

MYOTONIC GOAT REVIEW

A PUBLICATION OF THE MYOTONIC GOAT REGISTRY



SPRING 2013

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2

VALLEY OF THE SUN FAINTING GOAT SHOW

Oktoberfest Show held in Ramona, CA on October 19, 2012
Judge: Mitchell Schulte, AMGA (Bakersfield, CA)

Junior Champion Doe

Faint-Hearted Ranch Fern	Jessica Shaffer
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Reserve Junior Champion Doe

Take Heart Ramona	Tim & Tracy Teichert
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Senior Champion Doe

Ancient Valley Coffee Crunch Cookie	Linda Martin
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Reserve Senior Champion Doe

Arrowhead Lake Cleo	Tim & Tracy Teichert
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Grand Champion Doe

Faint-Hearted Ranch Fern	Jessica Shaffer
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Reserve Grand Champion Doe

Ancient Valley Coffee Crunch Cookie	Linda Martin
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Junior Champion Buck

Fern Hill Renegade	Jessica Shaffer
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Reserve Junior Champion Buck

3 Dubs Acres Razmataz	Kathy & Richard Whitford/Terri & Rob Wheeler
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Senior Champion Buck

Triple-T Ranch Rivers	Linda Martin
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Reserve Senior Champion Buck

CWF Bois D'Arc	Tim & Tracy Teichert
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Grand Champion Buck

Triple-T Ranch Rivers	Linda Martin
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Reserve Grand Champion Buck

CWF Bois D'Arc	Tim & Tracy Teichert
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Junior Champion Wether

Saddleback Mountain Ranch Peanut	Linda Martin
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Reserve Junior Champion Wether

Triple-T Bubba	Tim & Tracy Teichert
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Senior Champion Wether

Saddleback Mountain Ranch Jasper	Linda Martin
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Reserve Senior Champion Wether

Triple-T Luke	Allison & Ron Robinson
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Grand Champion Wether

Saddleback Mountain Ranch Jasper	Linda Martin
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Reserve Grand Champion Wether

Saddleback Mountain Ranch Peanut	Linda Martin
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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- From The Farm
- Gourmet Goat
- Performance Ratios
- MGR Featured Breeder
- Goats, Music & More Festival 2012
- Managing Herd Health
- A Family Affair Poem
- MGR Programs & Growth
- APHIS & Identifying Goats



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FROM THE FARM...

It seems Mother Nature cannot make-up her mind as to whether we are in winter or spring! I know this is causing great concerns for many breeders as kidding season is in full swing and it's weaning time for others. I have received several calls from breeders that are already experiencing issues with bloat from the spring grasses. If grasses are suddenly green and you are experiencing moist conditions then be prepared for the signs of bloat.

I am excited to announce that MGR will be part of the MS State Fair, located in Jackson, MS this fall. Our dates and activities are as follows;

October 11, 2013 will be our Judges Certification
 October 12, 2013 will be a Sanctioned show (tentative to begin at 9:00 am)
 October 12, 2013 will be our National Show (tentative to begin at 5:00 pm)
 October 13, 2013 will be an MGR Sanctioned show (tentative to begin at 9:00 am)
 Judges Certification will be limited and preference is given to those who have been raising Myotonics and breeders with the MGR for 5 years or more or have been Certified Goat Judges for at least 5 years.

The National Show is only open to Myotonic Goat Registry Permanent Grand Champions and Wethers with at least (3) three points. Our (2) two sanctioned shows are open to all MGR registered goats.

All forms will be available in the next few weeks for the Sanctioned Shows, National Show and Judges Certification, via our website.

Ellen Pittman & Diana Long have been hard at work raising money for the MGR Youth Program. There are plans to offer Youth Premiums to Youth Breeders who show goats registered in their name at the Sanctioned Shows in MS. Youth Premiums will be announced on the day of the show.

I hope all that can attend and support the shows at the MS State Fair will do so. This is an amazing opportunity to promote the breed in front of thousands of people. The hard work breeders of MGR have put in across the country have helped us gain enough recognition to offer this wonderful chance to promote our breed to so many people!

I would like to thank everyone for the support of the Lebanon, TN show. This was a wonderful turn-out for so early in the show season. I personally enjoyed seeing many breeders after a long winter!

Hats off to Maggie & Tom Raby for hosting our first OK show. I am sorry I was not able to attend such a well-run event. It is exciting to hear so many breeders getting out and participating in MGR events.

Please take time to report any goats to MGR that have passed away or been sold with-out their Registration Certificate. You may e-mail or mail notice of your information to the home office. Please provide the date of loss and (if known) cause. This helps keep the data-base up-to-date.

Thank you for all the time and effort each of you put in promoting and preserving this fine breed!

~Tara

NOTICE OF CHANGE

Looking to the future of the breed is very important not only for its preservation but also for the acceptance of the Myotonic as a breed. One of the ongoing problems in that acceptance is that as a landrace breed it has many different looks, and therefore cannot be given a breed standard that will cover the breed. This is the reason MGR has in the past only used a Breed Description.

How do we get this to be an accepted breed by the industry and also be able to have a breed standard that will indeed allow for a true conformation? Not a simple or quick task to do. However, we will begin on 01/01/2013 to initiate our first step by closing the registry to allow only bucks that have two (2) registered MGR parents.

How does this help? We must accept that our Bucks are one half of our herd. Therefore, if no new bucks are allowed into the MGR registry then we will begin to see a particular look begin to shape within this registry. This will not happen overnight but is a start to progressively moving the Myotonics into a breed that can be recognized instantly by breeders.

Remember: as of 01/01/2013 Bucks without TWO registered MGR parents will not be allowed to be registered---no exceptions.

Although MGR welcomes unsolicited articles and pictures, it does not assume responsibility for statements by advertisers and contributors. It is the sole responsibility of the reader to obtain veterinary services and advice before using any of the information in this newsletter. Articles appearing in the Myotonic Goat Review do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the MGR staff or publisher. Pictures contributed via regular mail will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope and return postage. All contributions become the sole property of MGR.

THE GOURMET GOAT: BAKED CUSTARD

Ingredients:

2 Cups diluted MEYENBERG Evaporated Goat Milk
 ...OR 2 Cups reconstituted MEYENBERG powdered goat milk
 ...OR 2 Cups fresh, MEYENBERG ultra-pasteurized goat milk
 1/4 to 1/2 cup sugar or 3/4 cup honey
 1/8 tsp salt
 1/2 tsp vanilla or almond extract
 sprinkle Nutmeg
 2 Whole Eggs; if you want to unmold, add an extra egg yolk



Recipe courtesy of
 Meyenberg Goat Milk Products

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 300°F. Blend together goat milk, honey and salt. Add 2 eggs and beat well. Add vanilla or almond extract. When all is well beaten, pour into individual custard cups. Dust with nutmeg. Set cups on rack or folded towel in a 9×12-inch shallow pan. Pour an inch of hot (not boiling) water into pan. Bake for 30 minutes or until knife inserted in center comes out clean. Serve warm or chilled.

Visit <http://meyenberg.com> to find other delicious goat milk recipes!

MGR ADVERTISING GUIDELINES

- All ads must be goat related. The acceptance and publishing of any ad will be the final decision of the owner and editors of MGR. The ad submitted must be copy ready. Please keep file size to a minimum! Preferred format for electronic submissions is .pdf or Word format.
- Ads should be submitted one month prior to Newsletter release date. The Newsletter is quarterly so release dates are in January, April, July and October. Release dates may be adjusted as needed and every effort will be made to include any ads that did not get submitted a month in advance.
- The rates for active MGR breeders are as follows:**
 - *Business card ad: \$21 per year (4 issues), \$7 per issue; 2 1/4" x 3 3/8"
 - *1/4 page ad: \$27 per year, \$9 per issue; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"
 - *1/2 page ad: \$48 per year, \$16 per issue; 4 1/2 x 7 1/4"
 - *Full page ad: \$90 per year, \$30 per issue; 7 1/4 x 9 1/4"
 - Classified ads: \$0.30 per word.
- Rates for businesses or non-MGR breeders are:**
 - *Business card ad: \$48 per year (4 issues), \$16 per issue; 2 1/4" x 3 3/8"
 - *1/4 page ad: \$60 per year, \$20 per issue; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"
 - *1/2 page ad: \$90 per year, \$30 per issue; 4 1/2 x 7 1/4"
- *Full page ad: \$180 per year, \$60 per issue; 7 1/4 x 9 1/4"
- Classified ads: \$0.60 per word.
- Classified ads must be renewed each issue.
- If you select a per issue ad, you can specify in which issue you would like the ad to appear. Actual location of ad in the Newsletter is at the Editor's discretion. Be sure to submit your ad early!
- *Sizes given are to allow for the border on the newsletter page.



Please send your ad with payment to:

Myotonic Goat Registry
 3174 Valley Ford Road
 Adger, AL 35006

Questions? Contact Cindy Bene at 757-357-6951
 or via email at candjbene@gmail.com

PERFORMANCE RATIOS

~Cindy Bene

The purpose of using Performance Ratios is to pinpoint which animals are “above average” in each kidding season. They are also helpful in ascertaining which females are the better producers.

When calculating Performance Ratios, animals must be compared to their own contemporary group versus animals from another breeder or farm. This ensures that they were all born and raised under the same conditions and management. Additionally, males and females are calculated as separate groups.

The simplified formula for the calculation of the Performance Ratio is: Individual animal’s weaning weight divided by the contemporary group average weaning weight, and then this is multiplied by 100. Since this is a ratio, a score above 100 is considered “above average.”

Before this calculation is done, however, the weaning weights are first adjusted to 90 day weight equivalents. Most kids are weaned between 60-120 days. Regardless of when the kid is weaned, in order to draw meaningful comparisons, all kids’ weights in the group are adjusted to the 90 day weight equivalent as follows:

Subtract birth weight from weaning day weight
 Divide by age (in days) at weaning
 Multiply by 90
 Add to birth weight to get the 90 day weaning weight

Example: A kid weighed 5 pounds at birth and 55 pounds when weaned at day 100.

Step 1: Calculate the average daily weight gain

55 minus 5 = 50
 50 divided by 100 = 0.5 pounds average daily weight gain

Step 2: Convert above to 90 day weaning weight:

0.5 multiplied by 90 = 45 pounds
 45 plus the birth weight of 5 pounds = 50 pounds, and this is the “90 day weight equivalent”

Next, the 90 day weight equivalent is adjusted for non-genetic factors. Based on research done by Virginia Tech, there are adjustments that need to be made to eliminate these effects. These adjustments include:

- Sex of kid
- Litter size/Rearing
- Age of dam

The multiplier for adjusting for sex is shown below:

Factor	Sex
0.90	Buck
1.0	Doe
0.97	Wether

Adjusting for the dam’s age:

Factor	Dam’s Age
1.1	1 year
1.09	2 years
1.0	3-7 years
1.0	8+ years

Adjusting for the type of birth and rearing:

Factor	Birth Type	Raised as:
1.00	Single	Single
1.14	Single	Twin
1.04	Twin	Single
1.18	Twin	Twin
1.08	Triplet	Single
1.23	Triplet	Twin
1.27	Triplet	Triplet

** Since the literature didn’t mention bottle babies, it is suggested that you use “Single” as the “Raised as” type for these kids.

Example: Buck with weight adjusted to 50 pounds, born a twin, reared as a single to a 1 year old doe.

Adjustment for sex:
 50 multiplied by 0.9 = 45 pounds

Adjustment for dam’s age:
 45 multiplied by 1.1 = 49.5 pounds

Adjustment for type of rearing:
 49.5 multiplied by 1.04 = 51.48 pounds

The next step is to calculate the adjusted weights for all other kids of the same sex born at the same time (contemporary group) to arrive at an average for the herd. All the weights are calculated in the same fashion as above. Then the average for the group is derived by adding all the weights and dividing by the number of kids. Let’s say the contemporary group average weight calculates to be 50.5 pounds. To figure the example kid’s (51.48 pounds) Performance Ratio, divide his weight by the average weight and multiply by 100.

51.48 divided by 50.5 = 1.02
 1.02 multiplied by 100 = 102
 The Performance Ratio is expressed as deviation from 100, so this kid is 2 above the average for his group.

The Performance Ratio comes in handy when trying to improve your herd. If you choose a doe that was above average and a buck that was also above average for breeding, this will enable you to improve the performance of your herd over time.



MGR BREEDERS TARA & MITCH SCHILLUMEIT

Rambling Acres is a small family farm located in Suffolk, Virginia. We have an assortment of just about everything. We are home to goats, horses, dogs, cats, chickens, turkeys, and one llama. The llama is a guardian for the goat herd, and bonds particularly well with the kids. In addition to our fainting goats, we have three Lamancha goats, who provide milk for our family. We work during the day, and come home at night to take care of everyone. A lot of people ask how we have the time and energy for it, but we find that it helps us to relax and enjoy life a little more by hanging out with our happy little goats.

We started out by joking that we needed a goat. The poison ivy and weeds in the backyard were out of control, and just laughed at all of the stuff we sprayed on it. A friend mentioned that we should get fainting goats, so we looked up a video, and fell in love right there. We started out with a trio, one buck and two does, which had been bottle-raised. They were the sweetest little goats, curious about everything, not super fearful, and not fence pushers. After our trio had the first baby, we were hooked. We could do this, and do it well. We are able to do many medical aspects ourselves, such as vaccinating, deworming, and hoof trimming, but always have a qualified vet on hand for emergencies. Other local goat farms have been very generous in sharing knowledge and we are still learning every day.

First and foremost, our goats are about enjoying life. Even though they do lock up from being startled, they have the friendliest and most inquisitive kids. We try to have the does raise their own kids as much as possible, but make certain to handle the kids almost every day ensuring friendly goats all around. We like to educate all of our visitors on how much fun having goats can be. And of course, the fainting goats are the most fun!

You can contact Rambling Acres at:
tmcgein@gmail.com



Cami, the llama watching over Jack-O-Lantern, our Halloween baby. The mother goats are quite pleased to have a babysitter!



How it all got started: the trio of Cookie, Penny & Thunder



Henry on the stairs

GOATS, MUSIC & MORE FESTIVAL 2012

Shows held October 12 & 13, 2012
at the Goats, Music & More Festival in Lewisburg, TN
Judge for Rock Creek Classic Myotonic Goat Show: David Carwell
Judge for World Champion Fainting Goat Show: Lowell Walker

Rock Creek Classic Myotonic Goat Show

World Champion Fainting Goat Show

Junior Champion Doe

S-L Superman Debbie	Sonny Purser
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S-L Miss Sugar Rey	Sonny Purser
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Reserve Junior Champion Doe

S-L Miss Sugar Rey	Sonny Purser
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S-L Miss Black Bama	Sonny Purser
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Senior Champion Doe

7 Fainting Acres Kristine	7 Fainting Acres
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Woody Creek Farm O'Blu Moon	Debbie Mullins
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Reserve Senior Champion Doe

S-L Pixie	Sonny Purser
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S-L Pixie	Sonny Purser
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Grand Champion Doe

S-L Superman Debbie	Sonny Purser
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S-L Miss Sugar Rey	Sonny Purser
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Reserve Grand Champion Doe

7 Fainting Acres Kristine	7 Fainting Acres
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Woody Creek Farm O'Blu Moon	Debbie Mullins
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Junior Champion Buck

S-L Outback Jack	Sonny Purser
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S-L Sugar Rey	Sonny Purser
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Reserve Junior Champion Buck

S-L Redbud 8 Jr.	Sonny Purser
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Fern Hill Esquire	Jack & Prissy Chilcutt
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Senior Champion Buck

Fern Hill Firestone	Jack & Prissy Chilcutt
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Fern Hill Firestone	Jack & Prissy Chilcutt
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Reserve Senior Champion Buck

Green Pastures Ezekial Blu	Georgia Corkins
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Pint Size LB Sambo	Jan Likens
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Grand Champion Buck

Fern Hill Firestone	Jack & Prissy Chilcutt
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S-L Sugar Rey	Sonny Purser
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Reserve Grand Champion Buck

S-L Outback Jack	Sonny Purser
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Fern Hill Firestone	Jack & Prissy Chilcutt
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Junior Champion Wether

Sunshine Acres Timothy Blu Splash	Georgia Corkins
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Tyler @ Darktree Farm	Zona Johnson
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Reserve Junior Champion Wether

7 Fainting Acres Nothing Available	7 Fainting Acres
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Sunshine Acres Timothy Blu Splash	Georgia Corkins
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Senior Champion Wether

Sunshine Acres Noah	Georgia Corkins
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7 Fainting Acres Shadow Walker	Max Lawrence
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Reserve Senior Champion Wether

B's Barn Dirk	Judy Balmer
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Woody Creek Farm Coco's Poco	Debbie Mullins
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Grand Champion Wether

Sunshine Acres Noah	Georgia Corkins
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7 Fainting Acres Shadow Walker	Max Lawrence
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Reserve Grand Champion Wether

Sunshine Acres Timothy Blu Splash	Georgia Corkins
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Woody Creek Farm Coco's Poco	Debbie Mullins
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MANAGING HERD HEALTH

~ Cindy Bene

A routine for managing your herd health is a great idea. Many customers have asked for some sort of schedule to follow in managing their investment. While no single plan will work in all situations, many of the things we do for our herd will be similar and/or applicable in most situations. Each producer will have to start with a "skeleton" plan and then alter it to suit their specific needs, depending on whether they are raising dairy, fiber, meat, pet or show animals. Obviously, things that need to be done for a large-scale operation may differ from those things done for a smaller operation. Basically, most of us are striving for increased productivity while at the same time we wish to manage nutrition, control parasites, prevent disease and maintain a healthy environment. We also want our goats to be happy!

Suggested Schedule Based on a Spring Kidding Season

Fall

We make a point of trying to get the major barn cleaning done prior to the onset of bad weather. The timing for intense barn cleaning is obviously more important for those herds in the Northern states and Canadian areas than those in the South because of the shorter summer season. Also, if you are breeding twice a year, your cleaning schedule will have to be tailored to meet those needs. Kidding pens should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected so they are ready when the kids start arriving. We pitchfork and rake out all material down to the bare dirt and then use electric fans to aerate for several hours. After floors have dried, we sprinkle with lime and put down fresh pine shavings in each stall.



Check the herd for lice and delouse the entire herd if any are found. We usually dust with a livestock dust such as Co-Ral dust. A great substitute that may be used is 5% Sevin dust, available at garden stores; be sure to use the 5% rather than the 10% concentration. This would be a good time to check and trim hooves also while you already have the animals being handled, and to avoid having to trim does' hooves in late gestation period. Make sure you include the bucks when checking and trimming hooves.

Goats that come off pasture should be wormed as needed. Deworm one month prior to breeding season. Do fecal checks to monitor parasite egg counts and FAMACHA test to determine which goats need to be wormed. Our risk for parasites is low since we dry lot feed purchased hay; however, having to purchase hay is our largest expense so there is a trade-off. It is better to worm only those goats that need worming rather than routinely worming the entire herd. This will help to avoid developing resistance to the limited amount of wormers available for goats.

Do a reproductive exam of the buck/s you plan on using for breeding to include checking for defects such as hernias, extra teats, cryptorchidism and intersex characteristics. A semen evaluation can be done also, but this is probably out of the realm of and not necessary for small producers. A physical exam should be done to include checking the musculoskeletal system (especially feet and legs) and checking for jaw malformations. Body Condition Score should be evaluated and score should be 3 to 3.5. It isn't unusual for a "busy" buck to lose weight during rut so the desired score is a little higher than those suggested for a breeding doe. Bucks are often overlooked but are a very important part of the herd. A single doe will only genetically affect her own offspring, while the sire used for breeding will affect many offspring. Choose the best buck with attention to good conformation that you can find/

afford and it will pay off in the long run.

The does should also be checked prior to breeding to include historical information such as duration of heat and length of time between cycles, and previous breeding and kidding data. Evaluate Body Condition Score with the goal being a score of 2.5 to 3.5. Do not overfeed does as obesity can cause pregnancy toxemia during late gestation. The conformation of mammary glands is also important.

Vaccinate for abortion diseases one month prior to breeding if there is a history of abortions due to infectious diseases in the herd. These diseases are not that common, so this is not usually necessary. Common causes are from *Chlamydia*, *Campylobacter* and *Toxoplasma*. Note: there is no vaccine for *Toxoplasma*¹. If there is a history of abortion due to *Toxoplasma*, you might consider adding rumensin/monensin to the grain ration for prevention². Don't bring new animals into the herd if you have pregnant does.

When you begin breeding, use a marking harness to determine which does have been bred and keep detailed records of dates bred, which buck was the sire, etc. We are fortunate enough in having a small operation and separate breeding area, so we are able to choose the buck and put specific does in when they show signs of being in heat. This allows us to know an accurate due date within 1-2 days. The date the doe is bred is marked on our breeding calendar and we monitor whether or not the doe recycles into heat to determine whether or not breeding was successful. You can also use ultrasound testing 45-60 days after they are bred to determine if any need to be rebred, but this is probably out of the realm of small operations.

Unfortunately, bucks will urinate all over their beards and forelegs to make themselves "desirable" to the ladies. If bucks show signs of urine scald on face or forelegs, clean area and apply petroleum jelly to the sensitive areas of skin.

~ Continued on Next Page

MANAGING HERD HEALTH CONTINUED

Winter



Make sure your goat housing has good ventilation to decrease risks of pneumonia. Check for roof leaks, wet bedding, excessive drafts and ammonia fumes. Correct any problems.

Make sure watering facilities are clean and not leaking. Colder areas may need a means of keeping water heated so it does not freeze on those really cold nights.

Take inventory and restock your kidding supplies. Be prepared for any emergency intervention before that first kid arrives. Make sure kidding pens are ready if indoor pens are an option on your farm. If heat lamps are going to be used, be sure to examine electrical cords for any damage and ensure that when hanging, the cords are out of range of chewing goats. Make sure the bulbs work and you have spares on hand. Use heat lamps with the utmost caution! If you are using some type of baby monitor or surveillance monitors with audio capability, it is probably prudent to have smoke detectors in use since heat lamps can be a real fire hazard.

If indoor kidding is not an option, make sure there are adequate facilities on kidding pastures. Use a rested pasture for kidding.

Remove the bucks from access to bred does. Perform pregnancy checks if equipment to do so is available.

Deworm and vaccinate the bred does 3-5 weeks prior to kidding and continue through the birthing season. Does exhibit an increase in parasite eggs with shedding around kidding time. Avoid levamisole and albendazole for deworming pregnant does. Monitor fecal egg counts and use FAMACHA system to assess efficiency of wormer.

Spring



Check and repair fences, gates, hay racks, water sources, and buildings as needed. If indoor shelter is used, clean out stalls, use fans to eliminate fumes, lime the floors and put down fresh bedding material.

Give the entire herd yearly vaccination boosters for *Clostridium perfringens* Type C and D as well as tetanus to coincide with 30 days prior to kidding. In addition to protecting the doe, this will also ensure that the antibodies are passed to newborns.

Increase feed levels of does due to kid 4 weeks prior to kidding and continue 4 weeks after kidding. If you live in a deficient area, give Vitamin E and Selenium 30-45 days prior to kidding.

Check does' urine for ketones if pregnancy toxemia is suspected. Take steps to correct the problem if you have a single animal with abnormal values, or if a large percent of the herd has increased values. Ketosis can occur with first time kidders, with obese females and with does carrying multiple fetuses. The problem typically appears in the last trimester of pregnancy. Some of the symptoms include depression, recumbency, tremors, stargazing, incoordination, circling, and grinding of teeth.¹ Prognosis for a doe that goes down from ketosis is poor; early detection and intervention increases survival rate.

Some producers clip the hair on the udder and hindquarters of the pregnant does to minimize soiling after kidding. This is especially helpful with the long-haired breeds. It is not unusual for the doe to have discharge several weeks after kidding.

The most important thing about kidding is to be prepared for the event! Check your kidding supplies and make every effort to be available when kidding begins in case assistance is needed. Provide clean, dry and draft-free area for kidding pens, or clean pasture with shelter.

Keep accurate records (date, birth weight, number of offspring, etc.) during kidding. If you have a large scale operation, you may want to use leg bands or marking crayons to identify kids and their respective dams. If possible, have private stalls available for the first 48-72 hours so the kids can bond with the dam without confusion. Some dams will actually "steal" kids from other does.

Make sure kids receive colostrum as soon as possible after birth and for the next 24-48 hours. After that, the dam produces less colostrum and the kid loses the ability to absorb it. All kids should be up and nursing within an hour or so after birth. Give colostrum by stomach tube if kid is unable to stand and nurse on its own. Make sure kid's body temperature is normal prior to feeding by stomach tube. If the kid is chilled, warm it under a heat lamp or wrap in a towel that has been run through clothes dryer and is warm.

If the umbilical cord is long, use umbilical clamp up near the abdomen and trim remaining cord. If you don't use a clamp, clip the cord and dip in iodine to cauterize as soon as possible. If the cord is long enough to reach the ground, it will "wick" up bacteria and the kid may develop "navel ill" or septicemia.

Examine kids for intersex or hermaphrodite characteristics, overshot or undershot jaw, cleft palate, anal atresia and other congenital defects.

When kids are old enough and following their dams, worm them at time of turnout onto kidding pasture if needed. Do fecal checks and FAMACHA testing to determine which goats need to be wormed. This would be a good time to check and trim hooves as needed also. Vaccinate kids at 4-6 weeks of age for *Clostridium perfringens* Type C

MANAGING HERD HEALTH CONTINUED

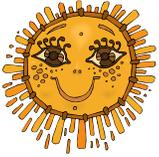
and D and tetanus, give a booster 30 days later and then revaccinate annually.

Check bucks for general condition, deworm and give extra feed as needed. Check and trim hooves if needed.

Summer

Make sure the herd has adequate shade and water during hot weather.

Monitor parasite levels with fecal exams and FAMACHA system.



Wean kids, usually when they are around 10-12 weeks of age, and move the does to a new pasture.

Separate doe kids from intact bucks before they reach 3-4 months of age. We do not allow our doelings to breed until they are at least one year old. If they are still small in stature, we may elect to wait until they are a year and a half old. The doe needs time to mature herself before taking on the burden of producing kids. Bucklings are capable of breeding even when they are only 3-4 months old.

Turn teaser bucks in with does if synchronized breeding is desired. Begin supplemental feeding (flushing) of does to be bred. Cull does with poor health and poor reproductive performance.

Have herd testing done for the various diseases (CAE, CL and Johnes) so results are available prior to breeding.

Year Round

Provide a means of exercise and avoid over-feeding.

Make sure fresh, clean drinking water is always available.

Provide good quality hay/roughage and browse for a healthy rumen.

The dietary Calcium to Phosphorus ratio should be maintained at 2:1. High levels of salt (up to 4%) and 1-2% ammonium chloride in the diet of bucklings and wethers helps prevent urinary calculi. We do not use ammonium chloride; instead we ensure the bucks eat predominantly hay with only a small amount of grain or pelleted feed.

Provide minerals so that trace mineral intake (selenium, zinc) is adequate in deficient areas.

If coccidiosis is a problem, provide coccidiostats in the feed or water and maintain good sanitary practices with feeding areas.

Make sure the herd has some sort of shelter to protect against heavy rain, cold wind, hail, etc. and to provide shade.

While some don't seem to mind adverse weather conditions, a shelter should be available for the animal to make the choice to seek it as needed. If indoor shelter is provided, make sure it is cleaned as needed on a regular basis. Bedding material should be dry and ventilation should be good.

Summary

This schedule, by no means, will work for everyone. The producer will reap the benefits from having a thorough herd management system tailored to suit their own needs, goals and budget. Keep in mind that prevention is usually more economical than intervention. The goats thrive when their basic needs are met. All of our efforts add up to a "Win-Win" situation—if the goats are happy, we are happy.

References

¹ *Sheep and Goat Medicine*, D.G. Pugh, W.B. Saunders Company, 2002, page 168 and 424.

² *Meat Goats: Their History, Management and Diseases*, Stephanie Mitcham and Allison Mitcham, Crane Creek Publications, 2000, page 236.

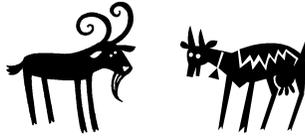
MGR wishes all breeders

a successful Spring kidding season!



A FAMILY AFFAIR

~ Bonalyn Kennedy, MGR Breeder



They wanted to play a trick on Grandpa
And it had to be something silly
So they went and bought two fainting goats
A nanny and a billy.

Within a short time these baby goats
Were following him all around
They'd jump upon the chair beside him
As he sat out by the pond.

Time went on and these babies grew
And then had babies of their own.
That's the essence of the story
Of how our fainting goat farm was born.

Now here it is five years later
And it's a family affair
We raise and breed our fainting goats
And show them at the fairs.

Grandpa knows each goat's personality
And takes care of them every day
He's been called the "goat whisperer"
And that is so true we say.

Grandma gives them treats and loving
And keeps their records up to date
Helps to feed the bottle babies
So they will all gain weight.

Fixing fences or trimming hooves
The children help with the heavy work
Sue takes care of the business end
And keeps the financial books.

The granddaughters have it best of all
When the young kids training they begin
They are the ones who smile proudly
As they show them in the ring.

We never thought two little goats
Would take us where we are today
We didn't know that it would lead
To a family affair.



**Is thrilled to announce the arrival of these 2 beautiful boys
Both are Master Champions!**



MCH Flying J Fainters Secret Weapon



MCH Bells Goats Patch

Please check our website www.sansujo.ca for sales!

Or contact: Susan Walters

4330 Howie Road

Duncan, B.C. Canada

Email: sansujomini@hotmail.com

MGR PROGRAMS AND GROWTH

MGR is excited about the growth that we have experienced since the formation of this registry. In the last few years new opportunities have been offered to promote and preserve our myotonic goats while providing interesting activities for our member's participation.

Some of those programs are:

- Sanctioned goat shows: each year our breeders offer increased numbers of shows for the pleasure and participation of those who enjoy competition and visiting with their goat friends.
- Youth program: our junior members compete, work, play and learn together.
- Platinum wether program: created to provide progressive titles to be earned by wethers in our sanctioned shows.
- National championship classes: provided for those goats who have finished their PGCH status or at least bronze status in wethers. PGCH's and platinum wethers have been retired and can only compete in champion challenge classes.
- Judges training program: New in 2012, program to train judges about correct breed type, sound structure, and muscling of the myotonic goat. It is our goal to train sufficient judges to officiate at all our sanctioned shows.
- High Point Program: New in 2012, members nominated their show animals and earned points each time their animals placed (1 thru 5). High point and reserve high point animals win the nomination fees at the end of the show season.
- Pen sales: New in 2012, pen sales were offered at the November show for any member who wanted to sell a group of their animals.
- New in 2013: Miniature Myotonic Study. This study is a means of collecting data while certifying miniatures (3 yrs of ages) so that they can be documented as miniatures and can compete in mini classes at sanctioned shows. As data is collected and more miniatures are recorded, it is our hope to be able to offer additional miniature classes and shows in the future. In order to get to this point with the miniatures, we need the support of those breeders who are actively working with the smaller goats.



BEECHKELD FARM FAINTING GOATS

**PHIL AND TORSTEN SPONENBERG
2620 BISHOP ROAD
BLACKSBURG, VA 24061**

540-552-0113

GOATS IN ALL COLORS, ALL AGES

RESPONSE FROM APHIS REGARDING IDENTIFYING GOATS

~ submitted by Judy Balmer

APHIS was contacted via email on March 3, 2013:

From: Judy B [mailto:bsbarnfarm@windstream.net]
 Sent: Sunday, March 03, 2013 1:01 PM
 To: APHIS-Traceability
 Subject: Identity on goats

Good afternoon,

In a discussion with my local vet, he was explaining to me that microchips implanted into a goat will not be seen as permanent ID, that for a health certificate a tattoo or USDA tag will be needed. I have been doing a search for this information in writing and also a exact date that it would be implemented on. Can you direct me to a link of where I can find this info and the date it will be instated for goats?

I would like to share this information with other goat breeders but would like to have this additional information.

Thank you for your time.

Judy Balmer

APHIS responded to the email on March 12, 2013:

----- Original Message -----

From: Sutton, Diane L - APHIS
 To: bsbarnfarm@windstream.net ; APHIS-Traceability
 Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 1:37 PM
 Subject: RE: Identity on goats

Hi Judy,

Sheep or goats registered with national associations that allow the use of electronic implants for official registry identification may use EIDs as official identification in the Scrapie Eradication Program. Please note that the following conditions must be met:

- The animals are registered with a national registry association;
- The electronic implant number is recorded by the registry on the registration certificate accompanying the animal, and the animal is accompanied by an implant reader that can read the implant in the animal;
- At exhibitions, an implant reader that can read the implant in the animal is available for use by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service or State authorities;

- The movement is either for exhibition purposes or for sale, with transfer of the registration papers to a new owner who has a reader that can read the implant in the animal (as the animal may not be moved by the new owner unless accompanied by a reader); and

- To ensure uniqueness of the numbers and compatibility with readers used by APHIS, implanted EIDs must be compliant with International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 11784 and 11785 regarding radio frequency identification of animals. These standards require RFID implants for animals to be 15 digits including a 3 digit country or manufacturer code and must read at 134.2 kHz. Producers should check the product insert to ensure that the device meets these requirements.

- NOTE:
 - o Producers have been given an extension until March 11, 2014 to use up any implants that do not meet these requirements. Implants applied to sheep or goats before this date will be acceptable as official identification for the life of the animal as long as the animal is accompanied by the registration certificate listing the implant number and a reader that can read the implant number.
 - o Also, as stated in the revised definition of an animal identification number implants applied after March 11, 2015 will be required to have the 3 digit country code "840" rather than a manufacturer's code. A list of approved 840 implant and official ear tag manufacturers is maintained at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_diseases/scrapie/approved-tag-co.shtml

Such animals moved in interstate commerce to a market or are for sale without registration papers, must be identified with visible official identification, such as an official ear tag or tattoo.

EID Placement

The implant must be placed in a site allowed by the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and in accordance with any applicable Federal, State, or local laws or regulations. The recommended placement of EIDs (microchips) in sheep and goats is on the top of the ear between the skin and the cartilage near where the ear meets the head. The tail fold may also be used. FDA considers EIDs to be unapproved food additives. If an animal that has been implanted is sent to slaughter, the Food Safety Inspection Service inspector should be notified of the presence and location of the EID (microchip) device prior to slaughter so that it can be removed from the carcass after slaughter to prevent adulteration of the carcass.

"Don't Delay..."



"Renew Today!"

Myotonic Goat Registry
3174 Valley Ford Road
Adger, AL 35006

**2013 Annual Breeder Fee Invoice
&
Breeder Information Update**

Name:

MGR Breeder Number:

Address:

Phone:

Email Address:

Website:

Please take a moment to update your breeder information so the website and database will reflect your current information. Print legibly!

Submit this form (photocopy okay) along with your renewal fee of \$24 for the year 2013 to the address given above.

Please disregard this invoice if you have already renewed your annual breeder fee or have a different renewal date. Thank you for continuing to support Myotonic Goat Registry.

**BREEDER ANNUAL FEES WERE DUE BY JANUARY 31, 2013
IN ORDER TO RETAIN YOUR ACTIVE STATUS.**



Myotonic Goat Registry
3174 Valley Ford Road
Adger, AL 35006

Phone: 205-425-5954

E-mail: myotonicgoatregistry@yahoo.com

Website: www.myotonicgoatregistry.net

The Myotonic Goat Registry was formed in 2005 as a sole ownership registry by Gene McNutt with input from an initial Board of Advisors made up of Dr. Phil Sponenberg and Barbara Roberts. The current Board of Advisors also includes Cindy Bene, Judy Balmer, Jan Likens and Dian Naumann. The owner and Board of Advisors will make decisions concerning the registry and its procedures. This method of governance is meant to provide Myotonic Goat breeders with a registry that will not have frequent changes, and will have the longevity and consistency needed to successfully promote the Myotonic Goat breed, while at the same time make it responsive to the needs and wishes of the breeders. In 2009, Gene retired and the registry was sold to Tara Lawrence. As the Myotonic Goat Registry grows, additional Board of Advisor members may be added in order to more broadly represent the breeders. The owner, along with the Board of Advisors, will be responsible for providing for its own replacements and/or expansions.

The Myotonic Goat Registry takes into consideration all breeders, from pet owners to commercial meat growers. Regardless of which aspect of this breed appeals to you, the Myotonic Goat Registry is the place for all breeders to register their Myotonic Goats.

The Registry will help breeders promote their goats through sales, shows, and advertising, and will educate the public about the Myotonic Goat and its usefulness in a variety of settings.

WELCOME NEW MGR BREEDERS

Nicholas & Brayden Bango, NY	Ken Gerber, OH
Laura & Jason Barrett, MN	Amy Grabish, CA
Randy Bass, SC	Jessie Griffis, SC
Linda Becker, MN	Ricky Guastella, NC
Beth Blankenbicker, PA	Fred R. Ham, FL
Bryer Boothe, LA	Chris & Rashell Harcourt, IN
Larramy "Tater" Boothe, LA	Peyton Harper, MS
Shane & Lisha Boothe, LA	Phil & Susie Hawkins, NM
Dorothy Bowers, WA	Linda Heideman, TX
Jim Braulik, MN	DeWayne & Eliza Hellberg, IL
Connie Brewer, IN	Brittney Hernandez, MT
Mike & Cassidy Brown, AR	Meagan Howland, KY
Rebecca Chase, TN	David Ray Hudson, VA
Joe Cornelius, TN	Sophie Kay, LA
Clarissa Cottle, OK	Karen Killinger-Humes, PA
Ami Davids, MN	Diane Kramer, PA
Emilie Davis, OK	Jeff & Amanda Land, KY
Jeff Davis, MO	Kathleen Langen, PA
Leah Dockendorf, MN	Bill & Rhondavena LaPorte, VA
Jackie Dove, VA	Grace Lech, MN
Bonnie Dykhoff, MN	Lisa Linville, TN
Cindy Eaker, IL	Rachel Lynn Long, AL
Carol L. Ellis, PA	David & Thia Loomis, AZ
Patti Evans, NC	Allix Lowe, TN
Darlene Falbo, WV	Valerie Lund, VA
Tammy Fisher, NC	Zachary & Kimberly Mattingly, KY
Janice Foster, TX	Craig & Amanda McQuitty, MD
Bo Fox, TN	Rhett J. Meyers, LA

BREEDER STATISTICS

As of
April 8, 2013 there
were 522
registered breeders
in the Myotonic
Goat
Registry.

Catrina Tassinari, OK
Lisa Taylor, CA
Angela Traigle, MS
Phillip Vollmer, SD
Susan C. Warwick, AL
Jody Wasden, GA
Mark & Ashley Whitaker, TN
Elizabeth Willard, IA
Tammy Wise, KY
Paul Wyche, TX
Najib Yang-Yang Myotonics, TX
Guy & Shannon Zicari, FL

Johnny Patrick Millen, NC
Jonathan & Jacqueline Mims, SC
Rob Morris, IL
Jennie Murray, MI
Cherrie Nolden, WI
Stephanie Oaks, KY
Stephanie O'Brien, FL
Robert & Vicky Orth, WI
Dustin James Ownes, GA
Jennifer Pahl, MD
Will Perrien, MO
Rosemary Petersen, IN
Danny Porter, TX
Sterling R. Quick, VA
Barbara Rutschow, MN
Kelly Santilli, TN
Tara & Mitch Schillumeit, VA
Chris & Crystal Schroder, IA
Bonnie J. Shaner, PA
Morgan Sizemore, VA
Crystal Skiba, MN
Robert Michael Smith, KY
Earl D. Stacy, VA
Denise Stage, MO
Shelly Strahan, UT
Sharon A. Stephens, TN
Jayne & Michael Suchy, SC
Tracy & Jim Switzer, PA

Myotonic Goat Registry
3174 Valley Ford Road
Adger, AL 35006

TO:



Phone: 205-425-5954
E-mail: myotonicgoatregistry@yahoo.com
Website: www.myotonicgoatregistry.net