



**MOHAIR**  
Australia Limited

# HUNTER REGION

*News*  
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## GOATS OFF-SHEARS ARE GREAT FOR WEED CONTROL



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**Mohair Australia Ltd - Hunter Region**  
**Sandie Smith**  
**02 4938 7536**

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

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**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 last sale of mohair at Australian Mohair Marketing Organisation was on the 23rd April, 2021 in Narrandera.

AMMO's first Auction for 2021 saw very spirited bidding for the 16,822 kg on offer with a sale average of \$30.05. Prices increased because of very strong demand and low levels of supply. A new Australian buyer in the market improved competition.

The sale average was \$5.30 above the previous best AMMO average. Record prices were received for young goat and fine adult.

Top prices: KID \$60.40, FF Young Goat \$50.00 and FF Hair \$35.60

The closing date for the next AMMO sale which is to be held around September will be the end of June.

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.

**Hunter Region Annual General Meeting**

Date for the next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 15th July at 11am, and will be held at 200 Lindsay Road, North Rothbury.

Lunch will follow and you are asked to bring a plate. All welcome to attend.



# INWOOD

## Angora Stud

*Established 1986*

*NSW Hunter Region:*

*200 Lindsay Road, North Rothbury NSW 2335*

*Sell your mohair, we are an*

### AMMO RECEIVAL CENTRE

**Bill and Sandie Smith**

*phone (02) 4938 7536*

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**Mohair Australia Website**  
**Head Office email:**

**[www.mohair.com.au](http://www.mohair.com.au)**  
**[mohair@mohair.org.au](mailto:mohair@mohair.org.au)**

## **Presidents Report**

Dear Members,

The chill of winter has arrived on the farm and the grass has slowed in growth; next we will see a touch of frost on the ground.

This time of the year we need to remember the animals need extra feed to sustain their health, fleece growth and if pregnant the growth and development of the growing kid or kids.

Barbers pole worm has been causing problems throughout the area, I hope everyone is aware of the signs in their animals and have been getting worm counts done and treating the problem, maybe this winter will be cold enough to kill the worms off for a while, I hope.

This year is a voting year for Mohair Australia Ltd, which includes the National board, State Divisions and Regions.

### NSW Division.

Call for nominations is from 14<sup>th</sup> June until the 6<sup>th</sup> July and the nomination form is available from me at [brindella@bigpond.com](mailto:brindella@bigpond.com)

If you would like to be involved or know someone who would like to be involved, please put in the nomination.

All the best for the winter season.

Jenny Readford

President

## **Weed control using goats**

Goats may be used in conjunction with conventional weed control methods. They are efficient browsers and grazers of weeds that may have been missed during spraying and effectively control residual weeds in rocky outcrops, corners, around trees and along fence lines.

### **The advantages**

- savings in the cost of chemicals, labour, time and machinery
- sustained and efficient levels of control
- returns from goat products
- environmental (reduced chemical use)

The grower maintains control at all stages by being able to decrease or increase grazing pressure depending on prevailing seasonal conditions. Other control methods do not give the producer the same level of control.

**Ed.** *Following our reduced goat numbers, for health reasons, I have noticed the return of weeds that we have not seen for many years. This would be due to some good rain after drought and our number of goats grazing the paddocks. The weeds include Lantana from our neighbours property.*

Browser's Bulletin in the

Hunter



February 2021

## Browser's Bulletin 53: Yersiniosis in Goats

Over the last 4 months we have seen serious issues with internal parasites across the State with barber's pole worm causing the most severe losses. We have noticed within the last month a change in the percentage of worm species, with an increase in the scour worms (trichostrongylus and ostertagia). Given that the conditions are still ideal for barber's pole, it has surprised us to see a significant rise in the scour worm species. While the wet, humid seasonal conditions have no doubt contributed to survival of scour worm eggs and larvae on pasture, the increased numbers of scour worms could also be due to with drench resistance in the scour worms, highlighting the importance of checking the effectiveness of your drenches.



I have been fortunate enough to chat with a fellow District Veterinarian from the North West LLS about an interesting case of scours in a mob of 270 boer goats (14 affected and 8 deaths). The issues began for this producer in December 2020 with scours and deaths occurring in a few goats and barber's pole worm noticed on postmortem examination. Drenching was undertaken, with many of the goat's scours clearing up. A few goats continued to have a watery brown diarrhoea (+/- mucous), dehydration, bottle jaw (submandibular oedema), rough coats and over 10-14 days they would lose condition, stop eating, lay down and die. Some individuals improved on supplementary feed, but bottle jaw and scours returned when supplement was removed.

Postmortem examination revealed minimal fat in the carcass and obvious red thickening of the large intestine. Samples were sent to EMAI, and a diagnosis of *Yersinia enterocolitica* was confirmed on culture and histopathology. The remaining clinical cases were treated with oxytetracycline antibiotics and have responded well with no further deaths.



Yersinia bacteria (*Yersinia enterocolitica* and *Yersinia pseudotuberculosis*) can lead to enteritis, abortion, mastitis, internal abscesses, septicaemia and death in animals throughout the world and is a zoonotic disease (i.e. can be caught by humans).

Predisposing factors to disease include stress, overcrowding, sudden weather changes and concurrent disease (e.g. internal parasites). Birds, pigs, and rodents are considered a reservoir of infection and may introduce a virulent strain into your susceptible herd by contaminating feedstuff. Given that the NSW mouse population has grown to plague proportions, spreading of diseases such as Yersinia is a potential concern for all producers.

"Common things happen commonly" and worms are generally on the top of the list when it comes to sheep/goats with ill thrift, weight loss, scours and anaemia, but it is important to keep an open mind about other potential concurrent diseases, especially with a mouse plague tearing through regional NSW. Enterotoxaemia (pulpy kidney) is another common disease in goats, so don't forget to vaccinate your stock every 6 months with a clostridial vaccine.

If you have other questions and concerns about Yersiniosis in small ruminants, please send me an email on [kylie.greentree@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kylie.greentree@lls.nsw.gov.au)

#### References:

- Matthews, J; 2009. Diseases of the Goat  
Smith, M.C, Sherman,D.M; 2009.Goat medicine 2<sup>nd</sup> edition

© State of New South Wales through Local Land Services 2019. The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing November 2019. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of Local Land Services or the user's independent adviser. For updates go to [www.lls.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au)

## MOHAIR REPORT

For more information

**Visit AMMO website**  
**[www.ausmohair.com.au](http://www.ausmohair.com.au)**

#### **AMMO Hunter Receiving Centre**

Bill & Sandie Smith  
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North Rothbury. 2335

**Phone: 02 4938 7536**

Email: [inwood-s@bigpond.net.au](mailto: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](mailto:fgtaus@bigpond.com)**

## Lantana fact sheet

### History

Lantana (*Lantana camara*) is a large flowering shrub native to Central and South America that readily grows into thickets. After being brought to Australia as an ornamental garden plant in about 1841, the weed quickly escaped domestic cultivation and within 20 years was established in the wild. Lantana was first declared noxious around 1920 and by the 1950s it had spread over more than 1600 kilometres of the eastern Australian coastline. In 2006, the invasion, establishment and spread of lantana was listed as a [Key Threatening Process](#) in Schedule 3 under the NSW [Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995](#).

### Distribution

Lantana occurs in most coastal and eastern escarpment areas from [Narooma to Far North Queensland](#). It thrives in warm environments with high rainfall where the weed grows along forest edges, penetrates disturbed rainforest and invades open eucalypt woodlands and pastures. Within Australia, it has invaded at least 4 million hectares.

### Impact on the environment and agriculture

Lantana forms dense thickets that exclude [native species](#), leading to its complete dominance of the understorey and eventually the canopy. It has also been estimated that graziers spend \$17.1 million a year on lantana control and lose in excess of \$104 million in production due to lantana invasion. It is spread mainly by birds. Lantana has been declared a noxious weed in NSW and is also listed as a Weed of National Significance. [A recent review](#) has assessed the declaration status of *Lantana camara*, and other species including *Lantana montevidensis* and ornamental lantana varieties in NSW.

### Management by NPWS

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), now part of the Office of Environment and Heritage, uses an integrated approach to manage the weed, combining different control methods to achieve the best results and minimise its impact on native plant species. Many lantana control programs are run in conjunction with local communities and councils. When management is undertaken for biodiversity conservation, five-year [site management plans](#) are completed.

### Control techniques

Herbicides are an important tool for managing lantana. Mechanical control methods include hand-pulling of seedlings, slashing, grubbing (digging out by the roots), felling and bulldozing.

Biological control attempts to control weeds by introducing the weed's own natural enemies. A promising option for lantana is leaf rust, but research is also continuing into the biocontrol potential of a bud mite, and several pathogens and beetles.



*Lantana camara*, class of declared weed.

**More information from:**  
[weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Lantana](http://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Lantana)



## **TAGASASTE - FODDER SHRUBS FOR GOATS**

There is no doubt that goats will supplement their diet by browsing on weeds, shrubs or trees whenever possible. In fact, given the choice, they often prefer poor quality scrub to good quality pasture. This is fine for farmers using goats primarily for weed and scrub control but can have a negative effect on such processes as reproductive performance, fibre growth etc.

Some browse species have a high nutritional value, are highly favoured by goats and other livestock and would surely provide an excellent alternative food source during periods when pasture is in short supply.

Tagasaste (tree lucerne) is such a shrub which is hardy and leguminous. In temperate climates it can provide heavy yields of nutritious green fodder for grazing animals which is highly palatable and protein rich (23% - 27% crude protein). Also it has only 18% - 24% indigestible crude fibre and even when grown on poor coastal soils (properly fertilised) can maintain these protein levels.

Australian farmers now growing tagasaste are reporting these additional benefits:

- Shade and shelter for livestock during climate stress
- Wind and water erosion control
- Increased soil fertility through nitrogen fixation
- Reductions in water tables causing salinity problems
- Habitat for native birds that eat pasture and crop pests
- Green firebreaks around homesteads and along boundary fences
- Winter nectar for bees

- Reduced internal parasite problems as shrub fodder is browsed above pasture that harbours dung-borne worm eggs

Many farmers are now following this practice as soil salinity and soil acidity problems make browse shrubs a most sensible way to go in improving landcare.

Tagasaste will withstand long, dry periods and would survive well in drought-prone areas of Australia. It thrives on a variety of soil types, provided they are well-drained and could increase the stock carrying capacity of pasture land.

It is an excellent feed for late pregnancy and early lactation when pasture is in short supply. It is also good feed for young growing kids after weaning, particularly in the summer when pasture quality declines and is not toxic to livestock. In spite of its common name of “tree lucerne” it does not cause bloat.

Cont/....



## DATES FOR THE CALENDAR

**2021**

- June 17**    **“Lunch and Learn” for women at Tocal college. For more information or booking contact [agriculture@safework.nsw.gov.au](mailto:agriculture@safework.nsw.gov.au)**
- June 28**    **Trangie Young Judges.** This is on again in 2021 following cancellation last year due to Covid. Unfortunately no one has angoras in full fleece this year.
- July 15**    **Hunter Region Annual General Meeting.** To be held at 11am, at 200 Lindsay Road, North Rothbury. Bring a plate for lunch following the meeting.

For more information contact Secretary Sandie Smith 02 4938 7536

Continued from Page 9 .....

Perhaps the biggest problem with tagasaste is that all parts of the plant are palatable including the bark. When prunings are fed to goats they rapidly devour the leaves, flowers and small branches before systematically stripping off the bark. No doubt if they were left browsing long enough in a stand of tagasaste, they would also remove bark and damage or destroy the plants. But the damage would probably be minimal if they were allowed into the crop only for short periods; just long enough to fill up on the palatable portions (which appear to be the leaves). The taller branches could then be pruned and fed on the ground, either within the crop or in an adjacent paddock. Alternatively cattle could be introduced to browse the higher levels. Tagasaste regrow's rapidly after grazing or pruning and frequent harvesting will ensure that it remains bushy and at a manageable height.

Many farms have poorly productive waste areas or slopes which could readily support a stand of tagasaste. Perhaps you would start on a small scale in such areas and experiment with different methods of browsing management before committing larger, more productive parts of your property. One recommendation is to plant the shrub in rows 5 metres apart with 2.5 metres between plants. At this rate 1 hectare would contain over 700 plants.

Surely it is time for goat farmers to look seriously at planting fodder crops such as tagasaste as an alternative source of high quality feed especially in areas with long dry summers.

Further reading:    [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au)  
Agfact P2.1.7

# DIRECTORY

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*All enquiries*

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**Paul: 0414 487 521**

## ROSMARK ANGORA STUD

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## Pleasant View Angora



Chris & Gail Batch  
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Mt Pleasant via Singleton  
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Email:pleasantviewfibres@gmail.com

## ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page 180 x 250mm	Single Issue	\$40.00	4 Issues	\$130.00
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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

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Phone: 08 9574 7090 / 0409 743 968

Email: mohair@mohair.org.au

### MOHAIR AUSTRALIA LTD - MEMBERSHIP FEES - 2021

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

<b>Breeder</b> (Full voting rights)	<b>\$130.00</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>
<b>Commercial</b> ( Full voting rights)	<b>\$80.00</b>	<b>Ordinary</b> (Region voting only)	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Trader</b> (Full voting rights)	<b>\$130.00</b>	<b>Junior</b> (18 years or under)	<b>\$10.00</b>

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*Contact:*

*Mohair Australia Ltd - Hunter Region*

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

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NORTH ROTHBURY 2335**

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## **MOHAIR AUSTRALIA LTD**

### **HUNTER REGION - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Date:** 15th July, 2021  
**Time:** 11am Bring a plate towards lunch.  
**Venue:** 200 Lindsay Road, North Rothbury  
**RSVP:** inwood-s@bigpond.net.au or 02 4938 7536  
**All welcome to attend**

