

# Clippings



MOHAIR AUSTRALIA Ltd., HAGSA Ltd and Friends

Victorian Region Newsletter  
April 2022

## Message from the editor

Hello everyone,

Dare I say it? Things seem to slowly returning to some sort of normal: albeit a covid normal.

This edition is slim again, but contains some news about our leadership and the possibility of a new show venue for 2023.

We have all be heartbroken by the terrible scenes of flooding in our northern states. Our thoughts and prayers are with our fellow farmers and the communities which have been impacted so terribly by this natural disaster. The *In a nutshell* section of this edition contains links to article about what to do after flooding. It may be useful for readers who have been impacted.

Hopefully the shearing is over for the time being. Finding shearers for goats is becoming increasingly difficult. The mating season is well underway and we can enjoy the wonderful olfactory experience of our bucks and the bleating and waggy tails of our does. At least angora does are fairly quiet, unlike dairy does who just keep bleating for two days.

The Eastern Region of NSW held their show as part of the Royal Easter Show last weekend. The results and photos are available on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/easternregionmohair/> Congratulations to all the winners and many thanks to those people who gave up their time to organise, judge, compete and generally help out during the show.

Happy reading

Lill Roberts [lill@netspace.net.au](mailto:lill@netspace.net.au)

Heritage angora kids Oakey Range Isabel and Oakey Range Anthony, in the late spring sunshine. Photo curtesy Bella St Clair.

## Diary Dates for 2022

**7 May** - Goats for weed control workshop Foster North. (See ad p 2)

**15 - 17 July. Bendigo Sheep and Wool Show** Bendigo Showgrounds, North Bendigo.

**November** - Christmas Party

**25 February 2023** Foster Show





## A Message from your President Margaret Nicholls

Well it comes to us all eventually. Doug and I have decided to down size and move to Yackandandah to be close to our two beautiful grandsons and their Mum and Dad.

We have been lucky enough to find a beautiful home on 20 acres, so I am not giving the goats away completely. I will take 12 does, two bucks and our wonderful Maremma dog Minty. Our Seaspray farms are on the market and hopefully they will sell in todays climate.

<https://www.realestate.com.au/property-acreage+semi-rural-vic-seaspray-138934615>

<https://www.realestate.com.au/property-livestock-vic-seaspray-700192223>

<https://www.realestate.com.au/property-livestock-vic-stradbroke-700192227>

I still want to stay involved with all the goat producers in Victoria and with that in mind, Lill Roberts and I have approached the Foster Show Society to stage our annual Goat Promotion and Show as part of their Show in February 2023. We appreciate that Foster is a bit further for most people to travel, however we will make it well worth coming along.

The need to have lots of goat exhibits will not be necessary because we want the event to be more a promotion about mohair and the joys of having Angora Goats on your property.: advertising to the public, rather than competing amongst ourselves. With that in mind I will be seeking sponsorships from the local accommodation houses to have us at a good rate.

A new photographic competition will be introduced as part of our display. We will be encouraging our members to take photos of your property, including but not exclusively of goats. So get out your cameras and start clicking the button. More info about this NEW SHOW venue etc will be in future editions of Clippings this year.

Advertisement taken from the Gippsland Goat breeders Group on Facebook.

If readers are interested in attending this workshop, please contact Stefanie directly on

0407 541 250.

A poster for a workshop titled "Goats for Weed Control". The poster features a photograph of a white goat with a black collar grazing in a green field. The text on the poster includes the name "Stefanie Hildmann" and "Regenerative Land Management". The title "Goats for Weed Control" is written in a large, green, serif font. Below the title, it says "Workshop" and "May 7, 10 am to 2 pm in Foster North". The cost is listed as "125.00, equiv. to one vet visit". At the bottom, it lists topics: "Nutrition • Parasites • Health • Feet • Fences Legal Requirements • and more!". At the very bottom, it provides contact information: "FOR ENQUIRIES PLEASE CALL 0407 541 250 OR EMAIL TO HELLO@STEFANIEHILDMANN.COM".

Stefanie Hildmann  
Regenerative Land Management

# Goats for Weed Control

**Workshop**  
May 7, 10 am to 2 pm in Foster North  
125.00, equiv. to one vet visit

Nutrition • Parasites • Health • Feet • Fences  
Legal Requirements • and more!

FOR ENQUIRIES PLEASE CALL 0407 541 250 OR EMAIL TO  
HELLO@STEFANIEHILDMANN.COM

## Foster Show.

The Heritage Angora Goat Society was represented at this years Foster Show by Roger and Lill from Mohair Rare.

The Foster Show is a wonderful country show which has served its community for 115 years. It has been our privilege to be part of it for a number of years now. The organisers always make us feel welcome and go out of their way to assist in any way they can.

There is a tremendous variety of activities at the Show. Along with the Exhibition Pavilion filled with yummy treats and fantastic crafts, there were shearing, dog shows, sheep dog trials, wood chop, donkeys, sheep, poultry, and all the horse activities.

There is also a spinning group at Foster, so Mohair Rare was able to sell some mohair to spinners who are keen

to try something different from wool. The spinning wheel and the small drum carder at the stand demonstrated to people how fleece is prepared and used to spin yarn. It was also an opportunity to promote HAGSA.

One of the highlights of this years show, for those who are interested in something new or different, was Trinity Pygmy Goats run by Paul and Caroline Hamilton. These cute little goats attracted big crowds.

Another highlight was a new addition to the Australian agricultural landscape, the Black Nosed Valais sheep. There are only 19 of them in Australia and numbers 18 and 19 were at the Foster

show. These sheep are bred for meat, as their fleece is strong, but they have cuteness in spades.



The Mohair Rare stand. Photo curtesy Chris Ford.



Cuteness overload at the Foster Show. Black nosed Valais Sheep left, Pygmy goats right

## Trespass Laws in Victoria

Most readers will remember the theft of goats from the Gippy Goat Café in 2019. It was probably the high profile case of animal activists, although they had been targeting abattoirs for a number of years prior to the Gippy Goat theft.

Farmers throughout the State were enraged by what had happened and to rub salt into the wound, the activists were fined a token amount when they appeared in court.

Shortly after this, a 'clickable' map appeared in the public domain showing farms and addresses where animals were raised and animal activists were encouraged to demonstrate at these locations. Some members of Mohair Australia Ltd., were listed on this map. Naturally, the fear of a home/farm invasion by black shirted extremists was of great concern to those who were listed.

Goats, especially dairy goats, by their nature are vulnerable to theft. They are small, and are used to being handled by people. Angoras are less vulnerable as they are paddock animals. Nevertheless, hand raised kids could easily be taken.

This whole incident caused the State Government to set up an inquiry into the Impact of Animal Activism in Victoria. Mohair Australia Ltd., encouraged all its Victorian members to make submissions to the inquiry. Many of us did just that.

There are very few advantages of a Global Pandemic which kills millions of people and disrupts lives all around the world, but the lockdowns which were enforced in an attempt to stop the spread of the virus, did mean that these forms of trespass on farms by animal activists ceased.

In February 2020, the Inquiry released its findings. The report can be found here: it is 228 pages.

[https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/file\\_uploads/LCEIC\\_59-02\\_Impact\\_of\\_animal\\_activism\\_on\\_Victorian\\_agriculture\\_n8Zx02Bz.pdf](https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/file_uploads/LCEIC_59-02_Impact_of_animal_activism_on_Victorian_agriculture_n8Zx02Bz.pdf)

On 1 December 2021, new legislation was introduced into the Victorian Parliament. The press release which accompanied the new legislations can be found here:

<https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/new-laws-protect-our-farmers>

It says *inter alia*,

The *Livestock Management Amendment (Animal Activism) Bill 2021* will address the serious impacts of trespass on Victorian farms and recognises the significant biosecurity risks that breaches from animal activists can pose.

Those who fail to comply will face penalties among the heaviest in Australia, with on-the-spot fines of \$1,272 for an individual or \$8,178 for an organisation.

Further penalties of up to \$10,904 for an individual and up to \$54,522 for an organisation could apply for more serious offending.

The legislation is due to come into effect later in the year, and has been welcomed by farmer groups.

Further reading about this matter can be found by following the links below.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2022-03-23/laws-deter-victorian-animal-activists-trespassing-on-farms/100932410>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2021-12-01/victoria-animal-activism-legislation-bill/100664358>



## In a Nutshell—news and views from the internet. (Thanks to Goat Veterinary Consultancies—Goatvetoz. et.al.)

### Floods

Most of Victoria has been spared from the serious flooding which has devastated the northern parts of the country. However, here are some links to information concerning stock recovery and biosecurity following a flood event. <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/cd0c48e6-f9fe-4675-83b1-cda2b9af03bc/downloads/Flood%20Factsheet%20%20photos.pdf?ver=1647338118516> - general advice

<https://theconversation.com/how-to-mozzie-proof-your-property-after-a-flood-and-cut-your-risk-of-mosquito-borne-disease-178299?fbclid=IwAR1dNSiUf6vYbVeGqwKGWNSrA4ehyHimOP3cjqmQp9AJsWxs0hhMf24-nwU> and [https://parasitipedia.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2397&Itemid=2659](https://parasitipedia.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2397&Itemid=2659) - mosquito control

<https://criagenesis.cc/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CriaGenesis-Camelid-floods.pdf?fbclid=IwAR38wPpamix4VMGVH-zPzy6Q0KoLjyLGwi8zrzyIX7qGUvMOpDPbOeGOWjk> - with respect to alpacas used as guards

[https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0008/1392794/Managing-feed-and-fodder-risks.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1quK4e1G8WHycg4-DnAz1s8oqHrsmT\\_z8K57zgatRCWgiC-o5py2YAaE](https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/1392794/Managing-feed-and-fodder-risks.pdf?fbclid=IwAR1quK4e1G8WHycg4-DnAz1s8oqHrsmT_z8K57zgatRCWgiC-o5py2YAaE) - feed and fodder

### Importance of male goat teats.

Article looking at the role the teats of a sire will have on female offspring. Aimed at boer goat producers, but applicable to angora producers as well. <https://www.queenslandcountrylife.com.au/story/7633966/teats-on-a-buck-far-from-useless-goat-producers-hear/?cs=4698>

### Worms

The outlook for the rest of autumn with respect to worms and other parasites. <https://www.paraboss.com.au/news/articles/paraboss/seasonal-outlook-for-livestock-parasites-in-summerautumn-2022.php?fbclid=IwAR13fmB4dxQwr60Nyz9U2CzJW579ajfWsDN1m8iDhLBFZKuAwMRsC1YA1FQ>

<https://www.paraboss.com.au/news/articles/paraboss/seasonal-outlook-for-livestock-parasites-in-summerautumn-2022.php?fbclid=IwAR13fmB4dxQwr60Nyz9U2CzJW579ajfWsDN1m8iDhLBFZKuAwMRsC1YA1FQ>

<https://www.paraboss.com.au/news/articles/paraboss/seasonal-outlook-for-livestock-parasites-in-summerautumn-2022.php?fbclid=IwAR13fmB4dxQwr60Nyz9U2CzJW579ajfWsDN1m8iDhLBFZKuAwMRsC1YA1FQ>

### Goat meat

Primarily aimed at boer goat producers, this video may be of interest to mohair producers who also supply the meat market. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/programs/landline/2022-03-12/taste-testing-a-growing-taste-for-goat-meat/13794112>

### Diseases of Goats

A new free publication is available free from MLA. Information about the publication is here:

[https://www.mla.com.au/news-and-events/industry-news/new-goat-diseases-guide-to-bolster-biosecurity?utm\\_campaign=284282\\_Goats%20on%20the%20Move%20%E2%80%93%20Mar%202022&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Meat%20%26%20Livestock%20Australia&dm\\_i=4PKB,63CQ,90CBR,MWZB,1](https://www.mla.com.au/news-and-events/industry-news/new-goat-diseases-guide-to-bolster-biosecurity?utm_campaign=284282_Goats%20on%20the%20Move%20%E2%80%93%20Mar%202022&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Meat%20%26%20Livestock%20Australia&dm_i=4PKB,63CQ,90CBR,MWZB,1) .

The publication itself is here: [https://www.mla.com.au/globalassets/mla-corporate/news-and-events/documents/21-00248\\_lw\\_report\\_goatdiseaseguide\\_web\\_v3.pdf](https://www.mla.com.au/globalassets/mla-corporate/news-and-events/documents/21-00248_lw_report_goatdiseaseguide_web_v3.pdf)

### Preparing you goats for the mating season.

Some advice <https://www.zinpro.com/five-ways-to-improve-sheep-and-goat-breeding/>

### Drugs for goats

Here is a link which appeared in a string on a Facebook page which was discussing drenches for goats. It may be of interest. [https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1002/9781119073543.app1?fbclid=IwAR2tzGxgZ7HPAgekWyIAXULfn8NLxBdBkUv7vIQCLMZ9q7ENYzej\\_ivigYA](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1002/9781119073543.app1?fbclid=IwAR2tzGxgZ7HPAgekWyIAXULfn8NLxBdBkUv7vIQCLMZ9q7ENYzej_ivigYA)

### Mohair Paddock to plate

A heart warming story about a mohair producer. [https://wlos.com/news/local/uniquely-wnc-pasture-to-product-goat-farmer-spins-mohair-world-of-color-angora-goats-fine-yarn-local-fiber-artists-barnardsville-good-fibrations-wnc-connection?fbclid=IwAR2t37\\_gr35VY5djDbp9yUsCmHJh8Bd1vN-tOHl30-W671mi6ceC6n-1sfE](https://wlos.com/news/local/uniquely-wnc-pasture-to-product-goat-farmer-spins-mohair-world-of-color-angora-goats-fine-yarn-local-fiber-artists-barnardsville-good-fibrations-wnc-connection?fbclid=IwAR2t37_gr35VY5djDbp9yUsCmHJh8Bd1vN-tOHl30-W671mi6ceC6n-1sfE)

### Japanese Encephalitis risks

This publication is aimed at pig farmers, but may be useful in the future for goat farmers if this disease spreads.

[https://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Japanese-Encephalitis-Material\\_Publication\\_MosquitoManagementForPiggeries\\_final.pdf](https://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Japanese-Encephalitis-Material_Publication_MosquitoManagementForPiggeries_final.pdf)

## Market Report—David Williams

The two recent sales in the Cape saw the market rise with very good general competition. This is probably an indication that mills previously struggling due to Covid, are returning to some sort of pre Covid normal business activity. However there is a new and worrying problem, and that is the shortage of ships and a big backlog of shipping worldwide. The problem is also finance. Buyers must pay for their mohair between one and two weeks after the sale. Shipping is being delayed for months (in my case last year, my April shipment left in August). This is a finance nightmare for buyers as they have to finance not only this weeks sale but all following sales with the same delays with no promise of shipment for months. To add insult to injury, the freight has also jumped and likely to keep going up. (My example. 2 years ago a container cost around \$6000 my last shipment last year in August cost \$15600). These hidden charges add to the final cost of a product.



Having said that, the market looks healthy as the two big buyers managed over 70% of the offering and the other buyers and passed in lots around 30%. Previously the two big buyers would buy around 75/85% of the offering.

The sale earlier in the month was in Rand terms unchanged for Kids up for Young goats. Sellers favour for Fine Adults and unchanged for Adults. The shorter woollen types were buyers favour.

### Mohair Buyers

#### A.M.T.

#### **WE BUY MOHAIR DIRECT FROM THE GROWER**

WE ONLY SELL TO PROCESSORS AND WORK CLOSELY WITH OVERSEAS TOP MAKERS AND MANUFACTURERS

#### WE OFFER:

COMPETITIVE PRICES FOR YOUR MOHAIR

PROMPT PAYMENT

SORTING REPORT (if requested)

ASSISTANCE ON PREPARATION FOR SALE

WE TAKE GREAT CARE IN CLASSING MOHAIR – NOT ONLY TO CUSTOMERS' REQUIREMENTS, BUT ALSO BY EXPLOITING THE NATURAL FEATURES OF OUR FIBRE (STYLE AND CHARACTER) TO GAIN THE MAXIMUM PRICE.

WE ARE SUPPORTING FURTHER PROCESSING OF AUSTRALIAN MOHAIR IN AUSTRALIA FOR ALL AUSTRALIAN GROWERS!

#### **IF YOU NEED ANY ASSISTANCE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL US**

David Williams      Mobile:      0419 352 399

John Hoornweg      Mobile:      0428 488 422

**Email:**              [david@amtMoh.com.au](mailto:david@amtMoh.com.au)

AUSTRALASIAN MOHAIR TRADING PTY LTD

Unit 2, 114 Fairbairn Road, Sunshine, Vic, 3020.

To facilitate ease of handling, please consolidate all bags into one (or more) bag or wool pack. Ensure all bags, bales are clearly with your name and address and AMT address”.