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Vol 21

EASTERN ANGORA GOAT & MOHAIR ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



<http://www.angoragoats.com>

July 2014

No. 2

EAGMA members,

Seems spring has sprung, and gone, and summer has arrived already. I'm not quite sure I am ready for it. Hay is being made and stacked in the barn for winter feeding. Hay is also getting rained on before it can get to the barn, but that is the life of a farmer.

We are gearing up for the fall shows. SVFF will be here before we know it. All information is on the web page - www.angoragoats.com – for you to read and use. Along with the mohair show/sale, we have a new venue for showing off our products. For those of you that participate in either the goat show or the mohair show/sale, you may participate in the EAGMA vendor booth. Find information both in the newsletter (page 3) or the web page.

Rhinebeck (New York Sheep & Wool) is also coming up on us quickly. You can find plenty of information on the web page for that show, and also at <http://www.sheepandwool.com/> for official rules and entry forms. Remember that most vet papers are good for 30 days, so you can schedule one vet visit for both shows. Be sure to get multiple copies of the certificate.

Hopefully by now the mohair is on its way to or has already arrived at the warehouse in Texas. I will have a report of amounts sent when I get the weights from warehouse upon delivery. The hay is in as I write, but our livestock trailer is in the repair shop. We went in for what we thought a simple fix (the brakes needed some work), come to find out we have axle trouble. The metal holding the axle to the frame has rusted and is not “holding” anymore. So then we need to get parts and a special welder because of the aluminum body, etc. The truck has been in shop for weeks now... Never a dull moment!... I recommend that everyone check out your trailers with plenty of time before the shows. You never know what could go wrong.

I'm hoping that you all have a good summer, healthy and growing kids, and NO parasite or coccidia troubles. See you in the fall!

Greta

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EAGMA was founded in 1987 as "VAGMA" (Virginia Angora Goat and Mohair Association) to foster and support, through education and marketing, small Angora goat farming, small mohair-based business, and the acceptance of a non-traditional farm animal. In 2008, in recognition of the growing diversity of the membership, VAGMA became the Eastern Angora Goat and Mohair Association.

Welcome to New Members!

Michele Moskaluk
Watertown, CT

Lorie McCombie
Floral City, FL

Karen & Jim Becksteine
Braselton, GA

Susan & Pat Walsch
White Hall, MD

Sue & Eric Reimann
Belgrade, MO

Lisa Ferguson
Ithica, NY

Allie Goldberg
Hendersonville, TN

Heidi Passino
Scottsville, VA

Patty Oglebay
New Canton, VA

Jessica & Bill Ressler
Luray, VA

Members & Membership

EAGMA Dues for the 2014 calendar year are now due. Nina Cooper (our treasurer/membership chair) sent out notices at the beginning of the year. You can also renew using the membership form at the end of this newsletter.

Remember that **Gift Memberships** are now available for a maximum of one year and may be purchased by a current EAGMA member to give to a non-EAGMA member customer to whom you have sold goats. The cost is \$10. At the end of that year, the new member will be encouraged to join for the following year for the usual fee of \$25.

A Youth Membership is available for anyone 18 years old and under for an annual cost of \$10. Youth Memberships do not have voting rights. The membership form on the web page will be updated soon so that the type of membership can be indicated.

As of June 2014, 60 members are currently listed in the EAGMA roles. the breakdown is as follows:

- 17 New/Guest Members
- 43 Previous Members
 - 25 previous members have renewed for 2014
 - 18 previous members who have not yet renewed

Shenandoah Valley Fiber Festival Show News

EAGMA is returning to Berryville, VA for the Shenandoah Valley Fiber Festival on September 27-28, 2014 at the Clark County Fairgrounds.

When you are sending in your registrations for the show, please remember to include your show class sponsorships and your vendor booth registration for selling at our market booth during the show.

ENTRIES ARE DUE SEPTEMBER 15. You may submit your entry after that date, but you are not guaranteed a space in the show program. All of the forms can be found on the EAGMA website:
http://angoragoats.com/?page_id=786 .

For more information about the show, fairgrounds, etc, visit: <http://shenandoahvalleyfiberfestival.com/>



EASTERN ANGORA GOAT & MOHAIR ASSOCIATION

COME JOIN THE FUN!

SHENANDOAH VALLEY FIBER FESTIVAL
Sept. 27-28, 2014

Mohair Fleece Show & Sale
Raffle • Demos

Saturday Sept. 27, 10:00 - 3:00
Colored Angora Goat Show

Sunday Sept. 28, 10:00 - 3:00
White Angora Goat Show

Judge: Diane Coon, MT

For a Full Schedule visit:
www.shenandoahvalleyfiberfestival.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.ANGORAGOATS.COM

E. A. G. M. A.
Eastern Angora Association
Goat & Mohair

SVFF Show Preview: About the Judge, Diane Coon

I bought my first Angora goats in 1984 and have been passionate about them ever since. I have spent those years

promoting their beauty and many virtues and breeding to improve their overall quality. I have been showing my goats for 28 years with wonderful success and enjoy good competition. Their incredibly gorgeous fiber provides the source for the wonderful clothing, accessories, and articles I make. With mohair, the sky is the limit!

I began judging several years ago. I have judged several shows here in my home state of Montana. I have judged shows out east including the Michigan Fiber Festival. I enjoyed judging at the California State Fair last year.

Getting Ready for Shenandoah

- Greta Dise

Photographer

We would love to find a photographer to take pictures of our winning goats, especially the champions, first, second, and third in the "line-up". A few candid shots also would be great. The colored show is Saturday, white show Sunday. Even if you are only available one day, please volunteer!

EAGMA Vendor Booth

This year we will be running a vendor booth from the goat barn. If you participate in either the fleece or goat show you are entitled to place 10 of your items in the booth for sale. Please be sure they are mohair-related, because that is what we are promoting. A 5% commission will go to EAGMA from the sales. We also for volunteers to help man the booth. Information and form for inventory are on the web page under show info.

Sponsor a Class

There is a sponsorship form on the EAGMA web page. If you can't come and join us, maybe you would be interested in sponsoring a class.

Donations

We are taking donations for the raffle/silent auction at the show. If you would like to donate something and can't come to the show, please get in touch with one of the members of the EAGMA board for arrangements.

The Angora Goat Show at The New York State Sheep and Wool Festival Rhinebeck, NY

Be sure to make your reservations and plans for your trip to Rhinebeck, NY, for the New York State Sheep and

Wool Festival on October 18-19, 2014. It's a great reason to see the fall colors along the Hudson River.

You are encouraged to bring your bucks for the competition. The bucks have their own separate housing - away from the doe and kid pens - that is also under shelter and on grass. Visit the official web site at <http://www.sheepandwool.com/livestock-shows-and-sheep-sales/angora-goat-show.asp> for more information, rules, and registration forms.

Each year, goats from Maine to Virginia and as far west as Missouri attend the show. The Angora goat show, which begins at 10:30 AM on Saturday morning, showcases goats from across the Northeast and Central Atlantic States. As such, this festival offers a unique opportunity to see many different goats and goat breeders in one central location, and to take advantage of the knowledge these breeders have acquired from years of animal husbandry.

If you have any questions regarding the show, show expectations, or **especially if you are interested in helping out with the show**, please contact Dan and Sara as soon as you know when you will be arriving and leaving the festival. slhdem@valstar.net

NYS&W FLEECE SALE Information & Guidance

Historically, the New York State Sheep and Wool show has had exceptionally strong fleece sales, especially for colored mohair fleeces, with strong prices as well. The entry process for fleeces is online only, is processed through the NYS&W show officials, and is completely separate from the Angora goat show itself.

Register for the fleece show as early after Labor Day as possible - there is a chance of the cutoff limit being reached for number of fleeces entered. All fleeces which are entered into the fleece competition are assumed to be for sale, so please plan accordingly. All fleeces are due at the Fleece Exhibition Building by 4PM on Friday, October 19th. <http://www.sheepandwool.com/fleece-sale/index.asp>

LISTERIOSIS - Greta Dise

Editor's Note: This article is meant to share personal experience and not as medical advice. Please contact your veterinarian before beginning any treatment. This article is also a reprint from a previous submission.

My recent encounter with Listeriosis prompted me to write the following article. As my new buck Noah was afflicted. This information will focus on the symptoms and treatment for the disease in general, and not for pregnant animals (Listeriosis can cause inflammation of the uterus resulting in the death of the fetus.)

Cause:

Listeriosis is an infectious, but non-contagious bacterial disease. It is most commonly manifested by encephalitis or meningoencephalitis in adult goats. Outbreaks have been blamed on feeding silage or spoiled hay, moldy or fermented feed, large round-bales, and stress...induced as a result of deprivation of food or water that often occurs during shipping or severe weather. This bacteria is so hardy it may be found in the soil, manure, or bedding for months. It appears that stress is a triggering mechanism.

When Noah came down with this, all my animals were out on pasture. I do feel this was my fault though, he was a new animal, only at the farm for about 5 months. He was with 20 does for breeding, and simply got run down. Looking at him he seemed fine, but on closer inspection he was really out of condition. The books tell you that most healthy animals will eat this bacteria and pass it through their system with no ill effects. However, a stressed animal is more susceptible.

Symptoms:

At the onset of the disease, the affected animal will often stand by itself in a corner or lean against a wall or fence, as if it is unable to stand. It will look depressed, disoriented, and have a mild fever. As the bacterial infection advances to the brain base, it causes lesions and produces toxins affecting the nervous system. Paralysis, indicating impaired nerve function, develops affecting one side of the body only. Usually one side of the face is affected causing droopy mouth or drooling, and the eye and ear on the same side also droop. It often walks in a circle: hence, the common name of Listeriosis "circling disease."

My experience with this disease has not been very successful, until this time. The day after Thanksgiving I noticed Noah standing by himself in the pasture looking droopy and depressed. I pulled him in and right away gave him a dose of LA-200. Within an hour or two, I noticed he was starting to tilt his head to the left. I mentioned to my girlfriend that I thought he had Listeriosis, so out came all of the books, and a call to the vet. He never went down, but walk in circles he did! It was the funniest thing I have ever seen. He just walked round and round in circles.

Treatment:

Early detection is paramount to success. After consulting several medical books, I found that treating Listeriosis is not easy. Since it effects the brain, getting the medication across the blood/brain barrier is the trick. Dexamethasone is a steroid which helps prevent micro-abscesses/lesions from forming in the brain, which can lead to paralysis. Noah's eye was "looking down", and not responsive for a few days.

I will give you the treatment that I used, but **you should always get your vet's advice**. I have gotten to the point where "I've been there, done that." I always call the vet, but have usually done everything she would have told me do.

I did have to convince the Vet to use the Dexamethasone that a friend strongly advised me to administer. But, after my insistence she did some research, she found in one of her goat books, the usage of Dexamethasone in the treatment for Listeriosis.

Another thing I learned this time is that most vets will treat for Polio and Listeriosis at the onset. These diseases have some of the same symptoms. However, if it is Polio recovery is very quick, usually after 48 hours the animal is fine. Polio is caused by a Thiamine deficiency.

This is the treatment I used after deciding it was Listeriosis: I did this for 15 days:

Penicillin 20,000 units per pound of body weight, every 6 hours *

3 cc Thiamine daily

5 cc B-complex daily

4-6 ounces of yogurt every 6 hours

4-5 liters fluid daily, I used a cattle brand of

electrolytes so I used it sparingly

one time injection of Vitamin E

ADE Gel every 3rd day

Probios gel every other day for stimulation of the gut.

Nutri-Drench or 15 cc Red Cell daily

wormed with Ivomec drench 1st day

Wormed with Safeguard daily at double the dose 6th thru 10th day

5th day into treatment, gave Dexamethasone 1-½ cc daily for 5 days. First dose given intravenously

The biggest improvement I saw was after the first dose of Dexamethasone. Within a few hours Noah was holding his head higher and not so much to the left. After a few days he was no longer walking in circles and wanted out with his buddies.

I was very fortunate to save Noah. I feel the only reason he made a full recovery, was that: 1) I found Noah in time, 2) made a quick diagnosis, and 3) started an aggressive treatment program.

* I got this info from the Laura Lawson Book,

Managing Your Ewe and her Lambs which calls for 20,000 units per pound of body weight which works out to be 6.6 cc every 6 hours for a 100 pound animal. The formula is: $20,000 \times 100 = 2,000,000$ divided by 300,000 (1 cc of the penicillin contains 300,000 units.) I did double the dose, gave 12cc every 6 hours.

CARLA could soon help combat goat parasites through selective breeding

A saliva test successfully used in New Zealand for selecting sheep with enhanced immunity to internal parasites may soon be also helping to increase the productivity and profitability of goat farming.

AgResearch Senior scientist Richard Shaw, who is based at the Hopkirk Research Institute in Palmerston North (New Zealand), has developed a goat-specific test – based on the CARLA test – that has the potential to help the goat farming industry.

The CARLA saliva test was originally developed for use in sheep. Called 'Carbohydrate Larval Antigen,' it is a new technique developed by AgResearch scientists at the Hopkirk Research to quantify the salivary antibodies specific to a carbohydrate larval antigen (CAR_L_A). In other words, it measures the animal's response against infective-stage larva in the animal's digestive system. Animals with high levels of the antibodies have greater resistance to the parasites, and tend to have lower fecal egg count and better physical growth as compared to animals with fewer antibodies.

... The first trial of the new goat-specific test was conducted in 2012. It was funded by Beef and Lamb NZ residue goat levy, and tested 48 Angora goats. The next round of research, funded by the Ministry for Primary Industries' Sustainable Farming Fund, began in July 2013 and is ongoing for three years – mainly testing 400 Angora does and their progeny.

... Goat farming is a growing area, worth millions to New Zealand: approximately \$110 million a year in dairy (milk), \$600,000 a year in mohair (Angora fleece) and \$10 million a year in meat trade. There are approximately 210 mohair goat producers in New Zealand and more than 50 suppliers to Dairy Group Co-operative Ltd (DGC).

Excerpted from Scoop.Com, reporting from AgResearch: <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/SC1406/S00075/carla-could-soon-help-combat-goat-parasites.htm>

To read more about CARLA, visit the AgResearch report:

<http://maxa.maf.govt.nz/sff/about-projects/search/10-092/carla-saliva-test.pdf>

In Search of the Golden Fleece

Excerpted from the article by © Grosvenor Press International Ltd 1986

MOHAIR is a member of that very exclusive club to which only the very finest natural fibres may belong. Like silk it is taken for granted, but, unlike silk, little is generally known of its origins and background.

A Rather Special Goat

Capra hircus angorensis is very different from other more plebeian members of the goat family. Instead of a coarse black or brown coat, its fleece is pure white and as glossy as silk. From the fleece of the Angora goat - as Capra hircus angorensis is better known - comes Mohair. The origins of the goat are shrouded in mystery and legend. Some scholars claim that references to snow-white goats in the Old Testament must refer to the Angora. Travelers' tales from ancient Tibet speak of a similar animal. Certain it is that the name comes from an obscure village in rugged Anatolia; a village where the goats' hair was spun as long ago as the time of Alexander the Great. Today [the city of] Angora is better known as Ankara, the capital of Turkey.

Capra hircus angorensis requires and demands specific climatic conditions if it is to thrive, conditions which to mere humans appear inhospitable in the extreme. Their native Turkey apart, Angora goats have been successfully introduced into only a handful of countries: Argentina, Lesotho, South Africa, Texas in the USA and most recently Australia and New Zealand. Their reluctance to thrive just anywhere has always kept numbers low. Mohair accounts for less than 1 per cent of animal fibre production.

Hair not Wool

That snowy whiteness, that silkiness which fascinated bored courtiers in 16th century Vienna is not just for show. Mohair has a structure quite unlike that of wool. The special qualities of the fibres give a warm gloss, resilience and resistance to 'felting' - a process which causes fibres to become matted and fabrics to lose their bloom. This last property in particular makes Mohair ideal as a pile fabric for upholstery: Mohair velours.

Mohair Velours

The actual term Mohair velours is relatively modern. The Huguenot weavers who settled in the Netherlands in the 17th century hit upon Mohair as a substitute for the silk which had hitherto been used in plush. Its vitality and

bounce make the spinning of Mohair a task for experts. The weaving of Mohair velours is also a complicated procedure calling for kilometers of yarn for each and every square meter.

Production costs, scarcity of raw material, good looks and hard wearing qualities have an effect on the price of any product - be it precious mineral or Mohair velours. Mohair velours is not a cheap fabric, but its tough good looks make it a natural choice, not only for the home but for also large scale projects from Hyatt hotels in New York and elsewhere in the USA to the Theater des Westen in Berlin. The material is also used as curtaining and wall coverings in major projects such as international hotels.

Even under intensive wear, Mohair velours shows its natural good breeding. The material is anti-static, does not attract dust and needs a minimum of care. Its inborn fire resistant qualities also make Mohair velours a wise choice for any building in which large numbers of people gather. Some goat . . . some coat.

*This is an advertisement feature taken from
INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION OF INTERIOR
DESIGN © Grosvenor Press International Ltd 1986*

National News

Tennessee: Baatany Goat Project enters its seventh year! As this newsletter has reported previously, a herd of angora goats is working to restore Roan Mountain in Tennessee to its native plant species by grazing away the invaders. Compliments of EAGMA member Todd Eastin, these Angoras are hard at work on their Appalachian Trail Conservancy project from June 25 until mid-September. The goal is to remove invasive species (which goats find tasty) and restore the grasslands.

Texas: A major and popular goat dairy in Dallas is closing and converting to Angora goats. "Fiber goats — which were at one time quite the industry in Polk County as Laurie Carlson discovered in her research for opening the museum — require much less work, she said. They don't have to be milked every day for one and, unlike milk, their wool doesn't have an expiration date." Read more: <http://www.polkio.com/ns/news/28012/popular-dallas-goat-dairy-to-change-business-focus>

International News

Australia: The Sydney Royal Easter Show included an

Angora goat competition. Two sisters in the Bowman family were interviewed by the *Liverpool Champion* regarding their goats. The girls talked about their favorite things about Angoras, including their personality and competing on their school's team. Read more here: <http://www.liverpoolchampion.com.au/story/2247155/mohair-and-personality-on-show/>

New Zealand: Queenstown held an all-goat conference called "NZGoats" in June of 2014. The first day was devoted entirely to Angora goats, followed the next day by a general meeting and fleece competition. Read more: http://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/rural/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503457&objectid=11272757

United Kingdom: In April 2014, The Smallholder News ran a report to detail the advantages of Angora goats for people who don't have the time/schedule to accommodate milk goats. The article includes advice on how to manage a herd of goats (a "flock"), fencing, etc. It is a nice article full of general information. Read it here: http://www.smallholder.co.uk/news/11181710.The_Angora_goat_is_an_ideal_alternative_for_a_smallholder_with_out_the_time_to_milk/

List of Eastern Shows & Fiber Festivals

Additional events, sales, and smaller festivals are being added as we learn about them. Send in your local fiber markets and festivals for inclusion.

Note: italics denote unconfirmed dates/events.

July 26-27. TAGRA annual show & sale (TX)
contact Dale Naumann at 830-796-7429

Aug 1-3. Midwest Fiber & Folk Art Fair (IL)
<http://www.fiberandfolk.com>

Aug 2-3. Mid-Ohio Fiber Fair
<http://midohiofiberfair.weebly.com>

Aug 13-17. Michigan Fiber Festival
<http://www.michiganfiberfestival.info>

Sept 5-7. Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival
<http://www.wisconsinssheepandwoolfestival.com>

Sept 6-7. West Virginia Fiber Festival
<http://www.wvfiberfest.com/>

Sept 6-7. Garden State Sheep & Fiber Festival (NJ)
<http://www.njsheep.org>

Sept 6-7. Endless Mountains Fiber Festival (PA)
<http://www.pafiberfestival.com>

Sept. 20-21. Finger Lakes Fiber Arts Festival (NY)
<http://www.gvhg.org/fest.html>

Sept. 20-21. Midwest Festival of Fibers (OH)
<http://my.voyager.net/~nfisher/>

Sept 27-28. Southern Adirondack Fiber Festival (NY)
<http://www.adkfiber.com>

Sept 27-28. Shenandoah Fiber Festival (VA)

<http://shenandoahvalleyfiberfestival.com/>
Sept 28 – Oct 5. Fiber at Fryeburg Fair (ME)
<http://www.fryeburgfair.com>
Oct 4-5. Fall Fiber Festival of Virginia
<http://www.fallfiberfestival.org>
Oct 4-5. Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival
<http://www.vtsheepandwoolfest.org/>
Oct 18-19. Southern Indiana Fiber Arts Festival
<http://www.southernindianafiberarts.com>
Oct 18-19. New York Sheep & Wool Festival
<http://www.sheepandwool.com>
Oct 24-26. Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair (NC)
<http://www.saffsite.org>
Nov 1-2. Fiber Festival of New England (MA)
http://www.thebige.com/ese/esevents/Fiber_Festival.asp
Nov 15-16. Green Mountain Fiber Festival (VT)
<http://greenmountainfiberfestival.com/>

Classified

These ads are free to members. Send them via any method to the newsletter editor. You may advertise any incidental goat-, fiber-, or farm-related sales.

FOR SALE: Recessive Colored Angora Goats from Persimmon Tree Farm. These goats are show quality from champion bloodlines. Most breeding stock is from CSPN Sharon Chestnutt, Oregon. Doe kids, a few buck kids, yearlings, and adults for sale. Reverse badger, badger, and solid black. Contact Greta Dise 717-235-5140 or persimmon2@juno.com

FOR SALE: Colored Angora Goats, Border Leicester Sheep and Nubian Goats raised using sustainable farming practices. We produce Mohair & wool yarn, socks, roving and locks, Angora hides & sheepskins from our own fiber. Hand-Dyed yarn, spinning and weaving equipment, books and dyes for sale. Contact Steam Valley Fiber Farm at steamvalley@verizon.net or call 570-998-2221. Visit our website for Workshop Descriptions or more information at www.steamvalleyfiber.com

2014 EAGMA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

If you see a mistake on this list or have any questions regarding your membership status, contact Nina Cooper, treasurer.

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FROM:

Colleen Reed, editor
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TO:

