV=1.4639*WH+ 0.00, DkFlash= 49.5
 Dense Focus>Foc Tm Plime DkAv Min Light Flash NeeSD
 9 [8] 8.4 [1.1] 2 36 21/12 8.5 [0.4] 17.0 100.6 [3.9] 65 1.0
 H= 2038 15.82 [3.2] 8.7 [1.1] V= 1962 15.88 [3.2] 8.1 [1.1]



GASTON, #9437

Royal Cashmere Goats has been breeding Australian cashmere blood lines since 1991. The core stock was purchased from Judith Richardson, Cascade Cashmere Company, and consisted of 7 unrelated does from Australian Greenmount and Berrambool herds. First year kids consisted of offspring sired primarily by CCC Stuart Impara. A second bloodline was sired by CCC Buckshot. Our breeding strategy concentrates on diameter, length and yield. Conformation of the animal is equally important to fiber. We have participated in the 1993 lecture series by Dr. Barrie Restall, taken Terry Sim fiber classing courses and studied for two days with Drs Restall and Bill Pattie on genetic statistics of the cashmere goat.

We have a herd of 150 plus goats and have bred large numbers of offspring. Bucklings remain intact through their first fleeces when we make the initial cull for fiber—which is any buckling with more than a 15.5 micron fleece tested through AgResearch Fibre Measurement (formerly Whatawhata). Second fleeces are tested as well and the best of these bucks are kept intact.

We currently have several outstanding two year olds as well as older bucks available for sale.

Titan, the 1996 CAPRA Grand Champion combed

GASTON's histogram for 2nd fleece — 15.9 micron mean! SD = 3.2, CV = 20.1

fleece winner, won as a four year old with over 15 ounces of white down. We have several other bucks of equal quality.

We concentrate on white cashmere with long guard hairs. In our climate the guard hairs protect the cashmere through our harsh winters. Long guard hair is a recessive gene and 3/4 of the buck herd continues to produce shorter guard hairs and a heavy yield of cashmere. The size of our animals is large at 150-170 lbs. average for adult bucks.

Call for additional information, fiber samples and fleece tests for the overall improvement of your herd

Breeding does and wethers available as well.

ROYAL CASHMERE GOATS

Eileen Cornwell/Byron Higgins
 419 Centerville Lane
 Gardnerville, Nevada 89410

Phone (702) 265-3766
 Fax (702) 265-1814
 Email cashmere@sierra.net

Bronwyn Schuetze

Continued from page 7

piloting fees. When Leal's sister Robin returned home to Australia, she and Bronwyn kept in touch. Robin reported the excitement of the new industry as it developed in Australia, with fuzzy Outback goats being bred with other fuzzy Outback goats in an effort to increase and improve their cashmere production.

Robin and Leal formed Cashco Goats Australia Pty Ltd. and they urged Bronwyn to import some of these goats to the United States. Some years later, while Bronwyn was visiting Robin in Australia, she became enamored with the cashmere goats. By this time, she had a family of her own and thought it would be fun and educational for her children, Jed and Tara, to raise goats.

Bronwyn arranged to import three of the cashmere-producing Australian goats to the United States. The importation required 90 days of quarantine, where, Bronwyn reports, they ate the monetary equivalent of prime rib every day! This lengthy stay in quarantine was taking its toll on the goats, so Bronwyn contacted her best friend Jill Darrah for help. Bronwyn and Jill formed Cashco Goats America in January 1986 to joint venture this exciting new cashmere enterprise.

After locating 5 acres close to home in Longmont, Colorado, the three goat immigrants (one buck and two bred does) settled in their new American home. Bronwyn decided that she needed more knowledge about these goats and returned to Australia in a search for additional information. While she was gone, a magazine published a story about her and the new goats resulting in over 50 telephone calls while she was away.

By the end of the first winter, Tara and Jed were tiring of the daily chores and more and more of the goat care duties fell to Mom. Bronwyn found she really enjoyed working with the goats so she and Jill decided to acquire more cashmere goats. They began a search in the southwestern United States for feral goats with cashmere undercoats. After all, this was how the Australians started. Certainly it would seem that there should be local stock sporting cashmere as well. First they searched on Indian reservations, but determined that most of these goats had an angora influence.

The search then turned to Texas. There, haunting

sale barns, they climbed from pen to pen searching for good cashmere. Bronwyn and Jill told the Texas ranchers they were searching for ticks as it was easier than explaining why two women were climbing through goat pens looking at goat fuzz. Bronwyn and Jill found quite a few promising prospects. However, at that time, Texas goats ran more or less wild all year, with the billies staying with the nannies all the time. Most nannies had poor fiber, but because they were lactating during the prime cashmere growing season, it was difficult to tell what their actual production would be under different circumstances. After selecting 300 of these Texas goats and shipping them home to Colorado, Bronwyn and Jill worked to put the does on a different breeding cycle to maximize their fiber and they were 95% successful.

Then, it was back to Australia for more goats to breed with the Texas herd. After all, the Australians had several years lead in breeding for cashmere production so perhaps this was a better solution anyway. Within two years, the partners had acquired 280+ acres in Colorado and hundreds of cashmere-producing goats. After experimenting with artificial insemination, they decided that

Continued on next page

They slice, they dice, they fertilize. Providing

HI-PLAINS

Cashmere

Holistic Herd Health Specialists

We Raise Quality Cashmere Goats,
Naturally!

All goats are imprinted at birth —
so, you can even pet these goats!

Healthy — Friendly — "Weed-eaters"
The Ultimate Herbalists!

Special Group & Starter Rates Available
Colors & Whites derived from
Imported Stock

Julie & Alex Becker
16042 County Road C
Mitchell, Nebraska 69357
Phone: 308-623-2627

E~mail: ajbecker@pw1.prairieweb.com

creating pristine pastures for progressive pastoralists.

land for lesser species. Domestic beauty

pastoral splendor for passing tourists. They manure the

Bronwyn Schuetze

Continued from previous page

Mother Nature accomplished the job the best and most dependably.

Colorado temperatures range from 100° F in the summer to well below zero in the winter. As a result, shearing in January can be risky. However, by providing three-sided sheds and abundant feed, their goats make it through winter and shearing just fine. They class and shear their own goats. Both Bronwyn and Jill prepared for this by going to Australia and shearing over 4,000 goats, learning the intricacies of classing as they sheared.

In addition to selling goats and fleeces, Cashco also rents out goats for weed control. They have had as many as four separate herds rented out at once. To ensure the goats' safety, they fortify any existing fence with electric wire. Their own pastures are fenced with seven strand high-tensile wire with every other wire "hot." The pastures are arranged in cellular patterns for rotational grazing. They use Great Pyrenees dogs for predator protection and herding dogs to help round up the goats.

While health problems are few, Bronwyn reports that the first place she looks when tracking down a problem, is at nutrition.

Cashco goats and their fleeces have won innumerable awards over the years.

Bronwyn, before goats, was the director of a center for gifted children and the learning disabled. Since becoming involved with the cashmere goats Bronwyn has served as President of CaPrA and the Cashmere America Cooperative. She has also been a fleece competition judge, classer, exhibitor at the National Western Stock Show and helped organize much of the industry we see today in the United States.

When asked her view of the current state of the industry and its future in the US, she candidly observed that for some, the magic is gone and mutual support has dissipated. Too many people have gone in different directions. Now, the growth is mostly in the hobby end of the business.

She believes that in the long run, the hobbyists and large growers must work together for the United States to have a viable cashmere industry. There was support from Forte' with a \$10,000 grant

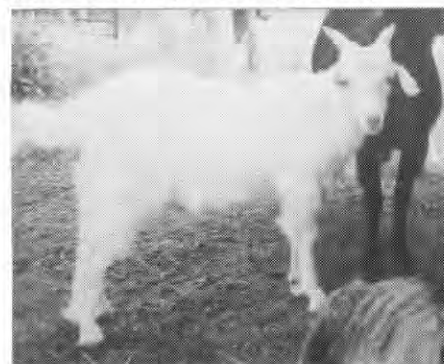
to establish a national cashmere association (CaPrA) and limited support from other international cashmere companies in the beginning, but this support is mostly gone. Bronwyn indicated that communication between growers has been a problem and improved communications can be a key to the future.

Meanwhile, Cashco Goats America, in Longmont Colorado, is still going strong.



GEMINI—the proud father, 6 years old (For Rent)

JEREMY
White buck kid
Born in May
A triplet!
(For Sale)



JAVA
May buck kid,
brown with
black markings,
A triplet!
(For Sale)

Kids for Sale—Sire for Rent

*Marilee Williamson
Buchanan, Virginia
540-254-1628*

Teamsters' Union Files Grievance Over Goats



(tongue firmly in cheek) that if the college insisted on keeping the goats, they would be glad to unionize and represent the goats.

However, the Union said, after the goats were unionized, their employer could no longer require them to work 7 days per week, 24 hours per day without appropriate overtime penalties. In addition, they reminded the employer that union members cannot work in more than one job classification at one time, so the goats should not be expected to "eat and fertilize simultaneously."

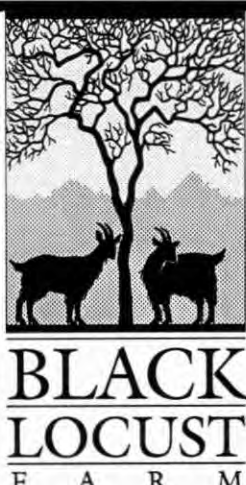
Mills College, Oakland, California, rented a herd of 500 goats to clear 40 acres of college property infested with poison ivy, blackberries and other undesirable vegetation.

As reported by the Bureau of Labor Affairs, the Teamsters Local 70 said this unauthorized hiring caused lost work for union maintenance employees, but said

The college responded to the charges saying that the grievance was untimely, as the union had "allowed its chances to reach the merits of the matter to be gobbled up by the passing of the herd."



BLF Hippomenes—Jan '97, a proven 2-year old



Zoroaster (CCB 79020), age 7, still going strong

Our old bucks, Zoroaster (CCB 79020) and Aegisthus (LLC/CB92) (see photo of Aegisthus on the cover of this issue) are still going strong—style 2+ and 2, respectively, at age 7. They and Imagine (MLB CD7) have sired some nice bucks! Our herd was evaluated by James Barton this year and by Terry Sim before that.

Proven 2 year olds	Color*	Sire	Style**	MFD**	Comments	Price
BLF Hippomenes	Black	Imagine	2-3	M-	1996 Junior CaPrA Combed Fleece Champion	\$ 400
BLF Sundance Kid	Grey	Imagine	2	M		250
BLF Kazo	Taupe	BLF Gwydion	2-2+	M-	Very friendly and confident	300
Promising 1 year olds						
BLF Pollux	Grey	Aegisthus	3	F		200
BLF Viking	Black	Zoroaster	2+	F	Abundant, long guard hair, already sired twins & triplets	200
BLF Ranger	Black	Imagine	2+	F	Long black guard hair	200
BLF Sprite	Black	Imagine	2	F	Grey ears and muzzle	150
BLF Puck	Black	Zoroaster	2+	F	Triplet	150
SFC Francis	Black	Zoroaster	2+	M-		150

* guard hair color

** 1997 evaluation, all had at least adequate cashmere length

PO Box 378, Washington, ME 04574, (207) 845-2722, email: Lance@airs.com

Patchouli A Scent From the Past

Patchouli is an old scent. It was used as a natural moth repellent and was a tradition scent used for cashmere wedding ring shawls in the Victorian era.

Patchouli (*Pogostemon cablin* for you technical folk) is a bushy perennial herb which grows to three feet tall. It has a sturdy stem and soft, hairy leaves. Its flowers are white with a tinge of mauve and are borne in terminal spikes. The shrub is native to Sumatra and Java between altitudes of 3,000 and 6,000 feet, but it will grow elsewhere.

Patchouli is generally harvested two to three times per year and the strongly-scented leaves are picked by hand, dried and made into an oil. Most of the world's Patchouli oil comes from Indonesia although China, Malaysia and India also are producers.

Patchouli is an important ingredient in perfumes as it is an excellent natural fixative and one of the few essential oils which improves with age. It has also been a part of the traditional system of medicine in Malaysia, China and Japan for centuries. It was/is considered to have anti-inflammatory and astringent properties and is used to treat dermatitis, enteritis and diarrhea and to strengthen the immune system. It is also considered an effective insecticide and a remedy for snake and insect bites.

Also, per the book *Aromatherapy for Healing the Spirit* by Gabriel Mojay, it is listed as an antibacterial treatment,

and, when combined with cypress and geranium, as a vascular decongestant and astringent phlebotonic. As if all this weren't impressive enough, he also reports that patchouli oil works through harmonizing the Element Earth and the Intellect (Yi), grounding and stabilizing the mind when overthinking and worry develop. For sexual difficulties, Patchouli oil can facilitate love-making through lulling the mind and warming the body.

Michelle Dobbins, Desert Cashmere, Tucson, Arizona, grows the herb and uses it for making sachets and scenting her goat milk soap. She reports that the herb has a pleasing scent. She says that there are two Patchouli varieties. The one you want is Patchouli Cablin as it has the better scent. She had planned on photographing the plant as an illustration for this story, but, unfortunately, her goats like the herb as well and cleaned it up. Fortunately, she had already harvested! Perhaps, one of her goats was trying to self-medicate for stress or maybe just trying to pick up a little scent to help attract a goat of the opposite sex.



Milking is a family affair at Desert Cashmere—Annabella in the stand, Sweetie in front and baby Peanut.



Michelle Dobbins harvesting milk for her soap from her cashmere doe Sweetie.

Goat Milk Soap and Patchouli Sachets!

Soap

\$2.95@

Fine hand milled soap, molded and cut, lightly scented with Patchouli, approximately 2 oz. in each bar, white/off white color, wrapped in reusable bags (cotton with a goat picture).

Handmade soaps retain the natural glycerin which provides creamy moisture for your skin. No added sudsing or coloring agents. Low, small bubbles produce a creamy lather.

Patchouli Sachets \$4.50@

Use an old-fashioned scent for your cashmere shawls, hats and dresser drawer!

Add \$3 for shipping per order.

**Desert Cashmere
Michelle Dobbins
HC Box 1014
Tucson, AZ 85739
520-825-7814**

Call or write
for more information.

THE BUSINESS OF CASHMERE CONFERENCE III

October 24 - 26, 1997

Holiday Inn, Bozeman, Montana

FEATURING CASHMERE - AN ALTERNATIVE DIVERSIFICATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Sponsored by:

PROFESSIONAL CASHMERE MARKETERS' ASSOCIATION

Pioneer Mountain Farm, Inc. • Montana Knits, Inc. • Castle Crag Ranch

THE CONFERENCE

Finally! A livestock that is easy to manage, prefers to eat weeds and brush over grass, and has cash flows, when compared animal unit to animal unit, better than cattle or sheep.

The third annual **BUSINESS OF CASHMERE CONFERENCE** provides all the information you need in one place at one time to decide whether adding cashmere is right for your operation. PCMA has now successfully introduced scores of livestock operators to this interesting and innovative agribusiness, and has developed a comprehensive body of detailed information to share with operators looking to stay on top of the challenges of 21st century agriculture.

The **BUSINESS OF CASHMERE CONFERENCE III** will offer concurrent seminars ranging from general health and herd management to advanced genetics; business planning to financial resources; risk management to production management; and economics of weed control to product development and marketing. In addition to the many qualified and diverse seminar presenters, there will be a keynote address and a banquet speaker.

Many of the more advanced topics will be offered as concurrent sessions to the more basic topics in order to cover all the material within the conference's two-and-a-half day format. There will be a farm tour on Sunday afternoon for some hands-on with goats, and a Fiber Classing Seminar will be offered after the conference on October 27-29. Those interested in this seminar should phone to discuss particulars.

PARTIAL CAST OF CHARACTERS

Dr. Christopher Lupton, Texas A & M University, Fiber Measurement

W. W. Hawkins, DVM, General Health Management of Goats

Ted Ori, State Farm Insurance, Risk Management

Keynote Speaker: **Dr. Tom McCoy**, Dean of College of Agriculture, Montana State University

Steve and Diana Hachenberger, Castle Crag Ranch, and

Talibah and Ajamu Al-Rafiq, California Cashmere Company, Cashmere Dehairing Workshops

Tom and Ann Dooling, Pioneer Mountain Farms, Genetics, Advanced Breeding and Herd Management

Banquet Speaker: **Conrad Burns**, US Senator from Montana
US Small Business Administration speaker - Business Plans and Packages and Financing

John Langenheim, Langmont Group, Product Development and Marketing

Paul Gaylord Johnson, CashMirror Publications, How to Get Your Goat—Where, How and How Much

And others too important and numerous to mention
Also included: Financial roundtable, Fiber identification workshops, Weed control roundtable, Dehairing workshops

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Since this conference builds on previous years, those who have the 1995 and 1996 *Proceedings* books should bring them. New and additional printed material will be provided to all registrants. Copies of the 1995 and 1996 *Proceedings* will be available at the conference for \$40 per set.

Registration fee includes the 1997 *Proceedings*, classes, seminars, and all refreshments, as well as the Saturday luncheon and evening banquet, and the opportunity to meet and talk to scores of others at the cutting edge of this new agribusiness.

Cut on this line

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

1997 Conference Fee \$125.00 _____
1996 Proceedings Book 15.00 _____
1995 Proceedings Book 25.00 _____
Total \$ _____

I am (am not) currently raising cashmere goats. _____ (# of goats)

I currently raise other livestock. _____

I am interested in the Sunday PM Farm Tour. _____ (# of people)

I will need transportation to/from Farm Tour. _____

Mail with check to PCMA, 3299 Anderson Lane, Dillon, MT 59725 (406-683-5445)

BREEDERS DIRECTORY

ARIZONA

CAPRON COUNTRY CASHMERE

Gabriele M. Drewry
35039 N. Central Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85027-7481
602-780-9704
Fax: 602-780-9715
email: GDrewry@aol.com

RANCHO VERDE

Christine Acridge
15419 E Rio Verde Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
602-471-3802

COLORADO

PEACHDATTER FARM

C.J. Prince
23676 County Road 73
Calhan, CO 80808
719-347-2510
Fax: 719-347-2696

INDIANA

AI-SHAKKAR FARM

Mary Hotko
12388 Long Branch Road
Moores Hill, IN 47032
812-744-4411

MAINE

BESSEY PLACE CASHMERE

Wes and Marilyn Ackley
RFD #1 Box 2610
Buckfield, ME 04220
207-336-2948
email: ackley@megalink.net

BLACK LOCUST FARM

Yvonne Taylor
PO Box 378
Washington, ME 04574
207-845-2722
email: Lance@airs.com

HARDSCRABBLE FARM

Hattie Clingerman
PO Box 682
Winterport, ME 04496
207-223-4211

MONTANA

CASTLE CRAGS RANCH

Diana Hachenberger
894 Pheasant Run
Hamilton, MT 59840
406-961-3058
Fax: 406-961-4770

PMF CASHMERE COMPANY

Tom and Ann Dooling
3299 Anderson Lane
Dillon, MT 59725
406-683-5445
Fax: 406-683-5567, email:
knits-pioneer@worldnet.att.net

SMOKE RIDGE CASHMERE

Yvonne Zweede-Tucker
2870 Eighth Lane NW
Choteau, MT 59422
406-466-5952
Fax: 406-466-5951

NEBRASKA

AIRY KNOLL FARMS, INC.

Richard & Harriet Jensen
76460 Road 424
Cozad, NE 69310
308-784-3312

HI-PLAINS CASHMERE

Julie and Alex Becker
160482 County Road C
Mitchell, NE 69357
308-623-2627, 1-800-500-9688
email: ajbecker@PrairieWeb.COM

NEBRASKA WESTERN

CASHMERE
John Harris
Rt 1 Box 193
Mitchell, NE 69357
308-635-1579, email:
JHarris@Hannibal.WNCC.CC.NE.US

NEVADA

ROYAL CASHMERE

Eileen Cornwell
419 Centerville Ln
Gardnerville, NV 89410
702-265-3766
Fax: 702-265-1814
email: cashmere@sierra.net

NEW JERSEY

BLACK FEN FARM

Virginia Hinchman/Kevin Weber
117 RD 2, Rt. 46
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
908-852-7493

NEW YORK

Tomio Taki

Tetragon Consulting Corp.
11 West 42nd Street - 23rd Floor
New York, NY 10036
212-626-6300
Fax: 212-626-6487

OREGON

ABORIGINAL FIBRE

razberi kyan (Pat Almond)
PO Box 899
Mulino, OR 97042-0899
503-632-3615
email: razberi@teleport.com

THE BARKING GOAT FARM

Dewey and Eric Skemp
199 Ankeny Hill Rd.
Jefferson, OR 97352
503-373-9724
Fax: 503-362-8323
email: eric@hifly.com

BLAUW DAK RANCH

Bill DeJager
10640 Freeman Rd.
Birkenfeld, OR 97016-7226
Voice & fax: 503-755-2005
pager: 503-229-2776
email: blauwdak@3dwave.com

CASHMERE GROVES

Pat Groves
16925 S. Beckman Rd.
Oregon City, OR 97045
503-631-7806
email: pgroves@europa.com

CHEHALEM CASHMERE

Heidi and Paul Sullivan
21605 McCormick Hill Rd.
Hillsboro, OR 97123
503-538-9791

FOXMOOR FARM

Carol J. Spencer
1178 N.E. Victor Point Road
Silverton, OR 97381
Phone: 503-873-5474
Message: 503-873-5430

DIRECTORY BREEDERS

GOAT KNOLL

Paul Johnson/Linda Fox
2280 S. Church Rd.
Dallas, OR 97338
503-623-5194
Fax: 503-624-1704
email: goatknol@teleport.com

HAWKS MOUNTAIN PYGORA'S

Lisa Roskopf & George DeGeer
51920 SW Dundee Rd.
Gaston, OR 97119
503-985-3331
Fax: 503-985-3321
email: hawksmtn@aol.com

HOKULANI FARMS

Cynthia and Karl Heeren
22260 East Highway 20
Bend, OR 97701
541-388-1988
email: hokulani@bendnet.com

NORTHWEST CASHMERES

Carole Laughlin
19025 SW Hillsboro Hwy.
Newberg, OR 97132
503-628-0256

OCTOBER FARM II

Dick and Dottie Gould
Rt 1, Box 63
Baker City, OR 97814
541-523-9859
Fax: 541-523-9436

ROARING CREEK FARMS

Arlen and Cathy Emmert
27652 Fern Ridge Road
Sweet Home, OR 97386
503-367-6698
email: cashmere@proaxis.com

SOMERSET CASHMERE

Julie and Jim Brimble
12377 Blackwell Rd.
Central Point, OR 97502
541-855-7378
email: brimble@cdsnet.net

WILLOW-WITT RANCH

Suzanne Willow and Lanita Witt
658 Shale City Rd.
Ashland, OR 97520
541-890-1998

PENNSYLVANIA

SANDRA ROSE CASHMERES
Jim and Sandra Rebman
RR 2, Box 279
Palmyra, PA 17078
717-964-3052

TEXAS

BAR Y RANCH
James Barton
PO Box 915
Sonora, TX 76950
915-387-5284

UTAH

HEIDI'S FARM
Heidi J. Smith
7980 Long Rifle Road
Park City, UT 84060
801-649-3856
email: heidi.smith@genetics.utah.edu

VERMONT

CRR CASHMERE
Tia and Peter Rosengarten
PO Box 37
Weston, VT 05161
802-824-8190
Fax: 802-824-4072

ELM VALLEY FARM

CASHMERE GOATS/SHETLAND
SHEEP
RR 1, Box 200
Cavendish, VT 05142
802-226-7324
Fax: 802-226-7750

VIRGINIA

STONE CREST FARM
Anne and Roy Repaske
570 Paddy's Cove Lane
Star Tannery, VA 22654
Phone/fax: 540-436-3546
email: cashmere@shentel.net

WASHINGTON

BREEZY MEADOW CASHMERE
FARM
Douglas and Roberta Maier
810 Van Wyck Rd.
Bellingham, WA 98226
360-733-6742

JMJ CASHMERE

Jim and Josie Baine
9817 381st St. E.
Eatonville, WA 98328
360-832-4442

LIBERTY FARM

Cliff and Mickey Nielsen
1505 Nile Road
Naches, WA 98937
509-658-2502

STILL WATERS CASHMERE GOATS

Diana Mullins
10203 Friar Creek Road
Monroe, WA 98272
360-794-6894

SUNNYHILL CASHMERE

Coleen McCrory/Paul
Washington
4080 Sunny Hill Lane
Lummi Island, WA 98262
360-758-2927
Fax: 360-758-7101

WALLFLOWER FARM

Dan and Marti Wall
1667 Beaver Marsh Road
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273
360-424-7935
Fax: 360-428-4946
email: cashmere@sos.net

CANADA

GIANT STRIDE FARM

Pat Fuhr
RR #3
Onoway, Alberta TOE IVO
403-967-4843
email: 103600.1332@compuserve.com

TRAILTREE FARM

R.R. #1
Woodville, Ontario KOM 2T0
1-705-374-5527



Goat Knoll Bucks Standing Tall!

Bucks available for breeding at our farm:

Black Bart

Black, brown cashmere, multiple fleece contest winner

Silver Bart

Son of Black Bart, fleece contest winner, huge frame

Rayvon, brown/black trim, gray cashmere, 2-1/2" length

Black Spice, black, dark brown cashmere, stocky frame

Black Gold, black (duh!), brown cashmere, 2-1/2" length, big

Bucks available for sale:

White Lightning

W/W, age 3, big twin bro. of Black Gold

Brown Bart

Brown with black trim, gray cashmere, age 2-1/2, son of Black Bart

El Toro

Black/white, brown cashmere, age 2-1/2, son of Black Bart

Sim grading and objective tests available

Goat Knoll

2280 S. Church Rd., Dallas, Oregon 97338

503-623-5194

fax: 603-624-1704

email: goatknol@teleport.com

Goats as Leaders for Other Species!

We've all heard of farmers/ranchers mixing goats with other livestock for weed control. Goats will eat vegetation passed over by other species and in doing so, improve the pastures for the "real livestock."

However, you don't often hear that goats are included with other species due to their superior intelligence! In Morocco, shepherds often keep a few goats in with their sheep. They have found that the goats will lead their flock of sheep to better grazing areas.

This ability to find better food areas, plus the goats' better dietary habits, leads producers in Morocco to include up to ten goats with each flock of sheep. No doubt, the sheep lovers will claim that intelligence has nothing to do with it because they will claim that this feeding difference is merely an instinctive behavior.

"Greetings World!!"

from the promising young bucks of Bessey Place Cashmere

Among the two year olds:

BPC Easter

BOGF Dakota x BPC Dove

Easter is a white buck whose shorn kid fleece garnered ribbons at the 1996 CaPrA and ECA competitions. In naming Easter Grand Champion of the ECA competition, judge Joe David Ross wrote: "An unusually fine white fleece, stylish crinkle with density." Easter's kid fleece tested objectively at 16.4 microns. As a chubby two year old he grew a 17.3 micron fleece while holding his CV at 16.8%, a sign of a consistent fleece.

BPC Ebony

BOGF Dakota x MLB Harmony

Although Ebony's kid fleece tested at 15.4 microns and his sec-

ond fleece had an MFD of 16.4 with a CV of 19.5%, he isn't likely to win awards. His fleece is just over an inch long. Hoping that he would pass along his fine and stylish fleece characteristics and his big frame, we allowed him to begin his career as a buck last fall. The resulting twins weighed 42 and 45 pounds at three months.

BPC Emmet

BOGF Dakota x BPC Doodle

Emmet, a black buck with white badger markings, is the son of Doodle who took first place with her shorn white kid fleece in the 1995 CaPrA competition. Emmet covered two does when he was a yearling, and one of the resulting kids, BPC Feather, was the first place kid in the 1996 ECA goat show. Emmet tested

17.2 microns as a two-year old with a CV of 19.8%.

Yearlings to watch:

BPC Felix (black with white trim), Flapjack (white), and Fortune (black), all sons of MLB Imagine. Fortune has the distinction of being the convergence of Mary Matthews's 5 Lismore lines with Mary Mears's carefully selected Spanish goats. He's a handsome fellow.

**At Bessey Place Cashmere
many are born
but few are chosen.**

**Wes and Marilyn Ackley
Buckfield, Maine
207-336-2948**

Altai Mountain Cashmere Goat

Also Known By: *Gornoaltaiiskuya (Russian)*

The Altai Mountain breed of wool goat was formed between 1944 and 1982 on collective farms of the Gorno-Altai Autonomous Region of the former Soviet Union; it is kept on pasture all the year round. The Altai Mountain is the result of Don goats used for improvement of the local goats.

Altai Mountain goats are uniform in color, size, conformation and wool production. They are noted for strong constitution and adaptability to the severe conditions of extensive husbandry in the highlands. They have a relatively high live weight and good meat qualities and are able to fatten rapidly during a short summer period.

Altai Mountain goats are superior to local ones in live weight (5-10 kg more) and wool yield (3-4 times more). Live weight of males is 65-70 kg and that of females is

41-44 kg.

However, like local Altai goats, they mature rather slowly and grow till the age of 5-5.5 years.

Wool of Altai Mountain goats has high technical qualities and is a valuable commodity for light industry. The guard hair is black and true wool dark grey. Laboratory data show that the true length of wool fibres in pedigree goats is 7.5-10 cm. The average diameter is 16-7 µm in adult goats and 15-16 µm in young animals. There is no apparent difference in wool fineness between flanks and thighs. Guard hairs diameter is 75-90 µm. Wool content in the fleece of pedigree animals is 65-70%. Uniformity between them is not greater than 10%. Wool yields are 600-900 g for males and 450-600 g for females. Fiber length is 8-9 cm for both.

The viability of goats in condi-

tions of extensive husbandry is quite satisfactory. The year-round maintenance on pastures does not lead to deterioration of the quality (strength, length, fineness) of the wool, because it grows in seasons which are favorable in terms of feeding. For Altai Mountain goats, the breaking length of wool (with 16-20 µm diameter) is 9-9.5 km. For comparison, Merino wool up to 1/23 µm in diameter is considered strong enough if its breaking length is not less than 7 cm.

Breeding of Altai Mountain goats is directed to enlargement of the pedigree goat population and to increase of wool production and live weight, without losing the good adaptability to the special conditions of Siberia.

Pedigree goats are also raised for sale to other farms. This work is done mainly in the collective

Continued on next page

Gorno Altai Goats

Continued from previous page

farms for 50 Years in the USSR in the Kosh-Agach district and in the state farm Edigansky in Shebalin district. In recent years this state farm has made certain progress in raising young pedigree goats. The goat population increased from 7,700 in 1970 to 9,900 in 1983, and cashmere production rose from 2,600 to 3,840 kg.

References:

Dmitriyev, N.G. and Ernst, L.K. (1989) Animal Genetic Resources of the USSR. Animal Production and Health Paper Publ. by FAO, Rome, 517 pp.

Mason, I.L. 1988. World Dictionary of Livestock Breeds. Third Edition. C.A.B International. 348 pp.

Reprinted from the Oklahoma State University home page at <http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/goats/altai-mt/>

When Is Your Doe in Heat?

Signs of heat in a doe include, swollen (possibly reddish) vulva, tail wagging (called "flagging"), increased vocalization, increased urination, decreased appetite and vaginal discharge. These signs will probably be more pronounced if a mature, smelly buck is nearby. The most frequent signs of heat I have observed are flagging and increased vocalization. I have seldom been able to identify swollen vulvas or vaginal discharge.

If the doe lives across the fence from a buck, the doe will probably walk restlessly along the perimeter searching for a way in or stand near the fence. You will probably want to avoid having a common fence between your bucks and does as they can get creative and breed through a common fence—even around a hot wire. We had one breeding last year that could only have occurred through the fence and have heard of other people experiencing the same problem.

One doe in heat will not necessarily act like another doe in heat. If you know your does well, you

might recognize a change in behavior. We have two does who exhibit no outward signs of heat other than aggressiveness toward other does. If a normally passive doe starts picking fights with the other girls, you may have a doe in heat. Some does who are not normally friendly to you might come to you for attention. Maybe she's just changed her mind and likes you after all, but be suspicious that you just might have a doe in heat.

Some does will be responsive to the use of a "buck rag," a rag rubbed on an odoriferous buck and confined with all its smelly glory inside a tight container (glass mason jars work well). If you suspect that your doe is heat, release the rag for a sniff. If she responds by vocalizing or tail wagging, your doe is probably in heat. The best method for determining heats is to note any odd behavior. If the odd behavior repeats in about 21 days, you have most likely tuned in to your doe's cycle. From here you can predict when the next cycle will occur and plan for her breeding.



"Let me at 'em!"—Michelle Dobbins' buck "Boy"



Blauw Dak Ranch
10640 Freeman Rd.
Birkenfeld, OR
97016

Bill De Jager
503-755-2005
(phone and fax)

Cashmere Goats
Maremma Guardian Dogs
Home of
Genghis Khan

CRR Cashmere Goats & Alpacas

Goats, Alpacas and Fleece for Sale



Tia and Peter Rosengarter
Box 37, Weston, VT 05161

Tel. (802) 824-8190

Fax (802) 824-4072

Turn off the TV, dim the lights and put the kids to bed. It's time for information about...

Goat Sex

by Linda Fox

Birds do it...Bees do it...Goats do it...

When?

For the buck— anytime

A buck with a normal sex drive will mount any standing or restrained doe (in heat or not) at any time. A fast-growing, well-fed buck kid will be able to breed sooner than an underfed one. In the US, dairy breeds are fertile at five months of age, although breeding has occurred as early as three months of age.

For the doe—when she's in heat

Research has indicated that the number of daylight hours triggers the estrus (oestrus) cycle in does. Estrus is defined as the sexual heat of animals which involves physical changes especially to the reproductive organs. Goats are normally seasonally polyestrous, which means that they will have multiple heat cycles, but only during certain seasons of the year.

The change in the amount of daylight hours triggers hormonal changes in the doe, which begins or ends her season of heats. In temperate regions, does begin cycling as the daylight hours decrease in late fall. In early spring, as the daylight hours increase again, the doe stops cycling. For the northern hemisphere, this translates to the doe will cycle August through March and especially October until December. These generalities vary by region, breed and herd.

This doesn't mean that your doe absolutely won't breed during April through July. We have heard of many cases of some of the little dears

breeding at just about any time of year in temperate regions. And as you might suspect, bucks are usually eager to accommodate an out-of-season doe at any time of year.

In the tropics, where there is no great change in day length during the year, some goats will cycle year round. The availability of forage does more to cause cycling in these goats than the day length. As with many things, nature has stuff pretty well planned. Conception is "planned" so that kidding will occur at a relatively good time of year—when the weather is mild and food is plentiful. Hence winter breeding is designed to cause spring kids.

A goat's heat normally occurs about every 21 days and will last 2 - 3 days in mature does. In doelings, heat may last only 24 hours. At the beginning and end of the cycling season, known as the transitional periods, the time between heat periods may be shorter. These shorter "in betweens" may be as little as five to seven days. Also, "silent heats" are more common during the transitional periods.

How?

Goats are not students of the Kama Sutra. It's simple, direct and always the same.

Factors Influencing Reproduction

Reproduction in goats is influenced by three factors: photoperiod (length of daylight hours), nutrition and exposure to other goats. At higher latitudes (above 40°), most mating in most goat breeds is triggered by photoperiod. At low or tropical latitudes (<25°), photoperiod cues are weak or absent and mating is triggered by nutrition and social cues. In the intermediate latitudes (25° - 40°), photoperiod has some effect, but can be modified with nutritional and social cues.

Goats were first domesticated 9,000 years ago in south western Asia and have since spread to every continent. They have developed different cues for reproduction over the centuries, to successfully survive in different environments. Survival of the species is aided by encouraging reproductive urges to time kidding for maximum survival for the offspring. This is accomplished by seasonal cuing via photoperiod, by opportunism (access of one sex to the other) and by nutrition. Knowing what triggers the goats' reproductive urges aids goat owners in planning for the breeding season and for manipulation of the natural cuing mechanisms, if necessary.

Researchers advise to beware of a "temperate chauvinism" in the goat research. Even though only 5.4% of the world's goats are located in developed countries which are located mostly in temperate climates (FAO 1993), this is where the bulk of the research occurs. Therefore, the research will be focused on reproduction of goats in temperate climates, largely ignoring the 94.6% bulk of the world's goats located in developing countries which are primarily in tropical and subtropical regions of the world. So, research will be likely to have a bias toward

Continued on next page

PUDDING CREEK CASHMERE 503-363-5255

Phil & Nannette Martin Salem OR

Health issues force entire herd dispersal

Fiber Fair 1997 @Mt. Vernon, WA results:

Caspian: Reserve Champion Shorn buck and

1st place 2 yr old colored shorn buck • \$400

Cazamer: 1st place 3 yr old colored shorn buck • \$400

Mare: 1st place 3 yr old colored shorn doe • \$400

Gift: 4 yr old doe TMR, dam and sire FS 4 by TS • \$350

3 buck kids: 1 by Cazamer x Mare and

2 by Cazamer x Gift \$100 each

Goat Sex

Continued from previous page

photoperiod cuing, as this is the most important factor in reproduction in temperate climates.

At latitudes above 40°, most goats breed seasonally from early autumn to late winter, a 4 - 5 month breeding season, followed by a 4 - 5 month non-breeding season. The remaining two months are a transitional period during which silent ovulations occur.

These general rules differ from year to year and from herd to herd with a noticeable difference according to herd size. In larger herds, the urge to merge will arrive earlier than in smaller herds, even reported as much as three months earlier due to what is called "social cuing." The herd seem to "feed on each other," with goats who come into their breeding cycles earlier encouraging others and then they pass it on and finally you have a whole mess of horny goats on your hands with hopefully a whole bunch of very strong fences!

Even though male goats are capable of breeding all year, they are in maximum functioning order (more sperm motility and volume) in late summer and autumn.

Per research, Australian feral cashmere bucks showed little change in sexuality during the year under experimental or AI collection condi-

tions. However, in the wild, the feral cashmere bucks breed seasonally due to the fact that the herd segregates by sex from winter to mid summer. Therefore, no matter what the photoperiod is telling them, if the bucks aren't with the does, they certainly can't breed them.

Studies of reproductive seasonality using artificial light to change the breeding seasons of goats show that 7-11 weeks after a change from artificial long days to natural or artificial short days, female goats begin to cycle.

One study in 1992 showed that a goat fetus is able to detect daylight change *in utero* and use this information to influence the timing of puberty (Deveson, 1992).

Photoperiod alone does not determine a goat's need to breed. Genetics plays a role as well. In a study of French Alpine, Saanen and Angora goats, who normally are light-triggered reproducers, the goats were moved to the tropics where native goats reproduce year-round. The transplanted does continued to be seasonal breeders. (Chemineau et al., 1992) While the bucks were saying "Hey, look! The days are even here so let's breed!" The girls were on the veranda in their bikinis sipping tropical drinks saying, "Not so fast! We're still waiting until Fall!" (Johnson, 1997)

Different breeds respond to different reproductive cues and, in some breeds, the factors interact. There is considerable variation from year to year in the timing and duration of the breeding season. Just because your does showed no interest in multiplying last year until September, does not mean that you will have the same luxury this year.

And, you may ask, what if I breed a goat who is seasonally polyestrous (photoresponsive) to a goat who breeds successfully year round? Researchers believe that the photoresponsive trait is inherited fairly simply in an additive manner. Therefore, if you cross a light-responsive goat with a light-non-responsive goat, you will get a medium responsive goat. However, a moderately responsive goat may appear to be totally unresponsive until some minimum threshold level of responsiveness is met. Confused yet? No? Yes? Let's move on anyway.

Nutrition

Nutrition is the ultimate regulator of goat reproduction. Severe undernutrition can stop all reproductive responsiveness regardless of the other cues present. Sexual response to nutrition level is generally less dramatic (but still very important) when it is influencing the timing of puberty, sperm and egg production rate and sexual behavior. Studies have found that the sudden introduction of good nutrition can trigger the start of estrus in non-photoresponsive breeds. A study in 1991 showed that improving the nutrition level of cycling females increased the ovulation rate and the incidence of multiple births without affecting the occurrence or length of the estrus cycle.

Social Factors

The male effect—Five days following the introduction of bucks to a herd of does, 80-100% were found to ovulate with a peak ovulation at 2-3 days. However, this first fertility was found to be low. Five days later, a second peak of ovulation occurs in which most of the does were found fertile. Estrus cycles in the does after these initial two peaks occur at the normal intervals of 21 days.

The "male effect" is strong or weak depending on the distance of the does from the bucks. Does in direct con-

Continued on next page

Breezy Meadow Cashmere Farm

Cashmere Goats • Shetland Sheep • Maremma Guard Dogs



Douglas & Roberta Maier
810 Van Wyck Rd.
Bellingham, WA 98226
(360) 733-6742

Goat Sex

Continued from previous page

tact with bucks showed the greatest response, while separation of the sexes by 150 yards eliminated the effect. There was more response when the does were in direct contact with the bucks than when they were separated by a fence or narrow passageway. Intermittent exposure to the bucks (8/hr day) decreases the response and confining them in a relatively confined space enhances the response.

There have been several research projects designed to identify the part of the buck responsible for the "male effect." It is probably the full range of senses—smell, sight, hearing and tactile—which are involved, but researchers tried to identify the sense (or scent) most responsible. It was found that a buck fleece alone produces little or only a weak response.

Buck urine, alone or with a buck fleece has little effect as well.

The "buck effect" should not be confused with trying to identify a doe in heat by using a buck rag. This process of using the buck rag is a test to identify a doe in heat. It is not intended to trigger the start of estrus in the doe.

The female effect—Seasonally estrus cycling does encourage other seasonally estrus non-cycling does to come into heat.

Research indicates that when nutrition is consistently good for the Australian feral/cashmere goat, it will rely mostly on photoperiod cuing for reproduction. Researchers were not sure whether this reliance on photoperiod was the result of development of an effective reproductive strategy for survival or merely a holdover of the genetics of these goats' European ancestors.

Wherever this tendency originated, these photoperiod cues can be completely overcome by the right combination of nutrition and social cues which offers great potential for increasing the reproductive efficiency of this breed.

As you can see, there are a variety of factors involved in the goat's reproductive urges (all of them interesting, some of them even useful) and successful producers will use this knowledge to aid them in their breeding plans.

References:

Walkden-Brown, S.W. and Restall, B.J., "Environmental and Social Factors Affecting Reproduction," VI International Conference on Goats, Vol II, 1996, pp 762-775.

Smith, Mary C. and Sherman, David M., Goat Medicine, 1994.

HARVEST MOON FARM and NORTHWEST CASHMERE

Breeders of Quality Cashmere Producing Goats

<u>Farm Code</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Fleece</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Placing*</u>	<u>Show</u>	<u>Year</u>
Bucks for Lease and Sale							
HMF	POO69	1993	BR	2.5"	1st	ECA, NWCA	1995
					Jr Champ	NWCA	1995
					1st	NWCA	1996
					Sr Gr Champ	NWCA	1996
					2nd	Western Stock Show	1996
HMF	Muddy	1994	BR	2.25"	Gr Champ**	NW FiberFest	1997
					2nd	Black Sheep Gathering	1996
					2nd	NWCA	1996
HMF	Duke	1994	WW	2"	1st	Black Sheep Gathering	1996
					Jr Champ	Black Sheep Gathering	1996
					4th	NWCA	1996
HMF,	Midnight	1990	BR	2.75"	1st	ECA	1993
NWC	Rider				1st	BSG/NWCA	1994
NWC	Lightning	1995			2nd	NW FiberFest	1997
Prize Winning Does							
HMF	KD	1994			1st	Black Sheep Gathering	1996
					3rd	NWCA	1996
HMF	Patsy	1994			1st	Black Sheep Gathering	1996
					Jr Champ	Black Sheep Gathering	1996
					2nd	NWCA	1996
HMF	Ricky	1994			3rd	Black Sheep Gathering	1996
HMF	Mocha	1993			2nd	NWCA	1996
					3rd	Black Sheep Gathering	1996
HMF	Anna Joy	1991			1st	NWCA	1995
NWC	AnnaBelle	1993			1st	NW FiberFest	1997

*All show fleeces shorn unless otherwise noted, **Combed fleece

Starter stock at reasonable prices

Quality stock for sale and lease

Animals of all ages available

Quality based pricing

Our sale does bred to buck of your choice for additional fee (HMF)

For Questions about Harvest Moon Farm stock (HMF) call or write:

Guy or Karen Triplett
Harvest Moon Farm
63300 Silvis Road,
Bend, OR 97701
1-541-388-8992

For questions about Northwest Cashmere stock (NWC) call or write:

Carole or Larry Laughlin
Northwest Cashmere
19025 SW Hillsboro Hwy.
Newberg, OR 97132
1-503-628-0256

**Eastern Cashmere Association's
1997 Fleece Competition
and Goat Show
At the State Fair of Virginia**

September 29 - October 1, 1997
Richmond, Virginia

Renew old friendships! Share ideas with new friends who may have confronted *and solved* your biggest problem! Attend ECA's annual meeting and Board of Directors' meeting. See cashmere bucks strut their stuff as they make their debut at the State Fair of Virginia! See (and buy) products made with American cashmere! Sell *your* cashmere creations! Bring goats and fleeces to make this event the biggest, liveliest, most fun filled cashmere event in America! It won't be a real competition unless you participate! As they say at the State fair of Virginia, it's time to party with the animals! Questions? Contact Roy Repaske at cashmere@shentel.net or at 540-436-3546.

Fleece Competition

The fleece competition will be judged by James Barton of Sonora, Texas, and will include twelve competition categories. Entry deadline was August 15th.

Goat Show

The goat show will be judged by James Barton as well. Competition categories will include wethers and bucks and all goats entered (except kids) must be accompanied by their most recently shorn or combed fleece. Entry deadline was August 15th on this one too.

Other

Virginia Moyer, an experienced handler of show goats will conduct a workshop on how to turn carefree cashmere critters into models of decorum. There will also be an ECA annual meeting and Board of Directors' meetings in conjunction with the fair.



**The First
Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival
Clackamas County Fairgrounds
Canby, Oregon**

September 27 - 28, 1997

The Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival provides the setting for education about natural fibers, including fiber-producing animals and plants, processing natural fibers, and producing and selling finished products. In the Homespun Gallery and the Fiber Arts exhibit, artists are given a chance to express their concept of connecting the products of the fiber arts with their sources and the land.

The Festival provides the setting and opportunity for fiber enthusiasts to share their knowledge and expertise, as well as to show and sell their animals and products through the livestock shows, raw fiber shows, Homespun Gallery and the Juried Fiber Art Show. The Festival seeks to include all fiber animals and all fibers from plants and animals.

Cashmere Stuff

Cashmere fleece contest

Judged from a handspinners view by Melda Montgomery, Woodland Woolworks.

Cashmere Goat Show

Goats will be judged 60% on fleece and 40% on conformation. The judge will be Susan Stutz. Bucks entered must be less than twelve months old. Exhibitors may enter only two animals per class. Classes with less than three animals will be deleted or combined. Entry form must be postmarked by September 1, 1997. For entry form or information, contact Brandy Chastain, 30881 SW Bald Peak Rd., Hillsboro, OR 97123, telephone 503-628-1205.

Other Stuff

The Festival includes trade show booths, skein competition, Fiber Show, fiber demonstrations, various fiber breed livestock shows and exhibits and a spin in. Demonstrations planned include a Charka demonstration, wool combing, hand dehairing of cashmere, felting a hat, fulling spun yarn, making paper from plant fibers, weaving demonstration, tatting demonstration, spinning off an angora rabbit, demonstration of handling goats with herding dogs and a 4-H group square dancing with llamas(?).

If possible, you should go. If for no other reason than to see what they have in mind for these llamas!

Calendar of Events

Association Contacts

August 28-29, 1997

Fiber Art Expo

Bethel, Missouri

Spinning, weaving and other fiber workshops

Registration required by August 15th

Contact Dr. Helen Swartz, Lincoln University, PO

Box 29, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0029,

573-681-5551

August 30 - September 1, 1997

World Sheep Fiber Art and Flower Festival

Bethel, Missouri

Featuring Year of the Goat

Goat show, goat cookout, demonstrations, booths, fun—see additional information page 8, this issue.

For more information contact Karen Arment, Route 1, Box 238, Shelbyville, MO 63469, telephone 573-633-2652

September 27-28, 1997

Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival

Angora, cashmere, pygora and other fiber livestock and fiber shows and sales, Clackamas County

Fairgrounds, Canby, Oregon. For information contact Brandy Chastain, Whistlestop Farm

503-628-1205

September 27-28, 1997

The Wool Festival at Taos

Kit Carson Park, Taos, New Mexico

For information email: woolfest@zynet.com

PO Box 2754, Taos, New Mexico 87571

Telephone 505-751-0306

September 29 - October 1, 1997

Virginia State Fair, Richmond, Virginia

Home of ECA's goat show and fleece competition.

October 24, 1997

Mild Goat Men - First (maybe annual, maybe not) meeting. Bozeman, Montana, at a saloon to be announced. More information? Contact Head Herder, Johnson, 503-623-5194.

October 24-26, 1997

PCMA Business of Cashmere Conference III

Bozeman, Montana, Holiday Inn Convention Center

For information, contact PCMA at 406-683-5445,

fax 406-683-5567.

American Meat Goat Association

W. E. Banker, President, 512-384-2829

Cashmere America Co-operative

Joe David Ross, Manager, 915-387-6052

fax 915-387-2642

Wes Ackley (Maine) 207-336-2948

Marti Wall (Washington) 360-424-7935

Cashmere Producers of America (CaPrA)

Marilyn Ackley, President

Phone/fax 207-336-2948, ackley@megalink.net

CaPrA office: 512-452-5205, fax 512-452-5521

Colorado Cashmere and Angora Goat Association (CCAGA)

Carol Kromer, Club Contact, 719-347-2329

Eastern Cashmere Association (ECA)

Ray Repaske, President 540-436-3546

North West Cashmere Association (NWCA)

Cliff and Mickey Nielsen, 509-658-2502

Professional Cashmere Marketers' Association

(PCMA), Tom and Ann Dooling, 406-683-5445

knits-pioneer@worldnet.att.net

Texas Cashmere Association

Dr. Don Huss, President

915-396-2920 or 915-396-2195

tca@webstar.net

Western Prairie Cashmere Association

John Harris, President

308-635-1579

JHarris@Hannibal.WNCC.CC.NE.US

Wild Goat Women

Debbie Walstead, Chairperson

719-495-2962



Sunshine says, "I'm not going to come down from this tree until the breeding season is over! I'm much too young to even look!"

CASHMERE AMERICA



Be Part of the Action!!

Join Your **Grower-Owned** Cooperative and share in the pride of developing the American Cashmere industry.



The Growers of the Co-Op proudly offer:

- ...Fleece Purchasing...
- ...Fiber Grading Services...
- ...Dehaired Batt for Spinning...
- ...100% Cashmere Yarn...
- ...Cashmere/Merino & Cashmere/Silk Yarns...
- (All from American Grown Cashmere)
- ...Winter Field Days to Learn Shearing,
- On-Farm Grading and Fiber Preparation...
- ...Judging Classes & Certification...



Membership is just a one-time fee of \$50
For Information, contact:

Cashmere America Cooperative
PO Box 1126 Sonora TX 76950
or call a Director at (207) 336-2948(ME)
or (360) 424-7935(WA)

Geeps

(Sheep and Goat Hybrids)

A fertile doe may, if no buck is available, breed with a male sheep (ram). An embryo forms, but usually does not survive beyond month number two of the gestation.

A buck will breed a ewe (or about anything else which doesn't move this time of year), but fertilization rarely occurs.

One problem with crossing sheep and goats, assuming one would want to, is that a goat has 60 chromosomes and a sheep has only 54. A hybrid, when it does occur, ends up with 57 chromosomes.

A geep normally doesn't occur naturally. However, a different artificial animal has been produced by manipulation of goat and sheep embryos and subsequent implantation into a sheep or goat. Because of this, some people think that the geeps produced are the result of natural matings, when, in fact, they are not.

So, do they call the young ones lids or kambs?



Wil Clouser's (Salem, Oregon) new spring bucks Golden Nugget (left) and Gumby (right). The boys try out their new legs on a convenient platform.

Announcing (Finally)

1997 Mt. Vernon, Washington Fiber Fest
May 17, 1997
Cashmere Fleece Contest Winners

Number of entries: 62
Judge: Lisa Zietz

Grand Champion Shorn Fleece:

LPC118
Owned by Betty Landberg and Esther Plocher, L & P
Sheep and Goat
LPC118 is a 6 year old black doe

Grand Champion Combed Fleece:

Muddy
Owned by Carole Laughlin, Northwest Cashmere
Muddy is a 3 year old buck



1997 Fiber Fest, Mt. Vernon, Washington
Cashmere Fleece Contest Grand Champion Winners

Winning Fleeces and Their Ribbons:
Left: LPC118, L&P Sheep and Goat
Right: Muddy, Northwest Cashmere

CHAMPION BREEDING BUCK FOR SALE

Offered by Liberty Farm Cashmere
1-509-658-2502

GWILLIAM #10

Year of Birth: 1990
Sire: Buck 83 Red 83
Dam: Greenmount Onyx 13
Only embryo from Red 83 in US
1996 Micron Test available on request
Height: 28" Length: 32" Heart Girth: 40"
Halter trained, friendly and healthy
Passes on density, crimp and good definition

1993: 3 year old buck National Class Champion Shorn Fleece
1996: 4 years and above National Class Champion Shorn Fleece
Judge's Comments: "Density and style were very good for a 4 year old buck. Very good definition."
Sire of 1996 National Junior Champion Shorn Buck.
Asking \$450



Discriminating Does Want Gwilliam!!!

Classified Advertising

Cashmere goats: 2 buck weanlings, sire classed Super Fine, Style 4, 3 yearlings-buck, doe, wether. Sherwood, Oregon, 503-625-7836, Debbie.

Cashmere goats: 2 wethers, 2 doe yearlings, and 1 buckling (black—Genghis Kahn grandson). (503) 632-3615, raz (Pat Almond).

Cashmere goats: Only 2 1997 doelings left, 4 beautiful black long-haired 1996 wethers, 1997 wethers (lots...sigh), a few bred does available this fall/winter. Goat Knoll, Dallas, Oregon, 503-623-5194.

CashMirror back issues 7/96 - 6/97 \$3 each or a whole dozen for \$20. Back issues 10/89 - 6/96 \$2 each or \$15 for a dozen. We'll pay postage just to get them out of our attic. Most issues available. A good reference source about cashmere goats and history of the industry. Index for 7/96 - 6/97 in July 1997 issue. Index for 10/89 - 4/96 in May 1996 issue.

CashMirror extra issues for Breeders. Want some extra issues of CashMirror so you don't have to give yours away to those people you sell goats to who have a million questions? Duplicate copies of any back issues we have for current subscribers only \$2@, includes mailing.

Circle Z Asian Shepherd six month puppies. Livestock, farm, and personal guardians. Farm raised. Our breeding stock from Central Asia, Russia, Turkey, and America. Pril Zahorsky, RR1 Box 37A, Dacoma, OK 73731, Phone (405) 871-2439, Fax and voice messages (405) 871-2440, email circlez@pdi.net, web page URL <http://www.dogzone.com/dogs/circlez/asian.htm>

Maremma Sheepdog Club of America, Maremma Livestock Guarding dogs, PO Box 546, Lake Odessa, MI 48849, 616-374-7209. Free information and Breeder Directory.

Wanted: your photos for 1998 CashMirror calendar. Photographs can be any size, in color or black and white. For each photo we use, we will give you a free calendar. Need before November 1, 1997. Good subjects: cashmere goats, people with their goats, guard or herding dogs. Call Linda or Paul if you have questions: 503-623-5194 or email at goatknol@teleport.com

Coming Attractions!

AI (Artificial Insemination—Buck in a can)—How to, How Common for Cashmere? Pros and Cons

Shocking tale of the vicious attack of the Liner pygoras on the innocent cashmere goats at the Polk County Fair

Fencing - Goat proof!

Book Report—VI Int. Goat Conference Proceedings (They finally arrived!)

A few '97 Black Sheep Gathering pics

Internet Links Update!

More goat links are appearing on line all the time. Here are some good new ones to check out:

World Goat Centre, France
www.world-goat-centre.com/

U.S. Customs Fiber definitions
www.customs.ustreas.gov/imp-exp/rulings/harmoniz/hrm64.html#1

Alpine Haus Goat Supply
www.alpinehs.com/

Yocum McColl's Fyberspace Freeway
www.ymccoll.com/ym6.html

Goat Shelf Life Only Three Years?

According to Caprine Supply, the number of years most people own goats is only three.

Those who own goats longer tend to involve the whole family, have a game plan and have set goals for their goat production.

Raising goats can be hard work and it's easy to get burned out. It helps to divide chores among family members, trying to assign chores based on things that the family member likes to do. It also helps to take time to watch and enjoy your goats.

Display Advertising Rates:

<u>Ad Size</u>	<u>Price</u>
Half Page	\$75/Issue
Business Card	\$25/Issue (\$150/yr)
Other sizes	Ask us

Extensive layout or photo screening extra.
Discounts for multiple issue placement.
Payment must accompany ad order.

Classified ads 50 cents/word.

The Deadlines:

Articles, photographs, advertising and other information submitted must be received by the 20th of the month prior to magazine issue date.

If you need assistance designing or laying out a display ad, or fine-tuning an article, earlier is appreciated.



CashMirror

Subscription Information

To subscribe

Send: Name
Farm Name (if applicable)
Address with zip code

To: CashMirror Publications
2280 S. Church Rd.
Dallas, OR 97338

Annual Subscription is only \$20 for 12 monthly issues! (\$30 Canada, \$45 outside US other than Canada).

Breeders Directory listing for full year \$30.

One Nice Person...

p i c

Handmade and painted wooden Cashmere Goats

New products (pictured above) **Goat signs** - 8" x 9", (Order in X-rated or PG version) \$4.00@. Other wooden goat gifts available: key chain \$1.25, key holder \$6.95, napkin holder \$6.95, tie rack \$8.50, book ends (pair) \$7.95, little wood goats \$1.00@.

Add \$3.00 for shipping/handling per order

Blue Spruce Quilts and Gifts
Dorothy and Leonard Luttrell
1011 SW 15th Street
Redmond, Oregon 97756
541-923-1840
email: dspruce@aol.com

And One Old Goat...

The RECORD Stockman & The SOUTHWEST Stockman

Bob Hesslegesser

Commercial Advertising

Call for information
on our next
focus on cashmere!!

Toll Free: (800) 530-8539
Fax (303) 431-8911
P.O. Box 1209
Wheat Ridge, CO 80034

Serving north-
ern California,
Idaho, Nevada,
Oregon,
Washington and
western Canada

Membership includes:
NWCA Quarterly
Conferences and
optional CaPra
membership



Northwest Cashmere Association

Annual Dues: NWCA only \$25 or \$37 to include
NWCA membership and CaPra (Cashmere Producers of America)
Participating Membership and Concerning Cashmere
Gara Wegrich, Treasurer, 5700 Demaray Dr. Grants Pass, OR 97527