



MOHAIR
Australia Limited

HUNTER REGION

News
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NATS 2020

13- 15th March, 2020

Congratulations to Debbie Scattergood, Cullbookie Angora Stud, with her success at the 2020 NATS held in Goulburn NSW.

Cullbookie Stud was the winner of the Most Successful Exhibitor - Animals which is sponsored by Mohair Australia Ltd - Hunter Region each year.



MOHAIR AUSTRALIA LTD - HUNTER REGION
HUNTER REGION NEWS
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 SINGLETON NSW 2330

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02 4938 7536

email: inwood-s@bigpond.net.au

(Please note that mohair knee rugs are no longer made)

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CONTENTS:

Regular:

Advertising rates11
 Committee and Contents 3
 Dates for the Calendar11
 For your information 4
 Information Directory11
 Mohair Report.8
 Presidents Piece.....5
 Region—Sale of St Albans products2
 Subscriptions.....2

ADVERTISERS:

Inwood Angora Stud.....5
 Pleasant View Angoras 4

FEATURE ARTICLES

Electric Fencing Yes or No?10
 Rhododendrons & Azaleas 9
 Weaning in goats 7
 What to do when does are aborting LLS6

Note: Opinions expressed within these pages may not necessarily be those of Mohair Australia Limited - Hunter Region Committee.

Reprint of articles from our Newsletters are welcome, following a courtesy call to the Editor.

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ANIMAL REGISTRATIONS

Registrations and Transfers can be carried out online. You will need a password which can be obtained by contacting the Mohair Australia registrar, provided you are a financial member.

Doug Stapleton on 0408 681 610 or

Email: mohair@mohair.org.au

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**AMMO Sale**

The next date for sale of mohair will be the 11th September, 2020 and closing date was 29th May, 2020.

If you have mohair to send from the Hunter Region to AMMO please contact Bill or Sandie Smith on 4938 7536 or email to inwood-@bigpond.net.au.

NATS 2020

Congratulations to Debbie Scattergood who once again won the “Most Successful Exhibitor - Animals” trophy sponsored by our Region. Many thanks to Doug Stapleton for supplying the photos on request.

Annual General Meeting

This meeting will be held on THURSDAY 16th JULY at 11am at 200 Lindsay Road, North Rothbury. Members are asked to bring a plate towards lunch.

More details on the back of this Newsletter.

New Breeder in Directory

Many thanks to Steve Roots who is supporting our newsletter by placing a paid Advertisement in our Breeders Directory.



Pleasant View Angoras

Commercial and Stud Animals

ABN 77 463 185 414

Gail and Chris Batch

381 Goorangoola Road,

MOUNT PLEASANT, via SINGLETON NSW 2330

02 65773212

Email: pleasantviewfibres@gmail.com

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Spinning lessons can be organised by arrangement

For enquiries contact Gail or Chris

Mohair Australia Website

www.mohair.com.au

Head Office email:

mohair@mohair.org.au

Presidents Report 2020

This past year has been a very unsettling year for most of us, starting out with a number of years of severe drought, some small relief, then followed by severe bushfires in our State.

We then suffered flooding in some areas and closely followed up with restrictions and concern about the Covid-19 pandemic.

While we have not been personally affected there are many who have been, and our thoughts go out to them.

When you have a farm with animals it is most important that we look after our own health and well-being, and that of our families. The animals need us to manage them effectively.

Our Region meeting was cancelled due to the travel and health restrictions, however we communicated by phone and email.

The decision was made to make our next meeting our Annual General Meeting, and this is to be held on Thursday 16th July, 2020 here at our home.

With so little happening in the Industry, we take the opportunity to catch up with other members, share concerns and enjoy some refreshments. We hope you can join us. More details on the back of this newsletter.

Our thoughts go out to all our members, and we hope that we can all return to some sort of “normal” in the very near future.

Regards

Bill & Sandie Smith



INWOOD

Angora Goats

And Manufacturers of
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AMMO RECEIVAL CENTRE

Bill and Sandie Smith

phone (02) 4938 7536

email: inwood-s@bigpond.net.au

Brower's Bulletin 12

What to do when your does are aborting?



Many of you would be going through kidding at the moment and every now and then you are faced with the devastation of multiple abortions. It is often difficult to work out the actual cause but if we can gather all the necessary information it may assist us with a diagnosis and put preventative measure in place to prevent further issues.

Important information required when dealing with abortions in goats

- What stage of gestation did the abortion occur?
- What is the general breeding history of the herd? i.e. have many does returned to service during the joining period?
- What is the incidence of abortions, stillbirths and weak kids in the herd? What clinical signs are you seeing with the weak kids?
- Is it an individual or herd problem? Number of animals affected?
- Have there been any newly introduced animals? Are the abortions occurring in the homebred or introduced does?
- Vaccination history?
- Have abortions occurred in previous years?
- What feed are they on? Are they being fed any supplements?
- How is the food stored?
- What is the does body condition score?
- Any know concurrent diseases in the herd? Internal parasites?
- Age of the doe that is aborting?
- Any drugs used in the herd?
- Could the goats have had any access to poisons?
- Have the does been exposed to any stress? i.e. transport or handling
- Any mummified foetuses present?
- Is the doe showing any clinical signs other than abortion?

It is important to save all the products of abortion to assist with a diagnosis but always be careful and wear your personal protective equipment (gloves, mask and protective clothes) as some causes of abortion can be zoonotic and cause severe illness in people, especially pregnant ladies and children. Any aborting doe should be isolated from the rest of the herd until there is a diagnosis or the uterine fluid discharge has stopped.

A placenta and the aborted foetus can be very useful in the diagnosis of abortion. It is a good idea to take a photo and write down a description of what you see at the time of abortion. Ideally, if you can get the placenta and foetus to a veterinarian as soon as possible, we may be able send samples away for testing. Bag the foetus and placenta and put the samples into an esky with an ice-brick. Samples go off very quickly, so if you cannot get your samples to a veterinarian it is best to destroy them via incineration or burial ASAP.

If you have any further questions please contact me on Ph: 0428498687.

WEANING IN GOATS

When best to wean will be determined by live bodyweight, age and economic considerations, i.e. dairy versus fibre goat.

The sooner the kids reach weaning weight, the better. Ideally weaning should occur 13 weeks after the start of kidding in a flock joined for 6 weeks.

Extrapolating from sheep statistics, the minimum weight for weaning should be 50% of the 18 month live weight, i.e. about 15-17kg for kids. An important management consideration is the need to wean before kids begin mating with each other or with their dams. Kids reach puberty at 40% of the dams adult body weight, reinforcing that weaning is required before kids reach 18 kg (based on adult angora doe weight of 40-45kg).

It is possible to successfully wean kids at 8-10kg liveweight but special care and excellent nutrition are needed. Dairy goat kids reared on milk or milk replacer can be weaned at 9kg, 8 weeks of age, or when consuming a minimum of 30g solid feed per day.

It is important to avoid weaning shock – a consequence of delayed rumen development seen with ad lib milk feeding. To establish a balance between rapid growth rate and early development of a functional rumen, restrict to twice daily milk feeding and provide a grain based starter ration. This should allow successful weaning at around 12kg.

Fibre goats are often not weaned until 4-5 months of age. The safest policy is to wean on the basis of body weight, which avoids premature weaning of unhealthy or under-nourished kids, which might suffer a severe weaning shock.

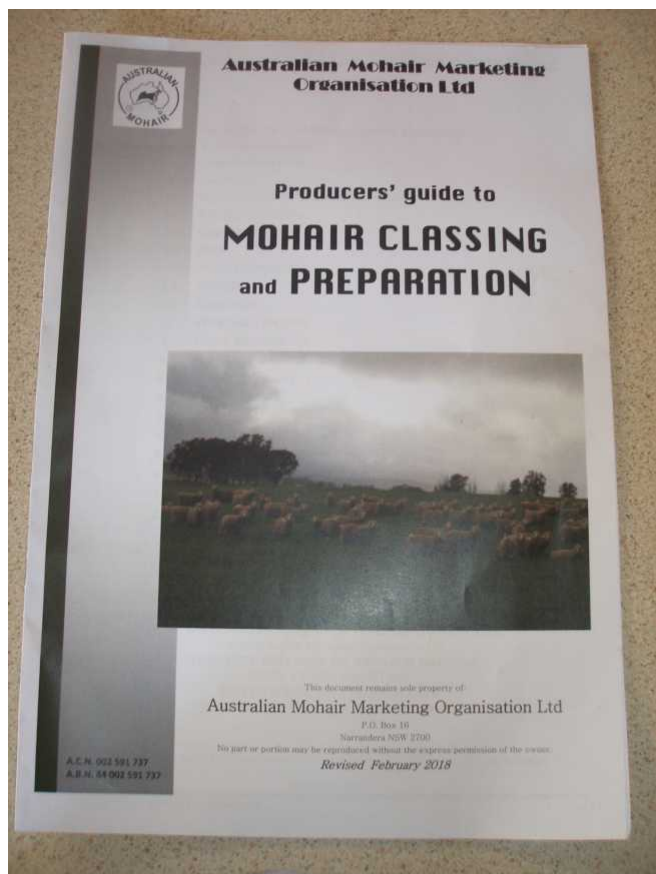
Kids should be weaned on to the best available pasture. The aim is to achieve a good growth rate so kids can be weaned by mid spring. This should ensure 6-8 weeks of high quality spring feed before pasture quality declines. Where summer lucerne or irrigated pastures are available weaned goats will continue to grow over summer. Early cut hay, high quality lucerne hay, clover hay and sweet lupin grain are excellent feeds.

Begin supplementary feeding when pastures start to dry off, and keep feeding until about a month after the autumn break. Ill thrift in winter is less likely if kids have been well fed during spring, summer. If supplements must be fed in winter, mixtures of barley and lupins will be sufficient.

No matter how good the kids are at weaning, they can rapidly deteriorate if subjected to coccidiosis, worms or trace element deficiencies such as cobalt or selenium. Disease prevention must therefore be a prime concern or a lot of effort and expense will be wasted.

Reference:

*B.A. McGregor “Nutritional Management” Goat Advisory Practise
Excerpts from “Goat Health and Production” taken from Goat Advisory Practise*



Classing Standards

Just in case you haven't heard or seen the standards for classing of your mohair, AMMO wants to remind producers that lengths have changed to reflect lengths used Internationally and there have been a few other changes as well.

A copy of the new Standards can be downloaded from AMMO website

<http://ausmohair.com.au/mohair-preparation/mohair-classing/>

or AMMO can send you out a copy and a length card to use in the shed when you're classing.

MOHAIR REPORT

For more information

Visit AMMO website
www.ausmohair.com.au

AMMO Hunter Receival Centre

Bill & Sandie Smith
"Inwood" 200 Lindsay Road,
North Rothbury. 2335

Phone: 02 4938 7536

Email: inwood-s@bigpond.net.au

WEAVING TYPE MOHAIR

Mohair producers are now able to have their angora goats assessed for inclusion in a special line of weaving quality mohair.

This mohair will be handled through AMMO.

More information is available from AMMO or by contacting

G T Ferreira on
fgtaus@bigpond.com

Brower's Bulletin 9



Rhododendrons and Azaleas

The pictures above show just a few of the many colours you will find with Rhododendrons and Azaleas. All Azaleas are in fact true Rhododendrons and Rhododendrons are evergreen plants which can come in a variety of forms such as a potted plant, garden shrubs and trees. Rhododendrons generally grow better in cooler climates but certain varieties will cope well in a coastal environment. There are between 800 and 900 wild kinds of rhododendrons and thousands of hybrids.

Why am I telling you this you may ask? The fact is that these plants are highly toxic to goats and they only have to ingest a small amount (0.1% of the goats body weight) to make a goat very sick.

Many people have these plants growing in their gardens and they will prune them and give all the cuttings to their goats. This can be devastating! Within 6 hours of ingesting these plants they will have severe abdominal pain, bloating, increase in salivation, projectile vomiting, recumbancy and death.

Goats have a very bad habit of ignoring fences and making their way to the rhododendron plant in your house yard, especially in winter when many other plants have dried off and the lovely green Rhododendron looks very appealing, or the well-meaning neighbours throwing the goats their clippings from the garden which can lead to spectacular projectile vomiting and death. Kids are more prone to toxicity as they will eat anything while adults are a little more selective.

I would recommend that all rhododendron plants are securely fenced off or removed if you have goats on your property and if you live in a peri urban area that a "Do Not Feed the Goats" sign is placed on the front fence. Do not rely on the signs alone, have a conversation with the neighbours about this issue as some people will think that the sign is not relevant to them.

If your goat has ingested rhododendrons then a vet should be called as soon as possible. While waiting for the vet to arrive, remove the goat from the plant, empty its mouth and try to keep it moving which will prevent cudging and digestion of the toxin. Strong tea (cooled) can be used as a gastric stimulant and helps precipitates out the toxin, large doses of paraffin oil (500ml) can assist in moving the plant through the gut quickly and activated charcoal can be given at 2-9g/kg to bind the toxin and prevent absorption. Veterinary medications are required to reduce pain, increase the heart rate, treat the shock and fluid loss, provide antibiotics to prevent pneumonia from inhaling vomit and assist with rapid emptying of the gastrointestinal tract.

Prevention is better than cure!

DATES FOR THE CALENDAR

2020

JULY 16 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. See details on back page of this Newsletter.

Date of next Region Meeting to be decided at our Annual General Meeting

Electric fencing - Yes or No?

- Make sure that it is substantially cheaper than wire-mesh fencing as is claimed for it.
- A frightened Angora will push or hurtle through gaps that you thought were too small, and so will one bent on mating or reaching her kid. I found that the recommended five strand fence was no barrier at all in those circumstances, and where one Angora goes, many follow.
- Shorting may occur if the grass grows too high or if branches fall and connect 2 wires.
- You may need extra small gates for your own convenience. If something needs attention in the paddock, you can climb through conventional fencing, but you will have to walk back to the nearest gate in an electric one.
- While in full fleece, the effect of the electric shock on an angora seems so diminished as to be negligible.
- Accidents happen. And an animal caught up in an electric fence is at far greater risk than one caught in mesh. I found a goat once and had the choice to unhook the leg from the live wire or leave and trot a long way to the main switch and back, in other words have some extra cut-off switches around the property.
- During a power cut your fences will not be electrified unless they are solar-powered or have an alternative source of energy.

Reprinted by request from past Hunter Region Newsletter.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HUNTER MOHAIR INCORPORATED

Members are invited to attend the Hunter Mohair Incorporated Annual General Meeting. This will be held following the Mohair Australia Ltd - Hunter Region AGM on the 16th July.

Agenda Item: The future of Hunter Mohair Incorporated

DIRECTORY

BARFORD VIEW

Angora Stud

P E Webber
185 Horns Crossing Rd
Vacy 2421
Ph 02 4938 8194

INWOOD

ANGORA STUD

Bill & Sandie Smith



200 Lindsay Road, NORTH
ROTHBURY 2335

Ph: 02 4938 7536

email inwood-s@bigpond.net.au

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Paul: 0414 487 521

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Steve Roots 02 6366 9444

Email: cardui2@bigpond.net.au

Pleasant View Angora



Chris & Gail Batch
381 Goorangoola Road
Mt Pleasant via Singleton
2330

Email:pleasantviewfibres@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|---------|----------|----------|
| Full Page 180 x 250mm | Single Issue | \$40.00 | 4 Issues | \$130.00 |
| Half Page 180 x 120mm | Single Issue | \$27.00 | 4 Issues | \$88.00 |
| Directory for Breeders & Growers etc. | | | 4 Issues | \$12.00 |

Deadline for copy - 14th February, 14th May, 14th August, 14th November

PLEASE NOTE CONTACT DETAILS FOR MOHAIR AUSTRALIA LTD

Mohair Australia Ltd,
P O Box 248
MUNDARING WA 6073

Phone: 08 9574 7090 / 0409 743 968

Email: mohair@mohair.org.au

MOHAIR AUSTRALIA LTD - MEMBERSHIP FEES - 2020

Membership/Renewal forms available on the MA website under "forms"

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Breeder (Full voting rights) | \$130.00 | Education | \$55.00 |
| Commercial (Full voting rights) | \$80.00 | Ordinary (Region voting only) | \$30.00 |
| Trader (Full voting rights) | \$130.00 | Junior (18 years or under) | \$10.00 |

Bank Details: BSB 062 583 Account 1011 1481 Name: Mohair Australia Ltd.



Car Stickers “Angora Goats grow Mohair”
with Mohair Aust. Logo \$2.50 each.

Calico Bags “Angora Goats Grow
Mohair” \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00
(Bulk orders negotiable)



Contact:

Mohair Australia Ltd - Hunter Region

Secretary: Sandie Smith 02 4938 7536 or inwood-s@bigpond.net.au

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C/- Editor, Sandie Smith
200 Lindsay Road
NORTH ROTHBURY 2335**

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MOHAIR AUSTRALIA LTD - HUNTER REGION

THURSDAY 16th JULY, 2020

**Venue: 200 Lindsay Road, North Rothbury
Time: 11am**



Please bring a plate towards lunch.

RSVP: Secretary Sandie Smith 4938 7536 or inwood-s@bigpond.net.au