

BRITISH GOAT SOCIETY



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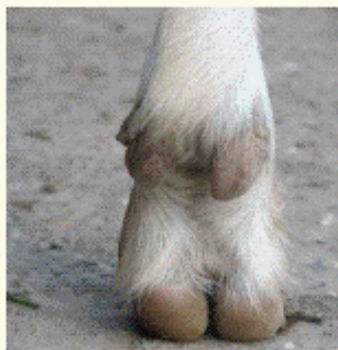
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Copy Date

Copy date is the first day of the month preceding publication

All copy and advertisements to reach the editor in good time

Your classified ads, photographs and news are most welcome

Classified Advertising Rates

Up to thirty words just £10.00. Thereafter 25p per word. For boxed adverts please add an extra £5.00. For boxed and displayed add £10.00 to the above rates.

Prices include vat at the current rate and includes free entry on the BGS website.

Adverts must be sent to the BGS Secretary by the 1st of the month prior to publication.

For information on other adverts please contact the Secretary at the BGS Office.

CAE Testing

To obtain the cheapest rates, you should find out from your vet how much it will be to test blood samples locally or alternatively instruct your vet to send blood samples to: SAC Veterinary

Services, Veterinary Centre, Drummonhill, Stratherick Road,

Inverness IV2 4JZ

Front Cover Picture

Togo an Arapawa. Photo Jane Wilson

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

I am delighted to be able to report on a very successful and enjoyable Annual General Meeting and Affiliated Societies Conference held at Rowington and hosted by the Worcestershire Goat Society. There was a very good attendance and the proceedings were held in an enthusiastic and positive atmosphere.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the Worcestershire Goat Society for providing the venue and the refreshments.

I was delighted to be able to welcome Nick Clayton, our Health and Welfare Officer, who was able to bring members up to date with new developments regarding Scrapie testing. Nick kindly agreed to provide information for the Monthly Journal so that all members can be brought up to date.

The British Goat Society is extremely fortunate to have Nick Clayton as its Health and Welfare Officer.

I was also pleased that two new Vice Presidents of the British Goat Society were elected - Miss Jean Macleod and Mrs Wendy Webster. Both of these ladies have done so much for goat keeping over the years and it is a fitting tribute to both of them.

It is the time of year when we would like to invite Affiliated Societies to consider hosting a BGS Autumn Conference. Traditionally we have held two each year and try to find venues in different parts of the UK. If any Affiliated Society feels it would be interested in organising an Autumn Conference please contact Jane Wilson or myself.

I hope that, by now, everyone will have received their Year Book. I would like to thank our Hon. Editor, Michael Ackroyd, for all of his hard work in producing a first class publication. The content is extremely varied and hopefully contains something for everyone. I genuinely believe it is one of the Society's best Year Books to date. Our Secretary, Jane Wilson, Margaret Hardman, Colin Newton and Nick Parr also deserve credit for all they did to ensure that the publication contains up to date information.

Hopefully, the Herd Book will soon be ready to post out. This will be the first one published since the introduction of the Grassroots System.

It is with great sadness that I must inform members of the death of one of our Vice Presidents, Mrs Pat Flint of Devon. Pat owned the "Pinchaford" herd of British Alpines and enjoyed great success with them throughout the south west of England. Her goats were generally large rangy types of British Alpines with very tidy udders. As with many of the top BA breeders, her goats were descended from Mrs Abbey's Didgemere herd. Pat was a wonderful person, full of fun and will be a sad loss. I am sure that members will join with me in sending our condolences to her family.

I am also extremely saddened to learn of the death of Mrs Dickie from Scotland. Mrs Dickie was an extremely popular member of the BGS and bred some very good goats, many based on the bloodlines of Mostyn Mulberry

Finally, on behalf of all members I would like to offer our sincere congratulations to our Secretary, Jane, and her husband Roger on becoming grandparents to grandson William.

Richard Wood
Chairman

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to extend a warm welcome to new members who are:

Mrs R Lowe, Herefordshire;
Mrs U Topham & Mrs S Field, Lanes;
Mr J Cooper, Sussex;
Mr R Burnett & Miss L Rennie, Derbys;
Mrs S Moore, Norfolk;
Mr. & Mrs. D Ault, Powys;
Ms J Dietz-Band, USA;

Ms P Nuslova, London;
Mr. Moran, Co.Derry,
Ms C Abbey, USA;
Mrs Franks, Essex,
Ms White, Isle Of Wight;
Mr McCloskey, Co Derry;
Mrs S & Miss L Robinson, Gloucs

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Dear Members,

A Journal absolutely full again! Thank you to all the contributors over the past year. Please continue to send in your articles and photographs. They are appreciated. Registration and transfer forms are available from the BGS office. Please telephone or send a SAE with your requirements.

Best Wishes, Jane

LETTERS

Dear Secretary

While sending my subscription to you, I thought these photos may be of interest to you. The photo is of "Mindi", she just loves animals, a child from the township of Cambridge (New Zealand).

I have been very interested in the January Journal article "Cream Teas". My mother as Miss Constance Arkell (*Mrs CJ Hopping*). had one of the Saanens imported (*to the UK*)

in 1922 (*see Cream Teas January 2011 p 20*). She worked for a Mrs. Hines before coming to New Zealand in 1927 and was intrigued with Mrs. Abbey's Prophet of Baskley.

That's why we have British Alpines imported by her into NZ

Best Wishes

Mabel Chynowith
(*New Zealand*)



Mindi with a goat at Cambridge Show New Zealand



Best in Show at Cambridge Show New Zealand

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

I write concerning Ruth Goodwin's revue of my book *Raising Goats for Dairy, Meat and Fibre* in the January BGS Journal.

The book was written for the Smallholder in early 2009 (nearly 2 years ago) and her first criticism seems to be that it is for "the beginner". Books are a teaching aid, whatever level you believe yourself to be at in any subject and we can all learn from them.

The book is intended to give practical basic advice and not be the Goat Keepers' Bible. There is further reading available for most of the subject matter from myself and others.

ERRORS

There are indeed 2 errors in the book as of 2011.

The derogation of the necessity to EID identify goats was not granted at the time of writing. One of the problems of *belatedly reviewing* a 2 year old book.

I encourage my readers to continually check with Defra for changes to legislation in the UK. The book is sold worldwide incidentally.

The error of acronyms in the selection of a buck. MV should have read TB and ought to have been picked up by the proof reader but wasn't. This happens in publishing I'm afraid and will be corrected in the reprint.

POISONS

The poisons list is indeed accurate but it is widely known by goat keepers that Ivy and Honeysuckle used homeopathically in small amounts can correct digestive problems.

Ms. Goodwin might be interested to know that (runner) beans, in their green state are poisonous in quantity to both humans and animals as they contain Prussic Acid (hydrocyanic acid). This was discovered in bean protein in 1957. It is unlikely to kill unless fed in large quantities but a gardener may be tempted to feed runner bean vines at the end of harvest which may well contain a number of oversized pods.

DAIRY HYGIENE

Ms. Goodwin may not be aware that until 5 years ago I ran a successful UK/EU Approved goat dairy herd in Norfolk, producing unpasteurised milk, yoghurt and 17 varieties of goat's cheese. My products, universally receiving commendation from the Dairy Hygiene Inspectorate for the standards attained in the production of unpasteurised products. These products were sold to top class hotels and restaurants in the region and through retail outlets and farmer's markets. I am now retired and run my five mixed breed smallholder goats here in Cornwall and continue to advise goat keepers through the pages of Smallholder magazine and other publications. My emails and postbag tell me that I am providing a valuable service. I therefore take exception to her criticism of my dairy hygiene.

My readers are not imbeciles; they are intelligent individuals who need practical guidance and affirmation of ideas that have probably already occurred to them. A plastic bucket for milking, in the interests of economy and used as advised does not present a health risk. It should not acquire scratches any more

Letters

than a stainless steel bucket should, if correctly cleaned. Dairythere is widely used in the dairy industry at all levels. I do not at any point advocate placing a “churn” of milk in a fridge to cool. We are talking about a few pints at most. Some for day to day use, some for freezing and some for other products. The risks are minimal and unless we move into the realms of twice daily fridge temperature readings and separate facilities for milk we are at risk of demeaning the reader’s intelligence and entirely alienating them from any attempts at self-sufficiency. Each recommendation in every chapter needs to be taken in the context of the entire book.

IN ESSENCE

What Ruth Goodwin and others must begin to appreciate is that we are in changing times. Goat keeping is not actually in decline but on the increase. In the twelve years I have been writing for various magazines there has been more interest in the last three years than ever before. This may not be reflected in the BGS membership or goat registration but my postbag tells me that there are more and more smallholders keeping goats for practical purposes again. These will usually be Cross Bred/Hybrid/AOV goats-call them what you will. Some goats will also just be pets or companion animals, often fostered from rescue centres. Many of the basic husbandry books available are years old and although they can hold some excellent advice which is still recognized today, they do not address modern trends, scientific discoveries, commodities and materials or modern legali-

ties of the 21st century. They are often purchased for pence on auction sites and give hopelessly out of date information with regard to key welfare and legislative issues. Smallholders WILL care for their goats properly-this is not just the domain of the BGS purist member who shows and milk records or breeds for export and monetary gain. I am in no way maligning this BUT this aspect of goat keeping holds no interest for the average “good lifer”.

I would suggest that the BGS consider this “sub group” of goat keepers and offer a Smallholders subscription. These people would have an interest in the Journal and indeed could offer interesting contributions I suspect. They would be unlikely to register their goats for a number of reasons. They would probably have little interest in the Herd Book or the Year Book and maybe their subscription could be tailored to accommodate that to say a more affordable £25 per annum. I actively encourage my readers to become members of the BGS but for many, £33 + per annum is just too much.

I, for one will remain a member of the BGS as I have been for many years but I’m afraid similar assassinations on members such as myself, who are not considered part of the “network” will do nothing to inspire new membership.

Yours sincerely,

Felicity Stockwell

Member No: 15150

Editor’s note:

The book was received from the publishers for review in November 2010

Letters

Dear Jane,

It had not been my intention to respond to either Nick Parr or Shane Jones responses to my earlier letter in the Journal. I have the greatest respect for both and I would hope they would both say I have been useful to them in the past. My letter was a response to Shane's letter bemoaning the lack of suitable males available to him, and not intended to fuel a debate on Scrapie. However ill informed anonymous letters are another matter which do require a reply.

There can be no comparison between TB testing and control and Scrapie monitoring. The primary screening test for TB in cattle in Great Britain is the single intradermal comparative cervical tuberculin (SICCT) test, which is commonly known as the tuberculin "skin test". The tuberculin skin test, which is used throughout the world to screen cattle, other animals and people for TB, is the internationally accepted standard for detection of infection with *Mycobacterium bovis* (*M. bovis*), and is considered the best test currently available for detecting TB in live animals. Many countries have eradicated bTB through the systematic application of the tuberculin skin test alone and the slaughter of all test reactors.

Scrapie is a difficult disease to diagnose and is always fatal. It can take up to six years or more for clinical signs to appear. Scrapie is in the same category as bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), or "mad cow disease", and chronic wasting disease (CWD) of deer

and elk. There is no evidence that Scrapie or CWD can spread to humans, either through consuming the meat or dairy products or by handling infected animals, and it is rare in goats.

Scrapie is spread through direct contact between goats (or sheep and goats). The cause is an abnormal prion protein. It is transferred through contact with the placentas or fetal fluids of infected goats. The prion first invades the lymph nodes and then the nervous system. Scrapie is NOT caused by a bacteria or a virus or any other "conventional" infectious agent. Scrapie is caused by proteins (Scrapie prions) which are actually made by the infected animal. Although the process is started by an "infecting" prion from another animal, the foreign prion recruits other prions by converting normal prion proteins in the infected animal.

Although the process can take two to five years, it is ultimately the infected goats own proteins that cause Scrapie and kill the animal. Because these proteins are recognized by the animal as "self," no antibodies are made.

There is no "live" test for Scrapie, the dead test which was used by DEFRA in their Scrapie Monitoring Scheme is an accurate and reliable test method, but is certainly not a live animal test since it requires brain samples and, unfortunately, a negative result is not an indication that the goat will never get Scrapie or even that it has not already been infected.

Continued on page 71

NEW BGS LICENCED JUDGE

AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING IN FEBRUARY, THE APPLICATION BY MR GOEFFREY RINGLAND FOR A JUDGES LICENCE WAS GRANTED.

Mr. Ringland joined the BGS in 1995 and was awarded his prefix "Churchview" in 1996.

Mr Ringland has been very successful in the show ring and since 2000 has judged unrecognised shows and served as a probationary judge with Mr Wood & Mr Godfrey.

Mr Ringland lives in Northern Ireland.



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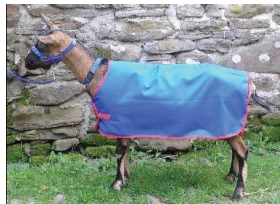
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LETTERS

The DEFRA Scrapie Monitoring Scheme, to which I subscribed until 31st December 2009, was intended to establish the level of Scrapie Infection in goats in the UK and I understand that only six positive tests were found. When the brain tests ceased the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme ceased to have any scientific value for the reasons I outlined in my earlier letter and was no longer acceptable on its own for export purposes. I have since exported goats using a TRACES form only.

Scrapie, like TB, is a notifiable disease which means that any vet, or indeed any, owner, suspecting Scrapie in his clients animals (or his own) has a statutory duty to report it and there are heavy fines for those who fail. Why then do we need a certificate stating that neither owner nor vet have found any traces of clinical Scrapie. Surely it would be simpler for the annual whole herd CAE test to have a statement by both owner and vet that no clinical signs of Scrapie have been recorded.

Why include male goats anyway they are not capable of producing placentas or fetal fluids?

To conclude I have nothing against anyone who wants to continue in the current scheme, nor have a problem with Scrapie management at shows and, being entirely scientific, so long as the rules remain that no pregnant goats nor goats that have kidded less than thirty days may be exhibited remain, there would appear to be no real reason to segregate goats at shows.

I am afraid that the argument that the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme is protecting goats is both scientifically unsound and mathematically impossible to prove. There is great hope that genetic screening in the USA, where Scrapie is at epidemic level, will help identify Scrapie carriers. The real problem in the UK is that there are too few cases to consider.

Yours sincerely
David Will

THE BREEDER'S CUP

The Breeders Cup is for competition by breeders and is awarded to the breeder of the goats gaining the most points over certain shows through a season. Shows can be up to nine in number.

There were 7 herds attaining the minimum 30 points and above in 2010.

They were:

C. Newton's Lyncol Herd 94, N. Parr's Ashdene Herd 83
P. Mounter's Montrue Herd 62, M. Ackroyd's Theban Herd 33
Doubleday & Smith's Naypauls Herd 32,
Miss P. Newton's Treflor Herd 30, Mrs. L. Weedy's Linray Herd 30

NEW RESEARCH ON SCRAPIE BY NICK CLAYTON

New research on Scrapie in Sheep by a British group, Drs Maddison, Gough et al based partly at ADAS and partly at Nottingham University Veterinary School, seems likely to lead to a rethink on schemes to monitor and eradicate Scrapie.

That research has demonstrated that scrapie prions can be demonstrated in sheep Saliva up to at least 20 months before clinical disease is seen in sheep. Dr Gough takes the view that we should assume that the same happens in goats.

Definitive demonstration that these levels of prions correlate with infectivity has yet to be determined, but these experiments are underway.

What the research does NOT at this stage make clear is just how HIGH the risk is that any given animal might be of transmitting disease, particularly when you bear in mind that no research has been done to our knowledge on at what age sheep or goats might become less likely to become susceptible to scrapie, or if indeed that ever happens at all.

Suffice it to say that this research appears to vindicate the EU Imposed ban on using non SMS bucks to mate with SMS does as it brings into question the past assumption that such a procedure is totally risk free.

I well realise that this makes the current SMS scheme for goats very restrictive, but at the same time the research may

well open the door to a much more cost effective monitoring scheme, though just how things might be gone about are at a very early stage of thinking, and much will depend on the acceptance internationally of validation of the saliva test, and indeed upon what it might cost commercially.

Another piece of research has shown that Scrapie can be detected in the milk of sheep long before clinical signs are seen, It would be reasonable to assume that the same will apply to goats but the work on this is ongoing so we need to wait a while, but it could be that a milk test for scrapie might be even more useful in the long run!.

If we can get either a milk or saliva test validated it will be extremely useful in working towards control of, and eradication of, scrapie, but this is very much speculation at present.

I am very grateful to Dr Kevin Gough for answering the questions that I have put to him, and to Patrick Burke, head of the TSE section in DEFRA for alerting us to the situation. The PSGHS scheme chairman Brian Hosie, BGS veterinary Surgeon John Matthews, Patrick Burke, Dr Gough and I are all in touch with each other, and we will keep you in touch as policy evolves.

Do please understand that DEFRA set the SMS rules in consultation with the EU, who have the final say as things stand. The duty of the SAC is to implement those rules as part of the PSGHS,

NEW RESEARCH ON SCRAPIE

and to administer them. We are all well aware of the difficulties that the current situation is causing, and will work to find a practical and cost effective solution, backed up by current scientific knowledge, as soon as one can be agreed

It should also be recognised that the rules for the Scrapie Monitoring scheme are designed to make inter EU trade in sheep and goats as safe as possible in preventing transmission of scrapie from country to country. Other individual countries are free to set up their own scrapie monitoring or eradication schemes according to rules that they consider fit for purpose, but they must then bear the consequences, if unfavourable, of their actions.

The SM schemes thus in effect guarantee that Scrapie monitored stock is acceptable throughout the EU, always provided that other requirements are met. Countries outside the EU are free to set their own standards as to what can or cannot be imported to them, but SMS status seems usually to be accepted.

Non SMS stock MAY be acceptable, but under conditions that they would set on a country by country basis.

We will jointly update you as and when we can. We are delighted to say that Dr Ben Maddison will be speaking to the GVS at Doncaster on May 5th, which will be your opportunity to see the implications of the findings, and how they might be put to good practical use.

His choice of title is telling
"A NEW METHOD FOR SCRAPIE MONITORING"

Meeting details are available on the GVS website www.goatvetsoc.co.uk

Guests are welcome to join us. The charge for the day is £60 including a buffet lunch. Please book with me either by telephone 01531 820074 or by e mail at nickclayton2@mac.com

Nick Clayton. Hon Secretary, The Goat Veterinary Society, member of the advisory board, the SAC premium sheep and goat health schemes.

Nitram Ayley

Martin Cox (Nitram Herd) would be very pleased to know of anyone who has pictures of Nitram Ayley when she was shown during the period 2004—2007.

Please contact Martin direct Tel: 01949 851 869

KID REARING IN A SMALL HERD BY HILARY MATTHEWS

This article first appeared in the Goat Veterinary Society Journal 2009 and is reprinted with kind permission of the editor

The primary rule for kid rearing is ATTENTION TO DETAIL never cut corners!

This article will focus on:

- Pre-kidding preparation
- Kidding and post-kidding
- Rearing kids to weaning

PRE-KIDDING PREPARATION

- Vaccinate does
- Test for CAE
- Worm, if applicable
- Prepare the kidding pen
- Sort out kidding equipment
- Decide the milk-feeding regime

It is important to vaccinate all does 4-6 weeks prior to kidding for both Tetanus and Enterotoxaemia. CAE test does in plenty of time so that results are back before kidding in the herd commences. If CAE is a problem within the herd then consider ways of snatching kids and feeding heat-treated colostrum.

If the herd carries out a worming programme because the does have access to pasture, then worm just before kidding. The exact timing of worming will be dependent on the withholding period recommended by the drug company but should be at least 7 days prior to kidding. This makes economic sense, as milk is not generally kept for human consumption in the first week after parturition.

Kidding pens should always be ready well in advance. The dam should kid in clean surroundings in her own pen but if this is not possible then she should be moved to a pen which is suitable for her to kid in several weeks before kidding. This enables her to develop immunity to environmental pathogens.

A nursery pen should be ready at least a week before the due date. If at all possible make sure that no other livestock have used the pen for at least 6 months. This pen should be clean and draught free and have a heat lamp ready for immediate use. **ALWAYS MAKE SURE THE HEAT LAMP IS SECURELY HUNG** to avoid any possibility of a fire. Place a kid box or house within the pen. Newborn kids will 'hide' in this and then, as they grow, they will use it to play on. An upturned, plastic water tank with a doorway cut out of it is ideal as it can be disinfected between batches of kids and can be used for many years. Plastic tanks can be purchased quite cheaply from most plumbing outlets.

The following equipment should be ready and easily accessible before kidding commences:

- Clean towels
- Clean milker and kid coats
- Obstetric lubricant
- Dopram-V
- Antiseptic spay or iodine
- Stomach tube
- Frozen colostrum

Straw, straw and more straw

KID REARING IN A SMALL HERD

Decide before kidding commences which type of kid feeding regime to adopt:

- Kids reared on or off the dam
- Whole goats milk or replacement milk powder

If feeding a replacement milk powder which type; calf (whey or skim), kid or lamb?

As kidding approaches decide if kidding is to occur naturally and possibly at a time when no-one is present or whether to adopt a 24/7 policy of observing kiddings (bearing in mind most, but not all goats, kid during daylight hours) or whether to use a management aid such as a prostaglandin. Kidding generally takes place 30-42 hours after an injection of prostaglandin has been given. Please note that many veterinary surgeons will not allow prostaglandins to be administered by the owner.

KIDDING AND POST KIDDING Kids at birth

- Check kid is breathing and give to dam
 - Help dry kids if more than one
 - Replenish straw beneath kids
 - Leave for 30 minutes and have a coffee!
 - Spray or dip navels
 - Check milk flow from teats and help kids to feed from dam if necessary
 - Bottle or stomach tube if kids unable to feed themselves
- Remove afterbirth

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ALL KIDS HAVE AT LEAST 140ML COLOSTRUM WITHIN TWO HOURS OF BIRTH.

Surplus colostrum can be filtered, cooled, frozen and labelled with date, name of dam and age of colostrum.

- Kids should be removed at birth from dams if there is a chance that the doe might injure them.
- If dam and kids have bonded then remove the kids from the dam about 4 days of age but either before or after dis-budding to avoid causing stress twice. Always make sure that that kids are consuming an adequate amount of milk by bottle before considering changing them over to a pan or multi-suckled system.

REARING TO WEANING AT 12 WEEKS

- 1st week of life – feed to appetite 4 x daily for 1st week
 - Week 2 to week 6 – feed 3 x daily but not more than 565mls (1pt) per feed
 - Week 7 to week 10 – feed 2 x daily 710ml (1.25pints) per feed
- Week 10 to week 12 – drop the evening feed and continue feeding 710mls (1.25pints) in the morning.

During this period good fibrous hay and/or pea straw can be offered from about 1 week of age. Fresh water and fresh concentrates should be made available from about 2 weeks of age. Around week 7, concentrate intake will increase coincidentally with the dropping of the mid-day milk feed.

HILARY MATTHEWS & GOAT FEEDING SYSTEMS

Shows 2010



*Mylerstow Morchique HB074374D Best in Show- Irish Goat Producers Association Show 2010. Sire Ashdene Nigel BS041633D Dam Ashdene Morcheeba HB070204D.
Photo: Edward Lenehan*

2010 SHOW AMENDMENTS

Frome

MILKERS BA (2/2) should read 1st & 2nd Head's Coppershel Moss & Coppershel May

Lincolnshire

Anjo Chelsy's kidding date was 13.03.2009 but was calculated on 2010. Her points are therefore 16.79

Norwich & District

The CM was won by Kaydee Monfrey

In the show class result the two classes listed under Milkens GG should be Milkens BG & Milkens AOV not Goatlings BG & Goatlings AOV

Heathley goats

Heathley Apricot is in fact Heathley Alys GG7870

Heathley Cinnamon is really Heathley CranburyGG008199D

Moreton in Marsh

BCC AN: Windsinger Juvela

KID REARING IN A SMALL HERD CONT'D

Kids do well on milk powder but always buy the best quality milk powder that is available. This would mean a skim milk based powder rather than a whey based powder. Quick-mix powder which has been designed for automatic feeders are preferable to ordinary powders – they mix better with no ‘lumps’. If using a calf milk replacement powder then feed this at a rate of 85gms/565ml (3oz/pint) rather than the recommended rate of 57gms/565ml (2oz/pint) for calves. Feeding milk powder is the cheaper option if you have a market for your goats’ milk but kids can become bloated when fed milk powder so it is advisable to check all youngstock before retiring for the night.

Always adopt strict hygiene procedures when feeding any type of milk. This would include washing all milk feeding equipment after each feed with dairy detergent, hypochlorite or something like Miltons. Always feed at the same temperature and never cut corners!

Decide on which milk feeding system you are going to adopt:

- Bottle
- Pan
- Multi suckler bucket feeder or Automatic milk feeder

Pros and Cons of different feeding systems:

The advantages of bottle feeding are that you can see exactly what the kid is drinking, 8 kids can be fed at once using 2 bottle racks and the spread of infection can be minimised by washing the teats

between kids if necessary. Its main disadvantage is that it is labour intensive.

Pan feeding is excellent for ease of feeding and washing of low cost equipment but it scores badly on the time taken to teach the kids to drink from a bowl, the inability to regulate the amount of milk consumed and the introduction of faeces and contaminants if feeding from a trough on the floor. There is also a suggestion that kids develop ‘pot-bellies’ if fed from the floor but there is no evidence to support this.

Multi-suckler bucket feeders offer the great advantage of ease of feeding but like pan feeding you are unable to regulate the milk consumed by the kids and again it takes time to teach them to adapt to the system. You also have the disadvantage of kids ‘helping themselves’ from the top of the bucket and satisfactory cleaning of the equipment is not as easy to achieve as with other systems.

The big advantage of automatic feeders is that they are labour saving. They are expensive to buy though and like the pan and multi-suckler bucket methods there is the problem of gauging just how much the kid is drinking and time is again required to teach them to drink from the teats. Like the buckets they take time to clean satisfactorily and they score poorly on bonding between owner and kid.

Concentrate Feeding

Always feed kids a high protein ration and start by introducing a dry mix containing peas, maize etc. As the kids start to pick at this add in a small amount of

KID REARING IN A SMALL HERD

high protein dairy nuts with the aim of having the kids eating only these dairy nuts by weaning. At weaning a kid should be consuming no more than 228gms (1/2lb) spread between three feeds per day. Try to avoid feeding lucerne based feeds (i.e. Alfa A) to male kids as they have the propensity to cause urinary calculi (stones).

Management Tasks

- Disbud at 4 days of age
 - Vaccinate for clostridial diseases at 8 and 12 weeks
 - Vaccinate for Blue Tongue
 - Muck out pen religiously every 3 weeks – use shavings beneath the straw if you are unable to allow the pen to dry before the kids are returned to it
 - Scrub and disinfect the black box houses each time you muck out
- Trim hooves monthly from 3 months of age

Summary

In conclusion, if the above principles of kid rearing are adopted and provided you always follow the golden rule of **ATTENTION TO DETAIL**, well-grown, healthy kids should be produced which are suitable for the small scale goat keeper, the early kidded large commercial dairy herd or, conformation permitting, for the show ring.

Hilary Matthews OND, NCA (Agric)
Chelmsford, Essex

CLUB PROFILE

The Scottish Goatkeepers' Federation, a registered charity, was founded in 1921 and still going strong 90 years later.

The club is run by voluntary office bearers, elected on a yearly basis at the AGM.

We have 100+ members, which include life, joint and family members. Life memberships are granted after 25 years continual single membership.

The Federation was very fortunate to be a left a legacy in the will of Rachel Elliott, this is invested to generate an annual income, which covers our own running costs and enables us to hold two shows a year. We also give financial support to other goat shows in Scotland, and make donations to other charities where appropriate.

We aim to promote, encourage and improve goatkeeping in Scotland by circulating knowledge and information about goats.

Our club is publicised at as many events as possible and our web site offers information and contact details.

Lisa Sinclair

<http://www.scottishgoatkeepersfederation.com>

CREAM TEAS

Continuing from the January Monthly Journal, the article first published in United Caprine News October 2010 USA.

Article by Jeff Kliene on the visit of Steve Considine's visit to the UK.

The next morning we crossed over into Devon. As we pulled into the drive of the old hillside farm where the show was being held, I suddenly realized that that moment was perhaps the most scenic entrance to a goat show of my life - even winning out over the Southern Vermont Dairy Goat association grounds on the mountain west of Brattleboro. Heavily wooded hills fell into a deep vale, patchworked with hedged pastures, the vista south lending a clear view to the shimmering blue of the English Channel. The variety of goat transports and relaxed cheerful greetings of the exhibitors was reminiscent of a New England show on the green. The old farmstead admittedly had seen more prosperous times; the show ring was an old concrete feedlot between two barns.

Once the show was in progress, I asked the superintendent (Wendy Webster) about the hitherto carefully guarded formula for Devon cream. She was a Devon native and accomplished country cook. But to digress a bit first, the kitchen of an English country cottage, or farm home, will invariably be dominated by a "Rayburn". The latter is an evolution of the old fashioned wood kitchen range fueled by oil. It retains a warming oven, baking oven, top surfaces ranging from very hot to only slightly warm, and a water reservoir that links to radiators interspersed throughout the building to ward off the cold damp of a channel winter.

The recipe: fill long shallow baking pans with fresh cream, place on the coolest part of the Rayburn surface and let sit, stirring occasionally. After 18 or more hours, the fat portion of the cream will rise to the top of the water fraction. Skim carefully into jars and chill, traditionally in a spring house. Devon clotted cream could as well be called condensed cream and would be a kissing cousin to Indian ghee, clarified butter.

Both are extraordinarily stable and can be shipped via parcel post; shops all around Devon advertise: "Cream by Post!"

The show was very modest in size, the largest doeling classes being British Saanens and Anglo Nubians, a single entry Golden Guernsey buck was Best Male in Show, and Hilary (*Matthews—explained in part 1 editor*) finished by mid-



afternoon.

We headed back to the channel at the resort village of Seaton for cream tea. The weekend crowds were large, but we finally got an outside seating just before

CREAM TEAS

closing with a view to the water. Warm currant scones, strawberry preserves, cream and tea - the apogee of English civilized culture. Next we headed back inland to Chard to a very special place - Forde Abbey. Originally built as a Cistercian monastery in the 12th Century, it had become a private estate home after the dissolution of the abbeys in the mid-17th Century. It has 30 acres of surrounding gardens. On one of its manor farms nearby, there is a goat dairy milking 1800 Saanens in a rotary parlor that holds 80 animals. Two workers milk at the rate of 600 does per hour. The majority of the milk is sold as fresh fluid milk to TESCO, a British food giant akin to WalMart. The remainder is made



into Country Pantry. John and Hilary have sold young bucks to Tim Frost, the farm manager for several years. After touring the goat facilities, we were invited over to the old manor home where he lived.

We lingered until well into the evening. All the restaurants closed early on Sunday night, so that we were reduced to eating prepackaged deli food purchased

at a TESCO petrol station. Praise the Lord for the earlier cream tea!

The next morning we toured the gardens and grounds of Forde Abbey. I made a classic faux pas when asking the elderly man supervising if he were the head gardener. Mark Roper was the owner, but amicable anyway, and explained that he knew I was the goat visitor from California. We were then given private tips on where the current highlights of the gardens - the Bog Garden and the rare blue poppies on Blacksmith Hill.

After a late morning cup of tea in the old refectory, without the full 'cream' accretements, we headed east. It was summer solstice and John and Hilary were fulfilling a personal fantasy by taking me to Stonehenge, which we would have driven right past anyway. During a moment of silence contemplating those imposing monoliths, my mind flashed on the ADGA National Saanen show soon to begin a few thousand miles west. My plea to the ancient deities was merely that my Tivoli be in good health. At dawn that day, 60,000 druids had been on site for the one moment of the year when the horizontal rays of the emergent sun penetrate the entire complex - a reputed time of great ethereal magic power. John asked an attendant how one could tell a druid. The answer: pointed hats, wands, long beards and capes with moons and stars. Your basic old hippie in full drag!

Even at Stonehenge, Hilary kept to her schedule: "Chop, chop, time to move on!" we were to be dinner guests in Guildford, Surrey, just south of London.

Cream Teas cont'd

Our hosts were Nick Parr and Michael Ackroyd, breeders of Ashdene Saanens and Theban Toggenburgs. Both are BGS judges; Nick is Vice-Chair of BGS and Honorary Solicitor. As well, Nick is a second generation breeder of Toggenburgs, known for a sequence of nine continuous generations of British champions. Some believe the three greatest BGS Saanens of all time are Didgemere Dream, Mostyn Daphne and Ashdene Metaphor. The latter is not only a champion with 69 challenge certificates, but also broke the World Record for lifetime milk production. Nick and Michael have been together since their school days and have won the prestigious Breeders Cup 14 times. Michael had prepared an elaborate spread of roasted lamb and a wide variety of vegetables. Dessert was fresh berries with creme fraiche. The latter is alright, but not Devon cream. I was leaving England the next morning to fly on to Geneva, and none too soon. Any more cream teas and my clothes would not have fit!

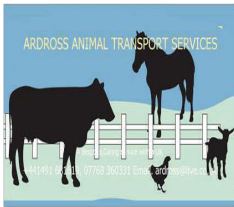
ROYAL CORNWALL 2010 MILKING COMPETITION RESULTS

First published in Booklet 1 September 2010 page 2, are reprinted here as the original calculations were very slightly out. They appear correctly on the data base but not in the September results. Gorsefield Pretzel was awarded a "" at this show.*

Anglo Nubian		Milk	Butterfat		Protein		Mths	Pts	Award
			AM	PM	AM	PM			
Daycroft Indera	AN032264D	6.60	3.51	4.65	3.63	3.50	2	30.33	S
Earthchild Honesty	AN032177D	5.50	2.62	4.49	2.90	3.01	2	21.56	
Gunerywhite Wisful	AN0327779E	3.15	4.04	4.10	4.10	4.14	14	18.29	S
Hurstpier Cayena	AN032775D	4.15	4.40	4.79	2.90	3.05	2	18.57	S
Gunerywhite Wasdish	AN032876D	4.00	3.74	3.99	2.91	3.00	2	16.40	
British Alpine									
Coppershiel Felina	BA017340D	4.30	4.92	4.90	3.05	3.01	1	19.88	S
Coppershiel Moss	BA017477D	4.55	4.54	4.15	2.67	2.79	2	18.98	S
Coppershiel May	BA017844D	3.00	3.68	4.43	2.81	2.92	1	12.30	
British Sannen									
Leatland Primrose	BS042123D	4.40	3.74	3.84	2.61	2.52	3	16.84	
Leatland Gabby	BS041624D	2.80	3.96	4.83	2.39	2.41	3	11.45	
British Toggenburg									
Telios Alwena	BT027489D	6.15	3.48	4.80	2.82	2.71	3	25.23	S
Airways Anouska	BT026898D	4.80	3.00	3.32	2.51	2.45	3	16.51	
Compitts Lalunar	BT027505D	3.95	3.66	3.84	2.83	2.89	12	17.72	
Compitts Lujaney	BT027506D	3.40	3.12	4.26	2.63	2.57	14	15.26	
Nightshade Lavender	BT027429D	2.75	3.82	3.84	3.08	2.97	13	13.69	
Saanen									
Timyon Minimo	S.007985D	4.85	3.51	3.47	2.53	2.55	1	17.28	
Toggenburg									
Gorsefield Pretzel	T.005922P	4.15	4.01	4.65	2.97	2.99	3	18.24	S
Gorsefeld Cyanna	T.005865D	3.70	4.06	3.86	2.65	2.68	4	15.03	
AOV									
Compitts Lyonesse	HB072608D	6.10	4.61	5.61	2.66	2.70	2	27.43	Q
Telios Gwenllian	HB075394D	4.70	4.35	4.21	2.67	2.58	2	19.10	S
Merjoy Myka	SR029716D	4.55	3.07	3.20	2.50	2.58	3	15.82	
Leatland Shanti	FB019452D	3.95	3.65	3.63	2.61	2.58	3	14.97	
Toddbrook Xylon	HB073099D	3.60	2.56	3.07	2.09	2.10	2	10.75	
Leatland Angel	SR029654D	2.65	3.51	3.70	2.85	2.90	3	10.71	

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HEALTH SCHEMES FOR SCRAPIE, CAE AND JOHNES DISEASE

At present goats owned by members of the BGS belong to a variety of health schemes, both 'official' and 'unofficial'. These include the Scrapie Monitored Scheme [SMS] and the CAE Accredited Scheme run by the Scottish Agricultural Colleges [SAC] and the CAE Monitored Scheme run by the BGS. Other herds are whole herd CAE tested so that they can attend BGS shows. This multitude of schemes is confusing and leads to duplication of paperwork and costs.

The intention of all these schemes is to maintain the health status of British goats, to prevent the introduction and/or spread of disease between individual goats and between herds and to facilitate export.

Most BGS members will be aware that the introduction of CAE into the UK with imported goats led to the widespread dissemination of the disease throughout the country in the 1970s and 1980s and that CAE was only controlled by testing and culling of infected animals. Although the incidence of CAE is at present very low, it is a disease that could be spread again very easily by symptomless carrier animals. At present, only goats registered under the SAC CAE Accredited Scheme have any official government status.

Until recently, there was a very low incidence of scrapie in the UK and this remains true within the herds of BGS members. However, scrapie has occurred in show and pet herds. Tony Andrews [Chairman of the Goat Veterinary Society] and myself investigated a number of cases [including goats belonging to members of the BGS in the 1980s]. Recently, high levels of scrapie have been reported in two commercial herds, showing that under the right conditions of intensification, even with low levels of infection, scrapie can become a major problem. Worldwide, there seems to be a move towards scrapie eradication.

The incidence of Johnes Disease in British goats has increased in recent years, largely due to increased intensification and the movement of goats between herds on commercial farms. Although the incidence within show herds remains low, infected animals are probably under-reported and the introduction of new goats into any herd could potentially introduce the disease. There is at present no Johnes Disease health scheme for goats in the UK, but the SAC is about to start a pilot scheme to investigate the practicalities of introducing one in the near future.

All the present health schemes have advantages and disadvantages. Cost is a major disincentive to joining and maintaining membership of the schemes and some schemes impose stringent movement restrictions. Showing SAC CAE Accredited Scheme goats is very difficult because the animals need to be kept separated from other animals in the show ring making comparison between animals difficult.

HEALTH SCHEMES *CONT'D*

The rules for the Scrapie Monitored Scheme are determined by DEFRA in accordance with the requirements of the EU for export between member states. Export to countries outwith the EU may not require scrapie certification, but, for export to Europe, herds require certification and this is virtually impossible for herds outwith the SMS, unless the herd is closed. The rules of the scheme are not determined by the SAC, who are keen to encourage membership of the scheme. They are aware of the problems caused by the requirement to examine the heads of all culled goats over 18 months, particularly since the end of the Fallen Stock Scheme, and of the problems of introducing stud males. The SAC and the GVS have discussed the problems at length with DEFRA over the past 6 months and this led to the restrictions on the use of frozen semen being lifted. However, DEFRA is governed by the EU regulations and DEFRA and everyone else in the EU have their hands tied until there is a ruling on a very complicated EU court case between the EU and the French Authorities, who virtually alone in Europe want draconian restrictions introduced to control scrapie in infected herds. Everyone is aware that the whole situation is very unsatisfactory as it stands. The court ruling was due to be published in December, but has been delayed.

In order to simplify the present testing and registration regimes with a view to reducing costs to members and to encourage continuing and new membership, the SAC and the GVS, together with myself as Honorary Veterinary Surgeon for the BGS, have discussed the possibility of amalgamating the existing testing regimes for CAE in an expanded SAC scheme.

The advantages of this would be:

- After the initial amalgamation of schemes was complete, compulsory annual CAE testing for shows would not be necessary and testing could be carried out every 2 years or less in established herds.
- The cost of laboratory tests would be reduced as the SAC offers lower fees for their own scheme than is presently paid by BGS members.
- The SAC Accredited Scheme is internationally recognised, giving British goats a clear increased international health status, making movement of goats abroad easier. Thus for instance, export of goats to the Republic of Ireland would be simpler.
- All goats attending BGS shows would have the same health status, reducing disease risk and allowing any members of the current SAC scheme to show their goats.
- Having all the goats within one scheme makes discussions about rule changes with DEFRA, and ultimately the EU, much easier.

HEALTH SCHEMES *CONT'D*

- Presently BGS members need to belong to separate scrapie & CAE monitoring schemes. For those members wanting to monitor both diseases, costs and paperwork would be reduced by belonging to a single accreditation scheme.
- Testing for Johnes Disease could be introduced as 'add-on' test for scheme members

The disadvantages are:

- The annual cost of membership would be higher than the BGS Monitored Scheme, but overall the costs for individual herds would be reduced by the decreased need for blood testing, ie reduced veterinary and laboratory costs.
- There would be increased restrictions on the mixing of untested goats with CAE tested goats, eg for mating. However, giving BGS members goats the same health status will overall facilitate movements.

Recent correspondence in the BGS Journal has shown that there is a diversity of opinions regarding the need for testing and segregation of goats. There will undoubtedly be opposing views within the BGS regarding any change to the present testing regimes, so there is obviously the need for wide-ranging discussion to take place. The **BGS online forum** provides a natural outlet for the exchange of views. Although out-with the normal program, the Annual General Meeting in April could provide a suitable venue for members to express their opinions. The SAC and the GVS can provide speakers as necessary.

John Matthews
BSc BVMS MRCVS
Honorary Veterinary Surgeon
British Goat Society

Our thanks to John Matthews for writing this article which arrived too late to be included in the Feb/March issue of the Journal.

AVAILABLE FROM THE BGS OFFICE ON REQUEST

BGS Rules & Regulations,
Service Certificate Books
Notes on Registrations
Registration Forms
Prefix Application Forms
Transfer Forms
CAE Monitored Herd Rules
CAE Monitored Herd Forms
Herd Register Forms

BGS Milk Recording Manual ©

Please ask for details; T/F: 01434 240 866, E: secretary@allgoats.com

2011 SHOWS UPDATES

Judges

British Saanen Breed Show	Mr. A Morrey
Saanen Breed Show	Mr A Morrey
Three Counties	Mr T Baker
Westmorland	Mrs G Wharmby
Castwellan & District	Mrs J Martin

Royal Welsh & Garden Festival Judge changed to Mr. C. Newton

Kent Male & Youngstock


Closing date for entries, changed to 3rd June

Alresford show

is the 3rd September not 3rd October as printed in the January Journal


2011 RECOGNISED SHOWS

SHOW	Class	DATE	Judge	Entries	Secretary	Tel Contact
Highland Goat Club Spring (m&f)	AAW	29th May	Mr R Wiffen	TBC	Gordon Smith	01382370259
Hambleton Dairy Goat	AW	12th June	Mr R Wood	22nd May	Mrs M Holmes	01609881764
Todmorden Agricultural		18th June	TBC	1st June	Mrs. S. Morris	01706816044
IGPA Midlands (Kells)	AW	9th-10th July	TBC	3dr July	Betty Donaldson	Dernhcross, Ballinalee, Co. Lonford
Yealmpton Agricultural		27th July	Mr. Ackroyd	18th June	Ann Robbins	01752880509
Aberdeen & Angus m&f	A/W	21st Aug	Mr C Newton	30th July	Mrs Aitken	01569 766775
East of England Autumn Exhibition		9th Oct	Mr. C. Peck	26th Sept	C Nye	01353 699413


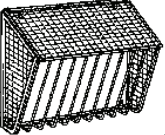
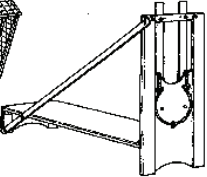
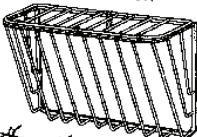






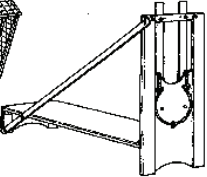

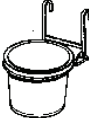

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Closing date for entries – 20th May 2011

Schedules available from the show secretary:

Beverley Lawton, Chelswood, Hillend, Locking, Weston-Super-Mare. BS24 8PQ.

Tel: 01934 824437 e-mail: beverleyL8@aol.com

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