

Clippings



MOHAIR
Australia Limited

MOHAIR AUSTRALIA Ltd., HAGSA Ltd and
Friends

Victorian Region Newsletter
October 2022

Diary Dates for 2022 –2023

25 November Mohair Australia Ltd.
AGM 3pm Ex Servicemen's Club
39-45 Bolton Street
Narrandera NSW 2700
Zoom link (registration required by
the 21/11/22
on mohair@mohair.org.au)

26 November - Christmas Party
The Dandenong Pavilion

55-61 Princes Highway Dandenong
Saturday 26 November 2022

RSVP to lill.roberts@outlook.com by
19 November

25 February 2023 Foster Show

July 2023 Australian Sheep and Wool
Show Bendigo.

Message from the editor

We live in an electronic world and have access to so much information with a few stokes of the keyboard and a click of the mouse.

We can communicate with people quicker than ever before. They don't need to be 'at home' anymore as so many of us carry a mobile phone.

So, when the computer 'dies', and a new one is needed, care has to be taken to ensure that data accumulated over many years—a record of life really, is preserved.

Unfortunately, my lap top recently 'died' and the person entrusted to transfer my data to the new one failed to understand just how much data I'd accumulated over the years, or how it was stored. Much of it was lost. And it didn't stop there. Even the numbers on my phone were lost when some sort of exercise which synchronised my phone with my new laptop was performed. "It's all in the cloud now", I was told. Well that 'cloud' floated away and rained my data someplace where I'll never find it. Thanks to Roger's skill and a back up copy, I was able to retrieve some of the lost data.

So to those out there who are only 'users', and don't have an understanding of technology, I give these warnings

- Make sure that the hard drive on the old computer is not destroyed.
- Emphasise how you have stored your data and make sure that the person understands how important that data is
- Create a back up for all files before handing your computer over to anyone.
- If you don't think the person is listening, find someone else.

I hope *Clippings* to going to everyone on the subscription list and not going to those who asked to be removed.

In this edition, there is a call from Melbourne Uni for farmers to complete a survey about antibiotic use at their farm, the market report, some national news and the usual roundup of items from the web.

Happy reading

Lill Roberts—lill.roberts@outlook.com
(yes even my email address was changed!!)



A Message from your President Margaret Nicholls

As the poem goes Australia is a country of drought and flooding rain.

We are certainly having the flooding rains. I hope all our goat friends are able to keep their animals safe. It will stop eventually.

We have moved to Yackandandah in northern Victoria and can see our beautiful grandsons every day. So much to still unpack but it will get done. We still have a large flock of goats at Seaspray as the farm is still not sold, so Ray our helper is looking after them. Time will tell how that goes.

I do hope many of our goat friends come our Christmas party. As it turns out it is the day after AMMOs mohair sale so David and Wilima Williams will stay with us and then come to the party the next day. It was also the day Victoria must vole, so don't forget. We are hoping for at least 14 -16 people, if not more. Details are:

The Dandenong Pavilion

55-61 Princes Highway Dandenong

Saturday 26 November 2022

Please RSVP to lill.roberts@outlook.com
by 19 November

Foster show is coming up, so I do hope there will be some goats and members to be involved is what we have planned. Don't forget to take some photos of your animals and farm for the photo competition. Chooks dogs and etc. All photos will be welcomed.

On a sad note I must make mention of my dear friend Mr Daryl Finch who passed away recently. Our condolences go to his partner Leanne and his two sons and their families. Daryl will always be important to me as he was the one who gave me my first judging position of angora goats at the Wagga Wagga show. RIP.

Hope to see many of our friends at our Christmas Party, the more the merrier RSVP.

Pakenham Sheep and Woolcraft Day

Lill and Roger from *Mohair Rare* were at the Pakenham Sheep and Woolcraft day in October. This market has been operating for many years and is run by the Black and Coloured Sheep Breeders Association. Initially, it was a place where members could sell their coloured fleeces to members of the public who could use the wool in either felting or spinning.



However, over the years this market has become the 'go to' place for all sorts of fibre and all sorts of crafts. It's a smaller version of the Woolcraft section of the famous Bendigo Sheep and Wool Show. This year there were yarns made from various fibres, equipment such as spindles, pin loom, carders, wool winders and picks, as well as dyes, sparkles and items to add interest and a unique touch to a hand made item. There were even some 'ready to wear' items such as scarves, beanies and shawls.

Mohair Rare had washed mohair for spinning and for use as dolls hair, carded mohair and mohair and wool batts which were blended and dyed ready for spinning. Small bags of colour co-ordinated dyed wool and mohair were a popular item. The aim is to have mohair in all its forms in the hands of spinners, knitters, felters and weavers.

It's a great day to catch up with the crafty fibre community which has formed over the years and with the loyal customers, many of whom haven't seen each other in three years. There were also new faces who have recently taken up fibre craft as a hobby.

It's always fun to be out promoting the fibre which we all grow and love and particularly gratifying when people come back year after year to buy Australian grown and processed fleece.



Roger Sawley at the Mohair Rare stall, Pakenham Black and coloured Sheep and Woolcraft Day 2022.



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

Q Fever

Final report about Q fever released.

https://agrifutures.com.au/news/q-fever-findings-a-timely-post-pandemic-reminder-for-biosecurity-vigilance/?mkt_tok=NjQzLU5PRy0zMDAAAAGG0x6HK2-SN_TVlbcL1HQmwAkyErWlv_71h_fDqA4HO1OttEveKoP1maJpU7uyOP-Y6i0zsXa3UUvRQl9jdCfpGihALvi-7qBIDnWCw&fbclid=IwAR2NBy8wQBG2YmTXCjOZl0EgfpJeH9YiL3j8yAc24aX6AB3Hx8Y-TcpZvE8

There has been an outbreak of QFever on Queensland farms recently

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-11206261/Q-Fever-Australians-warned-vaccinated-disease-Wide-Bay-Queensland.html?fbclid=IwAR0dntYQy-gHCOR99HKHJ3AmTd4tXqZ-SDSHWGSMN01BS7eMKsURHhBwbQhttps://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/using-drugs-in-dairy-goats/id1627055361?i=1000579281397&fbclid=IwAR3Fhx7GpGbpHtr3JfXbX6BMT2V_nJrDWtByT7jsOXLIbQhg9-bt_xweF8

The latest on genome testing

https://www.sheepcentral.com/covid-tech-offers-quicker-on-farm-livestock-breeding-values/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Sheep%20Central%20News%20Headlines%20September%202022&utm_content=Sheep%20Central%20News%20Headlines%20September%202022+CID_fdbb9a1c285ab21271d5c4a1a163b175&utm_source=eGenerator&utm_term=Click%20here%20for%20full%20story

Use of Drugs in Goats.

This podcast is primarily about drugs in dairy goats, but may be of interest to angora breeders as well

https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/using-drugs-in-dairy-goats/id1627055361?i=1000579281397&fbclid=IwAR3Fhx7GpGbpHtr3JfXbX6BMT2V_nJrDWtByT7jsOXLIbQhg9-bt_xweF8

Floods

For properties affected by flooding, a guide on how to deal with the impacts of floods can be downloaded at:

<https://goatveto.com.au/blog?fbclid=IwAR0BLalJxM-97nukcdBI3hJo-W0g1uAQSTNOCHUKRAHzLAtYP078PWEmmeU>

You will need to scroll down to the bottom of the page.

Urban Dairy goats

A delightful story about diary goats living in the heart of Bristol UK https://inews.co.uk/inews-lifestyle/people-bristol-raising-goats-sustainable-affordable-meat-milk-1866430?fbclid=IwAR1BGgs0OJ8qOQJhWRRyyoAShwMon-EKGY_ixJaESaW8qaJSY3wVC4o8gE

Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV)

JEV can affect goats. This article is about pigs, but it has some interesting tips on how to manage the risk of it impacting your goat production. <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/pigs/health/a-z-pig-diseases/japanese-encephalitis-in-pigs?fbclid=IwAR0fpvRc3ZXhsvhSignHaUCOEL3gvuLtUX2lZ9r2jAe9fDqRMPcgFXCciZQ>

Fibre Goat Road Show webinar

This was delivered on 4 October, but can be viewed by following this link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOUeYyyzmB0>

National News

The August edition of the National newsletter, Mohair News, is available on the Mohair Australia Ltd. website and can be accessed by following this link.

http://mohair.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Mohair_Newsletter_August_2022_Online.pdf

This edition is choc a block full of useful information about kidding: both pre and post natal care. Thanks to Lynn Carter for sharing this information with members.

There is also are article about electronic ID tags for goats. This has been compulsory in Victoria for some time now, but it is now being expanded to include all states.

In the President's report and a separate article contained in the newsletter, there is information about the proposed changes to the current Constitution. The relevant papers will be sent to members when the documentation for the AGM is sent, hopefully this week.

Some people have advance copies. One of our members has circulated to members his comments about the changes. If you haven't received these comments and would like a copy, please contact John Hoornweg at hoornwegjohn418@gmail.com

Also contained in the newsletter is a report about the increasing prices of bucks at recent sales. For the most part, this report relates to rangeland and boer goats which are sold for meat. However, many angora breeders sell their older animals to the meat market, so there is some interesting information contain therein.

Antibiotics in animal management in Australia—Have your input.

University of Melbourne is asking farmers for help in understanding how farmers feel about the use of antibiotics in farm animals.

They are asking farmers with more than 4 animals of one species to complete a short (10-15 minutes) survey. Your time will assist in the understanding and use of anti biotics in future farming. It will help those conducting the survey to understand exactly how farmers think and feel about antibiotic use in their animals. By understanding this, they can design better information resources for other people like us, and for Australian veterinarians.

To access the survey, follow this link.

Survey Link: <https://melbourneuni.au1.qualtrics.com/.../SV...>

Market Report

David Williams

At the Cape sale at the beginning of September, there was a shortage of adults in the past sales. The larger offering attracted good competition. However other types - Kids and Young goats were somewhat neglected except for the few better types which sold at a premium. Overall, Kids and Young goats were about 4% easier. Adults unchanged.

However, since then the market has certainly dropped, but so has the wool market. Problems in China around the slowing economy and the no Covid policy, power cuts and a reduction in demand due to some businesses moving to Europe has contributed to this situation. Europe taking up some of the slack and this has improved the situation. .

The war in Ukraine is also causing uncertainty, and this is being felt in many commodity markets, not just mohair.

In South Africa the good quality lots are well supported but not so much at a lower level. Faulty lots are discounted heavily.

The rand has slipped in value but this is not fully reflected in the price drop, so this is a good thing.

Nevertheless we are looking at a different market this time as I think top makers are buying more hand to mouth now and not speculating on stocks: who knows where the market is heading with the unrest around the world.

