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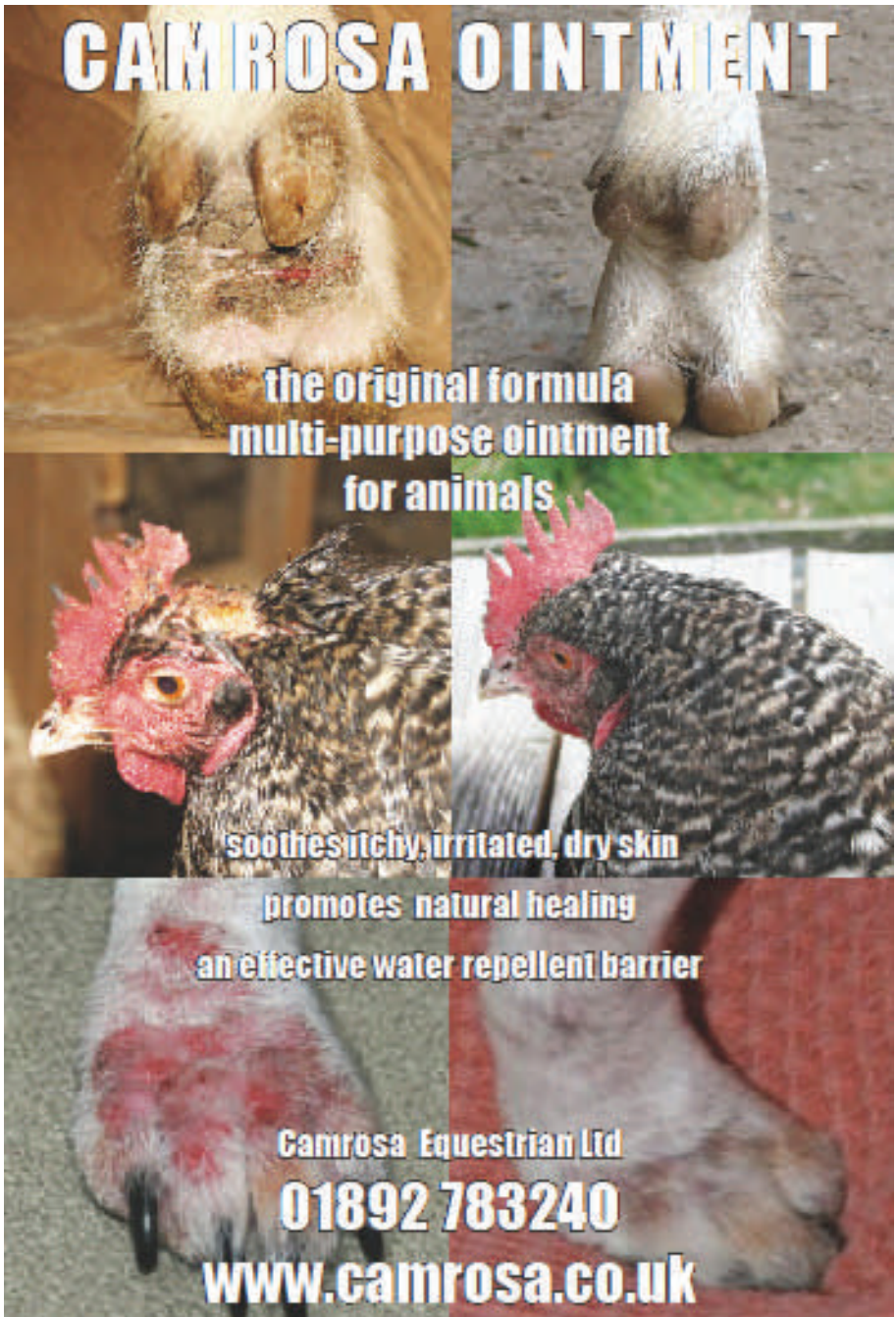


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Volume 104

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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.

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Inverness IV2 4JZ

Front Cover Picture

Aphrodite Andross BIS at Northumberland Male & Youngstock.

Owned & Bred by Mrs E Woodmass

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

A letter was published in last months Monthly Journal regarding an issue within one of our Affiliated Societies. I do feel that, on reflection, perhaps we should not have published it as it concerned matters outside of the British Goat Society.

I take full responsibility for its inclusion as our Secretary did seek my advice as to whether it should be published.

I am very happy to have received positive feedback from a meeting held at Stoneleigh regarding the use of Grassroots by show secretaries. The meeting was attended by Libby and Margaret of Grassroots, our Secretary, Jane Wilson and Herd Book Coordinator, Margaret Hardman together with two Show Secretaries – Mike Elphick and Chris Hagain.

Chris and Mike have been trying out the system and were ideally placed to attend the meeting. It is hoped that many more Show Secretaries will wish to utilise Grassroots for producing show catalogues and reports next year.

As I write these notes we have just received a very kind offer from the Derbyshire Dairy Goat Society to host an Autumn Conference later this year. We would be delighted if another local Society felt able to come forward to offer to host one too.

I have just returned from judging at Latheron Show in the far north of Scotland. My journey entailed a 720 mile round trip and the show is the most northerly BGS recognised event in the UK. The enthusiasm of the Exhibitors, the quality of the stock present and the number of entries despite the shows location pleased me greatly and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Richard Wood

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NEW MEMBERS

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

Mr N Brake, Rutland;
Mrs A Meek, Ayrshire;
Mrs Middleton-Horner, Lincolnshire;
Mr O'Regan, Co. Cork;
Mr Hicks, Ceredigion;
Mr Newell, Co. Tyrone;

Mr & Mrs MacKellar, Cornwall;
Mrs H Smith, West Midlands;
Mrs J Atkinson, Hampshire;
Mr Paul, Co. Londonderry;
Mr Parry, Devon;
Salvation Army (Hadleigh Farm), Essex;

SHOW UPDATES

Malton Show, Malton North Yorks Contact A Stott, 01653 693382

Kattern Georgie who won the IP at the Royal Welsh Smallholders Show reported in June. Her milking competition results were missing from the results sheets.

Goat	Reg No	Yield Kg	Fat% AM	Fat% PM	Prot% AM	Prot% PM	Mths	PTs
Kattern Georgie	BS041437D	8.90	3.7	4.19	2.45	2.69	0.4	33.97

COMING UP

DAIRY EVENT

6th & 7th September 2011 At The NEC Birmingham

Gate price £20.00 Advance tickets £17.

Group tickets available (35 persons +) £14 each

Book online www.dairyevent.co.uk

Phone line 0845 458 2711

Invitation to attend the Dutch National Goat Show

Saturday 17th September

at

Kleindierenmarkthal Barneveld, Mercuriusweg 41, 3771 NC Barneveld, Netherlands

The five main breeds in Holland will be represented, particularly the four milk breeds:

The Dutch White, The Dutch Multicolour, The Toggenburger and the Dutch Nubic goat plus the main meat breed in Holland, the Boer goat.

More details from Gerard Bos

Email: gerardbos45@hotmail.com

Tel: +035-656-2774

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Dear Members,

Please send in your articles and photographs, they are always most welcome.

When entering shows please use the name of the goat that is on the Registration Card, not the "stable name" from home. Some goats are being entered at shows under these names or a name that was applied for and not accepted at the office as it has already been used by the herd prefix.

Another important point is the last kidding date. Please make sure that if kids have been registered from a goat's current lactation, the date entered on a show entry form, is the same. Kidding dates are held in Grassroots and this date will be taken for milking competition calculations.

There were over 250 errors in show results last year. Please help to reduce this.

Some kids will now be approaching 6 months old, please remember this when sending in registration applications. The price doubles at 6 months old.

You will notice that the show results have a slightly different format from this month. This is to make the best possible use of the Grassroots system in producing results efficiently and accurately. The adjustment has the approval of the Show Coordinator and the Chairman.

Best Wishes
Jane

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
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LETTERS

The Editor
British Goat Society Monthly Journal

The article "Out of the Ordinary" in the May Journal seems to have sparked some controversy in the Saanen world and I have been asked by a number of members to reply.

Can I make it clear that I have no idea who Mrs J Riddell is? I can find no record of her having bred Saanens, nor any authority for the content in "Out of the Ordinary". It appears to me to be entirely hearsay without any factual evidence.

Should anyone doubt my authority to reply, I suggest they look first at the British Goat Society's show and milk recording records. On my website, timyongoats.com, I include the following article:-

THE SAANEN IN THE UK

In Switzerland the Saanen is the largest and heaviest milking of the goat breeds and in 1922 the Secretary of the British Goat Society, Mr Palmer, visited Switzerland to obtain Saanen goats for import to Britain but due to an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease was unable to obtain permission to import to the UK. As an alternative he purchased Dutch White goats from Holland and the original importation was not of Saanen goats but Dutch goats descended entirely from goats that had been imported into Holland from Germany with no connection to Switzerland what-so-ever. Indeed the Dutch White is a much smaller animal well suited to stall feeding and the Swiss Saanen is a large, free ranging goat

from the hills of Switzerland.

The Saanen Herd Book (British Goat Society Register) from 1922 contains only Dutch White sourced goats but in 1965 a few Swiss Saanens were imported but they were generally much larger than the type favoured by British enthusiasts and the bloodline has generally died out. Semen was imported from Switzerland in 1993 by the Saanen Breed Society but this remains largely unused.

In 1995 two female goats were imported from Holland, one died but the other, R203 Timyon Elle Q Br Ch, made an instant impact, her daughter RM293 Timyon Eleni *1 became the highest yielding Saanen of all time and another daughter, RM196 Timyon Ellen *1 Br Ch was a great success in the show ring.*

This was followed by the Dutch White males Imported Onno and Imported Chessnico who have improved the quality of Saanen Goats in the UK immensely. Further importations from Holland have followed and from matings with indigenous Saanens, are showing improvements in both milk quantity and quality.

In the UK the Saanen is carefully bred by a few goat keepers. It is renowned for long steady lactations, a placid nature and quiet intelligence. It has had an important influence on the British Saanen Breed.

The Saanen from Britain is in demand throughout the World and has been exported to China, Brazil, India, Spain, the West Indies,

Cont'd on page 135

UPDATE: What happened to the Children left homeless after the fire in Azargarfa?

The recent fire which swept through Azargarfa, Darfur, destroyed over half the village. There was a strong wind, and within minutes all the animals in the area were killed.



Thankfully, no human was hurt, but 375 goats, 36 donkeys and 120 sheep died. People lost all they owned.

The goats were kept close to the huts because many of them had kids.

They are kept under straw shelters to protect them from the sun. It has been exceptionally hot in Sudan this year so that everything was tinder dry.

It is particularly tragic, as these families were starting to really thrive. Azargarfa became a Kids for Kids' village in 2006. It runs one of our most successful Goat Loan Programmes, passing on 6 goats from each family every two years. 30% of the families in the village have already benefitted from our original goats.

It is also the village where founder Patricia Parker and her son were captured by rebels. Everything the families owned was burnt in their huts. People's possessions are pathetically few - but they are deeply treasured.

Now these families have to start again.

THREE WEEKS LATER

Alone of all the aid agencies in Darfur, Kids for Kids promised immediate help - and gave it.

Basic essentials for starting again were sent in under 15 days. Once again families have a roof to sleep under and blankets for the children.

We have replaced the poor burnt goats with a healthy new flock so that the children have milk, and the mothers can start



the slow process of building up a small income again so they can buy their children shoes and clothes and replace more of the things they have lost.

Cont'd on page 140

Saintfield Show, Northern Ireland



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LETTERS *cont'd*

America and even to Switzerland.

When bred with indigenous goats the resulting hybrid vigour increases the milk potential of the offspring.

In Western India the use of pure Saanen males trebled the milk production of native goats in two generations."

These are not my words but were written by the late, great Pam Carter, a truly remarkable goat breeder and administrator, whose favoured breed was the Saanen. My own success with Saanens has been due to the considerable advice and encouragement I received from Pam Carter who was in her element at the shows in Holland where she could see up to 500 of her favoured breed at one show.

Since Pam wrote that article descendants of the 1990's importations have gone on to do great things and gain many admirers, all that was needed was a little hybrid vigour added to the existing Saanen stock.

Let me add to that article that the Netherlands Organisation for Goat Keeping's original Herd Book for the "Witte Geiten" (White Goat) contains only white goats imported from Germany. Since the original importation there have been further importations from Germany, indeed my own Dutch Whites contain Germany white blood, but there was no Swiss blood whatsoever up to the time that I imported goats from Holland. These points are easily checked as I provided details of the importation of German Goats to Holland, the importation of Dutch Whites to UK in 1922 and

their relationship to the goats I imported from Holland to the BGS. The suggestion that the British Goat Society acted improperly at the time of my first importation is insulting to the BGS Committee when they were faced with the entirely factual evidence that the 1922 importation from Holland and my importation were descended from the same source.

There was some dissention from some members of the Saanen Breed Society at the time but my Saanens feature prominently in all the current SBS publications.

There is a publication produced by NOG called "The History of the White Goat in Holland", which also confirms what I found.

What is certain is that there is no such thing as a "Pure Saanen". The Saanen in the UK is the white goat of the lowlands of continental Europe, the Dutch do not claim their white goats are Dutch (or anything else) Whites, they simply call them "White Goats" and they certainly do not refer to them as Dutch Saanens.

Personally I do not care what the British Goat Society calls white goats, maybe the best thing to do would be to call them "White Goats" and the crossbreds "British White Goats". However what I do care about is the small docile white goat which we call Saanens, which have separate and distinct characteristics from the larger "British Saanens". They are chalk and cheese, very different.

Yours sincerely

David Will

BACK TO BACK SHOWS

Over the last few years several goat clubs have developed the practice of holding “back to back shows”. One venue and set of penning can be used for 2 shows held on consecutive days.

The usual procedure adopted is for there to be 2 milking competitions, one on each day. The drawback to this is that goats entered in both milking competitions may not leave the showground until after the milking has been completed on the second milking of the second milking competition.

The committee has considered this issue and the possibilities of allowing the second day of showing to end earlier, thus allowing exhibitors to leave a little earlier and have a more comfortable – and safer – journey home.

The regulations require that each milking competition must:

1. be held within 24 hours,
2. be based on 2 milkings, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, with an interval of not less than 10 hours, the second milking being completed not more than 24 hours after the competing animals have been stripped dry.

There is however no requirement that the first milking take place in the morning. Therefore on the first show day the morning and evening milkings can be used for the competition. For the second show the evening and morning milkings can be used **providing** that the 10 hour minimum interval and 24 hour total times are strictly adhered to.

An example of how this might work on a

back to back weekend show is as follows:

1. Friday afternoon, goats arrive and stripped out by 7 p.m. for the first show.
 2. Saturday morning, goats milked and milk weighed and sampled for the first milking competition. Milking to be completed by 9 a.m.
 3. Saturday morning, goats stripped out by 9 a.m. for the second show.
 4. Saturday evening, goats milked and milk weighed and sampled for the first milking competition. Milking to be completed by 7 p.m.
 5. Saturday evening, milk weights used and second sample taken for the second milking competition.
 6. Sunday morning, goats milked and milk weighed and samples taken for the second milking competition. Milking to be completed by 9 a.m.
- Sunday afternoon, goats may leave the showground when judging has been completed.

There is no obligation for shows to follow this procedure.

Nick Parr

2010 SHOWS SOUTH OF ENGLAND

*Colemans Faye BCC AN (above)
Colemans Pia (below) Photos P Radford.*



Shows



*Winners of the "Riding" Challenge Cup for the Best group of three (owner & exhibitor)
Miss B Lawton & Mr S Lawton with Vicarshill Diamond, Vicarshill Eugenie & Vicarshill Harebell. (Photo D Cole)*



BIS Guilden Glory & Reserve BIS Guilden Gail (above)

Royal Highland, Young Handlers



KIDS for KIDS cont'd

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Patricia Parker MBE Founder Kids for Kids

Contact Details & more photographs:
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Tel: +44 (0)795720644

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Your vet will charge for blood sampling

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF TWO KENT GOAT FARMERS

By Pat Crawford

Meet Deborah Vernon and David Shannon and hear all about their typical working day.

What sort of farm is it?

Primarily goats - although we also have a small suckler herd of pedigree Sussex cattle.

At what age did you start?

When I was three, an aunt used to sing nursery rhymes to me – one of them was *Paddy McGinty's Goat* and I was smitten with goats from then onwards.

Who or what has inspired you?

I actually did a degree in archaeology and I worked as an IT consultant for many years, but I loved programmes like *The Good Life* and I was always reading about goats and visiting people who kept them. David came from a farming background, had gone into engineering but wanted to get back into agriculture. He was a successful racing driver and said that he would buy me a goat if he won a particular championship in Europe. He won and I acquired my first goat. He won the same championship twice more and gave me two more goats!

How long have you been in the farming industry?

We started the enterprise in 2004 but we didn't start milking until 2006.

What training did you have?

Coming from a farming background, David had acquired knowledge and skills as a part of growing up. My own

training has been very much 'on the job', I joined Kent Goat Club and made some very helpful contacts.

Tell us about the goats

All our goats are pedigree British Saanen, British Alpine and British Toggenburg. We have just over 200, including seven adult males we keep for breeding. The kids are born between mid-February and April. This year we are expecting one lot of quads, several triplets and a lot of twins. We keep all the females - the male kids are either sold to local butchers or direct to London restaurants.

The goats are kept in a very large barn with access to outdoors all the time – quite unusual in goat farms – but, during the winter months they prefer to be inside.

Describe your working day

We get up about 5-5.30am and I usually begin with door-to-door deliveries to nearby villages while David starts the milking. The goats are given feed while they're milked, the others we feed afterwards. Routine does vary but I might then spend the day making cheese. It takes a full day to make about 40 kilos of cheese using something like 400 litres of milk. Whilst I am cheesemaking, David is probably carrying out contracting work for other local farmers. We milk again at about 5.30pm, feed, then there is the paperwork and other chores. Supper is usually about nine o'clock.

Tells us about the farm itself

The farm is owned by David's parents.

There are 70 acres, most of which are rented out to other farmers for grazing and arable production. We ourselves rent another 40 acres of grassland and we make our own hay and straw using as few sprays as possible. We source feed very carefully, with most bought from local farmers.

We built our own dairy but, at the moment, we can only milk two goats at a time. This month will see the unveiling of our new unit and we shall be able to milk twelve goats at a time. The milk is 'raw' – that is, unpasteurised. There is increasing demand for goat's milk and some we bottle and sell door-to-door. We also make two of our own cheeses. One is a mild, soft cheese - the other is a Camembert-type. We wholesale some cheese but a lot of it is sold to local restaurants and pubs. The regulations relating to the milk are very strict.

We had to obtain licences from the Dairy Hygiene Inspectorate, Trading Standards and Environmental Health, who all undertake regular inspections, some of which are spot checks. We work closely with Jane Bowyer – she trained at Hadlow College – who owns Cheesemakers of Canterbury. Jane takes some of our milk and we also supply Taywell for their goats' milk ice cream.

We are all members of Produced in Kent, the promotional organisation that is owned jointly by Hadlow College and Kent County Council.

Do you compete at shows?

We did, but now we restrict ourselves to selling cheeses and other products. We share a stand with Jane Bowyer in the Produced in Kent area at the Kent Show and the Euro Fair at Canterbury and we also do the ploughing matches and are regular participants in a number of Farmers' Markets.

Marks out of 10 for job satisfaction?

Can I say 11? No? Well then, emphatically 10!

GET IN TOUCH

Ellie's Dairy

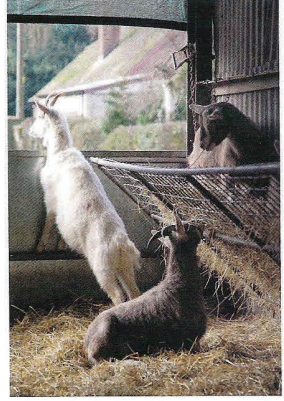
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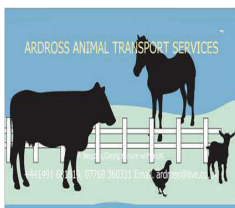
Article by Pat Crawford. Photos by: Manu Palomeque

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A DAY IN THE LIFE

AATS

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BGS FORUM

Fly Problem:-

Has anyone got any ideas as to how to get rid of my fly problem. The goat house is always full of them. All the windows are open and end top doors when I can but still the goats are plagued by them. Especially one old BT whose legs are often black. I spray her with fly repellent and they just go straight back. We have lost track on how many different kinds of fly repellent we have tried. I give them cider vinegar in their drinking water and garlic granules and even that doesn't work. We have a fly killer thing hung up but they don't seem to go near it - we use fly papers which are full in a day. We also have a fly trap thing that smells foul but even that doesn't seem to help cut the numbers. On a night time we go round squashing them on the beams when they are sat around. Any suggestions would be great as I feel so sorry for the goats. Many thanks Val

Have you tried oil of citronella Val? Wiped over them on a cloth. Used to use that on our horses but I never had a fly problem with the goats so don't know how effective it would be. Also I recently bought some Fly 21 for a client. Incredibly expensive but maybe it works:-

<http://www.no-more-flies.co.uk/why-use-twenty-one.php> C.x

I would cover every open door and window with a fine fly mesh, with the entrance door covered by the type that you can walk through, (mesh strips) and teach the goats how to go through it. Combine this with a fly spray and repel-

lent, may not stop them all but would reduce them and you could also use an electric zapper like they do in kitchens. Fay.

Although I have not used "Deosect" on my goats I do use it on my horses and it is the most effective fly repellent I have ever used. Please check first that it is safe to use on goats ;o) I also spray the horse rugs and sometimes the straw with it, a small capful goes a long way. Julia

Hi. We have found that keeping everything very clean before the fly season starts, power washing the inside of the building such as walls, gates, floors as helped, clean out bedding completely and disinfect at least weekly as any muck/urine build up just attracts the horrible critters. We have also moved the muck pile away from the goats and buildings and now use a small trailer with a piece of wood as a lid. We also have the electric blue light fly killers hung up high just above each door and window. B&Q do one for about £15.00 each which are very effective. The collection tray on the bottom can be screwed off so that any zapped flies just fall to the floor. Power phase fly spray for horses is also very good. Dawn (Who lives next to the farm called Midgehole!)

I have a different approach from Dawn - and I have to confess that we aren't great chuckers-around of disinfectant, or even water, because our drainage system is archaic to say the least! (Our goat shed is an old cowshed).

Instead, our goats have cubicles with

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raised wooden sloping floors covered with cubicle mats. These cost a lot to start with, but last a long time and obviate the necessity for buying in straw.

First thing every morning the whole place, including the cubicles, is very thoroughly swept and fresh sawdust/shavings are sprinkled in the cubicles. During the day while the goats are out in the field, my husband gives the floor another brief sweep so that it's reasonably clean when they come in. The only area which has bedding and which gets disinfected is the kidding pen during the appropriate season. I can honestly say we have no flies at all in our goat house, only the two bumblebees that live in holes in the roof! Our muck gets barrowed away a couple of hundred yards to be mulch for our willow plantation - and there aren't that many flies there either! Margaret

I had a similar system to Margaret but with cubicle matting fixed onto wooden pallets and covered in shavings/any waste hay to keep the (longhaired) goats clean & dry. Mats and floors were swept am & pm. Goats were out most of the day. Can't say I ever had many flies around but I think it varies a lot with location. C.x

Hi Val, All the advice given so far sounds great to me, and there are dozens (as I am sure you know) of sprays. I find Phazer a very effective spray however it is very chemical laden and so I am often cautious about using it. I live in a valley next to a river and the fields adjacent to

mine are grazed by cattle which I am sure everyone knows attract flies like nothing else. Cow dung is a fly's paradise. Anyway the potential for lots of flies is enormous but a few things I do have really made a difference.

1. Red Top Fly Traps: If you have not already tried these; do! The stink like nothing else but once up and in use and used every year I believe they make a difference, just be sure to site it away from your goat house.

2. Relocate and cover your muckheap: Move the muck heap as far away from your goat accommodation as possible and cover it with a tarpaulin.

3. I am not sure what bedding material you use or the type of set up you have but I have a concrete building with no drains, two windows, a stable door and a large up and over garage door. I find that plenty of ventilation is a must. Muck out as frequently as possible, if your deep littering then ensure you muck out and wash out the goat house asap as spring approaches, so that the goat house is a less attractive place for flies to lay eggs etc. I pen my goats individually on a layer of sawdust (to absorb the wee) covered in straw. I remove the fresh poo and urine soaked straw daily and add clean straw. This kind of daily 'housekeeping' reduces the amount of suitable breeding space for flies. Also keeping the goat house well swept out, make sure there is not spilt food about and observe a generally high level of cleanliness; it is hard work for me sometimes but a fresh goat house is so much

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more pleasant for me and the goats to be in. 4. Fly Control Products: TO be honest these are a bit hit and miss, the best things I have used are large sticky fly papers, In my goat house I used the ones which come in a small tube and you pull them out and pin them up, several hung securely from the ceiling out of the goats reach and changed when full destroy and lot of breeding female flies. Other things to try are the things other posters have mentioned and also diatomaceous earth in amongst your bedding and possibly the fly sprays you can get for farms which fog the whole building. I am not all that comfortable with very aggressive chemical solutions so I have not used the sprays but I am reliably informed they work well. I think the most important thing to do find out where the flies are coming from, if they are breeding outside on for example the muck heap to in a stagnant pond or even just waterbutts etc then deal with these 'nursery areas'. If they are breeding in the goat house then the best thing to do would be a totally gut out of the goat house and wash and disinfect. I did that very job in April this year as I was starting to notice the first flies and now in July I still have a very fresh, almost fly free goat house. Deal with the breeding ground for the flies and the flies will reduce in number too. Best of Luck, I hate flies even though they are ecologically vital they drive me mad! Darylandgoats

Many thanks to everyone who has replied to my cry for help its much appreciated. Val

Blue Tongue Virus

Great Britain is now officially a blue-tongue-free zone.

The impact of this change of status means that from this date:

- Vaccination against bluetongue virus will no longer be permitted in Great Britain;
- There will no longer be any specific bluetongue conditions for exports of susceptible livestock (including to Northern Ireland) from Great Britain.


There is no change to the rules for imports into Great Britain from countries/ areas that remain within bluetongue restricted zones. A map and table of bluetongue restricted zones can be found at ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/controlmeasures/bluetongue_en.htm

Bluetongue susceptible animals from these areas will need to continue to meet the conditions set out at **Annex III** of EC Regulation 1266/2007, unless they are move directly to slaughter. This is important as it will ensure that the bluetongue virus does not return to the country through moves from these areas. The conditions most likely to be used for such imports would be:

- vaccination plus 60 day wait
- vaccination plus a test 14 days after onset of immunity
- booster vaccination within time period of immunity

A copy of the Bluetongue Regulations can be found at the following link,


eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:2007R1266:20090214:EN:PDF




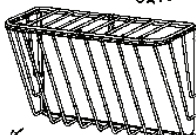
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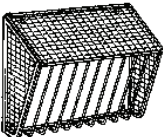
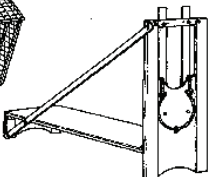


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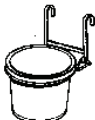

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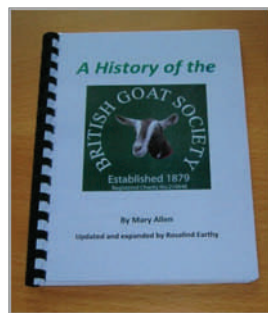
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