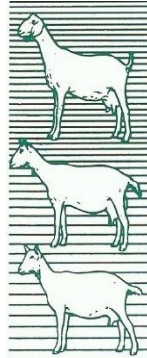


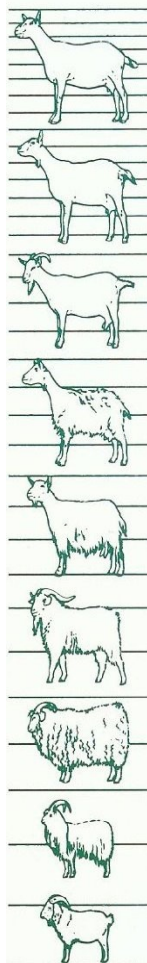
BRITISH GOAT SOCIETY



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January 2014
Monthly Journal
Volume 107

Page no 1–28

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Tel/Fax 01434 240 866

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Website: www.allgoats.com

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Copy date is the first day of the month preceding publication

All copy and advertisements to reach the editor in good time

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

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Front Cover Picture

Brooks Claire BIS at the Pure Toggenburg Breed Show, Newark. Photo by Peter Cox

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NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

In my January 2013 notes I made mention of the dreadful flooding which had been experienced in Stonehaven. This year other parts of the country have taken a battering – I hope everyone, including animals, is safe and well. Snow forecast for my area over the next few days.

Last year at one of our committee meetings it was decided to offer Gift Aid as an option to the membership. However, our accountant Charlotte Gibbs suspects this may not be an option open to the BGS so she has undertaken to make enquiries into the feasibility. As I write, I await her feedback.

It is with regret that I have to make members aware of two resignations. The first, Charlie Peck has advised he no longer wishes to continue as a licensed judge. Many thanks to Charlie for the time and effort he has put into judging throughout the period he has held his licence. The second, Graham Godfrey has advised he wishes to stand down from the BGS committee. Thanks are recorded to Graham for his attendance at meetings, the input he gave whilst there and for the project work he has undertaken to take forward the web site upgrade. I'm sure the committee and entire membership will join me in sending best wishes to both for the future.

There are still some unsold 2014 calendars – please contact Jane if you would like to buy one or more!

By the time you receive this journal, kids may be running about. I have not heard of any confirmed cases of Schmallenberg Virus in my area recently, although of course it is still very early in the season – let's hope it causes no problems this year in goats, sheep or any other species.

Agnes Aitken

NEW MEMBERS

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

Mrs Matson, USA;
 Mrs Dayan, USA;
 Mr Vangrove, Co. Antrim;
 Mrs Davies, Powys;
 Mr Parfitt, Somerset;
 Ms Skiriello & Mr Samuels, Cambridgeshire;
 Mrs Crass, Norfolk;
 Mrs Breeze, Ceredigion;

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Dear Members,

Happy New Year to you all and thank you for the good wishes and cards.

It is a New Year with new registration prices. Please check these out as the price has gone down. The new fees are printed on page 8

Subscriptions became due on 1st January. Please see next page for details of payment by Standing Order and page 16 for annual subscription prices which remain unchanged.

The first of the show applications are at the office and can be found on page 21. These will repeated in the next issue when the cups and trophies will be included.

Please remember that the next issue combines February/March.

Work is progressing well on Herd Book 139 and the 2014 Year Book.

Best Wishes
 Jane

GRASSROOTS USAGE

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TotalVisits
2010	0	0	0	0	0	57	205	178	171	161	129	102	1003
2011	133	107	133	136	155	176	170	191	173	160	147	122	1803
2012	562	538	729	805	899	980	955	869	898	794	618	570	9217
2013	773	588	825	994	1160	1168	1311	1225	1068	1001	737	615	11465

2014 SUBSCRIPTIONS STANDING ORDER'S

Subscriptions became due on 1st January 2014. If you have paid by Banker's Order (Standing Order) or BACS in previous years, please remember that our bank details have changed, so your Banker's Order will need to be changed. The November Monthly Journal included a subscription renewal form and on the back were the new banking details.

Payments on outdated Banker's Orders will be returned to you.

The price for subscriptions has not changed and remains at £35.00 and can be paid by cheque.

Members unpaid by 1st April will have their membership placed on hold and will be unable to register kids until a subscription is paid. From 1st November an unpaid membership is considered to be resigned.

CHEESE MAKING CLASS

The Gloucestershire Goat Society intend to organise a Cheese Making Class on a Saturday in March or April 2014. Starting at 10.00am to 4.00pm at North Nibley Village Hall. Charges, to be paid in advance, will be £10.00 for GGS members, £15.00 for adults and Free for young enthusiasts in full time education. Our instructor has made goat's cheese for many years, selling it at several local Farmers' Markets. If interested please contact Ruth Candy, telephone 01452 542230

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Northumberland NE48 1RR

REGISTRATION AND OTHER FEES FOR 2014

	Member	Affiliated Society
Female up to six months	£ 7.00	£14.00
Female six months to two years	£14.00	£28.00
Male up to six months	£18.00	£36.00
Male six months to two years	£36.00	£72.00
Registration in I.R. and S.R.	£5.00	£10.00
Registration by other persons in the I.R. and S.R. register		£10.00
Registration of a Prefix	£20.00	£40.00
Transfer Of Ownership	£6.00	£6.00

Bulk Registrations: Concessions to BGS members only, though you may apply for membership at the same time as applying for registrations. Applicable only to female kids under 6 months old and when more than 10 are registered at the same time.

The first ten animals are charged at 1-10 @ £7.00 each (£5.00 For IR or SR Section)

The second ten animals are charged at 11-20 @ £3.50 each

Numbers over 20 are charged at 20+ @ £2.50 each

Bulk Transfers: These prices will apply when more than 10 transfers of ownership are completed at one time.

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Numbers over 20 are charged at 20+ @ £3.00 each

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Milkers £38, £30, £22, £16, £11, £11

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SWITCH FROM DAIRY COWS TO GOATS

Lancashire farmers switch from dairy cows to goats

Farmer's Guardian 23 December 2013. By Louise Hartley & Printed here with permission.

Goats are notorious little creatures, famous for chewing their way through almost anything. Mark Gorst, who milks 1,400 goats on his farm in Dolphinholme, Lancashire knows this only too well. Farming alongside his parents John and Barbara, Mark Gorst decided to start milking goats in 2007, and since then has realised even an inch thick armoured cable is no match for a hungry goat. Faced with a poor milk price and a need for heavy investment in the farm's infrastructure, Mark and his parents decided to make the switch from milking cows to goats. Mark says: "At the time the milk price was very low, at 17 pence per litre, and if we were to continue milking cows the farm needed a new slurry lagoon, cubicles and more. We did not want to stop farming, so had to look for a different option if we wanted to stay here."

After John and Mark initially saw the goats they wanted to buy, it was just 10 days until 600 of them arrived at Dolphinholme House Farm in late-January, 2007. "They were all at the point of imminent kidding – in fact the lorry driver arrived with two newborn kids in his cab, so we had to make space for them very quickly."

For seven months, the family milked the goats alongside 180 cows, quickly selling off the cast cows, and sending the dry cows away to be wintered in order to free up more time and space. Some of the existing cow cubicles were

ripped out and made into a large straw pen and the feed trough was raised. A temporary parlour was installed, which ran parallel to the existing cow parlour. Mark says they found it relatively easy to adapt his management system as feeding a goat is similar to feeding a cow. "When milking, they each receive 1kg to 1.5kg of concentrate, at 18 per cent protein per day and ad-lib hay and haylage. "Like sheep, goats are very susceptible to listeria and it is hard to beat the disease with drugs, so hay and haylage is the best to use for scratch factor in the diet," he says.

When the last of the cows went in August, the cow parlour was replaced with a new herringbone swingover goat parlour, with the temporary parlour still being used too. "Two men milk in the new 60:30 parlour, and one man in the other," says John. "With this set-up we can easily milk 600 goats per hour. A new rotary parlour could cost up to £250,000, but we have only invested £40,000 in both parlours to achieve the same through-put rate," John adds.

In terms of breeding, goats are like sheep and are short-day breeders with a five-month gestation, says Mark.

"When the herd first arrived on-farm they were heavily in-kid, so we focused on getting them settled and kidding, knowing we could learn the breeding side of things later," adds Marks, who says good stockmanship is an essential attribute when managing goats.

SWITCH FROM DAIRY COWS TO GOATS

He explains: "Goats need very little assistance when kidding, interference in the birthing process sometimes causes more harm than good.

"Being more closely related to deer than sheep, they are very susceptible to stress and like to be left alone when giving birth. I only get involved when it is absolutely necessary." Over an average of five or six lactations in a lifetime, goats can give birth to between one and four kids per season. Newborn kids have a very low immune system, so colostrum intake is absolutely critical, says Mark. If any kids are struggling to feed from their mother they are always topped up with a bottle. After 24 hours the goat and newborn kid are separated. The mothers join the milking herd and the kids run together in a big pen, fed on special powered milk. "Goats very rarely contract mastitis so there isn't a regular supply of waste milk. The powered milk also helps keep Johne's disease under control," says Mark. "The kids are fed ad-lib milk via an automatic milk feeder, which can take about 100 kids per machine, and then weaned at five to six weeks." When born, the kids do not have any sort of immune system, John says. "They receive a clostridia, pastuerella and Johne's vaccination in the first three months, and a booster for clostridia and pastuerella at six months old."

All the billies are sold for finishing off farm, while the female kids are kept as replacements, at a rate of 25 per cent.

Post-weaning is a critical growth period for the kids, they are given ad-lib hay

and concentrate, with Mark aiming for a daily liveweight gain of 0.1kg per kid until mating.

He says: "Time of mating is governed by weight of the female, rather than age. We put the maiden goats to the billy at 32kg, usually when she six months old." The herd is scanned by the local sheep scanner, but Mark explains a scanning percentage is not as important as it would be on a commercial sheep farm, it is the positive pregnancy which is crucial. "Phantom pregnancies, or 'cloud bursts', can be a problem," says Mark. "The cause isn't clear, and their occurrence can vary, sometimes ranging from 10 per cent one year, to just one or two per cent the next. "They are easily treated with a jab of prostaglandin, which pops the sac of fluid in the uterus, with the female coming in to season again two days later."

With a gestation of five months, if the billies are put with the herd in late-September, the goats will start to kid in early February, Mark says. In the spring the herd peaks at 4,200kg per day and drops down to 2,500kg in November and December, when the goats would naturally be in season. With a national average of 40 per cent less milk produced in the winter months, many processors will give a 10 per cent premium for the milk produced during this period.

Mark therefore uses artificial light treatment to manipulate the breeding cycle of some of the herd, making the goats kid in September and therefore boosting

SWITCH FROM DAIRY COWS TO GOATS

the farm's winter milk yield.

"I decide very early on in the year which goats are given the light treatment, which are generally the maiden heifers," says Mark. On December 1 the lights are switched on and the goats receive 18 hours of light per day for three months. They are then given the hormone implant, Regulin, and should come in to season 30 days later. The billies are then put in at a rate of 40 females per billy."

Goats do not have lanolin in their wool, and by law they are only allowed outside if there is an appropriate field shelter, Mark says. "If the weather is good enough and there is enough grass about, I try to turn the youngstock out in April," he adds. "Some farmers chose not to turn their goats out, but I think they thrive very well outside. It also reduces concentrate costs, as their daily feed can be dropped to 0.5kg per goat, as well as bedding costs."

The goats need to be wormed once-a-month when out grazing and close attention must be paid to the feet, as they are extremely susceptible to foot problems, says Mark. "Foot trimming is probably the second most labour intensive job after milking, regardless of whether they are inside or out," he says. The whole herd have their feet checked and trimmed four times a year, and any goats which look lame are done as necessary, with Mark and his staff usually foot trimming 100 goats per week. "Inside the buildings we keep everywhere as dry as possible to avoid the spread of digital dermatitis and footrot.

"The collecting yard isn't washed out after each milking, but given a fresh covering of sawdust instead to minimise any moisture. It is then scraped out twice-a-week. The pens are bedded with fresh straw every day. "A newly washed out collecting yard everyday can often do more harm than good," Mark adds.

Mark's herd comprises of three different breeds. He says: "The first is the Saanan, a predominantly white goat, famed for high yields, like the Holstein cow. The next two breeds, the Toggenburg, coloured brown and white, and the Alpine, which is mostly black, are more similar to the Jersey cow, giving high proportion of milk solids."

Six years on, Mark has no regrets about making the switch from cows to goats – although does admit "you have to love them to live with them."

Dolphinholme House Farm

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130 milking sheep are also kept to utilise the land on the farm

SWITCH FROM DAIRY COWS TO GOATS

SWITCH FROM DAIRY COWS TO GOATS

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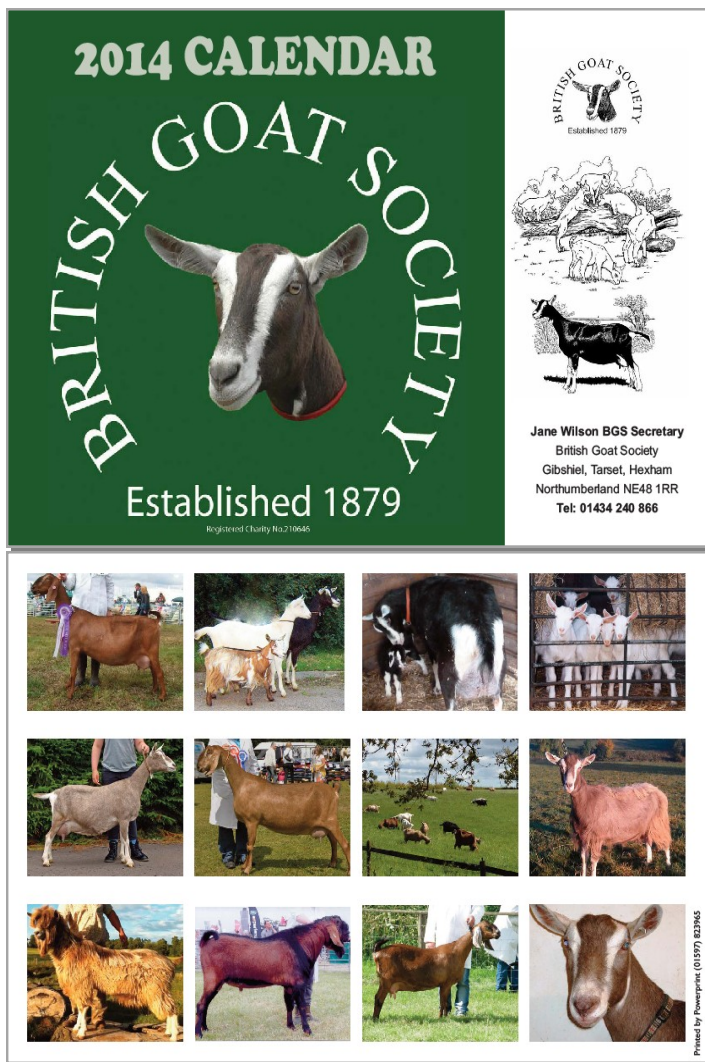
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6. As "4" plus "A" or "C breed" males	£65.00
7. Breed Shows for Affiliated Breed Societies	£25.00

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No of Goats being recorded by a member	Fee payable
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6-20	£20.00
21-40	£40.00
41+	By negotiation with the BGS Secretary

2014 BGS CALENDAR



The 2014 BGS Calendar is available from the BGS Office, priced £6.00 inc p&p
 Please send a postal order or cheque (payable to the British Goat Society) to Gibshiel,
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 Limited stock available so don't miss out!




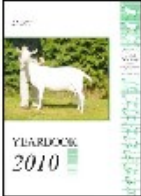




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RECOGNISED SHOWS FOR 2014

Show Name	Cup	Class'n	Dates	Judge	Entries	Secretary	Phone
Ayr County		a/c	10th May	Mr P Mounter	9th April	Mrs L Murdoch	08452011460
Nottinghamshire County Day 1		a/c/w	10th May	Mr B Perry	3rd April	Show Secretary	08702241035
Nottinghamshire County Day 2		a/c/w	11th May	Mrs M Hardman	3rd April	Show Secretary	08702241035
Balmoral			14-16th May	Mr G Smith	19th March	C McDonald	02890665225
Devon County		a/c	22-24th May	Mrs M Hardman	21st March	Mrs O Allen	01392353705
Surrey County		a/w	26th May	Mrs H Matthews	18th April	Ms A Hill	01483890810
Rutland		a/w	1st June	Mrs H Matthews	16th May	Mrs S Mangles	01777707453
South of England		a/w	5-7th June	Mr T Baker	1st April	Ms. E. Crookford	01444892700
Todmorden Agricultural Show		a/b/w	16th June	Mr B Perry	1st June	Mrs. S. Morris	01706816044
Cheshire County (m&f)		a/w	17th June	Mr N Parr	9th May	Mr. N. Evans	01565650200
Cheshire Dairy Goat Society (m&f)		a/w	18th June	Mr T Baker	9th May	Mrs. D. Rudkin	01614303805
Royal Highland		a/w	19-22nd June	Mrs H Matthews	21st April	Mrs. K Stephens	01313356212
Malton		Diploma	29th June			Mr A Stott	01653693382
Kent County		a/b	11-13th July	Mr S Jones	9th May	Mr G Charlton	01622633057
Great Eccleston		a/w	12th July	Mr R Wood	28th June	Mrs. S. Robinson	01995679204
Tendring Hundred		a/c/w	12th July	Mr G Godfrey	20th June	Ms R Foster	01206231821
Lancashire Goat Show		a/w	13th July	Mrs M Hardman	28th June	Mrs. S. Robinson	01995679204
Castlewellan Day 1		n/a	18th July	Mr M Ackroyd	20th June	Mrs J Fitzpatrick	02840638087
Castlewellan Day 2		n/a	19th July	Mrs H Matthews	20th June	Mrs J Fitzpatrick	02840638087
Royal Welsh		a/w	21-24th July	Mr G Godfrey	30th April	Mr. B. Williams	01982554403
Border Union		a/c/w	26th July	TBC	23rd June	Mr. R Wilson	01573224188
Leek & District		a/w	26th July	Mr B Perry	30th June	Mrs. O. Blakeman	01782550028
Bakewell		a/w	6th Aug	Mr N Parr	12th July	Mrs L Bain	01629812736
Sedgefield		m/w	9th Aug	Mr T Hanna	27th July	Mrs L Maughan	01388488150
Melpash Agricultural Society		a/c	21st Aug	TBC	23rd July	Mrs Lucy Hart	01308423337
Edenbridge & Oxted		a/w	24-25th Aug	Mr T Hanna	14th July	Mrs J E Shearman	01737646280
Moreton-in-Marsh		a/w	6th Sept	Mrs S Prior	19th July	Mrs L Parkes	01608651908
Stokesley		a/w	20th Sept	TBC	29th Aug	Mrs J B Huggill	01845587158
Alwalton Show		a/w	11th Oct	TBC	29th Sept	Mr C Nye	1353699413
Anglesey County		a/w	12th Oct	Mr R Pemble	29th Sept	Mr A Hughes	01407720072

Understanding Pedigrees

It is sometimes difficult to get your head around how a kid ends up in a particular section of the Herd Book.

In the hope that this article might help - here goes! The diagram applies to the following breeds: Anglo Nubian, British Alpine, British Saanen, British Toggenburg and British Guernsey

"One parent is entered in the breed section and three grandparents and the sire or dam of the fourth grandparent are entered in the breed section" is where understanding can be difficult.

THE FOURTH GRANDPARENT SCENARIOS.

Example: Breed Section Kid

BS KID	SIRE BS	BS Sire	BS Sire
			BS Dam
		BS Dam	BS Sire
			BS Dam
	DAM HB	BS Sire	BS Sire
			BS Dam
		HB Dam	BS Sire
			HB Dam

Example: Herd Book Kid

HB KID	SIRE BS	BS Sire	BS Sire
			BS Dam
		BS Dam	BS Sire
			BS Dam
	DAM HB	BS Sire	BS Sire
			BS Dam
		HB Dam	HB Sire
			HB Dam

Please note the Golden Guernsey, Saanen & Toggenburg sections of the Herd Book are closed.

Understanding Pedigrees

Please make special note of Regulation 3(b)

Anglo-Nubian

- (a) Both sire and dam are entered in this Section.
- (b) One parent is entered in this Section and three grandparents and the sire or dam of the fourth grandparent are entered in this Section.

British Alpine

- (a) Both sire and dam are entered in this Section.
- (b) One parent is entered in this Section and three grandparents and the sire or dam of the fourth grandparent are entered in this Section

British Saanen

- (a) Both sire and dam are entered in this Section.
- (b) One parent is entered in this Section and other is entered in the Saanen Section.
- (c) The dam is entered in this Section and has been inseminated with imported semen from a male recognised by the Committee as Saanen.
- (d) One parent is entered in this Section or in the Saanen Section and three grandparents and the sire or dam of the fourth grandparent are entered in this Section and/or in the Saanen Section.

British Toggenburg

- (a) Both sire and dam are entered in this Section.
- (b) One parent is entered in this Section and the other is entered in the Toggenburg Section.
- (c) The dam is entered in this Section and has been inseminated with imported semen from a male recognised by the Committee as Toggenburg.
- (d) One parent is entered in this Section or the Toggenburg Section and three grandparents and the sire or dam of the fourth grandparent are entered in this Section and/or the Toggenburg Section.

British Guernsey

- (a) Both sire and dam are entered in this Section.
- (b) One parent is entered in this Section and the other is entered in the Golden Guernsey Section.
- (c) The dam is entered in this Section and has been inseminated with imported semen from a male recognised by the Committee as Golden Guernsey.
- (d) One parent is entered in this Section or in the Golden Guernsey Section and three grandparents and the sire or dam of the fourth grandparent are entered in this Section and/or in the Golden Guernsey Section.

Jane Wilson

Keeper Information

Online movements: Keepers who wish to create movements electronically will be able to register an account on this website from April 2014. This will allow them to set up a movement (e.g. farm-farm, farm-market, farm-abattoir etc.) online. A pre-populated movement document will then be printed, to accompany the animals during transport. In the case of a farm-to-farm move, if the receiving keeper is also registered on the ARAMS system, they will be able to confirm receipt of the movement through their online account.

Online Flock / Herd register: The system will provide a voluntary online flock / herd register for keepers who use the e-reporting service. This will be free of charge. Creating an 'off' movement or confirming receipt of an 'on' movement will automatically update that ARAMS online flock / herd register. For those farmers who already have a Farm Management Package (FMP), they can either continue to use their FMP for creating movement documents or they will have the option of linking their FMP to South-Western's ARAMS system and thereby ensuring that the movements are created electronically. Similarly if they confirm receipt of a movement on their FMP, this will also update the ARAMS electronic database, once the FMP is linked to the ARAMS system.

PaPer movements: For farmers who wish to continue reporting sheep/goat/deer movements on paper, SouthWestern will provide a centralised recording service (bureau) based in Milton Keynes. This bureau will take over the paper recording service from every Local Authority in England on the 1st April 2014. Therefore rather than posting the current AML1 form to their Local Authority, keepers will instead post the new movement document to the SouthWestern bureau.

New movement documents are currently being designed. These will replace the current AML1 (Sheep & Goats) and AML24 (Deer) forms. These will be very similar to the current forms. From the 1st April 2014, farmers wishing to complete movements on paper will be required to use these new documents. They will continue to be distributed through markets and will also be available (from April 2014) by contacting the SouthWestern office. Farmers will also have the option of populating a PDF version on-line, via this website, and printing it out locally or indeed printing out the PDF version unpopulated and populating it by hand.

Cross-Border movements: It is important to note that this new service is for keepers (premises) based in England only. A system (ScotEID) is already in place within Scotland. The Welsh Government is also planning a similar system to operate there.

<https://www.gov.uk/sheep-and-goats-identification-registration-and-movement>

John Matthews

Classified Adverts

2014 KIDS FOR SALE

Pedigree kids from the Stawley herd in Somerset (www.hillfarmdairy.co.uk) available from March 2014.

All goats originally from Monach herd; otherwise, herd closed.

BGS pedigrees, CAE monitored and Scrapie registered.

Female and male, AN, BT, BS.

Contact: Adam Lockyear Tel: 07711 811980; Email: adam@hillfarmdairy.co.uk.

FOR Sale

AN Kid/Buckling Poplartime Khayam AN034726D

dob: 24.02.2013 (Proven stock getter)

Grand dam CH R135Nitram Ayliesha AN032228D Q* BrCh

AN female kid Earls Fay AN034728D

dob: 30.05.2013 Sire † Earls Enock AN034190D

Grand dam R149 Earls Jade AN031289P Q*4 BrCh

Contact Rosemary Earl Tel: 01673 828857 (Lincs)

CAE BLOOD TESTING JANUARY 2014

The Scottish Agricultural College at Inverness offers BGS members a reduced cost per blood sample if submitted on a BGS form. These forms are available from the office or to download from www.allgoats.com.

Charges are made to the vet practice and are as follows (per sample plus VAT):

1-3 samples £6.70

4-9 samples £6.00

10 + samples £5.30

Samples should be sent to:

Premium Sheep & Goat Health Schemes

SAC Inverness, Drummondhill, Stratherrick Road,

Inverness IV2 4JZ

Tel: 01463 226995

Fax: 01463 711103

Email: psghs@sac.co.uk

Your vet will charge for taking the blood samples.

Useful websites

Sustainable Control of Parasites in Sheep (SCOPS)

Relevant in part to goats, due to white wormer resistance.

<http://www.scops.org.uk/>

Show Updates

BOOKLET 6

Chertsey Day Day 2

BCC BS Ashdene Mead

Cornwal Male & Youngstock

BCC GG Rhosyn Olympus

Missing from the index in booklet 6

Tendring Hundred Booklet 4 page 5

GOVERNMENT AGRICULTURAL WEBSITES

EIRE

<http://agriculture.gov.ie>

England

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm>

Northern Ireland

<http://www.darni.gov.uk/index/fisheries-farming-and-food.htm>

Scotland

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture>

Wales

<http://www.wales.gov.uk/environmentandcountryside>

Available from the BGS Office Prices on request

DVD's

Goat Husbandry & Health

Goat Breeding & Kid Rearing

Both the above DVD's feature

Hilary Matthews with veterinary procedures demonstrated by

John G. Matthews BSc, BVMS, MRCVS

BOOKS

All About Goats

by Lois Hetherington

3rd Edition

Veterinary section by John G. Matthews

The Goatkeeper's Veterinary Book

By Peter Dunn

4th Edition

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

BGS Milk Recording Manual ©

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*"Sustained body condition of
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*"Improved growth
rate in goatling"*

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Improve finishing of Meat Goats?
Enhance skin & coat condition of Pygmy's

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Kym Moore on 01363 778 792


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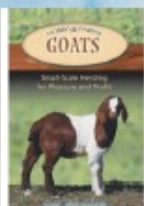


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