

Clippings



MOHAIR AUSTRALIA Ltd., HAGSA Ltd and
Friends

Victorian Region Newsletter

December 2022

Diary Dates for 2022 –2023

25 February 2023 Foster Show.
Goats, information and photographic
competition.

February 2023— AGRIFUTURES goat
fibre RD&E facilitated forum. Precise
date to be advised

July 2023 Australian Sheep and Wool
Show Bendigo.

Message from the editor

The last Clippings for the year, and what a year it has been. The wet weather has provided many challenges for all of us.

In this edition of *Clippings*, there is the public notice for the Heritage Angora Goat Society of Australia AGM, a quick word about the Victorian Division of Mohair Australia Ltd. Christmas party, the market report and the usual wrap up of internet information.

I'd like to thank Margaret Nicholls for her leadership of the Victorian Division over the past 12 months and her able Treasurer Doug. I'd also like to thank my beloved husband Roger Sawley, for the work he does to help make *Clippings* happen every two months.

To all our readers, Merry Christmas and may you all be safe, well and happy in 2023.

Lill Roberts lill.roberts@outlook.com





A Message from your President Margaret Nicholls

It is Christmas here again. I was very proud with the turnout of our members and friend who came along to our Christmas party. We had a great time catching up with each other. Friendships between goat farmers are so very important.

Mr David Williams spoke about his decision to retire and pass the reins of Australian Mohair Trading to Mr John Hoornweg.

John is very experienced in the mohair industry, and has helped David for number of years. He will contact all the AMT clients.

Our first important event next year will be our first time showing and promoting our goats are the 2023 Foster Show please hold back from shearing your goats until after the show which is on Saturday 25 February, and bring them along so we can we can show off our beautiful mohair fibre. The photo competition will be very interesting plus displays of mohair products etc.

The Foster show committee are really keen have us at their show and they have arranged and prepared our show area with a great amount of interest.

On a different note, one of our members has added this note about the Mohair Australia Limited Annual General Meeting.

Mohair Australia Limited 2022 AGM was held on Friday 25 November. At this meeting, the board put a motion to members to change the constitution, in particular the voting arrangements of members. The result was a resounding rejection of this motion, with the members voting 9 for 30 against. For the motion to pass, it needed 9 for and 3 against. The board may now need to clarify where MAL goes from here.

To finish I would like to thank again Lill Roberts for her continual *Clipping* editions which keep us all up to date with the news.

We will be interesting to see how next year develops.

So with that I wish all our members and friends a very Merry Christmas and a safe healthy prosperous 2023.

HAGSA President's Annual Report

As 2022 draws to a close and I reflect on the year from the perspective of the Heritage Angora Goat Society of Australia, I do so with mixed emotions.

For any goat owner on the eastern seaboard of Australia, it has been a hard year, yet again. 2019 brought drought and then bushfires, 2020 saw the start of a global emergency which would touch to lives of the global community: COVID 19. That emergency is still with us today, even as we all strive to try to keep healthy in the new 'COVID normal' world. Now 2022 has been the year of the great flood(s).



After such a battle to keep our goats fed during the drought years, we are faced with unprecedented wet. Here in South Gippsland, we are well aware of the challenges of trying to raise angoras in a wet climate. It's a lot of work. However, for most others, this year brought new challenges. For the most part we made the most of a difficult situation.

During the year, HAGSA started undertaking DNA testing for some of our breeding bucks. This has been on our business plan for some time. We also attended fibre days and much mohair was sold to crafters: spinners, weavers, doll makers and people who are involved in textile crafts. Our aim is to put quality Australian mohair into the hands of Australian crafters.

For myself and Roger, our Treasurer, it has been a significant year for us personally. After 17 years, we have decided to sell our farm and move into accommodation which is more suitable for people of advancing years. Our days of walking around the green rolling hills and catching goats to drench and hoof clip, are over. Even our saying of 'we can't outrun them, but on a good day we can still outsmart them' doesn't seem accurate any more either. So we will be stepping down from our respective positions on the HAGSA board. I am encouraged that our HAGSA members are keen to step up and assist with the running of the society, and the breed will not die out in the foreseeable future.

There are still many things in our strategic plan to complete. Work continues on the data base, and we have strengthened our ties with the Rare Breeds Trust of Australia through the work of Bella St Clair and Melissa Gollin. Thank you to both of them.

I would like to extend my thanks to my fellow board members for their support and encouragement throughout the year—Roger Sawley, Catherine Fox and Bella St.Clair. Bella is currently completing her PhD thesis. Anyone who has done a PhD, or lived with someone who has, knows how much work is involved. Congratulations Bella.

The notice of the AGM is attached. I will email those who have Heritage goats with a link to the zoom meeting a week before the event. If there are other people who would like to join us for the AGM, please email me.

I would like to conclude by wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for a productive and satisfying 2023.

Lill Roberts President Heritage Angora Goat Society of Australia Ltd.

NOTICE

Annual General Meeting

Heritage Angora Goat Society of Australia Ltd.

Thursday 20 January 2023 5.30pm.

Via Zoom

All breeders and owners of Australian Heritage Angora goats are welcome and encouraged to attend.

For more information please contact Lill

lill@outlook.com



In a Nutshell—news and views from the internet.

(Thanks to Goat Veterinary Consultancies—Goatvetoz. et.al.)

Flooding—there are several articles looking at different aspects of the recent floods.

Snakes—When floodwaters inundate their habitat, snakes are forced to move into areas you might not normally find them. As agile swimmers, they can appear almost anywhere – including areas where you and your livestock are working. NSW LLS

Barbers Pole Worm.—https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/help-and-advice/livestock-health-and-production/diagnosing-livestock-diseases/barbers-pole-worm?utm_channel=Local+Land+Services+NSW&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=benchmark&fbclid=IwAR3MzB6rSM3K_KExJ3gC6a2rTqciHT3eYT9B1rc6r2V01PRaTIDdyoACoY

Foot rot information <https://www.mla.com.au/research-and-development/animal-health-welfare-and-biosecurity/diseases/infectious/footrot/?fbclid=IwAR3K2YfzH-vUEMb9ZosK8f28qwWDxj54RVVU4c3wNztuZWRFOARu8sNCQZQ>

Biological control of nematode parasites <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/14630426/> and <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17400391/>

New immediate test for Barbers Pole Worm now available <https://www.wormcheckaustralia.com/bptesting>

New code of Practice for goat farmers in Canada has been released <https://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/goats?fbclid=IwAR0EfNWO8dQK59KI8JInQKHozA9SefGmDZFbuyh73YhCBWJrVloTI5DkcbE>

Goat Manure on the garden Two articles about how to safely use goat manure and what to avoid. <https://krishijagran.com/animal-husbandry/goat-manure-advantages-disadvantages-and-how-to-make-organic-compost-at-home/> and <https://www.mja.com.au/journal/2006/184/9/abdominal-pain-and-eosinophilia-suburban-goat-keepers-trichostrongylosis?fbclid=IwAR2wmdtUyW-3-r5klPwmdWJuu383S3gYr81eo1ciSBgMBAARqYAvpXqyc6TQ>

University research into internal parasites—National Survey. Farmers Are invited to take part in a National survey to assist in research into parasites. You will need to list goats under the ‘other’ box. https://uwa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0e9sT7OIPLLWT5k?fbclid=IwAR39AxcOd8bu3HvNo5iGNRJ2-5EdU4kazgDVQ2V78S5Oe2qYkYQWFfeUYx6w

National drench shortage. If you see goat drenches in your local rural shop, it may be a good idea to stock up. Many drenches are now in short supply due to the increased presence of intestinal worms as a result of the recent wet weather on the east coast.

Q Fever—This disease is often responsible for abortions in goats. This review article aims to compile the information published in the scientific literature regarding *Coxiella burnetii* infection in goats and their role in the epidemiology of infection, namely their association with the occurrence of Q fever in humans. https://www.mdpi.com/2079-7737/11/12/1703?fbclid=IwAR1nVMmxGkRDla0XMmmbxQqfnRviWPCPey12EkmYy5-hJ5Hg_MvqhsVFu2o

Barbers Pole worm—This will be of greater concern this year due to the high rainfall. Helpful information is here. <https://wormboss.com.au/roundworms-2/barbers-pole-worm/>

Understanding WEC and DAG breeding values (ASBV, Goat EBV) - If you are aiming to breed for worm resistance, this article will assist with understand test results <https://wormboss.com.au/tests-tools/breeding-for-worm-resistance-sheep/understanding-wec-and-dag-breeding-values-asbv-goat-ebv/>

New study examines sources of Angora reproductive loss https://www.mla.com.au/news-and-events/industry-news/new-study-examines-sources-of-angora-reproductive-loss/?utm_campaign=368294_Goats%20on%20the%20Move%20%E2%80%9393%20Dec%202022&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Meat%20%26%20Livestock%20Australia&dm_i=4PKB,7W6E,90CBR,VOOY,1

Mohair Australia Ltd. (Victorian Division) Christmas Party



The Victorian Division of Mohair Australia Ltd. gathered for their annual Christmas Lunch on 26 November at The Dandenong Pavilion.

It's been a year since most of us have had a chance to catch up and have a chat in person, and chat we did.

David Williams gave a brief report about the state of the Market, Doug Nicholls also spoke briefly about National Mohair Australia Ltd. matters, and Margaret Nicholls gave a Presidents report and thanked everyone present for their support during this difficult year.

John Hoornweg introduced himself to members, as he takes over from David Williams at Australian Mohair Trading.

A great afternoon of chatting and networking was had by all.



Attendee, clockwise from above.

John Hoornweg, Hilary Day, Margaret Nicholls, Doug Nicholls and Shona Janky.



Market Report

David Williams

The last sale of the year in the cape was last Tuesday. I think the selection was a little better than they expected. It is normally a sort of clearing sale, getting rid of the left overs and lots not sold during the season.

The better lots were keenly sought after with Kids quoted as 1% dearer. Young goats unchanged and Adults 2% dearer. Adults had been slow to move in previous sales. The two main buyers bought over 80% of the offering.

Sales resume in SA on the 14th February.

The recent drop in fuel prices has reduced the cost of transport, which is encouraging. The delays which were causing so many challenges for the market previously in the year have also begun to reduce. This is good news for cash flows for producers .



National News—a note from Ellen Buckle from Agrifutures.

Postponed due to floods – AGRIFUTURES goat fibre RD&E facilitated forum in Wagga 24th November

Hi All,

Just letting you know that due to the flooding situation throughout NSW we have decided to **postpone** this forum until early February next year – I will send through the details with the new date once this has been organised.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ellen Buckle

Senior Manager