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[www.cashmeregoatassociation.org](http://www.cashmeregoatassociation.org)

## A Message from the President

Hello everybody,

Years ago my husband and I packed up our kids each summer to drive from Prairie Village, Kansas to Sedalia, Missouri, home to the Missouri State Fair. Compared with the Cashmere Goat Association's annual meeting at Tunbridge, the Missouri fair is enormous. It runs for three weeks each August, a hot and humid time in the Midwest, as opposed to the Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival's much shorter, cooler and frequently rainier gathering at the beginning of October.

The Missouri State Fair, like most state fairs, has carnival rides a speedway and literally thousands of head of livestock on display. The Vermont show, on the other hand, is a sleepy affair, a highly specialized event for fiber producers and aficionados. For those who haven't yet been, the fairground perimeter can be walked in half an hour.

The two events are not comparable. State fairs have the backing of the state treasury and large corporations, e.g., Pepsi, Toyota, Budweiser. The Tunbridge Fair relies on local small business and nonprofit sponsorships, modest gate proceeds and exhibitor advertisements. A state fair has something for everyone: fireworks,

rock band concerts, demolition derbies. It's possible to spend days at some state fairs without ever entering a livestock or horticulture barn.

Our sheep and wool festival, on the other hand, is all about fiber producing animals, such as cashmere goats, sheep, angora rabbits, angora goats, alpacas and llamas, and their fiber, be it raw, spun, skeined or transformed into a blanket or garment. If you don't visit the animal

or fiber barns at the Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival then you've missed the entire point.

The two fairs are rooted in agriculture, and both reflect the culture of the state in which they're held. When we left the Kansas City, Missouri suburbs in 2001, huge tracts of farmland near our home were sold to make way for the Sprint World Headquarters Campus along with sprawling



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shopping centers and housing developments. Most of the dirt roads that existed when we moved to the area in 1984 have been converted into four and six lane highways.

Upon moving to New Hampshire, we felt as if we had escaped developmental pressures. Our town has numerous small farmsteads; it seems as if every other family raises chickens or a couple sheep. The goats I purchased a decade ago have never disturbed my New England neighbors; in our old suburb, the Kenilworth Homes Association would have viewed the sight, smell and noise of livestock as a direct threat to that subdivision's property values.

Is the endless development seen in Missouri and Kansas taking place elsewhere? Are housing developments supplanting what was traditionally farmland, even in bucolic New England? USDA statistics indicate that the answer to this question is "yes." Fewer and fewer Americans are going into farming ( see: [agcensus.usda.gov](http://agcensus.usda.gov) ). Presumably Canada is seeing the same trend.

As a consequence of fewer farms, "pure" agricultural fairs are dwindling in number as

well. Given this reality, it is more important than ever to support the Tunbridge Fair. Large state fairs will survive, because they have the resources to diversify their offerings that have nothing to do with agriculture: think motocross competitions or car races.

Unfortunately, the Tunbridge fair will only survive if fiber producers continue to raise the animals that produce natural fiber and, equally important, if those who appreciate natural fibers actually buy them. Given this reality, it's imperative that we all try to attend the Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival – with or without our goats - or at least cheer on those who do. If you do make the trip to Tunbridge, think ahead to the holidays and spend money on gifts for friends and family. Enjoy a locally produced lamb burger and maple "cremee" while enjoying the musical offerings broadcast by the Royalton Community Radio pavilion. Take in a half hour watching the sheep herding demonstrations. You will not be sorry you did!

**Maggie**

### The Versatile Goat

By Elyse Perambo  
East Meets West Farm

I have a small herd of Cashmere goats that I have been seasonally milking to make goat milk soaps. Cashmere goats are a good fit for soap making since it takes a lot less milk to make a batch of soap compared to the amount needed for cheese making. Life on a fiber farm is busy and adding in a milking schedule can be tricky. I have tried to work out a way that is the least stressful on the animals and myself. What works at our farm is to keep the mothers and kids together until they are at least 5 weeks old.

Then during the day the mothers go out to pasture and the kids spend the day in a separate pasture where they are given grain

and hay. In the evening the mothers are given grain on the milking stand and I make sure to leave some milk for the kids. The herd stays together for the night. With this style of milking if it doesn't work to milk one day I can just leave them all together with no worries. About the time the kids are ready to wean (around 12-14 weeks) I stop milking and let the mother's dry up. I have not extended my milking and try to stay in the natural milking cycle of the doe's to keep the quality of their fiber. All the milk is frozen and used as needed to make batches of soap. The goat soap has been a fun venture and has helped to support the farm.



## The Goat and I

Each sunny day upon my way  
A goat I pass;  
He has a beard of Silver Grey,  
A belle of brass.  
And all the while I am in sight  
He seems to muse,  
And stares at me with all his might  
And chews and chews.

Upon the hill so thymy sweet  
With joy of Spring,  
He hails me with a tiny bleat  
Of welcoming.  
Though half the globe is drenched in blood  
And cities flare,  
Contentedly he chews his cud  
And does not care.

Oh gentle friend, I know not what  
Your age may be,  
But of my years I'd give the lot  
Yet left to me,  
To chew a thistle and not choke,  
But bright of eye  
gaze at the old world-weary bloke  
Who hobbles by.

Alas! Though bards make verse sublime,  
And lines to quite,  
It takes a fool like me to rhyme  
About a goat.

Robert William Service

## IS A MOUNTAIN GOAT REALLY A GOAT?

If it Walks and Talks Like a Duck....

By Maggie Porter

Earlier this summer my daughter, Martha, and her boyfriend, Jason, were hiking in the Olympic National Park in Washington when, out of the blue, they noticed a magnificent white, horned animal perched on a ledge overlooking their trail. It turned out to be a male Mountain Goat *Oreamnos americanus*, one of approximately 620 that live in the higher elevations of the park.

Jason was able to capture the animal with his camera (see photo below). At first glance the "goat" looks a lot like the animals we raise, the *Capra aegagrus hircus*. Martha verified this, but noted that the Mountain Goat they saw was huge - larger than anything she's seen on our farm and, more importantly, the goat's horns were too small for what she presumed was a buck.

It turns out that the horns of the Mountain Goat's distinguish them, genetically, from the domesticated goat: the Mountain Goat's horns are shorter and more slender compared to the horns on the male goats on our farms. The Mountain Goat can also achieve a weight exceeding 300 pounds; the Cashmere goat buck is usually half of that. The two species have different habitats: the Mountain Goat thrives in cold, craggy mountain tops – hence its name – and forages for grasses, shrubs, sedges, mosses and the like. *Capra hircus*, a domesticated creature, depends on baled hay come wintertime for sustenance.

The Mountain Goat and Cashmere goat are related— up to a point: they both belong to the following taxonomy categories:

Kingdom, Animalia;

Phylum, Chordata;

Class, Mammalia;



Order, Artiodactyla;

Family, Bovidae (which also includes sheep, antelope, gazelles and cattle); and finally,

Sub-Family, Caprinae.



Photo by Jason Sho Green

Here's what the two species don't have in common:

The Mountain Goat's genus is *Oreamnos*, a "wastebasket taxon" (official terminology!), a

miscellaneous group within the Bovidae Family. The Cashmere goat genus is *Capra*. Why the Mountain Goat and domesticated goat split off into two genera is a mystery to me (except for the horns, size and habitat differences cited above). Can anyone reading this explain that split?



Hoof Prints is dedicated to all things goat or goat-ish. Seems to me the glorious Mountain Goat should be permitted a shout-out in these pages, if only to remind us of the larger goat/antelope/gazelle/ibex world out there.

## Treating Parasites in Small Ruminants

By [Kathy Voth](#) / April 17, 2017 / [4 Comments](#)

It turns out, treating every animal in the herd 2 or more times a year, as many of us were taught, creates more problems than it solves. Here's what we should do instead.

<http://onpasture.com/2017/04/17/treating-parasites-in-small-ruminants/>

## Why Chevon?

Do people actually eat goat? YES!

Chevon is what the meat of the goat is called in Europe, Capra or Capretto in Australia and Southern Europe, and Cabritto in Hispanic countries.

You might have read or heard that goat meat is the most consumed meat in the world, but, in fact, that is not true. What is true about goat meat is that it has been eaten by many for centuries.

### What's So Great About Goat?

Goat meat is the healthiest meat of all the commonly eaten meats. How does goat meat compare?

#### Good For Your Health

**Goat meat is 50% – 65% lower in fat than similarly prepared beef, but has a similar protein content. The US department of Agriculture also has reported that saturated fat in cooked goat meat is 40% less than that of chicken, even with the skin removed.**

3 oz. cooked (Roasted)	Calories	Fat (Gr.)	Sat'd Fat (Gr.)	Protein (Mg.)	Iron (Gr.)
<b>Goat</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>2.58</b>	<b>.79</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3.3</b>
<b>Beef</b>	245	16	6.8	23	2.9
<b>Pork</b>	310	24	8.7	21	2.7
<b>Lamb</b>	235	16	7.3	22	1.4
<b>Chicken</b>	120	3.5	1.1	21	1.5

Source: USDA Handbook #8, 1989, Nutritive value foods, Home and Garden Bulletin #72, USDA, Washington DC, US. Government Printing Office

In terms of nutritional value, goat meat offers a healthy alternative as it's the lowest in fat of the commonly eaten meats. The only meat lower in fat than goat at 3% is ostrich at 2.8%. Goat meat also has less calories and cholesterol than beef, pork, lamb or chicken but has the same amount of protein as beef – 23 g, and more iron than the other meats.

In terms of environmental impact, beef, lamb and cheese are three culprits generating the most carbon emissions thereby major contributors to the global carbon footprint. Goats are browsers rather than grazers like cows and sheep so they don't tear root systems and deplete the soil of nutrient rich grasses while feeding. Since they eat brush and weeds, goats remove competition for soil nutrients helping to restore pasture quality. They have the lowest carbon footprint.

### The demand is there. So why aren't American farmers raising as many goats as we eat?

Before 1990, the US was a net exporter of goat meat. However, in 1994, the US stopped exporting due to the increased domestic demand. In 2014 import of goat meat increased to 43,188 million pounds for a total value of \$94.7 million. "Although the current US market picture is disjointed and confusing, there is a large and unfilled demand for goat meat in the major US cities, especially in the population centers of the Eastern seaboard."

In 2013 it was estimated there were a little over 3 million goats in the United States. Compare that to the 100 million US beef – it pales in comparison. The goat industry is ramping up and the 3 million represents a doubling in the past 20 years.

Much of the increase is due to: 1) growth in cultural groups that traditionally consume goat, 2) the increase in health consciousness among traditional Americans, and 3) the growing culinary interests in ethnic foods.

For goat farmers, this demand represents an opportunity for increased sales. However, the current lack of sufficient infrastructure for bringing chevon into the marketplace is a giant disconnect. There are harvest facilities who will not service goats. If farmers grow the goats and then cannot get them harvested, the meat packaged, delivered to the customer, and get a fair price; farmers will quickly abandon that market. Jettisoning us to return to wasted food and more imports of lower quality goat meat. That's why Vermont Chevon and many other goat farmers are working persistently to avoid that scenario.

### **Ethnic and Traditional American Market Potential**

Our research has uncovered the fact that the current consumers for chevon products are primarily the new and second generation Americans residing in urban areas. These consumers have an affinity for chevon and are regular consumers of the products. However, the traditional American is fast becoming enamored due to the health and nutritional benefits of eating chevon, so they are purchasing at increasing level of sales.

Research by Pinkerton & McMillin noted that ethnic consumers tend to equate small carcass weights with more tender meat from younger animals. However, on ethnic consumer taste panels, the panelists could not significantly distinguish the tastes of the meat between breeds, between male or female, between light (under 50#) or heavy (over 50#) or even between the ages of the goat. This research is highly significant because many people, ethnic included, have perceptions and stories about what goat meat is and isn't. Adam Danforth, 2015 James Beard winning author/butcher, and nationally recognized leader in the "Farm to Plate" movement, states, "the best goat I ever tasted was from a 4 year-old goat. The loins were perfectly textured and the flavor exquisite." Two years ago Adam butchered a Vermont Chevon goat and a chef prepared tastings at the Food Network Kitchen for Chef Collaborative's MeatMatters.

On the state level, Massachusetts has the 7<sup>th</sup> largest immigrant population with a total of 772,983 (12.2%) immigrants. Vermont Chevon has conducted interviews with both independent and chain retailers in the Somerville/Cambridge areas and we found strong demand was indicated. The local Market Basket moves **ten 70-pound boxes of Australian frozen goat per week (non Halal)**. All the retailers we spoke with indicated that their consumers would be willing to pay some level of premium for high quality fresh goat.

### **Much of the increase in goat meat production is attributed to the following factors:**

- 1.) growth in cultural groups who traditionally consume chevon – Boston's minority has become the majority representing 50.5% of the city's total population
- 2.) increase in health consciousness among all populations
- 3.) growing culinary interest in ethnic foods
- 4.) increasing chevon option on restaurant, schools and institutional menus

Let's move into the kitchen where we can mix up delicious and nutritious chevon/goat meat.

Below is one of my favorite recipes using the ground chevon.

## Billy Goat Meatballs!

*Makes about 2 dozen, 1 1/2-inch meatballs*

4 tablespoons olive oil  
1 onion, chopped  
2 teaspoons salt  
1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves  
1 teaspoon sweet paprika  
1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes  
1/2 cup goat cheese (chevre)  
2 pounds ground goat meat  
1/2 cup bread crumbs  
2 large eggs

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees. Drizzle 2 tablespoons of the olive oil into a 9-by-13-inch baking dish and use your hand to evenly coat the entire surface. Set aside.

Heat the remaining 2 tablespoons olive oil in a large frying pan over medium-high heat. Add the onions, 1 teaspoon salt and the thyme. Lower heat to medium and cook, stirring frequently, until the onions are soft and nicely browned, 10 to 15 minutes. Transfer to a bowl and place in the refrigerator (or freezer for a shorter period of time) to cool completely.

Combine cooled onion mixture with remaining



Ingredients in a large mixing bowl and mix by hand until thoroughly incorporated.

Roll the mixture into round, golf ball-sized meatballs (about 1 1/2 inches), making sure to pack the meat firmly. Place the balls in the prepared baking dish, being careful to line them up snugly and in even rows vertically and horizontally to form a grid. The meatballs should be touching one another.

Roast for 15 to 20 minutes, or until the meatballs are firm and cooked through. A meat thermometer inserted into the center of a meatball should read 165 degrees.

Allow meatballs to cool for 5 minutes in the baking dish before serving.



Shirley Richardson, Founder/Director of  
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## INVISIBLE TO THE NAKED EYE, THEY CAN DO YOU IN

By Wendy Pieh  
Springtide Farm

Internal and external parasites seem to be a perennial challenge on the goat farm. Various techniques are suggested for control, and various medications are suggested as being the best for your goats. Parasites are persistent, concerned about their own survival, and some do become resistant to the various medicinal wormers.

### Internal Parasites

With internal parasites, we have found that rotational grazing, not feeding hay in the same area day after day, and treatment as needed seem to keep the problem manageable, although we have not yet completely wiped out the parasites. There is some research that supports the theory that there are always some parasites around.

It is best to treat only the goats who are in need. The most effective way for us to check if a goat needs worming, is through a fecal sample. If you have a vet handy who will check for you at a reasonable price that may work well for you. Just gather up a fresh sample, put it in a plastic bag, label it, and take it to your vet.

On the other hand, you can also buy fecal test kits and an inexpensive microscope. You can purchase a monocular or compound scope, and most have magnifications of 5, 10, and 40-45. We read our samples at a magnification of ten. With a little practice you will be able to accurately assess your goats' worm loads. If your sample shows just a few eggs, you will be okay. However, if you see a moderate to heavy load, you will need to treat that goat. It is most important that you use a consistent method in doing your samples. We currently use the McMasters Grid technique, which requires you

to be very consistent in accurately reading the sample. I think that we would need permission to print the following directions, so here is simply the reference ([http://web.uri.edu/sheepngoat/files/McMasters-Test\\_Final3.pdf](http://web.uri.edu/sheepngoat/files/McMasters-Test_Final3.pdf)). When I get a sample I follow the goat around with a rubber glove on my hand, accompanied by sandwich bags and a marking pen, and wait for her/him to drop some pellets. It's important to know which sample belongs to which goat. This all sounds complicated, however, after a few times it gets easier and easier.

Many people are also trained in the FAMACHA method. You can get more information at their web site:

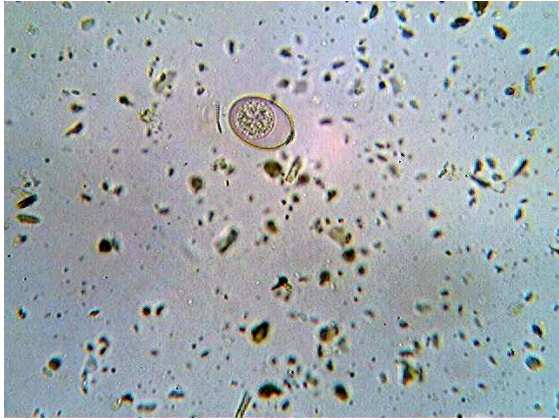
<http://fiascofarm.com/goats/fecals.htm#eggphotos>. It looks at the goat's inner eyelid to determine if they are anemic, indicating a parasite problem. We find that the most reliable method is to learn to do a fecal sample.

The primary parasites that we deal with are coccidia, a protozoa, and *Haemonchus contortis*, or "Barber Pole" worm and *trichostrongylus colubriformis* or "Bankrupt worm", both of the strongyle group. *Haemonchus* is a warmer weather parasite, and the tricho is a colder weather parasite. Their eggs look very similar.

Coccidia are parasites (protozoa) like giardia that live in goats' intestines, and the trick with them is to keep them in balance. If you have a problem with coccidia, it will generally show up as diarrhea and a loss of thriftiness in the affected goat. That goat will often be the "runt" of the herd, who may get leftovers to eat, after the others have finished. Coccidia problems come from over crowding, and from eating



leftover foods and bedding that contain feces or in water that has droppings in it. If you change the eating environment, and or your feeding practices, the balance should reassert itself quickly without treatment. If a problem persists, we have been lucky with a single treatment of Sulmet.



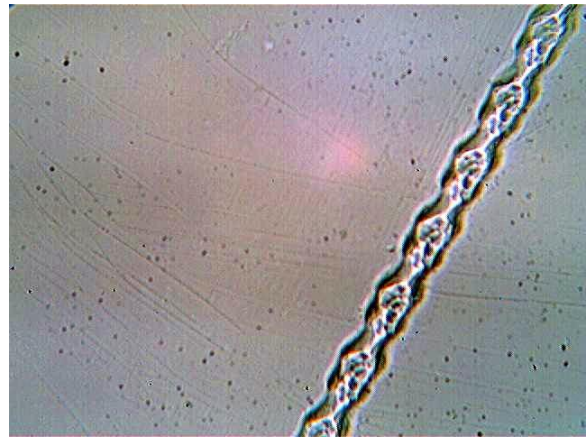
This is coccidia. It is approximately one-fifth the size of the strongyle worms.

The strongyle worms tend to be harder to get rid of, and they have adapted to survive various worming medications. In large numbers in the intestine, they can cause severe anemia, "bottle jaw," and even death in the affected goat. Prevention here is similar to above, making sure that the eating area is clean of fecal matter. A tendency to have strongyle worms seems also to be genetic, and you will find that some goats may need regular treatment, while others may never need treatment, even in an identical environment.

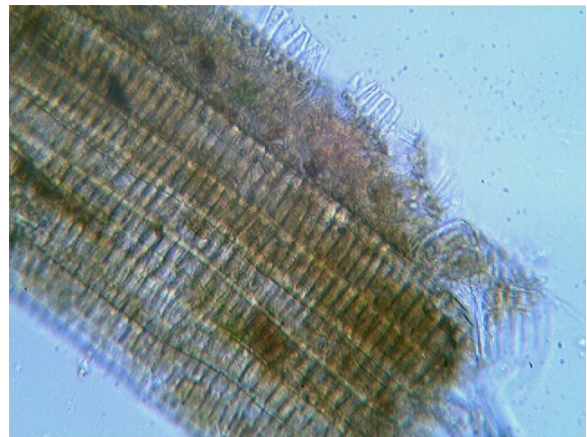


This is the strongyle worm egg, either *haemonchus contortis*, or *trichostrongylus colubriformis*

Before treating your goats for worms, you want to ascertain that worms are indeed the problem, and that the worms will respond to your method of treatment. Fecal tests are quite easy to do, and they will give you an idea if you are working with a coccidia, a strongyle, or both. Learning to read the slides accurately can be a challenge, and entertaining as well. Peter lost several nights sleep wondering what exotic parasites we had on the farm; here are two examples:



Looks like a barber pole, it's really a bit of paper towel!



This fierce critter is a piece of hay!

Once you have determined that you are dealing with strongyles, you need to treat your goats. You have several options. One summer we must have evaluated more than 100 of our own fecal samples. We paid a fair bit to have our parasite resistance tested, and learned that we should use an Ivermectin Drench, which we did. Imagine our horror when not only did we still have eggs in our weanlings, they seemed to be

increasing. Either we (three of us had administered it at different and multiple times) were doing it wrong or it wasn't working or both. Our parasites had become resistant to ivermectin.

In doing research, we learned that testing was being done with a product called Copasure. This is a supplement made up of copper oxide wire particles. The particles stay in the goat's stomach and the tannins in the particles kill the adult *haemonchus strongyles*. Instead of tearing our hair out we decided to try it. We purchased the cow/calf size boluses and made up smaller ones with gel caps from the local health food store. It took some extra effort to get the weanlings to keep the boluses down (after all they are experts at regurgitation), but the results were spectacular. Seven days after treating them, all egg counts dropped to none or very few, from as many as well over 5000 eggs from one McMasters assessment.

We then treated the rest of the herd with about a quarter teaspoon sprinkled on a bowl of grain for each goat. We did a little less on the doelings, and a little more on the largest goats. Everyone ate just about all of the particles, and I began to see weight gain within three weeks of even the thinner of the nursing does. Current doses are 2 grams for weanlings (over 25 pounds) and 4 grams for adults, and Copasure now makes boluses for goats. Research so far indicates that the goats eating it in their food appears to be just as effective as giving them a bolus. Easier for us.

We have tried other copper oxide wire particle products with less success than with the Copasure. Not sure why, but we're sticking with the Copasure!

Parasites and parasite resistance continue to be a challenge for goat farmers. It is worth it to keep up with what is currently happening in terms of the latest research, and to stay open minded to trying different methods of treatment.

Of course, the best treatment is to not have a problem. Rotational grazing and treating any newcomers to your herd at least a week before integrating them should help you keep well ahead of any parasite challenges.

### External Parasites

External parasites also live in balance on the goat. When they get out of balance, they may show up as recognizable lice, loss of and/or shedding of hair, red or hot spots, or as what we have come to call "skuzzy" skin. We treat it all with a stoical insecticide, Ultra Boss (5% Permethrin and 5% Piperonyl Butoxide Technical), again available at Jeffers ([www.jefferslivestock.com](http://www.jefferslivestock.com)). One treatment often cures the problem. What it is most important to understand is that external parasites such as lice, mange, etc. are fairly easy to treat, especially if treated early.



Chrystall got pneumonia, got over that, and then got the skuzzy skin all over her face. Being careful not to get the medicine in her eyes, she needed two treatments.



Bringing together breeders, fiber artists and others interested in these charming animals and the luxurious fiber they grow.





Viola got red, swollen, and itchy, her own variety of skuzzy skin. One treatment of Ultra Boss cured her problem.

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## TYGER SHARK INVOLVEMENT IN DATABASE PROJECT ENDS

The Cashmere Goat Association had contracted with the Tyger Shark company to build the long-anticipated database to house information on goats meeting the North American Cashmere Goat Standard and act as a registry. Recently, the company informed the association that there were difficulties in completing the project as planned. The Board has discussed the situation. Subject to return of association funds paid, the Board has decided it is willing to close the contract. Efforts began immediately to set a new course for completing the project. Thankfully Pam Haendle has agreed to take the baton and run with it. See her article for further details, and stay tuned for further updates. We will reach our goal!



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## ACT TWO IN THE LIFE OF THE CASHMERE GOAT DATABASE

By Pam Haendle

The database committee learned a great deal in the last year as we refined our image of the online interface to the database and as we worked with Tyger Shark. Maryanne churned out many versions of an ever-expanding list of goat characteristics we wanted to measure and display, and there were an amazing number of decisions that needed to be made. The good news is that we made them! And – we now find ourselves with a solid sense of the elements we need to document for each goat and a pretty solid vision of how the information needs to be gathered and displayed. We have thought through the structures and processes we need to make sure that the data is consistent and clean and meaningful. It has not been a speedy adventure, but I hope that the membership will ultimately be glad to have been patient, allowing us to take the time to make it as useful and flexible as possible.

From my perspective as one who joined the committee after work with TS was in progress, I think I am seeing our views evolve now in several areas:

1. We are recognizing the importance of the multiple roles of the database. It can be a tool for abstract research, as well as a tool for improving the quality of our herds through access to information about available animals and a necessary element toward the recognition of cashmere goats as a breed with a registry.
2. We are recognizing the significant challenge inherent in designing a database that can become an open registry. The open registry requires a more stringent process for populating entries than does the traditional registry, as each goat is added only if

certain of its characteristics meet the standards for inclusion. Being the offspring of a dam and sire who are registered is not a consideration; each goat must qualify on its own merits.

3. Having found that hiring a professional web design firm to build a Cadillac design for us could cost at least \$20,000, we are working on alternative routes to the goal. Drawing on a career designing mainframe databases and systems for a huge investments servicing firm (aka a bank), I volunteered to put together the database itself and design the interface. After all, how different could it be? Investment accounting systems and goat pedigrees. No problem.

So, while the summer of 2017 is drowning our hayfields, we are beginning work on an economy-model approach to our database. I have designed the tables we need to store the data and will soon build them on a development server. If all works as planned, that will make it possible for us to load all the data from the fall shows and competitions into the database, using PC-based tools and the development server. Once loaded, it can be reviewed and evaluated and an administrator can designate each set of assessment values (from a competition or show) as qualified (or not qualified) to meet the North American Cashmere Goat standard. We hope that this fact will boost participation in the fall events, as we anticipate being able to include all of the qualifying animals who participate in the CGA and NWCA events in the database this year, and all participants have to do is give us a little more information on the goat as they fill out the entry form for the event. In future years, there may have to be a charge for entries.



Admittedly, these steps will only get the information into an organized structure in the cloud and accessible from my development server. This is a temporary stage, and I don't expect that folks will be excited about driving to Central NY to look over my shoulder and see how lovely their goat's data looks in its new home. We will need to have the data copied to a production server and we will need a professional web host and someone who can work with us on the development of user-friendly search functionality. I don't know how quickly we will get to these next steps, but I do feel confident that we will get there. We are beginning to talk to web designers and developers who would be willing to work with an existing database. Once the search functions have been established, other maintenance functions will be built, including the interfaces that will allow us to add goats to the database without going through an administrator. This is the trickiest part of the process, as we would like to ultimately have a friendly interface that will collect information and automatically fill in known elements of the pedigrees, and do bits of error-checking to keep our data clean. The background development for this does get complicated. Are there any members or friends out there who have been hiding their talents in web development under a bushel? Does anyone work with a web design and development company that they can recommend? The database committee, chaired by Maryanne Reynolds, will welcome new volunteers as well as advice.

Once it is completed, we intend to have a database that will be available to the world for inquiry functions, available to our members (defined users) for maintenance of goat records, and available to anyone in our group who knows SQL for research. Ever wondered if goats with long guard hair have, on average, better differentiation scores than goats with short guard hair? How about the average hoof score for white goats versus the average hoof score for black goats? How consistent are our judges' assessment of MFD with lab results for the same goat? If you don't know what SQL

stands for, send me a note and I'll write the query and send you the results! (Yup – the 'Q' part stands for query.)

If you would like to satisfy your inner geek with some clues about the database structure and the GUI design, here are a few details:

We will have a table of farm data, keyed by herd code. It will be possible to refer to farms that don't have a herd code, though, so goats from inactive farms can be referenced.

We will have summary-level goat information that is basically static, and date-dependent goat evaluation data that will be associated with the summary goat information. The evaluation data may be from lab testing of a fleece, a fleece competition, a goat show, or another event type to be identified in the future. Multiple sets of date-dependent evaluation data will be stored.

Users will be able to search for goats in three ways:

1. Requesting data on a specific goat, identified by herd code and name
2. Requesting a list of goats with characteristics matching specified values (e.g. MFD, style scores, guard hair color)
3. Requesting a list of goats descended from a specific goat, identified by herd code and name

Each evaluation will carry a code identifying its status as pending, when first entered; then reviewed by an administrator and either found to be consistent with supporting data and meeting the standards for a North American Cashmere Goat or to be lacking in some area. Any goat who has at least one set of evaluation data that is designated as certified (meeting the standards) will be "registered" in the database and eligible for display in the search functions. However, every owner will have the option of marking sets of evaluation data as ineligible for display.

Those are all the hints you get for now! Please enter your goats in the fall shows or send fleeces off to the lab for testing. The database

will only be of value as a research tool when it contains a high volume of data.

## CASHMERE GOAT FIBER TARIFFS – AN UPDATE

By Maggie Constantine Porter

In our Spring, 2017 issue of Hoof Prints we reported that the US International Trade Commission (USITC) had solicited comments from our association regarding the lifting of tariffs on various forms of cashmere fiber. The CGA responded, expressing our hope that the current tariffs remain in place given the “infant industry” status of US cashmere production.

The comment period is now closed. On June 9 the USITC submitted a preliminary report to Congress; a final report will be issued 60 days after the preliminary report (August 8, 2017).


Hoof Prints will report back on this once the final report has been issued.



**We help each other by  
sharing our knowledge and  
experience. Please send us  
letters, pictures or news  
from your farm!**

Send to:

**Maggie Porter**  
**Constantine.maggie@gmail.com**



**Crooked Fence Farm**

Cashmere Goats  
CVM/Romeldale & Merino  
Sheep

Betsy MacIsaac  
Putney, VT 05346  
802 387-5790  
crookedfence@gmail.com  
crookedfencefarm-vt.com



## ASK THE PROFESSOR

The North American Cashmere Goat Standard ("Standard") specifies what judges are to assess when officially judging cashmere goats. The Standard is thorough but, as with anything else, there are issues that can and will come up that the Standard simply does not address. What sorts of issues might these be? Hoof Prints offers two of them here, along with short discussions as to how our new friend, independent scholar Professor C.A. Hircus, might analyze such situations.

Dear Professor Hircus,

I once had a doe with a wattle cyst the size of a golf ball. I never exhibited this animal, even though I was assured, correctly, that the cyst was not genetic (I have 5 generations of does and bucks out of her proving this to be true). This doe had a large, well put-together conformation and beautiful fleece, but I kept her out of competitions because I was afraid that a judge would "ding" her due to the unsightly bulbous wattle cyst. Should I have taken this animal to the goat show after all?

Thank you,  
Mary in Maryland

Dear Mary,

*I will quote from the Standard: "The presence or absence of wattles is essentially a cosmetic issue that might be important to some breeders but not to others." So, generally speaking, wattles are not a trait to be scored under the Standard. They are just small fleshy growths that may have served a purpose once upon a time.*

*Your question, however, is a bit different. A judge may very well say, I will ignore the wattles, but what's this cyst doing on one of them? Judges are like anyone else (except for their power to award prize ribbons!), and will take a second look at deformed or misplaced goat wattles such as those that might hang on the animal's ears, cheeks, necks or shoulders.*

*A plausible answer to your question appears in an article written by Jennifer Stultz, "All About Goat Wattles," that appears in the November 1, 2016 edition of Countryside Network. Stultz writes, "Every once in a while, lumps known as wattle cysts, can develop at the base of a wattle attachment. These cysts can fill with fluid but are non-contagious. Though they can look like a CL abscess, they are benign and do not spread to other goats."*

*Finally, to answer your question as to whether or not you should've exhibited this animal: if you go to shows to win lots of ribbons, it might be wise to keep animals such as this away, unless her fleece is spectacular and abundant. If not, chances are the wattle cyst would eliminate her from placing.*

*If you go to fairs for input regarding a particular animal (assuming the animal is in good health) take her with you. A competent judge will give you helpful feedback on other aspects of this doe. By the way, many goat owners have never seen a wattle cyst; this would show them what we're talking about.*

Yours truly,  
Prof. Hircus

Dear Professor Hircus,

Hay, chaff, dust, dirt and guard hair are specifically addressed in the Standard – but dander is not. How should a judge treat a fleece with lots of flecks of dander?

Just wondering in Wisconsin,  
Josh

Dear Josh,

*The Standard is, indeed, silent regarding dander.*

*Dander, or dandruff as we humans call it when we see it on our own scalps, is a common occurrence in cashmere fleeces, not to mention all of us humanoids....but I digress. Dander is an overactive layer of skin that keeps peeling off and, in the case of cashmere goats, detracts from a fleece's beauty. It is difficult to remove from the fiber – even by the best mill – so is not a positive attribute.*

*There could be a genetic reason for excess dander, or perhaps the cashmere was combed too late, but frequently it's a management issue that can be corrected by adding copper or Vitamin E to your herd's feed.*

*Judges will notice the dander, but they'll also look at the overall quality of the fleece as if the dander weren't there. They'll write something down about the dander, and probably take a few points off for it, but then they'll get on with assessing uniformity of fiber quality, fiber diameter, crimp/style, length of fiber and differentiation.*

*Note: louse eggs can look like dander. Make sure your goat doesn't have lice! THAT will horrify a judge, even though the Standard says nothing about them.*

*Yours truly,  
Professor Hircus*

**If you have questions about the Standard that you'd like Professor Hircus to answer, or if you don't agree with something she has written, please chime in! Much of judging is subjective, and this will always be the case. But the more certainty we can establish with regard to the Standard the better.**

Logo Sketch by Farmlet's cartoonish "The Bearded One"



**Support us by joining a committee. Contact the following Chairs to join:**

**Fundraising/Membership:** Maggie Constantine – [Constantine.maggie@gmail.com](mailto:Constantine.maggie@gmail.com) & Jana Dengler- [Jana@stoneharvestfarm.com](mailto:Jana@stoneharvestfarm.com)

**Shows:** Sister Mary Elizabeth- [maryelizabethcsm@aol.com](mailto:maryelizabethcsm@aol.com)

**Judging Clinics:** Wendy Pieh – [wpieh@lincoln@midcoast.com](mailto:wpieh@lincoln@midcoast.com) Archives: Ann Taylor- [ataylor31@charter.net](mailto:ataylor31@charter.net)

**Website:** Noreen Rollins- [nikkinomar@yahoo.com](mailto:nikkinomar@yahoo.com) Meat & Coat Color: Becky Bemus- [cashmere@rovingwindsfarm.ca](mailto:cashmere@rovingwindsfarm.ca)

**Database:** Maryanne Reynolds- [Maryanne@stoneharvestfarm.com](mailto:Maryanne@stoneharvestfarm.com)





## CASHMERE GOAT ASSOCIATION

**CGA's New England  
North American Cashmere  
Goat Show**  
*at the Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival*  
**Tunbridge, Vermont**  
**September 30 & October 1, 2017**

The Cashmere Goat Association invites Cashmere goat owners, breeders and youth to participate in the 2017 North American Cashmere Goat Show to be held at the Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival in Tunbridge, Vermont, on Saturday and Sunday, September 30 & October 1.

CGA welcomes Phil Smith of Coldwater, Ontario, as the judge for this year's fleece and goat show. Phil and his wife Becky have raised cashmere goats on their Roving Winds Farm for over twelve years, alongside Dexter cattle and Black Welsh sheep. Members of both the Canadian Cashmere Producers Association and the Cashmere Goat Association, Phil judged the 2016 Canadian Producers International Fleece Competition at the Woodstock Fleece and Fiber Festival in Woodstock, Ontario. Phil has extensive skills in fleece classification and has worked closely with CGA in our development of a database for North American Cashmere goats.

This is the CGA New England Show's seventh year at the Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival at Tunbridge. Home of the Tunbridge World's Fair which has operated almost continuously since 1867, the fairgrounds offer a unique New England country fair setting largely unchanged for more than a century.

### **Premier East Coast Cashmere Goat Show**

The CGA New England Show has become the premier North American Cashmere goat show in the northeast, drawing goats and owners from New York, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont.

All goats shown which meet the North American Cashmere breed standard are eligible for Certification and Registry within the North American Cashmere Goat database, to be established in 2017.

An emphasis on raising up the next generation of North American Cashmere goat enthusiasts continues with a Junior Showmanship class for youth aged 5 through 18, emphasizing ring skills and knowledge about cashmere goats. This year we will add a Caprine Challenge Class to the youth event, allowing young people who have been working closely with their animals to walk their goat through a challenge course. Mika Ingerman of Burlington, VT, returns as Junior Showmanship and Caprine Challenge judge.

### **CGA / NWCA International Cashmere Fleece Competition**

This year's show will feature a combined CGA and NWCA International Fleece Competition with the Fleece Show judged on Friday, September 29, and fleeces entered in both the Fleece and New England Breeders' show continuing over to the live goat show on Saturday. It is possible to compete in both shows! The \$10 entry fee is good for either show or both – covering return postage for the Fleece Competition and venue expenses for the Live Goat Show.

See the International Fleece Show announcement elsewhere in *Hoofprints*.

### **Entry Deadline and Fees**

The cost is \$10 per goat (regardless of how many classes are entered.) Registration for the Goat Show or Fleece Competition may be found on the CGA website:

[www.cashmeregoatassociation.org](http://www.cashmeregoatassociation.org) and you may submit the form online with your payment through PayPal.

***The entry deadline for Goat Show entries is September 15.***

***You may enter your goats in BOTH the Goat Show and Fleece Competition or only one event.***

### **Goat Show Classes**

Buck, doe and wether classes will be determined by the number of entrants with a probability of class divisions for does born in 2017 (kids), '16 (yearlings), '15 (two year-olds), combined '14, '13, and older does (senior). (Further division may be made depending on entries.) Wethers will subdivide this year into junior (kids and yearlings) and senior wethers. Bucks will show as kids, yearlings and senior bucks. Farms may enter up to three goats per class. (Youth exhibitors showing goats leased through a local county extension program may enter goats without restriction to the farm's total.) This year there will be a final "Best in Show" ribbon awarded to the best among our Grand and Reserve Champion Does, Wethers and Bucks.

Judging is based on both the goat's body and fiber, with fifty percent of an animal's score based on the past year's fleece and fifty percent on body conformation and movement in the show ring.

We anticipate that many entering the CGA Goat Show will also enter the CGA/NWCA Fleece show (two shows for the price of one!) Fleeces entered in the International Fleece Show will be

scored on Friday and any new fleeces entered in the goat show only on Saturday will be assessed on Saturday morning.

For both shows, whole, unprocessed, combed fleeces from the most recent harvest should be submitted in a zip-lock type bag with identifying tag inside (but no identification written directly on the bag.)

In the afternoon the judge will examine the goats in their pens, checking for basic soundness and conformation. The score cards with both fleece and pen judging scores are then brought with the animals to the Show Ring on Sunday, where the animals are compared as a group in a standard Ring Show competition.

Youth may also register for the Youth Showmanship class which evaluates fundamental ring showmanship and the Caprine Challenge – an obstacle challenge course for youth (and adults) who have been working closely with their goats over the past year.

### **Schedule for the 2017 Show**

#### **Friday, September 15, 2017**

Deadline for Entries for the 2017 CGA New England North American Cashmere Goat Show

#### **Friday, September 29, 2017**

10 a.m.	CGA/NWCA International Fleece Show begins
Noon	Animals may begin to arrive at Tunbridge Fairgrounds.

#### **Saturday, September 30, 2017**

9:30 a.m.	All goats must be in place in their stalls
10:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Festival begins</li> <li>• CGA Fundraising Activities begin at Riverside Barn</li> <li>• Winning Fleeces for the CGA/NWCA Competition</li> </ul>

- on display at Riverside Barn
- Fleece Judging begins (for fleeces not already judged)
- Pen Judging follows
- 4:00 p.m. CGA Annual Meeting
- 5:00 p.m. Festival gates close
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner in South Royalton for Show Participants

### Sunday, October 1, 2017

- 9:00 a.m. Youth Showmanship Class
- 10:00 a.m.
  - Festival opens
  - CGA Fundraising and Fleece Show Display Tent opens
- 11:00 a.m. Doe Classes begin
- Short break for lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Wether & Buck Classes
- 4:00 p.m. Festival closes

### Housing of Goats at the Festival

As you plan how many and which goats to bring, expect that the barn can generally house two doe/wether pens and two buck pens per farm. This number is flexible since we have not filled the barn to capacity in recent years. In most cases anticipate that two does will be comfortable in one pen, though some larger family groups may prefer to be together. Be prepared to tie bucks, aggressive does and/or "jumpers" -- especially overnight. They should be accustomed to being tied before the show weekend.

Bedding hay will be provided but entrants must supply feed stuffs, water buckets, tools for barn clean-up at the end of show, etc. Stalls should be broom-clean upon leaving on Sunday with bedding removed to a compost site near the barns.

***Owner/entrants are responsible for appropriate care of their animals through the weekend.***

### Preparing for the Show

Preparation for show begins in late winter with the setting aside of the prospective show entrant's fleece from the past season. Combed fleeces should be reasonably free of excessive vegetative matter but otherwise ***not*** de-haired and should be submitted in a zip-lock type bag with an identifying tag inside.

The second step is to begin *now* to bring your goats up to prime condition and to accustom them to walking on a lead. Kids should be weaned from does intended for show at least ten weeks before the show date. They may be housed with their mother at show time but separation allows the mother to recover from the stress of nursing. Check for worm load and feed carefully to bring bucks and does into condition. Most judges penalize for poor conditioning, but under-condition animals may also pick up opportunistic infections under the stress of travel and being housed with other goats in an open barn. Hooves should be trimmed two or three weeks ahead of show to prevent the appearance of tender feet in the ring.

### Vermont Health Requirements

All entrants must comply with the Vermont law concerning interstate transport of animals and will be inspected by the Show Superintendent upon arrival at the fairgrounds. **A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) of herd and specific animals to be transported, dated within 20 days of the show, is required.** The VT Department of Agriculture will mail to you a Permit to Transport document when your veterinary registers the CVI with their office. The CVI should be brought with you and kept with your goats at the Tunbridge fairgrounds. Goats should be in good health and free of lice, hoof rot or anything looking like sore mouth. Rabies vaccination is "strongly recommended" but is not required by Vermont Agriculture regulations or Festival organizers.

### **USDA Scrapie Identification.**

The CVI requirement includes conformity to rules regarding the unique identification of goats under the guidelines of your home state's scrapie eradication program. Scrapie is a fatal, degenerative disease affecting the central nervous system of sheep and goats which can only be addressed through post-mortem identification, tracing back to farm of origin. If you have not received ear tags or an identification number for your herd, you should call the appropriate USDA APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) office immediately. If you need assistance in contacting the scrapie eradication program in your state, call 866-873-2824. Special rules apply for animals carrying microchip identification. Check with the Sister Mary Elizabeth before you come to show if you have any questions regarding the scrapie identification requirement.

### **Herd Codes**

Note that Herd Codes used by CGA custom are different from USDA assigned scrapie numbers or ear tags. Animals are identified through CGA and other cashmere organizations by a three or four letter ID indicating the farm on which they were born. These letters generally precede the goat's name -- for example, STC Lizzie. If you buy a cashmere goat and show her, she shows under her farm-of-origin Herd Code. Her children born on your farm show under your Herd Code.

### **General Information**

The Festival website is [www.vtsheepandwoolfest.org](http://www.vtsheepandwoolfest.org) and contains pertinent travel information, a map of the grounds, workshops offered by the Festival and other information.

Festival gates open at 10 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday, and CGA goats are on display to the public at the Riverside Barn until closing at 5 p.m. on Saturday and 4 p.m. on Sunday.

General admission is \$6; seniors--\$5; children under 12--\$10.

CGA show entrants have a free pass for the weekend. See Sister Mary Elizabeth to get your pass.

Parking is free but limited to designated areas, with no movement of cars on the fairgrounds during Festival hours. Show Exhibitors may park near the Riverside Barn but may not move their cars while the public is moving about the grounds.

### **Accommodations**

We have reserved a block of 10 rooms at the Comfort Inn in White River Junction, VT. The cost per room is \$155/ +tax. You can make your reservations by calling 802-295-3051 or online at [www.comfortinn.com](http://www.comfortinn.com). The reserved block status is only in effect until August 30 so make your reservations soon. The Comfort Inn is 24 miles from Tunbridge with a drive time of 30 minutes to the fairgrounds. Let the Comfort Inn know you are with the Cashmere Goat Association.

It is also possible to sleep on the fairgrounds in a tent or camper. Information about camping is available on the festival website, listed above.

### **Show Superintendent and Volunteers**

The 2016 Show Superintendent is Sister Mary Elizabeth of St. Mary's on-the-Hill Cashmere in New York. If you have a question, she can be reached by email at [maryelizabethcsm@aol.com](mailto:maryelizabethcsm@aol.com) or by calling 518-791-4142. Her postal address is: Sister Mary Elizabeth, St. Mary's on-the-Hill Farm, 242 Cloister Way, Greenwich, NY 12834.

***Volunteers are needed through the weekend.*** Please let Sister Mary Elizabeth know if you can help.



FIRST ANNUAL COMBINED CGA/NWCA FLEECE COMPETITION  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2017  
TUNBRIDGE, VT

“FIRST ANNUAL” is always an intriguing label for an event, isn’t it? I love the suggestion of the potential for getting in on the ground floor of a promising new endeavor. The combined CGA/NWCA International Fleece Competition is indeed a promising new endeavor, although it is built upon two established and successful entities – the fleece competitions held independently by CGA and NWCA.

To conserve resources and make the best use of our judges, the leaders of CGA and NWCA have agreed to take turns hosting an annual fleece competition. In odd years, the fleece competition will take place in the eastern half of the country and be hosted by CGA, and in even years, NWCA will take over management of the competition and host it in the western U.S. Fleece competitions are always a valuable educational experience, but our combined effort will ensure that we all have a chance to see the very best fleeces North America has to offer and see where our own fleeces stand in this broader context. Fleeces will be evaluated on each of the elements that have been identified in the standard for cashmere goats, which include fiber diameter, style, differentiation, length, uniformity, and the total down weight of the fleece. Participants will receive a scorecard with a detailed record of the evaluation.

All cashmere producers in the U.S. and Canada are invited to send their fleeces to the 2017 competition, and we hope that everyone will support our efforts for a truly broad-based competition. (We are not merging with the Canadian Cashmere Fleece Competition, and there should be enough time in between the Canadian competition and this one for you to take advantage of both.)

The 2017 CGA/NWCA Fleece Competition will be held in conjunction with the 2017 CGA Goat Show in Tunbridge, Vermont. We are making use of the same facilities and the same weekend, but you are welcome to enter just the goat show, just the fleece competition, or both. We are using the same entry form for both, and a single fee makes it possible for you to enter just one or both competitions.

Phil Smith, from Roving Winds Farm in Ontario, Canada, will be judging the Fleece Competition in addition to his responsibilities as judge for the 2017 CGA goat show. That’s a pretty overwhelming task for anyone, so we will be setting aside an additional day, Friday September 29<sup>th</sup>, for the fleece judging. The fleece judging will be held on the Tunbridge Fairgrounds (in Tunbridge, VT, not surprisingly), in the office under the grandstands, beginning at around 10:00 in the morning. If you can spare the time to be in Tunbridge on Friday, please come! Many of our judges have been willing to offer some insight into their assessment process, and volunteers to record information, weigh fleeces, and keep the fleeces organized for Phil will be welcome.

All fleeces for the competition, including fleeces for goats who will be competing in the goat show, must be delivered in advance to the fleece competition chairman. Alas, we can’t accept fleeces that arrive unheralded during the show weekend. As chairman for the competition, I will be collecting and organizing the fleeces into classes here in my dining room. Fortunately, it’s rarely used for dining. My address:

Pam Haendle  
10601 Merrill Road  
West Edmeston, NY  
13485

Here are the basic rules for selecting and preparing the fleeces:

1. Fleeces should be clean and free of noticeable vegetable matter.
2. Fleeces should be from the 2017 harvest.
3. Fleeces should not be dehaired or washed.
4. Fleeces may be combed or shorn.
5. The entire fleece should be included, not just a sample.
6. The complete fleece should be submitted in a one or two gallon Ziploc bag. If the fleece is too large to fit into one bag (congratulations!), two bags can be used, with explanatory notes enclosed in both. Please don't write anything on the bag itself.
7. Inside each bag, enclose an index card with the following information:
  - a. Owner Name and Farm Name
  - b. Goat's Herd code and name
  - c. Goat's sex and year of birth
8. Unless you will be present in Tunbridge to collect the fleece after the show, please enclose a second card with your name and address so that I will have a handy mailing label when I mail the fleece back to you after the competition.
9. Please limit entries to 3 per sex/year of birth.

After I have a healthy collection of fleeces here, I'll send out an email to everyone to confirm that your fleeces made the journey safely to Central NY.

Since we, as a group, have varying levels of comfort with technology, there are a couple of ways that payment and forms can be submitted. An online form for entry into the CGA goat show, the fleece competition, or both will be available on the CGA website: [www.cashmeregoatassociation.org](http://www.cashmeregoatassociation.org), and you may submit the form online with your payment through PayPal. If you really hate using online forms and/or PayPal, you may print the form

(included elsewhere in this edition of Hoofprints) and send it to me with a check made out to CGA. Please make sure that the forms are submitted or mailed by September 15<sup>th</sup> and that the fleeces are in the mail by September 15<sup>th</sup>. The only exception to this is the mass mailing of fleeces that will occur after the competition at the Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival. If I receive the forms and payments for the fleeces by the 15<sup>th</sup>, I can accept the box of fleeces from OFFF as long as it makes it to Central NY by September 27<sup>th</sup>. I'll be on the road on the 28<sup>th</sup>, so there is no wiggle room here.

The fee for each entry is \$10. (Part of the fee covers the postage for returned fleeces.) If you are participating in the goat show, your \$10 fee for entry in the show covers your inclusion in the fleece judging.

The division of fleeces into classes will probably be similar to divisions we have used in prior years, but we won't know for sure until the fleeces start rolling in. Phil will make the final call regarding combining birth years.

If you have any questions – please ask! You can reach me most readily at [hermitpond@gmail.com](mailto:hermitpond@gmail.com).

If having your fleeces evaluated by an expert and compared to fleeces from all over North America isn't motivation enough for you to get those fleece bags out of the closet, please consider this: CGA has been hard at work on the development of a new database for cashmere goats, and one of the ways that goats can be added to the database is to be recognized as meeting the standards for cashmere goats at a show or fleece competition. The database isn't ready for prime time quite yet, but when it is, we plan to include information from the 2017 show and competition. In fact, that's why this year's entry form includes a few extra questions. They will be used to create the base records for one of

the tables in the database. Owners who prefer that a goat's evaluation information not be available to the public do have the option of having the data marked as unavailable for display in the database, but we hope that having your goat's information included in the database is a positive incentive! People who are searching for goats to buy or rent will (eventually) be able to pull up information on your goats that have the characteristics they are seeking, and you will be contributing to the collection of reliable data that will become a basis for research.

Please enter! I want that little truck of mine to be stuffed to the gills with glorious fleeces when

I roll out of the driveway on September 28<sup>th</sup> for the trek to Tunbridge. If you're not sure that Eloise's fleece is blue-ribbon material but you really like the way it feels, give it a shot! You'll get an expert opinion on her, and if you are in Tunbridge on Friday, you'll get to see Eloise's finest right next to output from her peers. Remember, too, that every qualifying entry this year contributes data to our database, and research against that database will be valuable only when it, too, is stuffed to the gills. (I don't know where that expression came from, but I hope it's apt.)





### Hulse Hill Farm

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*Assist with morning and evening farm chores*





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**Live, Laugh & Love on the Farm**

# 2017 CGA/NWCA INTERNATIONAL FLEECE COMPETITION AND CGA NEW ENGLAND NORTH AMERICAN CASHMERE GOAT SHOW

*FOR THE ENTRY OF GOATS IN THE 2017 CGA GOAT SHOW AND FLEECES IN THE 2017 CGA/NWCA FLEECE COMPETITION IN TUNBRIDGE, VT ON SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 1, 2017*

**\* REQUIRED**

EMAIL ADDRESS \* \_\_\_\_\_

GOAT OWNER (OR YOUTH EXHIBITOR) \* \_\_\_\_\_

IF YOUTH ENTRY -- AGE OF EXHIBITOR \_\_\_\_\_

FARM NAME \* \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \* \_\_\_\_\_

HERD CODE AND GOAT NAME \* \_\_\_\_\_

SCRAPIE ID OR MICROCHIP # \* \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY FOR: \*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2017 CGA/NWCA INTERNATIONAL FLEECE COMPETITION (SUBMISSION OF FLEECE ONLY)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2017 CGA NEW ENGLAND NORTH AMERICAN CASHMERE GOAT SHOW (JUDGING OF BOTH GOAT AND FLEECE)
- \_\_\_\_\_ BOTH FLEECE SHOW AND GOAT SHOW (SAME ENTRY FEE BUT FLEECE MUST BE SHIPPED AHEAD TO MEET SEPT 15 DEADLINE)
- \_\_\_\_\_ YOUTH SHOWMANSHIP ENTRY -- OPEN TO YOUTH FROM AGE 5 TO 18 (GOAT SHOW ONLY)
- \_\_\_\_\_ CAPRINE CHALLENGE ENTRY -- AN OBSTACLE CHALLENGE DEMONSTRATING EXHIBITOR HANDLING SKILLS - OPEN TO YOUTH AND ADULTS (IN GOAT SHOW)



SEX OF GOAT \*    ☐ DOE    ☐ BUCK    ☐ WETHER

AGE OF GOAT (1ST/2ND/3RD FLEECE) \*

☐ KID BORN IN 2017 (NO FLEECE)

☐ BORN IN 2016 -- YEARLING (1ST FLEECE)

☐ BORN IN 2015 -- 2 YEAR-OLD (2ND FLEECE)

☐ BORN IN 2014 -- 3 YEAR-OLD (3RD FLEECE)

☐ BORN IN 2013 -- 4 YEAR-OLD (4TH FLEECE)

☐ BORN IN 2012 -- 5 YEAR-OLD (5TH FLEECE)

☐ BORN IN 2011 -- 6 YEAR-OLD (6TH FLEECE)

☐ BORN IN 2010 OR EARLIER -- 7 YEAR-OLD OR OLDER (7TH+ FLEECE) (INCLUDE AGE & FLEECE # IN BAG)

### **INFORMATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE NORTH AMERICAN CASHMERE GOAT DATABASE**

*THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS WILL BE STORED FOR EACH GOAT ENTERED IN THE GOAT SHOW AND/OR FLEECE COMPETITION IN THE NORTH AMERICAN CASHMERE GOAT DATABASE, WHICH IS CURRENTLY UNDER DEVELOPMENT. ONLY GOATS WHOSE SCORES INDICATE THAT THEY MEET THE NORTH AMERICAN CASHMERE GOAT STANDARD WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE DATABASE. OWNERS ALSO HAVE THE OPTION OF REQUESTING THAT EVALUATION INFORMATION FOR THEIR GOAT NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE DATABASE.*

COAT (GUARD HAIR COLOR    ☐ WHITE    ☐ BLACK    ☐ GREY    ☐ RED    ☐ BROWN  
                                  ☐ BI-COLORED    ☐ "SALT & PEPPER"    ☐ OTHER

CASHMERE FIBER COLOR    ☐ WHITE    ☐ GREY    ☐ FAWN    ☐ TAUPE    ☐ DARK BROWN  
                                  ☐ ECRU (OFF-WHITE WITH RED/BROWN TONES)    ☐ SILVER (WHITE WITH GREY TONES)  
                                  ☐ MIXED    ☐ OTHER

GUARD HAIR LENGTH    ☐ SHORT    ☐ MEDIUM    ☐ LONG

FRAME    ☐ SMALL    ☐ MEDIUM    ☐ LARGE

DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YY)     /  /

HERD CODE AND NAME OF SIRE   

HERD CODE AND NAME OF DAM   

ARE YOU WILLING TO HAVE EVALUATION INFORMATION FROM THE 2017 CGA GOAT SHOW AND/OR FLEECE COMPETITION INCLUDED IN THE NORTH AMERICAN CASHMERE GOAT DATABASE FOR THIS GOAT?    YES/NO    ☐



## Farmlets

The people behind their goats typically have an interesting story, as do the creators of the cartoons entitled “Farmlets”. Christi Glover and her husband owned a small farm in Western Washington consisting of various animals including a few cashmere goats.



It seemed only natural as a writer that Christi start blogging about her farm. Christi even author a book about their daily adventures on the farm entitles, *The Fava, the Sun, and the Holy Goat: A Year On Our Farmlet*. Christi’s husband often referred to as “The Bearded One” is a retired lawyer and soon became her blogging partner as featured stick figure cartoonist. These simple but telling cartoons capture the essence of farm life. Christi and her husband have since moved to Puna, Hawaii and have left their livestock to friends and family. They are enjoying a different pace of life with one acre of glorious tropical plantings and living off-grid near the ocean. Christi and her husband have permitted CGA to share some of these creative and witty “**Farmlets**” cartoons with our readers during our next few issues of Hoofprints. We guarantee they will bring a smile and laughter to your day!

Follow Christi’s blog at: <https://farmlet.wordpress.com>



The Bearded One — Christi’s husband; Editor-’n Cheep; stickman artist

## TEMPEST FUGIT



Clark and Imogen 2004



Clark and Imogen 2009



Clark and Imogen 2017



## International Cashmere Goat Workshop Update

**November 5<sup>th</sup>- November 11<sup>th</sup> Radda in Chianti, Italy 2017**

Registration is now open and the United States will be well represented at this year's event with participation from breeders, mill owners, designers and researchers.

Presenters and participator for this year's event are traveling far and wide with a common goal of gathering as many cashmere goat breeders from as many diversified countries. Breeders and cashmere experts from the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, Italy, Canada, Mongolia, and Iran are just a few of the place on the globe that will be represented.

The week will provide for a full "expeditionary experience" with daily trips. Daily excursions include tours of the Textile Museum in Prato, DHG Dye House Gallery and Factory, private lecture at the goat registry and fiber lab at the Universita Di Camerino, farm tours, wine and dining in such cities as Siena, San Gimignano, Florence, and so much more.

A sample of the topics presented during the two-day workshop include:

- Most recent research conducted by Lora Piao's scientist regarding climate and cashmere quality
- Breeding development of cashmeres that can be sheared twice a year
- Genetics and color
- Breed Standards
- Fiber lab result reliability
- Future markets and projections for cashmere

The entire weeks itinerary which includes the two-day workshop, week long travel arrangements, museum fees to daily destinations with some lunches and wine tasting is \$615.00. Only 25 seats are available for the week-long excursion. There is two-day workshop only option for interested parties who are geographically closer, with a maximum of 50. Confirmed presenters and topics are presently posted on Facebook at International Cashmere Goat Workshop 2017 Tuscany Italy.

Check out more details about this amazing event and register at:

<https://internationalgoatworkshop2017.eventbrite.com>



## SAFE AND POISONOUS GARDEN PLANTS

If you have ever wondered which items in our flower gardens and yards might be safe to feed our goats or take in from neighbours or landscapers, here is a list of safe and unsafe to varying degrees plants that might be found in people gardens or landscaped properties. Since we take trees removed on landscaping jobs by our neighbour we thought this a good resource for to pass on. Normally we get the normal trees but more and more they are bringing us unfamiliar plants and this list helps us sort out the edible and not so edible plants from the dump truck loads. A quick scan of this UC Davis publication and we kindly declined the box wood and yew tree. The article tells you what class of toxicity the plant in question falls into so you can decide if it is an issue or not. Left to their own, we have found it is rare for the goats to eat much of something toxic but the more used to being given cut browse the more likely they are to overdo it on the minor toxic plants or eat something more lethal.

To see this article, please visit:

[https://ucanr.edu/sites/poisonous\\_safe\\_plants/files/154528.pdf](https://ucanr.edu/sites/poisonous_safe_plants/files/154528.pdf)



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*Hermit Pond Farm*  
Cashmere Goats

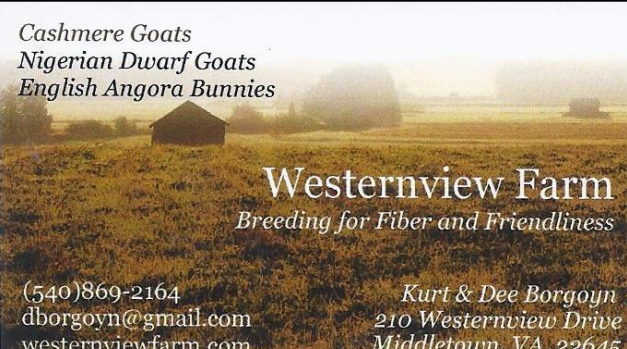
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## Goats: Man's New Best Friend? Science Says It's Possible

BY **ZOË SCHLANGER**

To read more please see:

<http://www.newsweek.com/goats-mans-new-best-friend-478893>



Cashmere Goats  
Nigerian Dwarf Goats  
English Angora Bunnies

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# HOOFPRINTS

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*Hoofprints* is the official newsletter of the Cashmere Goat Association. It is published 3 times per year and sent to all members. If you have comments about articles you've seen in *Hoofprints*, any farm tips, or personal experiences you'd like to share, please send them to us. Please note that Hoofprints is sent electronically.

## CGA MEMBERSHIP

Full individual membership is \$30/year or \$50 for two years.  
Junior (under 18 years) membership is \$15/year (non-voting)

If you have not filled out a membership application for a year or two, it would be helpful to the association for you to do that. The application can be found under contact information at our website:  
[www.cashmeregoatassociation.org](http://www.cashmeregoatassociation.org)

Send membership and advertising information and checks to: Jana Dengler, 60 Hardwick Road, Petersham, MA 01366. Make checks payable to Cashmere Goat Association or CGA.

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## REMINDER!!!!

Submission deadlines are February 15<sup>th</sup>, June 15<sup>th</sup> and October 15. All BOD members are required to submit a written article, an interesting web link or photos for each HoofPrints edition.