



MOHAIR
Australia Limited

HUNTER REGION

News

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Editor:

Sandie Smith, 200 Lindsay Road, North Rothbury 2335

ABN 40 008 585 135

email: sjmsmith1943@bigpond.com

Ph: 02 4938 7536



HUNTER REGION NEWS

Vol. 10 No. 1
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Hunter Region, Angora Mohair Breeders of Australasia Ltd.

Editor: Bill Smith, RMB 4525, Mangrove Mtn. 2250. (043) 74 1207

PRESIDENT

Colin O'Brien, 6 Alexander Drive,
Seaham, 2324 (049) 88 6387

VICE-PRESIDENTS

John Gray, 1 Ada Street, Singleton,
2330 (065) 72 1961

Derek Smith, Lot 1 Lomas Lane,
Lovedale, 2325 (049) 90 1217

SECRETARY

Julie Parkinson, RMB 128A, Glen
Martin, 2321 (049) 96 4240

TREASURER

Kay Payne, Glen Martin,
Clarence Town, 2321 (049) 96 4111

DELEGATE TO DIVISION

Julie Parkinson (049) 96 4240

ALTERNATIVE DELEGATE

Kay Payne (049) 96 4111

PUBLICITY OFFICER

Jose Purcell, 112 Duckenfield Road,
Morpeth, 2321 (049) 30 5321

SHOW COMMITTEE

John and Pam Ryan, Londons Road,
Lovedale, 2325 (049) 90 3376

John Gray (065) 72 1961

Derek Smith (049) 90 1217

COMMITTEE

F. Bailetti, RMB 125A
Glen William, 2321

Cliff Cameron, Lot 90, Gresford Road
Gresford East, 2311

Kerry Duff, 76 Kahibah Road,
Highfields, 2289 (049) 43 5350

Andy Eaglesham, 94 Dunns Creek Road,
Dunns Creek, 2321

Jolanda Heinzl, Lot 43 Winston Drive,
Eagleton, 2324 (049) 88 6245

Dick Meldrum, Glen Road,
Ourimbah, 2258 (043) 62 1279

Dave Richards, 66 Sempill Street,
Maitland, 2320 (049) 33 1059

Brian Squires, Lot 5, Wilderness Road,
Allandale, 2321 (049) 38 8171

Paul Wright, Lot 1 Wilderness Road,
Vacy, 2421 (049) 38 8171

HUNTER REGION INAUGURAL AUCTION

Held 14th. March at the Maitland Regional
Saleyards, Rutherford,
Auctioneers: A.G. Thomas Pty. Ltd.
conducting "Over-pen" selling.

Bidding got off to a slow start with only modest
interest in either well "papered" older bucks or
promising looking youngsters, the top successful bid
being \$350.

As the lots progressed bidding became more
spirited with the '86 drop purebred doe, *Warradale
Elke* sold on account of A. and K. Cathcart, reaching
the top price for the day of \$600.

This improvement carried through to the Appendix
A's with close to 100% clearance of animals offered.

On the commercial scene, though the small number
of bucks and does enjoyed a 100% clearance, the
interest in the 144 or so wethers did little
justice to the average quality.

The need for a regional sale was proved last year
with the success of the Hunter Region 1986 Sale By
Private Treaty.

The success of this, the first Hunter Region
Angora Auction, the 65% clearance of 135 lots
offered, comprising some 300 animals, indicates the
need for such an event on an annual basis.

END OF AN ERA !!!?

MOHAIR AUSTRALIA LTD - HUNTER REGION

HUNTER REGION NEWS

SUBSCRIPTION

DISCONTINUED

HERD BOOKS - FULL SET

Includes the Foundation Herd Book. Free to good home.

Can be collected or pay postage. Sandie Smith 02 4938 7536



PRESIDENT:

Jenny Readford
 61 Nowendoc Rd, Killawarra Via Wingham 2429
 Email: brindella@bigpond.com
 02 6553 0070 or mobile 0458 264 672

VICE PRESIDENT

Paul Readford
 61 Nowendoc Rd, Killawarra Via Wingham 2429
 Email: brindella@bigpond.com
 0414 487 521

SECRETARY:

Sandie Smith email: sjmsmith1943@bigpond.com
 200 Lindsay Road, North Rothbury 2335
Phone: 02 4938 7536

TREASURER:

Mr Chris Batch
 381 Goorangoola Road, Singleton 2330
Phone: 02 6577 3212

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Sandie Smith,
 200 Lindsay Road, North Rothbury 2335
Phone: 02 4938 7536
 email: sjmsmith1943@bigpond.com

DELEGATE TO DIVISION

Jenny Readford
 61 Nowendoc Rd, Killawarra Via Wingham 2429
brindella@bigpond.com
 Phone: 0458 264 672

COMMITTEE

Val Richards Phone: 0427 389 583
valr01@bigpond.net.au
 Gail Batch Phone: 02 6577 3212

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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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HEAD OFFICE

Mohair Australia Ltd,
 P O Box 248
 MUNDARING WA 6073

Phone: 08 9574 7090 or 0409 743 968

Email: mohair@mohair.org.au

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 next sale of mohair at AMMO (Australian Mohair Marketing Organisation) is yet to be decided.

If you have mohair to send from the Hunter Region to AMMO please contact Sandie Smith on 4938 7536 or email to smsmith1943@bigpond.com.

HUNTER REGION NEWS

It is with some sadness that I have decided to stop producing the Hunter Region News.

Bill and I started this Newsletter when there was a need for better communication within our Region, as well as those interested in angora goats and the mohair industry. The newsletter was also a useful tool to take to Tocal Field days etc. as a handout, which we did for over 30 years..

I have thoroughly enjoyed the task and have felt much satisfaction. I especially wish to thank the readers who have taken the time to email or phone me with such positive comments.

My thanks also to the Hunter Region committee who have supported me, and who decided to continue with the expense as long as we were financially able, and I was prepared to do the work.

Kind regards

Sandie Smith

MOHAIR CLASSING and PREPARATION**Classing Standards**

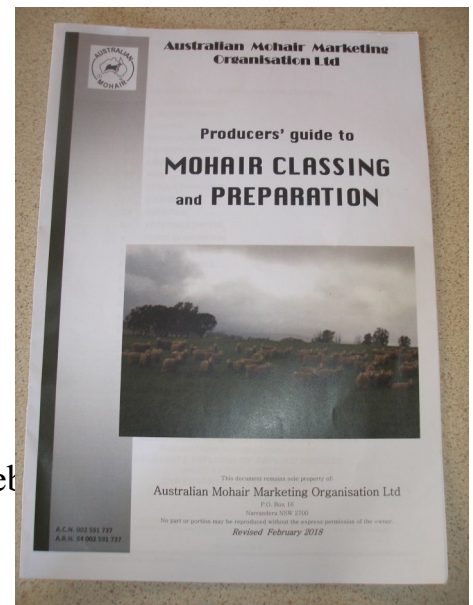
Please note changes have been made to:

Page 5 Skirting description of FCOT is now FSCOT
 Page 12 Cots description of FCOT is now FSCOT
 Page 14 Out sorts description of FCOT is now FSCOT

A copy of the Standards can be downloaded from AMMO web

<http://ausmohair.com.au/mohair-preperation/mohair-classing/>

or AMMO can send you out a copy and a length card to use in the shed when you're classing.



Mohair Australia Website
Head Office email:

www.mohair.com.au
mohair@mohair.org.au

Presidents Report

The decision has been made to discontinue the Hunter Region News magazine.

Economic times and a lack of producers in the region are two contributing reasons and, as it is time for subscription renewal it was decided, this is the appropriate time.

As the Region President I would like to thank Sandie Smith for her long-standing diligence and expertise in the creating, editing and production of our Region magazine.

Bill and Sandie Smith started the Hunter Region News magazine back in March 1987.

At the time the region had about 132 members. Bill started the first issue, vol 10 No.1 and four magazines were sent each year to members and subscribers, each issue providing points of

interest, show results and facts relevant to Mohair Australia Ltd (the organizations) and Mohair production.

It truly is the end of an era within the Mohair Industry.

A sincere thank you to all the subscribers, and to all those that advertised in the magazine over the years, and a sincere thank you to Sandie Smith for the commitment to the Hunter Region News magazine.

Thank you

Jennifer Readford.



MOHAIR REPORT

For more information

Visit AMMO website
www.ausmohair.com.au

AMMO Hunter Reveal Centre

Sandie Smith
"Inwood" 200 Lindsay Road,
North Rothbury. 2335

Phone: 02 4938 7536

Email: sjmsmith1943@bigpond.com

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

Managing an anaemic small ruminant

Anaemia is suggested clinically by very pale pink or white mucus membranes, exercise intolerance, weakness, collapse and death. Some causes of anaemia will cause jaundice (yellow colour of the mucus membranes) and blood in the urine.



The best spot to check for anaemia is the third eyelid in the sheep or goat as shown in the image.

Often small ruminants will not show signs of anaemia until their red blood cell level is getting extremely low, or the animal is put in a stressful situation. When the goat is stressed or exerting more energy, their bodies require the use of more oxygen. If the red blood cell level is low, then the oxygen levels are low and when there is not enough oxygen the animal can collapse or even drop dead suddenly.

Ideally, an extremely anaemic goat will require veterinary attention to aid in recovery. The goat could require fluid therapy, blood transfusions, iron injections and multivitamin/mineral preparations. A goat has 55-80ml of blood/kg of body weight (50kg goat has approximately 2.7- 4L blood).

What can the producer do to assist with their anaemic animals?

1. Avoid any stress, this might include not handling the animal or moving them very slowly and carefully into a small yard.
2. No exercise, confine the animal to a small yard/stall so they do not have to exert energy getting food and water or climbing hills.
3. Attempt to maintain a thermoneutral environment, they will use more energy if they are too cold or hot.
4. Specific therapy for the disease that has caused anaemia. Anaemia is usually caused by barber's pole worm (*Haemonchus contortus*) in the Hunter Region but remember to check the entire animal for other symptoms and evaluate their history as there are other conditions that can cause anaemia.
5. If barber's pole is the cause of anaemia, then moving to a less contaminated paddock is recommended.
6. Nutrition Nutrition Nutrition! Provide a high protein diet and cut browse that is highly palatable. Concentrate feeds may need to be introduced, ensure it has a high protein level of >16% and always introduce the new feed slowly to give the gut bacteria a chance to adapt. Small amounts more regularly is better than a large amount once a day.
7. Vitamin B12 is an essential vitamin that assists with rebuilding of red blood cells
8. Iron supplementation injection would need to be dispensed from your private veterinarian. Iron supplementation assists with anaemia by an increase of red blood cell production.

If you have other questions and concerns about managing anaemic stock, please send me an email on kylie.greentree@lls.nsw.gov.au

References:

- Matthews, J; 2009. Diseases of the Goat

For more information contact Kylie Greentree, District Veterinarian Rutherford NSW

Mobile: 0428 498 687

Email: kylie.greentree@lls.nsw.gov.au

If you are planning on moving your small ruminants, it is not only important to ensure they are correctly identified with approved NLIS tags and have the correct travel documentation but they most also be 'Fit to Load'. It has been a while since I have discussed this topic and thought it was a great time for a reminder. Kylie Greentree LLS Vet.

FITNESS TO LOAD CHECKLIST:

1. Can walk on its own by bearing weight on all four legs
2. Is free from visible signs of disease, severe injury or conditions to likely compromise its welfare during transport
3. Is strong enough to make the journey (no dehydrated or emaciated)
4. Is not suffering from heat stress (visible panting)
5. Is not in late pregnancy or too young to travel
6. Has met the maximum time off water standards
7. Can see well enough to walk, load and travel without impairment or distress (ie not blind in both eyes)

Certain conditions, such as late pregnancy or a lame animal, should only be transported under veterinary advice and they should not be transported to a saleyard.

If in doubt, leave it out!

If you require any further information about 'Fit to Load' please drop me an email or drop into my office and I have some 'Fit to Load' guides and 'Glovebox Guide to Biosecurity, Emergency Animal Diseases and preparing livestock for transport' books to give out.

Regards,
Kylie Greentree



Browser's Bulletin in the

Hunter



BROWSER'S BULLETIN 78

Goats cannot eat everything!

It is a fallacy that goats can eat anything, there are many plants and shrubs out there that are tasty to a goat but can also be deadly.

Goats are a browsing animal, they prefer trees, shrubs and woody weeds to lush pastures of grasses. When goats are observed freely grazing in a paddock with a diverse selection of plants, goats will move from plant to plant, selectively sampling each as they move quite quickly through the area.

The plants they select will vary throughout the year and will depend on the growth stage of the plant.

In a natural environment with browsing and grazing options available, goats will spend 60% of their feeding time browsing while sheep typically browse 10-15% of their intake. Goats are commonly used to help control weeds, but it is important to be aware of the garden plants and pruning that should not be thrown to your pet goats.

Goats frequently consume small amounts of potentially harmful plants with no apparent ill effects, particularly when the rumen is full of other feedstuff. This would vary if the goat were hungry and the feed on offer was limited to plants that are toxic. Most cases of poisoning are caused by garden shrubs, in particular rhododendrons, azaleas and laurels. Don't throw the garden prunings over to your goats without checking if the plant is toxic, otherwise you could have a disaster on your hands.

Below is a list of potentially toxic plants that you may have in your garden. It is not a complete list, merely a list of common garden shrubs, trees and weeds that you may come across. Please check other species you have in your garden before you give them to your stock. Also, if your stock can be seen from the road it is advisable to put a sign up to not feed the stock, otherwise a friendly neighbour may think they are doing your goats a favour and throw them their garden clippings, which could end in disaster.

Small amounts of some plants may not cause issues in your stock, while others can cause gastrointestinal upset, diarrhoea, vomiting and sudden death when small amounts are eaten.

There are two excellent articles listed in the References section at the end of this newsletter (Reference 3 and 4), has an extensive list of plants, trees and shrubs, their palatability to goats and if they are toxic. I would highly recommend you download these articles to have as a reference.



Some plants listed below will only cause issues if the stock is hungry and the plant species available is limited. On a recent property visit, I noticed the neighbouring paddocks completely covered in Bracken Fern. The producer said that there were goats in these paddocks. It was difficult to see any other species of pasture available to these goats. Casual ingestion of bracken fern is safe and many use goats to assist with Bracken control, but protracted ingestion of significant amounts is dangerous. Effects of excessive Bracken fern ingestion include nervous signs, haemorrhage and anaemia.

Stock that have been held in yards or have been transported for a long period of time, are going to be hungry. It is important to remember to feed them (release them with a full stomach) before releasing them onto a new paddock.

I had a case out Western NSW where sheep had been yarded for several days for shearing. When they were released, they were hungry and went out onto a high oxalate pasture. The photo below shows the long line of sheep that had just dropped dead as they walked down the paddock after filling their stomachs with the first pasture they could find. It is a horrible situation!



In the table below, I have highlighted the plants you may find in your garden that are highly toxic and cause vomiting and sudden death in goats.

Two other plants that don't feature in the list below, but which contain poisons are *fireweed* and the garden hedge plant known as '*Red Robin*' (*photinia* spp). Goats and sheep are often used to clean up *Fireweed* (*Senecio madagascariensis*) in paddocks. *Fireweed* contains pyrrolizidine alkaloids, a liver toxin, and although the toxic effects are less pronounced in sheep and goats, a certain amount of liver damage does occur. Affected animals are then particularly susceptible to copper poisoning.

The garden hedge plant *Photinia*, known as '*red robin*' because the new leaves that grow back after pruning are red in colour, can contain fatal levels of cyanogenetic glycosides (cyanide). The young, red leaves contain the highest amounts, so be careful allowing access to your livestock, especially when there is a lot of new growth on the shrub.

If you have any further questions about toxic plants, please drop me an email at kylie.greentree@lls.nsw.gov.au

A list of Toxic plants as mentioned in this article are listed on Page 10 or email Kylie Greentree at kylie.greentree@lls.nsw.gov.au for more information

DATES FOR THE CALENDAR

2023

July 25

MOHAIR AUSTRALIA LTD—HUNTER REGION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING More details on back page

November

Region Christmas Party Date to be decided.

Due to lack of Region members we will probably decide on a venue and also have lunch.

Toxic Plants poisonous to Goats

Angel's Trumpet

Black Bean

Cherry: Prunus

Lantana

Morning glory

Paterson Curse

Potato

St John's Wort

Yew

Apricots: Prunus

Bracken Fern

Deadly nightshade

Laurels

Mother of Millions

Peach: Prunus

Rhubarb

Tomato

Azalea

Castor oil plant

Green Cestrum

Lily of the valley

Oleander

Pigweed: Portulaca

Rhododendrons

Yellow Oleander

References:

- 1) Matthews J 2009, Diseases of the Goat: Chapter 21 Plant Poisoning (p332-339)
- 2) Vincent, B. 2005. Farming Meat Goats, Breeding Production and Marketing.
- 3) *The palatability, and potential toxicity of Australian weeds to goats* by Helen Simmonds, Peter Holst and Chris Bourke <https://agrifutures.com.au/wp-content/uploads/publications/00-139.pdf>
- 4) Weed Control using Goats MLA <https://www.mla.com.au/globalassets/mla-corporate/extensions-training-and-tools/creative-commons/weed-control-using-goats---cc.pdf>

© 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 to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of LLS or the user's independent adviser.

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Sandie Smith
200 Lindsay Road, NORTH
ROTHBURY 2335
Ph: 02 4938 7536

email sjmsmith1943@bigpond.com

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**BRINDELLA ANGORA
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All enquiries
Jenny: 0458 264 672
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**ROSMARK
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Molong NSW

Steve Roots 02 6366 9444
Email: cardui2@bigpond.net.au

Pleasant View Angora



Chris & Gail Batch
381 Goorangoola Road
Mt Pleasant via Singleton
2330

Email: pleasantviewfibres@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page 180 x 250mm	Single Issue	\$40.00	4 Issues	\$130.00
Half Page 180 x 120mm	Single Issue	\$27.00	4 Issues	\$88.00
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

**Mohair Australia Ltd,
P O Box 248
MUNDARING WA 6073**

Phone: 08 9574 7090 / 0409 743 968

Email: mohair@mohair.org.au

MOHAIR AUSTRALIA LTD - MEMBERSHIP FEES - 2023

Membership/Renewal forms available on the MA website.

Breeder (Full voting rights)	\$150.00	Education	\$150.00
Commercial (Full voting rights)	\$150.00	Junior	\$50.00
Trader (Full voting rights)	\$150.00	Ordinary (Region voting only)	\$60.00

**Bank Details: BSB 062 583 Account 10110481 Name: Mohair Australia Ltd.
Use your membership number as reference**



Calico Bags

“Angora Goats Grow Mohair”
\$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00



Contact:

Mohair Australia Ltd - Hunter Region

Secretary: Sandie Smith 02 4938 7536 or sjmsmith1943@bigpond.com

Mohair Australia Ltd—Hunter
C/- Editor, Sandie Smith
200 Lindsay Road
NORTH ROTHBURY 2335

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MOHAIR AUSTRALIA LTD
HUNTER REGION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 25th July, 2023 11am
Venue: Riverside Park, Karuah
(Followed by Lunch at local club optional)
RSVP Secretary, Sandie Smith on 02 49387536

