

CASH MIRROR

Volume 10, Issue 9

June 1999

The monthly magazine devoted to cashmere goats and their fiber



Table of Contents

NWCA Fleece Competition NWCA Goat Show	3
Reflections—Dog Food Effect	4
Readers Talking Back	5
Ask Mickey!	6
Custom Colors	7
Entering Fleece Contests	9
Northwest Fiber Fest Fleece Competition Results	12
Recipe—Goat Getter Roast	12
Like a Moth to a Flame	13
Paravets, Medicinal Plants	16
Paul, Klingon & Ferengi	16
Faith!	17
Care of Show Fleeces	19
Breeders' Showcase Issue	20
Research: Adding Cashmere to Dairy	21
Interesting URL's	24
Association Contacts/ Calendar of Events	25
BREEDERS DIRECTORY	26
Pashmina Shawls	28
Arthritis	29
Classified Ads	30
Notable Quotes	31
Subscription Info Ad Rates, Deadlines	31



CASHMIRROR

ISSN 1090-736X

Technical Information

This magazine is 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://](http://teleport.com/~goatknol)

teleport.com/~goatknol

www.

Publisher and Ace Reporter:

Paul Johnson

Editor: Linda Fox

Eastern Correspondent:

Linda Cortright

N. Rocky Mountain Correspondent:

Yvonne Zweede-Tucker

The contents of this publication are copyrighted. Reproduction in full or part, in any manner, is unauthorized unless permission has been obtained from the publisher (who has to get permission from the Editor).

Opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the publisher or of the attractive staff, although some of them might be. *CashMirror* limits (as much as possible) its liability for

errors, inaccuracies or misprints in advertisements, opinion papers and letters to the editor. Advertisers assume liability for the content of their advertising and assume responsibility for claims made in connection with their advertising. 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 although we'll certainly try to get it right the first time.

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:

Paul Johnson, Goat Knoll

"Heading down the highway, looking for adventure..."



**Beautiful, Unique 3-D
Balsam, Birch and Pine Cashmere goat scene**

Goats have actual cashmere fiber!
Fabulous idea for office, home or gift
Will personalize frame with your name
12" X 18", striking colors

\$30 + \$10 shipping/handling
Add for personalized \$3
Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery

Call 208-335-2132 or send order to:
Melanie Schatz
4297 Bailey, Pocatello, Idaho 83204

I want my name printed in
CashMirror. Enter my fleece!!!



Fleece Contests!

NWCA 1999 Fleece Competition

July 15, 1999

Crook County Fair, Prineville, Oregon

Judge: Joe David Ross

Deadline for entry: July 5, 1999

Entry fee: \$2 per fleece

To enter: Submit entry fee and entry form to Cynthia Heeren, 22260 East Highway 20, Bend, OR 97701

To get more information and entry form: Contact Cynthia Heeren, at address above or telephone: 541-388-1988, email: hokulani@bendnet.com

Fleeces will be judged on July 15th, and then be on display at the Fair on July 16 - 18.

Anyone can enter the Fleece Contest. You do not have to be a member of NWCA (or anything else) to enter this contest.

NWCA 1999 Live Goat Show

July 14, 1999

Crook County Fair, Prineville, Oregon

Judge: Joe David Ross

Deadline for entry: June 30, 1999

Entry fee: \$2 per goat

To enter: Submit entry fee and entry form to Cynthia Heeren, 22260 East Highway 20, Bend, OR 97701

To get more information and entry form: Contact Cynthia Heeren, at address above or telephone: 541-388-1988, email: hokulani@bendnet.com

Goats will be judged on July 14th, and then be on display at the Fair on July 14 - 18.

Anyone can enter the Goat Show. You do not have to be a member of NWCA (or anything else) to enter this contest.

To get a Fair Booklet contact:

Crook County Fair

PO Box 507

Prineville, OR 97754

Telephone: 541-447-6575

Reflections

by Linda Fox

The Dog Food Effect

I hesitate to even tell you about this finding. I know that I should carefully hoard my secret and, behind closed doors, breed an unrivaled line of cashmere goats which no one else can duplicate, because only I know the secret. But I'm stupid and naive and I also see that there may be a flaw or two in my discovery for which, perhaps, smarter folk can find a solution. So I'm letting you in on it—To raise a great cashmere fleece, all you have to do is feed your goats dog food.

We discovered this by accident. No one is going to purposefully feed their goats dog food. It costs about three times as much as cob or other grain-type food specifically designed for goats. We had someone ask us a few years ago, how to keep their goats out of their guardian's food, but we had no good answer as none of our goats had ever shown an interest. We hadn't realized until then that goats would even eat dog food. We'd heard that goats will eat just about anything, but in our experience, they were pretty selective about their foods. Maybe if they're starving, they'll eat what they have to, but I've always assumed that a goat provided with adequate nourishing food won't eat junk.

About eight months ago, Samantha, a five year old doe, started eating dog food. She'd wait by the dog's dish until we dumped in a scoop of kibbles and then she'd wolf down as much as she could swallow before the dogs chased her off. Sometimes, if the dog wasn't especially hungry, she'd get most of it. We'd chase her away repeatedly and try to feed the dogs after we fed the goats, but usually, she'd get quite a bit every day.

When Samantha first showed an interest in the food, we assumed that she had some dietary lack which we needed to address. We assumed it must be a protein deficiency. She was pregnant when the food theft began, so we assumed that growing kids were demanding more protein than she had to give. We've always believed that, given a good choice of available edibles, the goats will choose and consume what they need. Maybe the fall browse had lost some of its nutritional content.

We started to supplement Samantha's browse with grain daily, even though the rest of the herd was subsisting nicely on what nature was still providing. She quickly learned to come in the barn and wait at the middle gate when we arrived for the evening chores. She was eager to come through the gate and consume her dish of grain. Then, she waited impatiently at the gate to be let back in with the herd. When the gate was opened, she'd run through and



immediately trot over to check the dogs' dishes.

She also developed a taste for dog biscuits. If she could claim one thrown into the pasture before the dog arrived, she'd grab it and run off. If we placed a dog biscuit in the dog's dish, she'd snatch it first, take it away to eat, and then come back for the small stuff.

As Samantha severely plumped and showed no decreased desire for dog food, we eventually stopped feeding grain. As she didn't appear to be suffering any ill effects from the canine chow, except for getting fat, we decided that she and the dogs would just have to work it out. We don't have time to play silly little games for just one goat on a daily basis for an extended period of time.

When we sheared this year, we found that Samantha's fleece was huge! It was 100 grams larger than the prior year. She had produced and raised two large kids both years. Could the dog food have made the difference? And if it did, was it some obscure element in the dog food ration or merely the increased protein in her diet?

Feeding dog food doesn't exactly pencil out economically no matter how much more cashmere it produces, but it makes me wonder. On a practical note, even if the finances made sense, feeding dog food would be difficult because the other goats don't like it.

Of course, there's always the possibility, the increased amount of fleece had nothing to do with the dog food at all and was caused by some other factor—weather, browse conditions, phase of the moon, Y2K anticipation, whatever.

I may get the chance to study the "dog food effect" for another year. Even though none of the other goats are yet interested in the dogs' food, I notice that Samantha's two kids are beginning to nibble in the dish right along beside her.



When Readers Talk...

Dear Paul and/or Linda,

I just got my first cashmere goats (or goats of any kind for that matter), and the lady I purchased them from very kindly gave me all of her CashMirror back issues - about 2-1/2 years worth. I can't tell you how wonderful I think your magazine is and how much I've enjoyed every one of them. Thanks to those back issues and the carpentry skills of my father, I now have the Douglas Maier mineral feeder, the Wes Ackley hay feeder, Linda's plastic gutter feed trough, and the Cashmere Kids' maintenance stand; plus more information than I have been able to process!

Anyway, I look forward to getting more issues!

Sincerely,
Diane Schanaman
Hardin, MT
June 1, 1999

Dear Paul & Linda,

I have been getting phone calls about the status of the dehairing machine. This is in part due to the last issue of the Cashmirror. I thought it would help if I better explained just what I plan to do with the machine(s) that I am currently working on. Some of your readers may find the following information interesting.

The DH-2

September 5, 1995. That was the day that the United States Patent Office issued patent on the invention until the year

2012. After that date the invention's patent will expire. The idea will be considered "prior art" and it will be difficult to patent new machines using the same process. The idea of dehairing was the product of hundreds of hours of work and trial with many processes. The event was covered in the Cashmirror August 1998, "Dehairing with Steve Hachenberger." If you have not read the article and want to know exactly what expired read this past issue.

I am devoted to the invention. That is to say that I am not looking for a "get rich quick" scheme. In fact, the truth is that it's been a "get poor quick" for me. The patent alone took near \$70,000 in attorney fees and development of the machine. We hired the best attorneys in New York that we could afford—attorneys that are expert in patent law and enforcement. The result was well worth the cost. Anybody who has patented anything will attest that it really takes an expert to make your invention air-tight. In addition, the same people you have paid so much to are there to enforce Federal laws and stop theft of your idea. The last thing you want is for somebody to get around your patent and steal your invention.

After having patented the machine and building the prototype it was determined that the machine is too expensive and too specialized for most people. The real need seemed to be a smaller machine that would still dehair and cost less than the full size model. It was apparent that in order for anybody to sell any quantity of these machines, cost and size would have to be the primary factor. The patent allowed for the process to be expanded any size, width, or length. Therefore a smaller model was designed and completed on 4/15/99. That model was tested and the following test was taken for Dr. Christopher Lupton, Wool & Mohair Research Center, Texas A&M: Three fleeces were chosen. The three fleeces were weighed in grams. A sample of raw fiber was taken from each fleece. The fleece was dehaired (un-scoured). A sample of the ejected material was collected from each fleece. A sample of the dehaired fiber from each fleece was taken. And finally the weight of the collected down from each fleece was taken. These runs were made on the smaller DH-2. The smaller machine al-

Continued on next page

Readers Talking Back

Continued from previous page

lowed for better control for taking the measurements. The tests were as expected. In fact, the machine can run 20 grams or less and the overall yield is not effected. As the machine gets larger "minimum loads" are required to fill the machine.

So, now I have the machine smaller. I have the cost down to about 25% of the larger model. What am I going to do? I need to have somebody test the machine. The machine needs to have the opinion of other than myself. I expect good and bad news from the tests. My perception of the machine may be different than someone using the small machine. The result will be hopefully some better ideas of how changes could be made in the machine to make it more user friendly, etc. After that review, I have several ideas. One is to sell the patent. The other is to find a licensee to build the machines. And lastly, perhaps sell plans to build the DH-2.

I'm not real excited about the Plans idea. The idea of selling plans opens a Pandora's box of people trying to build machines and using products or materials or designs other than what were specified. Also, people would copy the plans from others rather than pay for them. It just makes a real mess of the patent and enforcement of the patented idea. Anybody want to build these for me? Perhaps we could get the cost and weight down. Until then I'll just wait for Paul Johnson to finish his tests.

PS: I've been drinking goats' milk...I think some of my hair is growing back! Perhaps your "hairless cat" could use a little? Or somebody else I know! By the way...While talking to my patent attorney I was at one time under the machine while it was running. She was asking me about the process. My hair became caught-up in the machine...goat milk won't help that area.

Steve Hachenberger
Hamilton, MT
May 30, 1999



Announcing A New magazine feature—"Ask Mickey!"

This new feature will take all questions sent to the CashMirror office and answer selected questions, which we believe may be of interest to all. We'd like to say that this new feature was our idea, but it was blatantly stolen from Steve Hachenberger. He and his charming (and tolerant) wife Diana are putting together the next issue of the PCMA Network newsletter and they are starting a similar feature called "Go ask The Whiting!" So, since this issue of CashMirror is out before his Network, everyone will think we came up with the idea and that Steve has stolen it from us. Such is life.

If Mickey doesn't know the answer to your questions (and he won't because he's only a cat) he will find someone with knowledge to answer for him. Send all questions to CashMirror, either by fax, email, telephone or good old fashioned mail. Please send questions!

Here's an example:

Dear Mickey,

We have seen you in the barn stealing food from the barn cats and digging bathroom holes in our bedding. We were wondering if you are dangerous to us?

Does in Dallas

Dear Does:

Actually, cats (and dogs) can transmit fleas to goats—mostly a problem in tropical regions. Signs of fleas infestation on your goats include restlessness, rubbing, chewing and crusty sores. Cats can also transmit the protozoan *Toxoplasma gondii* to goats, causing abortion, mummification, stillbirth and birth of weak young in goats and sheep. Cats become infected by consuming uncooked meat or small rodents and shed eggs in their feces. Goats pick it up by eating grass, hay or grain contaminated by cat feces. But why am I telling you all this? Don't forget I (and the barn cats) eat mice in your barn and am infinitely cute.

Mick ey

Custom Colors—A Fiber Business—and More

By Linda Fox

Kay Fielding is the woman behind Custom Colors. Kay started this successful fiber business 12 years ago in Las Vegas, Nevada. She and her husband, Joe, and Custom Colors moved to Dallas, Oregon 3-1/2 years ago. Kay operates her business from her home and from show booths across the country. Custom Colors is a model to all who desire to pursue a fiber business.

Kay was an X-ray technician in Las Vegas when she was required to have back surgery. Recovery was a slow, boring process. To relieve the boredom caused by forced inactivity, Kay, a spinner, began playing with wool and dyes in her kitchen. She started with cake dyes and koolaid and wool, but later experimented, expanding to other fibers. She visited fiber retail shops while on vacation to see what they had and what she thought they would buy. She also looked at fabric in retail stores to find out what types of fabrics people were buying to wear and in what colors.

From her previous work in an allergy clinic, Kay knew that many people were allergic to wool, so she began experimenting with cotton blends. She blended different types of cotton with silk, flax, rayon and ramie. The cotton is a short fiber while the other fibers are longer. The resulting blends Kay created were easier to spin and handle, were non-allergenic and dyed beautifully. Each blend had a different hand and was suited for a different use.

Although Kay and her family had raised other animals previously, they did not currently raise animals, so all raw product was purchased. Kay says that she feels this is a better way to go. If you raise your own fiber, you may feel restricted to selling what you're growing or able to grow. With no raw fiber on her back forty, she felt unrestricted in her choices of raw material.

Kay was lucky to have two helpful mentors in her



Kay Fielding

early business years. Kay believes that a mentor is a valuable thing to have; they can be a lot of help and add the perspective of a more experienced person to a new, growing business. Even though Kay had just started her business, her first mentor urged her to rent a booth at her first show—Convergence in San Jose. Kay was hesitant, as this was a major show, but followed her mentor's advice and jumped in the ring. Her blended cottons and silks were a success. She had found a niche in the market. Her new fiber filled a need. In addition to being non-allergenic, it was a cool fiber, selling well in the summer and in areas of the country where wool is too warm. Kay noted that wool will sell from November to February, in the cooler months and will sustain your business through the winter. However, in the warmer months, you need another product to provide income.

She quickly outgrew her table top Pat Green carder, which would only card about a pound of wool per hour, and sprung for a larger, motorized Paula Simmons drum carder. She took her products on the road by going to fiber shows across the country. If she couldn't get to a show herself, she would connect with other vendors who were going and send her products to the show with them. Likewise, she was always willing to carry and represent products for others. She believes in the value of working with other vendors. Sharing with other vendors can bring more customers to your booth and also allows several people to share the show costs. At the shows, she made valuable contacts with retail vendors. She also sold her products mail order, by advertising in *Spin Off* and other magazines.

Kay also believes in the value of teaching. She noted that people are hungry for knowledge and if you are available to teach at conferences and in retail shops,

Continued on next page

Custom Colors

Continued from previous page

it will be invaluable in promoting your product. The shopkeepers, as well as their customer love it. In addition to the income earned from the workshops, the classes get your product into the store and into the customers' hands.

After starting Custom Colors, Kay went back to work part-time for the first three years. She noted that it takes time to build any business and you need to be able to hang in there while the business grows. Kay found that a formal marketing plan never seemed to work for her. She believes you need the room to be more flexible than a formal plan allows. As the business grew and she worked at it more hours, she dabbled in other products and services—custom carding, beads, knitting needles and small spinning equipment. She liked small, beautiful items, which were easy to carry, to add to her booth. As her children grew up and moved away, Kay never suffered empty nest; she was eagerly waiting to take over their vacated room for her business expansion.

Eventually, the business was consuming all of Kay's time, much of her husband's time and they employed four part-time workers. It takes a lot of time to blend and dye fiber, then take orders, weigh the fiber, pack it and ship it out to customers. She felt they had no time left for themselves and at this point, she either needed to make the jump to a larger business or streamline the business. Kay feels that the spinning and weaving community is small, and she knew that making the jump to a larger size would be very challenging, so she opted for streamlining. She replaced the four part-time employees with only herself and her daughter, Marianne, who needed college money. Since exotic blending was harder and slower, she found a mill to do her blending. She could then focus on her dye work. She got rid of her wool and carried only cotton blends. This allowed her to have less money and space tied up for inventory and also allowed her to sell her large carder. She is still very busy.

Kay has recently added jewelry to her line of products. She designs and manufactures jewelry for fiber and animal lovers. Her line of silver jewelry currently includes llamas, alpacas, sheep, horses, a weaving motif and a beautiful silver and copper cotton boll pin center bottom and a unique weaving design necklace in the middle.

Kay's advice for a fiber business is that you need to be flexible. You need to be constantly culling your business. Don't make too much of anything at one time. It is better to make more if it sells well. She advises not making more of any one product than you can sell in one year. You need to continue to add new and different things. Retailers are desperate for new products.

Mistakes new businesses make are buying too much or growing too fast or seeing your new, young business as a replacement for your day job. You also can't have a business which is bigger than the market you are targeting. Spinners and weavers are a small group. You are not going to succeed with "JC Penney" style marketing. Kay advises going slowly, finding your market, listening to your customers. Your customers will tell you what they want; you just need to listen.

It is better to go for smaller amounts of a product, building on new angles. If you want to get big, you have to look at wholesaling, but beware: you will need to sell twice the amount of product for 1/2 the money.

Don't worry if someone is copying what you do. Take it as a compliment. By the time someone is copying you, you will have moved on to new designs and better quality work. If what you have to offer, is new, different and beautiful, customers will eagerly buy your product. Creating a new business is a process of gathering new customers and then treating them right. Find something you do well and that you are interested in and then do a good job with it. People will buy it. Custom Colors is proof of that!

News Flash! Kay is currently working on designing silver cashmere goat pins and earrings. She expects to have them for sale at her booth at the upcoming Black Sheep Gathering Booth.



A selection of Custom Colors' jewelry items. Note the beautiful silver and copper cotton boll pin center bottom and unique weaving design necklace in the middle.

Entering Fleece Contests Who Ya 'Gonna Send?

The information in this article was compiled from numerous answers received from a small, informal survey of various helpful goat owners, which was conducted by us during the last few weeks. We asked people (people selected because we have seen their names on Fleece Contest Winner lists) how they decide which fleeces to enter in contests. We also asked them how they prepare the fleeces before submitting them to the contest. Names have been withheld to protect the innocent (and the guilty).

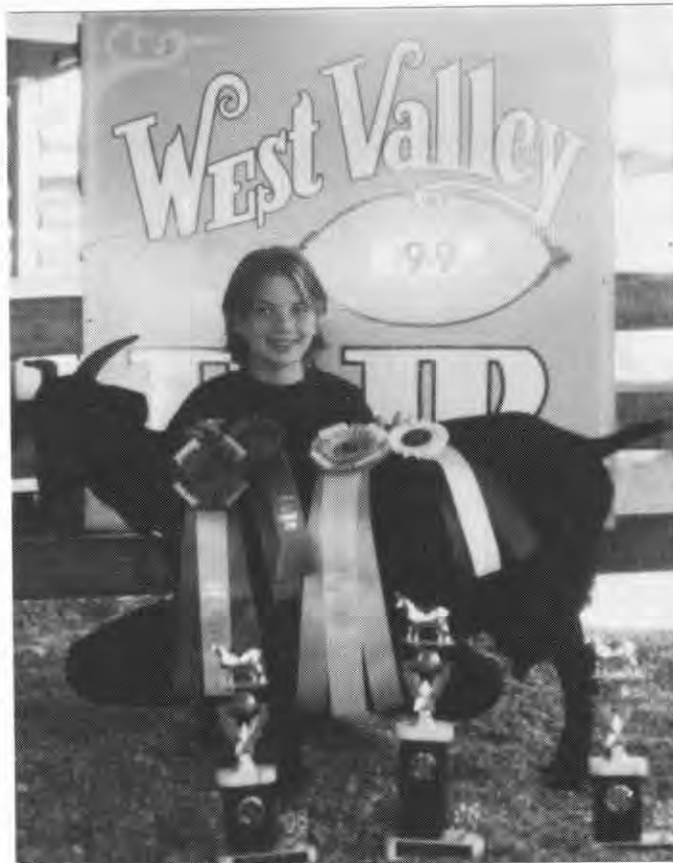
Why Enter?

Most producers surveyed told us that fleece contests were important—and we didn't even ask them this question! They believe contests are important because you see your own goats so often you may lose your objectivity. By showing and being able to compare what you have with others at competitions, you will be able to keep your breeding program on track. The contest will also give you another person's perspective—usually the perspective of a person who sees a lot more fleeces than you do. Producers found the comments made by the judges on the comment cards extremely helpful. As one producer noted, because our country is large and it is unlikely that our critters will ever come head to head in the show ring, at least their fleeces can represent them.

It is difficult for most of us to decide which fleece to enter in fleece contests. Due to this and our fear of forms, budget constraints and basic human procrastination, we are prevented from entering as many fleece competitions as we should. Fleece competitions can be a valuable tool—for validating your opinion on a particular animal, for obtaining an outside opinion if you are a newcomer who has not yet developed skills for fleece assessment and to get the fleeces of our animals in front of other producers and potential customers so they, too, can see what great stuff we've got.

The Form, The Money

Actually, the form required for entry, if there is one, is small and simple. The money required is always minimal (\$1 - \$4 per fleece) and even if your fleece needs to be shipped someplace for entry, the monetary outlay required for shipping is small because the fleeces are so light. We've found other producers often more than willing to lug our bag of smelly buck fleeces to a show for us and promoters of distant shows very helpful in helping us make the required connections.



Marie Nielsen, Naches, WA, knows what it takes to win contests. She is shown here with her champion doe at the 1998 West Valley Fair. She won the top awards for: Champion Fitting and Showing, Champion Cashmere Doe, Grand Champion Goat Doe, Champion Fiber Goat and Champion Cashmere Fleece. Photo by Mickey Nielsen.

The Fear

Sometimes we don't enter because we're afraid that we won't win. We might appear foolish in our choice of fleece to enter or our name might appear at the bottom of the list for the class and that would be very embarrassing because others would think that we have "junky" goats. If this is a concern, feel assured that list scrutinizers are only interested in the winners and even famous publications like *CashMirror* rarely publish more than the first place winners in each category. Even if a few tacky individuals are taking note of the fact that your name was on the losing end of the class lists, they will forget soon enough. Besides, we're adults. We can gracefully handle not always winning, right?

Who to Choose

So, now that we've all overcome our fears and decided to enter every contest we can find, how do we choose who to send? If you have one goat in each

Continued on next page

Fleece Contests

Continued from previous page

class and they all look pretty good, and you have the cash, the choice is easy. As one producer said, "Send in as many entries as you can afford."

We are, of course, assuming that you are entering the contest with the hopes of winning the awards and the resulting fame and glory that go with them. A couple of producers admitted to sending fleeces sometimes just to get a second opinion, or sometimes entering lesser quality fleeces merely to support the event and create interest. Several producers proclaimed that they enter two fleeces in each class, if possible.

All producers responding agreed that style, fleece fineness and amount of fleece are important. Only one producer mentioned the qualities of length, coverage and color as consideration factors. No producer mentioned a preference for entering a combed or a shorn fleece.

One producer admitted that, in their early years, they entered the fleeces strictly on the grading results of classer, Terry Sim. They did well with those fleeces so they used them to study what was considered valuable in a fleece. Later, after taking a judging class, they made their own decisions on which fleeces to enter. One producer summed it up by saying that they enter the largest fleece with the finest hair and the greatest amount of crimp in each age division. Another producer said that they send in fleeces which represents at least three of four of the aspects that they are looking for, which are: length, yield, style, coverage, guard hair length vs fiber length and color.

Sounds simple enough, but I know from experience that when you have a row of potential entry candidates lined up on the table before you, some are finer, but lighter. Some have wonderful style with long, long guard hair. Some are huge and high yielding, but aren't quite as fine as you'd like. Which factors are most important? Which do you choose?

One producer said that fleeces they choose for entry are those which are fine, stylish and with really coarse guard hair. One producer said that in past years they've sent their finest fleeces and never done very well. Another producer said they only send their premium fleeces—the fleeces in the one and two year old classes. Another producer chooses fleeces for the combed classes based on crimp and general appearance. One producer said that they don't enter a fleece with long guard hair anymore as they never seem to win.

Several producers talked about yield. One believes it may be a more important factor than most realize and that yield is hard to determine by looking at the fleece on the goat. She believes that many judges are highly influenced by yield and may place this factor higher than fineness of fiber. Another producer said they select fleeces for entry by starting with the heaviest and/or highest yielding fleeces first. They then look at diameter and other features to narrow their choices. One producer who combs her goats said that the amount of guard hair in the fleece after combing can sometimes effect her decision on whose coat goes to the contest and whose gets left on the shelf.

The Selection Process

Several people had good advice on how to go about choosing a fleece. One talked about starting your selection and preparation process at shearing time. As you shear, pull out the worst of the vegetation and any second cuts. Take a random sample from all fleeces, put them in a zip lock bag marked with the goat's name and number and, at that time, make decisions about the fleece by grading for fineness, style, yield, length and weight. When you run across a good fleece, set it aside for contest consideration. At that time you will also want to set aside any debatable fleeces, those who may be potential culls.

Another person suggested singling out goats who may be growing a potentially fleece-competition-grade fleece before hand. This would be good practice to see if you can guess which goat will grow a good fleece. All fleeces should be examined either on or off the goat and ranked individually. After this initial ranking, it was suggested that you let the fleeces sit in the bag for a few weeks and then, look at them again. See if your first opinion of them holds or if they have changed in the bag. After this second examination, you can then select your contest candidates.

One producer, a self-proclaimed "pluck junkie," admitted to constantly plucking off bits of fiber from unsuspecting goats throughout the fall and winter and holding samples up to the sun or light source to see what may be in store.

Another good idea was to use the contest results to hone your own classing skills. Before sending off your candidates, write down your opinion of the color, yield, micron and style scores. Compare the feedback from the judge with your own opinion.

Another valuable tool revealed was looking at as many fleeces at fiber shows as possible—both winners and

Continued on next page

Fleece Contests

Continued from previous page

losers. This will give you a better indication of what the judges are looking for. It was noted that different judges may be looking for different things in a fleece. Some producers noted that some type fleeces will do well with one judge, but not with another.

Preparation of the Fleeces for Contest

There was a variety of responses to this question ranging from "stuff 'em in a bag and send 'em off" to "nearly hand dehairing leaving only the goat hair in the cashmere fiber and removing even the dandruff."

One person suggested that the first fleece preparation step should be to plan for the cleanest food delivery system possible. Avoid feeders that lure hay pieces onto the goats' backs and avoid "caprine sorties through burdock or other sticky burrs." If the fleeces aren't dirty and full of junk to begin with, you don't have to wrestle with the question of what to remove and what can stay.

Most producers suggested pulling out the large vegetative matter. One said that no preparation should be necessary, but if the fleece is from a buck, removal of the "really stinky stuff" could prevent offending the audience. It was suggested that extremely contaminated fleeces, those which are very dirty or containing burrs or lice, should not be sent at all. Most people thought a cleaner fleece was definitely more desirable, but extensive time spent cleaning, other than a brief shake-out of the worst bits of hay and debris may be counterproductive. One producers' comment: "For shorn fleeces—the less tinkering the better."

Any skirting (removal of undesirable portion of the fleece) was generally frowned upon. Removing any part of the fleece will make the fleece weigh less. Also, a

careful judge may notice that all the neck hair is missing and conclude that either the goat had no down or very coarse down on its neck. It was mentioned that the beauty of a shorn fleece is that a judge can lay it out on a table and know how consistent the fleece is from ear to tail and that a "fleece with consistently good style and length all over the shearable parts of the body is a hard fleece to beat."

One producer commented that if the contest was geared to commercial cashmere standards, the fleeces need little preparation and need to be fairly natural as all fiber counts in the overall weight. If the contest is geared to the handspinner, handle, length and appearance of the fiber count heavily, so your combed fleece should be skirted and cleaned, leaving only the down and the guard hairs in the fleece.

What to Do?

Go through this year's stack of fleeces and choose a few to enter in the upcoming summer contests. The next one we've heard about is on July 15th, the NWCA 1999 annual fleece competition. The deadline is July 5th. (See page 3, this issue, for more information.) For a little time and money, the least you will receive will be valuable information about your fleeces from an expert. You may even win the contest!

3rd

1998 NWCA Cashmere Fleece Competition
Score Card
Oregon Flock and Fiber Festival
 Judge: Susan Stutz
 September 25, 1998

Fleece # 22
 Class: 1995 Shorn Does

Fleece Evaluation
 This evaluation is for 1998 bagged fleeces

Estimated Micron Diameter (fineness)	0-4 <u>3</u>	Comments: <u>Some beautiful</u>
Fiber Style (crimp, lack of lustre + IMF)	0-7 <u>5</u>	
Length of Cashmere	0-3 <u>2 1/2</u>	
Differentiation (between guard hair/down)	0-3 <u>3</u>	
Uniformity of Fleece Characteristics	0-3 <u>2 1/2</u>	
Estimated Down Weight (weight/yield)	0-5 <u>3</u>	
<u>19</u>		

3rd

**EASTERN CASHMERE ASSOCIATION
 1998 FLEECE COMPETITION**
 Richmond, Virginia
 Bronwyn Schuetze Judge

Competition category: Combed/Shorn Male/Female

Kid fleece: '97 DOB 2nd/3rd fleeces: '96 & '95 DOB 4th or older: '94 DOB & prior

Entry number: 28

Micron:	<u>Fine</u>	Medium	Coarse
Fiber length:	Long	Medium	<u>Short</u>
Style:	4	<u>3</u>	2
Yield:	High	Average	<u>Low</u>
Differentiation:	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor

Placement/Comment:
Nice Saught after lt. br. Cashmere



Fleeces on display at the 1996 CaPrA fleece contest, Laramie, Wyoming.

Judges' scoring and comment card examples.

Northwest Fiber Fest Cashmere Fleece Competition Results

Monroe, Washington
May 22, 1999

Cashmere Judge: Marti Wall

Handspinner Fleece Judge: Judith MacKenzie

BEST OF SHOW - BUCK

GK Dark Warrior, Foxmoor Farm

BEST OF SHOW - DOE

Licorice, Hokulani Farms

BEST COMBED IN SHOW

GK Dark Warrior, Foxmoor Farm

BEST SHORN IN SHOW

Licorice, Hokulani Farm

BEST OF SHOW

Licorice, Hokulani Farm

BEST HANDSPINNING FLEECE

GK Dark Warrior, Foxmoor Farm

Note: First place winners only are listed. Number following class is number of entries in the class.

SHORN DOES

1 Year Doe (3), HMF W-66, Harvest Moon Farm

2 Year Doe (6), HKL Sabrina, Hokulani Farms

3 & 4 Year Doe (9), HKL Devlin, Hokulani Farms

5 year and Older Doe (9), Licorice, Hokulani Farms

SHORN BUCKS

1 Year Buck (5), HMF Harley D Too, Harvest Moon Farm

2 Year Buck (3), HKL Bandit, Hokulani Farms

3 Year & Older Buck (3), HKL John Quincy, Hokulani Farms

COMBED DOES

1 Year Doe (9), Safire, Still Waters Cashmere

2 Year Doe (11), HKL Ruby, Hokulani Farms

3 & 4 Year Doe (8), HKL Diana, Hokulani Farms

5 Year & Older Doe (5), HMF Jasmine, Harvest Moon Farm

COMBED BUCKS

1 Year Buck (3), HA Matonna, Kellers Kritters

2 Year & Older Buck (3), GK Dark Warrior, Foxmoor Farm

WETHER

Elbe, Leahy



Recipe! Goat Getter Roast

What a distinctively rich tasting meat. Follow the recipe precisely and you will end up with a fine meal. This recipe works well with sheep or lamb also.

Ingredients

3 lbs. loin or chuck roast

1 white onion, chopped

1/4 cup olive oil

1/4 cup red wine vinegar

1 clove garlic, peeled, slivered

1/2 teaspoon cumin, ground

1/2 teaspoon garlic powder

1/2 teaspoon oregano, ground

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon black pepper

1 teaspoon chili powder

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Cut slits around the goat, insert with garlic slivers. Combine all dry seasonings, mix well. Brush entire roast with olive oil, rub in dry seasonings. Place goat in an oven roasting pan with a rack inside. Mix wine vinegar, onion, and remaining dry seasoning and olive oil, pour into roaster. Add water to the roaster until it almost touches the goat.

Bake uncovered at 400 degrees for 30 minutes. Reduce heat to 325 degrees, cover, and bake. Baste goat often with the juice in the roaster, adding water if necessary. Ready to serve in approximately 2 hours.

The remaining gravy can be used for mashed potatoes or white rice. Corn on the cob or string beans also complement this recipe well.

Serves the whole gang.

This recipe is reprinted with permission from Dennis Fisher's collection of Wild Game Recipes at <http://www.fishernet.com/goat2.html>

You'll want to check out his site for more mouth-watering recipes!

Like a Moth to a Flame

(A Fleece Horror Story)

By Linda Fox

The fleece room is dark and slightly cold. There's a faint, musky odor of animals—perhaps sheep or goats, maybe even alpaca and llama, an indication of happier times when warm wool was still worn by cold animals, frisking in the storms. The silence of the lambs (and kids) is broken by soft steps coming up the stairs. A tentative hand fits its unsuspecting palm on the outside door knob, turns and pushes, and the seal is broken. The door creaks slowly open. Fresh, sunny, spring air attempts to enter the newly-opened space, but it is abruptly pushed back by a wave of warm, softly pungent air which wafts over the newcomer and rolls down the stairs like an unseen fog bank.

The newcomer gropes in the dark along the right wall for the light switch. She finds it and fluorescent lights flood the small, dusty room. The room is stacked with old crumpled boxes and well-used bags—discarded brown paper grocery bags, black, white and clear plastic bags, feed sacks with their tops in shreds and large brown boxes overflowing with stacks of wool and hair. It appears there is no particular order to the array of disarray, but the newcomer seems to know what she seeks and finds a path through the stacks.

As she moves a large box to gain access to the farthest reaches of the room, something small flutters by her ear and, before she can detain the small annoyance to inspect it, it disappears as quickly as it came. Nervously, she moves a few paper bags in the dark corner and finds...her worst nightmare! Moth larvae in her fleeces! The small, gray cat, who has silently crept up the stairs to peer in the door, jumps and tumbles down the stairs as a wild, piercing scream shatters the silence.

This could happen to you. If it does, do you:

- a) Trash the damaged fleeces, suck up the moths in the vacuum and close the room back up,
- b) Burn the infected fleeces and carefully check all others for signs of infestation,
- c) Throw out the damaged fleeces, put a mothball in every bag and box, close the room back up, knowing you'll never be able to breathe in there again,
- d) Burn the entire building and its contents and start collecting fleeces all over again, or
- e) Call every fiber friend you know for advice, carefully phrasing your question, "I don't personally have moths, but I'm doing a story and wondered what you do..."

What do you do if you discover moths in your goodies and what can you do to prevent this nightmare?



An observant person can tell that these moths are not cloth eaters for two reasons: They are attracted to the light and they are wearing shoes.

Sun Tzu, noted Chinese warrior, circa 400 BC, said in his book, *The Art of War*, "Know the enemy and know yourself; in a hundred battles you will never be in peril." So, what do we know about the enemy?

Clothes Moth is the common name for any moth that, in the larva stage, eats animal products, including wool, fur, feathers and hair. They can cause major damage to clothing, carpet, furs and fleeces. Most damage is done to clothing and fiber left undisturbed for a long period of time and to clothing soiled with beverages, urine, oil and sweat. They live in houses where wool is available and also, in the wild.

The moth itself is harmless; it eats nothing in its short life-span. However, you may want to whack one if you see it as it will lay up to 100 eggs and these eggs will hatch into 100 small ravenous caterpillars which will eat hundreds of tiny holes in your goods.

Most moths do not eat clothing. They eat cereals, nuts and dried fruits and you may find them in your kitchen, but not in your clothes closet or fleece storage. The three varieties who do eat cloth originated in Europe and probably were around eating poorly stored furs coats in Neanderthal caves back in the BC's. The three kinds of clothing moths belong to the scientific family *Tineidae*. They are:

Continued on next page

Moths

Continued from previous page

Common clothes moth—*Tinea pellionella*
Tapestry moth—*Trichophaga tapetzella*
Webbing clothes moth—*Tineola bisselliella*

Of the three species, one is not especially more destructive than the other, but certain species predominate in certain parts of the country.

Most moths are never seen at all by humans because they are nocturnal and fly only at night unless disturbed. However, the non-clothing eating moths are attracted to light while the cloth eaters do not like light and stick to the shadows and dark places at all times. In fact, they are able to survive in the sunshine for only a few hours. When a clothing moth flits around a room seeking new food-rich homes to plant its eggs, it will usually hug the shadows. If a moth you are chasing around with a fly swatter lands in a bright spot and makes no attempt to head for the shadows, there is no need to swat it (unless you just have a thing for moths); he or she isn't personally a threat to your wool.

While moths have been less of a problem in recent years, due to improved chemicals and a preponderance of synthetic fabrics in clothing and other goods, moths can still be a major problem for spinners, weavers and other fleece hoarders who provide a potential feast for a passing moth.

The life cycle of the lowly moth starts, as we all do, with an egg. The eggs are laid by the moth in what the mommie-moth considers a food-rich environment. Preferred nurseries are stained or soiled parts of clothing and other woolens, lint-filled cracks in floors and walls and dirty fleeces. Don't feel assured that a moth won't eat through a clean fleece. It might, but it will probably eat a dirty one first. Other moth hotels include stuffed animals (i.e. moose heads, jackalopes, stuffed birds) woolen rugs and blankets. The caterpillars will also feed on fabrics of vegetable origin (cotton) if the fabrics are mixed with wool or soiled with food particles.

One female moth may lay over 100 eggs. The eggs hatch, producing a bunch of hungry little larvae which are also known as caterpillars. The caterpillar stage is the only stage where feeding occurs. During this stage, the starving caterpillar must eat enough to fuel itself through all other stages—enough to spin a cocoon, change miraculously from a caterpillar to a moth,

dig its way out of the cocoon, fly away, mate and produce and lay eggs. Sounds like a big hole in the fleece!

The Common Clothes Moth (Casemaking Moth)

The common clothes moth is grayish yellow or brown, with darker brown spots on the forewings. The hind wings are paler and unspotted. The moths are less than one inch long and they have up to a 3/4 inch wingspread. The adult larva are about 1/2 inch long and are white with dark heads.

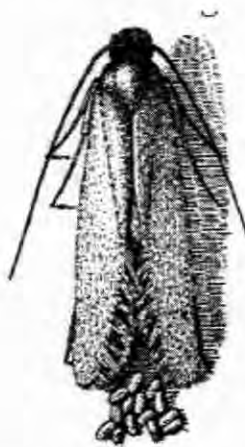
The industrious larva of the common clothes moth builds and carries its own house around with it. Their house usually looks like the material upon which it has been feeding because it is constructed of short, chewed-off pieces of its food fastened together with silk, unless of course they are feeding on plaid. Unable to reassemble the plaid, the stupid little moth just pastes the stuff together in a conglomerate of color.

The larva builds its first house just after it hatches and begins to feed and, as it grows, it enlarges its house. It has an ingenious method of cutting open and inserting new parts to its house (out of your fleece of course) which I'm sure is more than you care to know. People who raise these moths to study often amuse themselves by feeding the larvae different colored fabric in an attempt to produce larvae cases of intriguing patterns. Regardless of the artistry of the outside of the house, the inside is smoothly lined with white silk.

This moth produces only one generation each year. In the fall, when the caterpillar is fully grown, it walks around with its case to find a place to spend the winter. It will often leave its food supply to spend the winter season on the bottom or a shelf or in some other protected crevice. It stays there until the spring when it changes into a pupa, in which the essential organs of the caterpillar break down and reassemble to produce a winged insect. Three weeks later, it emerges as an adult moth. The moth immediately begins searching for suitable mates and gets right to the business of finding a feed supply in which to lay her 100 or so eggs.

The Tapestry Moth

The tapestry moth is not common in the United States, but where it occurs, it is just as destructive as the more common species. It prefers furs and woolen products in which it builds silk-lined tunnels. It pupates within the tunnel. In the wild, it has been



The webbing clothes moth. About twice as big as the real thing.

Continued on next page

Moths

Continued from previous page

found to lay eggs in the pelleted feces of owls containing undigested fur and bones. This moth is the only one of the three which can survive northern winters outdoors.

The Webbing Clothes Moth

The webbing clothes moth is creamy in color, has a brick-red head and is about 1/4 inch long. It has pointed wings. Female moths lay 40-50 eggs which hatch in 4 to 21 days. Their life cycle is about 65 to 90 days. This species has a naked larva that merely spins a little silk over its food material. The larva spins silk as it travels. As it feeds, it covers itself with a silken canopy and leaves a silken trail wherever it goes, possibly to enable it to return to its original feeding grounds. Usually this caterpillar can find sufficient food within one inch of the place where it starts feeding. Wool must be nourishing!

Sometimes the webbing clothes moth is confused with the common clothes moth. The heavy silken canopy which it builds over its principal feeding place is confused with the silken house that the *Tinea* builds and carries around with it.

Whichever species you are unlucky enough to have, the manner of dealing with them is the same. Ideally, you want to prevent the moths from laying eggs in your goodies and, not so ideally, if you find any of them (moths, larva or cocoons) you want to kill them and discourage their friends and relatives from coming back.

In the early days, methods of dealing with clothing moths were crude and somewhat inefficient. Grandma kept her woolen valuables in a cedar chest when not in use and took woolen rugs out to the clothesline for a good beating on a sunny day. Valuable furs were kept in cold storage when not in use. The cedar chest method may have worked merely because Grandma's room was cold during the winter.

Today's arsenal of weapons, found on most gro-

cery and variety store shelves, contains good old cedar pieces and (sigh) chemicals—primarily naphthalene and paradichlorobenzene. These come in convenient moth balls, cakes and crystals. Their packages claim to kill moths, eggs and larvae when used in sufficient quantities in air tight containers. Probably humans as well.

Current methods suggested for prevention and control of clothing moths include:

1. Frequent cleaning of all storage areas.
2. Don't store dirty wool. Store only clean processed wool—dry cleaning is good (for preventing moths).
3. Store materials in a cool, dry area.
4. Store clean goods in tightly closed containers such as chests, boxes or bags.
5. Cedar chests help if they are closed tightly. Cedar oil repels moths, but does not kill them. Lavender or ethereal oils may only repel moths as well. None of these methods kill larvae or eggs.
5. Spray storage area with pyrethrin sprays.
6. Scatter camphor or naphthalene (moth balls) throughout storage container.
7. Inspect stored goods on a regular basis. Be sure to frequently inspect the underside of woolen rugs. Caterpillars can feed on the underside of a rug causing extensive damage before they are detected.

References:

- Curran, C. H., *Clothes Moths, The Illustrated Library of the Natural Sciences*, 1958, pp. 1870-1879.
 Virginia Cooperative Extension, *Clothes Moths*, August 1996, <http://www.ext.vt.edu/departments/entomology/factsheets/clothesm.html>.
 Washington State University, Cooperative Extension, *Clothing Moths*, <http://www.spokane-county.wsu.edu/garden/c019.htm>.
 Microsoft Encarta, *Clothes Moth*, 1994.



CASHMERE

The Luxurious Mongolian Cashmere

The King of Fibers

Ready to Spin 100% Cashmere Fiber \$6.50/oz, Color: White

Hand Knitting 2 Ply 100% Cashmere Fingering Yarn \$18.99 /2.5 oz skein, Colors: Blue, Beige, Charcoal Grey, Burgundy, 870 yds/2.5 oz

Nandia Cashmere

To Order: Call toll Free 1-888-603-0130

Visit our web site at <http://www.nandia.com>, E-mail: sales@nandia.com, Dealer Inquiries Welcome

Paravets in Sudan

And Plants for Animal Healthcare

Reprinted from the *New Agriculturist*, Issue 99/2

On-line at <http://www.new-agri.co.uk/>

For many rural farmers, access to veterinary services and medicines may be difficult, but paravets, who are currently increasing in numbers, can provide an effective means to minister animal healthcare in rural areas. Like community health workers, they may not receive formal training but instead receive practical training within their communities. Once trained, they can help farmers in the villages where they live by providing advice on treatment and access to medicines to treat the animals.

Several successful paravet projects have been established including one in the Terekeka District in southern Sudan set up by a local NGO, ACCOMPLISH. The local people are pastoralists with large herds of cattle, sheep and goats which, in the past, have suffered from outbreaks of rinderpest, tick-borne diseases, and trypanosomiasis, amongst other diseases, which have led to poor production or death. The lack of previous veterinary services has now been replaced by about thirty paravets (including three women). Paravets are chosen from the community from those who are motivated, have a good knowledge of livestock care, diseases and traditional cures, and who have skills in numeracy if not literacy. A sustainable fund for medicine and supplies has been established and no outbreak of rinderpest has been reported since the establishment of the project.

VETAID is also supporting the training of farmers and paravets in Mozambique and Somaliland. In Mozambique the paravets are supplied with a veterinary kit containing some medicines. Enough money is made from the sale of these medicines to pay a

small amount to the paravet and to cover transport costs, but the real motivation of the job has to come from a desire to help farmers in their own communities. In Somaliland, paravets receive 15 days initial training and teaching is based on recognition and treatment of the commonest diseases and problems in the area. Paravets also receive training in simple treatment of wounds and application of medicines (e.g. drenching and vaccination). Regular follow-up training takes place every three months. So far, 15 paravets from three districts have been trained and are working in the region.

Although the numbers of paravets is increasing, subsistence farmers in remote communities with little money or no access to veterinary services still rely on medicinal plants that, hand in hand with proper nutrition and disease prevention, can help provide inexpensive healthcare. Plants that can be used for animal healthcare include the fresh leaves of turmeric, guava and artemisia (mugwort) used as a poultice for wounds, a drench of fresh betel nuts to treat intestinal worms, and a drench of boiled camphor leaves to relieve coughs and fevers. Most medicinal plants are found naturally in the wild but farmers are advised to grow the plants they are most likely to need for treatment of their animals in their own backyards.



Publisher Johnson discusses goats on other planets with a Klingon and a Ferengi.

CALIFORNIA CASHMERE COMPANY



Offers

Product, Service, & Information

- Custom Dehauling & Scouring
- Cashmere Brokering
- Wholesale Apparel & Textiles
- Fiber Classing & Information

P. O. Box 1030, San Andreas, CA 95249

209-754-5751 Fax 209-754-1044

E-mail: tajamu@aol.com

What Makes A Goat Farmer? Faith!

By Linda Cortright, Eastern Correspondent
Grumble Goat Farm, Union, Maine



**Is this a true goat farmer? He may have faith,
but his goats will slip right through that fence!**

I think of those defining moments early in my farming career. What I should have been saying was fencing, feet, faith. But it was sounding more like fencing, feet, F..orget it!

How do you know if you are a true goat farmer? Is it a question of size? Whether you shear or comb? Must you keep bucks? How big is your barn? Actually it's none of those. A true goat farmer operates by faith. Not the kind of faith that replaces your pastures with a pastor. This kind of faith is found right in your own backyard.

My first act of faith came about five months after my goats arrived. Their winter confinement had been relatively uneventful and with the spring thaw came my first attempt at trimming hooves. If the Surgeon General thinks smoking cigarettes is dangerous to your health, then I think hoof trimmers ought to come with a warning label as well. Try trimming Daisy's feet by yourself and see how quickly it can shorten your life. She kicked, she bucked, she leapt and pulled and snorted like a bull. This was no lady on my hands, this was a possessed creature on a bad acid trip. I remember crying. I know I was cursing and there was more blood spurting from me than Freddy Krueger. And that was just the first hoof.

After several sweat soaked hours I abandoned the project and released her. With my heart still pounding and the veins in my temple pulsing I contemplated the error of my ways. I was no farmer. I had no training. Who was I kidding? If I really loved animals then I should just stick to hamsters and replacement turtles. Life would be simple and certainly cheaper.

So I began to think. I could put the goats in the back of the truck, drive down to the local grocery store and sell them for \$5 a piece just like a litter of kittens. I could have a hamster merrily spinning in its wheel by dinnertime.

But then a quiet voice in my head told me to hang in there, it won't be always be like this. (oh yeah—it'll probably get worse!) and my faith began.

The next event took place several months later. And you all know what it was—my first fencing fiasco. I thought fencing was designed to keep a herd of goats confined to a specific area. This is false. You can keep 99 goats confined with a single strand of kite string but it's that 100th goat that crosses the line that creates all the trouble. So while you are spending thousands of dollars to fence in your herd, remember, you are really only fencing in one goat. Unfortunately you have no idea which one it is so you have to hedge your bets and fence 'em all.

My memory is painfully accurate in recalling that first fencing outbreak and it makes the hoof trimming episode look a bad a game of Monopoly. Once again I contemplated that trip to the local store but this time I would sell the whole herd for \$5.

I have heard some members of the goat community make snidish remarks about suburban farmers. And I honestly don't know of any truly suburban communities that allow you to raise farm animals (silly ordinances don't you know) but I will say that there was nothing in my suburban upbringing that prepared me for loading goats into a truck.

Tom and I needed to load the girls for a trip to the beauty parlor. That tall, lean, Australian fellow was in town wielding his snippers and the girls were off to get coiffed. I think I had allotted about ten minutes for the loading process and an additional fifteen minutes more for travel time since I didn't want the girls throwing up in the back of the truck. Bad enough they have to spend their days chewing all that regurgitated food as it is.

Loading goats has a lot in common with fencing. It only takes one goat to screw it up. We all know that goats are constantly speaking in code with each other. Put one goat in the truck and I guarantee you that all that frantic screaming is not about cries of "Let me out!"—it's more like a World War II air raid siren going off warning the other goats to run for their lives.

What on earth was I thinking when I figured ten minutes? I couldn't have lured them near that truck if I had filled the whole thing with grain. My sweet little goats became agents of terror. Once again, signs of illicit drug use were present.

I don't remember how we got them all in or if we just opened the doors and let them sit up front in the cab. But I clearly had

Fencing, feet, fencing, feet, the two sort of go together when

Continued on next page

Faith!**Continued from previous page**

my chance. They were in the truck and I was passing right by the grocery store. This time I would pay someone the five dollars. But you know something, I don't think we were two miles from home before they had all settled down and I was gazing at them thinking just how sweet they really are. (Amazing how quickly we forget the pain.)

Well, all that took place a few years ago and I didn't sell them, shoot them, or cause any more bodily harm than they have caused me. My faith has grown. Sort of

I have not been driven to the brink of sanity as the saying goes, I have been catapulted and landed with the impact of a meteorite. I have cried, screamed, cursed and spit. I have grabbed horns, legs, ears and ankles. If I owned a gun I surely would have grabbed it. It has not been pretty. But I am going to share the events of the past week with you not so that I can complain (although it does help) but so that you too will know if you're a real goat farmer.

The week began with an emergency visit from the vet because Mr. Jingles was letting a six week old kid, eat his grain. Just stood there and watched this little fella take complete command of his grain dish. It was not a sign of paternal-like kindness, clearly he was deathly ill. So I went over and asked him if he was feeling okay, which you can do with Mr. Jingles, and the answer was clearly no.

Two hours later the vet arrived, examined him, performed an ultrasound while he lay on his side with his head in my lap (the goat not the vet) and found nothing wrong. In return I gave the vet the next six weeks worth of grocery money and prayed that Mr. Jingles would recover.

The following day I worked on fencing and feet. I should know better than to combine those two events in the same lunar month but I wanted to keep a close eye on Mr. Jingles. All seemed well. The next day the kids got a round of shots and it seemed like a good time to be worming the others while I was at it. There was the usual amount of chasing and lunging but the job got done before dark. I slept very well that night.

The next evening was the start of the meteor shower. My bearded collie, Mo, alerted me to a problem in the goat field and once I got down there I found a very sick goat—Dudley, whose jaw had been pushed so far off to the left his lower lip looked like Sammy Davis Jr. So I scooped him up and sped off to the vet only to see that it was virtually cracked in two, right up the middle of his lower palette. The vet would need to wire it together. (This does not mean his jaw was wired shut.)

Owing to the fact that it was around 9:00 on a Sunday night

and there was a shortage of vet techs on call at that hour, the vet asked if I could assist. Well, of course I could do that. I'm a farmer. I'm tough. I can toss 80 pound bales of hay with a single flick of the wrist. After ten minutes of surgery I fainted...

We both came home looking a little peaked around the gills and the convalescence process began. But first I had to go and get his mother from the rest of the herd. Do I have to explain what it was like trying to tear her away from the others at 11:00 at night holding the flashlight between my teeth while pulling her along by the horns?

The vet said I should flush his mouth out with saltwater three times a day, give him penicillin injections twice a day, give him a pain pill every morning and otherwise feel free to do what I wanted the remaining six minutes of the day. He or she who tries to give a kid a Sub Q injection by themselves is a fool. If someone offers to help you for a hundred dollars, pay them quickly before they change their mind, you'll be getting off cheap.

The next day Dudley seemed fair but his mother wasn't eating. Do I have to tell you she has the best fiber of any goat on the place? Do I have to tell you that I bred her to the Grand National Fleece Champion from the Virginia State Fair and that I have great hopes for Dudley's future? Of course not, you already knew that because this is a goat story. So in order to encourage his mother to eat which was clearly symptomatic of being separated from the others, I dragged her mother and kid up from the other barn. Fortunately she did begin to eat but I promised myself that the next goat that had to be removed from the field was getting tied to the fender.

While I was busy tending to Dudley's needs Daisy decided to fire off a kid in the dark of night. She had one. I was crushed. For some reason, which I now believe was caused by using the wrong mineral block, all of my goats had singles this year. Daisy was the last doe to go and being the queen I thought for sure she would have twins. Wrong. And I might add that he is the ugliest little critter on the place and I am loathe to claim him as a member of Grumble Goat Farm.

Dudley was actually coping pretty well by the third day and I was feeling mildly encouraged until I noticed Boo was going bald. This wasn't a mild case of alopecia, this was serious. I do not consider baldness to be an emergency situation even in a cashmere but I called the vet anyway.

I do not know what is wrong with Boo, perhaps a reaction to the worming or just excessive shedding of guard hair. I do not know how Dudley broke his jaw. I have no idea why Mr. Jingles stopped eating for a day, nor can I tell you where Lulu broke out of the new fencing. Nor do I know why the chain saw wouldn't

Continued on next page

Faith!**Continued from previous page**

start or my tire went flat.

But I do know one thing—I don't really want a hamster because I have faith. Faith that eventually this will get better. And faith is what makes me a true goat farmer.

Goat Mag ad

CARE OF SHOW FLEECES

**By Carol Spencer
Foxmoor Farm**

Been to a show, had a good time, enjoyed seeing everyone but tired and glad to be home; so throw the show fleeces back with your Cashmere stash? Wrong! You run a very good chance of lice or moth contamination.

When fleeces are judged, they are often taken out of your bag, spread on the table, then returned to your bag. One after another in the same spot—and it takes only one egg to begin your misery! I can tell you that from my own personal experience. The fleeces with lots of dandruff are the first to be infested, so watch those carefully.

When we show our live animals they are quarantined by themselves for two weeks—the same should apply to your show fleeces.

This is how I care for my fleeces—I take a large plastic leaf bag, spray the inside with flying insect spray; set my fleeces in their original bags inside the leaf bag; open the tops of the fleece bags and in the middle place moth balls in a paper sack; then close the top of the leaf bag with tape and leave for two weeks in the garage or I use the fruit room which is cool and dark. At the end of two weeks, remove the fleeces and put them in new, clean bags to return to your cashmere stash.

Get out and show, but take time to keep the bugs away.



Who says suburbanites can't learn to train goats!?

Breeders Showcase Issue



**“Are you as sick and tired of seeing cute kids as I am???
Never fear! The *CashMirror* 1999 Buck Issue is in process!!”**
(Photo by Michael Keller, Kellers Kritters)

Announcing the 1999 Breeders' Showcase Issue August 1999 issue

**Deadlines for ads, photographs and copy:
July 20, 1999**

As usual, we will print **extra copies of this special issue** and distribute them as promotional material at fiber and goat gatherings in the US and Canada. As usual, there will be **special prices on advertising**—both display and classifieds. We can help you design and lay out an ad for this issue, usually at no additional charge.

We're also **looking for photographs of bucks** for this issue, including for the cover. We're even thinking of running a “centerfold” picture (you know, something to pull out and pin to the wall in the doe barn) if we can find a suitable photograph.

Get the word out! Let other breeders and 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.

There will be more information in the next issue. We just wanted you to start thinking about it.



Breezy Meadow Cashmere Farm bucks looking for does in all the right places. Photo by Doug and Roberta Maier.

THE VALUE OF ADDING CASHMERE FIBRE AND KID MEAT IN THE NORWEGIAN DAIRY GOAT INDUSTRY

By L. O. Eik, Department of Animal Science,
Agricultural University of Norway, and
L. J. Asheim, Norwegian Agricultural Economics Research Institute

Presented at the 2nd LSIRD Conference on Livestock Production in the European LFAs, Bray, Ireland, December 1998.

In Norway milk is the major product of the goat industry and goat kids not needed for replacement are usually disposed of right after birth. Kidding normally takes place in February and the goats are barn fed until start of grazing in May or June. The grazing on the natural range pastures ends in September or October. The goats are then milked for a period of 1 - 3 months and dried off 2 - 3 months before parturition. The result of this system is peak deliveries of milk from April to September and shortage during mid winter.

An even distribution of high quality milk is a prerequisite for the production of fresh goat cheeses. The study shows that adding cashmere fibre and utilising the market for goat meat would improve both income of the goat farmers as well as the seasonal distribution pattern of goats milk. The best outcome is achieved when kidding takes place in May and additional measures such as suckler kids, are introduced.

Introduction

Goat farming in Norway is facing an uncertain future due to a changing market. Milk has been the major product of the industry and most of it is delivered to dairies and used for production of brown Norwegian goat cheese. However, due to decreased sale of brown cheese, a milk quota system has been in effect since the mid-eighties. There

is demand for Frozen Curd and the newly developed type cheese «Snøfrisk» (i.e. Snow-fresh), has been successfully marketed locally as well as in Germany and in the US. «Snøfrisk» is a white spreadable cheese which can be stored for only three months. Producing the cheese requires even supplies of good quality milk throughout the year.

The Norwegian dairy goat population amounts to 60,000 does. Today, only kids for replacement are saved and most of the other approximately 75,000 kids are disposed of shortly after birth, without any attempt being made to utilise them for meat production. Killing of surplus kids has been criticised several times by animal rights advocates, and goat farmers dislike the practice themselves. Raising the goat kids may yield additional incomes and the farmers may avoid negative publicity.

Some Norwegian dairy goats, originating from local breeds, have been reported to produce very high quality cashmere fibre (Vegara et al., 1996) and fibre might provide additional income to goat farming. Improvement of fibre production is possible both by selection in the native goat population and by crossbreeding with cashmere goats recently imported from New Zealand. Since there is currently no Norwegian cashmere production, grading and marketing of the fibre may take place in co-operation with the Scottish Cashmere Producers Association.

The objective of the paper is to examine the farm economics of a

comprehensive change of Norwegian goat farming, from specialised dairy to a combined system providing meat and fibre in addition to more even milk supplies. The paper is based on research on economics of fibre and kids meat on Norwegian dairy goats (Asheim & Eik, 1998 in press) as well as research in progress concerning the economics of suckler kids (Asheim & Eik, in press).

Production Systems

The economic calculations for a combined system were based on the farm accounts for six specialised dairy goat farms. The farms had on average 81 dairy goats and disposed of about 100 kids not needed for replacement. The basic alternative with kidding in February was compared to kidding in December and in May as goat farmers are encouraged to change the time of kidding in order to level out the milk supplies. However, raising the kids to higher carcass weight was unprofitable with kidding in December (Asheim & Eik, 1998 in press) and only the following alternatives will be discussed here:

- a) Kidding in February; adding cashmere fibre on the breeding stock.
- b) Kidding in February; cashmere fibre and 11 months old slaughter kids.
- c) Kidding in May; cashmere fibre and 8 months old slaughter kids.

Merely adding fibre to the breeding stock, without raising of slaughter kids (a) involved the smallest change. The next alternative (b) would be to raise the slaughter kids to 11 months (20 kg carcass weight). This alternative yields

Continued on next page

Adding Cashmere

Continued from previous page

meat and fibre from the kids as well. An alternative with kidding in May (c) was worked out to slaughtering eight months old kids (16 kg carcass weight). In Scotland harvesting of cashmere normally takes place from January to April. An assumption was made that the kids had to be slaughtered in January.

The alternative with kidding in May was based on more extensive use of pasture and a reduction in annual milk yield might occur if special measures are not introduced. An alternative with 10 percent lower milk yield was worked out for May kidding, assuming the same level of supplementary feeding as February kidding.

The present price to the producer for goat meat, 23.80 Norwegian kroner (NOK) per kg carcass, was used for the calculations. The estimated yield of cashmere was 200 g/year for does and 170 g/year for kids. An alternative with half the fibre yield was also worked out. The average world market prices for cashmere fibre for the period 1982-91 was used (Watkins & Buxton, 1992) and amounted to 667 NOK per kg.

When comparing the production systems consideration must be given to extra labour input as well as extra cost of sheds and feed for the kids. Cost of the feed will depend on age at slaughtering and length of the indoor feeding period. On the other hand, governmental subsidies linked to grazing animals for preservation of the rural landscape was added to income.

Results and Discussion

The accounted farm profit of the basic alternative was 193,628 NOK or 58 NOK per hour (Table 1). The calculations refer to the price level

Table 1. Farm profit and profit per hour on specialised Norwegian dairy goat farms and changes due to combining production of milk, with cashmere fibre and meat.

<u>Production Alternative</u>	<u>Farm Profit (NOK)</u>	<u>Farm Profit/Hour</u>
Kidding in February		
Conventional goat milk farming	193,628	58
Intervention with kidding in February - Per extra hour		
a) Conventional with cashmere fibre	+ 11,892	174
-50 percent cashmere yield	+ 5,946	87
b) Cashmere fibre and 11 months old kids	+ 31,989	72
-50 percent cashmere yield	+ 20,942	47
Kidding in May		
c) Cashmere fibre and 8 months old kids	+ 35,761	124
-50 percent cashmere yield	+ 24,713	86
-10 percent milk yield	+ 23,579	82

in 1990. Changes in farm profit and in farm profit per extra hour of labour are relevant figures for comparing the different production systems and making a rational decision. The optimum system on a farm will also depend upon the alternative value of the family labour outside the farm.

The alternatives presented in Table 1 all provided possibilities for increasing farm profit in case of normal fibre yields. Adding cashmere fibre to the breeding stock involves the smallest change with annual fibre production estimated to 20 kg. Farm profit is high per hour, however only a few extra hours are required as long as surplus kids are disposed of.

Continued on next page

Conversion Cheat Box

NOK = Norwegian currency, the Norwegian Kroner. It fluctuates with other currencies and is currently valued at about 13 US cents. There are about 7.7 NOK's to 1 US dollar.

Hint: To convert NOK to USD, multiply the NOK by .13.

Kg (kilogram) = 2.2 lbs
 Producer goat meat price at 23.8 NOK per kg carcass weight is the same as \$1.41 per lb.

Average world market prices for cashmere for 1982-91 at 667 NOK/kg is the same as \$39.41/lb.

Hint: To convert kg to lb, divide the kg by 2.2.

g (gram) 28.35 g = 1 oz

Adding Cashmere

Continued from previous page

In case a substantial increase in farm profit shall be achieved, raising the kids is necessary. Optimum age at slaughtering will depend upon the demand for meat and fibre. For February kidders, the alternative with slaughtering of kids at 11 months increased farm income by 16.5 percent and provided a considerably higher profit per extra hour of labour than the conventional alternative.

Kidding in May and raising the kids for eight months increased the result by 18.5 percent compared to disposal of surplus kids in February. Goat kids born in May will require less indoor feeding with hay and concentrates

Due to more extensive use of pasture for the milking goats one can not exclude a reduction in the milk yield with May kidding. The reduction, however, will depend upon the quality of the pasture and the level of supplementary feeding. The alternative with 10 percent less milk yield performed well with May kidding and eight months old kids. Goats may respond well to kidding in May, in fact goats were kidding during spring time in the traditional Norwegian system.

In the calculations in Table 1, the same monthly milk price was employed for all alternatives. However since 1996 goat farmers have been paid a substantial premium for milk delivered from November to February. Since May kidders will produce approximately 30 percent of the milk during this period, profit will be higher compared to February kidders which are dry in mid winter.

It is also convenient to introduce suckler kids when kidding takes place in spring (Asheim & Eik, in press). While the kids are being suckled, the does are milked once

a day and after weaning twice a day, thereby increasing milk supplies during autumn and winter when milk prices are higher. Only a minimum indoor feeding of the kids is needed with slaughtering in August. Only once daily milking also reduces labour input considerably in this period. When suckling is practised, more goats are obviously needed to fill the quota. However, since first fresheners start lactation in spring, they may be kept in a simple shed until kidding, thus saving space in the goat house for more dairy goats.

Due to demand for kids meat, the Norwegian Meat Co-operatives on a contract basis pay farmers 39 NOK per kg for good quality carcasses delivered in August. From 1999 the offer will probably be extended to deliveries from November to January. Suckler kids delivered in August are profitable to the farmers (Asheim & Eik, in press), and would become even more profitable if slaughtered in winter when cashmere was added to income. In Scotland, a substantial amount of the cashmere has grown by the end of November (A.J.F., Russel, personal communication, 1997). Compared to the alternative with eight months kids (Table 1), slaughter-

ing in November might provide high fibre yield with reduced cost of feed as well as higher price for the meat.

Off-flavour is a problem in the production of Norwegian goat cheeses. The problem may be due to negative energy balance in goats having exhausted their energy reserves. A strong seasonal effect has also been reported. Most problems with off-flavours occur when goats are in peak lactation, normally towards the end of the barn-feeding period. Another critical period is August, probably because of deteriorating pastures and long walking distances of the goats. When goats go with suckling kids during summer, milk deliveries are reduced in the critical periods and more milk is produced on barn fed goats in mid and late lactation. Such goats are easier to feed to a positive energy balance and milk quality is improved (Eik, et al. unpublished data).

By adding fibre to all Norwegian dairy goats it would be possible to produce about 15 tons of cashmere. However, the fibre production would increase by 86 percent

Continued on next page



"You want me to produce milk too?!!!"

Kim Washburn's doe, Cassie contemplates the unfairness of life.

Adding Cashmere*Continued from previous page*

by raising all the kids. It is possible to further increase fibre production substantially by feeding the kids for another year, however the extra feeding cost of such a system will make it unprofitable. Another option might be to adopt the Scottish system with mixed grazing of sheep and goats for improved grazing and harvest of meat and fibre. Research on such system will be initiated.

Even with the assumption that only 50 percent of the potential improvement in fibre yield is realised, adding cashmere production to the milking goats seems to be profitable. However, with only half of the potential fibre production, raising the kids for 11 months will not be profitable when kidding occurs in February. If kidding takes place in May, raising the kids until eight months will still be profitable even with a meat price of 28 NOK per kg.

This year about 100 imported cashmere goats will be released after 3 years of quarantine. The goats will be kept as a specialised line for fibre and meat. Negative correlations between important economic parameters such as fibre and milk might exist and such possibilities must be examined before cashmere fibre can be included in the Norwegian breeding programme.

A final argument is that goats with a double coat tolerate rain and wind better than goats which are poor cashmere producers. The cashmere fibre thus should have some value even if it is not harvested. Many goat farmers support the work for a more robust goat because they are convinced that such a goat will be better adapted to the shifting weather of the Norwegian countryside.

Concluding Remarks

A combined production system of goats' milk, meat and cashmere fibre would mean more even milk supplies throughout the year and would be an interesting alternative compared with today's specialised dairy goat system in Norway. A change of the time of kidding to May seems most promising. Cashmere fibre together with suckler kids and utilisation of market niches for goat meat may contribute to maintaining goat farming as an element for rural employment in a period with reduced agricultural subsidies. The current practice of disposing of surplus kids right after birth can be avoided, reducing negative publicity on goat farming.

So far only a small number of goats produce cashmere fibre in Norway and in the EU. It might be possible for dairy goat and sheep farmers to produce cashmere fibre in addition to meat and milk thereby utilising market opportunities and increase income on farms in less favoured areas of Europe.

Acknowledgement

The authors thank the Norwegian Rural Development Bank for supporting the study.

References

- Asheim, L.J. & Eik L.O. (1998); in press; The Economics of Fibre and Meat on Norwegian Dairy Goats. Small Ruminant Research, October issue.
- Asheim, L.J. & Eik, L.O. in press; The Economics of Suckler Kids on Goat Milk farms. Sheep and Goat Research Journal.
- Vegara, M., Ådnøy, T., Eik, L. O. and Standal, N. (1996). Cashmere fibre from Norwegian dairy goats. Proceedings of the 47th Meeting of the European Association for Ani-

mal Production. Lillehammer, Norway, August 25-29, 1996. Session IV. 5pp.

Watkins, P. & Buxton, A. (1992). Luxury Fibres - Rare materials for Higher Added Value. Special Report No 2633. The Economist Intelligence Unit. United Kingdom. ISBN 0 85058 6267. p 6-8. and p 25.

Interesting URL's*By Paul Johnson*

<http://www.fao.org/sd/wpdirect/wpre0110.htm>

Asia's women in agriculture, environment and rural production. Defines women's role in Nepalese agricultural systems.

<http://www.fao.org/sd/rtdirect/rtre0010.htm>

Research and Technology Development section of Sustainable Development.

<http://www.landcare.cri.nz/>
Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research. An independent (New Zealand) Crown Research Institute that focuses on management of land resources for conservation and for primary production. Includes information on goats as pests.

<http://www.new-agri.co.uk/>
New Agriculturist on-line magazine focusing on issues that affect the world's capacity to feed itself. See article on Paravets, page 16 this issue.

<http://www.interfax-news.com/>
The leading provider of political, business and financial news from Europe and Asia with special emphasis on emerging markets.

http://www.tool.nl/~agromisa/html/general/index_wf.htm
Knowledge Centre for Small-Scale Sustainable Agriculture.

<http://weblist.ru/>
Russian search engine

<http://www.tours.inra.fr/7ICG/gb2/index.html>
7th International Conference on Goats—Official Homepage.

Calendar of Events

Association Contacts

June 18 - 20, 1999

Black Sheep Gathering
Lane County Fairgrounds, Eugene, Oregon
Fiber competition, show and sale, goat and sheep shows, vendor booths, demonstrations.
For info: 25455 NW Dixie Mountain Rd., Scappoose, OR 97056, 503-621-3063.

June 19 - 20, 1999

Estes Park Wool Market & Fiber Animal Show
Workshops (June 17 & 18), exhibits, demonstrations, competitions, vendor booths.
Estes Park Wool Market, PO Box 1967, Estes Park, CO 80517, 970-586-6104.

June 23 - 27, 1999

Fiberfest '99
Lake Farm Park, Kirtland, OH
June 23-25 classes/workshops, June 26-27 fiber animals/vendors. Contact: Fiberfest '99, 8800 Chardon Rd, Kirtland, OH 44094.

July 14, 1999

NWCA Cashmere Goat Show
Crook County Fairgrounds, Prineville, Oregon, more information page 3.

July 15, 1999

NWCA Cashmere Fleece Competition
Crook County Fairgrounds, Prineville, Oregon, more information page 3.

September 20 - 26, 1999

Coupeville Arts Center Fiber Forum
Fiber workshops. Contact for catalog: Coupeville Arts Center, Box 171B, Coupeville, WA 98239. 360-678-3396.

September 23 - October 3, 1999

Virginia State Fair, Richmond, Virginia
ECA cashmere fleece competition and goat show.
Judge—Bob Bucholtz.

September 25 - 26, 1999

Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival
Clackamas County Fairgrounds, Canby, Oregon.
Livestock shows and sales, fiber division competition and sales, demonstrations, fashion show, vendor booths. More information about festival: Brandy Chastain: 503-628-1205, For Fiber Division entries: Janet Hanus 503-838-4113.

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)

Kris McGuire, President, 970-493-6015

email: krisvadale@aol.com

Membership info: Marilyn Burbank, PO Box 2067, Rogue River, OR 97537, email: burbank@cdsnet.net

Colorado Cashmere and Angora Goat Association (CCAGA)

Carol Kromer, Club Contact, 719-347-2329

Eastern Cashmere Association (ECA)

Ray Repaske, President, 540-436-3546
cashmere@shentel.net

North West Cashmere Association (NWCA)

Guy Triplett, President, 541-388-1988
harvest@empnet.com

Professional Cashmere Marketers' Association

(PCMA), Tom and Ann Dooling
406-683-5445
ann@MontanaKnits.com

Pygora Breeders Association (PBA)

Darlene Chambers, President
phone: 541-928-8841, fax: 541-928-0246
email: dchambers@proaxis.com

Texas Cashmere Association (TCA)

Dee Broyles, President
806-489-7645 office, 806-489-7959 home

Wild Goat Women

Debbie Walstead, Chairperson, 719-495-2962



CANADA

GIANT STRIDE FARM

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

LONE PINE FARM

Myrna Coombs
PO Box 863
Onoway, Alberta, Canada
TOE-1VO
780-967-4583

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

HENRY LOWMAN

PO Box 2556
El Granada, CA 94018
650-225-1171
email: hlowman@compuserve.com

COLORADO

MARSHALL'S ORGANIC ACRES

9217 N. County Rd. 7
Wellington, CO 80549-1521
970-568-7941
email: PLCMARSHAL@aol.com

ROLIG GOAT RANCH

Cashmere Producing Goats
Steven or Ellen Rolig
8435 CR 600
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-731-9083
email:
roliggoatranch@pagosasprings.net
Page 26, June 1999

IDAHO

SHREFFLER TARGHEE & CASHMERE

Ken & Loyce Shreffler
589 Center Valley Road
Sandpoint, ID 83864
phone & fax: 208-263-5038
email: loyce@micron.net

KENTUCKY

OCTOBER FARM III

Dick and Dottie Gould
764 Shacks Branch Rd.
Jackson, KY 41339
606-666-4878
email: octfarm3@se-tel.com

MAINE

BESSEY PLACE CASHMERE

Wes and Marilyn Ackley
319 Brock School Road
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

GRUMBLE GOAT FARM

Linda N. Cortright
574 Davis Rd.
Union, ME 04862
207-785-3350
fax: 207-785-5633
email: grumble@midcoast.com

HARDSCRABBLE FARM

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

MARYLAND

MIDDLETOWN FARM

George and Barbara Little
8123 Old Hagerstown Rd
Middletown, MD 21769
phone & fax: 301-371-8743
email: glittle640@aol.com

MINNESOTA

THE WINTER FARM

Vicki Biggs
122 Caspers Hill Rd.
Grand Marais, MN 55604
218-387-1913
email: momsUPER@boreal.org

MONTANA

CASTLE CRAGS RANCH

Diana Hachenberger
894 Pheasant Run
Hamilton, MT 59840
406-961-3058
fax: 406-961-4770
email: cashmere@bitterroot.net

EDENS,

DAN AND SHERYL

1825 Sierra Rd E.
Helena, MT 59602
406-458-5317
email: edensdan@initco.net

J & K CASHMERES

Jim Haman & Kathy Sumter
604 2nd St. S.W.
Park City, MT 59063
406-633-2210
fax: 406-633-9157

SMOKERIDGE CASHMERE

Craig Tucker
Yvonne Zweede-Tucker
2870 Eighth Lane NW
Choteau, MT 59422
406-466-5952
Fax: 406-466-5951
email: smokeridge@marsweb.com

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
email: ajbecker@PrairieWeb.COM

SANDHILLS CASHMERE

Mark and Karen Crouse
Box 595, East Point Drive
Bingham, NE 69335
308-588-6248
fax: 308-588-6236
email: fibergoats@aol.com

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
fax: 908-852-1336 (call first)
email: blackfen@juno.com

NEW MEXICO

DOUBLE EYE FARM, INC.

Sanford Bottino
PO Box 218
Ojo Caliente, NM 87549
505-583-2203

OHIO

Directory

TAMARACK RANCH

Bob and Ann Wood
12000 Old Osborne Road
PO Box 567
South Vienna, OH 45369-0567
937-568-4994
email: tamarack@erinet.com

OKLAHOMA

TEXOMA KIDS & CASHMERE

J. D. and Karen Chandler
Rt 1, Box 37
Mannsville, OK 73447
580-371-3167
fax: 580-371-9589
email: jkc@flash.net

OREGON

ABORIGINAL FIBRE

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

CASHMERE GROVES

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

DUKES VALLEY FIBER FARM

Fran and Joe Mazzara
4207 Sylvester Drive
Hood River, OR 97031
541-354-6186
email: FMAZZARA@gorge.net

FOXMOOR FARM

Carol and Carrie Spencer
1178 N.E. Victor Point Road
Silverton, OR 97381
Phone: 503-873-5474
Message: 503-873-5430
email: foxmoorfarm@juno.com

GOAT KNOLL

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

HARVEST MOON FARM

Guy and Karen Triplett
63300 Silvis Road
Bend, OR 97701
541-388-8992
email: harvest@empnet.com

HAWKS MOUNTAIN PYGORA'S

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

HOKULANI FARMS

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

K-T CASHMERE GOAT FARM

Kitty and Tom Hanczyk
33758 Totem Pole Rd.
Lebanon, OR 97355
541-258-5857
email: toolguy@dnc.net

MCTIMMONDS VALLEY FARM

Janet and Joe Hanus
11440 Kings Valley Hwy.
Monmouth, OR 97361
503-838-4113
email: janhanus@open.org

NORTHWEST

CASHMERES

Carole Laughlin
21935 SW Lebeau Rd.
Sherwood, OR 97140
503-625-8816

OVER THE RAINBOW FARM

Deb Miller
95150 Turbow Ln.
Junction City, OR 97448
541-998-3965

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

SUNSET VIEW FARM

Jean Ferguson/Carolyn Bowser
4890 Sunset View Ln. So.
Salem, OR 97302
503-581-9452
email: carolbow@open.org

PENNSYLVANIA

SANDRA ROSE CASHMERES

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

TEXAS

FOSSIL CREEK FARM

Norman and Carol Self
1077 Cardinal Drive
Bartonville, TX 76226-2620
940-240-0520
fax: 940-240-7024
email: NTSELF@MSN.COM

WILDBERRIES FARM

Barry Steinberg
171 CR 153
Whitesboro, TX 76273
903-564-9776
fax: 903-564-9152

VIRGINIA

FOGGY BOTTOM FARM

Marilee and John Williamson
990 Old Hollow Rd.
Buchanan, VA 24066
540-254-1628
email: mhwabc@juno.com

RANEY DAY KIDS

Craig and Lucy Raney
3627 Va. Ave.
Goshen, VA 24439
540-997-1121
Fax: 540-997-1124

STONEY 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
email: fibergoat@earthlink.net

BROOKFIELD FARM

Ian Balsillie/Karen Bean
PO Box 443
Maple Falls, WA 98266
360-599-1469 or
360-715-1604

KELLERS KRITTERS

Kay Keller
11030 Grandview Rd.
Arlington, WA 98223
360-435-6123

MORE WASHINGTON

Continued on next page

LIBERTY FARM (NLF)

Cliff and Mickey Nielsen
1505 Nile Road
Naches, WA 98937
509-658-2502
email: Cnielnlf@aol.com

RAINFLOWER FARM

Sue Lasswell
37003 Mann Rd.
Sultan, WA 98294
360-793-9590
email: Rainflower@compuserve.com

STILL WATERS CASHMERE

Moon and Diana Mullins
PO Box 1265
Twisp, WA 98856
509-997-2204/509-421-3107
email: dmullins@methow.com

WALLFLOWER FARM

Dan and Marti Wall
16663 Beaver Marsh Road
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273
360-424-7935
Fax: 360-428-4946
email: cashmere@sos.net

WINDRIDGE FARM

Becki and Jim Belcher
202 Clemans View Rd.
Selah, WA 98942
509-698-3468

Internet listing of these breeders can be found on the net at: <http://www.teleport.com/~goatknol/breeders.htm>



Pashmina Shawl Fashion Fetish

Has the lace shawl replaced the jacket in women's fashion? Per Diki Ongmo, Australian shop owner, sporting a beautiful crushed strawberry Pashmina, "Elegant women want to be unstructured, not stitched up. We've given the jacket back to the men."

The weightless, gossamer Pashmina shawl seems to be the new fashion statement. "Pashmina" is the term given to a shawl made of the world's finest cashmere, spun so thinly that an entire square can pass through a ring. Wealthy Tibetan families always included a Pashmina in a bride's dowry. They are considered heirlooms and passed down through the generations.

Pashminas are made from the fine down from the Pashmina (cashmere) goats that live in the Tibetan mountains. Their fine down of 12 -14 microns compares to the 16-18 micron down found in the typical cashmere sweater. It takes the down of three goats to make one Pashmina.

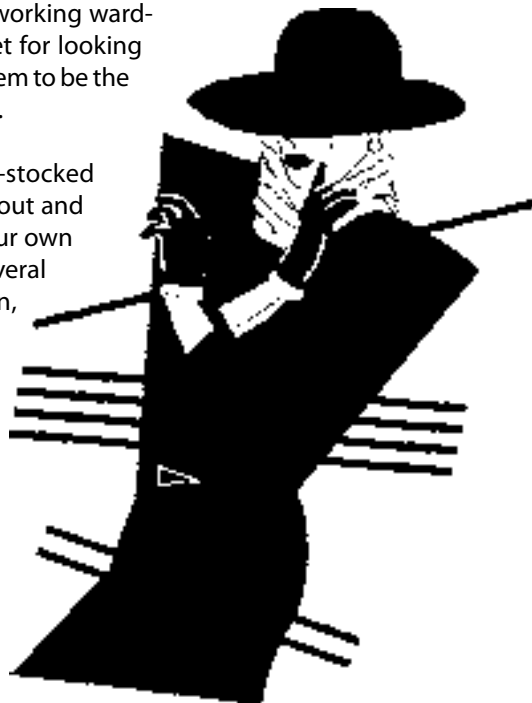
For centuries, these finely woven shawls were found only in Tibet, but 200 years ago, they were discovered by European travellers. Clever Tibetans sold the unsuspecting tourists shawls made with coarser wool found in the lower Himalayas, which later became known as cashmere.

Currently, cashmere shawls prices in Australia start at about \$300, with Pashminas going for \$400 - \$500. They can run over \$1,000 if decorated with embroidery and beads. You can find \$100 versions of cashmere shawls, but they normally have only a small percentage of cashmere in them.

Diki Ongmo's shop, Tibet, which is located in Sydney, Australia, sells Pashmina shawls which she manufactures in her small workshop in Naxal, a suburb of Kathmandu. She employs 40 workers there who weave and dye to her design specifications. Ms. Ongmo was born in Tibet and she and her Australian husband, Tim Linkin, commute between Sydney and Tibet, between the workshop and the retail shop.

Per fashion experts, women will continue to wear the business jacket as part of their working wardrobe because you can't beat a jacket for looking authoritative. But, the new shawls seem to be the wrap of choice for more casual wear.

Just when we get our closets well-stocked with jackets, now we have to all go out and look for shawls. But, we can make our own shawls! Of course, it will take us several years to produce one and by then, fashion will have moved on...



Arthritis

By D. M. Sherman, University of Minnesota, St. Paul
Reprinted from the USDA Extension Goat Handbook

The limb joints of animals are designed for mobility. In conjunction with the muscles and tendons, the joints allow for flexion and extension of the legs and permit a wide range of motion and activity. Normal joint function is essential for good health, particularly in grazing animals such as goats which may have to cover large areas over varying terrain in search of food. Normal joint function also allows flight from predators and is important for breeding success in active bucks. In addition, lameness or swellings over joints may reduce an animal's chances in the show ring.

Normal limb joints are comprised of several structures. First are the bone ends, covered with cartilage and shaped to interlock for increased stability. The cartilage is quite smooth, for reducing friction and wear in the joint. A space exists between the cartilage surfaces called the joint cavity. This space is filled with joint (or synovial) fluid which lubricates the joint and acts as a shock absorber to reduce the trauma associated with movement. The fluid is held in place by a fibrous joint capsule which is lined with a synovial membrane that produces the joint fluid. Outside the joint capsule are numerous ligaments, muscles and tendons which add further strength and stability to the joint. The tendons are also surrounded by sheaths containing fluid known as bursae. Inflammation of the tendon sheaths is known as bursitis. Inflammation of the joint from any cause is known as arthritis. Any or all of the structures comprising the joint may be damaged in arthritic conditions.

Recognizing Joint Disease. Arthritis may result from a variety of infectious and noninfectious causes. A single joint may be affected or multiple joints involved (polyarthritis). Depending on the cause, signs of arthritis may vary. For example, in bacterial or traumatic arthritis, the affected joint may be swollen and warm to the touch. In early viral or nutritional arthritis, no visible change may be detected in the joint. In these cases, the presence of arthritis is suggested by observation

of signs such as reluctance or difficulty in rising, slowed return to the barn at milking time, inability of bucks to mount does at breeding time, limping or uneven gait, or complete disuse of a single limb. Even when these signs are noted, other conditions which might result in abnormal motion should be considered. These would include fractures, laminitis or founder, foot rot, and white muscle disease (vitamin E/selenium deficiency). In addition, various neurological problems may be misinterpreted as musculoskeletal disease.

Several diagnostic procedures may be employed to identify the cause of arthritis. Examination of the joint fluid obtained by aseptically tapping the joint may be useful. Large numbers of neutrophils in the fluid are suggestive of bacterial arthritis. Large numbers of mononuclear cells are more indicative of viral arthritis. Little change in the fluid composition may be observed in traumatic or nutritional arthritis. In the case of bacterial arthritis, joint fluid may be cultured to identify the causative organism and to select the appropriate antibiotic therapy.

In cases of nutritional or traumatic arthritis, radiographs may be helpful in establishing a diagnosis and prognosis for recovery. Serological testing may be required for the diagnosis of arthritis due to virus or mycoplasma. Successful treatment of individual cases of arthritis and control and prevention of additional cases depends on accurate and specific diagnosis.

Specific Causes of Caprine Arthritis

Bacterial Arthritis—Lacerations or puncture wounds over joints can lead to bacterial infection. Injuries such as these should be cared for immediately. The affected area should be cared for immediately. The affected area should be cleaned thoroughly with soap and water. If the joint has been opened, suturing may be indicated. Antibiotic therapy should be initiated to prevent infection.

CASHMIRROR

In young kids, bacterial polyarthritis can occur. The organisms involved are usually *E. coli*, *Corynebacterium pyogenes*, or staphylococci. The condition is recognized by lameness and swelling in one or more joints, particularly the front knees (carpi), hocks and stifles. This condition is secondary to bacterial infection elsewhere in the body, usually the navel or digestive tract. The bacteria are carried to the joints via the bloodstream. Therapy is often ineffective and prevention is the preferred method of control. Unclean environment and improper kid care promote the incidence of polyarthritis. Improved management practices will reduce the occurrence of this disease. Maternity pens should be used for kidding, and kept clean and dry with bedding changed between births. Navels of newborns should be dipped in iodine immediately after birth. Kids should receive adequate colostrum within six hours after kidding. They should be housed in warm, dry quarters, and not overcrowded.

Mycoplasma Arthritis—Mycoplasmas are small microorganisms which differ from bacteria in that they do not have a cell wall. They are difficult to culture in the laboratory and much confusion exists with regard to the species of mycoplasma responsible for caprine arthritis in the United States. Several species of goat mycoplasmas are known in the US but *Mycoplasma mycoides* subspecies *mycoides*, large colony type, appears to be most responsible for cases of mycoplasmal arthritis. The prevalence and distribution of caprine mycoplasma arthritis is unclear, and sporadic reports from several regions of the US have appeared in the veterinary literature, most notably from California.

Mycoplasma infection produces a severe systematic disease in which arthritis may be the only sign or may be accompanied by high fevers, inappetence, pneumonia, diarrhea, keratoconjunctivitis (pink eye), or sudden death. All animals in a herd may be affected, but the more dramatic signs are seen in kids and younger adults. Outbreaks are often preceded by some stress such as dehorning. The infection may be carried unnoticed in a herd for extended periods.

Whenever several animals in a group

Continued on next page

Arthritis**Continued from previous page**

are suddenly affected with arthritis along with signs of illness elsewhere in the body, mycoplasma should be suspected. Any dead animals should be submitted to a diagnostic laboratory for specific diagnosis. Blood samples from living animals should also be taken for evaluation of titers to mycoplasma infection. Correct diagnosis is important since few antibiotics are effective against mycoplasma. Tylosin and tetracyclines may be useful in controlling herd outbreaks although losses may be high.

Viral Arthritis—(CAE). A recently discovered retrovirus has been identified as a cause of chronic arthritis in goats. It is very likely that many previously unexplained cases of caprine arthritis were the result of this slow virus infection. The caprine arthritis encephalitis virus (CAEV) was first recognized as a cause of progressive paralysis in two of four month old kids resulting from infection of the brain (encephalitis). Later it was demonstrated that the same virus also produces a progressive chronic arthritis in older goats. The presence of this virus in the US goat production is believed to be very high.

Nutritional Arthritis—One specific syndrome of arthritis related to feeding deserves mention. It involves the excessive consumption of calcium in the ration by mature bucks. Lactating does and young growing animals may require supplemental calcium in the diet. However, mature bucks fed in similar ration are likely to develop arthritis due to excessive deposition of calcium in the bone (osteopetrosis). Proliferative calcification (osteophytes) forming on the margin of joints disrupts normal joint architecture and may impair mobility and breeding effectiveness. Osteophytes may be visible radiographically. To prevent this problem, mature bucks should be fed either grass hay or not more than two pounds of alfalfa hay daily.

Traumatic Arthritis—Because goats are prone to fighting, traumatic joint injuries (sprains, dislocations, torn ligaments) are not uncommon. Sudden lameness and swelling of a single joint without fever is suggestive of traumatic injury. Affected goats should be isolated and confined

with exercise restricted. The joint may be wrapped with an elastic bandage and cold compresses applied to minimize swelling. The animal may be placed on aspirin to reduce pain and inflammation. The degree of recovery is dependent on the extent of the injury.

Other Causes of Arthritis—Herd outbreaks of polyarthritis in lambs due to *Chlamydia* sp., a virus-like organism, are known to occur in the United States. It has been suggested that chlamydial arthritis in goats also occurs, especially in herds which have experienced outbreaks of chlamydial abortion. As interest in and recognition of caprine diseases continues to develop in the United States, chlamydia as well as other organisms may be identified as causes of arthritis in goats.

Classified Advertising

Buster, the Cashmere Goat. Children's book by Paul G. Johnson, CM Ace Reporter. 66 pages, includes photographs. Suitable for read-aloud for young children, 3rd to 4th grade reading level, or for brightening the lives of bored adults. Guaranteed only happy endings. To order, send \$7.50 (includes shipping) to CashMirror Publications.

CashMirror back issues 7/96 - 50/99 \$3 each or a whole dozen for \$30. Back issues 10/89-6/96 \$2 each or \$15 for a dozen. We'll pay the shipping. About 2/3 of old issues still available. Good reference source about cashmere goats and history of industry. Index available.

Cashmere goats; 1 buck, 3 does, 6 doelings; priced to sell for herd reduction; grand sires Ghenghis Kahn, Black Bart. Bert/raz (Pat) (503) 632-3615.

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: Great buck shots for the upcoming Breeders Showcase (August issue)! Send to CashMirror. All photos returned undamaged. Photos can be color or black and white.

Yocom-McColl Testing Laboratories, Inc. for individual animal and core testing. Ph: (303) 294-0582 Fax: (303) 295-6944 Email: ymccoll@ix.netcom.com Website: <http://www.ymcoll.com>

Display Advertising Rates:

<u>Ad Size</u>	<u>Price (Issue / 4 mos. / 1 yr.)</u>
Business Card	\$25 / 100 / 150
1/4 page	\$45 / 165 / 410
1/3 page	\$65 / 240 / 600
Half Page	\$80 / 300 / 730
Full Page	\$150 / 550 / 1,370
Other sizes, options	Ask us

Extensive layout or photo screening may be extra.
Payment must accompany ad order.

Classified ads 50 cents/word.



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 \$25 for 12 monthly issues! (\$35 Canada, \$40 Mexico, \$50 overseas).

Breeders Directory listing for full year \$30.

Notable Quotes

"Never invest in anything that eats or needs repairing."

...Billy Rose

"The Pashmina (shawl), the last great fashion fetish of the '90's, the decade that killed off the jacket, is the new wardrobe staple for the West, begged, borrowed and paid for dearly from the East."

...Susan Owens

"Each animal and its value to the continuing breeding program needs to be critically evaluated annually."

...Trish Esson, Cashdown Goats
Victoria, Australia

The Deadlines:

Articles, photographs, advertising and other information submitted must be received by the 25th 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.

Serving northern
California, Idaho, Nevada,
Oregon,
Washington and
western Canada

Membership includes
NWCA Quarterly
Newsletter



Northwest Cashmere Association

NWCA Annual Dues only \$25
Cynthia Heeren, Membership Coordinator
22260 East Hwy 20, Bend, OR 97701
541-388-1988, email: hokulani@bendnet.com



The small (yet efficient) little American cashmere garment factory in Montana is still buying raw cashmere fleece—in any quantities.

Competitive Prices:

1999 prices: \$32.50/lb. yield for white fleeces

\$30.00/lb. for colors, \$7.50/lb. for cashgora

Checks issued to Producers quickly

Free Classing of Fleeces Provided

Call Ann for more information

We can help put your goats' coats in an American-made cashmere garment today.

3299 Anderson Lane, Dillon, Montana 59725
406-683-6761, email: ann@MontanaKnits.com



**2280 S. Church Rd.
Dallas, OR 97338**

**Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit #011
Dallas, OR
97338**