

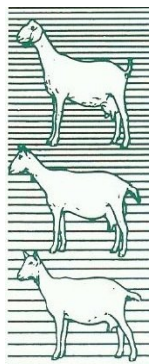
BRITISH GOAT SOCIETY



October 2012
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Volume 105

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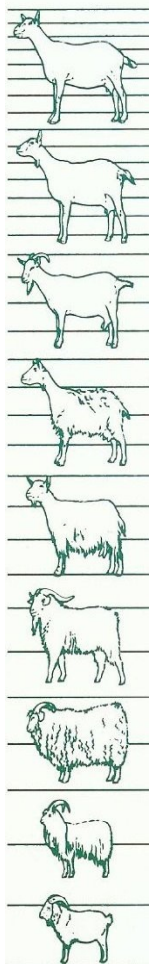
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BRITISH GOAT SOCIETY*Registered Charity No: 210646*

Gibshiel, Tarsset, Hexham, Northumberland NE48 1RR

Tel/Fax 01434 240 866

Email: secretary@allgoats.comWebsite: www.allgoats.com**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

The goat tower at Fairview Farm, South Africa. First published in the Canadian magazine, Goat-Keeper in June 2012 & reprinted with permission. (<http://www.fairview.co.za/> for more pictures)

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NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

The last month has been a relatively quiet one – behind the scenes, committee members have been focusing on various matters, in particular 2013 subscription rates. A decision was taken at the last committee meeting to introduce a two tier subscription rate for Affiliated Societies to take account of the fact that some Societies may not wish to receive publications owing to the majority of their membership already receiving these in their own right as individual BGS members. The committee is conscious of the costs associated with paying BGS membership and also paying subscriptions to various Affiliated Societies and anxious if possible to make it easier for Affiliated Societies to attract and encourage new members, and retain existing.

Last month I asked members for observations regarding the CAE scheme proposals – could I ask that if you wish to make your views known to me, please do so by the end of October. Nick Clayton has agreed to attend our November committee meeting to give an input/update about CAE and I would like to feedback to him prior to the meeting.

Michael Ackroyd has kindly agreed to produce our next Year Book and I'm sure you will have noticed his appeal for copy in last month's journal – I would urge anyone who is thinking about submitting an article / herd profile or advertising material for this publication to get it to Michael by the copy deadline.

Agnes Aitken.

SHOW UPDATES

September Booklet

Brecon 4th August

Goatling T (4/3) 1st Thomas's Llandavel Stargazer, 2nd Thomas's Llandavel Blossom, 3rd Ogborne's Kerborne Cappachino

Edenbridge & Oxted 26th August

Butterfat % and Protein % for Cornpitts Lalunar should read:

Name	Reg No	Yield	BF%am	BF% pm	Pro%am	Pro%pm	Mths	Pts
Cornpitts Lalunar Q* BT027505D		3.75	5.15	5.24	3.43	3.33	3.6	22.21

BRITISH GOAT SOCIETY AWARDS

July Booklet

Ayrshire County 11th May

BCC BA Broadwater Persephone (f) Res (n/a)

Devon County 17th May

BCC AN Roundswell Amy

Royal Welsh Smallholders 19th May (Males)

BCC's BG, S, T, CM (n/f)

Tregaron 27th May

BCC's BG, GG, S (n/f)

August Booklet

Highland Goat Club Spring (Females) 27th May

BCC BA Rogerian Quoquo (f) Res (n/a)

September Booklet

Cheshire County 19th June

IPCC Charnocks Bronroza

NEW MEMBERS

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

Ms Edwards, Dyfed; Ms Moore, Devon; Mr Duarte, Surrey; Mr & Mrs Taylor, Devon;
Mrs Salmon, Hertfordshire; Norfolk Lavender, Norfolk; Mr Bryson, Perthshire;
Mrs Giakalis, Derbyshire; Ms O'Connor, Isle of Skye; Mrs Warwick, Gloucestershire

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Dear Members

Do remember the Autumn Conference on 3rd November hosted by the Northern England Goat Club at the Hired Lad, Penrith, Cumbria. Details September Journal page 201. See you there!!

When using the Grassroots online system to log on through Members Online you will need to use your “five digit” membership number which is usually printed on the envelope or label containing items from the BGS office. Do note that membership numbers became 5 (five) digits with the introduction of Grassroots.

Please let the BGS office know if a male goat is going on loan this season, or is already on loan. A note can then be added to the data base.

Service certificates can be registered online through Grassroots and your “Manage Your Herd” link. Do remember to complete the name of the goat served, print a service certificate off for the owner and “Submit to Breed Society”. The service certificate is downloaded at the office in the same way as registrations and transfers. A note is made on both sire & dams data ready for kids to be registered. There is no charge for service certificates.

If you have articles and photographs that can be printed in the Monthly Journal, they are always welcome. Are there photographs of our young goatkeepers from shows or at home and from commercial herd members? Do you have a suitable photograph for the cover of the December Journal!

Michael Ackroyd is asking for articles, adverts and photographs for the 2013 Year Book. Full details on the next page.

Enclosed with your Journal is a Goat Parasite Survey being run by Katherine Cornall, a veterinary student at Bristol University. Katherine explains the survey on page 231 of this Journal. You can help further the knowledge of internal and external parasites problems, by completing and returning the survey to Katherine. Freepost label included.

Best Wishes
Jane

BRITISH GOAT SOCIETY YEAR BOOK 2013

We are now preparing and booking advertising and photographic space for the 2013 Year Book of the British Goat Society. This is the premier and flag ship publication of the British Goat Society and is read by well over a thousand goat keepers in the UK and also by a significant number of overseas goat breeders too. We would like to invite you to book your space with us for the 2013 edition.

All Breed Champion stock should be featured in our Year Book, the cost is reasonable and it is a legacy.

Our rates are very reasonable for this quality A5 full colour publication:-

HALF PAGE £35

FULL PAGE £60

Please book your space NOW by emailing me at: michael_ad@live.com
Or telephone 01483 825 836

You will then be invoiced for payment and copy is required by 30th November 2012

Thank you for supporting us in these times, it is VERY much appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any technical specifications.

I am also pleased to accept articles of interest for consideration for publication. Contact me for details ASAP.

Michael Ackroyd

MALPAS MELBA PERPETUAL CHALLENGE TROPHY

Applications are now invited for the Malpas Melba Perpetual Challenge Trophy. If you believe your goat qualifies for this could you please contact the British Goat Society Secretary no later than 31 December 2012. To qualify we would advise that the total aggregate yield must exceed 10,000 kilos. If you have a goat that qualifies and you wish to apply for the award please submit the relevant lactation certificate(s) to the Secretary before the closing date. The Trophy details are below:

The "Malpas Melba" Perpetual Challenge Trophy to be awarded each year to the goat which has qualified for a "star" and which has the highest aggregate officially recorded milk yield, such yield to commence when the goat is first recorded and to terminate at the end of the recording year in which the award is made. The yield of any part lactation up to the latter date shall be included, and the goat's decease prior to, or failure to be in milk at the final qualifying date, shall not disqualify.

The trophy to be held for one year by the person in whose ownership the goat is registered on the final qualifying date.

Dear Editor,

As a commercial enterprise specialising in the nutritional requirements for goats for over 30 years, we have tried to refrain from commenting with regard to efficacy, preferring to simply let our products speak for themselves. Indeed with any articles I myself have written, I have tried to honestly tackle the subject as a whole without resorting to product placement as this, in my opinion, can detract from the content and possibly create a certain amount of scepticism in the reader.

The reason for this uncharacteristic outburst of self-promotion is that I have noticed a significant amount of advertising and related copy in your June issue that is not strictly accurate. The article by Kym Moore promoting Premium Goat Balancer (launched this year I understand), states “until now the vast majority of goatkeepers have had to settle for second best by adopting products into their feeding regime that were originally formulated for either cattle or sheep.”

As a brief background, I formulated Caprivate vitamin and mineral feed supplement for goats in 1981 after several years of extensive nutritional research whilst working as a formulations chemist in a leading veterinary company. I gathered data from a number of universities around the world on the subject of goat nutrition and discussed relevant studies with a number of professors who were specialists in their field. Naturally Caprivate has been updated and improved over the years and there is now also an

Angora version. We have continued to develop a whole range of products suitable or specifically designed for the goatkeeping fraternity (or maybe that should be sorority!), here at our factory in Kent. We launched Caprotein in 1985: a 28% protein feed concentrate designed exclusively for dairy goats which enables the goatkeeper to let the product down with locally available oats or barley and to control the protein percentage levels of the final feed. There are many standard commercial goat feeds available: Dodson & Horrell or Page & Allen, to name but two.

I am a little surprised that a “new mineral product” advertised as a “natural food supplement” has customers reporting “sustained body condition of male adults throughout rutting” (!) and that “tan coloured goats have emerged as black and white with feet and hoof issues also being resolved” – What?

I am more than a little surprised that a “natural” product has been “formulated to benefit all breeds and types of goat including milking, Boer, Pygmies and the companion goat.”.....

I would humbly suggest, in the interests of accuracy, that a brief check on the Internet by way of researching this article would not have gone amiss prior to its publication.

Bruce Dolby C. Chem MRSC
Goat Nutrition Ltd
www.gnltld.co.uk

Monmouth Show



Top: Cheswell Octakimba Best in Show

*Above: Monmouth Show Goat Section Stewards left to right are: Ruth Candy, Jan Oliver and Betty Green.
(Photos: Brian Perry)*

*Left: Tom Millington (7years) receiving 1st prize for Child Handler from judge Brian Perry. Tom is handling Highschool Degree owned by Ada & Douglas Cole
Photo: Douglas Cole*

RUTH CANDY AT THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE SHOW



Tony Smith presenting Ruth Candy with her 80th birthday cake at The Royal Berkshire Show.

Miss Candy is secretary to the Gloucestershire Goat Society.

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SCRATCHING THE SURFACE? GOATS AND PARASITES

Most veterinarians in the UK know little about goats, largely considering them as fleece-less sheep, greatly underestimating their importance and overlooking the many husbandry and welfare issues that are particular to goats. As a veterinary student at the University of Bristol, I am all too aware that the teaching of goat medicine is fairly minimal, despite their growing value in the UK. However, we are trying to change this, by carrying out research at Bristol University into one of the most significant problems to affect goat husbandry - parasites.

Both vets and farmers are becoming more and more aware that goats have specific problems with parasites that make them very different from sheep, for example their lack of immunity and requirement for higher doses of wormers. Sheep rarely get sarcoptic mange, while it is the commonest type of mange in goats. However, we still have a very limited understanding of the biology of the most significant skin parasites or worms in goats or how best to control them, making this an urgent area for research.

At the University of Bristol we are in the very early stages of a study looking into the parasite problems experienced by British goats. We hope to use this information to help improve veterinary knowledge of goat parasites, with the long-term aim of benefitting goat welfare and bringing economic benefits for goat farmers themselves. With better knowledge of the species that affect goats and the time of year that problems occur, we can estimate the best time to give worming drugs to ensure that they are effective and minimise the chances of the development of resistance, allowing farmers to use the drugs more economically and for a longer period of time.

You can help us with this! Enclosed in this issue of the BGS monthly journal is a survey asking you about the parasite problems you have experienced with your goats in the last year (if any). From large dairy herds housed year-round, to small organic producers, we want to hear from goat owners in every sector of the industry. Even if you have not experienced parasite problems on your farm, this is also important, and we still want to hear from you so we can get a clear picture of the prevalence of parasitic disease in the UK.

Please fill in the questionnaire enclosed with this Journal and return it to the address shown as soon as possible. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Katherine Cornall

OFFICIALLY RECORDED YIELDS

Lactation Certificates have been received for the following milkers this year. They are published here unverified and will be published in Herd Book 138 after verification.

These are "extended" lactations

Where (lactation 1 or 2) appears in brackets it indicates that further lactation figures are also being published for that goat, in this Journal.

Goats Name	Yield	Ave B/fat%	AvePro%	
Homeacres Hosanna *	5548	3.3	2.70	Extended
Moonlin Dialina	4712	3.93	3.12	Extended
Moonlin Dialara	4632	3.79	3.03	Extended
Moonlin Willora	4340	3.80	2.90	Extended
Brynglas Mercedes *2	4235	3.26	2.47	Extended
Nutbrook Venetia *	4191	4.25	3.10	Extended
Toddbrook Valaquenta Q*	4187	3.33	2.59	Extended
Norbarton Dahlia	4163	2.97	2.62	Extended
Barruths Campari Q*8	3623	3.37	2.51	Extended
Hetherton Merrylass *2	3603	3.32	2.70	Extended
Zeila Kloklo *	3455	3.49	2.48	Extended
Cossin Crumble *10	3283	3.46	2.75	Extended
Zeila Krhoda *1	3265	3.38	2.68	Extended
Ardross Yvette	3232	3.13	2.57	Extended
Newtons Ruby Q*14	3215	3.25	2.73	Extended
Hetherton Korensa Q*1	3185	4.38	2.86	Extended
Toddbrook Bucklebury *1	3139	3.21	2.48	Extended
Brynglas Paige *1	3028	3.42	2.54	Extended
Ardross Xsara * (lact 2)	2970	3.97	2.68	Extended
Friarlea Bronwen	2936	3.68	2.68	Extended
Severnvale Millie *	2902	3.19	2.59	Extended
Brynglas Pegina	2894	3.33	2.28	Extended
Richlin Magicbach	2871	3.45	2.49	Extended
Anjo Cyndi	2865	4.38	2.61	Extended
Chesswood Amorey	2476	3.66	2.99	Extended
Zeila Kim	2461	3.50	2.57	Extended
Kinmea Sky Q*	2350	4.79	4.11	Extended
Penprys Megan	2235	4.29	3.01	Extended
Oakvale Nectar Q*7	2219	3.68	2.83	Extended
Gillfield Shanida *	2187	4.48	3.04	Extended
Penprys Tracy	2093	3.59	2.76	Extended

OFFICIALLY RECORDED YIELDS

Lactation Certificates have been received for the following milkers this year. They are published here unverified and will be published in Herd Book 138 after verification.

These are 365 days (or less) lactations

Where (lactation 1 or 2) appears in brackets it indicates that further lactation figures are also being published for that goat in this Journal.

Goats Name	Yield	Ave B/fat%	Ave Pro%
Charnocks Bronzena *5	2634	3.57	2.47
Ardross Yvette	2400	3.15	2.56
Ardross Wazaat	2262	2.93	2.55
Toddbrook Bucklebury *1	2250	3.15	2.50
Ardross Xsara * (lact1)	2158	3.95	2.70
Severnvale Maria *1	2131	2.99	2.59
Monach Betony *	2102	4.15	2.73
Moonlin Dialora	2099	3.82	3.12
Willbeck Bridie *	2068	3.9	2.81
Rouval Wyannalise	2038	3.19	2.72
Oakvale Tulip Q*	2032	4.34	2.90
Ashdene Marypoppns Q*1	2025	4.00	2.84
Airways Esther Q*	1896	3.56	2.60
Newtons Crystal *14	1888	3.29	2.68
Moonlin Wendella	1849	3.63	2.86
Zeila Katya *	1829	3.31	2.60
Moonlin Wendora	1828	3.62	2.73
Moonlin Lucella	1826	3.76	3.16
Mineshop Mistletoe *7	1824	3.21	2.71
Ashdene Mischa Q*1	1808	3.41	2.78
Timyon Minibirdie *4	1805	4.04	2.84
Chanom Demelza *	1792	4.01	2.61
Nightshaze Lily Q*2	1772	3.82	3.16
Charnocks Bronelka *6	1763	3.89	2.62
Mineshop Monika *8	1758	3.57	2.78
Severnvale Daisy	1749	3.06	2.46
Yorgan Rebecca *	1746	3.54	2.86
Naypauls Vequitta *	1728	3.77	2.85
Ashdene Minerva Q*2	1711	3.80	2.90
Porthrhiw Ffreya	1707	3.54	2.92
Mineshop Bara *1 (lact 2)	1696	4.72	3.60

OFFICIALLY RECORDED YIELDS

Goats Name	Yield	Ave B/fat%	Ave Pro%
Anjo Chelsy *7	1690	3.43	2.85
Monach Conifer *17	1689	5.26	3.41
Moonlin Lyria	1682	3.76	2.98
Yorgan Jessica *	1669	3.07	2.82
Homeacres Hannamay *1	1648	3.52	2.88
Toddbrook Yazoo Q*1	1639	3.21	2.52
Brynglas Pelina *	1633	2.94	2.37
Jemaly Belladonna Q*3	1620	5.44	3.59
Homeacres Hamble	1617	3.75	3.14
Ivans Truelove	1616	4.20	3.44
Charnocks Bronsybil Q*5	1616	3.67	3.08
Rowangate Capella Q*	1588	3.72	3.10
Treval Zafirah *3	1586	3.72	2.94
Cossin Cress *9	1584	3.54	2.93
Monach Doronicum *1	1581	4.42	2.87
Moonlin Willara	1565	3.50	2.55
Balafark Skyee *	1562	3.46	2.93
Zeila Klarah	1562	3.51	2.65
Jacmar Amethyst	1557	3.21	2.87
Guneryhite Cambodia	1550	3.85	3.03
Mineshop Miah Q*7	1538	3.65	2.50
Caulan Mystique *2	1525	3.01	2.68
Tyegronon Ggabbana Q*7	1523	4.76	4.10
Crayshill Charm	1518	3.77	2.70
Hetherton Psychic Q*	1515	4.59	2.97
Bawnowlaig Donnfhla	1480	3.79	3.23
Bawnowlaig Ncliona	1464	4.13	3.05
Charnocks Bronolive	1448	3.55	2.83
Alailah Violette	1444	2.93	2.68
Abbotswell Buttons Q*1	1440	6.31	4.12
Stefash Ellie Q*5	1431	4.87	3.91
Albadora Tango	1427	3.80	3.07
Willobrook Umillie *	1424	3.77	2.68
Homeacres Honyblosom	1421	3.71	3.01
Baggerbush Mystery	1399	3.40	2.86
Coppershel Rowan *1	1397	3.47	2.91
Dalbury Amy *1	1394	3.95	2.95
Motown Mazelle *3	1390	4.26	3.00
Hurstpier Pimienta Q*8	1371	4.86	3.85

OFFICIALLY RECORDED YIELDS

Goats Name	Yield	Ave B/fat%	Ave Pro%
Nitram Aylesha Q*1	1359	4.32	3.82
Poplartime GipseY Q*	1357	4.72	3.60
Willyn Ladypoppy	1356	3.74	3.12
Mineshop Melianthus *6	1339	3.15	2.56
Kaydee MonfreyA *	1323	4.31	3.08
Willyn Blackstar	1322	3.19	2.91
Oakvale Aster Q*1	1317	3.72	2.66
Maltmans Lady	1314	3.14	2.49
Burnhead Ava	1308	4.17	3.43
Carrick Caitlin *6	1302	4.02	3.22
Willyn Ladylucy	1300	3.71	3.01
Northcourt Xanda Q*7	1296	4.72	3.72
Moonlin Willina	1293	3.43	2.71
Dulyn Medi	1284	3.54	2.72
Wilowriver Orangina *	1284	4.48	3.40
Alailah Ruby *3	1280	3.44	2.77
Monach Balsam *	1280	4.87	3.53
Willobrook Upsaphoebe *	1279	3.37	2.54
Maltmans Ellie	1278	3.36	2.77
Jumay Shiloh *	1263	4.82	2.99
Buckenhill Eve	1242	3.15	3.00
Mineshop Bara *1 (lact 1)	1235	4.25	3.77
Wilowriver Coco	1234	3.76	3.36
Woolsome Aluminium *3	1234	3.69	3.15
Bawnowlaig Ncliodhna	1198	3.85	2.99
Penprys Eve	1186	2.61	2.08
Vicarshill Diamond (lact2)	1182	3.88	2.99
Everest Vanessa	1180	3.54	2.94
Coppershel Moss Q*	1179	4.10	2.93
Poplartime Catriona	1174	4.40	3.31
Vicarshill Diamond (lact1)	1152	3.92	3.16
Poplartime Electraa	1147	4.42	3.70
Michsica Capricole Q*2	1144	4.00	3.04
Ivans Diana	1143	4.85	3.76
Penprys Gwladys	1139	3.04	2.31
Poplartime Eleanor	1134	4.60	3.47
Willyn Blacklace	1125	3.30	2.83
Stefash Minnie Q*5	1124	4.73	4.20
Woolsome Phosphorus	1121	4.05	3.27

OFFICIALLY RECORDED YIELDS

Goats Name	Yield	Ave B/fat%	Ave Pro%
Woolsome Sulphur	1120	3.13	2.61
Vicarshill Lullabell *	1096	4.61	3.39
Anjo Corisia	1085	3.31	2.51
Poplartime Grace	1082	4.49	3.44
Norbarton Gail *1	1077	3.26	2.67
Guneryhite Wistful *1	1074	4.45	3.53
Naypauls Ursula Q*	1067	3.03	3.69
Buckenhill Elly	1054	3.33	2.96
Mineshop Modesty *	1049	3.68	2.84
Windsinger Calypso Q*5	1045	5.44	3.78
Anjo Chance	1044	3.29	2.74
Monach Dafodil Q*18	1040	5.06	3.69
Prastens Capriccio	1040	3.67	2.79
Brynglas Migena	1039	3.49	2.69
Willobrook Ulani	1037	4.36	3.82
Nantclyd Tottington	1029	4.93	3.99
Lyncol Rufiji Q*2	1025	4.13	2.94
Outgate Sherbetdab	1021	3.52	3.24
Albadora Smithsgirl	1017	4.27	3.17
Zeila Katriona	1009	3.09	2.67
Willowlane Gwyneth *1	1008	4.36	3.51
Ardross X *5	1008	4.97	3.52
Yonderwood Briana	1005	3.69	3.32

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ON WEDNESDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2012
10.30AM START
PRE REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL—PLEASE CONTACT SIAN MERCER
ON 0845 458 2711 OR EMAIL: SIANMERCER@RABDF.CO.UK

WILLOWBANK HERD DIARY

Although most members will know about the Willowbank herd here is a short introduction for those that don't! I moved down from North Yorkshire just before Christmas 1995 to help my mother who was terminally ill. I brought with me my Toggenburg goats, sheep and dogs. I still have the goats but the sheep have gone and I have two new dogs and two young cats and I now keep house for my father who is 99 years young and still active. I have always shown the goats but now only do about six shows a year plus a couple of exhibitions as I have to arrange a sitter for Dad when I am away overnight. The goats live out all the time running in paddocks that border the Grand Union Canal, there are trees and field shelters in all paddocks and the milkers come in for milking and feeding and at kidding time. The rest are fed outside and only stay in if they are sick. I find that this routine suits them very well and I have a very hardy, healthy herd of Pure Toggenburgs, who are not bothered by adverse weather!

1st Aug: Up early this morning as we were at Bakewell Show and first inspection was 6 30am. We had had rain overnight and a shower while doing morning milking but it stayed fine for showing which was all finished by lunchtime. The beauty of Bakewell is having a short walk across the river and you are in the town centre, so I was able to get some spare containers for my gaz lamp and we could go and buy supper without having to take a car. We stayed over and moved the girls nearer the front of the goat area so they had company overnight.

We had more rain and as it was damp again decided to pack up and come home early, which gave us time to unpack and clean out once we were home.

3rd Aug: Went over to Mary Ardens Farm, which is part of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and where I am now the goat advisor having helped to organize the purchase and arrival of two GG kids. I am supplying the milk for them and also organized a walk with young visitors taking it in turns to lead the kids, a great success all round. Finished the day by cutting all the lawns.

4th Aug: Had to clean out the car as off to a family wedding in the morning and couldn't put wedding clothes amongst the goat hairs and hay! My nephew was getting married in the afternoon so I was staying overnight at the venue near Tetbury. Decided it is easier to pack for a show!

5th Aug: Had to leave a pen ready for two milkers and a kid who were coming to board while their owners had a break, they are rather wild so had to be kept in over night so that Lind, who house and father sits would be able to deal with them. I left for Tetbury at 10am and arrived at the Kingscote Barn about noon, the rest of the family were there and I joined them and we booked into our rooms and had a look round to see where everything was. It is the most beautiful place, right out in the country, approached by a long drive through corn fields. A long barn has been converted into double en-suite rooms and another large barn contains the reception area and

WILLOWBANK HERD DIARY

the main galleried function room. The bridegroom was busy sorting out last minute things and we had time to relax before getting ready for the ceremony at 2.30pm. The weather was kind and after an early shower the sun came out and we were able to enjoy the garden while the wedding breakfast was laid up. Later we enjoyed a disco which went on until the small hours. It was lovely to be able to slip back to my room to change shoes etc and later was able to retire without upsetting anyone.

6th Aug: Hooray! A lie in and time to have a cup of tea in bed before joining the others for breakfast, packing up and saying goodbye to family and friends and returning home. A short but very welcome break

7th Aug: Busy day doing chores and struggling with the boarders, one of whom sits down into the milking bucket as well as trying to jump through the heck on the milking stand. Went up to look at the hay that came off my neighbour's field and booked what I need as it is good. Had to finish off the entries etc for the club show and print off catalogues and judges book.

9th Aug: Laura was down to help and we trimmed the four boys feet, bathed all 12 goats and vaccinated all my adult goats. Cut back nettles so the goats could get into the shelters then sat in the garden to recover.

10th Aug: My birthday! Cut all the lawns, the visiting goats went home but the kid stayed here to be weaned and tamed.

Took milk over to the farm for the kids, then had supper outside and sat in the summer house till bedtime as it was such a lovely evening.

11th Aug: Laura and I packed all the showing gear and two Gazebo's into the car ready for tomorrow's show and hitched up ready for an early start for the WGS members show.

12th Aug: Goats milked, loaded and away by 7.50am we arrived on site an hour later to find the standings up and the ring mown. We put up the gazebos and Linda arrived with another one and a fourth one was also loaned by a member, we set up the urn and produce tables. Exhibitors and the judge arrived and so did the rain, we delayed as the Rhodes family were on their way having been delayed by a breakdown and the rain went away. We were home just after 6pm, exhausted but pleased with the day's events.

13th Aug: Unpacking and cleaning out, cutting nettles, paperwork and gardening!

14th Aug: Washing, more nettle cutting and moved the boys into the Pit Hole. Collected goat feed and took more milk over to the farm. Went up to the village hall this evening to watch a show put on by Mikron, a theatre group who travel the canals in a narrow boat giving shows at waterside pubs and village halls. If ever you get a chance to see them they are well worth seeing

15th Aug: Another day doing household chores, washing, ironing, shopping and

Willowbank Herd Diary



Above: Willowbank goats eating willow

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Willowbank Herd Diary

bagging up hay and feed ready for Ashbourne show.

16th Aug: Bathed the three milkers and took the visiting kid to have a horn bud removed. Packed car and trailer between showers and cut the grass

17th Aug: Left home at 10am and arrived at 12 noon, goats unloaded, trailer sheeted and gazebo up before the rain came, so pleased we left early!. Later in the day Ian Johnson took us up to see his farm, a very impressive set up and totally environmentally friendly. The day ended with a fish and chip supper in Vicky Hardy's tent!

18th Aug: First inspection at 6.30am with a shower or two to start with but we showed outside and only got a little

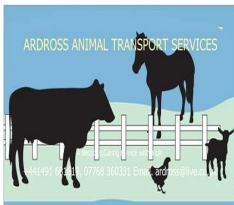
damp! The rain held off later and we were all finished by lunchtime, giving us time to look round and relax before packing up before evening milking. It was a hot day and our girls enjoyed watching the children on the bouncy slide when the tent side was dropped. Home by 8.30pm.

19th Aug: Unpacked and cleaned out and all wet sheets etc dried out in the sun, grass cut once more and sat outside til about 8pm.

22nd Aug: After a couple of days doing mundane chores both indoors and out made up for it today when the gardener/handyman came, we spent all day strimming round the long grass and overgrown brambles that were encroaching on the electric fence round the Pit Hole

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WILLOWBANK HERD DIARY

where the boys live, this has to be done every year after the hay has been cut, and we can move the fence to clear under it. This year the nettles and thistles have overrun the paddocks and got away from the goats so we had to strim them down as well. Glyn strimmed and I moved fencing and raked up all the cuttings, leaving the brambles and nettles for the goats to eat as they wanted. We finished up strimming round the chicken run and moving the two dry milkers into the orchard to tackle the nettles there. By the time I went to bed I could hardly move!

23rd Aug: A very pleasant easy day today, I took milk over to Mary Ardens for the kids, trimmed their feet and took them for a walk with some of the young visitors. Held the fort for the Falconer while she dealt with an emergency and cuddled the baby rabbits with the children. Cut all the lawns when I got home. Laura came down with her cousin to do the goats, the couple who have a boat on our mooring arrived back from a cruise and I sat and chatted with them over a G&T. A perfect end to a lovely day!

25th Aug: Started the day by trimming Heather and Turnstone's feet so they had time to settle down before the last show in a weeks time. I can only manage to do two sets at a time now. Caught up with doing the Diary on the computer then had a lazy afternoon in the summerhouse. It was very humid and a lot of thunder in the distance which suddenly arrived overhead, I was trapped in the summerhouse until the storm moved

away, the rain was torrential, the sky like ink and thunder and lightning coming together, quite spectacular!!

26th Aug: Did Lapwings feet while I had her in for milking and as it was a sunny morning put in a load of washing.

Weeded a rough area outside the goat house that had a lot of lumps of concrete in it and decided to level it out. Took out two barrow loads of black soil and coal dust (we live on an old coal wharf) and dug up three loads of rocks! Edged the area with bricks along the side and levelled the soil ready to lay slabs down at a later date. I must say it does look better!. Retired to the summerhouse to recuperate later. The canal was very busy with boats going up and down and cyclists and walkers on the towpath. Everyone taking advantage of a fine day.

27th Aug: A much cooler and damp day so took the opportunity to catch up with paper work etc. My arms were very sore from all the digging and moving rocks yesterday so I actually sat and watched a film on TV after lunch. By the time I had to go out to see to the goats it was raining hard and I needed a full set of waterproofs on.

28th Aug: Sprayed nettles and brambles and pathways and started to gather together the show equipment, bagged up feed and put a bale of hay into the travelling bag. After lunch pumped out the boat, (a 14ft Dory called "Eddie Leakes") and Laura and I took her for a run up the canal to charge up the battery. It was lovely and warm and very pleasant on the water.

Willowbank Herd Diary

29th Aug: Another very wet day. Did the grocery shopping then Laura and I went over to Mary Ardens with some goat feed and to check up on the goats, we had a torrential rain storm while we were there and it was amusing to see the visitors trying to avoid the floods, some just gave up and paddled through them. We went to the café for hot chocolate and cake before returning home to do the goats. Stayed up to watch the opening of the Paralympics, which I thought was lovely.

30th Aug: Bathed the goats after breakfast, then Laura arrived and we packed the car and trailer ready for an early start to Dorset in the morning. We took Eddie Leakes down the canal to cut branches from the willows that were overhanging the water and causing problems for boaters, returned with a huge pile which we cut up and put in the front of the trailer. We then cut more for the goats to have in the paddock. I then cut all the lawns as it would be a week before I would be back to do them again as after Dorset County I would be at the NEC for the Livestock Show and Dairy Event.

31st Aug: Up early and we left at 9.00am. We went the country route which I know and had a really good run until about 10 miles from Blandford, we came up to a traffic jam which we realised was probably going all the way as we saw signs for the Dorset Steam Fair. Out came the map and we turned down a single track road that would take us across country to Wimborne and into Dorchester from lower down. This proved to be the best thing to do as although it was further in

miles the roads were clear and we kept on the move. We finally arrived about 2.00pm and were soon unloaded and given help to park up. The goats were happy as they could watch what was going on outside the tent and were soon tucking into branches and hay. Needless to say Laura and I were not late to bed that night!!

Fay Ogden

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BOOKS

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by Lois Hetherington
3rd Edition

Veterinary section by John G. Matthews

The Goatkeeper's Veterinary Book
By Peter Dunn
4th Edition

DISBUDDING

There has been some confusion over just who can and who cannot disbud a goat kid based on two slightly contrasting pieces of UK legislation. The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (our governing body) has also given out conflicting information on this same subject, such that my veterinary practice colleagues may themselves have interpreted their obligations in slightly different ways. I have been pushing for a clear guide as to what is best practice for this procedure, that will leave both owners and their vets with the necessary guidance to ensure that they remain within the law. The recent VIVA expose in the Daily Mail did highlight disbudding as an issue of concern - and this gave the impetus for the RCVS to agree to my requests. They have made a statement which can be accessed via the link below (I hope) - making it clear that both the necessary anaesthesia (either local or general but at discretion of vet) AND the disbudding must be undertaken by a vet, and cannot now be delegated to an owner / livestock keeper / or stock person. This has also been agreed with Defra and Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency. The link is: <http://www.rcvs.org.uk/news-and-events/news/position-on-the-disbudding-of-goats-clarified/>

Regards to all,

David Harwood

CAE TESTING

I CAE test my whole herd annually and have now switched to a single test about a month before the first female is due to

kid (therefore making sure I can show kids in the unfortunate event of the nanny having died during/after kidding). That also means that the previous years kids are nearly goatlings and can be done too. However have now read that females suppress the virus during pregnancy (Pat Coleby, Natural Goat care) and was wondering if this is correct. When is the best time of year to CAE test the whole herd in one go? (It means a vet call out for me as I now have too many goats to fit into a single trailer load.)

Can I make a quick comment here.

Bear in mind that most infection is passed from doe to kid either through pregnancy or most commonly by the ingestion of contaminated colostrum / milk. That said, the speed with which antibody is produced in these kids does vary (and it is antibody that we measure). Most will be antibody positive if they are infected by 6 months old - some however may not produce antibody until they are 12 months old! If you are testing annually, I would urge you to ensure that you rely on a negative result only after they are at least one year old. There may be some suppression of virus / antibody in the later stages of pregnancy, but this is more relevant in a known infected herd where you are trying to eradicate disease than in a negative herd where you are monitoring in the way you describe.

David Harwood.

ESTRUMATE

Can anyone tell me how much Estrumate to give my goatlings and a large milker - My vet and I can't agree.

One ml was given to my goat in preparation for her laparoscopic AI, I don't know if its different for other veterinary reasons.

Only your veterinary surgeon should be administering Estrumate unless it is a specific injection provided for a particular goat, with all safety procedures being followed. Estrumate will obviously cause abortion in women & should not be administered by asthmatics. Having said that 0.5ml is the usual recommended dose in most situations.

John Matthews

WORMER

I have had a worm count done on my goats and the vet recommended they needed dosing for worms. I have been to pick up the wormer for them from the vets and it is 'Panomec' to be injected under the skin. I have never used a wormer like this before. I have always given an oral drench. Is this a suitable wormer to use on them?

Goats metabolise wormers a lot faster than do sheep, and a lot of people are concerned that they metabolise injectable wormers too fast for them to reach the gut at therapeutic levels. There is no proof of this either way, but you would probably be better using an oral wormer as a result. By fairly common consent, you should use **DOUBLE** the dose for sheep unless it is a levamisole product, in which case use 1.5 times the dose.

As all wormers are used in goats under the cascade system in the UK. For legal reasons that means that you have to accept any possible risk in use yourself,

and there can be no comeback against your vet, the manufacturer, or in this case me!! The dosage advice is as recommended by the Moredun Institute and should be safe, but in the unlikely event of an apparent adverse reaction, or failure of the wormer to be effective, that should be reported via your vet to the Veterinary Medicines Directorate.

Nick Clayton.

We have had a lice problem with our goat kids in particular, no idea why unless it is in the straw. Three different groups in different barns. Our vet gave us Panomec to use and said it was also a wormer. We have therefore dosed all the kids with Panomec, does this mean that we should do a worm count to check if it has worked.

I need to pass this to a suitable expert, but you raise more questions than you may realise! Before I do so, could you tell me whether your adult does are milked, either for producing milk for sale, or just for your consumption?

Regards as always,
Nick

We have only one goat at present who is being milked and that is mainly then fed to our pigs with a bit for the house. However she hasn't had Panomec, when wormed we normally use Oramec. The use of Panomec arose because we had a lice problem in the kids and one of our adult males. So the male was given Panomec for lice and not for worms.

The kids were due for worming and given Panomec to cover the two. We run a meat enterprise so some but not all of the male kids were dosed.

I have taken advice from John Matthews, who recommends a spot on product such as Coopers Spot On for treating lice. There are two types of lice, biting and sucking, and injectable's such as Panomec are effective against sucking lice, but not against biting lice. Panomec and other injectable macrocyclic lactones, Dectomax, Cydectin etc are metabolised faster by goats than by sheep. That MAY mean that injectable versions of this group are metabolised before they reach the gut, and would therefore not be effective against worms. This is a concern that has been raised recently, and as yet we have no clear evidence available either way, I would suggest however that you keep an eye on the kids! By the way, Peter Bates will be speaking at our meeting at Derby on November 8th on the treatment of ectoparasites, i.e Lice, mites, etc, in goats. John and I are rather looking forward to what Peter has to say!!

Regards as always,
Nick

Thank you for taking the time to look into this for us. We will certainly keep an eye on the kids and provide you with any feedback if we get it. I was hoping to attend the meeting in Derby, unfortunately at this time of year it is very difficult to get away but I shall read the papers with interest.

I returned the Panomec to my vet and

asked for a oral wormer instead. She has given me Panacur equine guard 10% w/v to use on them. Dosage: 5mls per 50kgs body weight.

A lot of breeders have found Panacur, whether equine or otherwise, to be ineffective in some areas. Would be worth getting a faecal egg count done in say 10 days time—this would show its usefulness.


We haven't used Panacur for some years as it wasn't effective for us.

I can vouch for Cooper's Spot On. We had a louse problem about 30 years ago and on vet's advice used this stuff. We've never had lice since though we still keep a bottle around in case.


We use Eprinex originally had it for Northern Mite on chickens, but works a treat on lice....and in cattle there is zero withhold on milk and meat, and is safe all through pregnancy!


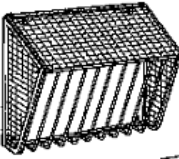
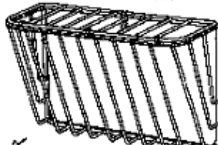
I have used Eprinex for a while now. The goats seem fine, and join in my rejoicing at not having to use oral wormers. I wonder how long one can safely go on using the same product? Any ideas on this please?


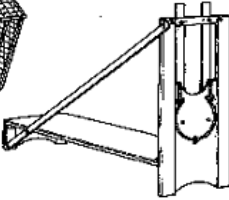
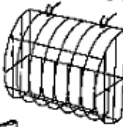
A VERY good question, and one which we hope will be answered on November 8th when Peter Bates will be giving a talk on just this subject at a meeting of the Goat Veterinary Society in Derby. Visitors welcome, cost £60 a head., bookings through me please!!!!. One concern however is that using Eprinex too often to treat ectoparasites







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Forum

can lead to resistance in any worms that the goats may be carrying. That is because goats metabolise anthelmintics very rapidly, and by the time the pour on reaches the gut, it may be at far too low a dose, though frankly we do not really know. It does appear from what I have read that sometimes it works well, and and in other cases there have been problems. It may well be that there is breed variation in how effective it is. We look forward to Peter's thoughts!
 Nick Clayton.

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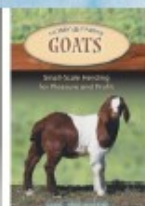


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