



# DAIRY GOAT NEWS

July 2024



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This is the official monthly publication of the New Zealand Dairy Goat Breeders Association (Inc.), registered at the Post Office HQ as a magazine.

The views expressed by the contributors to this magazine are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the NZDGBA. The Editor reserves the right to condense or edit letters or other material.

*The deadline for each issue is the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month preceding publication. The Editor thanks all members who contribute to the publication.*

*Extra copies of the Dairy Goat News may be purchased at any time for \$4.50 per issue. An annual magazine subscription Is available for only \$45*

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### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

(Payment with advert please)  
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FULL PAGE ..... \$50  
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### **COVER:**

From Ardee Dairy Goats

And we're off, kidding 2024 is under way.  
Here is Desert Queen with her quadruplet Ardee Bullet daughters

Quad doe kids are every breeders dream.  
Congratulations

## MEMBER SERVICES:

Payments to NZDGBA Bank Account  
02-0608-0095378-00

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Animal Welfare, CAE	Parked
Annual Milk Awards	Emma Hamilton
Classification	James Simpson & Carol Plumpton
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**Goat5!**

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## From The Editor

The draft minutes of the AGM held in May are included in this issue. They include copies of the reports that were published in the Annual Report so that a true record of the meeting has been documented.

We would like some feedback from members on some of the subjects in General Business to get your view to help us move forward with any possible changes.

Currently the Council is working on updating our Rules as required by the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022 (the 2022 Act). This is a major rewrite which has to be completed by the end of the year. Members will be kept updated with progress.

Carol Plumpton

### **DISCONTINUATION OF NZDGBA CAE ACCREDITATION SCHEME**

The NZDGBA CAE Accreditation was discontinued following advice from our late Vice President Wim Beckers that the Association could be liable for any questions on accreditation and/or the results of tests.

Members are encouraged to continue to test to keep their herds safe and clear from CAE.

From NZDGBA Council.



Sonia Gibbins judging AR Juniors at Northland Club Show 2024

## Western Australia Milk Awards

For interest purposes here is a list of the milk awards achieved by DGSWA members in the period 1/9/22 -31/8/23. It showcases the outstanding achievements by WA members, who lead Australia in milk production testing and awards.

Published by Trevor Blight, State Milk Awards Officer for Western Australia.

### Dairy Goat Society of WA – State Milk Award Officer’s Report

(For the period: 01/09/22 – 31/08/23)

Since taking over as State Milk Awards Officer (WA) on 1st September 2022 Western Australia has continued to lead Australia in milk testing, both in participation and awards., in the period 1/9/22 – 31/8/23 I have processed the awards outlined below.

I wish to congratulate all DGSWA members on their achievements and thank Kylie Hopkins (Federal Milk Awards Officer) for her support and prompt processing of our State’s claims.

#### Life Time Production Awards (Standard Breeds)

Prefix	NAME OF GOAT	CLAIMANT	HERD BOOK NO	LACTATION	DATE OF CLAIM	POINTS *	POINTS Q*	AWARD
AR192	Caprino Melba *Q*5	J. & M. Martin	SPF650738	1	3/9/22			LP654/1
RM178	Vitee Lampadae Maddison *Q*7	J. & M. Martin	SPF650406	3	3/9/22			LP643/3
R180	Caprino Khourn *Q*2	J. & M. Martin	SPF630872	3	3/9/22			LP605/3

#### Herd Recording Claims (Standard Breeds)

Prefix	NAME OF GOAT	CLAIMANT	HERD BOOK NO	LACTATION	DATE OF CLAIM	POINTS *	POINTS Q*	AWARD
A.Ch. R260	Dandalee Park Indira *Q*3	T. Blight	SPF651457	4	23/12/22			R220
	Dandalee Park Lyndee	T. Blight	SDF690948	1	23/12/22			R125
	Blue Brook Passion Q*	T. Blight	MBF670848	3	23/12/22			R96
	Blue Brook Glimmer	T. Blight	BAF670850	2	23/12/22			RS/S2
RM182	Dandalee Park Sublime *Q*3	T. Blight	IRF681499	2	23/12/22			RM242
	Dandalee Park Lady Luck *Q*12	T. Blight	SDF691534	1	23/12/22			RM135
	Dandalee Park Lady Bird *Q*12	T. Blight	SDF691532	1	23/12/22			RM152
	Dandalee Park Irma *4	T. Blight	SDF690954	1	23/12/22			RM134
	Dandalee Park Ilsa	T. Blight	SCF700898	1	16/7/23			RS/JY
RM242	Dandalee Park Sublime *Q*3	T. Blight	IRF681499	3	16/7/23			RM199
	Caprino Rechet	J. & M. Martin	SPF682933	1	26/2/23			RM156
	Caprino Penny *3	J. & M. Martin	SPF672270	2	26/2/23			RM165
RM242	Dandalee Park Sublime *Q*3	T. Blight	IRF681499	3	23/6/23			RM199
RM135	Dandalee Park Lady Luck *Q*12	T. Blight	SDF691534	2	31/8/23			RM194
A.Ch. R260	Dandalee Park Indira *Q*3	T. Blight	SPF651457	5	31/8/23			R171
R125	Dandalee Park Lyndee	T. Blight	SDF690948	2	31/8/23			R123
	Roden Zero’s Marquisa	T. Blight	TPF660630	4	31/8/23			R111
	Roden Lando Verity	T. Blight	TPF681813	2	31/8/23			R108

### 24 Hour Production Claims (Standard Breeds)

Prefix	NAME OF GOAT	CLAIMANT	HERD BOOK NO	LACTATION	DATE OF CLAIM	POINTS *	POINTS Q*	AWARD
A.Ch. R260	Dandalee Park Indira *Q*3	T. Blight	SPF651457	5	23/12/22	15.10	26.45	*Q*3
RM242	Dandalee Park Sublime *Q*3	T. Blight	IRF681499	3	23/12/22	16.54	34.24	*Q*3
RM152	Dandalee Park Lady Bird *Q*12	T. Blight	SDF691532	2	23/12/22	13.99	29.71	*Q*12
RM152	Dandalee Park Lady Bird *Q*12	T. Blight	SDF691532	2	8/5/23	17.51	30.77	*Q*12
RS/S2	Blue Brook Glimmer	T. Blight	BAF670850	3	23/12/22		19.98	Q*
	Dandalee Park India	T. Blight	MEF691511	1	23/12/22		19.80	Q*5
A.Ch. R260	Dandalee Park Indira *Q*3	T. Blight	SPF651457	5	23/12/22	17.58		*3
RM242	Dandalee Park Sublime *Q*3	T. Blight	IRF681499	3	23/12/22	17.01	29.36	*Q*3
RM152	Dandalee Park Lady Bird *Q*12	T. Blight	SDF691532	2	23/12/22	15.14	27.82	*Q*12
	Dandalee Park India	T. Blight	MEF691511	1	23/12/22	12.25		*5
	Roden Zero's Marquise	T. Blight	TPF660630	4	23/12/22		19.12	Q*
	Roden Lando Verity	T. Blight	TPF681813	2	23/12/22		20.07	Q*2
	Kalama Shining Moon	S. Dauti	FD670839	2	9/1/23	12.08	25.72	*Q*7
RM242	Dandalee Park Sublime *Q*3	T. Blight	IRF681499	3	4/2/23	19.21	34.37	*Q*3
	Roden Lando Verity	T. Blight	TPF681813	2	4/2/23	11.59	20.39	*Q*2
	Dandalee Park Lady Bird *Q*12	T. Blight	SDF691532	2	4/2/23	15.73	28.77	*Q*12
RM152	Dandalee Park Lady Bird *Q*12	T. Blight	SDF691532	2	26/2/23	14.08	24.52	*Q*12
RM242	Dandalee Park Sublime *Q*3	T. Blight	IRF681499	3	26/2/23	15.89	28.50	*Q*3
RM152	Dandalee Park Lady Bird *Q*12	T. Blight	SDF691532	2	26/2/23	11.48		*
	Roden Zero's Marquise	T. Blight	TPF660630	4	26/2/23	11.48		*
	Kalama Shining Moon	S. Dauti	FD670839	2	26/2/23	10.86	19.20	*Q*7
	Caprino Reka	J. & M. Martin	SPF682934	1	29/11/22	12.46	21.12	*Q*3
	Caprino Tilly	J. & M. Martin	SPF700767	1	29/11/22		20.41	Q*
	Caprino Tansy	J. & M. Martin	SPF700770	1	29/11/22	13.56	23.59	*Q*2

### Buck Production Awards (Standard Breeds)

Prefix	NAME OF GOAT	CLAIMANT	HERD BOOK NO	LACTATION	DATE OF CLAIM	POINTS *	POINTS Q*	AWARD
	Mt Nardie Turvy	C. Clark	SPM71003		23/1/23			16
	Mt Nardie Turvy	C. Clark	SPM71003		23/1/23			88165/157
	Caprino Titus	J. & M. Martin	Not provided		23/1/23			12
	Caprino Titus	J. & M. Martin	Not provided		23/1/23			8204/120
	Caprino Robbie	J. & M. Martin	SPM682937		23/1/23			12
	Caprino Robbie	J. & M. Martin	SPM682937		23/1/23			8157/192
	Caprino Ricky	J. & M. Martin	SPM685441		23/1/23			15
	Caprino Ricky	J. & M. Martin	SPM685441		23/1/23			8157/192
	Caprino Stanley	J. & M. Martin	SPM692537		23/1/23			12
	Caprino Stanley	J. & M. Martin	SPM692537		23/1/23			8120/193

### Herd Recording Claims (Nigerian Dwarf)

Prefix	NAME OF GOAT	CLAIMANT	HERD BOOK NO	LACTATION	DATE OF CLAIM	POINTS *	POINTS Q*	AWARD
	Dandalee Park Ita *Q*4	T. Blight	DBF691528	1	23/12/22			RS/JY
	Dandalee Park Daria *Q*	T. Blight	DBF691520	1	23/12/22			RS/JY
RS/JY	Dandalee Park Ita *Q*4	T. Blight	DBF691528	2	31/8/23			R37
RS/J2	Dandalee Park Mosaic Q*2	T. Blight	DBF681520	3	31/8/23			RS/J3
	Dandalee Park Tipsey *Q*	T. Blight	DBF691518	1	23/12/22			RS/JY
	Dandalee Park Serina *Q*3	T. Blight	DCF690934	1	23/12/22			R31
RS/JY	Dandalee Park Mosaic Q*2	T. Blight	DBF681520	2	23/12/22			RS/J2
	Dandalee Park Madison Q*3	T. Blight	DAF691515	1	23/12/22			RS/JY
	Dandalee Park Iesha	T. Blight	DCF690936	1	23/12/22			R37
R120	Dandalee Park Idyllic *Q*2	T. Blight	DDF671935	3	16/7/23			R47
	Dandalee Park Mermaid Q*	T. Blight	DBF700895	1	16/7/23			RS/JY
	Dandalee Park Little Raven	T. Blight	DBF700883	1	16/7/23			RS/J2
RS/JY	Dandalee Park Madison Q*3	T. Blight	DAF691515	2	16/7/23			RS/SY
	Dandalee Park Tootsie *Q*2	T. Blight	DCF701130	1	16/7/23			RS/JY
	Dandalee Park Tweed Q*2	T. Blight	DCF701129	1	16/7/23			RS/JY
	Dandalee Park Arabesque Q*3	T. Blight	DBF690928	1	16/7/23			RS/SY
R30	Dandalee Park Bonbon Q*5	T. Blight	DCF682383	3	16/7/23			RS/S2
RS/JY	Dandalee Park Daria *Q*	T. Blight	DBF691520	2	16/7/23			RS/SY
	Dandalee Park Mabel Q*	T. Blight	DAF691514	1	16/7/23			RS/SY
	Dandalee Park Marcella	T. Blight	DXF701132	1	16/7/23			RS/JY
RS/S2	Stoney Creek Sarabi *Q*	T. Blight	DCF676486	4	16/7/23			RS/S4

## Bracken Fern Poisoning in Animals



By Bryan L. Stegelmeier, DVM,  
PhD, DACVP  
Reviewed/Revised Oct 2020



Bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*) is found throughout the world and is among the five most numerous vascular plants in the world. Because the species includes numerous subspecies and varieties, plant size varies, with frond lengths ranging from 0.5 to 4.5 m.

Bracken fern is a perennial, with erect deciduous fronds that remain green until they are killed by frost or drought. It spreads primarily through dense rhizome networks, and it can dominate plant communities, especially those that are burned or disturbed. Bracken fern can be found in a diversity of sites, but it is most common in semi-shaded, well-drained, open woodlands.

### Syndromes of Bracken Fern Poisoning in Animals

A variety of syndromes have been associated with bracken fern poisoning. These syndromes are largely determined by the dose and duration of exposure and the species of the poisoned animal.

#### Enzootic Hematuria

Enzootic hematuria, the most common form of bracken fern poisoning, primarily affects cattle and less frequently affects sheep. It is characterized by intermittent hematuria and anemia. Poisoning most often occurs during late summer when other feed is scarce, or when animals are fed hay containing bracken fern. Poisoning requires prolonged exposures because affected livestock must ingest bracken fern for several weeks to years before disease develops.

Affected cattle are weak, rapidly lose weight, and develop fever (106°–110°F [41°–43°C]). Calves often have difficulty breathing, with pale mucosal membranes. Hemorrhages vary from minor mucosal petechia to effusive bleeding, and, at times, large blood clots may be passed in the feces. Coagulation is prolonged, and bleeding may be pronounced and excessive even at small wounds such as insect bites or other minor scratches.

Once animals develop clinical disease, poisoning is almost always fatal. Postmortem examinations usually reveal multiple hemorrhages or bruises throughout the carcass. There may also be necrotic and hemorrhagic ulcers in the GI tract. The bladder mucosa often contains small hemorrhages, dilated vessels, or vascular, fibrous, or epithelial neoplasms. Other neoplasms in the upper GI tract of cattle and other species have also been reported. In most cases, mixtures of hemorrhagic and neoplastic lesions are found.

Although not all bracken fern toxins have been completely characterized, the primary cause of enzootic hematuria has been attributed to ptaquiloside, a norsesquiterpene glucoside. Other toxic and potentially carcinogenic toxins include quercetin, isoquercetin, ptesculentoside, caudatoside, astragalín, and various tannins.

Ptaquiloside is a potent radiomimetic compound that initially damages the bone marrow and later is carcinogenic (primarily producing urinary tract neoplasia in ruminants). Both the hemorrhagic syndrome and uroepithelial neoplasms have been reproduced experimentally with bracken fern and ptaquiloside. High ptaquiloside doses for a few months duration produce the characteristic hemorrhagic disease. This has been attributed to ptaquiloside's radiomimetic damage to proliferating bone marrow stem cells. This is characterized by depletion of bone marrow megakaryocytes followed by both leukocytic and erythrocytic hypoplasia. The resulting leukogram is

often a mixed response. In the initial phase of poisoning there is often pronounced monocytosis followed by granulocytopenia and thrombocytopenia. Final phases include marked thrombocytopenia with anemia, leukopenia, and hypergammaglobulinemia. Urinalysis generally includes hematuria and proteinuria. Affected animals have both an increased susceptibility to infection and a tendency for spontaneous bleeding.

Lower doses of bracken fern for longer duration appear more likely to be carcinogenic. The effects seem to be cumulative as animals are exposed repeatedly for years. Often, the onset of clinical disease is delayed for weeks, or even months, after animals have been removed from bracken fern-infested ranges and pastures. In addition to livestock, the carcinogenic potential of bracken fern and ptaquiloside has been confirmed in rats, mice, guinea pigs, quail, and Egyptian toads.

Ptaquiloside is excreted in the urine and milk of poisoned animals, and contaminated milk has been shown to produce GI neoplasms in rats. Several investigators have suggested ptaquiloside neoplastic transformation may be promoted or enhanced by bovine papillomavirus infection. However this may be a secondary change due to bracken fern-associated myelodysplasia and subsequent immunosuppression that are likely to promote papillomavirus infection.

### **Bright Blindness**

A less common presentation of ptaquiloside toxicity is called bright blindness. It is seen clinically as tapetal hyperreflectivity that is **most commonly reported in sheep in parts of England and Wales**. Affected sheep are permanently blind and adopt a characteristic alert attitude. The pupils respond poorly to light, and fundoscopic examination in advanced disease is characterized by narrowing of arteries and veins and a pale tapetum nigrum with fine cracks and spots of gray. Histologically, the lesion is seen as severe atrophy of the retinal rods, cones, and outer nuclear layer that is most pronounced in the tapetal portion of the retina. Affected animals often have many of the other bracken fern-associated lesions such as bone marrow suppression, hemorrhage, immunosuppression, and urinary tract neoplasia.

### **Bracken Stagers**

Bracken fern poisoning in monogastric animals was first recognized as a neurologic disease when horses consumed contaminated hay. Typical poisoning requires relatively high doses of long duration, such as feeding hay with 20%–25% bracken fern contamination for 3+ months. **Equine bracken stagers is characterized by anorexia, weight loss, incoordination, and a crouching stance while arching the back and neck and standing with feet placed wide apart**. When forced to move, trembling muscles are noted. In severe cases, tachycardia and arrhythmias may occur, and death (usually 2–10 days after onset) is preceded by convulsions, clonic spasms, and opisthotonos. Poisoning has been attributed to bracken fern thiaminases, because clinical disease is similar to vitamin B1 deficiency. Most animals respond with thiamine therapy.

**Poisoning in pigs is rare and less distinct**, as affected animals become anorexic and lose weight. Often resembling heart failure in the terminal phase, death can occur suddenly after recumbency and dyspnea.

Thiamine deficiency is generally not a problem in ruminants because the vitamin is synthesized in the rumen; however, altered thiamine metabolism and polioencephalomalacia in sheep poisoned with bracken fern and rock fern (*Cheilanthes sieberi*) have been reported in Australia.

### Bracken Fern Poisoning in Humans

Initial epidemiologic studies suggest that consumption of milk from cattle with access to bracken fern produces increased risk of human esophageal or gastric cancer. This association suggests there would be even greater risk with direct consumption of bracken fern. This does occur because bracken rhizomes have been used to make flour. The young shoots or croziers are considered a delicacy in many parts of the world. Although preparing and cooking lessens toxicity, ptaquiloside has been identified in all of these foods. Additionally, ptaquiloside has been found as an environmental contaminant in soil and water associated with bracken contamination. All exposures should be considered a potential human health hazard.

### Prevention of Bracken Fern Poisoning in Animals

Because bracken fern poisoning, apart from thiamine deficiency, is essentially untreatable, it is most easily controlled by preventing exposure. The majority of poisonings occur when animals are forced to eat bracken fern when other forages are exhausted in late summer. However, some animals may develop a taste for the young, tender shoots and leaves. Certainly, poisoning can be avoided by removing animals from bracken fern exposure and improving pasture management to increase production of alternative forage. It has been suggested that alternating bracken fern-contaminated and noncontaminated pastures at 3-week intervals can minimize poisoning.

Bracken fern growth can be retarded by close grazing or trampling in alternate grazing pasture systems. Bracken fern density can be reduced by regular cutting of the mature plant or, if the land is suitable, by deep plowing. Herbicide treatment using asulam or glyphosate can be an effective method of control, especially if combined with cutting before treatment. Recent work has found that some bracken populations contain very low or no ptaquiloside. More work is needed to identify these populations, determine why they are not toxic, and use this information to predict or reduce toxicity.

### Treatment of Bracken Fern Poisoning in Animals

Initial treatment of bracken fern poisoning for all species should be to discontinue exposure to bracken fern, remembering that disease can appear weeks after livestock are removed from the fern-infested area. In acutely affected cattle, mortality is usually

>90%. Measurement of the platelet count is recommended because it is the best prognostic indicator for poisoned animals.

**Treatment of bracken fern-induced thiamine deficiency in horses is highly effective if diagnosis is made early.** Injection of a thiamine solution at 5 mg/kg is suggested, given initially IV every 3 hours, then IM for several days. Oral supplementation may be required for an additional 1–2 weeks, although SC injection of 100–200 mg daily for 6 days has been successful in some cases. Thiamine treatment should also include animals similarly exposed but not yet showing signs, because signs can develop days or weeks after removal from the source of bracken fern. Antibiotics may be useful to prevent secondary infections. Blood or even platelet transfusions may be appropriate but require large volumes to effectively treat cattle (2–4 L blood). Although untested, treatment with granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (used to treat [aplastic anemia](#) in humans) may also be considered.

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Judging senior bucks at Northland Club Show 2024

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE NEW ZEALAND DAIRY GOAT BREEDERS  
ASSN AGM 2024  
HELD ON SATURDAY 18th May 2024 – Kumeu Showgrounds & Via ZOOM  
AT 1.42PM**

**The meeting opened at 1.42PM**

**Roll call of members present:** Carol Plumpton (CP)(President), Jonathan Carden-Holdstock (JCH) (Senior Vice-President), Donna Morton (DM) (Junior Vice President), Paula Levett (PL)(Registrar/Treasurer) Jennifer Rodrigue (JR), Royce Broome (RB), Stephanie Broome (SB), Chris Carden-Holdstock (CCH), Alice Jones (AJ), Rita Braem (RB), Herbie Blackmore (HB), Sonia Gibbins (SG) Barry Williams(BW), Liz Rennie(LR), Jeffie Bothra(JB),Niamh Carden-Holdstock

The president advised that the meeting was being recorded for the taking of the minutes and confirmed that all present were comfortable with this.

**Minutes Silence:** The president called for a minute's silence in remembrance of members lost during the year, along with any other family and friends.

**Apologies:** James Simpson, Jayne Arcscott, Carol Moore, Sharon Eastwood, Jean Hamilton, Kath Barber, Rachael Gibbins, Mark Gibbins, Rebecca Gibbins, McNally Family, Tania Underwood, James Jones, Abagael Higgs, Jane Cherrette.  
Moved that the apologies be accepted

**Minutes of the 2023 AGM:** Members were given time to review the minutes and corrections were called for. No corrections. SB/HB

**Matters arising from those minutes:** Called for matters arising, no response.

**Correspondence In/Out:**

No correspondence received

**Presidents Report:** Carol Plumpton read her President's report, follows:

**PRESIDENTS ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

I am standing down as President after being elected into this position in May 2019. During this term I have been very happy to see the development and direction of the Association over these last five years.

It is time for change and I am thrilled to be able to hand over the reins to Jonathan Carden-Holdstock. Jonathan brings his experience and fresh ideas to the Association. We have seen more members becoming involved in the 24-hour Milking Competition and I thank the sponsors Donna Morton, Paula Levett and Jennifer Rodrigue to the winners of the competitions.

Last year seven remits went out to the vote all of which passed. Thank you to those members who voted. There are no remits this year.

We continue to look for improvements for the association and welcome input and ideas from the membership. There will be time at the AGM for any ideas you would like to put forward for discussion.

I would like to thank our Registrar Treasurer, Executive and Councilors for their hard work and support during the last year, keeping our Association moving forward. Emma Hamilton has stood down from Council and we thank her for her time on council.

Carol Plumpton

Carol Plumpton moved that her report be accepted

DM/JCH

### **Treasurer's Report 2024**

The Financial Statements show that our association recorded a profit this year. A feature of this profit was donations that totaled \$1250, including one very generous donation of \$1000. These donations have been reserved for future development of our registration system software.

- This year's registration revenue has improved on the prior year. To contrast with the prior year this included an extra \$1600 that relates to commercial and member export order registrations. The revenue from other registrations remains close to the prior year.

- In the current year there was an unexpected boost in recipe book sales and some advertising revenue that we did not have in the prior year.

- Revenue from herd testing also shows an increase over the prior year.

- In 2023/24 the AGM was held online as were all council meetings, so no council travel and accommodation expenses were incurred.

- The only significant extra purchases in the current year were \$580 spent on maintaining the database software and \$370 for the printing of 20 receipt books, stationery that we will use in future years.

- The cost of printing and posting magazines in 2022/2023 has been removed in 2023/24 as from March 2023 onwards the magazine has become email only.

- The switch to online voting and notices in March 2023 has been well supported by members, this has further reduced printing and postage costs of prior years.

Councilors who have once again given their time to the running of the Association, and without this we would be much worse off.

The challenge for the current year remains, now that significant costs of the printed magazine and council travel have been removed, is for members to generate more domestic registrations. If this happens, then perhaps future registration and service prices can be reduced.

We still have considerable stocks of the Caprine Cuisine cookbook. So, I invite members to make suggestions to increase cookbook sales. I also invite members to suggest new services the association might put in place to assist members.

**Paula Levett**, Treasurer, 5 March 2024

Paula Levett spoke to the Treasurers Report. NZDGBA did make a profit last year, but generally because of “windfall” items that we cannot rely on in successive years, e.g.; export registrations; commercial registrations etc ongoing challenge remains lack of registrations from our normal membership base. All costs that can be dropped have been, there are no other economies that can be made, e.g.; email registrations and mail, Council travel is nil due to Zoom meetings etc. Budget for next year is a non-profit budget assuming things are stable. If we wish to spend money on things we require more revenue.

Moved the adoption of the Treasurers Report

DM/AJ

CP asked for Balance Sheet to be reviewed and called for questions and comments. Short discussion on the number of the different breeds being registered, over last ten years there has been a shift from Saanen to Nigerian Dwarf & Nubian. NZDGBA is in a reasonable position, but still need careful considered management. Website needs more development to take advantage of advertising revenue. There is \$800 in the budget for that. PL, herd testing is generating a small income, more than leases & transfers.

Balance Sheet be adopted

SG/RB

**Election of Patron:** Existing patrons are Jayne Arscott and Ray Messervy. CP called for nominations for Patrons. DM asked if the existing Patrons would be happy to continue. Alice Jones confirmed for Jayne. No one sure if Ray available, DM nominated RM and if he notifies that he is unable, we look for another then, JCH 2nd. CP took vote, all in favour.

**Election of Councilors:** There were no vacancies for Councilors this year.

**Election of President:** Only one nomination was received and duly elected was Jonathan Carden-Holdstock as President of NZDGBA, applause, and CP handed meeting over to JCH.

CHH presented CP with a voucher and a card, thanking her for her service as NZDGBA President. Noted that it is a great honour to take on the role of President and the NZDGBA owes CP a huge debt of gratitude. Huge shoes to fill, will appreciate CP assistance for the transition.

DM – thanked CP very much for her assistance since she joined the Executive, and am very pleased that we are retaining such a wealth of knowledge on Council.

Acknowledged the selfless dedication CP gives to the Association year after year. HB, doing great job, appreciate work CP does.

JCH thanked very much all the Councilors and the judges, and other members who give time and effort to the NZDGBA.

**Council Vacancy:** JCH due to Emma Hamilton standing down one year before the end of her elected term, therefore Council have elected to co-opt a person onto Council, Royce Broome has been welcomed onto Council unanimously for the year.

JCH noted that the amount of work carried out by the Registrar is huge, and we hope to lighten the load with innovation during the next year.

**Election of Senior Vice President:** Donna Morton

CP/JR

There were no more nominations. Donna Morton was duly elected as Senior Vice President.

**Election for Junior Vice President:**

Rachael Gibbins

DM/JCH

Parked while it was checked with Rachael if she would accept, accepted in a ph call, called for other nominations, none received; Rachael Gibbins was duly elected as Junior Vice President.

Noted that CP will continue on Executive as Immediate Past President this year.

It was noted that the NZDGBA Executive will be the President, Immediate Past President, Senior Vice President and Junior Vice President.

**Election of Auditor:**

Mike Bezuidenhout

CP/DM

There were no more nominations. Mike Bezuidenhout was duly elected as Auditor

**Life Membership:**

CP nominated Herbie Blackmore and Barry Williams to be Life Members in recognition of their service as judges and classifiers during the decades beginning 1960's and 1970's. Both gentlemen have given countless hours to help others in the NZDGBA in many different roles. Although they continue to serve the Association, they are not members so therefore do not have speaking rights. The honouring of them in bestowing a Life Membership on them gives them a voice in the Association that they serve so well.

CP also nominates Bob Greenough for his many years in Council, as a president, judge's convener, classification convener, CAE portfolio holder, remains a signatory on the association bank account; proof reads the Dairy Goat News on a monthly basis, and audits the Show Results every year.

CP/DM

JCH, called for vote to award the Life Memberships, and the vote was carried unanimously.

**Portfolio Reports**

**AI/ET Annual Report 2024**

It is exciting to see the overseas genetics starting to flow through into the NZ goat population. I have reviewed the registrations in the 21/22 & 22/23 Herdbooks and note the following animals have been registered:

Number	Sex	Sex	Birth date	Breed
1	D	Capgene Rageur	Jul 2021	Saanen
5	D	Jazzy Riddler	Jun 2022	Nubian
3	B	Jazzy Riddler	Jun 2022	Nubian
1	B	Dandalee Park Legion	Aug 2022	Saanen

It is pleasing to see some of these goats moving around the country being utilised by several breeders. By all accounts there are many more by AI that have been registered in 2023, who will be in the next Herdbook, and some progeny of the bucks registered above will have stock milking in spring 2024.

It is interesting to note that most of the AI done in the North Island is by laparoscopic AI, while in the South Island AI is mainly done by the cervical method. While people can learn to do cervical AI themselves, the cost of having a can on farm and maintaining the nitrogen level in it is cost prohibitive for small breeders. For our farm, the nitrogen cost is \$119.60 inc per month, with the cost of the can and AI kit on top. For this reason, laparoscopic AI is a sensible choice for many of our members, especially given the usually high success rate. Of course, if members all work together, the travel costs can be shared which is helpful to everyone.

I would encourage those members who are milking does by AI semen to herd test them. The information about volume, fat %, protein % and SCC are valuable for those that follow who may choose to use the same genetics. Also take note if there are things about a sire's progeny that you do like or do not like. Others may contact you to ask what you think about a sire and how he has improved (or not) his progeny over the dam. Feet, temperament, coat colour, general health including incidence of mastitis, fertility, body type, udder type and attachment are things to note.

The requirements for registering an AI kid are in the Rules & Regulations. Do **read them** before getting your doe AI done. Currently a certificate of service is required, signed by the technician who has performed the AI procedure. DNA of the progeny to the sire **AND** the dam is also required. Note that the DNA profiles for all the Caprotek imported sires and the 5 Capgene French sires are already at Massey.

As stock must be registered to be shown, it is possible to have a provisional registration issued for your kid. Just attach a copy of the Massy receipt confirming you have booked in your DNA sample(s) and have paid for it to the application to register form and send to the Registrar along with the relevant fee and the Certificate of Service. The goat cannot be sold or transferred with a provisional registration, but it can be shown. Once the DNA result is to hand, the provisional registration will be upgraded to a permanent registration with confirmed parentage.

There will be a short talk and question and answer session at the NZDGBA Conference in Kumeu on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024. I look forward to meeting members there

and am happy to answer any questions you may have. Well hopefully – may have to research the difficult questions ☺

Kind Regards, Donna Morton

No questions,

DM/JR

### **CLASSIFICATION PORTFOLIO REPORT 2024**

This year Council approved Barry Williams and Sonia Gibbins as senior Classifiers along with Rachael Gibbins as a Trainee.

Our Classifiers are:

North Island	Herbie Blakemore	Senior
	Carol Plumpton	Senior
	Paula Levett	Senior
	Barry Williams	Senior
	Sonia Gibbins	Senior
	Rachael Gibbins	Trainee
South Island	James Simpson	Senior
	Jayne Arcscott	Senior
	Dave Goulden	Senior

**North Island classifications** were done in Dargaville, Whangarei and Helensville areas. As some of these trips were long distance, they were done on four different days between December, January and March.

In total 6 herds were classified and there were a couple of Appendix D inspections as well. The breeds were Alpine, Nubian, Sable, Saanen and Toggenburg and Nigerian Dwarf.

Carol Plumpton

**South Island Classification** report for the 2023-2024 season.

Canterbury goats were classified mid November. This involved visiting two herds with sixteen goats to classify and one inspection. Both farms were in North Canterbury.

Classifiers: James Simpson, David Goulden

Southland goats were classified on the 9th Jan. This also involved visiting two herds with a total of 48 goats to classify and about 23 inspections.

Classifiers: James Simpson, Shirley Johnstone (Premier Classifier)

Thank you to those who participated and hospitality extended.

James Simpson

CP read out and asked for questions.

CP/SG

### **Judges Report 2024**

The 2023 - 2024 show season has been an eventful season. Unfortunately, the distribution of judges still hugely favours the South Island, making it easier to arrange a good variety of judges for the South.

I have also had some very constructive feedback from fellow judges, exhibitors and stewards from both NZDGBA run shows and Premiere run shows. These observations I have been able to pass on to the mostly one on one or small group's sessions that I have been able to arrange with fellow judges and trainee judges. Presently I have caught up with all the South Island judges and some of the North Island judges. During the upcoming AGM I hope to catch up with the remaining North Island Judges.

This season however has highlighted some issues. I will highlight some of these observations and the steps that are being done to mitigate them.

1. Lack of continuity and knowledge of Stewards. (Ref policies 3.5) This can be frustrating for both Judges and exhibitors especially when it comes to flow and possible confusion of classes. Obviously though this comes down to available people, so where a new person is appointed to either ring steward, the call steward or writer, we cannot expect them to know all the idiosyncrasies of how a show runs. I am proposing a printable A4 sheet with bullet points for each person's role. Also one nominated and knowledgeable person at each show to assist and mentor where possible.
  
2. Stock presentation and condition. I have had feedback from some very senior judges and exhibitors that some stock presented at shows and then subsequently photos shared on social media are not up to "show ring" standards. Whilst we are acutely aware of reduced numbers at certain shows this should not over ride the standard and condition of the exhibits. Judges will take into account the season. For example in the early springs shows at full milk most Does will naturally be lighter in condition and improve towards the autumn shows. However all stock in the ring should above all be healthy and no signs of lameness, illness or loose stalls (ref policies 3.3 h). An experienced Steward is a good second opinion when it comes to condition before the animal enters the ring. Also when it comes to photos, sometimes the sun angle and shadows can exaggerate a lighter conditioned animal. With this in mind if the photo is questionable perhaps it would be better to use an alternative or not post on social media.
  
3. Overstacking of udders. This sadly was brought to my attention from a steward and at least two judges. If the doe is leaking milk and or is so tight that the udder is engorged and "drum tight" then clearly it's too full. This is a welfare issue and I refer to our handbook on showing and the RAS rules on this issue (ref RAS rules and regs for A&P shows. H&S point 3). Additionally this will draw attention to RAS reg 98 r) The practice of gluing teats, in any form, or any foreign substances in the udder is considered an act of malpractice at A&P Shows and will result in disqualification.
  
4. Exhibitor bad behaviour and striking of animals. Once again this has sadly been observed. From an exhibitor towards another exhibitor and also from exhibitors towards judges and stewards. This is unacceptable in any form and it goes against the RAS inline resolution process. This can result in yellow or red cards being issued. It is worth noting that judges and stewards volunteer their time to help run these events and if the day is stressful and not enjoyable then naturally people will be less willing to participate (a potential knock-on effect of point 1) at future events. Animal care in all

aspects is paramount especially in a public setting where keyboard warriors use any opportunity to spread bad images and reports.

Steps taken. What this report has highlighted is that all these rules, regs and policies are spread out over many documents from RAS, NZDGBA and MPI. Like the bullet points to assist stewards, the 42 NZDGBA booklet on showing needs updating with all the relevant information in one place with a link to the RAS inline resolution process.

Summary. Thankfully the majority of shows were well attended with a high standard of stock and were a good representation of sportsmanship, breeding and competition. Another discussion point in the near future will be the North Island shows utilising South Island judges to ease the pressure on our North Island judges. I am pleased to report also that some individuals have expressed interest in training to become a judge. Finally I would like to pass on my personal thanks to my fellow judges who once again have given their time to ensure that the shows have taken place.

Judges convener Jonathan Carden-Holdstock

Propose that my report be accepted

JCH/SG

Questions? CHH mentioned that there is a guideline for A & P Stewards. JCH noted that because of issues that have arisen in the cattle ring, RAS is getting quite hot on all of these issues. We do not want to go down the same path. DM noted we do not want to have to pay a levy like the cattle ones do of \$5 per head, per show for each in-milk animal, including on farm A & P Competitions. Discussion about this levy and how we need to ensure that RAS do not decide they need to levy Dairy Goats.

### **Show Secretary Portfolio Report 2024**

The majority of shows in both the North and South Islands have been well represented this year.

Sadly some shows in the Waikato region will not be recognised for points for annual awards as the judges appointed were not NZDGBA and RAS approved Dairy Goat Judges. The list of approved judges is published in the Dairy Goat News before the beginning of each show year and stewards/members should only appoint judges from this list for their shows to be recognised.

The biggest show this year was at Kumeu with 99 goats entered in the Breed Shows to be judged under the very experienced eye of Trevor Blight from Western Australia, Abagael Higgs from Christchurch and local judge Herbie Blakemore. It was a huge day with three rings and the judges moving from ring to ring so that each breed exhibited under each judge for sections of their shows.

I thank the members, who have worked so hard at the shows in their areas preparing the venue, sorting penning, stewarding and recording the results to be sent to the Show Secretary. All this is voluntary and a lot of time is given to ensure exhibitors have a great show experience.

Thank you to all the members who have sent photos and reports from the shows and especially those who have ensured that the results have been sent in on time.

I have been collecting the Annual Award Trophies so they are safely held in one place. Sadly some have been damaged as they have been shipped all over NZ. There are also some still to be located.

I look forward to completing the Annual Awards and announcing them in the May Dairy Goat News. This year Certificates will be emailed out to the winners of the Annual Awards.

CP/HB

### **Production Recording 2023-24**

Ten members are herd testing a total of 128 does with the NZDGBA in the 2023-2024 season. This includes two Nubian breeders who are herd testing for the first time and they are really appreciating the additional herd information it provides. While we do encourage our members to test the entire herd. Our rule changes that allow members to select individual does from their herd to test, has encouraged some large herds that might otherwise test with LIC to test with us. This option has also encouraged some smaller herds to try milk testing.

There is also access to a laboratory for solids testing. The solids information is of considerable interest to some and provides opportunities beyond volume only for milk awards. I invite members who have not tested before join in. It is very easy to do and provides valuable information about the herd, for the owner and the NZDGBA membership.

There is also the opportunity to gain milk awards and a profile for your herd that you can do at home without ever venturing into the showring. So for members who don't show, herd testing is a really worthwhile way to add value to your herd. It also works for members who do show, because they are able to enter Type and Production competitions and earn extra points and placings. Herd testing is the most important tool for breeders of dairy animals, whatever the size of the herd. It also validates and clarifies all the hard work and care we put in as dedicated Dairy goat breeders.

### **MILK AWARDS 2022/23**

From the 125 entries in 24 hour competition in 2022 10 does qualified for \* awards and 1 doe for Q\* at total of 11 milk awards. A doe can compete each year but only have one 24hour award. Many of the entries more than met milk production targets in 2022 but had already qualified for their awards in prior years.

Other Awards for Herd testing made this year for does tested in the prior season included.

Total 9 buck awards including 4 sires of merit

Total 47 Doe awards; from 120 Tested Does

Dam of Merit 1 award

Extended Lactation 1 award

Register of Merit 8 awards

R Awards 14 awards

RS Awards 18 awards

RX Awards 5 awards

**These are very impressive Milk awards Congratulations!**

## RESULTS OF THE 2023 NATIONAL MILKING COMPETITION

The full results of the Spring 2023 24hr Milking Competition were published in the February 2024 Dairy Goat News and on NZDGBA Facebook

Ardee Dairy Goats have again generously provided prizes to the winners of milk only competitions awarded this year to Ray Messervy and Jennifer Rodrigue.

Additional prizes for new participants in the competition were supplied by Zenzero and Nelke Dairy Goats to Tania Underwood and Rachael Gibbins.

Bellechevre Creamery offered a Cheese hamper prize to the winner of the twice a day solids competition, Donna Morton

CONGRATULATIONS to both winners and all participants

All our goats are registered, many have pedigrees as long as your arm, many also have showing ribbons and some classify. These records relate to the pedigree and appearance or the **form**, of the goat. However the **function** of a dairy goat and a dairy goat breeder is to produce milk, this can only be recorded if the dairy goat is milk tested.

Many of our members milk at least some of their does daily either by hand or machine so all of these members can conduct **ONE** 24 hour test on some of their goats and enter the national competition. They would have nothing to lose (it costs nothing to do a 24-hour test) and everything to gain either in terms of Milk Awards (\* and Q\* that go onto your does and their kids' pedigrees) or in terms of information.

In 2023 ten herds competed in two competitions in the once-a-day competition three herds and a total of 38 does competed and in the twice a day competition seven herds and 77 does competed. Congratulations and many thanks to the members who have participated in our four years of National Milking Competitions

**To make this competition more interesting it needs more entries. Please make an effort to participate in 2024 competition otherwise its future is in doubt.**

Paula Levett 09 2353799 [nzdgba@gmail.com](mailto:nzdgba@gmail.com)

PL mentioned that the 24hr competition still lacks some uptake, members should consider entering.

A lot of work for the registrar, but worthwhile for members. General discussion about what could be holding members back from trying to do a 24hr test, following were considered:

- Seems more difficult than it is
- Expense
- Fear of failure
- Difficulty getting witness

DM mentioned the real value is comparing the doe to her dam at the same age, is there improvement?

General discussion about these issues, the benefits of witnesses for validation of results, ease of actually doing the testing.

HB/DM

## **General Business:**

### **Annual Awards for Milk Production – talk led by DM**

Is there any interest from members in splitting out does by region, or any other way as a matter of interest, so that awards are not so heavily in favour of just showing at Annual Prize giving? Not so much as a competition, but as a matter of interest? DM, for example I find what other saanens are doing very interesting bearing in mind there are different environments. High milk awards lead me to look up their pedigrees, which is how I track down where I am going next for bucks. So using the tools that the NZDGBA give us as members. Wonder how many members know just how many tools we have and how to use them, and they are largely driven by milk awards which sit on a goat's pedigree for the rest of the goat's life so you can track performance decades down the line.

As Council, we are after feedback from members about if people want anything else? Herdbooks are available from the Registrar, \$25 for a paper copy, \$10 for pdf (which is a year older)

### **Cookbooks – talk led by DM**

I buy a couple of books every year; pay NZDGBA at the time of purchase, \$15 ea. Then whenever someone comes to visit, I offer a book. Manage to sell 2 to 4 a year, which doesn't sound like a lot, but if every member sold 2 a year, it would make a difference. It is a very good book, and it is a good resource for new people wanting to find out where to find out how to make soap, cheese etc and where to find the ingredients.

### **Breed Clubs – Membership dwindling – talk led by CP**

Sables do not currently have enough members for a quorum, other clubs are also struggling. A Breed Club needs to be affiliated to NZDGBA in order to hold a breed show. In order to affiliate, the club must pay a fee; provide a copy of the AGM minutes and the names of the officers of their club. So a club without a quorum is unable to satisfy these requirements. Some discussion on how to handle this is required.

May be able to be done under Policies & Procedures? No remit?

JCH, natural progression is with people being so time poor and so few people to take up all the jobs, it is becoming more and more difficult to fill the positions and run clubs. New legislation also complicates matters. It could be that the club chooses to come under the umbrella of the NZDGBA they could cease to operate as a club but function as a subcommittee, with a separate bank account for their own funds. This would be voluntary per club.

HB, in the UK the clubs would send a spokesperson to the AGM, rather than all the people attending in their own right, with speaking rights for their club, it works well. SB, the only thing the breed clubs are doing is the AGM. JCH the problem is the actual running of the club, the legal requirements are for a bank account, an AGM, a set of officers.

DM, could be separate bank suffixes

DM, the other issue is with the breed clubs running breed shows; you will still require members to pay subscriptions, which would become problematic. JCH, I am talking about doing away with the subscriptions and all the income solely from show entries and/or sponsorship.

Discussion in detail, mentioned that it is “nuts and bolts”, members need to go away and think about the idea, and if the idea has “legs”, then we have a special meeting to enable what the wishes are.

Members really need to think about what they want, and members need to write in if they have objections. If there is an appetite for this type of change, NZDGBA needs to make a process available for the clubs to make use of should they **choose** to do so.

RB commented about the Toggenburg Breed Club, the Club ran a show without ribbons, prizes, and no entry fees, the club is about members being passionate about the breed.

DM, we are not commenting on how Clubs are run, merely trying to move away from the legislative requirements, remove the need for bank accounts, AGM, elected officers. Not a directive for Clubs to do, an opportunity if they choose, and if they want to leave, easy to do. Have an AGM, produce a set of minutes, a set of rules, list of elected officers, funds are then transferred to the Club bank account that will have been opened, and it is done.

JCH, mull it over, if the Breed Clubs wish to take it further, let Council know.

## **Herd Register Discussion – talk led by PL**

### **TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NZ DAIRY GOAT BREEDERS MAY 2024 AGM**

#### **Creating an extra Purebred register or some or all of our goat breeds. A Purebred Register would be a closed register without an Associate Register**

This is suggested to prevent possible genetic dilution of our breeds in the future. This could occur with continual breeding up to Herd Register through the Associate register and might result in all or our breeds becoming in genetic terms becoming very similar to each other and physically. Mainly only distinguished by colour and coat patterns, with more and more goats being born with the “wrong” colouring and physical characteristics.

**To avoid inbreeding within a Purebred Register** It would only be suitable for breeds that currently have sufficient HR numbers and a sufficiently diverse genetic base. This would probably **rule out Toggs and Alpines. However if imports of Purebred genetics from overseas** become more common, that will strengthen or further enable any purebred registers to be set up in NZ. **Sables and Nigerian Dwarf** already have very similar systems in place

A purebred goat is only different to an AR goat or HR goat in terms of genetic purity.

#### **No other differences of goat quality should be assumed.**

This system is in place in America. For each breed they have an American register with an associate register and breeding up AND a Purebred register that is closed

**How it could work here Some ideas:**

- **At the beginning** Purebred goats could be selected from Herd Register goats based upon the absence of AR goats in their pedigrees for a minimum number of generations (min number of generations would need to be defined) **Breeders** would have **the choice** to apply to have their goats that met the criteria, moved onto the Purebred register. There could also be other criteria e.g. the absence of close breeding. (this would also need to be defined).
- **A bigger role for Appendix Bucks within the AR register.** Currently the only Appendix bucks that be used for breeding up are Appendix A bucks. Also crossbred bucks Other Appendix bucks that have very important qualities are excluded from breeding up within our AR. This ultimately weakens the genetic base and performance of our breeds. If a purebred register was in place to protect the “purity” of our breed’s genetics, the “purity” concern may no longer restrict the use of valuable Appendix bucks within our Appendix registers. In Australia they have recently expanded the use of Appendix bucks within the AR.
- **The success or failure of a purebred register would become evident over time** If over time a purebred register increases in good numbers over its original population, then it can be said to be working well.

<b>NZDGBA Herd Register Registrations bucks and does from 2017 last 7 years)</b>				
Breed	Total regns	A parent	A grand parent or A great g parent	4 gen plus HR pedigree
Saanen	786	41	330	
Nubian	429	78	337	
Toggenburg	136	32	57	
Alpine	144	8	96	
<b>Gender split Bucks</b>				
Saanens				
Nubian			48	
Toggenburg			23	
Alpine			26	
NOTE: many of these goats maybe dead or exported				

Last BA registered in 2016. Only Saanen would benefit from this due to population. In USA they have a breed register and a purebred register. So if we did this here we could do a purebred register, breeders could ask for their HR animals. Things could be put into place, e.g. breed characteristics, inspections

SB, if you have a group of animals in a closed register, how is the xbred fit into that register? PL, it doesn't, the purebred register would be closed. This would enable different rules for the lower end, maybe more use of Appendix bucks, secure in knowledge that the purebreds are "ring fenced"

SB is there enough in the saanens to do this?

Spirited discussion.

PL, the real concern is preventing the xbred white animals getting into the saanen herd, especially along the lines of sables that fail to have the sable coat colour.

More discussion about throwbacks many many years ago, how far back would you need to go?

DM, my concern is you will end up with a dead register, maybe in 35 years.

But we are missing the very important point of Appendix A, where if you have a mating by an Appendix A buck over an HR doe, or Appendix A over Appendix A, mixed twins would have the doe kid becoming the level of the doe, and the buck kid being RG because a male kid must be by an HR buck to be HR or App A.

We are losing a lot of genetics because of this.

And then we have scenarios where animals are registered App D because the breeders of them stopped registering and the new owners have registered upon buying them, e.g. Ardee Poppy who is by an HR buck, out of an unregistered doe who would have been HR had she been registered, and now the daughter is carrying an AI kid that will be Appendix B, and if it is a buck, I will be using him. Maybe we need to have a process where if you can prove there is HR parentage but they were not registered, we could have a process where an application could be made to Council, and maybe the animal needs to be inspected by a judge and then the animal could be granted HR status. It shouldn't be a blanket thing, and there should not be any gaps in the pedigrees.

PL, if we went down this track then if people are concerned about dilution of using animals outside the current rules, then they could choose to use the Pure-Bred Register.

JCH, this dovetails into the next subject, so is there any other general business so we can have enough time. Need 10 Minutes for HB for a judges comment

## **Appendix A – RB**

### APPENDIX A BUCKS

The fact that the Appendix A bucks have a very important role to play in the minority breeds has already been acknowledged by the 5yr Appendix buck remit. They play a very important role both in the quality and quantity of the minority breeds. These appendix bucks quite often become the toolbox of a breeder. They can be the warehouse of past genetic lines or the bearers of great body parts and production genetics. Although not a purebred they can be as good or better than a HR buck, carrying stronger more desirable breed type genetics to counteract weak points in the breeding of HR stock.

We recognize their female counterparts with milk awards, breeding awards and show awards without a thought as to where they came from. We look under a buck and predict the type and placement of the udders of his progeny based solely on his

scrotum and teats. Then we look at his top side and predict the slope and length of back end of his progeny. But we are not ready to acknowledge the appendix A buck for what he gives to the breed. I have heard the argument for the non- recognition of these bucks on the grounds of the share number of off spring they could produce with undesirable breed traits, but the reverse also applies.

**SOLUTION;** Appendix A bucks have to be classified and meet a score equal or greater than the average score of their HR male counterparts. They are then awarded the number 1 (one) to go after their A letter on their appendix name e.g. A1 Appendix buck. These bucks are then granted all recognition of their female counterparts hold. This rule already exists in the NZDGBA rule book; 26g, note the word goats not male or female.

**OUTCOME;** The A1 buck would be able to create a paper trail for future breeders. He would be more visible to the public (show rings). His breed, breed awards both in the ring and off spring as well as milk awards would reflect his true worth. It would open a door to a greater pool of past genetics to help with a ever narrowing genetics in the HR realm. To be able to line breed you need a large number of animals if you are to stay away from inbreeding. If the A1 buck was introduced to this pool the number of required genetics could be halved to achieve the same results in the HR stock.

SG, a buck in the show ring is judged purely on his type, whereas a doe is also judged on her udder and milk production as well as her type. An experienced breeder will look behind the buck to his female line and her production and udder type. I never want to see a day that the milking abilities are not passed on.

SB, bucks that are not HR do not qualify for milk awards. PL, no that is not true, RG bucks can earn SM and inherited milk awards.

DM, from what I understand is the issue is that you want to be able to compete in the same show ring as an HR like the does can do. This is true in a show with a combined schedule, where an App A doe will compete against an HR doe. It is not true in a show with separate schedule, where the HR and the Appendix compete separately. In this case there is already the capability for an App A buck to compete in the App A buck class, which is what you are asking for. He cannot compete against the HR bucks in a combined schedule though.

CP, however, he cannot go up for Champion either. Or a Breed Champion.

JCH, we have two separate issues we are talking about here:

1. Showing
2. Breeding

DM, exactly. App A to App A for female = App A, for male = RG

And actually we need to be discussing App B bucks, perhaps dropping a level for the progeny instead of going all the way back to RG, e.g. App B over HR = App A.

PL in our x-bred rules if you put the same over the same, the progeny is the same, so it neutral in regards to whether they are a buck or a doe. However when we come up the Appendix, that is where the anomaly comes up with the sex of the animal comes in.

DM, we don't want App C and App D. Do not want to throw the doors open, and we perhaps need something in there about an inspection (not a classification because it is easier to get to a judge), or maybe the dam of the buck needs a milk award.

PL in Australia the last couple of years, they inspect bucks, and they do from Appendix D upwards, which will impact us with progeny coming in from there. And it should be noted that for whatever reason they have decided to they needed to do this. JCH, so to move forward, should we be doing this for all breeds? DM throw out a questionnaire and see if they want it.

SG the sable don't even have App A, DM, they voted it down at the time.

Going to need remits to change. DM, I think it should come from Council and if members don't want this change they will vote it down.

App A = 15/16

App B = 7/8

CHH – App D could have other breeds in it, we need to be careful about this. SB, how will this affect Premier? JCH, we need to be mindful of them and will need to discuss with them as well.

They have different rules for their sables so there have been differences before.

JCH, is there general consensus that Council looks into this further? Unanimous yes.

### **Judge comment – HB**

Should be separate milking classes for Nigerian Dwarf, Best Udder, because less wear and tear on their udders due to less volume in them.

Stress factor on a doe giving 8lt is far more than the ND can give.

SG there is also an issue with the ND walking over the big ruts in the ground. There are some very good ND out there and we have to do the best that we can, but they almost need their own class. RB, I have judged 2 ND where there are NO faults; HB says that answers the question, no stress on the udder gives them an unfair advantage over the bigger milking Swiss breeds.

CP, had this discussion 2yrs ago. James Simpson had been to Australia and had judged ND over there and came back and recommended very strongly that the ND should have their own classes. Council agreed to allow Shows to add a class for Dwarfs and so they did, and the Dwarfs entered those classes as well as the original classes and now get a double up on points and prize money.

General discussion, with no real consensus on what the next step should be.

### **Annual Show Awards - PL**

Suggestions were made for changing the criteria for these awards several years ago.

Council had a look at the alternatives suggested and decided a member survey would be the way forward, however council could not agree on the survey questions.

I agree that it is time the awards system is upgraded and simplified as it is currently very time consuming to administer and produces awards that do little to encourage members to participate at shows. How many agree?

Need to establish the goals of an awards system before specific changes can be proposed. Need to decide the correct balance of participation (no of shows attended) against class results and against competition level within classes (no of entries in each class). Anything else?

Very difficult to do with a points system. The existing system favours participation e.g. Winning 2<sup>nd</sup> in 10 classes gives more points than winning 1<sup>st</sup> in 6 classes.

Winning a class with no competition also gives 6 points.

Averaging (dividing total points by shows attended) will favour class results. A goat that wins max possible points in 1 show, receives no more points benefits in attending any more shows.

Capping the number of shows eligible for points, does not help the members in areas where fewer shows are available, and in selecting the capped shows from all shows attended, Judge bias may occur, also a greater administration effort is needed

None of these options take into account the competition level within each class. To do so would require adding extra points dependant on class sizes and this would also add to the administration effort.

At a regional level most of these problems are overcome, i.e. there is an opportunity for local members, if they want, to attend all shows, there will be similar entries in each show and the number of entries in each class will be similar. Comments?

The difficulties arise in comparing the results of one region with another region. After all in many cases the entries in one region very often never compete against the entries in another region and when they do the class sizes will likely be different. A near perfect exhibit in one region may have less points, due to less shows than a lower quality exhibit that attended more shows in another region. Points in this situation cannot identify the best quality exhibit on a national level. But should identifying the best quality exhibit be the main goal for National Awards or not?

If quality is the main goal Comparison between regional results would be improved if it was based upon a competition that took the higher points scorers from each region as finalists for the national competition. This could be a photo competition involving 3 judges and maybe some member participation that might happen and generate interest at an annual conference/event. Comments?

If quality is not the main goal. Then what should the main goal be? How can it be best achieved?

Hopefully the ideas generated by the discussion we have today will form the basis for a member survey or a survey just for members who have an interest in showing?

JCH, comes down to are we awarding attendance or are we awarding quality?

DM, you actually solved the problem, but then you complicated it. So if you just took the region of residence, and it didn't matter how many points you won, it was just 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in YOUR region to qualify for the NZ final, you then negate the amount of competition and the amount of shows. Then the top 3 in each region take photos and you have a separate set of judges point those animals, your National placing come from that. Ending up with a goat that is Supreme at her only Show could conceivably win the National Award for the year. We already do this with the Semex On Farm competition with the Friesians and it works really well.

BW Paparoa has a regional breeder class, and one of the competitors has property in two regions so is eligible for that class.

SG the idea has merit, but inexperienced people who do not know how to show off their animals the best may not get the best photo.

DM an example would be that I can only ever go to Gore or Balclutha unless I drive over 6 hours. So I could have the best goat in the South Island, but you will never find her by points. But if you are judging a region, then all I would need to do is win the Southland Region to compete nationally. And if I can't win the Southland region then I shouldn't be competing nationally anyway, it's that simple.

JCH, the way things are at the moment, the chance of a winner coming out of any area other than top half of North Island or Canterbury is nil. So that does sort of hollow out the achievement. However if the winners of the regions are compared against each other by a panel of judges, while not everyone will agree with the assessment made, it mean a lot more to win it.

JR, there is a fair chance if you have a panel of judges then some of those judges will have seen the animal in person as well. JCH, and another thing, if we do this virtually, there is no reason why we couldn't get an overseas judge being over judge to the competition.

CP, we should have RAS regions, PL I think we need an extra region for those that travel into multiple regions so that those that compete at lots of shows are competing for the spot against others that also travel to multiple regions.

General consensus is that this format needs to be explored further. Council to do some work on this. End result could encourage more people to show.

T & P classes there are a lot of points where there are uncontested wins, there needs to be some research as to how points are handled where there is no competition.

Molly Fletcher joined the meeting.

## **National Awards – Power point presentation**

NZDGBA National Awards 2023/2024

HR Doe of the Year	Golden Sands Paris	Molly Fletcher
AR Doe of the Year	Silverfalls Della	Molly Fletcher
HR Goatling of the Year	Silverfalls Pink	Molly Fletcher
AR Goatling of the Year	Silverfalls J Pandora	Molly Fletcher
HR Doe Kid of the Year	Punganui Sienna	Lisa Logan
AR Doe Kid of the Year	Silverfalls Ricky's Pizzaz	Molly Fletcher
Buck Kid of the Year	Silverfalls Ricky's Spencer	Molly Fletcher
Buckling of the Year	Ardee Aussie Ace	Molly Fletcher
Buck of the Year	Antrimdowns Ringo	Molly Fletcher
HR Best Udder	Goldensands Paris	Molly Fletcher
AR Best Udder	Silverfalls Della	Molly Fletcher
HR Type & Production	Silverfalls Paris	Molly Fletcher
AR Type & Production	Silverfalls Della	Molly Fletcher
Junior Show Person of the Year	Niamh Carden-Holdstock	
Junior Herdsperson of the Year	Aranee Logan	
Kia Ora Alec Shield	Broomehill Augustus	Broome Family
	Antrim Downs Ringo	Molly Fletcher
Show Sire of the Year	Ascona Ticino	C Carden-Holdstock

Top Lactation Doe	Strontian Foxy Girl 1760lt	Ray Messervy
Top Butterfat Doe	Ardee Kyla 63kg	Clarinde Janssen
Top Protein Doe	Ardee Kyla 55kg	Clarinde Janssen
Top Solids Doe	Ardee Kyla 118kg	Clarinde Janssen

## **NZDGBA 24hr Milking Competition**

### **Twice A Day Milk**

Alpine	4.65lt	Affinity Glamour Girl	Sonia Gibbins
Ass Saanen	8.36lt	Ardee Bel Bree	Donna Morton
Nubian	5.5lt	Arohagoats Cherry Rosella	Tanya Underwood
Sable	4.84lt	Strontian Foxy Fern	Ray Messervy
Saanen	9.57lt	Strontian Gay II	Ray Messervy
Toggenburg	?	Affinity Willow	Rachael Gibbins
RG	5.78lt	Silverfalls Poppet	Molly Fletcher

### **Once a Day Milk**

Nubian	2.72lt	Bellechevre Vixen	Jennifer Rodrigue
Saanen	3.74lt	Crescent Argo	Jennifer Rodrigue
Ass Saanen	2.97lt	Everbrook Zuzanna	Jennifer Rodrigue
Ass Toggenburg	3.1lt	Farthendeur Renegade	Rachael Gibbins
Ass Nubian	2.74lt	Bellechevre Pepper	Jennifer Rodrigue
RG	1.81lt	Ardee Bel Begonia	Jennifer Rodrigue
Nigerian Dwarf	1.47lt	Tuivale Black Gold	Carol Plumpton

A regional power point of show pictures across the regions was shown. JCH asked for photos that people wanted included in this slide show, send them in and they can be added before it is uploaded onto social media.

Next year's AGM, JCH, is everyone happy with this format, and low-cost formula? If so, Christchurch could run similar next year. DM, set dates early, then flights are much cheaper. Confirm dates later,

Meeting closed 4.56pm



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		<b>D</b>	2006 B
			2007 C
			2008 D
			2009 E
			2010 G
			2011 H
			2012 K
			2013 L
			2014 M
			2015 P
			2016 S
			2017 T
			2018 V
			2019 X
			2020 Z
			2021 A
			2022 B
			2023 C

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Clubs, please contact the following councillors	
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Canterbury	Jayne Arscott

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**DAIRY GOAT NEWS**  
**July**  
**CONTENTS**

- 3 NZDGBA Council and Officers
- 4 From the Editor
- 5 Western Australia Milk Awards
- 7 Bracken fern Poisoning
- 12 Draft Minutes of 2024 AGM
- 31 Woolshed Marketing
- 32 Tattoo Letters
- 33 Affiliated Clubs



Broomehill Buckling on way to a show.