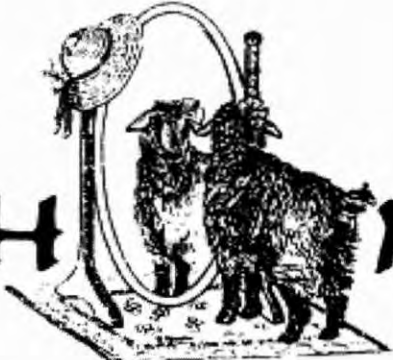




CASHMIRE MIRROR

Volume 9, Issue 9

July 1998

The monthly magazine devoted to cashmere goats and their fiber



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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 we will certainly be real careful.

Cover photo by:

Paul Johnson, Goat Knoll

"Don't climb into the apple tree with anyone else but me."

**The
Bucks
are
Coming!**



Breeders' Showcase Issue

**Coming to the *CashMirror* nearest you
Next Issue!**

***New extended* deadline for ads, photographs and copy:
August 7, 1998**

We will print extra copies of the August 1998 issue and distribute them as promotional material at fiber and goat gatherings in the US and Canada. As usual, there is a good deal on advertising—both display and classifieds. We can help you design and lay out an ad, usually at no additional charge.

Get the word out!

Let other breeders and new cashmere producers know what you have for sale or rent. This is the time of year when producers “shop for bucks”—for purchase and for rent.

Special Advertising Rates for August 1998 issue

Display Advertising:		Classified Advertising:
1/2 page	\$65	25 cents per word
1/3 page	\$50	
1/4 page	\$35	
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Reflections

by Linda Fox

Landscaping—With Goats, Sheep and Dave

We have sheep and goats for landscaping around our new house. Pastures for goats surround the new house on three sides and we wake up in the morning to the sound of the mares barking at the sheep in the yard and Dave (the llama) looking in our bedroom window. This happens just before the sun comes up. Some people have roosters for an alarm clock; we have a dog and a llama.

I suppose this type of landscaping will not get us into *Sunset Magazine* or *Martha Stewart's Living*, but we enjoy the view.

Dave and the sheep actually live down at the old house, one-half mile away. Their rainy-day quarters is the loafing shed on the back of the old garage. They spend most of their day in their pasture by the loafing shed and in the yard of the old house keeping tabs on the thistles and weeds which are creeping in since we left. They spend each night in their shelter, the sheep inside and Dave lying inside blocking the door. Every morning lately, however, they make an early trek up the hill to make sure we are up.

We haven't worried about Dave and the six ewes tromping around the new yard yet as the builders just finished leveling the land around the house after the destruction caused in preparation for building. Our only real landscaping so far is five lingonberry bushes planted by the back porch and one lone rose bush planted by the front door. We've sheltered the rose from Dave and the sheep and they don't seem to have a taste for lingonberries. (The pig does, but that's another story...)

Since our ground is primarily clay, the topsoil having been cleverly scraped off by the builders and deposited down below, we don't mind the animals' hooves loosening up the ground somewhat. We have been wondering if lawn grass will even grow in our hard clay or if we need to bring in something more organic for small new roots. Of course, the animals are leaving behind a few organic packages of their own.

We haven't been in a rush to plant because of the hot weather and the knowledge that we'll then have to water and mow the grass. One thing we've noticed about dirt, it seldom requires mowing.



Casper, the friendly goat, recommends planting alfalfa for landscaping. When you mow it, you can throw the clippings to the goats!

Besides, we want time to plan our new view. How many times do you get to start with a blank slate? It seems like landscaping most of our lives consists of trimming back what someone else chose to plant before us. We have an endless list of choices for the blank slate. Do we put the herb garden by the front door or down by the garage? How many roses do we want to take care of? Of course, we'll not plant any of the things known to be poisonous to goats. Before we moved here, whenever the goats got out, the first thing I always did was run screaming toward the rhododendron bushes—not to save the bushes, but to save the goats! No rhododendrons are in the plan for our new yard.

Maybe we should just get little starts of poison oak, scotch broom and thistles to plant around the house so we can put it back the way it was before the land was so rudely interrupted by the building process. We could just blend our new plantings back into the old and pretend that the new house was just set down gently on the property with no disruption to the native habitat.

Before the rains start, we will need to plant grass or something to secure the ground or we will have a serious erosion problem but, for now, we'll leave it as it is—and continue to enjoy our ruminating alarm clocks.

Introducing Linda Cortright

New CashMirror Eastern Correspondent

We are thrilled to introduce you to Linda Cortright, CashMirror's new Eastern Correspondent. We first saw Linda in a photo submitted for the 1997 CashMirror calendar. She became Miss October, the attractive model sporting a vest made from Cashmere America's yarn. The buck in the photo shoot was complicating things by trying to smooch the model. You've heard from Linda in these pages before with enlightening tales on diverse subjects such as Texas goats and their gates and how to get your does to kid on your schedule (June 1998), a report on the cashmere events at the Virginia State Fair (December 1997), and her thoughts on condoms and Lutalyse use for goats (March 1998).

Because we enjoy her stories and admire her enthusiasm, we asked her to be a part of our regular team and offered her a glorious title to go with the job. Because, we really don't know her very well, we assigned her first story to be a short introduction of herself.



Linda Cortright and Daisy

By Linda Cortright

Twenty years ago I was working on Fifth Avenue selling diamonds for Tiffany & Co. Ten years later I was at CBS learning that a career in television can shorten your life. And now, I have a small farm in Maine populated by fifteen of the most wonderful goats on the planet, and I wonder why it took me so long to get here?

My first cashmere goats arrived three years ago and since then I have strapped myself to the high-speed learning curve. I now know that both the boys and the girls have horns. I no longer glance at the sky when someone starts talking about a particular wether. I also know my goats have fiber not wool and that when one is trying to identify

the sex of a newborn, the appearance of two pink nipples tells you nothing about the gender of the animal.

Right after my first kids were born, I anxiously flipped them over to dip their bellybuttons and to see what I had. I saw those nipples and promptly ran inside to call Marilyn Ackley and share the good news.

"Two girls!" I screamed into the phone and Marilyn assumed that being well beyond the age of legal consent I had made no error. It was not until the following year when my first buck was born and didn't pee like all the other kids that I modified my gender evaluation technique.

Since I live about as far east as you can get in this country and still be on land, I have been asked to periodically write a few pieces from the so-called East Coast perspective. Not that we are terribly different or in some way special out here, but just to help us cashmere folk stay connected. Therefore using the latest research tools available I will try to stay abreast of the latest breaking cashmere goat stories.

I personally believe that cashmere goats probably arrived on the East Coast first. In fact, like every other family of good breeding, they probably came over on the Mayflower. And, if I were to dig a little further into the annals of goat history, I'm sure I would find that the first Thanksgiving was probably celebrated around a stuffed 14 micron beauty! When all of this speculation becomes documentable, I shall of course forward the appropriate article. But in the meantime, I shall focus on the relevant facts and shuffle out various farm reports throughout the year.

As for life here in Union, Maine; the goats and I share the farm with three dogs, two cats and POOSLUTSR (person of opposite sex living under the same roof) frequently referred to as Tom.

Tom understands that he has no say, vote, opinion, or suggestion when it comes to the goats. His role is defined as the hired help who has yet to collect on a day's pay. And as a rule, we do not do fencing together since I would not be allowed to take my goats to prison and I would miss them—and Tom would sell them.

I don't miss television. I don't miss Fifth Avenue. And I certainly don't believe that diamonds are a girl's best friend when you've got a field full of cashmere goats just waiting to be hugged. Is there a more glamorous life out there? I don't think so.

GOAT TELEPATHY

By Linda Cortright

We all experience those wonderful coincidences of everyday life when the phone rings and it's Aunt Mildred calling who you haven't spoken with in twenty-seven years and the next thing you say is, "Gee—I was just getting ready to call you."

Or, on your way home from work you decide to surprise your husband and pick up a large pepperoni pizza with extra mushrooms (truth be told, you don't feel like cooking) and surprise-surprise; he had the exact same thought and shows up with a large pepperoni pizza and the extra mushrooms for dinner that night too.

I accept these charming little acts of mental telepathy between humans, but how many of you have it with your goats? I have several goats with whom there is complete understanding. Jean Dixon would be impressed. Take Lulu for example: last weekend I was all gussied up for a wedding—shower and everything! About ten minutes before I was ready to walk out the door there's a jailbreak—four goats outside the fence, the rest inside. So, I go through the standard drill of rounding them up and getting them all back in except for Lulu.

Lulu has noticed my unusual barn attire and immediately realizes I'm headed for a wedding. Furthermore, she has telepathically deduced the exact time of this wedding and calculates that within less than two minutes, I will be running late. Therefore, her next move is to go sprinting away from me at top speed so she can enjoy an extended game of catch the kid!

I know, that she knows, that I know and I immediately respond by chasing her. Now, somewhere in the first twenty-four hours of owning goats, even a farmer with the IQ of a tractor knows that chasing a goat is a really useless act. It's not even good aerobic exercise. But I went hopping after her anyway and within about 20 paces I stopped dead in my tracks and looked at that sly little creature and thought, "Fajita!"

Of course, since I had stopped running, so had Lulu and I proceeded to lock in on her sweet little face and began concentrating on the word "fajita," over and over again. Didn't take but ten seconds for her to pick up the signal and then come trotting right over to me to just like a well trained dog—not that I have any of those either.

I scooped little Lulu up and dropped her less than delicately over the side of the fence. It was too late to shower again, and a little eau d'barn might knock out some of that nasty incense some churches seem to use. However, a quick stop to wash my hands seemed to be a basic act of cleanliness and wouldn't make me that much later.

I dashed in the house and as I was drying my hands I heard a noise that most decidedly sounded like footsteps upstairs. I listened again. Yup, somebody was walking around and nobody else was home besides me. Ordinarily, a realization such as this would send me flying out of the house like I was being chased by aliens but at the last moment I recognized the owner of the footsteps—Walter, the English Bulldog was loose upstairs!

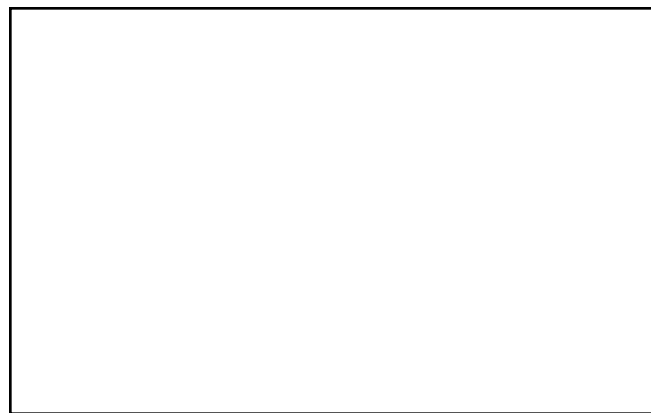
A loose Bulldog is so much worse than a loose goat there is virtually no comparison. I couldn't run up those stairs fast enough and yet I was too late. Walter had gained entrance
Page 6, July 1998

into the forbidden room—the fiber room. Even Tom is not allowed access into these quarters and here Walter had somehow muscled his way and had poked his big slobbering head into virtually every bag of fiber I own until he finally got to the oldest and filthiest sheep fleece I purchased ages ago and found a treasure of sheep poop to inhale. I screamed and hollered and stomped my foot and nothing happened. He was in a trance. I had no choice but to bend down and hoist this small hog for a dog up on my hip and return him to his quarters—no dinner for him!

Back to the sink to wash my hands and I get this idea that Lulu and Walter were in this whole thing together. Walter must have gotten Lulu to distract me long enough for him to feast on fleece. Those damn animals I thought: they're conspiring against me.

I had little hope of making the wedding on time but I charged to the car anyway and turned the key only to discover I had a dead battery. (I swear this is true.) I was in no mood to crawl under car hoods in my party dress so I decided to heck with the car, I'd take the truck—Lord knows I smelled like the farm at that point anyway.

While driving to the church and reviewing the events of the last half an hour I had a dreadful thought. Was it the goat or the dog that left the lights on all night?



Walter—Not just another pretty face!
Photograph by Linda Cortright



Mickey Nielsen

Iodine Deficiency

By Mickey Nielsen
Liberty Farm
Naches, Washington

Hello, all you crazy cashmere people...

We wanted to share an experience of ours from this last winter. Hopefully this will help others recognize this condition if it happens to you.

Three does kidded the end of December. We lost two kids and one doe. Not good averages. One buck was born with his intestines on the outside, and one doe kid was in a poor birthing position and born dead. The doe died from the complications of us assisting with the poorly-positioned kid. Of the three remaining kids, two were fine and one was very slow to get up and nurse, so we had to assist him for a couple of hours.

We didn't find out why he acted this way until later. This was the most trouble we have ever had kidding. We thought it was just our turn for some bad times. Now we suspect iodine deficiency to have played a role in these problems.

In March we had four does kid—three sets of triplets and one set of twins. The twins and two sets of the triplets were non-thrivers, like the little guy in December.

In assisting the twins we discovered nodules on their throats. These were quite large. Also, the two kid does were not getting up and searching for milk like normal.

We finally got out the hair dryer and eye dropper. We dried the kids, milked mom and began feeding with the eye dropper. This got them going a little bit. The next day we called the vet and questioned him about the nodules. "Goiters," he said, "caused by iodine deficiency!!" Failure to survive was the prognosis.

This was the most trouble we have ever had kidding. We thought it was just our turn for some bad times.

"Feed iodized salt," he said.

"To a one day old kid??" I questioned.

Needless to say I had a lot of questions about why this happened. We had not changed our herdsman practices from before. The goats had access to mineral salt all the time. We feed free choice alfalfa hay. Grain is used only as a lure for moving them, and just before and right after kidding. The one thing different—We had bought all of our hay from one field, one cutting. This was a first.

The two sets of triplets were very slow kids, but with smaller nodules than the twin does. We spent intense time in the barn getting kids up and nursing.

The best thing was to dry them with a hairdryer to get them dry and warm fast. To get milk down some of them, we had to milk mom and then use an eye dropper to feed the kids. They didn't have the strength to nurse right off the get go.

We also kept stimulating them, poking them and encouraging them to get up. Once we could get them up and nursing a couple of times, they seemed to pick up and then be able to take care of themselves. We were thankful we only had the four does kidding.

In the mean time the first set of kid does were not doing well. We got one up and nursing, but she was still very slow and weak. The other twin doe with the largest nodules (about the size of an almond) had to be taken into the house to try to save her.

We tried to feed her iodized salt, but this would but her into a coma-type condition. We would think, "Okay, she is going to die." And then 6 to 8 hours later she would wake up and cry, and want to eat a small amount.

She didn't have the strength to stand. It was painful for me to watch her struggle so hard. I took her to the nearest vet to have her but down.

While there, I told this vet about the goiters, and she told me about someone in the area that had the same problems with foals a couple of years ago. She said that Washington State University had come down and done some field studies. They determined that a weed in the hay interfered with the fetuses' ability to absorb iodine.

I called WSU as soon as I got home. Yes, they had done some field work on Glucosinolate Poisoning and it

Continued on next page

Iodine Deficiency

Continued from previous page

seemed to be caused by *Brassicaceae*, a weed in the Mustard family.

That same day I got a phone call from a friend that had a doe kidding about the same time as mine. One of the twin buck kids was acting funny, and could I come look? Sure enough—it had goiters also.

I asked about where he had gotten his hay. Both of us had purchased our hay from the same area, but not from the same field.

The Doctors at WSU cautioned me to not raise an alarm about mustard weeds in hay. Many different factors can contribute to this condition—rainfall, chemical fertilizer, growth of weeds, and storage of hay, are just a few of the things they said, that may affect iodine in your hay field or pasture.

Some plants listed in the information from WSU:

- *Rape (canola) plant, seed and meal
- *Mustard seed
- Kale
- Cabbages, cauliflower, broccoli, brussels sprouts,
- Turnip
- Radish
- Swede rutabaga
- Horse radish
- Cress, mustard greens
- Wild radish
- White mustard
- Black mustard
- Oriental mustard
- Fanweed
- Charlock
- #Couch grasses *Cynodon aethiopicus* & *C. nlemfuensis*
- #White clover

- * Very bad
- # Low-level but continuous intake

Iodine deficiency makes newborn kids very susceptible to cold, wet weather, and mortalities are very high. Treatment of affected kids with iodine or thyroxine tablets is rarely useful; it is far more effective to ensure adequate iodine nutrition of the fetus.

Iodine deficiency seems to be only a problem in newborn kids. Adult goats seem to be able to tolerate the seasonal decline in the iodine supply by using the reserves stored in the thyroid gland. The developing fetus does not have this reserve.

Also in doing a little research, I found some information from Australia about iodine deficiency in goats. They have found that iodine deficiency is a big problem in high-rainfall areas. Their research showed that iodine intake from pasture is lowest during heavy rainfall months. The more rainfall, the greener the pasture, the lower the iodine levels.

They recommend an iodine drench if you determine this to be a problem for your goats. Does should be drenched once, (or in wet years twice) in the last two months of pregnancy. The drench is made up by dissolving 1 ounce potassium iodide in one quart of water. Each doe gets 10 cc of the drench. Mix the drench just before use. Any old mixture should be thrown away. Do not store or try to reuse it. Iodine is highly volatile, and goes bad if stored.

They recommend this over licks and feed supplements because, as we all know, not every doe in the herd gets her fair share of these things.

It is known that goats require more iodine than other livestock. Did you know that? We didn't!

They also suggest in this study that iodine deficiency may be induced by "goitrogens" (*glucosinolates*??)

substances within the feed which inhibit the utilization of iodine. Goitrogens have been detected in some legumes and forage crops, but they (Australians) don't consider them likely to cause goiter.

In summary, if you seem to have a weak kid born, check its neck for goiters. Any lumps larger than a bean are considered goiters.

These kids can be saved if you get them dry, warm and some milk down them until they get their strength up.

We didn't lose any more kids, but it took a lot of work. All surviving kids are growing great, and the goiters are gone.

We had another batch of does kid in June and July. No problems with goiters, all is well.

In fact we got a extra bonus—we have a first time doe with quads. Blessing or a curse?? So far she is raising them fine.

We suggest you contact your vet if you have problems with goiters and get his advice for prevention. These kids can be saved if you are able to spent some intense time with them for the first couple of hours. From our experience I would be willing to use the drench as a prevention.

I don't care what WSU says—I will be more careful of where I buy my hay. And I won't buy it all from one place again. We were fortunate that this was a small kidding year. If this had happened on a large scale, it would have been a disaster.

We wish for all of you, a great year!



Nutrition in Cashmere Goats

By Diana Hachenberger
Castle Crag Ranch, Hamilton Montana

Diana presented a workshop at the PCMA Business of Cashmere Conference III (October 1997) on goat nutrition. This article is from the Proceedings of that conference.

One of the most important aspects of raising cashmere goats is good nutrition. They must be able to grow a dense fleece, breed and raise young that are of good size and are healthy. To do all this cashmere goats do not require a complex or expensive diet but they do have some basic needs common to many animals.

They need a source of fresh, clean water at all times, salt and an effective parasite control program. We use salt with trace minerals and selenium added. Our area has virtually no natural selenium in the soil so we must supplement it to prevent white muscle disease. Check with your veterinarian for any similar type deficiencies before you add extra supplements. No feeding program is going to produce healthy, strong animals if they are infested with parasites. We worm our animals every 3 to 4 months and alternate with 2 different wormers. Again this is something you need to discuss with your veterinarian as to what is best in your area.

The maintenance diet for cashmere goats is rather simple but there are several things to keep in mind. Goats need a high roughage diet and for cashmere goats it should be low protein. They are not producing large quantities of milk for months on end, nor are they growing a heavy mohair fleece all year like angora goats. Too much protein and/or too much food in general can cause several problems.

Too much food can change the quality of the goats cashmere fleece. There is some debate as to how much it can be changed. I have done some experimenting and a lot of observation on my goats and on other farms. Too much food or too rich food can coarsen what might otherwise be a nice fleece. Just do not try to "fix" a poor fleece by starving an animal—there are genetic parameters as to what each animal can do.

Too much food also wastes money (lowering your profit) and results in a fat goat. We have a pet wether

that is quite fat and it does not seem to bother him, but if we fed all our animals like him we would be broke rather quickly.

A fat doe can have several reproductive problems. Very fat ewe sheep often do not get pregnant and while I haven't seen any studies on goats it is possibly the same with them. If an overly-fat doe does get pregnant, they can have kidding problems and/or very large kids. They can also have 3 or 4 kids which can be hard for some of them to

raise resulting in bottle raised kids (very cute but also quite time consuming and not as efficient).

We do not flush our does and we still end up with a high percentage of twins of good birth weight and strong constitutions. I would rather have healthy, strong twins than small, weak triplets or quads. We do usually have at least one set of triplets and these are good size and healthy as the does are big enough to handle them naturally.

Too much food can also make does produce too much milk leading to mastitis.

In the spring when does are kidding we supplement the does only—not the bucks—with lambing pellets that have added vitamins, minerals and a higher protein level. As the kids begin to eat more pasture and/or hay, we taper off the pellets. This is all the supplementing the does get.

When the kids are weaned we again supplement them with lambing pellets for 6 weeks. The bucks are kept free of parasites and are on good pasture but once they are weaned they do not get any more supplement feed.

In the summer all our animals get only good pasture for feed. They do, of course, still get a mineral salt block at all times.

Realize that what is good pasture for goats may not be good pasture for other animals. Goats do very well on plants that are unappealing and/or toxic to other livestock. In our area we have a lot of Russian Spotted Knapweed. Other livestock will pick at it a bit but

Continued on next page

Nutrition

Continued from previous page

do not really like it. In large quantities it is toxic to horses. Our goats have eliminated the knapweed from our pastures. They also eat plants like leafy spurge, wild iris, and our goats even keep the buttercups and water hemlock to a minimum around the ditches. Some studies seem to show goats can eat quite toxic plants as long as it is under 50% of their total diet.

In the winter we feed good quality grass hay, I feed twice a day as they will waste more if too much is put out at once.

Goats will eat a large variety of feeds but if it gets dirty they won't eat it. I put out enough hay that they finish it by the next feeding but are not totally frantic to eat again. After shearing we bed the barn and sheds in very deep straw and they will also pick at that which helps them keep their temperatures up.

Cashmere goats could also be fed alfalfa hay but I would cut it with some high quality straw to keep it from being too rich. I have heard of people in other areas feeding by-product things such as sugar beet pulp. I have no personal experience with that type of feeding but your local extension office could probably give you ideas about that and what the protein levels are.

In winter a good supply of clean, thawed water is very important as their food is very low in moisture.

Cashmere goats are very versatile in what they can eat and derive nutrition from and are also very hardy. They co-graze with other livestock well as they are browsers and prefer plants that other animals avoid. With good basic care they require little in the way of extra effort to stay healthy and strong.



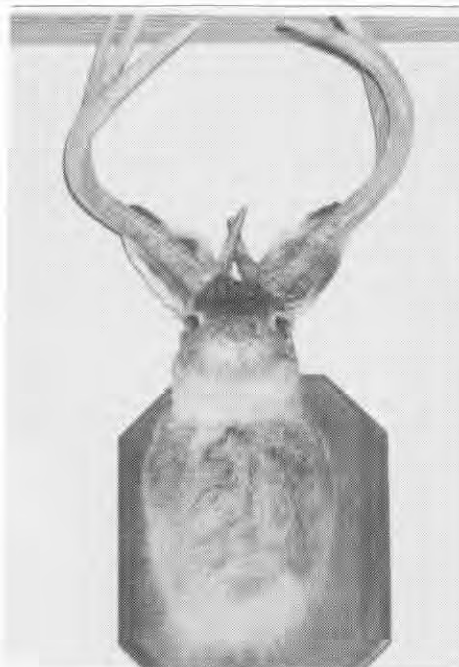
We are what we eat—this time of year, we are dead grass.

When's the Last Time We Had a Goat in the White House? (Too Long!)

The last goat in the White House belonged to the grandchildren of Benjamin Harrison in 1889. He, however, was not the first president with good taste. William Henry Harrison had a billy goat and a Durham cow as pets in the white house in 1841. Abraham Lincoln's son Tad had two goats, Nanny and Nanko. The Lincoln boys, Tad and Willy, also had ponies, a white rabbit and a turkey, in addition to an array of dogs and cats (1861).

Chelsea still needs a goat. Well, maybe now that she's off to college, Hillary will need the goat—for something to fill the empty white house now that her child is away.

Write Bill.



This is a test!

Remember last issue? You were given some very interesting information about horns vs. antlers? (Page 15, June 1998)

The above photograph is of a jackelope, a well-known animal species found primarily in Wyoming, but have been seen as far east as Sydney, Nebraska.

Is this beast sporting horns or antlers?

Short Interval Kidding Systems

by Dr. Barry Restall

In meat production systems, generally the number of offspring produced by a dam in her lifetime has a major influence on economic returns. Lifetime production can be increased through increases in litter size and/or reduction in the interval between pregnancies. Although goats in many parts of the world appear to be seasonal breeders, Australian research has shown that apparent seasonality can be overcome by manipulating environmental variables such that out of season breeding is possible without the use of hormone based techniques.

Although this research has been published in scientific journals its significance is not widely appreciated in commercial enterprises. The research has documented the environmental and social influences on goat reproduction, the underlying mechanisms and the means of manipulating these mechanisms. This technology is particularly suited to meat production and various systems have been devised for both extensive and intensive production under the general name Short Interval Kidding Systems (SIKS). These are similar to, and derive from, the STAR system of accelerated lamb breeding used at Cornell University, but include little known techniques of manipulation that are peculiar to the goat.

The main advantages of the short interval kidding system are:

1. Overall levels of production can be increased.
2. Seasonality of production can be at least partially eliminated.

Short interval kidding systems (SIKS) involve both breeding in season and out of season and may include twice yearly kidding or three

or more kiddings in two years. In sheep, production systems involving four lambings in three years, five lamb crops in three years (STAR), and alternate month lambing (CAMAL) have been tested, but not in goats to my knowledge.

The most extensive use of out of season breeding in goats occurs in France where intensively reared dairy goats are bred in the non breeding season using combinations of photoperiodic manipulations, melatonin treatment and the male effect or by using exogenous hormone techniques. However, these techniques do not appear to be economical in commercial meat goat production systems. In many natural goat production systems such as found in village goat production in Asia, the reproductive rate of goats is very high due to a natural "accelerated" kidding system usually resulting in kidding at 8-month intervals. Feral goats in Australia in their natural habitat have been observed to breed all year round under certain condi-

tions.

The peculiar nature of the goat breeding season, and the strong male effect, mean that they are particularly manipulatable. Australian goats have conceived and kidded twice in the one year but cannot maintain this rate of breeding. However, it is possible to develop short interval systems of various types depending on the desire of the operator and market requirements. Any particular system requires detailed examination of stock, location, facilities, feed availability, managerial facilities/expertise and desires of the operator.

Reproduction in Australian goats has been extensively investigated and knowledge has developed to the stage that out of season breeding has been accomplished by manipulation of social factors (male and female effects) and nutrition. The breeding season of the buck can be advanced by several months, and they can be kept in top breeding condition all year. Female goats have a short spell of spontaneous ovulation but remain responsive to males for all but late spring/early summer. Breeding may be induced

Continued on next page



Fancy votes "NO" for SIKS—Once a year is enough!

Short Interval Kidding Systems

Continued from previous page

in this period by nutrition and social factors or exogenous hormonal techniques.

A SIKS based on the "Star" system

The most intensive system involves breeding females five times during the year. This is accomplished by forming three sub flocks and can start any time. Depending on time of the year the males and females would be given appropriate preparative management for breeding. Once the cycle commences all females are mated after an early weaning (50-70 days).

The chart below illustrates a Short Interval Kidding System with five kidding periods per year using 3 sub flocks. This example begins by mating sub flock 1 in January

Breeding of one group coincides with the kidding of another, and growing kids are present all year. In any one year there are five breeding and five kidding periods. With early weaning special kid feeding may be necessary.

Breeding is accomplished by special nutritional treatment of the lactating does and use of the male effect. This Should result in most matings occurring in one week so sufficient terminal sires are required. One month can be allowed for mating to catch returns if desired. A pregnancy test of the does (ultrascan) allows twins and single bearers to be given appropriate feeding, and non pregnant does can be added to the next breeding group.

The groups will vary in size due to the inherent seasonality of the goat, but will also identify does with extended breeding seasons, and they may be bred to special sires to produce replacement breeders. Some attention should be paid to the type of dam required in the system. We suspect that the kidding interval is a moderately heritable trait as has been recently shown in sheep.

Such a system requires a high level of managerial expertise and careful economic evaluation. Special arrangements must ensure that females are well separated from males except for the brief mating period. The breeding herd should be identified and detailed records

kept to allow efficient operation and identification of good and bad system breeders.

Alternatives

The nature of goat reproduction allows for intensive management but many simpler systems may be devised using the same basic manipulative technology to maximise the reproductive potential. These may involve mating the goat two or more times per year, at varying or fixed intervals, and may include early weaning. Matings and the subsequent kiddings can be tightly synchronised (the Wollongbar research herd often dropped 600 kids in one week) with the male effect, and parturition is easily induced with prostaglandin. Variations may use exogenous hormones with or without photoperiodic treatments, as well as the environmental manipulations characteristic of the SIKS, but this will increase the cost. Overall, there are more management options than are possible with sheep in similar systems, although to my knowledge all of them have not been tested on a large scale with goats.

This article is printed with the permission of Barry Restall. Dr. Barrie Restall, BSc, PhD., previously worked as a scientist with the Universities of Sydney and NSW, the CSIRO Division of Animal Production and NSW Agriculture. He is an international authority on small ruminant production in temperate and tropical regions and the foremost authority on cashmere goat breeding and production. He has extensive experience in sheep and goat research in the fields of reproductive physiology, genetics and fleece biology, nutrition and growth. As a principal research scientist with NSW Agriculture he conducted, between 1978 and 1992, one of the largest goat breeding research exercises in the world on a flock of 2,000 domesticated Australian feral goats. This project, involving the breeding and measurement of over 6,000 progeny, produced the first genetic parameters for cashmere fleece growth and reproductive traits in the world.

Sub Flock	Breeding	Kidding	Weaning
1	Jan98	Jun98	Aug98
	Aug/Sep 98	Jan 99	Mar 99
	Mar 99	Aug/Sep 99	Oct 99
	Oct/Nov 99	Mar/Apr 00	May 00
2	Mar/Apr 98	Aug/Sep 98	Oct 98
	Oct /Nov 98	Mar/Apr 99	May 99
	Jun 99	Oct/Nov 99	Dec 99
	Jan00	Jun00	Aug00
3	Jun 98	Oct/Nov 98	Dec 98
	Jan 99	Jun 99	Aug 99
	Aug/Sep 99	Jan 00	Mar 00
	Mar/Apr 00	Aug/Sep 00	Oct 00

More Bad Press for Goats

The Lewiston, Maine newspaper carried a story about goats on June 18, 1998. Actually the story first appeared on June 18, 1898 and was reprinted. Per the story:

"A baby left asleep in a baby carriage on Lisbon street was wrapped in a blanket which tempted a good natured looking goat which was hitched to a boy's wagon, and had been left standing in the street. When the mother put in an appearance on the sidewalk, the goat was calmly devouring the blanket and was nibbling the baby's white dress while the baby slept through the meal and did not even wake to his mother's scream."

Oh well, 100 years ago, goats had a poorer reputation than they do now, right?

Wrong! Virginia Hinchman, in New Jersey, caught an ad on the television Weather Channel (and also found the ad in print in the *Good Housekeeping* magazine) for Dial Anti-cootie Scrub. An adorable child is seen feeding an adorable baby goat. Nice so far...and then, the child runs to its mother, screaming and rubbing its hands, to have the foul germs scrubbed off with Dial Anti-cootie Scrub.

Virginia called Dial to discuss the cootie-laden goat. Since then, the ad has been changed to remove the child's screaming and hand-rubbing, but the modified ad is still running.

However, Marilyn Ackley (Maine) found a good goat press story. Craig Allen, the CBS morning weather man, gave goats some well-deserved credit in his report on the floods in the Midwest. He presented video footage of goats standing on top of cows to get above a flooded field and acknowledged the superior caprine thought process.



Virginia Hinchman and Chipotle. Watch out Jenny! That kid may have cooties!

Goat Poop



4 pounds of mostly GOAT POOP—in a brown paper bag. The bag label provides information about nitrogen, phosphorus and potash, says that the poop doesn't smell and explains that it adds valuable humus to the soil. It also warns that there may be some sheep poop in the bag.

Doug and Roberta Maier, Breezy Meadow Cashmere Farm in Bellingham Washington, have a new cashmere goat product. GOAT POOP. They retail GOAT POOP at their local Farmer's Market for \$1.50 per bag. They market GOAT POOP as a gourmet plant food. It is an all natural organic fertilizer. Per the Maier's:

"Our goats are hard at work making a fresh supply daily. GOAT POOP can be used fresh, no need to let it age or compost. It will not burn plants. It doesn't have the unpleasant odor of other animals' poop, cows. It is made in handy little pellets that are easily sprinkled on the ground or we also have the hoof-ground variety which can be easily mixed into potting soil. So don't delay, rush out and get your GOAT POOP today and watch your plants reach for the sky."

We need to talk to these people about marketing! People who can market goat poop could sell anything...

Trick



First you climb the tree (above) and then you go out on a limb for the really good browse (right). Negritta and Tony do the high wire act at the farm of Steve Koc and Susan Cassuto, Independence, Oregon. Photo by Steve Koc.



Peanut practices the "shoulder scramble" on Michelle Dobbins, Desert Cashmere, Tuscon Arizona. Photo by Michelle.

Right: Mabel at Quinto San Pedro (Hixson's), Salem, Oregon, demonstrates standing on two legs. It's easy to balance and still look quite cute. Only problem is that owners can then see exactly the size of that tummy! Photo by Paul Johnson.



Goats

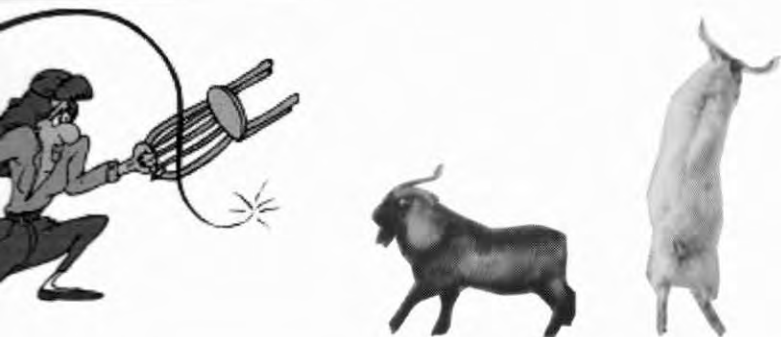


Photo by Marilyn Ackley, Bessey Place Cashmere, Buckfield, Maine. There's not much to do in the hard, cold winters of Maine (except to sit around and listen to the trees freeze and break) so there's lots of time for practice.



Young Lulu stretching between a rock and a stump. As she gets older, she'll move up to higher things. Photo by Linda Cortright, Grumble Goat Farm, Union, Maine.



HKL Diana and HKL Huey practice going up the ladder and sliding down the slide at Hokulani Farms, Bend, Oregon. Photo by Cynthia Heeren.

LOUISIANA LOSES BRUCELLOSIS CLASS-FREE STATUS

WASHINGTON, June 26, 1998—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has reduced Louisiana's brucellosis class-free status to class A status and imposed certain restrictions on the interstate movement of cattle from Louisiana.

"We've determined that Louisiana no longer meets the standards for class-free status and we're taking action to prevent the spread of brucellosis," said Craig A. Reed, acting administrator for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, a part of USDA's marketing and regulatory programs mission area.

In May, APHIS identified two cattle herds in Louisiana as infected with brucellosis.

Changing the brucellosis status of Louisiana from class free to class A increases testing requirements governing the interstate movement of cattle. However, testing requirements for cattle moved interstate for immediate slaughter or to quarantined feedlots are not affected by this change.

Brucellosis class-free classification is based on a state carrying out all requirements of the brucellosis program and finding no cases of brucellosis in cattle and bison in 12 months. All but seven states are brucellosis free. The target date for eradication of brucellosis from the United States is the end of 1998.

Brucellosis is a highly contagious disease of cattle causing abortions and lowered milk production. In humans, the disease causes severe flu-like symptoms that can last for months or years if left untreated.

This rule became effective June 16 and was published in the June 24 Federal Register. APHIS documents published in the Federal Register, and related information, including the names of organizations and individuals who have commented on APHIS rules, are available on the Internet

at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

Consideration will be given to comments received on or before August 24, 1998. Please send an original and three copies to Docket No. 98-068-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Suite 3CO3, 4700 River Road, Unit 118, Riverdale, Md. 20737-1238.

Comments may be reviewed at USDA, Room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons wishing to review comments are requested to call ahead on (202) 690-2817 to facilitate entry into the comment reading room.

USDA news releases, program announcements, and media advisories are available on the Internet. Access the APHIS HOME Page by pointing your Web browser to <http://www.aphis.usda.gov> and clicking on "APHIS Press Releases." Also, anyone with an e-mail address can sign up to receive APHIS press releases automatically. Send an e-mail message to:

majordomo@info.aphis.usda.gov and leave the subject blank. In the message, type `subscribe press_releases`

Brucellosis In Goats

Brucellosis is a contagious disease primarily of cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and dogs. Brucellosis is common in most countries where goats are a significant part of animal husbandry. It is rare in goats in the United States.

The disease in goats is caused by *Brucella Melitensis*, but *Brucella abortus* has been implicated. In cattle, the disease is caused almost exclusively by *Brucella abortus*, with *B. suis* or *B. melitensis* occasionally implicated.

In other countries, where control is attempted, goats are vaccinated against the disease. Kids and lambs are vaccinated at 3 to 8 months of age. Usually, one vaccination gives lifelong immunity.

In the US, herds which contain infected goats are slaughtered. The most recent US outbreak was reported in Texas in 1969, where slaughter of the entire herd eradicated the disease.

A control method of testing and slaughtering only test-positive animals could also be used, but this exposes test personnel to significant risk of contracting the disease. If testing is used, it is recommended to test livestock dogs exposed by the flock as well.

In a 1989 experiment, it was found that treatment of particularly valuable infected animals could be attempted using injections daily over a six week period. This treatment method resulted in a cure 82% of the time.

Brucellosis is a serious human health hazard as humans can contract it from infected animals.

The Brucellosis organism is excreted in milk, urine, fetuses, placenta and in vaginal discharges, for up to three months after parturition. Kids born to infected does can shed the organism.

The disease causes abortion in about the fourth month of pregnancy. Symptoms of arthritis and chronic bronchitis are rare in goats.

Australian Report of Dehairing Research Project

FINAL REPORT TO RIRDC ON PROJECT JFD-2A

1. RIRDC Project No.: JFD-2A

2. Project Title: "An Innovative Approach to the Dehairing of Rare Natural Fibres with Minimal Fibre Breakage"

3. Principal Investigator : Dr John D Leeder, R&D Manager, Jindalee Fibre Developments Pty Ltd, 67 Roseneath Street, North Geelong, Vic. 3215.
Phone/Fax 03 52 782 502. I

4. Starting Date: July, 1996
Nominated Finishing Date:
June 30, 1997
Actual Finishing Date: Ongoing

5. Objectives of the Project: To adapt/ utilise the fibre-aligning principles of the "Jindalee Process" to the removal of unwanted coarse guard hair from potentially valuable fibres such as cashmere and camel; to seek new approaches to dehairing incorporating the Jindalee fibre-aligning process; to minimise fibre breakage during the dehairing process.

6. Background and Potential Benefits: A major barrier to value-adding, in Australia, of rare natural fibres such as cashmere and camel, is the lack of commercial dehairing facilities in this country. Furthermore, major disadvantages of conventional (overseas) dehairing processes is that they are slow and expensive to run, and that considerable fibre breakage occurs, resulting in low yields

with reduced fibre length. Short fibre is difficult to spin, especially into (higher quality) yarns on the worsted system.

Jindalee has developed a system for the early-stage-processing of valuable fibres such as fine wool, alpaca and mohair. The Jindalee Process (patent applied for) eliminates the degradative carding operation from the processing pipeline, resulting in increased yields of (worsted) top with reduced fibre breakage and corresponding increased mean fibre length (MFL), when compared to the products obtained from conventional processing (see results from RIRDC Project JFD-1A).

The basic concept behind the present project is that preliminary experiments have indicated that the Jindalee fibre-aligning process could be used to advantage in the development of new approaches to the dehairing process. Three possibilities proposed were - (i) to simply modify the conventional worsted combing operation to separate the coarse and fine fibres from aligned 'Jindalee sliver', (ii) to utilise the aligned Jindalee sliver as the basis for a new approach to dehairing, and (iii) to use the Jindalee Process as a replacement for the carding-type operation that is inherent in all commercial dehairing operations.

7. Progress to Date:

(i) Worst Comb. Attempts to dehair/ separate fibres into coarse and fine components on the basis of differing fibre length using the principle of the worsted comb have proved partially successful. The problem is that not all fleeces have a distinct difference in length between coarse and fine fibre, so these experiments have been discontinued.



barabran Dehairer' This instrument is now owned by Mrs Barbara Morrison in Warrigal, Victoria. We have visited Barbara and conducted experiments on a range of fibres prepared in different ways. The Coonabarabran Dehairer has an innovative feature coupled to a more-or-less conventional carding-type opening operation. We have experimented with this feature on a discarded Shirley Analyser at CSIRO and have produced some encouraging results. Contact and experimentation with Barbara Morrison will continue - we are working with her on various ways to prepare the fibre for presentation to the dehairer.

(iii) Shirley Analyser- At the beginning of this year we were given access to an old Shirley Analyser by CSIRO Division of Wool Technology. The results were sufficiently interesting to warrant investigation of the possibility of purchasing this machine. CSIRO offered the equipment through the official tender process, and unfortunately Jindalee were unsuccessful, due to a much higher offer from a vested-interest competitor.

(iv) Jindalee's recent attempts. The devastating loss of the Shirley Analyser has necessitated a different approach to the project. Following experiments on a small card used commercially for producing wool insulation batts, we have secured

(ii) ' C o o n a - Continued on next page

CRR Cashmere Goats & Alpacas

Goats, Alpacas and Fleece for Sale



Tia and Peter Rosengarte
Box 37, Weston, VT 05161

Tel. (802) 824-8190

Fax (802) 824-4072

Australian Dehairing

Continued from previous page

several pieces of old wool processing equipment, and assembled these as shown schematically in the attached diagrams. (Not shown) Note that the rollers are 1.5 metres wide, simply because these were the only ones available. Thus if we can successfully run and operate this equipment, the size and capacity will be approaching that of a commercial machine.

We are still awaiting delivery and installation of variable speed electric motors for the illustrated arrangement of rollers, and are currently assembling frames, partitions and delivery systems to Jindalee's own design. This is based on our experience with the worsted comb, Coona-barabran dehairer, Shirley Analyser and insulation-batt card, as described above.

The Directors of Jindalee made a firm decision to continue the research beyond the RIRDC funding period, and undertake to inform RIRDC and the relevant grower bodies of progress as it takes place. It should be noted that Jindalee has received a very significant government grant to continue development of the Jindalee Fibre Aligner. Thus the availability of a larger-scale improved system will, as originally proposed, form an integral part of our development of a new dehairing approach.

8. Opportunities Arising: If Jindalee's current approach were to reach commercial viability in terms of production rate and dehairing efficacy, the major advantages for Australia would be the potential to value-add by dehairing cashmere, camel etc fibres locally, and to produce greater yields of a product with reduced fibre damage and greater mean fibre length. This would allow easier further processing into superior yarns, thus opening up new markets and end-uses for Australian fibre.

It should be noted that the machine currently under construction will be much larger than originally anticipated, so

has the potential to eventually handle all of Australia's annual production of cashmere and camel fibre. Furthermore, we also anticipate that the process will be useful for recovery of fine fibre from coarse skirtings from fleeces of fibres such as alpaca and llama. Interest has also been expressed in the possibility of 'de-kemping' of mohair. As a 'fall-back' option, discussions with industry marketing bodies has uncovered the possibility that limited success with the current project could result in a value-added partially-dehaired product suitable for exporting to overseas dehairing facilities.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Objectives : To develop a new approach to dehairing based on aligned sliver from the Jindalee Fibre Aligning system.

2. Background : Australia is lacking a value-adding commercial dehairing facility for cashmere and camel fibre. Jindalee has developed a system for aligning animal fibres during early stage processing, with the potential to disentangle scoured fleeces with reduced fibre damage and increased yields - and proposed that such aligned sliver could offer advantages in a modified/simplified dehairing system.

3. Research : Several potential dehairing systems were applied to aligned cashmere and camel fibre, and the results compared subjectively.

4. Outcomes : Several approaches have been eliminated. Because of the "loss" of essential equipment via an unsuccessful tenting attempt, Jindalee has been forced to continue the project (behind schedule) with assembly of a much larger-than-expected system.

5. Implications : Whilst progress has been slow and disappointing to this stage, Jindalee is now in a position to experiment with aligned sliver on an assembly which, if successful, will be capable of processing the total Australian cashmere and camel fibre clip.



Wanna see me dehair
this dog?

More URL's (Internet Links)

By Paul Johnson

<http://www.nri.org/themes.htm>

Qinghai (China) livestock development project, University of Greenwich. Interesting page about conservation and regeneration of the seriously degraded rangeland and to establish a sustainable agricultural system which livestock herdsman can maintain and improve their income levels and social well-being.

<http://www.dolfrwynog.force9.co.uk/goats.htm>

Golden Guernsey Goat History - Wales. This goat is medium sized and has a gentle temperament producing richer milk than Saanens. They vary a lot in colour from pale to deep honey gold. They are mentioned in the old Guernsey Island guide along with the other two 'Golden' animals of the Island. The Cow, and the Donkey, now extinct. They have a fine undercoat which they shed in the spring. I've been exchanging email with them to see if it might be cashmere! Other sites in Wales for pictures of these golden critters:

<http://www.lowfelleast.demon.co.uk/><http://www.ednet.lancs.ac.uk/gggs/><http://www.goats.co.uk/club/harness/>

The Harness Goat Society

Affiliated to the British Goat Society

The Harness Goat Society was founded in 1987 with a view to protecting and promoting the working goat, as great interest had been awakened among the goat world in this forgotten pastime.

www.goats.co.uk/herd/lilactime

A very funny story about people trying to lead their milk goats home after their car breaks down.



**Dorothy on her mother's back at only a few days old.
She wants to be a Trick Goat when she grows up.**

Coming Attractions!

**What's up at Airy Knoll Farms, Inc.,
Richard and Harriet Jensen,
Cozad, Nebraska? Farm Feature!**

**What will be in the Breeders Showcase
Issue?**

**What's going on with Steve Hachenberger
and his dehairer?**

**Is Paul really going to come up with any
more information on cashmere goat
horns???**

Did Mickey like testing electric fences?

Does Paul still live at Goat Knoll?

**Find the answers to all these questions
(and more) in the next issue of
*CashMirror!***

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 \$50 to include
NWCA membership and CaPra (Cashmere Producers of America)
Participating Membership and Concerning Cashmere
Cynthia Heeren, Membership Coordinator, 22260 East Hwy 20, Bend, OR 97701

Black Sheep Gathering—A Major Fiber Event

By Linda Fox



Pat Almond, NWCA President, at the Northwest Cashmere Association information spot.

Black Sheep Gathering (Eugene, Oregon, June 19 - 21, 1998) had it all—vendor booths full of fiber, including cashmere, fiber processing equipment, animals, including a pen of cashmere goats, food, herding dog exhibitions, and workshops for those smart people who signed up for them months ago.

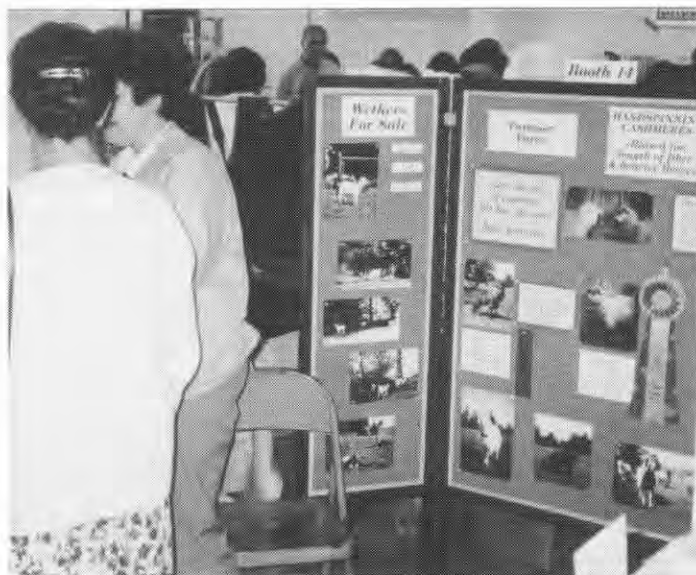
Cashmere was well represented. The Northwest Cashmere Association had members ready to answer questions and provide information and a pen of cashmere goats, displayed by members, Pat Almond and Fran Mazzara. Goats there for sale were sold and those not for sale at any price, were taken home.

Several other cashmere producers, from Oregon, Washington and Montana also had booths. Unlike prior years, when most NWCA members operated from one vendor location at the Gathering, this year, cashmere producers worked together to make sure that prospective customers and information gatherers were directed to the other cashmere booths in the buildings. The system worked well.

Foxmoor Farm (Silverton, Oregon) had a booth. They raffled a bag of hand-dehaired cashmere fiber, sold raw combed fiber and hand-dehaired fiber. They also had a very nice educational display. Carrie Spencer reports that they did well with the booth. Carol Spencer gave demonstrations on hand dehairing cashmere which were well attended.

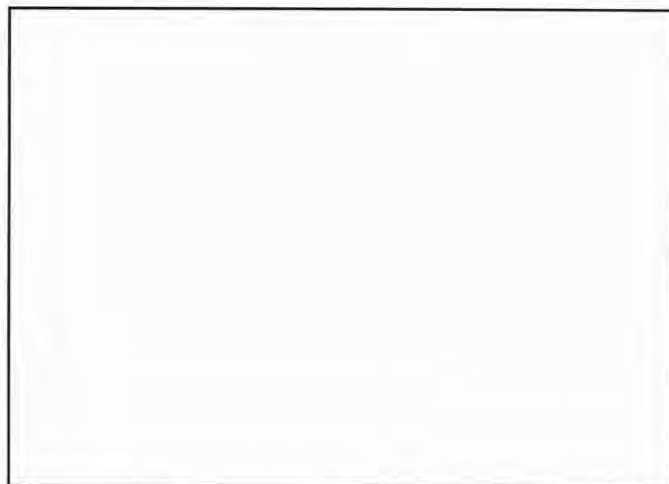
Breezy Meadow Cashmere Farm (Bellingham, Washington) had a boothful of various cashmere and related products. They sold Cashmere America fiber, yarn and yarn kits, soap, knitted products, mineral mix feeders, headstalls and probably a bunch of other things which I missed seeing. They also had a marvelous display of photographs of their cashmere goats and maramba dogs. I assume they did well at the show. As our booth was right behind theirs, I could see that their booth was always full of customers and money was changing hands on a regular basis.

Diana Hachenberger and Joan Contraman hauled inventory from Hamilton, Montana for the Three Bags Full booth. They sell dehaired cashmere fiber and wool rovings. Diana reports that they did average on cashmere sales and poor on sale of wool rovings. Unfortunately, a neighboring vendor had recently sold her



Carrie Spencer (right) talks to a booth visitor.

Continued on next page



Douglas and Roberta Maier in their booth full of goodies.

Black Sheep Gathering

Continued from previous page

business and was clearing out all inventory at below-cost prices. This hurt the sales of all other vendors at the show as they could not compete with below-cost prices. Even if the going-out-of-business vendor did not have a competing product in stock, customers were spending their allocated budget on the "good deals" leaving no funds left for other products. Diana and Joan were disappointed in their booth sales. Unlike local vendors, they incur substantial costs to bring their "show" this far from home.

CashMirror Magazine shared booth space with Goat Knoll and Liner Farms Fleece & Fibre. The CashMirror sold a few subscriptions and back issues. Goat Knoll had a display of cashmere goat photographs and sold some of its dehaired cashmere fiber. We also made contacts with people who later bought cashmere goats. Only a few ounces of cashmere were sold, but someone forgot to bring her cashmere fiber on the first day, which, talking to other vendors, was the biggest day for sales.

Unfortunately, the beautiful mohair shawl hanging over the back of the booth spilling over from the booth behind them, called to both of them all weekend. Jackie ended up buying the pattern for the shawl and I ended up not only purchasing the pattern, but tracking down kid mohair to spin for the shawl. Vendor booths can be very dangerous places.

The NWCA had a meeting Saturday evening fol-



CashMirror/Goat Knoll/Liner Farm booth at the Gathering. Linda Fox knitting handspun cashmere (left), Jackie Liner spinning pygora fleece.



From left to right: Emily Hachenberger (the booth supervisor), Joan Contraman and Diana Hachenberger at the Three Bags Full booth.

lowed by a social gathering on the fairgrounds lawn where they ate chips and fruit and gossiped about all members who weren't there.

I found bags of fiber labeled as cashgora in two different booths. One was priced at \$5/oz. or \$60/lb. The vendor said that it probably came from Iran, but she wasn't sure. It was white, had no crimp and was very coarse. The same vendor also had a beautiful silk, merino and dark brown cashmere blend roving. She thought that the cashmere in it had come from Iran also. I bought a few ounces to try and it's very pretty spun.

Another vendor had a large bag of coarse, white fiber labelled "cashgora" on sale for \$16/lb. I'm not sure what it was, besides ugly, but it had almost as much guard hair in it as "finer" fiber.

Another vendor had ecru cashmere on sale for \$12/oz. It had a nice feel to it. She also had a 50/50 cashmere/silk blend roving.

I can hardly wait until next year's Gathering!



NWCA social gathering. From the ice chest, left around the circle: Jean Ferguson, Guy Triplett, Karen Triplett, Paul Johnson, Pat Almond, Lily Mayer.



NWCA Cashmere Fleece Show

Date: September 26 - 27, 1998

Place: Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival, Canby, Oregon

Entry information: All fiber entries must have been shorn or combed within the last nine months. There will be two contests—one is the NWCA cashmere show and the other is the OFFF fleece show, which has a handspinning focus. Entry can be made in both shows (\$4 per fleece) or for only one of the shows. OFFF show only is \$2 per fleece, NWCA show only is \$4 per fleece. Shorn and combed categories for 1997 through 1994 and 1993 and prior bucks and does.

Entries should be sent to Lilly Mayer, Sun-Up Farm, 14120 South Beemer Way, Oregon City, OR 97045

Entry Deadline: September 18, 1998

Judges: NWCA Show - Susan Stutz
OFFF Show - Diana Hachenberger

Live Animal Show

Saturday, September 26, 1998 at the Goat Show Arena.

All livestock must be in pens by 9:30 am on the 26th and depart by 5:00 pm September 27th. Fee is \$6.50 per animal. Judge is Susan Stutz. Categories include does, wethers and bucks who are less than 9 months old. All animals over one year old must be accompanied by their last year's fleece in a plastic bag.

ECA Cashmere Fleece Show

Date: September 29 - 30, 1998

Place: Virginia State Fair, Richmond, Virginia

Entry information: Combed and shorn fleeces from all over are welcome. Entry fee is \$1 per fleece.

All competing fleeces must arrive in Virginia by September 15, 1998.

Entries should be sent to Christy Proost, Snowy River Farm, 7417 Hoofprint Lane, Mechanicsville, VA 23111.

More information: Ray Repaske, 540-436-3546 or email at cashmere@shentel.net

Entry Deadline: September 15, 1998

Judge: Bronwyn Schuetze

Live Animal Show

You do not have to be a member of ECA to enter an animal or a fleece, but an entry form is required. ECA members will get their forms in the mail. For non-members, contact Marilyn Ackley (207-336-2948) or Christy Proost (804-779-3579) for your entry forms. Must have a vet certificate dated within one month of show on animals entered stating they are free of brucellosis and clinical symptoms of caseous lymphadenitis. Need to bring total fleece (combed or shorn) for each goat shown. Fleece competition will conclude the day before the goat show, so you can retrieve your fleece for entry with your goat in the live goat show. Bucks of all ages are welcome.



Calendar of Events

Association Contacts

September 3 - 4, 1998

Fiber Art Expo

Bethel, Missouri

Spinning, weaving and other workshops

For info, contact Dr. Helen Swartz, Lincoln University, PO Box 29, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0029, phone 573-681-5551

September 5 - 7, 1998

World Sheep, Fiber, Flower & Herb Festival

Bethel Missouri

Workshops, demonstrations, vendor booths
Coordinated by Charles Rosenkrans and Helen Swartz, see contact info above.

September 26 - 27, 1998

Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival

Clackamas County Fairgrounds, Canby, Oregon
Cashmere, Pygora, Angora livestock and fiber shows and sales. For more info contact Brandy Chastain, 30881 SW Bald Peak Rd., Hillsboro, OR 97123, phone 503-628-1205, email: wstlstop@gte.net

September 26 - 27, 1998

NWCA cashmere fleece competition and animal show, see more information at left

September 29 - 30, 1998

ECA cashmere fleece competition,
Virginia State Fair, Richmond, Virginia
See more information at left

October 3 - 4, 1998

15th annual Wool Festival at Kit Carson Park, Taos, New Mexico, Demonstrations, sales, animal exhibits. For info contact Nicole Yardley, 6069 WCR 5, Erie, CO 80516, 303-828-3638.

October 7 - 11, 1998

Texas State Fair

Cashmere Show

November 13 - 15, 1998

Kid 'N Ewe (9th annual) Central Texas Wool Market, Blanco County Fairgrounds, Johnson City, Texas. Demonstrations, fiber arts displays, vendors, animals, sheep and goat shearing, lamb dinner with fashion show and auction. For info and tickets: Tara Wheeler (evenings) 512-288-9845, Mary Carol Buchholz (evenings) 512-858-7920.

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