



BROWSE

goat news from Ontario

Ontario Goat Breeders Association
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Chevon - Lucy Berger
Fibre - Allison Taylor

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District 2: 613 area code
District 3: 519 area code
District 4: 905/289/416/647 area codes

Canadian Dairy Buck Classic, June 7 at Orillia, Ontario

submitted by Bonnie MacPherson

Bring a lawn chair and come and join us! This year's event will again include a double sanctioned show and offer on site classification by Lorne Hansford.

Exhibitors are invited to arrive any time after 6 p.m. on Friday evening. At 8 p.m. we will be having Dr. Yves Plante from Canadian Animal Genetic Resources (CAGR) Program talk about his work in Genetic Diversity. We are also holding a potluck that evening.

Early the next morning classification will begin about 7:30 a.m. Exhibitors are asked to be on the grounds with their animals by 8:30 a.m. on Saturday for the vet and paper check, with the show starting at 10:00 a.m. Our two judges this year will be Patrick McLean and Ed Cavanagh. Entry deadline is May 24th.

We will again be holding a silent auction table during the show on Saturday. If anyone would like to donate a craft, goods or service, to help support our endeavor, please feel free to contact me at goatlady@xplornet.com or 613-283-4408.

If you would like to place an ad to be in our catalogue this year please go to www.buckclassic.ca/sponsorship.htm. This is an opportunity for your advertisement to be included in our 300 catalogues produced for this event. These catalogues will also be handed out at major shows such as the Caprine Classic, the Royal Winter Fair and Goat Symposium until they run out. Business card sized ads are \$25. If you'd like to become a sponsor of this event, feel free to find more information at www.buckclassic.ca/sponsorship.htm

If you'd like to send entries, or have other questions, please go to www.buckclassic.ca or phone Bonnie at 613-283-4408. Finally, the top ten reasons to attend:

1. You love the aroma of the day.
2. Harold Hanna is cooking lunch.
3. Spending a day in a lawn chair watching bucks does it for ya.
4. You've never been to Orillia before.
5. You get to catch up with all your goat friends who have now woken up from a long winter's nap.
6. You don't have to milk out after.
7. You'd like to see how that favorite buck of yours will classify.
8. Lois will be showing in her NEW pink hot pants.
9. You never know what kind of a deal you'll find on the silent auction table.
10. You just want to see the best goat genetics in the country.

Dr. Yves Plante will be attending our Buck Classic this year to give a talk on the 6th of June, Friday evening at 8 p.m., and to do some samples on the Saturday. Dr. Plante wrote the information quoted below, which is an introduction as to what he'd like to accomplish.

“Canadian Animal Genetic Resources (CAGR) Program

Within the framework of goat genetic resources and conservation, it is important to define a baseline describing levels and availability of genetic diversity. The general approach is to estimate genetic variation in as many breeds as possible using internationally

Interested in being an OGBA Director?

Article VII of the current Constitution (October 2005) states that Members interested in becoming Directors must submit their intent in writing 90 days prior to the AGM. If more than three (3) members submit letters of intent, voting will take place at the Annual General Meeting. New directors will assume office following the election and after the conclusion of business of the retiring Board of Directors.

CNGF Rep for OGBA Garry Claassen
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recognized genetic markers. The biggest challenge is to gather the necessary samples to create a national repository of DNA samples for current and future research needs.

I plan to be available to meet with any members on Friday and Saturday to discuss goat genetic resources and conservation. On Friday afternoon and evening, I would like to meet with as many members/breeders as possible and arrange for the collection of blood samples with those willing to participate in this collection.

I understand that the organizing committee was looking into inviting local veterinarians to volunteer their time and assist in the collection of the blood samples. I will bring along 100 blood collection vials and needles (and holders) so there should be no costs for the material. If veterinarians are not available, I will also bring blood collection cards and needles. Here I will need the assistance of the breeder/owner to handle the animal while I prick the ear vein and collect few drops onto the collection card. Obviously I would prefer to collect 3-5 ml of fresh blood (with the help of the veterinarians) as this will yield enough DNA to last a lifetime (well not quite but almost!!). The collection of samples can also be done on Saturday. The participation is voluntary but will be extremely appreciated.

Following my presentation on Saturday, I will make my deck of slides (pdf format) available to your group for posting on the website or via email to members making a request.

Yves Plante

Canadian Caprine Classic

The 2008 Canadian Caprine Classic is being held in conjunction with the International Goat Symposium, August 12-14, 2008.

This year's event will once again feature a CGS sanctioned open dairy show (sections for Saanen, Alpine, Nubian, LaMancha, Toggenburg, AOP, Recorded Grade), as well incorporating a commercial dairy section (non-sanctioned). There will again be a CGS sanctioned combined purebred buck show. The judge for the dairy sections is TBA at this point.

The meat goat show will again feature a CMGA sanctioned Boer show (pure does, pure bucks, percentage does), as well as an open commercial doe section.

The angora show will (most likely) be CGS sanctioned this year, with classes for purebred bucks and does. The judge for the angoras and Boers will be Coni Ross of Texas.

At this point we are still finalizing details. The show will be

August 13, with the sale the morning of August 14. It is likely that exhibitors will be able to arrive the morning of the 13th and leave after the show if they are not participating in the sale. Alternately, for those that wish to take in the whole symposium, you will be able to arrive with animals the morning of the 12th, and leave at the conclusion on the 14th (in other words, you can come and go as required, within reason).

We are just finalizing the exhibitor's package (should be done in the next two weeks). They will be sent to the previous year's Caprine Classic exhibitors, available in hard copy on request, and available online at the IGS website. Tentatively, we are offering prize money as follows: 1st- \$25, 2nd- \$20, 3rd- 15\$, 4th- \$10, 5th- \$10. Tentatively, entries will be \$10 each, no cost for penning (same penning as the Royal!). We are working to have something more substantial to house the bucks in.

For show and sale information, please contact myself, Tobin Schlegel at tobin@cwisp.ca.

International Goat Symposium

The third annual International Goat Symposium is changing venues and dates this year. It will take place August 12 - 14, 2008, in Stratford, Ontario. Please visit the website at www.goatsymposium.com or contact one of the steering committee for more information:

Symposium Chairperson:

Bob Reid: punkeydoodles@cwisp.ca, phone 519-662-1906

Seminar Committee:

Anita O'Brien: anita.obrien@ontario.ca

Lloyd Wicks: grasshil@peterboro.net

Lisa Thompson: lthompson@tnt21.com

Sponsorship & Trade Show Committee:

Lloyd Wicks: grasshil@peterboro.net

Communications/Promotion/Website:

Dino Iannuzzi: dino@netwerx.com

CGS East National at the Royal

The East National Show will be held at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair this year. It will be on Saturday, November 8. Judge and details are to be determined. There will be separate classes for the Oberhaslis. If you have any, this will be your chance to show them off. Watch for further details.

Improve and enhance your goat management PRODUCTION MANUALS

Manual #1 - Let's Make a Decision: Aimed at the new or novice goat-keeper, or anyone thinking about raising goats, this manual has everything you need to know, starting with selecting stock to record-keeping charts. It is written by goatkeepers, for goatkeepers, in terms that everyone can understand.

Manual #2 - How the Industry Grows: This manual has been produced for the more experienced goatkeeper. It is a more in-depth look at products and marketing. Topics include: grading meat goats, assessing a live goat's body condition, Grade A requirements for shipping milk, and faults in raw mohair. The writers of this manual have over 50 years combined experience in raising goats.

Price per manual: (Prices are in Canadian funds)
OGBA Members \$25.00 Non-Members \$35.00

Shipping is \$5 extra per manual, or arrangements can be made for pick-up in your district. Order manuals through the OGBA Secretary.

The objectives of OGBA are:

1. develop, provide and circulate sound and objective information about goats;
2. assist goat owners in the improvement and development goat breeds;
3. encourage and promote the advancement of the goat industry and new technologies such as AI and embryo transplant;
4. assist in the development of the meat, fibre, miniature, and dairy products markets in Ontario;
5. promote the development, sale, and export of agricultural products relevant to the goat industry;
6. provide educational opportunities related to agriculture and rural life relevant to the goat industry;
7. work co-operatively with provincial and national livestock groups for the advancement of the goat industry.