

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

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MOHAIR
Australia Limited



**August
2020
Mohair
News**



Mohair Australia Ltd. Mohair News

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VALE

Arthur Day

It is with great sadness that the members and friends of Mohair Australia (Victorian Division) and the wider Victorian Mohair Industry acknowledge the passing on the 25th May of one of our most loved and long standing members, Mr ARTHUR DAY.

Arthur, along with his wife Hilary have run the very successful Koonkie Worun Angora stud since the 1970s. Arthur was a devoted husband, father and grand father to his family.

Nothing was to much trouble to Arthur. He was always there to help with his wonderful knowledge and advice.

We all send our love and sincere sympathies to Hilary and family from the members and friends of the Australian Angora / Mohair Industry.

R.I.P ARTHUR.



Sourced from Clippings June 2020

Dear Nick,

I wanted to take the opportunity to once again thank you for your time and participation in the annual Levied Industries forum.

Below is a summary of the key messages identified by AgriFutures from the industry presentations:

- There is a need for extension. Does AgriFutures really understand the distinction between communications and extension?
- R&D must lead to outcomes for levy payers, including commercial outcomes for levy payers.
- The research investment timeframes are still too long.
- A number of industries are facing animal welfare issues. How can AgriFutures help?
- There is a need for succession planning in our agricultural industry associations and Advisory Panels to build new industry leaders.
- Let's share opportunities for cross industry collaboration within AgriFutures Australia levied and emerging industries.

In addition the following ideas were suggested by forum participants:

- Develop a "toolbox" on governance and leadership: provide a road map to guide our industries to reach best practice in governance and grow into professional industries.
- Expand the capacity building program: help industry associations build their skills.
- Industry-to-industry learning opportunities: get our industries sharing their stories.

I have also attached the presentations from all of the industries for your information.

Regards

John

John Smith
General Manager
Research



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

Current Membership fees

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

Breeder	\$130
Commercial	\$80
Trader	\$130
Education	\$55
Ordinary	\$30
Junior	\$10

Membership fees are due
1st January, 2021

For Renewal/Membership, please visit the
Mohair Australia website
www.mohair.com.au

FRONT COVER

A range of dyed, hand spun yarns from
Doug Stapleton



National President Report – August Mohair News

Hello All,

Many of you may know that Arthur Day from Upper Beaconsfield Victoria passed away earlier this year. Hilary and Arthur Day established and run the registered stud herd called Koonkie Woorun Angora Stud. We wanted to acknowledge Arthur's great contribution and support over the years.

Rest in Peace - Arthur Day. We have sent our sincere condolences to Hilary and family from the MAL board and members.

The board had its first phone hook up with the Division presidents in June and it was a positive step to improving communication and collaboration. There were some actions recorded against the minutes and over time these will be developed to help the membership and industry.

I had to report back on a presentation that I gave to the Agrifutures levied industries group on behalf of the mohair industry. This year the industry presentations were done over the internet using Go To Meetings format which is a bit like Zoom. In actual fact it was a good use of time because I was able to do my job, feed up the weaners and sleep in my own bed vs taking 2 days out travelling and staying overnight for the same type of presentation. You do lose some social interaction however the online format is a great tool for keeping things moving in the industry with the current Covid 19 conditions. The upside of the involvement is that the Goat Fibre industry has a good balance of available funding through Agrifutures. Goat fibre is classed as mohair and cashmere. Alpaca fibre is no longer included. The majority of the funds are from mohair generated levies over the years.

Many of you will know the background better than me however in short the Commonwealth government had agreed to match industry funding from 1992. Therefore our Goat fibre RD&E account balance is now \$408,676. I have attached the letter separately so you can read the correspondence.

Importantly we have been instructed we cannot spend the levy money until we have a Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) strategic 5 year plan that is signed off by the mohair industry and the Agrifutures board.

We felt that running any workshops before or at the AGM is not practical with the updated Covid 19 advice. We hope to be able to reschedule this type of activity in Dec 2020 or Jan 2021 subject to state borders being open and travel not being restricted with 14 day quarantine period on return because we do require national input from breeders and growers. We will keep you posted.

We are still on track to grow the membership and ensure we touch base with previous members and growers that we have lost direct connection with over the years.

A bit of housekeeping - we have started a new financial year. Can I request regions and divisions have their meetings, re-confirm office bearers, check and confirm their preliminary financial reports if they have had financial activity through the MAL ABN. We would encourage you to use the online platforms like zoom or skype or 3 way chats. Please confirm your office bearers with Sue Jordan and preliminary financial positions with me. We will provide a full report in the AGM formal notice and information pack. The share portfolio dividends are expected to be significantly less (50% of 2018/19) this new financial year due to the economic environment so we must be mindful of partial or full cost recovery on events at all levels in 2021.

This year the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 6th November 2020 will be held as a hybrid event – small physical meeting linked with online facilities that helps to ensure your safety and enables you to take part, no matter where you are in Australia.

In the coming weeks you will receive more details of how you can participate, but in the meantime you can visit www.mohair.com.au for available information.

We look forward to your participation and support of this year's Annual General Meeting.

Yours sincerely, Nick Gorrie

Member Profile



Kimberly Barrett

[Angora Goat breeder & Mohair Addict]

Kimba Angoras - Grenfell NSW

My Story - My addiction to mohair predates my involvement with Angora goats by many years. My dear Mother introduced me to mohair, by way of knitting yarn and mohair rugs in the late sixties. She also fostered my love of goats around the same time when she bought a milking goat. At the time I hadn't made the connection that a goat could grow mohair; that came a little later.

During the 70's I learnt spinning and weaving, working with wool. While I loved wool it lacked the shine and tactile quality of the commercial mohair yarns I had been knitting. It was also about this time that the some precious person told me "Angora goats grow Mohair". Remember, these were the days Before Internet (BI).

Moving along with the story, 1980, a friend was farming Angoras out near Dubbo. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw these beautiful animals. It was love at first sight. Sadly I came away without fleece but after seeing the goats I knew 'I had to have', either goats or fleece for spinning. I managed to source some mohair from a work colleague whose sister had coloured goats. Not wanting to take anything away from those who love their coloured mohair, I wasn't really excited by the fleece. It had the prickle factor.

I probably noticed it more because I had been spinning merino fleeces.

The Goats Arrive - I saw a sign in a shop window, 2 Angora Female Goats FOR SALE. Yes, the time had finally

come. I bought the girls sight unseen, brought them home on the back of the ute, tied to the head board, and ME sitting on the back, hanging onto THEM. Happy day!

I had had them for a couple of years before I decided we needed kids, so my quest to find a buck began. A lady up the road had Angoras but no buck, she did however lend me the book "The Basics of Angora Breeding" by Mavis Walledge. I found the girls had been tattooed, I then contacted MAL, found the breeder, who registered them for me and sold me a buck. It's now 1997, and I have a registered stud, consisting of 3 Angora goats, and mohair to spin.

The Journey - I started on a 5 acre block, on the northwest outskirts of Sydney. Joining Mohair Australia was the best thing I did, as it gave me contact to other breeders, details of shows, etc. It wasn't too long before I bought more goats, and more goats. And, it wasn't too many years later that the block was full of goats, and decisions had to be made, i.e. continue with my hobby folly or move to a larger block and become a commercial producer. The second option won the coin toss.

The Big Farm - We went west, bought 8072.5 acres 56km out from West Wyalong, we share farmed the sheep and cropping, while I worked the goat enterprise (and bought more goats). The timing was brilliant! We walked into the beginning of the Millennium Drought, which made for some tough times.



A steep learning curve - doing the hard yards.

The goats, with their preference for dry climates handled the drought conditions reasonable well, providing you kept the feed up to them. Fortunately, we had water by way of a pipeline from the Lachlan River, and the goats relished the re-growth in some of the rougher areas of the farm. We ran 2500 Merino sheep, plus up to 950 Angoras.



May, 2013, depressingly dry. The farm is For Sale

The Little Farm - We downsized onto a smaller farm (1260 acres) at the end of 2013, and are now based in Central Western NSW, where we are still running around 600 goats plus a few hundred sheep. We had a few reasonable years, followed by the wettest year on record for the district. Then came another drought. It hit hard, no pipeline on this farm, only a little bit of water left in the main dam, not much water left in the tanks.

I was determined to hold onto the breeding stock, particularly the 2013 drop. They were all sired by South African ET bucks, and they are producing not only quality mohair, many of their kids have been exceptional.

The journey hasn't been an easy one but with the mohair quality improving so much over the years, my passion (addiction) for the Diamond Fibre is stronger than ever.

I'm still spinning, but the focus has shifted to weaving floor rugs, using fleece from my older animals. There's only so many jumpers, beanies, scarves a person needs in their lifetime

Foot Note - I only bought those two goats because I wanted mohair to spin; it was never my intention to become a farmer. Would I do it all again? Probably! LOVE MOHAIR

MOHAIR PUBLICATIONS

Two Books now on disc in PDF format \$15 each including postage.

Mohair: Farming the

Diamond Fibre (D L Stapleton 2017)
250 pages in colour (hard copy \$120 including postage)

Australian Handbook of

Angora Goats and Mohair Production
(D L Stapleton & D G Cunningham 2007)
180 pages in colour (hard copy \$60 including postage)

Order from dougstapleton@bigpond.com - will invoice

MOHAIR FARMING THE DIAMOND FIBRE

Mohair Farming, History and Biology

Topics include: Farming goats, Biology And Behaviour; From 1970 to now; Early research; Concepts of Quality; Developing the Market; Imports and Exports; The Buck Trials; Responses to Selection; Farming in other places - 3 models; Measurement statistics; What you don't want to know; Processing in South Africa.

Mohair Australia Ltd

Promotional Grant

A grant of \$100 can be applied for by Regions & Divisions, to assist with the cost of promotional events such as Field Days, etc. This event should be promoting Mohair Australia Ltd, and Angora Goats and Mohair within Australia.

To qualify for the grant the event must be pre-advertised in the Mohair Newsletter, and a report with a photo must be submitted to the Mohair Newsletter Editor. The application form is on the website under the "forms" section.

Friday, 29 May 2020

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Dear Nick,

RE: Commonwealth matching funding

In summary, AgriFutures Australia's Board will allocate the matching funding to each levied industry program. The respective programs will receive 50c per dollar of eligible expenditure above the industry specific caps in matching funding (subject to availability of Commonwealth matching funding).

Those industries wishing to maximise their access to additional Commonwealth matching funding may wish to consider increasing R&D expenditure in the program. Some AgriFutures Australia levied industries may be considering doing this by a) using existing program reserves, b) applying to the Minister to have their statutory R&D levy increased or c) raising voluntary contributions.

In 2019-20, we anticipate the R&D expenditure for the AgriFutures Goat Fibre program will be below the industry-specific 0.5% GVP cap and all eligible expenditure will be matched at 50c per dollar, as in previous years.

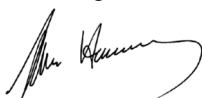
In addition, AgriFutures Australia has worked with the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment to understand the implications of the revised calculation methodology of Commonwealth matching. Following extensive consultation with AgriFutures Australia, the Department has paid the difference in historic matched funds to AgriFutures Australia's levied industries programs (Arena 3).

AgriFutures Australia and the Department have conducted an extensive review and analysis of financial records dating back to the formation of the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation in the early 1990s. AgriFutures Australia has calculated the adjustments for each levied industry. In the case of the AgriFutures Goat Fibre Program, the total historic unmatched expenditure was \$489,815. This unmatched expenditure should have attracted Commonwealth matching funding of 50c per dollar of eligible expenditure, or \$244,908. Taking into consideration CPI, this amounts to a special one-off payment of \$368,526. A comprehensive breakdown of how we have calculated the special one-off payment, including the annual CPI rates applied, is attached.

The table below shows the budget for the AgriFutures Goat Fibre Program including the additional Commonwealth matched funded for the current financial year 2019-20 and the one-off payment.

Please feel free to contact me on John.Harvey@agrifutures.com.au if you have any questions as I appreciate this is a complex and important matter.

Kind regards,



John Harvey

Managing Director
AgriFutures Australia



Hand Spinning and Dyeing Mohair

D L Stapleton. 28 Bowman Ave. Orange NSW 2800.

Using mohair in hand craft is quite different to farming and the production of fibre for the textile industries. Nevertheless, fibre crafting with mohair gives insights and understand of the concepts of fibre quality. Hand spinning is the most obvious craft activity, but this is only half-way to making something of use. In this article I want to explore a variety of craft techniques I have picked up while experimenting with spinning and dyeing mohair.



Figure 1A range of dyed, hand spun yarns.

The basics – start with a quality fleece

Of course, there may be specific reasons to “do something” with a fleece but by far the most obvious is to start with the best fleece possible. Mohair has three outstanding properties – fibre length, non-felting character and high lustre. Parallel fibres allow the lustre to be displayed and when dyed, the remarkable colour properties of mohair can be exploited.

So, I choose long, open, or relaxed fleece where the staples and fibres are easily separated. The second fleece (shorn before September when fibre shedding can result in tangles) and the third fleece shorn in autumn offer the best general fleece for craft. There is a saying – shear yesterday and it will be short, shear tomorrow and it will be too long. However, shearing tomorrow is probably best for craft fleece. I use staples which are 14 to 16cm long and that means fleece grown for 7 months. Fleece from show goats also offers a good starting point (as long as it’s not too long or expensive to buy). Such fleeces are relatively clean, open and free of vegetable matter.

The next step is getting the fleece shorn. Double cuts are a pain when spinning mohair so the rule is “keep the handpiece on the skin!” Of course, if you can do your own shearing it helps.

Skirting the fleece

Special fleeces are best skirted straight away then bagged and labelled. I add a moth ball or two just in case and tie the bag. You pick up the fleece from the shearer's end and throw it, underhand, onto the skirting table. That way the neck goes further and the britch drops close to you, with the cut edge down. Now you can remove the stains (mostly close to you) and then the short pieces from the sides. Use you sense of touch to detect burry pieces and cotted lumps. If the neck it obviously strong, remove it before you bag the fleece.

Storage

The danger is that you save too many fleeces. So, I try not to get carried away with selecting many really nice fleeces.

Scouring

There is a lot of dirt and grease in mohair fleeces, even those from show teams. Your fleece must be clean for both dyeing and spinning. Greasy mohair will stick to the cards and is very hard to draw out to spin. Grease will also prevent even dye penetration.

I find I need at least 3 cycles of washing plus at least 2 rinses. A neutral pH wool detergent like Softly is best, but I might start with an overnight soak in Napisan or Vanish if there is a lot of grease in paddock grown fleeces. To remove all the "wool" grease you need hot water (almost too hot for your hands). Luckily mohair does not felt so agitation is not a problem and vigorous stirring and squeezing is recommended. That does not mean you can tumble wash or dry a fleece but spin drying is OK to get most of the water out. Fleeces can be spread out on a towel in the sun to dry. It might take 2 days to fully dry.



Figure 2 My work area. An Inwood-Smith electric wheel and skeins of finished yarn.



Hand Spinning and Dyeing Mohair

Dyeing “in the wool”

Dyeing is a whole subject in itself, but I use the “dyed in the wool” technique to produce a lot of each colour. Clean fleece can be dyed. My objective is to produce yarn for sale, but some buyers want a lot of one colour or up to 10 balls of a mix of colours. I also do fairly big projects like blankets needing a lot of particular colours. I choose the dye colour related to my current fancy and drop half a (wet) fleece into a 20-litre dye pot to bring to the boil and simmer. You have to use a lot of dyestuff because dye sometimes fails to reach the centre of the staple and this results in lighter colour when the fleece is finally carded.



Figure 3 Multi coloured yarn in blues produced by carding and spinning colours in rotations

Carding

I find that carding is a must for mohair. Carding brushes can be used but you only card a small amount at a time. The staples should break up easily and be reduced the mass of even fibre. Tight staples with too much twist tangle and take a lot of opening. I have a drum carder but while it has its uses to

open fleece or to mix colours, I am unconvinced of its value. Again, it works if you only card small amounts at a time and run the “sliver” through at least twice.

Dyeing Yarn

For solid colour you can dye white yarn. This tends to restrict the amount of one colour you can achieve because it is very difficult to repeat an exact colour in another dye batch. Three or 4 skeins is about the maximum you can handle at home and that is a lot of spinning to muck up with a bad colour. Plying two similar colours of dyed slivers lets you experiment and adjust without endangering a lot of effort.

Dyeing a skein (or more) is easy and again, the non-felting character of mohair makes it easier than boiling wool which will felt unless you are very careful

Wash and hang the skein(s) in the sun to dry.



Figure4 Three or four skeins of white immersed quickly into a dyebath and simmer

Dye Colours

Now you can try natural dyes obtained from boiling vegetable matter for hours. Unfortunately, this is not only messy, but the dyes are not “fast”. That is, they fade to a fairly uniform brown. There are exceptions and soaking the yarn in a chemical “mordant” before dyeing can help.

A wide range of “fast” colours is available from Landscape Dyes. These are “acid” dyes, mostly intense and but quite dark. Try some of the lighter shades. As instructed, you finish the boilup with a cup of vinegar to help the mohair absorb all the colour.

Spinning

We finally get to my real interest. My advice is to start slow, with low tension. Keep practicing and gradually you will get the hang of it.



Figure 5 Draw back with the rear hand to give a uniform amount of mohair then slide the front fingers back. Don't let the twist get past your front fingers

Mohair is slippery so you use a light tension. Even so there is a danger you will over twist the yarn and create “string”. Set the tension so you can just feel the spun yarn pulling on your front fingers. If the twisting is too fast the tension will increase and pull the yarn away.

Two bobbins of “single end” are plied together using a reverse spinning direction. The mistake I continue to make is to go too fast and not put enough reverse twist in the yarn. Such yarn will divide when knitting or crocheting. Plying almost takes as much time as spinning.



Figure 6 Skeins ready to be washed with completed balls (approx. 100g)

Two-fold yarn is stable and can be skeined. I skein “hand to elbow” and then wash the yarn to settle the twist and then ball.

Further experimentation

You might try a multi-species approach. Various wools, alpaca and silk blends are available. Moths are a danger and you should check very carefully for and signs of little white granules of moth faeces or even small white cocoons. When examining sliver and top, check the fibre length. Commercial top from a mill is often too short for hand spinning. Use the same criteria you have for mohair fleeces. 14-16cm in raw fleece, 12 to 14cm in a draw from top. Some people are “purists” and only want to work with mohair fleece, but I have experimented with other fibres. Working with wool makes you appreciate the non-felting capacity and brightness of mohair.

What next.

There are many things you can do with fleece and yarns. This will be covered in the next article, but you can help by sending me photos of completed projects and ideas of crafting mohair.

NOTE. The full version of this article has been posted on the mohair.com web site.



Ross Waller - Regular Animal Nutrition Column August 2020

Hello all,

Thanks for inviting me to contribute to a series of regular articles. As we all know its very difficult to cover all topics of Nutrition for any livestock species in a half page article, however if you need to expand on, or, answer your personal production problems, drop me a line anytime, my email is available thru Grant Forsdick.

Most of the discussions this time of the year have to do with kidding, so its reasonable to assume that some of you are in that area of production. From a nutrition perspective the last trimester of pregnancy is of vital importance, personally, I think the last trimester "IS" the most important time. A few areas for quick discussion. Remember when your animals are in the last few months of pregnancy, Iodine, a vital nutrient, is often given 4 weeks prior to mating, also Iodine should be given around 6-8 weeks prior to kidding, Exactly the time to start thinking about Calcium and Magnesium inputs, Magnesium in particular. The relationship between Calcium, Magnesium and Vitamin E, all relate to smooth muscle function (the muscles ability to expand and contract). The 2 main muscles that work overtime during kidding are the uterus and the heart, one slows or fails, tragedy follows. The birth process often relies on intervention, usually requiring manual support or a supplement. Mainly because one or two of the essential nutrients are missing or unavailable from the environment, the ability to push often sees kids in trouble at birth, or, retained placenta. A quick fix can often be a 5ml drench of vitamin E, 8 weeks prior to kidding (around the Iodine time) and then start a supplement program of a high magnesium, from 6 weeks prior to Kidding and 4 weeks during lactation. However, once into lactation Calcium availability is often unreliable and the doe can often require 7 grams of elemental calcium per day, which is very hard to get to reach, even with a supplement. Calcium post kidding needs a lot of consideration. Chewing is vital, 10-12 litres of saliva are manufactured by the doe, every day thru chewing, often hay is the stimulus. Chewing releases or stimulates certain chemicals from salivary glands, these enzymes and other chemicals change Ph and mobilise calcium and magnesium from bone storage, a natural and vital process. Hay in this instance is vital for good health.

A short list of nutrients, other than Protein and Energy, required during the last trimester in no particular order:

Iodine, Magnesium, Calcium, Phosphorous, Manganese, Zinc, vitamins A, D3, E and Vitamin B1

These nutrients are critical everyday nutrients that have an important role to play, sometimes as a whole, sometimes in isolation, in animal health and production. In the next newsletter I will try and breakdown the main Macro and Trace elements and their importance and interaction with other common nutrients. An example of nutrient interaction= Kids born knuckling in the front legs, can always be traced backed to Copper and Manganese, unless it's a physical deformity.

Regards and Good Health

Ross Waller

Compass Feeds P/L

AMT Market Insight Report

The virus has really upset everything and everyone now and it is difficult to say what will happen in the future. However it is pretty clear that recovery for the textile industry and a return to normal depends heavily on retail demand.

There is no clear path for the mohair industry. I have followed the wool industry carefully and as mohair loosely follows the wool industry, this is a guide as to what we can look forward to. About 80% (or more) of wool is bought by the Chinese so we have a big problem not just with a monopoly but political pressures. However that aside, the demand (retail) is very low and Chinese mills (and mills in other countries) have stocks from greasy to tops and yarn. These will be around 2 to 5 months old and were bought at much higher levels than today's basis.

Many of the mills around the world reduced production or stopped for some time because of the contagious virus and demand. Some mills are working again but at around 20/30%. I understand China is trying to improve on this.

Understandably Mohair sales have gone the same way as wool sales in the last 5/6 months - DOWN. South Africa has gone through a crippling drought (and I think still is in some areas) and production has dropped significantly. This probably helped a little with lower sale quantities. In general terms the good length and good quality mohair attracted more attention (at a lower level) and the lower mixed types were neglected. There was a small spike about a month ago as some shorter types were set upon for the woolen industry. (Fake fur etc). I understand this was from China for local consumption.

South Africa have a mohair sale today (tomorrow for them) for Australian mohair. I understand there is about 18T on offer. It will be very interesting to see what happens. In a situation like this currency is another worry. While prices might look say reasonable, the currency exchange rate will not help.

Regards

David Williams

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John Hoorweg on 0428 488 422

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To facilitate ease of handling, please all bags into one (or more) bags or a wool pack. Ensure all bags, bales are clearly marked.



June 2020

Browser's Bulletin in the

Hunter



**Browser's Bulletin
45:
Record Keeping**

This month, I have been asked an excellent question which has really got me thinking. The question was about what record-keeping software or Apps are available to keep track of your livestock records? There are so many out there, but I didn't know what ones were recommended.

Initially you need to establish your enterprise goal. Do you have a few pet goats, goats for your own self consumption or are you a part of a commercial enterprise? Either way, it is still important to maintain good records. With good accurate records you can make educated decisions on the pedigree and performance of your future herd.

Any producer who is a Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) - accredited producer needs to maintain records that demonstrate compliance with LPA requirements. It is a part of the system used by the red meat industry to meet the stringent requirements of our domestic and export markets. LPA accreditation is your pledge that the meat from your farm has been produced safely and ethically and you have the farm records to back this up. The LPA booklet contains templates which can be used to keep records.
https://www.mla.com.au/globalassets/mla-corporate/meat-safety-and-traceability/documents/livestock-production-assurance/record-keeping/22763-lpa-farm-records-book_web_links.pdf

Other Important records include:

- Animal identification
- Mating dates
- Births & date
- Health
- Problems
- Treatments, With Holding Periods
- FAMACHA Scores
- Faecal Egg Counts
- Pregnancy Percentage of the herd
- Kidding percentage
- Kidding loss + deaths as a percentage
- Kids birth weights
- Weight gain to weaning
- Age at weaning
- Deaths
- Purchase records and dates
- Sale dates
- Records of offspring from doe+bucks
- Growth rates
- Carcass traits
- Genetic link to animals with faults
- Maternal behaviour scoring (1-5) 1 = excellent and 5= poor

Doe Record									
Name:		Breed:			Birthdate:				
Registration #:		Left Ear: micro:			Right Ear: Top/loc:				
Color:									
Horned/Disbudded:		Height at withers:			Cannon Length:		Block:		
BREEDING RECORD									
Bred To	Date Bred	Delivery Date	# Born	F. M.	Color(s)	Retained or Sold			
VACCINATION RECORD									
Date	Target Disease	Drug Used	Dosage	Method	Date	Target Disease	Drug Used	Dosage	Method
INJURY OR ILLNESS RECORD									
Date	Description or Nature of Illness or Injury						Treatment		
Worming RECORD									
Date	Target Reason	Drug Used	Dosage	Date	Target Disease	Drug Used	Dosage		

Figure 1: Example of Doe Record Sheet

Some smaller herds may choose to use a farm diary or file card system, or transfer information onto an excel spread sheet. Once your herd becomes bigger it may be easier to purchase livestock record- keeping software, but all appear to come at a cost. There is a plethora of systems out there, some that can be purchased through your rural supply store and others purchased online. I recommend if you are buying software that you purchase from

an Australian company that understands our weather conditions, markets, traceability, biosecurity and contactable IT support. Software programs are able to store information, analyse data and generate production and financial summaries.

All properties vary and everyone has a different goal for their enterprise, so it may be easier to come up with your own Recording Template. On the internet you can find some great examples of 'Animal Record Keeping Templates' and some of these can be downloaded and used or altered to fit your purpose.

Goat Record Keeping Templates that may be useful for your farm include:

- Medical records/ Treatment Records
- Breeding Spreadsheets
- Kidding Records
- Buck progeny Records
- Management Calander

Record Keeping is a key component to managing an efficient farm. Records are needed for legal, financial, taxation purposes as well as analyzing the business, monitoring day-to-day activities and future planning. If you have any further questions on Recording Keeping then please drop me an email at kylie.greentree@lls.nsw.gov.au

Chemical Traceback to Goats in the Hunter

Last month I was contacted by the DPI State Residue Coordinator with regards to a trace of Closantel in a goat's liver from a rendering facility. As most of you are aware, there are very few drenches that are registered in goats so those that are not registered in goats must not be detected at all!

The purpose of meat and offal residue testing is to ensure that food commodities are safe for human consumption and exportation.

When a chemical is detected in meat and it exceeds the Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) then the State Residue Coordinator from the DPI will contact the Local Land Services to investigate what has occurred.

The MRL for Closantel in sheep is 5mg/kg in offal and 2mg/kg in meat. These goats had a level of 0.66mg/kg in the liver and would certainly have been an acceptable level in sheep but because it is not a registered product in goats then there cannot be any Closantel detected at all. **The MRL for Closantel in goats is 0mg/kg.**

The producer increased the drench dose rate on the bottle but unfortunately had not increased the With Holding Period (WHP) at the same time. Most of you are aware that goats metabolize drenches faster than sheep, and consequently **under veterinary prescription** it is advised to increase the dose rate and WHP. This **depends on the type of drench** and it is **very** important to have veterinary guidance and a prescription.

If you require the use of an unregistered drench in your goats, please contact your Private Veterinarian or District Veterinarian for recommendations or otherwise only use registered products prior to slaughter and ensure you have waited the WHP.

References:

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/beef-cattle/management/business-management/record-keeping-mgt>

© 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 and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of Local Land Services or user's independent adviser. For updates go to www.lls.nsw.gov.au



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RSA House of Fibre - 30th June 2020 Market Report - Comments

The last mohair sale of the 2020 summer selling season experienced some resistance on the adult types, with a lot of these types not sold on the sale. This tendency materialized since after the lockdown caused by COVID-19. There was resistance after adult prices were soaring a year ago and that demand did not come back, blocked by the uncertainty caused by COVID-19. Such a lot of negative things happened the past few weeks that we tend to forget that exactly a year ago the market was on record levels, 20% above the current average!

However, the good news is that our total clearance with after-sales is quite good, with no stock except the not sold bales of the current sale. There was also a drop of 10% in production caused by the still existing crippling drought. The highlight of the day was the best price of Jordi and Gay van Hasselt of Prince

Albert, with the best price of the day at R707.10/kg! This for a super style, 23.8 micron and a clean yield of 92% summer kid bale.

The first sale of the winter season will be on the 18th of August 2020 in Port Elizabeth.

This report was compiled by Pierre van der Vyver, General Manager: The House of Fibre

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