



WISCONSIN DAIRY GOAT ASSOCIATION

March/April 2007 Newsletter

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Spring letter from WDGA president

Randy Adamson

Well, with temps in the 50's this week, Spring must be here!

For some of us, Spring brings two different emotions concerning our goats: first "anticipation", the other is "why".

With "anticipation" we wonder:

- (a) *Will* that B.I.S. doe give us doe kids that are as good as she is?
- (b) *Will* that leased or A.I. buck produce the type of kids we are hoping for?
- (c) *Will* last years Jr. Champ. freshen with a nice udder?

With the "why" we wonder:

- (a) *Why* did we breed so many goats?
- (b) *Why* did the permanent champion have triplet bucks-again!?
- (c) *Why* do they always freshen at 10:00 p.m. the same night her owners are planning a romantic evening?
- (d) *Why* do I always make colostrum pudding?

Maybe our "non-goat" friends are right when they say, "you guys are crazy".

Anyway, I hope you are all having a successful kidding season and get the type of kids you are hoping for.

Now WDGA News and Views

Planning for the WDGA show in Portage is coming along well. Mark your calendars for May 19th and 20th. Saturday will be a 2-ring ADGA show and Sunday there will be a Youth show (and just in...possibly a 3rd ADGA show). This is a great chance for those 4-Hers to show their goats at another show.

We will need help with the show so if you can donate some time please contact a member of the show committee or myself.

I am hoping that in each newsletter I can address a new issue or concern within WDGA. This time it is the milking demonstration booth at the State Fair. This booth runs the entire ten days of the fair. It is an excellent way to not only educate the public on goats but also a great way to promote dairy goat products. I feel both of these are issues that WDGA should be involved in. The problem is the State Fair feels WDGA should pay the cost of the booth.

We are looking at several ways to help cover some of the costs involved. I feel the State Fair should still be responsible for some of the cost here as this is an "attraction" for the people attending the fair. I am hoping that the products booth can help to finance the milking booth so it is not a financial drain on the WDGA treasury year after year. There are two areas where WDGA members can help. One is we are looking for milking does to use in the demonstration. If we can find goats from a "non commercial" herd we would not have to reimburse owners for loss of milk income. The second area is labor. People are needed to care for the animals, milk the goats, and give a small talk during the milking demonstration. In the past, several young people who are paid a daily rate and are able to stay in the dorms have done this. If you know of someone that would be able to work during the fair please let us know.

Well, enough for now; we'll talk again. Remember I want to hear from you on any issue concerning WDGA. I have to run- I think my colostrum pudding done.

See you in the show ring,

Randy

Minutes of Spring Meeting WDGA 2007

The Spring Annual meeting of the WDGA was held Sunday, March 18, 2007 at the Ponderosa Steak House in Beaver Dam, WI.

The meeting was called to order at 1:22 p.m. by President Randy Adamson. Twenty five members were present for the meeting.

Larry Hedrich gave comments on the 2006 ADGA Convention. Profit in the amount of \$5004.00 was sent to the WDGA treasury. Thank you to everyone that helped in anyway.

Daniel Considine will follow up on a full report of finances of the ADGA convention.

Larry Hedrich gave a report on the WDGA activities for 2006 and up to March 2007. The key events included: 1) Three workshops on dairy goats held in January and February at Fox Valley Technical College with Dr. Robert Van Saum presenting for the last workshop. 2) Annual Spring Meeting 2006-Robert Fontaine presenting on the current premise ID program. 3) State WDGA Show-May 2006 at Wisconsin State Fair Park. 4) State FFA Convention Dairy Goat Judging Event. 5) State Fair Educational Display and pizza party. 6) Goat Bacchanal-Milwaukee, held in conjunction with Larry's market-September. 7) Hosted the American Dairy Goat Association Convention in October, Milwaukee. 8) Caprine Field Day-November-Arlington Research Station. 9) Focus on Goats Feb 15th in Barneveld. Numerous articles and TV news in regards to Wisconsin Dairy Goats. The USDA report that came out this fall stated that Wisconsin now leads the Nation in having the most dairy goats.

Dan Considine reported on the plans for the State WDGA Dairy Goat Show that will be held May 19th and 20th, 2007, at the fairgrounds in Portage. The Boer Goat people will not be showing with us. Thus we will have a Senior Doe Show on Sunday. Doug Thompson will judge. Josh Kaplewski and Jay Rudolph will judge on Saturday. Jay will judge the youth show on Sunday.

The first animal that a youth exhibits will be free. If someone has more than 10 animals entered in a show the fee will be \$3.00. If less than 10, the fee will be \$3.50 each. The Youth show will not be sanctioned. They do not need registration papers to show. A vet will check animals. The

youth can not show the same animal in the youth show and in the open senior doe show on Sunday. Tom Considine will take care of the food. Please remember to bring tarps in case of cold or rain.

John Belzer moved that the information for the State Show along with the rules and entry form be placed in the WDGA newsletter. Leslie Reeck seconded the motion. The motion carried. A suggestion was made that an ad be placed in newsletters of area states.

Tom Considine and Daniel Considine will take care of the clean-up. Randy Adamson will order the awards. Looking for someone to organize and get sponsorships. Also need someone to run a Silent Auction.

Randy Adamson is looking for a location and topics for the Fall WDGA meeting. If you have any suggestions, please contact him.

Suggestions for the youth judge for the Wisconsin State Fair are Julie Matthys and Linda Libra. Tom Considine moved that a committee consisting of Daniel Considine, Larry Hedrich, Clara Hedrich and Sarah Bredesen be formed to plan and coordinate the Dairy Goat Educational display at the Wisconsin State Fair and the Dairy Goat Products Booth. Jane Schwartz seconded the motion. The motion passed.

New rules at the Wisconsin State Fair: During the DHI milking competition, NO plastic pails may be used, only stainless steel pails allowed. Youth showing at state fair must take note of the new rules changes. (One of them being: Animals shown by youth must be in Youth's name, not family or farm name.) Please read the rules carefully.

Greg Brackett is the chairman of the nomination committee.

Ken Schumann gave the financial report.

Sarah Bredesen gave a report on the Wisconsin State Fair Products Booth. Sales from the booth were up considerably this year. We need to get the word out for more volunteers to work in the booth. A volunteer working the booth for 8 hours includes tickets for the fair.

If any youth group would like to sell the cookbook as a fundraiser, the cost to the club would be \$8.00. The books can be sold for any amount the group chooses and are currently priced at \$10.

Dan Considine moved that WDGA pay for the plaques for the Dairy Goat Judging contest that will be held at the State FFA Convention. Larry Hedrich seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Clara Hedrich gave a report on the 9th Annual Caprine Field Day which will be held Saturday, Nov. 3rd at the Arlington Research Farm. Dr. Mobini and Bill Wendorf will be presenters. Pat Weerts has volunteered to get exhibitors for the field day. Volunteers are needed for the youth speakers and silent auction. Randy Adamson, Jennifer Lohman-Peterson and Jane Schwartz will be on the select doe and buck selection committee for the field day.

Chris Leischer and Clara Hedrich have revised the WDGA brochure. If you have any other ideas for changes, please get them to Chris or Clara.

Jane Schwartz presented her ideas for youth programs.

Randy Adamson shared his interest in holding youth dairy goat judging competitions. Tom Considine will look into holding one at State Fair.

Chris Leischer moved to hold a pizza party at state fair right after the youth show. Tom Considine seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Concerns were expressed regarding the website. Randy Adamson will work on the details. Josh Kaplewski has volunteered to work on website issues.

Dan Considine suggested doing a professional video for milking a goat for the educational display. Larry Hedrich will contact Jeanne Meier about possibly getting DATCP help in doing this. Chris Leischer will also put this information in the newsletter.

WDGA dues are \$10 and the Breeder's listing is \$10.

WLIC report from Daniel Considine. Wisconsin has the highest numbers of premises

registered. Renewals are due now.

Tom Considine moved to adjourn the meeting. Ken Schumann seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Clara Hedrich

WDGA Secretary

WDGA IS INTERESTED IN PRODUCING AN EDUCATIONAL VIDEO OF HOW GOATS ARE MILKED AND THE PRODUCTS MADE FROM THE MILK. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PRODUCING OR PARTICIPATING IN THIS PRODUCTION, PLEASE CONTACT DANIEL CONSIDINE (608-742-2016) OR LARRY HEDRICH (920-8419-2926).

Cook Book Fund Raising Opportunity

The price on the WDGA cook book has been reduced to \$10 (from \$13). This would be a great item for a goat club or 4H/FFA group to sell as a fund raiser. Volume price to organizations is \$8 each, any proceeds made over the \$8 is be profit.

The cook book contains not only those hard to find recipes for goat cheese, milk and meat but also a letter of welcome written by the late Harvey Considine which could easily make it a collector's item. Contact Randy Adamson at 608-868-7177 or marran@ticon.net

Report on the FOCUS ON GOATS event held in Barneveld WI.

The FOCUS ON GOATS Seminar was great success. Expected attendance of 150 people was surpassed by almost double that amount. Programs were presented on raising goats for meat production, milk production, housing, marketing, record keeping, and financial realities. This event was presented by the DATACP with support of the Wisconsin Dairy Goat Assoc. This early spring event will be followed up by other goat focus events throughout the coming months:

May ?? Rock County. O'Dools on the Farm Field Day.

June 15th: Crawford County; Gerstner Farm Field Day

July 17th Iowa County. Serenity Springs Farm Field Day.

August 23rd Calumet County, LaClare Farm, Chilton, On the Farm Field Day.

Sep 21st Green County Farm Tours

October 10th, Dodge County, Zimmerman Farm Field Day

Nov. 3rd Caprine Field Day at Arlington.

All farm field days will be held from 10:00 a.m. to noon and will concentrate on nutrition and animal health.

Some details have not been firmed up yet. Contact Jeanne Meier at 608-224-5121 or email:

Jeanne.meier@datcp.state.wi.us

HEARD ON THE RADIO. In an interview with author, Tom Wheeler about his new book titled MR LINCOLN'S T-MAILS. History shows that President Lincoln used telegraphs to keep in touch with his family much like we use email today. When Mary Todd-Lincoln and eleven-year old son, Tadd arrived in New York city, they sent the President the following telegraph:
HAVE ARRIVED SAFELY. WE ARE FINE. SEND \$50 TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS.....
TADD WANTS TO KNOW HOW HIS GOATS ARE The President telegraphed back: *THE MONEY'S ON IT'S WAY TELL TADD BOTH THE GOATS AND I ARE DOING FINE. ESPECIALLY THE GOATS!*

VISIT WITH THE VET.....

RAISING HEALTHY KIDS

By Dr. Gerry Schumann D.V.M.

Raising healthy kids begins long before the kids are born. A healthy doe that is up to date on her vaccinations, dewormed as needed and has the proper body weight and condition will most likely deliver healthy kids. A poorly nourished doe will not have the body resources for development of healthy kids or the resources to produce enough milk. An overly fat doe is more likely to develop metabolic problems like ketosis to the detriment of her kids and may also have difficulty delivering her kids.

If the doe is in good, shape then the next thing to appraise is the environment where she will be kidding and where the kids will be raised. A clean, draft free barn with dry pens is essential when kidding indoors, especially in our cold winter and early spring months. Goats that kid later in the year may kid on clean, dry pasture. Even if the pasture is dry, remember to check around feeders, waterers and barn doors where mud and manure may accumulate. The pasture may be fine but the doe will probably choose to kid near the feeder or barn. I prefer to have my does kid in separate kidding pens that are cleaned thoroughly after each kidding. In a large herd this is probably not practical.

Neonatal care of kids begins with cleaning off the nose and mouth and making sure the kids are completely dry. Use a hair dryer if necessary because a wet kid can chill rapidly. A dry kid can withstand very cold temperatures. A warm barn is not needed and an overly warm barn can lead to other problems. Chilling at birth can lead to a rapid fall in blood glucose levels in kids, which can lead to coma and death. These kids need to be warmed immediately and may need some glucose via stomach tube. Once they are warmed, give them colostrum by stomach tube if necessary. Do not give colostrum or milk to a cold kid because it can't digest it.

All kids should have their umbilical cords dipped in tincture of Iodine and may be dipped again the second day. This prevents umbilical cord infections which can gain access to the kid's circulatory system which can cause septicemia, internal abscesses and arthritis. This is sometimes referred to a Joint ill or Naval ill. Once the infection is present, it is very difficult to treat, therefore prevention is very important.

Make sure all kids receive colostrum shortly after birth. Ideally a kid should receive this first feeding within 15-30 minutes after birth. The kid continues to absorb antibodies for at least 24 hours, although the first couple of hours are best. Colostrum should be fed three times a day for the first two days, four to eight ounces per feeding depending on the size of the kid. For the first couple of days the kids tend to eat only the amount they need and don't seem to over eat. If kids are raised on a CAE prevention program the colostrum needs to be heat treated for one hour at 135 degrees F. Then after two or three days, switch to pasteurized milk. Colostrum replacements have the nutrients kids need but not the antibodies to prevent disease. Cow colostrum does not have the antibodies to prevent goat disease and if it isn't heat treated it may introduce other disease producing pathogens into your herd.

Some of the problems what can be seen in young kids are scours, pneumonia, coccidiosis, worms, tetanus, CAE, sore mouth (contagious ecthyma) and polioencephaomalasia. Some of these conditions occur more often when the environment is dirty, crowded or there are poor feeding

practices (poor hygiene or erratic feedings). Others are due to infectious agents or nutritional deficiencies.

Scours can be due to overfeeding, infectious agents or parasites. The main thing to remember no matter the cause, is that kids can die very quickly from dehydration. Discontinue the feeding of milk for 24 hours and give oral electrolyte solutions. Then determine the cause and treat the cause.

Some problems wouldn't be as severe if treated early. Kids need to be treated for coccidia as early as two weeks of age to prevent illness. When treating with any drug, make sure the proper dosage is used. Giving too much Corid can lead to a thiamine deficiency which causes polioencephaomalasia but too little will be ineffective. The kids need to be weighed and the dose calculated. Then make sure the kid actually consumes it. Drugs in the grain mix usually don't work well in kids because they don't eat enough to get the proper dose or one or two kids may get too much.

Tetanus and Clostridium C&D can be prevented by vaccinating the doe the month before delivery to increase the antibodies to these diseases in her colostrum.

Some farms have a big problem with pneumonia in kids and others have never had a case. More problems occur when the environment is wet, crowded, has dirty bedding or the animals are under stress. If the environment is okay, then there may be a particularly virulent pathogen on the farm.

There are some diseases with unknown causes such as Floppy Kid Disease. The cause or causes are unknown but many of these kids respond to one teaspoon of baking soda in their milk. In other cases there is no response. It appears to occur in a "healthy" kid of about 10 to 14 days of age. Some will respond and then relapse. Those that relapse do not usually do well.

It can't be stressed enough when raising kids that cleanliness, reducing stress, early identification of problems and aggressive treatment can keep you kids healthy and growing well.



O_n W_{isconsin}..... O_n W_{isconsin}.....



Wisconsin now has more **DAIRY** goats than any other state...!

The WI Dept of Agriculture has released the latest statistics on our goat population. As of January 1, 2007, the total numbers of **dairy goats was 33,000 head**, plus 12,000 head of meat goats and 1,000 head of Angora goats.

Wisconsin leads in number of milk goats, and California and Texas are tied for second place.

Many of these goats live on the **165 licensed commercial goat dairies** in Wisconsin. Here is the break down by county of where those dairies are located throughout the state:

1 Dunn	8 Shawano	2 Fond Du Lac	3 Pepin
2 Waupaca	15 Monroe	1 Price	3 Oconto
1 Taylor	11 Vernon	3 Outagamie	2 Crawford
7 Clark	25 Grant	2 Brown	4 Marathon
3 Manitowoc	18 Lafayette	1 Wood	1 Calumet
4 Dane	5 Rock	8 Sauk	9 Green
3 Dodge			

Wisconsin Women named Pioneers of Goat Industry

By Sara Bredesen

As reported for THE COUNTRY TODAY

Milwaukee-Two Wisconsin women were named pioneers of the goat industry in the United States at award ceremonies during the American Dairy Goat Association (ADGA) annual convention in Milwaukee.

Judy Kapture of Portage and Jane Wierschem of Minocqua, were among six long-time ADGA members from across the country who were honored for their work to promote goats and improve dairy goat breeds.

Ms. Kapture has been a member of ADGA for 38 years and started showing goats in Illinois in 1955. She was co-superintendent of the Illinois State Fair goat show for many years and was involved with the National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments, advising the Food and Drug Administration on its Pasteurized Milk Ordinance in respect to goat milk.

She moved to Wisconsin in 1984 and shortly after that took over a Grade A dairy and milk hauling business. She and her husband, Dennis Daehn operate a commercial goat dairy near Portage, where she milks 100 to 150 does.

Ms Kapture has written more than 400 articles about dairy goats and actively promoted the use of pasteurized milk to control Caprine Arthritic Encephalitis. Her current project is to collect information on cost of production for goat milk.



Jane Wierschem and her husband, Ken, got their first goats in 1976 as a family project. Her Prairie Patch herd was on continuous (milk test) Dairy Herd Improvement Records and annual ADGA herd evaluation.

Ms. Wierschem has presented seminars and written articles on improved genetic typing through use of DHIR records, regular linear appraisal, USDA genetic evaluations, proven bucks and artificial insemination.

The success of her program has shown in grand champions, best in show winners and milking competition winners in both her own herd and others across the country.

At the 1994 Wisconsin State Fair, four different Prairie Patch bucks sired the first and second place winners in every Nubian senior doe class, plus grand champion, reserve grand champion and best of breed Nubians, all from different herds.

Jane has spent 20 years working on ADGA committees for sire development, production testing and linear appraisal, and she created the ADGA Superior Genetics program.

NOTE: Also honored as ADGA Pioneers were Marge and Earl Kitchen of Houston, MN, who have long been members of the goat community and market those 'hard-to-find' caprine gifts and collectables through their business, Wood & Stream Creations. The Kitchens are a welcome addition to many Wisconsin goat events.

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TRIVIA QUESTION...?

You are looking at a painting or a statue, and the seller says that the animal in it is a lamb or sheep. But you know it is a goat. How can you tell? (It doesn't have horns).