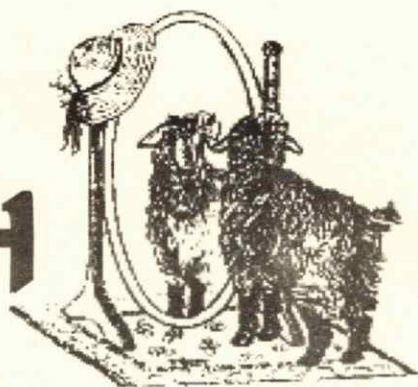


CASH MIRROR



Volume 10, Issue 3

December 1998



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Cover photo:

Linda Fox, Goat Knoll

"God bless us, every one."

Happy Holidays

From the CashMirror Staff

Paul and Mickey get ready for Christmas:



You can still enter The Contest!

(If you're quick!)

What To Do with All that Guard air?

The Rules

Contest deadline: December 31, 1998.

To enter: Send us your idea—mail, email, fax, whatever.

You don't need to be a subscriber, or an adult to enter, or even own a goat. You may enter as many times with as many ideas as you wish. Each idea submitted will be considered a separate entry (even if frugally written on one piece of paper).

Judging: Winners will be chosen by a panel of judges, chosen by CashMirror, to include one cashmere goat person, one adult who is not a goat person and a child (probably a teenager). Don't worry; we will choose only highly-qualified and superbly personable judges. And we'll try to find a teenager without an attitude.

Winners: To be announced in January 1999 CashMirror.

The Prizes

First prize: One gorgeous, white, lacy, hand-spun, handmade crocheted cashmere scarf.

Second Prize: One year subscription (or subscription extension) to CashMirror.

Third Prize: One 1999 CashMirror calendar.

Booby Prizes (2): One tasteless photo of Steve Hachenberger and one equally tasteless photo of Paul Johnson. See lurid details in last issue. Heh! They may not be art, but they would make excellent blackmail material.

Any Questions?: Ask us. Ho-ho-ho!



Reflections

by Linda Fox

The rains have arrived. So much for summer and the beautiful fall with the accompanying dryness and sunshine that make outdoor farm chores more enjoyable. We're now into the season of cold, wet and, worst of all, mud. 'Tis the season of rubber boots, rain slickers and fogged-over glasses. Then 'twill turn into the season of long underwear, wool hats and warm gloves.

No more time to put up new fence lines or improve the old. Winter is a time to just concentrate on keeping up what's already there—removing the occasional fallen tree and making sure the electric wires stay high enough to avoid the water. It's the end of the season for outdoor chores. We no longer need to make up excuses to put off outdoor chores, we have a real excuse—the weather.

And this is not all bad. After a summer of neglecting the mending stack, godzilla-sized dust bunnies and refrigerator full of fully-grown science projects, our attention can now be turned to those indoor chores demanding attention. No longer having the excuse of nice weather and a long list of outdoor projects, we are forced to stay in the house and attend to those little things that, if not addressed soon, will have us living in something a little less healthy than the barn and a lot less esthetically pleasing.

After six months of ignoring the house, it's hard to decide what project wants us most. Do we attack that mountain of mending, after first cleaning out and re-arranging the sewing room so we can find the thread, spare buttons and jeans patches? Or do move all the furniture in the living room and see exactly what is living underneath those couches? And then, there's the mess we've created in the freezer. After a fall of tossing new meat packages in whatever spot was handy, it would be nice to sort this year's lamb packages from the two-year old beef leftovers. We should clean out the porch too. There is most likely a lot of valuable things out there that will soon be discovered by the porch-dwelling puppy. It would be nice to retrieve our treasured belongings before they are chewed to shreds.

I'm sure that going into the holidays, Martha Stewart is worrying about polishing the silver and setting out bayberry candles and sprigs of holly. I'm more concerned about finding the pie tins in time to fill them for Thanksgiving. I won't have time to worry about Christmas until mid-December.

The nasty weather forces us to turn our thoughts to indoor chores. What shall I do first?

I could finish organizing the animal records. After years of dealing with notebook paper everywhere, last winter I finally entered them all on the computer. Now I have computer paper



everywhere. I need a week or two to fine-tune the system. That would be a good rainy day project.

The house still needs curtains. I had forgotten about this. Since we have no close neighbors, the curtains are not necessary for privacy. However, several people have commented that this will be a real nice house when we get it finished. It must look unfinished with bare windows. I suppose the curtains would help

keep the drafts out as well. Sewing curtains should definitely be on the rainy day list.

Since it's still a while until Christmas, this could be the year to actually create those special handmade gifts! No more shopping at the local hardware store a few days before Christmas. This limits the choices of gifts, but the free wrapping and one store shopping is certainly an asset when time is running short. I could make all our gifts this year. I could make dolls for the grandkids and flannel shirts for my brothers and knit a cap or two. This would certainly be a useful endeavor for this time of year.

There's always the end of year tax stuff to start on. Instead of covering the table with paper on April 13th, I could summarize all the stuff I have so far now, do a little year-end planning and just add a few last minute figures after the 1099's and W-2's come out at the end of January. We could file our returns in February and avoid the typical last minute rush. We could be spending our refund while others are still swearing and chewing on their pencils.

And there's the Christmas cards to be mailed (and maybe even written in this year), bathrooms to clean (really clean), fleece stash to organize, windows to wash, summer clothes to put away, kitchen cabinets to clean out and organize, refrigerator to muck out, dog to bathe and floors to scrub. I am overwhelmed and just don't know where to start.

You know, it's not raining too hard. If you wait for the rain to stop in Oregon, you never accomplish anything, so I think I'll put on my oil skin hat, rain slicker and rubber boots and let out Buster and Worf for company. The three of us can spend the day burning those brush piles down by the pond.

The Goat Gala

Farm Fair International

Edmonton, Canada—November 1998

Story and photographs by The Transborder Gang
(aka Yvonne Zweede-Tucker, N. Rocky Mt. Correspondent)

The Goat Gala at Farm Fair International in Edmonton, Canada is held each year during the first weekend of November. A multi-breed show, Farm Fair showcases Cashmere, Angora, Boer and percentage Boer, and this year added classes for dairy goat breeds. Spanning two days, the Goat Gala gives breeders of fiber, meat and dairy stock from Alberta and the northern US a chance to see how their animals stack up and gives Alberta livestock producers a chance to see animals that they might not yet be familiar with.

The Cashmere, Angora, and Boer classes were ably judged by Coni Ross of Austin, Texas. The Cashmere show currently includes classes for milk tooth buck kids, and does from milk tooth to mature, separated by age. The show committee hopes to include older bucks in the coming years.

An obstacle course class, with its opening round on Saturday and final competition on Sunday is always a big crowd-pleaser. Jackie Toma and Linnie won, followed by other competitors, all of whose goats ac-



Excellent display of cashmere products—Lone Pine Farm

tually led! There were twelve entrants in the contest.

Pat Fuhr's big white wether, Strider, neutered as an adult animal, impressed the audience with his size, beautiful rack, and easygoing disposition.

The Cashmere classes and fleece competition were held on Sunday, and a good time was had by all (except those who had offered to help show the recalcitrant entries from Smoke Ridge Cashmere in Montana!). Coni's comments helped all exhibitors and bystanders understand why she had placed animals as she had, and helped showmen see the strengths and weaknesses in their own and others' animals. The champion doe class garnered compliments as well as comments, as Coni told the exhibitors to be proud of the excellent quality of the animals assembled for Championship judging.

Pat Fuhr's impressive adult doe Moonshadow took home Grand Champion honors, with Yvonne Zweede-Tucker's yearling Brio following up as Reserve.

The Grand Champion winner of the fleece competition was GSF Sachet, owned by Pat Fuhr. Giant Stride's GSF W7 took the Reserve Champion fleece award.

The results for the Cashmere Goat Show and Cashmere Fleece Competition are on the next page.



Jennifer Linder and Dwight walk the plank—part of the Gala obstacle course.

1998 Farm Fair International Cashmere Fleece Competition Results

Grand Champion Fleece—GSF Sachet, Pat Fuhr
Reserve Champion—GSF W7, Pat Fuhr

Kid Fleeces (3 entries)

1. GSF W7, Pat Fuhr
2. LPF Gemini, Myrna Coombs
3. LPF Gena, Myrna Coombs

Yearling Fleeces (2 entries)

1. GSF Fairlee, Myrna Coombs
2. GSF Beatrice, Myrna Coombs

Adult Fleeces (11 entries)

1. GSF Sachet, Pat Fuhr
2. MLF Waddington, Diane Thompson
3. GSF Chinsa, Pat Fuhr

1998 Farm Fair International Cashmere Goat Show Competition Results

Champion Cashmere Doe

SMR Moonshadow, Pat Fuhr

Reserve Champion

SMR Brio, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker

Class #32, Cashmere Buck Kids (6 entries)

1. SMR Night Hawk, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker
2. GSF Isaac, Pat Fuhr
3. SMR Arroyo, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker

Class #34, Cashmere Doe Kids (14 entries)

1. SMR Shenanigans, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker
2. LPF Halie, Myrna Coombs
3. SMR Pizzazz, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker

Class #36, Cashmere Yearling Does (7 entries)

1. SMR Brio, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker
2. LPF Gloria, Myrna Coombs
3. GSF Tranquility, Pat Fuhr

Class #38, Cashmere Two Year Old Does (4 entries)

1. GSF Beatrice, Myrna Coombs
2. SMR Sassafrass, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker
3. Dushoma Lady Georgia, Jackie Toma

Class #40 Cashmere Adult & Aged Does (4 entries)

1. SMR Moonshadow, Pat Fuhr
2. SMR Ashley Creek, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker
3. GSF Aretha, Myrna Coombs

Class #47 Cashmere Get of Sire (2 entries)

1. Smoke Ridge Cashmere, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker
2. Smoke Ridge Cashmere, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker

Class #48 Cashmere Progeny of Dam (1 entry)

1. Giant Stride Farm, Pat Fuhr

Class #49 Cashmere Breeder's Herd (3 entries)

1. Lone Pine Farm, Myrna Coombs
2. Smoke Ridge Cashmere, Yvonne Zweede-Tucker
3. Giant Stride Farm, Pat Fuhr

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Pat Fuhr with Grand Champion Doe, SMR Moonshadow

Matching Livestock and Forage Resources in Controlled Grazing

By Ron Morrow, ATTRA Technical Specialist

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Introduction

Many of the important management decisions a livestock producer makes relate to the management of the forage resources of the land unit. Both biological and economical efficiency are influenced by a producer's ability to match animal type and nutrient needs to forage availability and quality on a year-round basis. This article addresses grazing objectives, how forage management decisions can influence animal performance, and how the type of operation and animal management decisions influence efficiency of performance on pasture.

Grazing Objectives

There are four general objectives of grazing management, from the forage standpoint. The producer uses the grazing animals to achieve each of the objectives:

1. Maintain botanical balance: Intensity of grazing impacts the competition between species of plants. An example is maintaining a legume with a cool season grass where keeping the height of grass down favors the legume. This point alone justifies some type of rotational grazing system. The primary reason tall fescue is so predominant is the persistence of the grass under poor management conditions. A grazing system using a simple 3-6-pasture rotation allows other plants to compete with fescue, yielding a diversity of forages that can enhance productivity. Most producers cannot keep an adequate stand of legumes without using some type of rotational grazing system that will allow the legumes to reseed.

2. Encourage rapid growth: The main consideration is having adequate leaf area for photosynthe-

sis and storage of nonstructural carbohydrates.

Grazing a plant too short will limit the rate of regrowth because of limited leaf area. Inadequate rest for the plant after grazing will limit storage of carbohydrates and may decrease persistence. Plant growth also slows as the plant matures. Grazing the top of the forage off will also encourage more rapid growth and delay maturity. From the animal perspective, grazing the forage when it is too short decreases intake because the animals cannot get a "mouthful" of forage with each bite. For cool season grass-legume pastures, if forage is 6-10 inches tall, the animals has high intake. When the forage height is less than 3-4 inches, then intake decreases by half. The specific height at which intake becomes limited is different for bermuda grass because of the density of the growth but the relationship is similar. Therefore, in order to ensure enough leaf area for rapid growth and to maintain high intake by the grazing animal, we should avoid grazing the pasture too short.

3. Compromise between yield and quality: This objective will come up quite often throughout this paper. Naturally, yield is influenced both by "uncontrollable" factors, including rainfall distribution, soil type, and management factors such as fertility and species. The key to yield is to be able to estimate forage availability at any point in time, and manage that forage to have the quality needed by the grazing animal. Quality is primarily determined through grazing management by attempting to keep the forage in a vegetative state. A producer must understand the nutrient requirement of the various groups of

animals being grazed and manage accordingly. In this regard, it is important to note that the quality parameters used to evaluate hay are less meaningful when evaluating the forage available to the grazing animals, because the animal is selectively grazing, and because grazing behavior and forage availability have a greater impact on intake than quality.

4. Minimize mowing: A potential expense for beef producers is clipping pastures. In some circumstances animals can be used to minimize that effort. Multi-species grazing (e.g., sheep and cattle) is effective. Also some weeds (e.g., ragweed) are very nutritious and palatable in an early vegetative growth stage. Clipping of pastures is usually most needed under continuous grazing. The utilization of forage is decreased when mature forage is clipped and, therefore, wasted. This can be prevented with a good grazing program.

The most effective way to accomplish the above objectives is to adopt some form of rotational or controlled grazing. In this regard, item three can be broken down into two specific objectives of controlled grazing. The first is increased forage utilization. Research indicates that controlled grazing can increase forage utilization from around 30 percent (under continuous grazing) to 60-75 percent for a 20-40-paddock rotation. This is primarily because animals are used as "mowers" and the frequency of rotation determines the amount of urination, defecation, trampling and bedding down animals do on a pasture, all of which contribute to decreased utilization of available for-

Continued on next page

Matching Forages

Continued from previous page

age. A greater stock density decreases selective grazing and spot grazing. Occurring primarily under continuous grazing, spot grazing allows some areas of pasture to mature while other areas are overgrazed.

The second objective of controlled grazing, and the one with the greatest potential impact, is maintaining better quality forages. Species of forages with higher potential quality yet more demanding management requirements (e.g., orchardgrass-alfalfa, bromegrass or endophyte-free fescue with a legume) have greater persistence in a forage system involving controlled grazing. Also, forage growth can be more carefully managed and kept in a vegetative state under controlled grazing, thereby improving forage quality. A controlled grazing program that prevents seedhead formation and maintains a more vegetative forage should reduce (though not eliminate) the impact of tall fescue toxins, as high-endophyte fescue seed contains substantially higher levels of potential toxins than the fescue leaves. This should also reduce competition with other nontoxic forages.

Forage Resources

Food profiling is a concept used by new Zealand producers in matching their resources to the type of livestock enterprise best suited to the pattern of expected pasture production. A feed profile can be used to determine the appropriate stocking rate and when best to calve (lamb, kid, etc.) or when to sell surplus stock or purchase new stock. The ability of the farm to meet the nutritional requirements of the animals through pasture is evaluated by estimating potential production and anticipated feed demands of the livestock.

Adjustments in management can

be made on a short-term (budget) or long-term (profile) basis. When a feed shortage or surplus appears to be developing, a feed budget can be used to determine the deviation from the profile, and short-term decisions made as to how most profitably to use the surplus (cutting hay, adding animals) or overcome the deficiency in a least cost manner (feed supplement, fertilize with nitrogen, wean animals, sell animals, etc.). A feed budget is accomplished by estimating the pasture availability, pasture production during the period, and the animal demand. A practical approach to a deficiency may be to accept lower performance of animals because of decreased intake.

Producer Goals

There are several types of livestock to consider when discussing grazing management. Beef cattle production, from the grazing standpoint, involves the cow-calf pro-

ducer and the backgrounder. The producer most concerned with maintaining high quality pasture is the dairy producer who has decided to cut costs by allowing total production to decrease utilizing pasture more. Another set of producers are raising sheep and meat or dairy goats, while some landowners who include wildlife or agroforestry in their land-use plan utilize grazing animals to achieve an ecological balance. Regardless of type of production, to survive economically each producer must evaluate his or her goals, determine how efficiency of production is impacted by forage resources, and make changes in management that decrease inputs.

Cow-calf Producer

Production systems for cow-calf producers are the most challenging in terms of matching forage

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**Grazing management for a healthy stand of poison oak—
put in a herd of goats until it's gone.**

Matching Forages

Continued from previous page

resources to animals requirements. The first problem is the need for year-round production, and second is the effect of genetic variation on production potential among the wide array of breeds of cattle. Then, when the calving season component is added, choice of forages and grazing management become a complex issue.

In analyzing goals, the producer should first consider the desired weaning weight and milk production potential of the cows, and then attempt to time the calving date so that the highest quality forage is available at peak lactation and before breeding season. Work in New Zealand indicates that a producer can improve the efficiency of the cattle operation with a two-week change in calving season. Weight gain of the calf is influenced by the persistence of lactation and by forage consumption by the calf. Persistence of lactation is dependent upon forage availability and quality and is influenced by the genetic potential of the cow. Cows with high milk production potential will respond more to intensively grazed pastures managed for high quality. Cows with lower milk production potential might best be used in a system that utilizes a higher percentage of forage since their nutrient requirements are lower, reducing the demand for higher quality forage. Additionally, cows with high milk production potential probably should be calved in the spring or late winter, whereas cows of average milk potential might best be calved in the fall. Then the fall-born calves could be backgrounded through summer, since the weaning weight of these calves would probably be less (at the same age) for a fall-calving herd than for a spring-calving one.

All herds have cattle with different nutrient requirements. Monitoring



"I'm down to dry twigs here! Any chance I could get a pasture rotation?"

the condition scores of cows is important in determining the nutritional requirements of animals. It is probably good economical management to allow cows to lose weight at certain times of the year if the weight can be replaced with good pasture at another time without interfering with the reproduction of the cow. A forward grazing system can be used to graze animals with the highest nutrient requirements first, followed by cattle with lower requirements to "clean up" the pastures. This is particularly useful with two calving seasons when dry cows can follow lactating cows. Other examples include first-calf heifers followed by mature cows or the most productive cows followed by lower potential cows. Another strategy is creep grazing which gives calves access to higher quality forage than the cow.

Backgrounder (stocker production) Greater per-acre economic potential of intensive rotational grazing can be achieved by backgrounding steers. This is primarily because 2-3 steers can be grazed where one cow-calf pair would graze. Also, steers will respond better to higher quality for-

age since milk of the cow tends to buffer calf gains, unless the cow needs to gain weight prior to breeding season.

Several factors are involved in matching the stocker animal to the grazing system. First are the anticipated market weight and/or date. Many producers are becoming interested in grazing cattle on fescue pastures until late June (dependent on forage availability) and then shipping to the feedlot. Pastures can be rested through the hot, dry summer months and another group of cattle backgrounded during the late summer and early fall months, allowing producers to turn two groups of calves each year. On the other hand, cattle that have been grazing high-endophyte fescue probably should go to the feedlot in the fall months rather than midsummer. It might be more economical to allow cattle to "coast" through the summer, not worrying about gain, to allow them to go to the feedlot in cooler weather. Thought might also be given to putting cattle in feedlot earlier in summer, such as mid-May. An economic consideration in this case is

Continued on next page

Matching Forages**Continued from previous page**

that producers generally need to put 200 pounds of gain on cattle to make profit, and cattle moved out in May might not achieve a profitable amount of gain.

Another component is whether a producer is retaining ownership of his own calves or purchasing cattle. Controlled grazing can, because of the increased utilization of the forages, allow a producer to carry over calves without decreasing the number of cows. This point can be emphasized with the example of a producer with a fall-calving herd keeping calves through the summer to be sold as yearlings. Forage production during the summer is not utilized well with dry cows except to put gain on the cows before calving. With purchased cattle the critical issue may be when to buy and sell cattle to utilize the forage. Controlled grazing allows cattle to be on pastures earlier in the season. Also, forages such as summer annuals can be more economical when a higher degree of utilization is achieved. The desired market weight and date may be an important consideration in helping a producer decide whether to optimize return by grazing more for quality (higher gain per animals) or quantity (higher gain per acre).

Dairy Production

Considerable interest is being expressed in dairy production on pasture, particularly in Wisconsin, New York, and Pennsylvania. Dairy production in New Zealand is accomplished without grain supplementation. Cows are rotated on pasture at least once a day and quite often twice a day. It has been suggested that a dairy cow can produce about 50 pounds of milk a day with only pasture if intake of high quality pasture is maintained at a high level. Accompanying the inter-

est in production on pasture is seasonal dairying, where cows are lactating when forage availability is greatest and all cows dried off at the end of the grazing season. Consistent production of high-quality pasture throughout the grazing season is necessary as is a sound reproductive management program to ensure the cows are calving as a group within the time period that allows use of the pasture. A very intensive management program is required to optimize use of pasture. Also necessary is good pasture diversity, with choices of species that allow a consistent production of quality forage throughout the grazing season.

Sheep Production

Sheep producers too are evaluating changes in management toward using more pasture and less harvested forages and grain. Changing the lambing season to April has the potential to allow considerable flexibility in production option. For example, nursing of lambs by grazing ewes, decreasing wintering cost of the pregnant ewe, or grazing weaned lambs to a market weight instead of pushing them on a high grain diet to reach market weight. A worthwhile consideration is to add sheep to other livestock enterprises for more efficient use of pasture. The grazing habits of sheep, goats, and cattle differ sufficiently that sheep and goats can be added to a cattle program without having to increase the landmass or decrease cattle numbers.

Goat Production

An increase in the production of goats for meat is anticipated to coincide with the apparent shift in diversity of populations. Goats can be used to control brush and weeds, and they more efficiently utilize pasture because they prefer browsing to grazing, but contrary to popular opinion, goats need higher quality forage than cattle because they cannot digest cellu-

lose as well. Goats, because of their small mouths and prehensile lips, can select higher quality feed than cattle with their larger mouths. They eat in successive layers from the top of the plant to the bottom, so their intake is highly sensitive to pasture height and mass. Intake by goats drops when forage availability falls below 1000-1200 pounds of dry matter per acre.

Summary

Animals type (size and milk production potential) as defined primarily through species and breed differences has a great influence on the nutritional requirements of animals. Therefore, the type of animal can impact the level of performance of the animal and the economic impact of a grazing system on different forages.

The grazing system influences the nutritional status of animals by affecting intake and quality of forage. Intake is decreased when pastures are grazed too short because the animal cannot get a "mouthful" with each bite. Regrowth of the forage is slower because the leaf area for photosynthesis is decreased. Additionally, the quality of the forage is lower.

Producer decisions, such as timing parturition to match the lactation curve to the forage production curve or choosing to graze steers rather than cow-calf pairs, should be considered in the choice of management decisions related to forage and grazing system. Choice of forages is also determined by nutritional needs of the animals being grazed. The nutritional needs of the animals being grazed should be considered for 365 days when determining the percentage of various forages used in the grazing system. Grazing different species together increases efficiency of forage utilization because of differences in behavior and forage/browse preferences.



Goats and Agroforestry

By Linda Fox

Agroforestry is the practice of incorporating tree farming with another farming operation. This usually entails the production of two crops on one piece of land—one crop is the trees and the other is another plant crop or an animal. You could grow beans between your rows of firs—or you could grow goats.

An article from the Australian [Cashmere Goat Notes](#), published by the Australian Cashmere Growers Association, explores the possibility of growing cashmere-producing goats between your trees.

For a number of years, cashmere goats have been grazed in established pine forests in Australia, in Victoria's eastern highlands. Annual rainfall is about 40 inches per year and winters are long, both of which are an asset in pine production. The goats and the trees complement each other. Each crop provides things beneficial to the other. The trees provide shelter for the goats and the thinnings and prunings from the pinetrees provide roughage for the goats' diet. The goats improve the forest by eating the fallen pine needles, thus reducing forest floor "litter." The goats eat a greater quantity of the pine needles than either cattle or sheep. The goats also eat brush growing underneath the trees which assists with fire control and reduces competition from the brush for the trees.

Per the article, it is anticipated that the production of cashmere goats along with pine trees will reduce the cost of

managing the forest while increasing income from cashmere production. Since the introduction of cashmere goats with softwood timber production in Australia is new, little productivity data is yet available.

Traditional Forest Management

In traditional pine forest management, the trees are originally planted close together to encourage them to grow tall towards the light when they are young. The goal is a straight, tall trunk with small side branches. As the tree grows, the side branches die from the bottom up because they are shaded from the light. The ends of the side branches are encased by the growing tree trunk which produces knots in the final wood products. Timber millers prefer wood which is knotless or at least contains smaller knots.

As the trees grow, the smaller, weaker trees die as they lose out in the battle for nutrients. The weakened trees often die from drought, insect infestation and disease. As the trees grow, excess trees are thinned from the forest. In the early thinnings, it costs more to remove the excess trees than the income produced from the trees thinned. Later thinnings of the trees produce some income for the forest owner.

Agroforestry

Using the practice of agroforestry, the pine trees are planted farther apart than they would be using traditional forestry

management schemes. Thus, there are no excess trees to thin later on, and the only trees needing to be removed are those which are defective or poorly shaped. Since there is little competition from neighboring trees, the widely-spaced trees grow more quickly. The down side is: since there are no close neighbors, the tree grows out instead of up and the side branches on the bottom continue to do well and get fat. So, you get a short, squat trunk with excessive taper and big side branches producing huge knots. The millers are not pleased.

To avoid displeasing the millers and the forest owner's pocketbook, the trees must be tricked into thinking they need to grow up, instead of out. The producer accomplishes this by trimming the lower branches from the tree as it grows, and the tree, being on the lower rungs of the biological intelligence ladder, believes that its lower branches have died because light is blocked out and it foolishly grows upward.

This method has the advantage of eliminating the cost of planting excess trees in the first place as well as eliminating the cost of early thinnings. Additional costs would be incurred for control of underbrush as there would be more space between trees for brush to thrive. There would also be additional costs for

Continued on next page

Agroforestry

Continued from previous page

trimming of the lower branches of the trees. The producers would also lose the income from later forest thinnings, when the thinned trees are large enough to produce income.

Add the Lowly Goat

In areas where pines thrive, conditions are also ideal for the growth of blackberries, bracken, thistles and other undesirables. Cashmere-type goats have been found to control these types of weeds better than other animals. As well as eating the grass, traditional weeds and woody-weed growth, the goats will also eat the needles, small twigs and waste thinning and prunings from the trees.

Goats have also been found to assist with the pruning and thinning procedures. You need to control when you allow the goats to thin your trees. Before growing tips on new trees are out of the reach of goat lips, goats should not be introduced to the trees. Pine trees should not meet goats until they are at least 7 feet tall which is generally about three years old.

When goats are introduced to a pine forest, they will first strip all the needles from the lower limbs and then start stripping the bark from the trunk, eventually girdling the tree and killing it. The trick is to let the goats eat all the greenery on the lower limbs, which encourages the upward growth of the tree, and prevent them from killing the tree by stripping the bark. The goats will prune the tree up to about the first 5 feet. After the reachable greenery is gone, the goats must be removed before they start stripping. After a tree has grown large enough that the bark has become thick and fissured, the bark stripping is no longer a problem which, in a well-grown pine tree, happens about 6 years of age. On a tree which is not growing as well, the bark will remain smooth for a longer period of time.

In an area with excess trees, where thinning is desirable, it may be advantageous to let the goats have access to the grow-

ing forest for a longer period of time, allowing them to strip the bark and kill the weaker, slower-growing trees, removing the competition for the trees which are growing more successfully.

A tree will recover from some bark stripping. The bark will heal over in time unless the tree is too severely damaged.

In agroforestry, you must plan for the goats as well as for the trees. Good nutrition for the goat is as important as good nutrition for the trees. Most forests will accommodate a higher stocking rate for goats initially than when the trees are more fully grown. After the initial browse has been consumed, the goats' diet can be supplemented with regular pruning of the trees. Young pine needles are high in protein, while old pine needles are high in roughage.

It may be necessary to supplement the goats' diet with small amounts of hay or grain when goat food made available from pruning and thinning operation is not available.

The addition of pine browse to a goats' diet will aid in internal parasite control and help prevent diseases such as enterotoxemia. The pine needles also provide many trace elements not always provided by pasture.

Reference Source

Browne, Jim, Goats in Pinus Radiata Agroforestry, March 1990, Cashmere Goat Notes, Page 250-254.

Agroforestry
in a Nut Shell
(or should we say
in a Pine Cone)



Plant trees far apart.

When trees are mature enough,
introduce goats.

Goats eat weeds, goats eat
needles, goats eat lower limbs,
thinnings, prunings.

Trees provide shelter and food for
goats.



Watch out for bark
stripping.

One land, two
crops—cool!

Agroforestry

(Our Way)

By Linda Fox

Our first experience with agroforestry happened, of course, before we knew much about the concept. We fenced a two-acre pasture which had been overgrown with brush (blackberries, thistles, woody brush and wiregrass) and planted with Douglas fir trees (planted 16 feet apart—normal forest-type planting planned to require little thinning). Even though the trees had been planted for 10 and 11 years when the goats were introduced, the trees were not well-grown as the soil was poor and water in the area is variable. The water situation ranges from dry, cracked soil due to lack of water in the summer to a swamp in the winter. Most of the trees were 10-15 feet tall and the bark on them was still smooth.

After the area was fenced, we cleared a small spot by the gate, pushed in ten goats and closed the gate. In two years, the goats were fat, the brush was cleared and the trees were dead. Not only did the goats eat all the trees' greenery they could reach, they girdled the trees. The trees were girdled by eating the bark as well as by the bucks' rubbing their horns on the tree trunks.

We quickly cut off the crispy, brown remnants of the trees and burned the evidence (so prospective customer wouldn't think that goats kill trees) and proclaimed to the neighbors that we wanted to reclaim that area for a pasture anyway.

In our area, for our goats, we have learned the following lessons about agroforestry:

1. During the spring and summer, when there is abundant browse, the goats will demolish small, young tender trees they can reach (those only a foot or two tall) and will eat the greenery on older trees as far up as they can reach—including how high they can reach by standing on the tree or on other goats. When they run out of browse in the area, they will quickly start on the bark of the younger, smooth-barked trees. The bucks, when in rut, will also rub their horns on the bark of trees even when they are not out of browse.

2. Except for bucks, the debarking process doesn't start here until October. We leave the goats in an area with young trees until we see the first signs of bark destruction. We then take them out of that area until spring. We may let them back into the area for a day or two in the winter to clean up fallen fruit, but for the most part, they live in pastures without younger trees until spring arrives.

3. Trimming the lower branches off the trees, seems to hasten the goats' attack on the bark from eating and rubbing of horns. In some areas, we trimmed off the lower branches on

the trees because it looked nicer, was easier to walk under and we thought it might be helpful to get more sunshine to the grass under the tree. These trees thus beautified were easier targets for the goats.

4. We don't put goats in an area with very young trees—those only a few years old—unless we intend for them to be eaten.

5. We haven't had a problem with the goats debarking older trees which have thicker bark at any time of year. We have seen cases on other farms, where the goats have worked on older trees. In every case of this we've seen, there has been only one or only a few trees in a smaller fenced area.

6. Dying evergreens, if caught before they turn crispy, make excellent Christmas trees for the house.



Buon Natale!

Double Teats

Supernumerary (extra) teats and forked teats are sometimes found in goats as well as sheep. This trait, although usually correctable, is not desirable. Extra teats which are completely separate from the normal teat, usually found close or adjacent to the normal teat are remnants of the embryologic mammary line that extends to the vulva, where ectopic milk secreting tissue may also be located. An extra teat can easily be amputated with scissors while the doe kid is young.

Forked or fused teats is a condition where there is a double teat on one or both sides of the udder. They are more common in goat breeds where there is not selection for milk production, such as in the pygmy breed. The double teats may either be both fused to the tip, but have two orifices or there may be small spurs protruding from the side of the larger teats.

Abnormal teats are probably inherited and it is recommended that kids of dairy breeds, both does and bucks, be culled for any abnormal teats.

The snipping of an abnormality is not without potential complications. It is possible to snip off the wrong spur. If this happens, there will be one gland with no remaining teat orifice. There is also the risk of infection in the remaining gland at the time of spur removal. Extra teats may be removed at one week to one year of age and is best done at 3 - 8 months of age. It is recommended that the amputation always be accompanied with a tetanus preventative.

Sources

Goat Medicine, Mary C. Smith and David M. Sherman, 1994.
Merk Veterinary Manual, Seventh Edition, 1991.

The Multi-Purpose Goat

This story was sent to us by Heidi Smith, Heidi's Farm, Park City, Utah. The Audit Department at the University of Utah swears that this is a true story:

The accountants from the Travel Department at the University of Utah were going over the reimbursement receipts and claims of a professor who had recently returned from a scientific expedition to Africa. A number of his claims were unusual and so a meeting was set up between the auditors and the professor to discuss his expenditures in order to categorize them correctly and approve them for more efficient processing.

"I see you've listed a goat for \$20 under Miscellaneous Expenses," the accountant said. "Was this a live animal necessary for your research purposes?"

"Yes," replied the professor. "When I arrived, my guide informed me that I must purchase a goat to pack our supplies into the jungle research site."

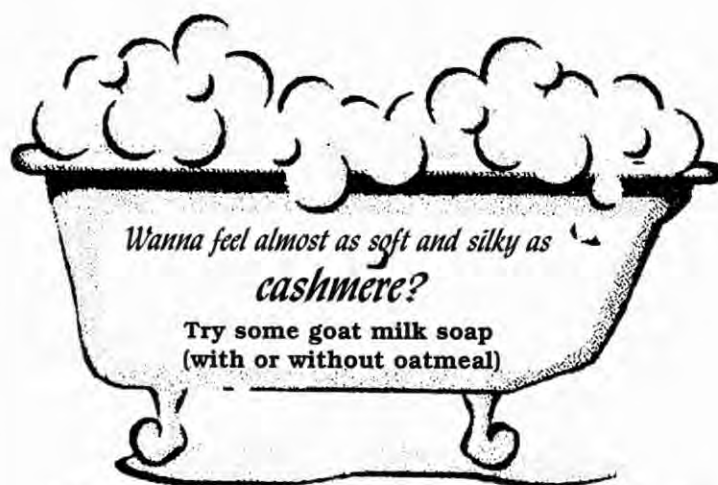
"I see," said the accountant. "So the goat should then be considered a transportation expenditure."

"Well, yes, I suppose," said the professor, "but when we got to our final destination, my guide unpacked the goat, slit his throat and began to prepare him for dinner."

"Oh," said the accountant. "then really we should consider the goat more of a meal expense?"

"Probably yes, however, when the goat was finally done, the guide insisted that we must invite his entire village to the goat feast or they would be offended and not cooperate and I would not be able to complete my research."

"Now I understand," said the auditor. "We'll split the price of the goat between transportation, meals, and entertainment expenditures!"



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Cashmere Goats Invade New York Sheep and Wool Festival

Story and photos by Linda Cortright

Although I am keenly aware of the differences between sheep and goats, starting with the spelling, it never really occurred to me that cashmere goats might not be considered appropriate for the New York Sheep and Wool Festival. And so, when I made a few initial inquiries about having cashmeres at the show, the response was perhaps a bit guarded. However, after an insurmountable deluge of phone calls to the director, a sworn oath that there would be no smelly bucks, and, a modicum of pleading, the cashmeres were allowed to make an appearance in the Exhibition Barn. No judges, no contests, no pre-show jitters, just a friendly weekend spreading the word about our goats and their fiber—I was thrilled.

What I didn't know was if people would be interested in participating in an event that offered no immediate reward or recognition. I mean if you want to spend your time answering questions about goats all you have to do is take one down to your local 7 and 11 and sit outside with a goat on a leash and I guarantee you people will ask questions. Beginning with would you mind leaving?

But my fears were ill founded and with virtually no bribing or whimpering, we appeared on cue. Yvonne Taylor and Hattie Clingerman joined me in representing the Maine contingent and Pam Haendle traveled from the other side of New York State.



**Yvonne and Lance Taylor (Black Locust Farm, Maine)
with their cashmere pack goats.
They're saddled up and ready to go!**



Those East Coast Girls—at the New York Sheep and Wool Festival. Pam Haendle (left) travelled from the other side of New York. To the right of Pam is the Maine contingent: (from left to right) Linda Cortright, Yvonne Taylor and Hattie Clingerman.

State and local fairs definitely have their place in the agricultural world and somewhere between the sand art and the nightly rodeo, people pass by goats and learn that cashmere does not come in Day-Glo orange from the acrylic factory. At a sheep and wool show, people see the word cashmere and the next thing you know they're fondling your sweater—GAP \$19.99—and wanting to know where they can get some.

Although we shared the Exhibition Barn with a host of llamas (does anyone know what you call a gathering of llamas?) and a smattering of alpacas (same question...) it was a nice blend of fiber and folks all the way around.

It was only after the festival that I learned from Mary Matthews that this was not the cashmeres first visit to the show. According to Mary, about ten years ago the girls made a similar appearance when the show was much smaller and I hope that they've now returned to stay.

I would strongly urge people who are geographically suited to consider attending next year's festival. Not only did I sell several goats as a result of the show, but I acquired more fiber for spinning than I could process in the next three lifetimes. Next year, I'm sure I'll buy more.

Injectons Made Easy

By Suzanne W. Gasparotto & David Goll
Onion Creek Ranch, Rt. 1, Box 13400, Buda, TX 78610
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There are primarily two methods of giving injections. Commonly called giving shots, injections are given either into the muscle of the animal (IM) or under the skin sub-cutaneously (SQ). The type of medication being given will bear directions stating which of these two methods to use when administering it.

Into-the-muscle injections for goats should be given into the large thigh muscle. Aim the needle from the side—not the rear—to avoid hitting the sciatic nerve. Hitting this nerve with a needle can result in leg paralysis. Alternate sites for IM injections can be at the neck and the flank, but I don't recommend using these sites for shots—it is too easy to hit major blood vessels.

When giving injections of thick medications or CD/T vaccinations, rub the area before injecting the needle and do the same after completing the shot. This should help mitigate the uncomfortable stinging or burning effect that the rush of medication into the muscle causes.

Sub-cutaneous injections are normally given under the skin at the shoulder area by lifting the loose skin and sliding the needle under the skin, taking care not to hit the muscle. Watch a vet give your dog its rabies shot and you'll know how to do this. However, small kids often have very little loose skin, making SQ shoulder injections difficult, so an alternate site is the armpit area behind the front legs.

Massage the site after giving the shot; this will reduce the possibility of a lump forming at the injection site and also will help with the sting.

Before giving shots, make sure that you have on hand a bottle of epinephrine. Occasionally goats go into shock when given injections. This product is very inexpensive and can be obtained from a mail-order house like Jeffers, Caprine Supply, Hoeggers, or Valley Vet (or from your vet). Always keep a bottle of epinephrine with you when you are giving injections. Watch the expiration date on the bottle. The dosage is 1 cc per 100 pounds of body weight, given sub-cutaneously (SQ). The need for using this product is a very rare occurrence, but there is no time to go get it when it is needed. Seconds, not minutes, count, when a goat goes into shock.

into which the needle twists (Luer-lock) works best with thick medications such as Nuflor, LA-200, and Tylan 200. Luer-slip syringes (the needle slips onto the syringe) are great for oral drenching and all other types of injectable medications.

Use 3 cc syringes for most medications, but buy several other sizes as well. One cc (1 cc) syringes are needed for medicating kids. Buy five or six 12 cc syringes and 6 cc syringes for oral drenching of Resorb (electrolytes) and Corid (amprolium). Obtain a 60 cc syringe attached to a weak kid feeding tube for use in tube feeding sick kids. Buy two or three 60 cc syringes with needle-tips (smaller opening) for use in sub-cutaneous rehydrating of ill babies. The point here is that the 60 cc syringe to which the weak kid tube is attached has a wider opening for the tube attachment and is not usable with needles, so two kinds of 60 cc syringes should be kept on hand.

Buy good quality, sharp needles; Monoject is one of the best brands. For injections, use 22-gauge needles that are 3/4" long. Purchase five or six 18-gauge needles for drawing thick medications from their bottles (Ivomec 1% cattle de-wormer, Nuflor, Tylan 200, LA-200). Then remove the 18-gauge needle and inject the medication with the smaller 22-gauge needle. Eighteen-gauge (18-gauge) needles are cattle-sized; never use them on goats.

Needles and syringes are extremely inexpensive and can be purchased at your local co-op, through your veterinarian, or via mail-order suppliers (Jeffers, Valley Vet, Caprine Supply, Hoeggers, etc.) Follow these simple suggestions and giving injections will be much more pleasant, both for you and for your goats.



My Christmas Wish List

By Linda Cortright

Eastern Correspondent

I confess that in the days before I owned goats, my Christmas wish list inevitably included a few high budget items from Neiman Marcus, something really useless and equally over-priced from the Hammacher Schlemmer catalog and small array of standard Christmas fare like a bathrobe, flannel sheets and a hand mixer.

Funny that as my life has changed so has my list. In fact, I'll bet there are a few things on my list that some of you folks might be wishing for too. Last year every time someone asked me what I wanted I replied by saying a Wes Ackley hay feeder. Was "Wes Ackley" a catalogue like J. Peterman? If I was looking for a name brand hay feeder than perhaps this was something that could be purchased from Smith & Hawken? Did I mean that I actually wanted Wes Ackley to come over and feed hay to my goats twice a day?

No, no, no. Wes Ackley is one of those gnat's ass detail kind of guys (yes, that's a compliment) who hated seeing all that hay go to waste at every feeding. And so he put on his specs and grabbed his ruler and designed a hay feeder that is both efficient and safe. It allows maximum accessibility for the goats as well as minimizing danger to tiny horns that can frequently get caught in just the wrong place.

On Christmas morning, I went down to feed the girls and truly to my great surprise, there was my Wes Ackley hay feeder complete with bow. Not only was it a great Christmas for me, but the goats had a good one as well—probably because I didn't put any fruitcake in with their brand new feeder.

Because I have some sense of self control, I declined to tell people that I ALSO wanted a Doug Maier headstand. That's right, a special kind of way of standing on your head named after Doug—some people will do anything to be famous. Actually, this device which looks like something from the bowels of a medieval castle is a must have for anyone who intends to raise goats and continue walking for the rest of their natural life.

Doug's headstand, which is based on a similar rig the Co-op used to sell, is as essential to farm maintenance as water buckets, grain feeders, fencing supplies and valium. I knew I would have to wait another year before getting my headstand. But when the IRS smiled favorably upon me and sent me some of my own money back, I promptly placed my order.

Voilà—instant headstand all the way from Washington to Maine.

So now it's that time again and I hate to tell you what I want. You guessed it—a new barn. I don't want anything so big that the local high school could hold band practice inside, I just want something close to



"If I only had a barn..."

the house—really close. In fact, I want it attached to the house so if I'm of a mind to feed the goats while wearing my Christmas robe and black knee high boots (there's a fashion statement for Neiman Marcus) I can. But how do you ask someone for a barn? One beam at a time? Perhaps I could ask for sections? My brother could send me a ten foot panel. I could get some friends to chip in for the doors. Why, maybe in a few years' time I'd have it built after all.

No, no, no. The idea lacked two things, practicality and instant gratification.

Let me digress for a moment and say that as rule I try to be cheerful, optimistic, open minded and occasionally amusing. People who whine annoy me. However, there are certain things that I whine about and walking all the way down to the barn in the middle of winter weighted with water buckets while my nose is dripping is something I just don't enjoy. And so, I whine.

You have to choose your whining victims carefully. Too much whining on any one and you'll burn them out. My boss for one is not someone I whine to very often. Not only do I not want to burn him out, I don't want to be out of a job either. So as I recited my tale of dangerous travels through the ice and snow down to the barn all winter long he realized that one bad fall and he could be out of an assistant. Why, he could have to lug hundred pound lighting boxes all by himself and schlep camera equipment from one side of the planet to the next. Why he could wind up doing as much work as I do.

"How big a barn do you suppose you need?" he asked one afternoon.

"Not big," I said.

"Well, I've got an old boat barn you might use."

Continued on next page

seems risky because as I look back on my wishes for the past few years and realize that now I have the barn and the manger, I'm starting to think the baby Jesus just might appear next. But then I ask you. When was the last time you saw three wise men?



Editor's Notes: In case you've read the above story and are thinking, "Heh! That's not fair! I want a new barn, too!" (Or a sports car, or a new driveway, or ...insert name of big, impossible wish here...)

Things balance out. Linda got her new barn, but it came at a cost. Remember, Linda wanted the new barn so she wouldn't fall and break her ankle while tromping from her house to the barn in the cold, cruel winters of Maine.

As she and Santa Claus were unloading the sides of the barn, out of a big rental truck, she fell while stepping down off the back—and sprained her ankle. Like the good martyr that she is, she helped to finish unloading the truck and then went inside and "pooched on the sofa for hours."

She is now wondering if there is a message in this—perhaps a good Christmas lesson to be learned.

Her only help on the barn now, as the roof is being put on, is standing on one foot and saying, "Yup, looks straight to me!"

She is also very thankful that she didn't wish for a new barn so that she wouldn't have a heart attack walking from her house to the barn...

Also, in case you are one of the readers (like me) who never got to the part about the barn because you're still drooling over the "Wes Ackley hay feeder," never fear. We have already put in a request for the plans and they will hopefully be printed for you in the next issue.



Paul's Christmas List, Oh Wow!

Let's see...

1. One (1) less cat.
2. Tax exemptions for goat kids.
3. One (1) less cat.
4. New fence (installed).
5. One (1) less cat.
6. More fiber per goat.
7. One (1) less cat.
8. Less smell per buck.
9. One (1) less cat.
10. Fewer goat and sheep jokes at work.
11. One (1) less gray cat.
12. One (1) cat-eating goat.

Editor's Christmas Wish List

All I want for Christmas is:

1. Abundant goat browse in the winter.
2. A Windows 9x that never crashes.
3. A (cheap) printer with 6,000 dpi.
4. A 50" computer screen (measured diagonally).
5. Automatic goat waterers (and feeders).
6. Self-breeding goats.
7. A dry, warm barn.
8. A pound of cashmere per goat which is easily combed out in one easy sitting.
9. A guardian dog who eats browse.
10. 200% kidding rate (exactly) and 80% doe kids.
11. Peace on earth—or at least none of that honking and funny waving in traffic jams.
12. Two more cats just like Mickey.

Giant Stride Farm—Gerry and Pat Fuhr

Story and photographs by Yvonne Zweede-Tucker

In the late 1980's, Pat Fuhr was given two grade dairy does, Rosie and Margaret, as a joke when she and her husband Ger moved to their first farm in Ardrossan, Alberta. Pat did milk the two does for home milk use, but the does thought they were pets, as they had been hand-raised. Fencing the two was a challenge. Perhaps an even greater challenge was convincing Gerry to hang in there through their initial experiences with fence crawlers and a very odiferous leased dairy buck.

Pat became interested in Cashmere goats and was led to believe that the fiber revenue would be sufficient to support the goat and then some, and that there would be no need to sell offspring for meat. In 1990 her first Cashmere goats were purchased from Llake Eden Llamas and came north from Indian Tree Farms in Dutton, Montana.

The three does and a buck were soon followed by eight more goats, all of whom Pat admits were chosen for maximum volume of fiber (i.e. those real fuzzy ones). Good information about fiber selection was becoming more readily available, and Pat continued to read all she could about the goats and the fiber.

In 1992, two imported bucks, Strider and Yukon, arrived from Judith Richardson, an early cashmere breeder in the state of Washington. Pat tried different crosses and began to identify lines that would produce the fiber that she and the processors were looking for.

In the summer of 1993 Pat unwittingly made her first foray into selling animals for meat, when she took a nice group of does, an unrelated buck, and pictures of the same goats "in fleece" to an Odd and Unusual Sale. Well, the pictures were never displayed because her goats were just tagged and turned into one large pen full of assorted goats and sheep for buyers to choose from. Sale prices averaged \$30-40 (CAN) per head and Pat literally wept to see her goats crammed into the back of the meat buyer's van and hauled off—and not to the good home that she had hoped for.

Pat felt that she had done a disservice to her animals and the goat industry in general. She realized that her reluctance to deal with the meat markets had caused unnecessary trauma for her goats and provided the meat buyers with a supply of grossly



Pat Fuhr, Sam and a few of the girls in the beautiful Alberta countryside.

underpriced animals.

She now controls the marketing of her wethers and meat animals from start to finish. She works through an inspected abattoir (packer), picking up the fresh-chilled carcasses the following day and delivering them to the customer. Her primary market is Chinese, so carcasses are delivered hide on (scalded). She is paid by the carcass weight, which at \$3.25 (CAN) per pound, which equates to approximately \$1.25 (CAN) per pound on the hoof, depending on dressing percentage. Pat's main buyer will accept various size carcasses, as long as the animals are all less than 10 months of age, and carry no backfat.

Pat occasionally buys wethers from other producers in order to fill her orders, but standardized quality control and health issues make such reselling a challenge. She is developing markets for the by-products of the meat sales, such as hides and skulls. Networking and word of mouth advertising among her buyers continue to bring in new customers.

In 1994 Terry Sim held a fiber classing clinic in central Alberta, which was Pat's first hands-on guided classing experience. After the clinic, Pat kept all of

Continued on next page

Giant Stride Farm

Continued from previous page

her style 2+'s and 3's, was able to market her unwanted does as Boer-embryo recipients, and bred back up from an excellent base herd.

In 1996, Pat and two of her spinning buddies founded The Twisted Sisters, a weekly spinning group of about a dozen fiber aficionados who meet to spin cashmere, llama and other fibers. Pat is currently working with blending cashmere with other fibers and looks to eventually selling fiber products.

Sam the Anatolian and two of his yearling sons protect Pat's herd from predation. Part of Giant Stride Farm is thickly covered with brush, and has a resident moose and coyote population. Sam and the boys have their jobs cut out for them, but appear to be holding their own.

Pat will kid out over 100 does in the coming months, building up to the herd of approximately 200 females that she needs to supply kids for her meat orders.

Her fiber target is 200 grams of cashmere per goat, without sacrificing kid production or carcass quality. She combs her goats in January and again in March and April, needing two 20-minute sessions per goat if her timing is right. Pat has sold fiber she will not use herself directly to handspinners, to Cashmere America and to Montana Knits.

Pat is actively and successfully breeding for a solid dual-purpose goat, one that has commercial quantities of excellent cashmere, and cost-effectively raises kids that are desired for consumption. Pat feels that the challenge of the coming years is to identify the animals with the genetics to attain that goal.



Giant Stride cashmere products, exhibited at the Goat Gala



Pat, Sam and Bubba (Sam's son) and assorted goats

The Airy Knoll Farms

cashmere-producing goat herd (Cozad, Nebraska) as featured in the August 1998 CashMirror has been moved. These goats now reside at Smoke Ridge Cashmere (Choteau, Montana). This long-established herd is still for sale. Information can be obtained from Smoke Ridge Cashmere—see contact information in the Breeders' Directory.



Goat People-Vicki Biggs

Grand Marais, Minnesota



Vicki Biggs and her young billy, Nightshade (aka "Our Bill")—He's a mellow guy.

Vicki Biggs, Paul and their two labs, Ollie and Jubilee, live 15 miles north of Grand Marais, Minnesota at The Winter Farm. The winters are hard and long. In mid-November this year, the weather had already turned bad. They have already had snow and rain, which means they go into the hard cold part of winter with an irregular blanket of slippery crust underfoot and tire. The local folk are nervous about what may befall them this year as they had such a mild, pleasant winter last year. As Vicki said, "We Minnesotans are terribly big on penance."

Vicki had a fairly simple goat life. She had three does and two wethers. The girls grazed in the spring and summer and snuggled in the barn for the long winters. Her eight-year old wether was a bottle baby and bonded to her. He has a calm temperament and is a people-pleaser. He even packs firewood for them.

And then...this year, Vicki decided her girls needed a billy. She had set out to find a "tractable billy"—one who is (per her 25-pound Webster's 3rd) "capable of being easily led, taught or controlled...ready to listen, yield, conform or agree...easily handled, managed or wrought." She admitted that nothing in her Webster's description resembled most goats she knew or even the Norwegian bachelor farmer types around there. However, she thought that her future herd sire's temperament was just as important as his fleece. And so the search began.

Nightshade, a young billy (age 1-1/2 years) who certainly qualified as "tractable" arrived at the Winter

Farm at the end of August. Vicki was thrilled with his temperament. He fussed somewhat about being separated from the other goats. Vicki promised him that she'd put her younger wether with him soon.

She said, "Frankly, I am so taken with his disposition that I don't know if my two brown females should be his consorts. They are so psychotic. I'll see."

She showed Nightshade his temporary digs (see the photograph to the left). Beyond his winter exercise yard was an inviting meadow. The electric tape fence took 20 minutes to set up. The shed with the open door is an old piggy shed they use for their twin labs.

And then, mid September, two of Vicki's does left their meadow and went to "see" Nightshade. The one doe who escaped, Cappucine, was a leggy black femme fatale who went through two electric fences to be with the new hunk. She has been nicknamed "Monica." They began to refer to Nightshade as "Our Bill."

Vicki gave up and put all the does in with Nightshade. She wanted to get all the breeding out of the way so she could then give their boy a bath that he wouldn't undo while "gearing up for the girls." She said that Paul was insisting that she rid herself of her barn clothes before coming into the house. Fortunately, they live in a remote locale so she was not likely to get into trouble by disrobing on the deck. But then, he said that the deck was too close; he would prefer she use the woodshed!

When the breeding time was over, she bathed Our Bill and rinsed him with anti-skunk creme rinse. Paul is still terribly put off by the smell, but Vicki has found she reacts like an outraged mother of a prodigy. "He is the most agreeable, loving and intelligent one in the barn!"

She is wondering if there may be other things which would improve his smell. Maybe a lump of active charcoal tied between his horns? A snood stuffed with aromatic herbs tied about his chin? A friend of Vicki's who had goats and sheep in another life brought her Eau du Billy cure over one day when she came to help trim hooves. "Here, put some of this up your nose," she said to Paul, handing him a tube of Boroleum. It is reported that Paul made a very rude suggestion and stalked off into the woods.

Vicki says that she really loves the little stinker, a cross to bear, as there are no other goat people around to understand such an affection.

Vicki is a reporter for the weekly *Cook County News-Herald* and, as she says, "You know, when you have a column to bang out once a week as I do, it sure helps to have goats, chickens and a Norwegian male around to provide constant copy."

The Math Quiz



In order to raise goats, it helps if you are proficient at math. Good number crunching skills will help you to plan your time and build things without embarrassment. Take the following quiz and see if your math is good enough for goats:

1. If you have 24 bred does, 3 wethers, 12 bucks and space on your land for a maximum of 70 goats, what will your kidding percentage for this year be?
 - a. 100% if you were counting on 200%.
 - b. 200% if you were planning for 120%.
 - c. 180% for seasoned does, 120% for doelings and 0% for the two you didn't think were bred.
 - d. Always a larger percentage than what will fit in your barn for the winter.
2. You have 2 guardian dogs and each eats one lb. of food per day. Dog food comes in 40 lb. bags at the feedstore. How many sacks of dog food per month will you need to buy?
 - a. 1-1/2 bags.
 - b. 2 bags to allow for what the goats swipe before the dogs get to the dish to chase them off.
 - c. 3 bags to allow for what the goats swipe plus what the mice eat.
 - d. Why count? Just fill up the truck with dog food and get more when it's gone.
3. How much hay should you buy for the winter (assuming the herd make-up in question 1 above).
 - a. 17 bales per goat-See *CashMirror* August 1998 issue, page 18.
 - b. As much as you can fit in your barn.
 - c. As much as you can afford-They'll have to do on browse when it runs out.
 - d. 10 tons, then 5 more tons in late winter when the hay price is *really* high.
4. You're building a new goat shelter in which the plan you're following calls for 6 sheets of plywood and 2-10' poles. How much more wood will you need?
 - a. Double what the plan calls for.
 - b. At least one more sheet of plywood to replace the one you cut incorrectly.
 - c. You won't need any more-unless you want a roof on the building, of course.
 - d. None. When the wood's gone, the building's done. Heh! They're just goats!
5. You're building a new fence which, you guess, from pacing off, will be exactly the length of a roll of field fence. How much fence will be left on the roll when you finish?
 - a. 3 feet left.
 - b. Just the right amount, nothing left over.
 - c. 3 feet short.
 - d. 2 inches short.
6. To finish building side-racks for your new truck, how many trips to town will you need to make?
 - a. One. I'll have a list and a plan.
 - b. None. Everything I need is in the junk pile in the corner of the barn.
 - c. Four - One for the lumber, one for the bolts, one for larger bolts and one for lunch
 - d. One—to buy a good used stock rack advertised in the paper after I give up on building from the junk pile.
7. How many barn cats will it take to keep your barn free of mice?
 - a. None. You'll need a camouflaged ranch hand with an assault weapon to live in the barn.
 - b. The two that live in the barn and one part-time house cat.
 - c. 4,021.
 - d. There are not enough cats in the world.
8. How many partners will you have to go through until you find one who will put up with your goats?
 - a. None—The one I have will adapt.
 - b. Three.
 - c. Seven.
 - d. Twelve
9. How many goats will I need to own to make money?
 - a. 250.
 - b. Ha-Ha.
 - c. Depends on your life-style (and the goats').
 - d. Twice as many as your land will support.
10. You have the herd make-up in question one. How long will it take to trim their feet?
 - a. 39 goats X 4 feet=156 feet at 30 seconds each = 1 hr., 18 minutes (assuming you have a goat catcher to feed you a goat whenever you're ready and your back can hold up for 1 hr., 18 min. without a break).
 - b. All day.
 - c. All weekend
 - d. 5 minutes per goat--as long as I'm catching them, I might as well worm them too.

The History of Cashmere—In Australia

Information provided by
Cashdown Goats, Ballarat, Victoria, Australia



The Sensuous Fibre

It was probably Mohair that covered the sacred tent, and Mohair that lined the Covenant box (Exodus 25), history has educated the description to its hair, whatever. Cashmere is the sensuous fibre. If you don't

believe, buy a jumper, put your partner in it and feel.

What is Cashmere

ANZ cashmere has developed into a separate highly improved textile entity in its short time on the international fibre scene.

Cashmere by definition, is the fine, soft downy undercoat found on most goats, except angoras, and is associated with a courser hair, called guard hair.

Most common goat breeds, including dairy goats, have this two coated fleece, but it is the selected Australian bush goats and its bred-on progeny which produce what is marketed as Australian cashmere. As the breeding program started in 1973, it is too early to call the Australian cashmere a breed, the genotype is not well enough fixed.

Australian/ New Zealand animal husbandry practices and open spaces allow us to produce a well nourished fibre that has a life and feel that is unique. From Australian cashmere processors can produce a worsted yarn that has strength and vitality never seen before.

History

The amazing discovery in 1973 among the feral goats of western New South Wales of animals bearing a surprisingly good coverage of cashmere beneath their otherwise uninteresting exterior coats of course hair, turned scientific and other eyes westward. There appears little record of "kashmirs" being taken to Western New South Wales, but quite a number of mentions of small flocks being taken to Western Victoria. These flocks thrived only while their owners' interest held, or perhaps during the owners' lifetime.

We will trace them back as far as we can. The first fleece-bearing goats brought to Australia where those Cashmere-Angoras brought here by Mr. Alexander Riley in 1832. It must be agreed that, although called Cashmere-Angoras, they were bred towards Angoras as Angora bucks were used across the progeny.

So, as far as Cashmeres go, we forget them—or do we? Are they now showing up in our modern Angoras as recessive genes

after so many years of too-close breeding?

Riley's successful cross-breeding and the name under which the animals were imported, had given rise to the idea that Angoras and Cashmeres were identical. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The Cashmere is valued for the production of a very small quantity of downy undergrowth called "duvet" by the French. This grows with a coarse, long guard hair. The duvet is extremely valuable.

In its native land, the duvet is shed in the spring and is carefully combed out. These goats, known as the "Goat of Tibet" or "of Cashmere" are found on the highland slopes of the Himalayas and in the valleys of Tibet and Kashmir. White, with bluish or reddish patches on the neck or shoulders, or pure white, it is a handsome creature. Some have a rich reddish or golden tinge on the surface of the fleece but the wool (pushm) is white or brown.

A number of Cashmere goats were introduced into Victoria in 1863. They were brought by Dr Chalmers from Chinese Tartary. It was a marathon trip 2000 miles overland to Calcutta, taking nine months. The heat in Calcutta, as to be expected, was too great for them and only 49 finally landed in Melbourne. Half of these did not survive long after the overall primitive travel conditions and general hardship. It is doubtful whether any of these Cashmere survived more than a year or so.

Small flocks of pure Cashmere, descended from an importation of a buck and two does, was brought from India by an agent of the Peninsula and Oriental Company for Sir Samuel Wilson about 1873. He ran them very successfully at Longerong in the Wimmera of Western Victoria.

Just when Cashmeres were taken to Tasmania is difficult to determine, but there were Cashmeres there in 1874—"careful inspection shows a small quantity of silky hair near the skin completely hidden by the coarse outer hair. This inner hair may be obtained in small quantities by combing."

Fleece-bearing goats were re-introduced in 1897 to New South Wales with animals from Tasmania, which were descendants of the importation by the Acclimatisation Society of Victoria in 1870. Some of these animals were finally sent to Mr. Knox's property near Wyalong. Could they have been Cashmeres and the direct direct forebears of the present day Cashmeres? There

Continued on next page

Australian History

Continued from previous page

is so much confusion and so few records to say "yea" or "nay."

Now we have to leave Cashmere in Australia for a hundred years until 1973.

In Western New South Wales, mobs of feral goats have been collected for use as foundation does to build up the number of Angoras by crossing with purebred Angora bucks.

The surprise discovery was made by Dr Ian Smith, of the University of Sydney, while inspecting a small mob of these feral goats. He noticed that a number of these animals had undercoats of soft, fine fibre. Beneath their heavy outer coats. He took a fleece sample to Mr. Val Clark of the CSIRO in Sydney, who measured the "down" and the hair.

The "down" made up 87% (by count) of the total fibre, had a mean diameter of 13.5 microns and measured about 6 cm in average length. This suggested that the down was cashmere. The hair fiber's where about 60 microns and 5.5 cm in length.

Pure cashmere for commercial purposes is obtained by separating the "down" from the courser hair. Samples of pure Asiatic cashmere where compared with the local down. The diameter of the Asiatic Cashmere averaged from 14.3 to 22 micron and the length from 3.2 to 6.1 cm with which the newly discovered "down" compared favorably.

Helpful Hint for Showing Goats

At the 1998 Oregon Flock and Fiber Festival, Marion Johnson, Bend, Oregon, showed us a neat way to clean off goat horns. The goats in the show barn had rubbed paint off the pens onto their horns. Before showing, Marion cleaned the horns with a nail polish remover pad. Worked great!

What is Cashdown Goats?

Cashdown Goats, located near Ballarat, which is near Melbourne on the southern tip of Asutralia, raises cashmere goats and Wiltshire Horn and Dorper sheep. They use the meat sheep to balance pasture use.

They purchased their first cashmere buck in 1987 and their first does in 1988. In 1988, they sheared 830 does. They now run a stud cashmere flock of 400 breeding does. They sell cashmere, semen and breeding stock.

The farm has always selected to a standard, never for fleece color or goat age. Some of the original exceptional does still remain in their herd today. They believe that they started their cashmere herd when many others were culling goats merely for color. In hindsight, they believe that they were very lucky beginning the herd at the time they did.

Cashdown entered the industry believing that cashmere and prime lambs were an ideal combination. In 1987, they felt that there was no future in coarse wool and that the future belonged to the finer fibers.

Over the years, they have built prime lamb flocks based on sheep breeds which lose their wool and they have relentlessly developed the cashmere. They were under no illusions, when they entered the industry, that their goats would cut commercial quantities of fleece. As they are now seeing animals in their flock which cut 500 grams of cashmere at 17.50µ, this is no longer the case.

For 1998, their selection criteria were, minimum fiber length of 90 mm (3-1/2 inches) and a minimum down weight of 200 grams (5 ounces) per goat. No buck was used unless his mother had produced a fleece with a down weight of 300 grams or more and only bucks with a mean fiber diameter of less than 17.5µ were used. Previous years' selection criteria included even fiber and good feet.

Their future goals include producing a high-producing line. They will continue to breed robust animals with commercial quantities of long cashmere. At this stage, they believe that fiber handle is important and that color of the fiber is not.

They believe that ANZ cashmere industry will only survive if they produce an exceptionally luxurious product which is commercially viable.

Find out more about Cashdown Goats—on their internet site at:

<http://www.cashdown.com.au/cashmere.html>

Calendar of Events

Association Contacts

January 9 - 24, 1999

National Western Stock Show & Rodeo, 4655 Humboldt St, Denver, Colorado 80216-2818, Phone 303-297-1166. Website for detailed calendar of events: <http://www.nationalwestern.com>

January 13, 1999

National Western Stock Show, Goat Shearing Contest, 6 PM, Stadium Hall, Level 1, see address and telephone above.

January 13, 1999

Cashmere America Co-op membership meeting Denver, Colorado at National Western Stock Show.

January 14, 1999

National Western Stock Show, Cashmere Goat Show, 10 am, Stadium Hall, Level 1, see address and telephone above.

January 16, 1999

5th Annual Pygora Goat Show & Fiber Frenzy The Armory Building, Washington County Fair Complex, Hillsboro, OR. Fun, fiber, fleeces, vendors, goat show, demos. 10 am - 5 pm. Free admission. For more info: Lisa Roskopf: 503-985-3331, Jackie Liner: 503-623-2376.

January 30, 1999

Barn to Yarn VII, Pioneer Museum Complex, 309 W Main, Fredericksburg, Texas, 512-440-1025 Festival showcasing fiber production and different ways in which wool, cotton, mohair, camel hair, etc. can be transformed into useful products. Demonstrations: Spinning, weaving, hooking, felting, lacing, etc.

March 20, 1999

Farm Field Day, Goat Knoll, Dallas, Oregon Details to come later.

May 29, 1999

Back of the Wasatch Fiber Festival, Summit County Fairgrounds, Coalville, Utah, Featuring llamas, alpacas, sheep, stockdogs and everybody's favorite: goats! More info: Heide Smith 435-649-3856 (evenings).

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

Breeders

CANADA

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#31
Parral, Chih, Mexico 33800
Phone: 3-06-02

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

SUNRISE CASHMERES

Melody and Jeremy Driscoll
PO Box 245
Blocksburg, CA 95514
707-926-5430

COLORADO

MARSHALL'S MINI-FARM

12906 Appaloosa Ave.
Wellington, CO 80549
970-568-7941

ROLIG GOAT RANCH

Cashmere Producing Goats
Steven or Ellen Rolig
8435 CR 600
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-731-9083, email:
roligoatranch@

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KENTUCKY

OCTOBER FARM II

Dick and Dottie Gould
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606-666-4878
email: octfarm2@aol.com

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BLACK LOCUST FARM

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email: Lance@airs.com

GRUMBLE GOAT FARM

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207-785-3350
fax: 207-785-5633
email: grumble@midcoast.com

HARDSCRABBLE FARM

Hattie Clingerman
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207-223-4211

MARYLAND

MIDDLETOWN FARM

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MINNESOTA

THE WINTER FARM

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Grand Marais, MN 55604
218-387-1913
email: momsuper@boreal.org

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CASTLE CRAGS RANCH

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894 Pheasant Run
Hamilton, MT 59840
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SMOKE RIDGE

CASHMERE
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Yvonne Zweede-Tucker
2870 Eighth Lane NW
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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

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Mitchell, NE 69357
308-623-2627
email: ajbecker@PrairieWeb.COM

SANDHILLS CASHMERE

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

NEVADA

ROYAL CASHMERE

Eileen Cornwell
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Gardnerville, NV 89410
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Fax: 702-265-1814
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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

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
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Mannsville, OK 73447
580-371-3167
fax: 580-371-9589
email: jkc@flash.net

Directory

OREGON

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CHEHALEM CASHMERE

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Hillsboro, OR 97123
503-538-9791

FOXMOOR FARM

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Phone: 503-873-5474
Message: 503-873-5430
email: foxmoorfarm@juno.com

GOAT KNOLL

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Fax: 503-624-1704
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HAWKS MOUNTAIN PYGORA'S

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MCTIMMONDS VALLEY FARM

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MOONSHADOW FARM

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email: moon@hevanet.com

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ROARING CREEK FARMS

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SOMERSET CASHMERE

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WILLOW-WITT RANCH

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541-890-1998

PENNSYLVANIA

PHEASANT HILL FARM

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New Hope, PA 18938
215-598-7627
email: phcashme@voicenet.com

SANDRA ROSE CASHMERES

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Palmyra, PA 17078
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Fax: 802-824-4072

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FOGGY BOTTOM FARM

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540-254-1628
email: mhwabc@juno.com

RANEY DAY KIDS

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Goshen, VA 24439
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Fax: 540-997-1124

STONEY CREST FARM

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email: cashmere@shentel.net

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BREEZY MEADOW CASHMERE FARM

Douglas and Roberta Maier
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Bellingham, WA 98226
360-733-6742

BROOKFIELD FARM

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

Continued on next page

Breeders Directory
Continued from previous page

360-715-1604

KELLERS KRITTERS

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

LIBERTY FARM (NLF)

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

RAINFLOWER FARM

Sue Lasswell
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Sultan, WA 98294
360-793-9590
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Rainflower@compuserve.com

**STILL WATERS
CASHMERE**

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

WALLFLOWER FARM

Dan and Marti Wall
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email: cashmere@sos.net

WINDRIDGE FARM

Becki and Jim Belcher
202 Clemans View Rd.
Selah, WA 98942

CRR Cashmere Goats & Alpacas

Goats, Alpacas and Fleece for Sale



Tia and Peter Rosengarte
Box 37, Weston, VT 05161

Tel. (802) 824-8190

Fax (802) 824-4072

COOL Internet Sites

By Paul G. Johnson

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Acres/3014/>

The Goat Lady and her goats. General and fun goat info. Midi alert! Has interesting links.

<http://www.sit.wisc.edu/~jhbollar/type.html>

Picture of a goat typing. Yup, typing. Check it out. It's a link from:

<http://www.sit.wisc.edu/~jhbollar/index.html>

which is titled "Goats Rule." Sort of PG-13 rated, but worth a visit!! (Selected as "Worst of the Web") Be sure to visit the Greek link and the "Taxonomix breakdown."

<http://www.activanet.es/cashmere/historia.html>

A veritable fount of mis-information on cashmere and Scottish goats—from an outfit called "Cashmere Ecosse."

<http://www.starwars.com/episode-i/news/trailer/>

The official Star Wars page, with trailer on new movie coming out next year! A must for sci fi phreaks. Yo! Steve!

<http://www.angelfire.com/ga/barnyard/index.html>

BarnYard's Mutt Goat Registry.
Humorous, tongue in cheek registry.

<http://www.canwine.com/fiber/index.html>

Fiber Resources Page.
For spinners and fiber folk. Great fiber links.

<http://www.tennesseeatgoats.com/>

Onion Creek Ranch page.
Meat and general goat info. Good basics on goat care.

<http://bluehen.ags.udel.edu/deces/goatmgt/gm-list.htm>

Continued on next page



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E-mail: sales@nandia.com

Dealer Inquiries are Welcome

Cool Internet Sites

Continued from previous page

University of Delaware Extension Service Goat Management page. Mostly on dairy goat products.

<http://tcagoats.com/>

Texas Cashmere Association. TCA homepage with registry link

<http://www.bluemountain.com/cards/box3545g/mi338ngz-bxrwtwi.htm#SELFopen>

Mickey the stupid cat's birthday card.

<http://www.cashdown.com.au/acga.html>

Australian Cashmere Growers Association homepage.

<http://www.cashdown.com.au/default.html>

Cashdown Goats (Australia) page.

<http://www.sympac.com.au/~illowra/>

Illowra Cashmere, Australia, Home Page.

They list their fibre diameter, and more!

<http://members.tripod.com/duhgoatman/goatkingdom.htm>

The Goat Kingdom, "Home of Duh Goat Man," Fun page, good links.

<http://www.caprine.co.nz>

The Goat Farmer magazine, New Zealand.

<http://www.hayexchange.com/hay.htm>

World-wide hay exchange for buyers and sellers.

Primarily US, Canada, Mexico.

<http://www.open.org/janushanus/>

McTimmonds Valley Ranch, Oregon

Specializing in Pygora fiber and skins

<http://videotron.ab.ca/users/g.fulcher/home/goatpage.htm>

Canadian and US goat links

<http://www.vetnet.ucdavis.edu/>

University Of California Vet School site

<http://www.aciar.gov.au/>

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research

Interesting, and GREAT links page!

<http://pluto.beseen.com/boardroom/b/18526>

WWW Caprine Transport

Bulletin board for goat folks move their goats from place to place. Goat folks helping goat folks.

<http://texnat.tamu.edu/ranchref/predator/pred.htm>

Texas A&M pages on them nasty critters that eat your goats.

<http://aipl.arsusda.gov/>

USDA Animal Improvement Programs Laboratory

For those into genetic evaluations, mostly dairy.

<http://www.immgen.com/>

IMMGEN, Inc.

For those REALLY into genetics! Blood typing and DNA typing. A must for any herd!??!

<http://www.pulsenet.com/~lzbozny/index.html>

Fiber Mavens. For you fiber (fibre) junkies, like our Editor.

<http://www.boergoats.com/index.html>

Boer & Meat Goat Information Center

<http://www.yfc-web.org.uk/>

Young Farmers Clubs, United Kingdom

Good one for older kids and teenagers

<http://www.studyweb.com/agriculture/agmedia.htm>

Study Web, their ag site. Very good links for anyone, but especially high school/college students on a variety of ag subjects. Other categories at their home page, along with such things as "Home Work Help Online."

<http://ext.usu.edu/wsare/>

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

USDA grant program "...to expand knowledge and adoption of sustainable agriculture practices that are economically viable, environmentally sound and socially acceptable."

<http://www.vagoat.com/>

State Fair of Virginia Goat Dept. Good links and info.

<http://www.ics.uci.edu/~pazzani/4H/>

Irvine Mesa Charros 4-H Club, Irvine, California

Videos on page 18 demo how to show a goat.

Livestock Recordkeeping Software

<http://home.earthlink.net/~scubic/>

Report Generation Services

"An easy to use agricultural and livestock management program developed to meet the document-management and record-keeping needs of farming operations of all sizes."

<http://www.farmworks.com/>

FarmWorks, software for Palm and Handheld PC users.

<http://www.farmsoft.com/>

Farmers Software Association

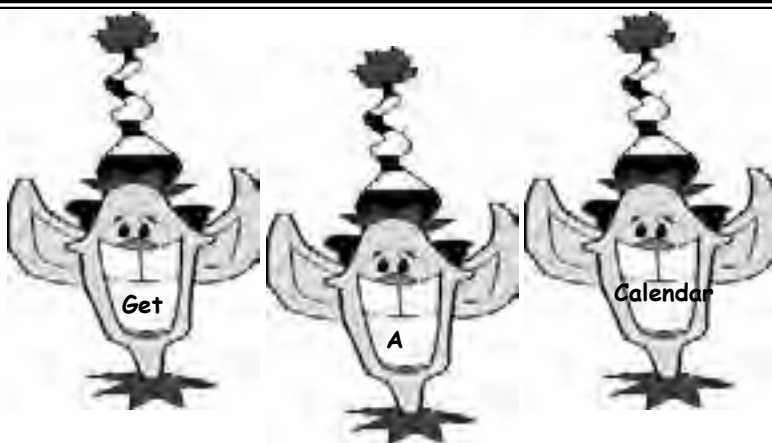
Info on software and hardware for farmers and ranchers. Good source! Links are super!

<http://www.shortassets.com/webdoc4.htm>

The Animal Record Keeper Software

Horses, Donkeys, Llamas, Zebras, **Goats**, Dogs etc.

Due to yet another Microsoft products crash, some of these may be duplicates. If you want these or past URL's in a more easily used document, just e-mail us.



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

Older women make beautiful mothers—Good-producing four and five year old cashmere does, bred. Good mothers, several colors. Sim grading, last year's fleeces and past year's kids available for inspection. Goat Knoll, 2280 S Church Rd, Dallas, OR 97338, 503-623-5194, email goatknol@teleport.com

Shearing Stands: 360-733-6742.

Small herd for sale: 9 does, 1 buck (white, dehorned), some bred, some open, one black, 2 light ginger, rest white, \$200/head, discount for whole herd. Michelle Dobbins, HC3, Box 1014, Tucson, AZ 85739, 520-825-7814.



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...US Government

"All my web sites are in the corners of my house."

...Merle Weiss

"Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state, an intolerable one."

...Thomas Paine, 1776

"There are seven miles of yarn in a typical cashmere sweater."

...Forté Cashmere Company

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.

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