

The official journal of  
Mohair Australia Ltd. Serving  
breeders of angora goats &  
producers of mohair

ABN 40 008 585 135



**December  
2021**

**Mohair  
News**



# Mohair Australia Ltd. Mohair News

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**AMMO Mohair Sale 15th April 2022 at 1pm.**  
**Sale info available from the office or live on facebook.**

**Current Membership fees**

Please note that all fees include a copy of this quarterly “Mohair News”

Breeder	\$150
Commercial	\$100
Trader	\$150
Education	\$150
Ordinary	\$60
Junior	\$50

Membership fees are due now. As has been previously noted, plus it is on the renewal form, you are required to send (email, post or fax) the renewal form to the office at time of payment.

If you have misplaced your renewal form, you can access the form from the website.

**FRONT COVER**

Does and kids under cell grazing management at Currajong Common.

**DISCLAIMER**

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**REPRINTS** of articles from “Mohair News” are welcome, provided the Editor receives courtesy communication and the “Mohair News” is acknowledged.



## National Presidents Letter

**14 December 2021**

Dear Members and Growers,

We have all had some obstacles to overcome this year. The Christmas period is a time to recharge and spend some time with family plus get all the farm jobs done so we get in front of the good seasonal conditions. Watch for flystrike with the blowflies this year in the wet areas.

I am pleased to report there is some genuine new interest around about Angora Goats and Mohair. We all need to take the time with new entrants and keep in touch with them along their way. I am learning hobby interest are just as important as commercial interest. We all started somewhere in the industry. I started with purchasing 4 does at the Yass Sale in 1989 off Diane Klima from Cooma, Margaret Hope from Pambula and Bob Lockrey from Goulburn. I am sure we all have good stories from when we started out.

The board has decided to give Mohair News a quarterly theme which coincides with the upcoming husbandry calendar. This edition is about joining and breeding. We will continue to report on the market, shows and events so please send in your articles of interest.

Jan/Feb/Mar	Apr/May/June	July/Aug/Sept	Oct/Nov/Dec
Breeding / Joining	Kidding	Shearing/Classing	Weaning mgt

I would encourage you all to be part of the organisation. Sign up or rejoin. I really wanted to introduce a big late fee / penalty fee however the board have convinced me we should not do it. The articles officially state that members will become un financial at the end of March each year and then voting rights at the AGMs are not valid from May onwards if membership is not paid however we need to call on all renewals by end of January to effectively run the company. We have increased our membership fees to help cover our fixed costs. We are an active member with voting power on the Goat Industry Council of Australia and can provide cover note insurance when representing the company at events, shows or field days. All paid members will receive a printed copy of Mohair news in the post. Payment is due before or by end January 2022 by EFT, cheque or credit card and please return your paperwork by email or post. 2022 Membership Subscription form is included.

Do not hesitate to contact me or a member of the board if you need more information or have questions.

**Yours sincerely, Nick Gorrie**

# Angora Buck Selection

Breeding season is upon us again and the need to nominate sires for particular does and purchase new bucks for that fixing of type or adding a production improvement begin to become more urgent. There are a lot of mixed opinions about ideals and it does not hurt to repeat some of the debate or advice at the beginning of each season to get the thought processes in motion.

The African versus Texan debate flows on regardless of faults and qualities with a reminder that apologies should not be made for faults on the grounds of origin.

The ideal goat can be found in each gene group or mixture but some questions need to be "asked" am I prepared to settle for a little less hair "do I. ' get paid for a better yield"

In the end they are all Angora goats and should be judged by the same standards:

- If a Stud goat; by Breed type and production
- If a commercial goat; kemp free hair production calculated in dollars per head.( Economic Value)

The influence of a sire can be spread across a potential two hundred progeny in a two year period so some thought and skill need to go into the selection process.

## Set the type

For many breeders the first level of failure can be that no breeding goals have been set and many disappointments of the past can be blamed on failure to set a type or style of goat that meets the breeders perception of "Ideal". The mistake can be commonly seen in the rush to achieve some combination of everything available without reference to quality levels.

With a firm idea of how you want the goat to look and the type of mohair you expect to grow on it you can then give some clear consideration to the gene groups and breeders that can supply to these specifications. When considering characteristics typical of each import groups be aware that some of these characters are in fact "off type". No curl on the end of the lock, bold uneven, chunky hard to open, greasy plug, dry no lustre, flat lock, short and frizzy, long and ropey.

## Environment

Environment is another factor of importance when looking for good sires in other districts. A low rainfall, warm winter (relatively) district with a low stocking rate and supplementary feed will produce an animal that will peak in the second and stay that way for a few fleeces. In a high rainfall area with cold winter and animal may never reach micron potential and give a new owner a bit of a shock if moved into a milder climate where it may "blow out".

Bucks that have been show fed can also be a trap and will "melt down" if dropped into a grazing situation without gentle reduction of grain feeding.

In these situations some grain fed animals do not grow a good fleece when protein is reduced and fleece is grown on grass. If you are a grass fed breeder it may pay to buy grass fed bucks to properly analyse the production characteristics.

## Performance Testing

There are several methods of performance testing in place. Some people follow the SRS (soft rolling skin) theory, others debate that similar performance characters are available through visual assessment and fleece testing. Another breeder will be convinced that the only important performance data is fleece weight and classing related to dollars return per animal.



Each method has a positive selection direction that can be matched and understood by another breeder. The other selection direction that seems to be the most popular is the show ribbon. Many animals have a very good show ribbon performance not related to the ability to produce fibre and maintain quality in normal pasture conditions. It may be that your aim is to take a high flying trip around the show circuit. If so, then the production capabilities may take second place and your performance tested animal may be based on ability to win ribbons. But proceed with caution.

The South African mohair growers have taken another step to production test bucks that may have an application in Australia and New Zealand.

The Veld Ram (Buck) Project has been running for about six years with some breeders placing twenty or thirty bucks in the test. The previous year's drop bucks are entered and assessed in early August in 2.5 months mohair with some being rejected.

The remaining animals are then weighed micron tested and shorn then put back on the veld with some minimal supplement after shearing only in drought conditions.

November an open day for all breeders the bucks are assessed by the breeders and any animals not coming up to weight gain specifications or quality standards are rejected. The identity of the bucks is not known until the rejected animals are identified for the owners to take home. The remaining animals are put out again.

February sees another selection and rejection day for breeders with the qualifying animals going onto a pellet ration for about ten days before the sale.

No participant in the trial knows the identity of their animals after entry and all tattoos are blacked out for the sale. Yes some breeders have bought back their own stock.

Prices in the past have been R7100 and R7200 (Lochdale) with regular R3000 to R5000 and prices trailing off to commercial levels.

The veld environment is extremely tough compared to AustJNZ pasture conditions so it is important to a lot of South African mohair growers to get bucks that can perform in those conditions. They have a level of security with a performance test in their own environment.

Some breeders will not buy these animals because they want to look at the breeding records to be sure that the production and quality traits come from consistent families rather than one off individuals from inconsistent families.

### Age at Selection

Well grown animals can show their potential earlier but the best time to assess a young buck for purchase or use is well into the third fleece (Feb - March) when the next fleece type can be seen at the base of the lock. So many animals at the sales have a kid style ringlet fleece for the first 200mm and the 50mm next to the skin is sometimes dead straight and almost adult. Look at the base of the fleece, that is what it is going to look like when you get home from the sale and shear it off.

### Fertility

First check the scrotum of bucks for size, freedom from lumps, split (should not be too pronounced) and discard any with problems as this may affect fertility. Lumps may be signs of a previous infection that has blocked tubes. A marked difference in size of testicles is a fault that may also have fertility ramifications as can distortions of the epididymis. Double teats on a buck scrotum mean he will produce a number of double teated females.

### Qualities

**Uniform:** It is acceptable that within your own perception of uniformity, that most angoras have some more character (flatter) around the hind leg and britch, and more style forward of the shoulder and into the neck.

**Kemp:** With a lot of kemp free animals about it is no longer an option to settle for kemp in a buck. Micron range; It is of greater importance to have enduring quality of mohair than extremes of fineness. But within reason it makes sense to stick to the fine/medium range.

There are some traps to remember associated with "too" fine.- World research indicates that;

- Mating fine to fine to achieve super fine reduces size and fertility
- Excessive cover associated with fine goats reduces ability to forage, with size reduction and production penalty (keep bucks open around the eyes)
- Fine and dense is usually also short in length

**Style and character & lustre:** There are indications of a premium being offered for mohair with these qualities and this is what makes mohair a luxury fibre.



### Sire and Dam

To give the best chance of predicability in a sire his parents should be of the expected type and quality (with allowances for age etc.) A sire with different types of parents will in most cases spread those types across the progeny with very few being the average of this expected combination.

### Yield

Simply, grease content is potentialised in high rainfall and probably 88 - 92% would be adequate. The low rainfall areas need better protection from sunlight and dust contaminants and would be well suited to yield in the low 80%.

### Objective measurement

Be sure that other visual quality standards are met before your buck qualifies for objective testing.

By selecting a sire with a micron range similar to the does breeders may notice a slow drift towards breeding finer less

robust sires. It is accepted in the wool industry that the sires are a two or three microns stronger than the ewes and wethers and probably the testosterone effect in Angora bucks would be at least five microns. Don't be afraid to use a sire that is a little bolder than the does. It is probably just right.

### Conclusion

Each breeder has to establish a consistent type over generations of breeding by the selection of sires that produce a level of reliable, predictable, progeny while maintaining a respect for other breeders that have their own direction.

This may be achieved by a combination of subjective and objective assessment or by subjective assessment alone. Some breeders may need to use a scoring system as an aid to sire selection and as art aid to gaining subjective skills.

*\*Note: Buck prices quoted in Rand are from the time the article was first written & published.*

**Denis Russell**



**Karoo Angoras Performance Tested Veldram Sale**

L to R: Johan van der Schyff (seller), Johan du Pisani (seller), Roland du Toit (seller), Leon Eybers (seller), Frans Retief (buyer), Danie Strauss (auctioneer), Izak van der Merwe (seller), Roald Craddock (buyer), Willem Retief (seller).



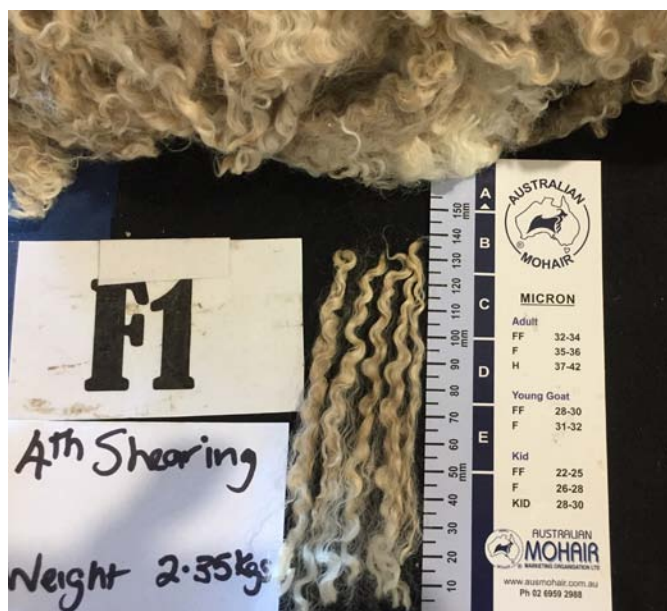
# National Young Judges Virtual Final 2019 Competition Winners Held 3rd October 2021

Due to the going status of Covid and state shut downs no state Young Judges finals have not been held for a couple of show seasons, with cancellation of the Sydney Royal show, EKKA Brisbane, Bendigo Sheep Show Victoria, and Adelaide Royal show in 2020 and 2021 no regional and state finals have been held since 2019.

To try and keep interest of the Young Judges final a bold decision was made to conduct an online virtual judging competition was held in October 2021.

It did have its challenges with a video of four goats and static photos of the mohair, it presented the competitors with using their visual skills to assess the animals and fleeces without hands on of both sections of the competition.

It was a learning curve for the participants and over judges along with the making of the video and how it was best to show both animals and fleeces clearly enough to allow the competitors the best advantage to make their oral presentations clear of how and why they placed the animals and fleeces in the order of prize winners.



Technology has come a long way in being able to present videos and responses from the competitors to receive and produce their oral presentation for the over judges to view and make their assessments of their explanations of placegetters. Congratulations to these Young Judges for your time and participation in the virtual competition from the state finals held in 2019.

**Winners:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sarah Morris NSW, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tayla Lord Qld, 3<sup>rd</sup> Charlotte Densley Qld, - Molly Cattle NSW, Olivia Stead S.A.





The Over Judges Mandy Statham, Nick Gorrie and Graham Dau, thank you for your time to listen and make your assessment of the competition winners and for your comments to the competitors via Zoom when announcements of winners were made.

Let hope the National Final will be able to get back on track in the future once Covid has been sorted and regional and Royal shows are back on everyone's calendar.

Thank You AMT –David Williams for your continued sponsorship and support for the youth of our industry.



### Report Lynne Carter -NYJ Co-ordinator





# Currajong Common – 4 years on...

The discussion below is based on anecdotal evidence outlining what I have learnt over the past 4 years establishing a multiple income stream enterprise, which actually started with an Angora Goat operation.

The big question our family faced in 2017 was 'How do we create a sustainable retirement income from a 100 acre farm in Australia?' This question itself challenges the statistics regarding farm size and income. Early analysis on returns from 160 Angora goats clearly indicated that this enterprise alone would not provide the solution, but could become the cornerstone to our strategy:

1. Grow the mohair enterprise through the application of holistic management principles to increase the number of animals that can be sustained on the farm.
2. Improve the quality of mohair and seek out a market that would pay more for quality mohair.

A simple philosophy of 'More mohair at a higher price per kg' would move us in the right direction.

Next was to seek out a complimentary enterprise that would provide synergies with the primary farming enterprise; which we found in Agri-tourism and Eco-tourism. These concepts were further developed into the successful Currajong Retreat Glamping enterprise.

The final piece of the puzzle was to continue with the Sydney based advisory business as a vehicle to fund the early development of this enterprise.

All started well, then came the extended drought, followed by the bushfire, flooding and then COVID-19.

Throughout this time we committed to the application of holistic management, primarily through a managed rotational

grazing program that was designed to minimise overgrazing and reduce intestinal worm burdens. The success of this strategy is evident in the improvement of pasture carrying capacity and the reduction in drench applications. We conduct our own regular FEC and drench when worm counts dictate. We have also not had any measured incidence of barber's pole over the past 4 years. This is borne out by the literature that barber's pole worm larvae are susceptible to environmental effects, and in our case, the long recovery periods exposed worm larvae to the environment for extended periods.

Other facts associated with reducing worm burdens:

- Reducing average grazing periods to between 4 and 6 days per paddock to avoid larvae ingestion.
- Portable electric fencing is an invaluable tool in providing flexibility to the grazing plan.
- Grazing on longer grass – worm larvae are distributed in a normal distribution from approx. 10mm below the soil surface to 50mm above ground.
- Set an objective or recovery periods of upwards of 90 days and preferably 120 days. The effect of the environment on larvae reduction will largely depend on weather conditions, but any strategy that has an effect on reducing worm larvae naturally appeals to us in our strategy to reduce the use of chemicals on the farm.

Over the period in discussion, the global drive for Responsible Mohair Standards certification exerted additional pressure on mohair producers globally. I immediately saw alignment between the goals and objectives of RMS and holistic management. I had already chosen the path of the weaving project and further price premiums through differentiation in the market place made perfect sense.



When applying holistic management, one looks to leverage one of the four ecosystem processes: Energy flow, Water cycle, mineral cycle and community dynamics/biodiversity. In simple terms; by improving any one of these, you improve all, but the converse is also true. Stimulating the mineral cycle activates soil biology, resulting ultimately in carbon sequestration. Key to activating the mineral cycle is the application of intensive grazing practices – short intense periods of grazing, followed by long periods of recovery. These long periods of recovery achieve a few important outcomes; firstly it exposes worm larvae to the elements with the objective of reducing the number of worm larvae in the paddock on the next grazing cycle, and secondly, to allow the plants to replenish stored glucose. I am of the

opinion that the next direction of textile exchange will be in the direction of soil carbon in some form of measurement as part of the future certification.

Intensive grazing requires more animals per square meter, and generally requires more fencing. I have used a combination of fixed fencing and portable electric fencing. Portable electric fencing has been invaluable in allowing us the flexibility to adjust paddock size to suit the situation and need at different times of the season. The return on investment on this technology has been exceptional, and I have now just received the second set, which will allow for the installation of a total of four, 200m long sections of electric fencing.







One of the concepts I am currently exploring is Ecological Outcomes Verification (EOV). This I believe is a principled approach that demonstrates commitment to improving the health of the soil. There seems to be some traction within large corporates around the world, and in Australia within the meat supply chain through the Land to Market project. This might be the route that Textile Exchange takes in the years to come.

At the core of holistic management is problem solving and I have found this framework extremely useful in achieving our holistic context outcomes as well as reducing chemical usage: herbicides, fertilizers and drenches. This has not only been beneficial in terms of the health of the soil and human health, but has saved significant ongoing operating expense.

There is a lot of discussion around Australia at present regarding the creation of more resilient enterprises. Holistic management provides a framework for creating a more resilient enterprise. An increase in soil carbon leverages the amount of water the soil can retain; allowing pasture growth for an extended period after rains. Furthermore, improved ground cover reduces soil moisture loss.

Monitoring actual grazing impact on each paddock is important, and to this end we use a simple monitoring cage placed over a section of the paddock that is representative of the average amount of feed across the paddock. Daily monitoring allows one to measure actual versus planned grazing times.



My short experience indicates strongly to me that Eco- and agri-tourism can be an integral part of modern day farming enterprises. There is a genuine interest by tourists in 'meeting the farmer' and hearing their stories. Multiple streams of income further strengthens the economic resilience of farming enterprises.

A final and possibly more controversial note: The weaving project and why I have chosen this route for my farming enterprise? My initial calculations indicated to me that this was a clear commercial decision. There are small adjustments that need to be made to the farm planning calendar to cater for a shearing strategy that is dictated by fibre length rather than a time based approach.

I run a flexible grazing plan which is dictated by pasture growth rates and many other environmental variables, and therefore the introduction of a further variable dictated by fibre length fitted in with farm planning philosophies.

On average animals consume the same amount of inputs per month, produce the same amount of mohair per month, and if I am able to increase my return per kg produced I would be ahead commercially. As I have been able to improve the quality of mohair, through breeding, I have been able to achieve an increase in average price per kg, above and beyond the market price increase.

**Grant Forsdick**

## How to get better results from.. **A.I.**

Following a meeting held in december last year, to discuss kidding results from inseminations conducted during 1987, three scientists, R Tervit (Ruakura Agricultural Centre), B McMillan (Whatawhata Hill Country Research Station) and R Moore (Whatawhata Hill Country Research Station), met to make recommendations which hopefully will lead to improved results in the 1988 breeding season.

It must be pointed out that farmers requirements and expectations of any technique, including AI, are very diverse and therefore that the following must be considered as general recommendations which may be tailored to suit individual needs. The recommendations are based on scientific data and represent "best bets" from the authors knowledge of New Zealand and overseas goat reproduction data.

### General Management

For successful AI:

- Animal stress could be minimised;
- Animals should be in good health and as quiet as possible before entering the programme;
- Animals should be flushed for 3 to 4 weeks before AI;
- Does should not be stressed post-AI by frequent yarding to observe returns.

### Insemination Protocols

The following protocols should be considered by prospective AI clients contemplating cervical AI with frozen semen.

#### 1. AI at the heat following stimulation of does by the sudden introduction of bucks.

The sudden introduction of bucks to does which have been isolated from bucks for at least 2 months may synchronise heat in the does. The effectiveness of the technique varies from year to year but an effect may be expected when the bucks are introduced between February and May/June and in Angoras between January/February and May/June.

The following points form the basis of a protocol for using the buck effect:

- Separate does from males from, at the latest, 1 December;
- Keep the does to the prevailing wind side of the males and separated by as big a distance as possible (at least 2-500m);
- Day 0 - anytime between February and June -insert harnessed teasers (5%) with the does;
- Day 5 - begin twice daily tup recordings. Record and draft out marked does at about 0800 and 1600h each day;
- Day 6 - start AI. This should give maximum synchronising effect with most does AI'd by Day 14;
- On each AI day does first recorded marked at the 0800 drafting should be AI'd at about 1700 on the same day. Does first recorded marked at 1600 should be AI'd at about 0900 the following day.
- Keep AI'd does separate from bucks until 16 days after AI. At this time join with entire follow-up bucks.

**Benefits of this protocol** - low cost  
- good kidding percentages

**Benefits** -may not achieve a synchronising effect and so would AI does over one estrous cycle  
-difficult to isolate does on small properties

**Expected percent AI'd does kidding** - 45-55



#### 2. AI at the second or "natural" heat after CIDR or sponge treatment of does.

Where the buck effect is difficult to use and/or where synchronisation of doe heats is a necessary component of AI the following protocol can be considered:

- Day 0 - (sometime between mid-February and June) - introduce teasers (1%);
- Day 14 - insert CIDRs or sponges into all does. Change teasers (1%);
- Day 32 - remove CIDRs or sponges, increase teasers to 5%. The does should show a synchronised heat with most does on heat about Day 34 (with CIDRs) or Day 35 (with sponges). Mating marks can, if desired, be recorded on about days 36 or 37;
- Day 50-53 - start AI. Record heats twice daily and AI as in option 1.

If the does synchronised effectively about Day 34 then about 10% of them should show heat and be AI'd on Day 54, 20% on Day 55, 35% on Day 56, 20% on Day 57 and 10% on Day 58.

- Keep does isolated from bucks until about 16 days after AI when follow-up bucks can be introduced.

**Benefits** - no doe isolation needed  
- inseminations should be conducted over about 1 week.  
- good kidding percentages.

**Problems** - more costly than 1.

**Expected percent AI'd does kidding** - 45-55

#### 3. AI at the synchronised heat after CIDR or sponge withdrawal.

This is the system widely used in 1987. It gave relatively poor synchronisation of heat with the result that inseminations were usually conducted over a number of days and only on those does which showed heat and not, as originally intended, on all does at a fixed interval after device removal. An injection of PMSG about the time of device removal will improve synchrony and this hormone is part of the proposed protocol:





## Introducing

### New Board Member - Vicki Winley



#### **2015 to present:**

I have worked for 3 private enterprises as a bookkeeper:

- Finance Brokers of Tasmania
- Montile Pty Ltd
- Niche Plants Pty Ltd

During this time, I have gone in and pulled their systems together, once achieved the challenge wasn't there so have moved on.

Not the same as a not-for-profit that had strict auditing constraints but pleasing for the owners and accountants to know their books were transparent and complaint with accounting standards.

#### **1998 – 2015 Finance Manager**

#### **Former Office Manager / Bookkeeper / Rostering Officer**

#### **integratedliving Australia Ltd - formerly Family Based Care Association (Northern Region) Inc.**

A not-for-profit organisation providing community care for the aged-care sector and people with disabilities in Tasmania. My role has evolved and changed over the years I have worked for this organisation.

With the changing environment of government funding I had taken on higher-level duties:

- Generate and present accurate and timely monthly financial reports to the Board of Management meetings.
- Active member of the Management Team.
- Liaise with the volunteer Board Members.
- Advise and assist the General Manager and Accountant/Treasurer with budgets.
- Advise and assist the General Manager with submissions and tenders.
- Manage the audit process with the Auditor.
- Process all annual funding acquittals for multiple funding programs.
- Manage the office team. Advise staff in other areas on funding and budgets.



- Attend conferences, government reform workshops, NFP salary packaging seminars, National Disability Insurance Scheme and Consumer Directed Care Package training.
- Initiate and complete other projects as required by the organisation.

Former duties:

- Matched and rostered approx. 150 field workers to provide support to clients in their homes.
- Responsible for the Administration Team performance in the processing Payroll, Debtors and general support to other Departments of the organisation.
- Processed all Creditor payments.
- Assisted and supported with IT problem solving.

## Achievements

- In 2011 the Federal Government proposed wage supplementation based on funding allocation. At the time my organisation was funded for nearly \$10,000,000 and was offered \$34,000 over three years to supplement this amount.  
We were given two choices: agree to the amount offered or carry out the extensive process of estimating the supplementation required for up to 300 staff over a three year period.  
I took on this onerous task and drew on the Award & Collective Agreement information to prepare an analysis and proposal to argue our case for additional funding. The task took weeks and my time and effort was rewarded as the full \$334,000 value of the proposal was realised. I am very proud to have achieved this for my organisation.
- On 1 July 2013, the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) commenced in Tasmania for the 15 to 24 age group. My responsibility was to attend all training made available to service providers. It became obvious that the scheme was being rolled out prematurely as systems were not adequately prepared.  
Despite this, the first NDIS participant was assigned to our organisation. As a representative of Family Based Care, I met with the participant whom was self-managing and neither of us were clear on the processes. I used my persuasive interpersonal communication skills to negotiate a satisfactory outcome for both parties.  
The result was that the family continued to use Family Based Care and the gentleman went on to support other families going through the process. Our organisation gathered momentum in this process and supported many participants through the early stages of the NDIS scheme.

# Artificial breeding notes

By Tony Pfitzner and Wendy Jones

Embryo transfer and artificial insemination are now widely accepted tools for increasing the rate of genetic improvement in the herd.

Embryo transfer permits a rapid explosion in numbers at the "top end", while AI gives access to a large panel of sires for both commercial and stud breeding.

## Embryo Transfer

Breeders who have combined their investment in embryo transfer with correct stock selection and management, have been able to turn over a much higher proportion of their breeding stock, while maintaining even lines in their stud nucleus.

Embryo freezing has now become an established procedure with significant improvement in the survival rates. In our 1987 work we achieved 50% survival of frozen embryos as kids on the ground.

This makes it a viable procedure for routine use in ET programs and generated other sales options including export.

## Artificial Insemination

Artificial insemination with frozen thawed semen is now coming into its own for both stud and commercial herds.

The reasons for this include improvements in:

- 1) the freezing of goat semen;
- 2) artificial insemination techniques, primarily the development of laparoscopic insemination;
- 3) improved methods of oestrous synchronisation and
- 4) the development of networks for the processing, distribution and insemination.

One factor which is still missing from the equation, and which will be necessary for the full development of the AI industry, is the need for proper sire proving systems. The current system of supplying sire fleece tests and perhaps some other subjective information, has its limitations. Fleece tests vary considerably with the age of the sire, the environment within which the fleece is

produced, and the sampling system used.

A sire referencing or sire testing scheme is required by the industry. Such a scheme would need the acceptance and participation of the emerging fibre industries.

There is also a need to standardise the packaging of semen which is presently causing some confusion.

Semen is frozen either in pellets or in straws. The current practice with the freezing of pellets is usually to freeze sufficient sperm per pellet for the laparoscopic insemination of 3 does, whereas straws may contain sufficient sperm for either 1 or 3 laparoscopic inseminations.

Naturally this affects the value of each package, with one pellet being equivalent to three straws in many instances.

Insemination with frozen thawed semen may be performed 'over the rail', but requires higher sperm numbers than the laparoscopic technique. The 'over the rail' technique will only give acceptable results when the semen is deposited deep into the cervix or into the uterus of a high proportion of does in the herd. This tends to exclude maidens from the procedure, and there is a need for close attention to the timing of insemination.

An acceptable result would be 55-60% of does in kid.

Laparoscopic insemination is a more expensive procedure but the improved conception rate (60-70%), and more economical use of the semen, are in its favour.

It will only require relatively minor improvements in the methods of processing and insemination with frozen thawed semen for cervical AI to become the preferred option. Breeders will then be able to perform the inseminations themselves, drawing on a panel of sires from their 'on farm' semen store.

## A note on synchronisation

For some years we have been using a modified procedure for syn-

chronising embryo and semen recipients.

The traditional technique involves the use of an 18 or 19 day sponge interval with approximately 400 IU PMS at sponge withdrawal. We have been using a 10-12 day sponge with a low dose (200-250IU PMS) and a small dose of prostaglandin at sponge withdrawal.

The dose of prostaglandin varies according to the brand, but is equivalent to 10% of the recommended cow dose.

This method gives tighter synchronisation, probably through a tighter progesterone cutoff at sponge withdrawal. This, or a similar, technique has now been adopted by the French for their goat AI work.

## Teasers

Treating wethers with testosterone is the cheapest and simplest method of generating teasers.

The wethers should be treated 2-3 weeks before they are required to work.

## Finally

The biggest single variable in the success of an artificial breeding program is invariably the management and condition of the embryo or semen recipients. Even if goats are well fed and in good condition they do not take readily to changes in environment and herd associations.

Goats that are brought in need to be settled in their new environment for some time before breeding should be attempted.

The time necessary for this will depend on their origin.

Ferals may require agistment for up to 12 months before they become suitable ET recipients, while even quiet crossbred Angoras require at least 2 months acclimatisation.

Flushing with sweet lupins (say 150gm/head/day) from two weeks prior to breeding will increase fertility in most herds, and the hand feeding will also help to settle them down. ■

# Royal Hobart Show Angora Results

- **Champion Doe** Elonera 002
- **Reserve Champion Doe** Ranga Wagga Teresa
- **Champion Buck** Ranga Wagga Terry
- **Reserve Champion Buck** Ranga Wagga Theo
- **Grand Champion Angora** Elonera 002
- **Champion Fleece** Peter and Vicki Winley
- **Reserve Champion Fleece** Peter and Vicki Winley

## Report

Unfortunately, the 2021 Hobart Show was a victim of the Covid pandemic in that crowd numbers were limited to 5000 per day which was disappointing because it was the 200<sup>th</sup> running of this event and a lot of work by many people went into it's preparation and running. It was also unfortunate that the Angora judge that we had booked for the event fell victim to the Covid lockdown that we experienced in Hobart in the few days prior to the show beginning and made the decision not to attend. We also had an exhibitor pull out and that reduced the number of goats to seven. With the restrictions on travel in place I was asked to judge the Angora and Miniature goat sections and my partner and I were also exhibiting Dairy Goats as well. Added to all that was the very ordinary weather we had particularly on the Saturday when the rain poured down. Overall not a good way to celebrate a 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary show.

The fleece section of the show saw some lovely soft fleeces with good even length and nice style and character and all were well prepared. The time of the year was not ideal for the goats with most needing to be shorn but still showing nice staple definition throughout. The Grand Champion was carrying a lovely soft even fleece and just pipped the Reserve Champion doe with a heavier fleece. She was also in great body condition and had a kid at foot.

**Steve Baldock**





## Mohair Australia Ltd. Mohair News

### DULARK ANGORA STUD

#### On farm Sale

863 Spring Range Road SPRINGRANGE NSW 2618 via HALL

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Inspection from 10.30am

Sale starts at 1pm sharp.

Livestock agent and Auctioneer – Agstock and Sam Hunter 0448 011 604

We have been breeding Angora goats since 1989 and our focus has been to produce the right type of mohair, on a sound and capable animal. Throughout this time we have successfully breed on with our own does lines by introducing new sires (artificial insemination & natural mates) to move us forward in our breeding objectives. The animals offered today are from these consistent family lines. Please note we carry forward the first letter of the original does name so we can track the doe family line. Our philosophy has also evolved to adapt to a more commercial type. We predominately run our animals on grass and only at key requirement times or when we have no feed are they supplementary feed.

Full pedigrees will be displayed on the day above the pens. All stud animals are registered and can be transferred to new owners.


We are having one of the best seasons at Spring Range in memory so please come and join us for the sale.

We are MN3 in the Goatmap program for Johnes Disease.

List of reference sires:

Dulark Kirby (AI)	Son of Cedargrange Schalk Burger (24)
Dulark Lehmann	Son of Kirby
Dulark Ivanhoe (AI)	Son of Cedargrange Schalk Burger (24)
Dulark Kieron (AI)	Son of Cawoodholme Aust Timbarra
Koorana E033	Son of Tre 1026
Dulark Noss	Son of E033
Koorana E099	Son of Tre 1080
Koorana H215	Son of Tre 1026
Koorana H036	Grand son of Tre 1026
Cudal Matamvee 26	Son of Viewbank Imbulu
Impact David	Son of Tre Alpha
Dulark Lerick 2389	Son of Impact David

## Stud Bucks

17	Dulark Stunning Boy 2678	DUL 2678 17/10/2019	Impact David	Dulark Stunning Star 2354
				Mic 28.6 on 3 <sup>rd</sup> fleece on 27 Jan 2021 Shorn 11 August 21. Kirby type buck. Structurally correct with a ringlet fleece. Doe line is sired by Dulark Kirby.

Mohair Australia Limited  
Animal Record Form  
**DULARK STUNNING BOY 2678**

Issued 19/12/2021

Herd Book Number: 196899  
Sex: Male  
Tattoo: DUL 2678  
Birth Date: 17/10/2019  
Breeder: GORRIE, NM & KE  
Current Owner: GORRIE, NM & KE



Sire: **IMPACT DAVID 194279**  
 TRE ALPHA  
 TRE 9013  
 TRE 299-06.001  
 TRE 299-01.092  
 TRE 299-04.019  
 TRE 299-03.079

Animal: **DULARK STUNNING BOY 2678**

Dam: **DULARK STUNNING STAR 2354 196888**  
 DULARK KIRBY  
 DULARK STUNNING GIRL 1911  
 CEDARGRANGE SCHALK BURGER (IMP)  
 DULARK KIERA 915  
 CUDAL MATAMVEE 26  
 DULARK STUNNING 1148



Numbers of progeny from this animal recorded with Mohair Australia Limited

- 0 Males
- 0 Females

The production of this Animal Record Form certifies that the animal is recorded in the Mohair Australia Limited Herd Book. This form is not a transfer and does not entitle non members to record progeny from this animal. Members may request the breeder or vendor of this animal to transfer it to them with the issuing of a Herd Book Certificate thus allowing the recording of progeny in the Herd Book.



Mohair Australia Ltd. Mohair News

# **SALE CATALOGUE**

JANUARY 8<sup>th</sup> 2022

863 SPRING ROAD HALL NSW

Viewing @ 10:30am SALE 1:00pm Sharp

**LYNNDON GROVE ANGORA GOAT STUD**

**Lynne & Don Carter**

**MOONTA South Australia**



**CONTACT: Lynne & Don 0408 832 093 or 08 88 2535 29**

Stock Agent and Auctioneer- AGSTOCK Sam Hunter 0448 011 604



**LOT 1 LYNNDON GROVE USHER** DOB 12/8/2017 **L37 / 2416** Shorn 29/6/21



2/12/ 2021

SNYBERG 299/06.025  
CEDARGRANGE MENEER  
CAREYSBROOK 02.043-233  
Sire: CEDARGRANGE LEREKO 192547  
MARTYSFORD 05.162-105  
CEDARGRANGE BLESBOK  
MARTYSFORD 07.108.105  
  
LYNNDON GROVE USHER 194896  
CEDARGRANGE BUFFEL  
CEDARGRANGE INYATHI  
CEDARGRANGE KLIPSPRINGER  
Dam: LYNNDON GROVE RAJEMMA 192802  
CEDARGRANGE CRACKER JACK  
LYNNDON GROVE OPHELIA  
LYNNDON GROVE MALA

Usher has been a grand sire, giving consistent progeny at Lynndon Grove. He has been successful in the show ring also has a gentle nature and his pedigree is of testament to his genetic lines of the selected use of imported sire line: from Africa. His sons have been used in stud again in 2021 and he has sired more kids this year.

He has daughter's of outstanding quality for any Stud or commercial enterprise in the Sale **LOT 25, 29, 31, 32**

Large framed buck with length and sound stance- an asset for any breeder.

March 2018	20.9 mic 5.5 sd , 26.2cv	FW 1.2 60 kgs H /skirt
Nov 2018	26.9 mic 5.8 sd 201.7 cv	FW 2.130 kgs
March 2019	30 mic 6.1 sd 20.4 cv	FW 2.565kgs
Nov 2019	32.8 mic 7.4 sd 22.4 cv	March 2020 31.6mic 7.1 sd 22.1 cv
June 2021	32.8 mic 6.5 sd 19.9 cv	FW 2.950 kgs



# Mohair Australia Ltd. Mohair News



Department of  
Primary Industries and  
Regional Development

17 December 2021

Dear WA livestock industry stakeholders

## **Livestock importation into Western Australia: Johne's disease import requirements to change from 17 January 2022 to reflect reduced regulation of JD in WA.**

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) wishes to advise the JD import conditions will change for livestock imported into Western Australia from 17 January 2022.

Following the detection of JD (C-strain) in WA, DPIRD and WA industry agreed it was not technically feasible or economical to eradicate JD. Consequently, the regulatory status of JD (C-strain) in WA has been reduced and the import conditions will be amended to reflect this. This decision aligns WA with the national approach to the management of JD.

The amended import conditions will come into effect for livestock imported into WA from 17 January 2022 and new [Health certification for movement of stock to Western Australia](#) (Form LB 1) has been developed to reflect these changes.

### **What will change**

The most significant change to WA's import requirements is the removal of all mandatory JD faecal testing requirements.

### **From 17 January 2022, all livestock moving into WA from interstate that are not going immediately to slaughter must meet the following requirements:**

- All properties the livestock have resided on must have had no suspected or confirmed JD infection in any species of livestock during the five years prior to movement of the livestock (to be moved into WA) off the property(ies).
- The livestock to be moved into WA must not have had contact with livestock suspected or known to be infected with JD.
- Cattle vaccinated for JD must be identified with a three-hole punch (preferably administered in the outer third of the right ear) and recorded in the National Livestock Identification System as JD vaccinated.

The full details of the changes are available on the webpage:

<https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/livestock-biosecurity/forms-importing-livestock-western-australia>

### **Biosecurity planning**

DPIRD encourages WA producers to review their approach to the risk of JD as part of their on-farm biosecurity planning. This review should include examining and implementing their own requirements for livestock to be introduced to their property from interstate and from within WA. DPIRD encourages all producers to ask for a [national camelid, cattle, goat and/or sheep health declaration](#) when sourcing these animals, either from interstate or from within WA.

DPIRD has collated resources to assist producers with biosecurity planning, including information on JD, on-farm biosecurity practices, risk reduction (including biosecurity plan templates and checklists), and information on national industry assurance programs on the following webpages:

- [JD in cattle: management in WA](#)
- [JD in cattle: frequently asked questions](#)
- [JD in cattle: regulatory controls](#)
- [JD in sheep](#)
- [JD in sheep: biosecurity practices and management options](#)

Please contact your regional [DPIRD field veterinary officer](#) or private veterinarian if you require further information.

Yours sincerely

**Michelle Rodan**  
WA Chief Veterinary Officer  
Sustainability and Biosecurity  
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



## The NATS is back!

Mohair Australia NSW Division will be holding a reduced format NATS on 11-12 March 2022.

Friday will feature the Youth events and fleeces and animal classes on Saturday, finishing after the completion of judging. Production classes will not be held this year.

The event will be conducted in accordance with NSW Government (and Schools) COVID-19 restrictions. An informal dinner will be held on site on Friday evening in place of a formal dinner.

Keep an eye out for the schedule of events shortly on the facebook page!

## 2022 NATIONAL ANGORA TROPHY SHOW 11-12 MARCH



## MEDITERRANEAN CASSEROLE OF GOAT

**SERVES: 6**

**PREP TIME: 20 mins**

**COOKING TIME: 120 mins**

### DETAILS

#### Ingredients

2 pounds Australian goatmeat forequarter, diced  
4 tablespoons olive oil  
1 onion, roughly chopped  
4 cloves of garlic  
2 carrots, chopped  
4 sticks celery, chopped  
12 pickling onions, peeled  
4 sprigs fresh thyme  
1 cup Shiraz wine  
2 tablespoons cognac  
½ pound mushrooms, chopped  
2 tablespoons butter  
salt and pepper to taste  
2 tablespoons parsley, chopped  
12 bread croutons

#### Method

1. Brown the goatmeat in the olive oil over high heat and set aside.
2. Soften the onion and garlic until translucent and add the caramelized meat, carrots, celery, pickling onions, thyme, Shiraz and cognac. Bring to a boil and turn the heat to a simmer. Cook slowly for 2 hours.



From TRUE AUSSIE BEEF&LAMB  
<https://www.trueaussiebeefandlamb.com/recipes-usa/consumer-recipes/goat/mediterranean-casserole-of-goat/>

3. Sauté the mushrooms in 2 tablespoons of butter and add to the dish 10 minutes before the end of cooking. Season and add the chopped parsley.
4. Fry the croutons in oil and serve with casserole and celeriac mash.

## Mohair Australia Limited

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