

DAIRY GOAT SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2019



“Curiosity hasn’t killed me”

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Editors note:

As described below, we have had a change of committee since last newsletter came out. Due to significant life circumstances, this newsletter is regrettably extremely late, and I, as the new Newsletter editor, sincerely apologise for this delay. Taking unforeseen circumstances into account, the plan is to get us back on track with a Summer edition actually circulated in Summer. If you would like more information and articles in the coming newsletter - please be the change you want to see in the world, and send them in!

Regards,
Carrie Florance



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Bendigo Branch Show, with a highly-qualified US judge, significant sponsorship, and an impressive number of entries, has come and gone. Unfortunately we don't yet have judge's comments, and not all photos are linked with the name of the exhibit. Please appreciate the contribution of the photographer, as the photos are reproduced with his permission, and feel free to submit more photos for the Summer edition to showcase the truly memorable day it was.

## DGSA VICTORIAN BRANCH Inc.

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**CHECK OUT OUR FACE BOOK PAGE FOR INFORMATION FOR  
MEMBERS  
DAIRY GOAT SOCIETY AUSTRALIA VIC. BRANCH**

## D.G.S.A. VICTORIAN BRANCH INC. 40<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SHOW

held in affiliation with

### **BENDIGO SHOW SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SHOW**

Class P01: FALCONLEES SARA TROPHY Best prepared & present team of 3 goats owned by the Exhibitor

1st Datadoo Lesa, Sibelco, Champ Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins

2nd Roden Stud Dr Belinda Cardinal

3rd Gippy Goats Ms Ilana Leeds

Class P02: Best Vessel - 1st Lactation (13)

1st Down Udder A.V. Oreo Alex Berry (right)

2nd Down Udder AV Candy's Drop Alex Berry

3rd Roden Zero's Montana Dr Belinda Cardinal



Class P03: Best Vessel - 2 or more Lactations (19)

1st Down Udder Cache Golden Girl Alex Berry

2nd Datadoo Playboy's Sibelco Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins

3rd Jazzy Prima Donna Ms Jess Westbury

OVERALL BEST VESSEL

Down Udder A V Oreo



Class P05: Toggenburg Doe on first lactation (3)

1st Roden Zero's Montana Dr Belinda Cardinal

2nd Roden Cache Cheyenne Dr Belinda Cardinal

3rd Kudumba Mikayla Miss Carrie Florance

Class P06: British Alpine Doe on first lactation (1)

1st Fontana Vanity Fair Fontana Dairy Goats

Class P07: Anglo Nubian Doe on first lactation (6)

1st Jazzy Playboy's Pandora Ms Jess Westbury

2nd Down Udder Amaia Ms Bryony Lepoidevin

3rd Datadoo Playboy's Chases ideal Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins



Class P09: Nigerian Dwarf Doe on first lactation (1)

1st First Fleet Molly Ulrike Garwood

Class P10: La Mancha Doe in milk first lactation (2)

1st Down Udder AV Candy's Drop Alex Berry

2nd Down Udder A.V. Oreo Alex Berry

Class P11: Alpine Doe in milk, first lactation (1)

1st Carolann Moonlit Ms Ilana Leeds

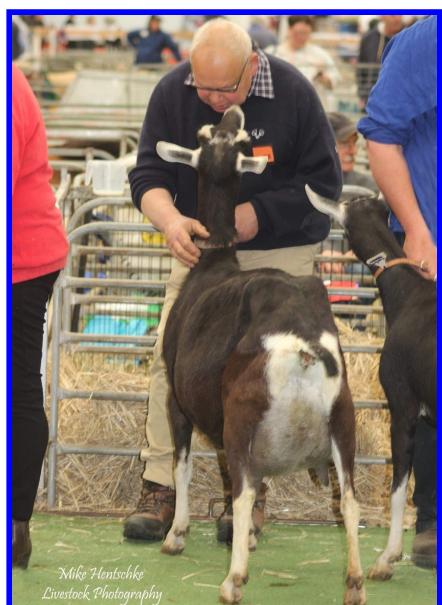
Class P12: Saanen Doe in milk 2 or more lactations (no entries)

Class P13: Toggenburg Doe 2 or more lactations (3)

1st Down Udder Cache Golden Girl Alex Berry

2nd Down Udder Seneca Dr Belinda Cardinal

3rd Waygara Nigella Miss Carrie Florance



Class P14: British Alpine Doe in milk, 2 or more lactations (4)

1st Fontana Vengeance Fontana Dairy Goats

2nd Cremona Charlotte's Alex Serrurier

### 3rd Cremona Vinca Alex Serrurier

Class P15: Anglo Nubian, Doe second or subsequent lactation (7)

1st Datadoo Playboy's Champ Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins

2nd Jazzy Prima Donna Ms Jess Westbury

3rd Datadoo Playboy's Sibelco Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins



Class P17: Nigerian Dwarf Doe 2 or more lactations (2)

1st First Fleet Carmen Ulrike Garwood

2nd First Fleet Hope Dr Belinda Cardinal

Class P18: La Mancha Doe 2 or more lactations (3)

1st Down Udder Lucky Alex Berry

2nd Down Udder Jay Jay Alex Berry

3rd Down Udder RTW Tsunami Alex Berry

Class P19: Alpine Doe 2 or more lactations (no entries)

Class P20\*: Veteran Doe in milk, any breed over 7 years (1)

1st Waygara Nigella Miss Carrie Florance

Class P21\*: Type & Production Doe Q\* Senior (4)

1st Down Udder Senegal Dr Belinda Cardinal

2nd Datadoo Playboy's Champ Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins

3rd Datadoo Playboy's Lesa Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins



Class P22\*: Type & Production Doe Q\* first lactation (1)

1st Roden Zero's Montana Dr Belinda Cardinal

CHAMPION TYPE & PRODUCTION DOE Q\*

Roden Zero's Montana

Class P23\*: Type & Production Herd Recording (1)

1st Datadoo Playboy's Champ Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins

Class P24\*: Dam & Daughter both in milk (2)

1st Cremona Vinca / Cremona Carlotta Alex Serrurier

2nd Waygara Nigella / Kudumba Nasturtium Locket Miss Carrie Florance



Class P25\*: Two Does, both in milk (same sire, not full sisters) (3)

- 1st Progeny of Dakota Playboy Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins  
2nd First Fleet Carmen/First Fleet Molly Ulrike Garwood  
3rd Kudumba Nasturtium Locket/Kudumba Mi Kayla Carrie Florance

Class P26\*: The Frank A. Thebridge Challenge Cup Doe in milk under 3 yrs at date of judging

- 1st Roden Zero's Montana Dr Belinda Cardinal  
2nd Down Udder Amaia Ms Bryony Lepoidevin  
3rd Jazzy Playboy's Pandora Ms Jess Westbury

CHAMPION SAANEN DOE

N/A



CHAMPION BRITISH ALPINE DOE

Fontana Vengeance Res. Cremona Carlotta.

CHAMPION ANGLO NUBIAN DOE

Datadoo Playboys Champ Res. Jazzy Prima Donna

CHAMPION AUSTRALIAN MELAAN / AUSTRALIAN BROWN DOE

N/A

CHAMPION NIGERIAN DWARF MILKING DOE

First Fleet Carmen (right) Res. First Fleet Molly

CHAMPION LA MANCHA MILKING DOE

Down Udder AV Candy's Drop Res. Down Udder Lucky



CHAMPION ALPINE MILKING DOE

Carolann Moonlite

OVERALL CHAMPION MILKING DOE

Down Udder Cache Golden Girl  
Res. Fontana Vengence



Class P28: Toggenburg Goatling (4)

- 1st Fontana Elm Matisse Fontana Dairy Goats  
2nd Roden Tacoma Vallen Dr Belinda Cardinal  
3rd Fontana Storm Fontana Dairy Goats

Class P29: British Alpine Goatling (1)  
1st Fontana Venezia Fontana Dairy Goats

Class P30: Anglo Nubian Goatling (6)  
1st Datadoo Cameron's Dee Eff Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins  
2nd Jazzy Ryah Ms Jess Westbury  
3rd Goodness Taylor Mr Luke Davis

Class P33: La Mancha Goatling (2)  
1st Down Udder Milky Bar Leo Thompson & Kylie Hopkins  
2nd Roden Malibu Dr Belinda Cardinal

Class P34: Alpine Goatling (2)  
1st Gippy Goats Shoshanna Ms Ilana Leeds  
2nd Gippy Goats Midnight Matilda Ms Ilana Leeds



CHAMPION GOATLING  
Fontana Venezia Res. Fontana Elm Matisse

Class P35\*: Two Goatlings same sire not full sisters (1)  
1st Goodness Indiana / Goodness Amelia Mr Luke Davies

Class P37: Toggenburg Doe Kid (5)  
1st Roden Zero's Winona Dr Belinda Cardinal (right)  
2nd Kudumba Lady Da Vinci Miss Carrie Florance  
3rd Kudumba Kaylie Miss Carrie Florance

Class P38: British Alpine Doe Kid (8)  
1st Fontana Vet Fontana Dairy Goats  
2nd Fontana Vogue Fontana Dairy Goats  
3rd Tallulah Saoirse Ms Bryony Lepoidevin

Class P39: Anglo Nubian Doe Kid (10)  
1st Anama Arya Ms Bryony LePoidevin (right)  
2nd Jazzy Reese Ms Jess Westbury  
3rd Stentwood Dooling Mrs Bev Stent

Class P40: Australian Melaan & Australian Brown Doe Kid (1)  
1st Tuella Melaana Mr Derek Taylor



Class P41: Nigerian Dwarf Doe Kid (3)

- 1st First Fleet Karina Ulrike Garwood  
2nd First Fleet Kate Ulrike Garwood  
3rd Roden Cas Pip Dr Belinda Cardinal

Class P42: La Mancha Doe Kid (3)

- 1st Down Udder AV Girtreud Alex Berry  
2nd Roden Syracuse Tatum Dr Belinda Cardinal  
3rd Down Udder Jaimee Alex Berry

Class P43: Alpine Doe Kid (1)

- 1st Gippy Goats Phillipa Ms Ilana Leeds



CHAMPION DOE KID

Down Udder AV Girtreud (right) Res. Fontana Vet

Class P44\*: Two Doe Kids same sire not full sisters (3)

- 1st Down Udder AV Jaimee/Down Udder AV Girtreud Alex Berry  
2nd Anama Arya & Anama Suri Ms Bryony Lepoidevin  
3rd Kudumba Lady Da Vinci / Kadumba Kaylie Miss Carrie Florance

Class P45\*: Dam & Daughter dam in milk, daughter dry (4)

- 1st Down Udder Tsunami & Down Udder AV Girtreud Alex Berry  
2nd Anama Amaia & Arya Ms Bryony Lepoidevin  
3rd Kudumba Nasturtium Locket / Kudumba Lady DaVinci Miss Carrie Florance

Class P46: Buck Kid any breed, under 12 months (14)

- 1st Down Udder Gotta B Lucky Alex Berry (right)  
2nd Roden Zero's Miller Dr Belinda Cardinal  
3rd Fontana Valhalla Fontana Dairy Goats



Class P47: Buckling any breed, b/w 12 - 24 months (5)

- 1st Roden Cache Lando Dr Belinda Cardinal (right)  
2nd Roden Tacoma Veto Mrs Louise Hardie  
3rd Goodness Elvis Mr Luke Davies

Class P48: Buck any breed, over 2 years (3)

- 1st Anama Alexander Mrs Louise Hardi  
2nd Roden Syracuse Dr Belinda Cardinal  
3rd Down Udder Geronimo Mr Luke Davies



## CHAMPION BUCK

Roden Cache Lando Res. Down Udder Gotta B Lucky

## GROUPS

Class P49\*: Breeders Group Milker, Goatling, Kid, same stud prefix (4)

1st Fontana Stud Fontana Dairy Goats

2nd Roden Stud Dr Belinda Cardinal

3rd Jazzy Stud Ms Jess Westbury



## JUNIOR HANDLER

Class P50: Junior Handler Juniors ages >10 and <10

Many entries! Not fully recorded.

## BREED CHAMPIONS

CHAMPION SAANEN

N/A

CHAMPION TOGGENBURG

Down Udder Cache Golden Girl Res. Down Udder Seneca.

## CHAMPION NIGERIAN DWARF

First Fleet Carmen Res. First Fleet Molly

## CHAMPION ANGLO NUBIAN

Datadoo Playboy's Champ Res. Jazzy Prima Donna



## CHAMPION ALPINE

Carolann Moonlite Res. Gippy Goats Shoshanna

CHAMPION AUST. MELAAN OR AUST. BROWN  
Tuella Melaana

## CHAMPION LA MANCHA

Down Udder AV Candy's Drop Res. Down Udder Lucky

## CHAMPION BRITISH ALPINE

Fontana Vengence Res. Fontana Venezia

## BEST EXHIBIT Sheila Lucas Memorial Trophy

Down Udder Cache Golden Girl ([left](#))

## BEST OPPOSITE SEX

Roden Cache Lando

# Goat Health Corner

While most breeders are not Veterinarians, there are a multitude of minor and regular ailments and conditions in our goats that are treated safely and effectively either without, or before vet advice. This depth of information is often shared at shows and during visits, but rarely elsewhere except in fleeting social media comments. My hope is to give an avenue for this goaty knowledge to be shared, and encourage breeders to assist others. There will be a scenario of a goat health problem and the situation (loosely based on common issues), for your feedback and ideas as to the problem and solution!

Please also send in any particular interesting scenarios you may have experienced if you would like thoughts.

## Please note:

As above, this is not professional medical advice except where stated. This is simply a sharing of knowledge, and should be treated as such. If you have a current situation beyond your knowledge, please consult professional advice.



## Goat Health Scenario

A maiden 2yo doe has kidded with twins this week. She seemed fine for the first few days, but her production has now dropped, her stomach is quite hard and almost a play-dough consistency, eyes are sunken and appetite has nearly disappeared. Gums and eyelids are normal colour, recently wormed, not scouring, not bloated.

What could be wrong, and what should be done?

## *Junior Goat Detective*

Hi Junior Members, and welcome to your section! If you have photos of your goats, stories about them, or questions to ask, send them in to appear here.

We would love to see your show experiences, new babies, and any tricks you may be teaching them.

When I was a Junior member, I got a wild goat named Megs. Her dad wasn't registered, so she was D grade, and she had horns she liked to poke the other goats with.

Thankfully, with lots of treats and being patient, she started to get more friendly. She got to be an old goat and died, but just this year, her great grand-daughter Kaylie had a lovely little girl named Kayla, and Kayla is purebred registered! Perseverance pays off in the end :)

Left is Kaylie and her brother Kyle when they were two weeks old, and right is Kaylie now.



*We'll also be following a story, and you get to send in the answers!*

This is the story of Joe Bloggs, and his wife Mary, who bought two baby goats for their son Billy. They lived in a lovely valley with good rainfall, plenty of grass, and blackberries in the gully. Even in drought there were a lot of bushes, and all their friends said goats would be perfect to eat all the weeds.

All seemed to be well for the first few weeks, the babies were drinking their milk, playing and sleeping. One morning though, Billy told his parents that the little boy goat kept bullying the little girl, and both of them kept scratching all the time. Mary got on the internet and found a local breeder. If you were the breeder she contacted, what would you have told her was wrong with the baby goats?

## Finding new homes for kids

At this time of year many of us have kids everywhere, or going everywhere, or more due to arrive. If you have already sold your excess for the year, there may be some useful ideas here for next season.

While a lot of breeders have a set system to sell kids which works well for them year after year, drought conditions, higher kidding or buck numbers and changing markets can all be factors in a backlog of extra kids. There have also been a few new breeders asking how to get a good price for kids, so here are a few thoughts.

### \*Breeding market

Buck kids - there have been several discussions on not keeping or selling anything but the absolute best in buck kids. While this may be a no-brainer to most, it is worth pointing out that there are more than enough top quality buck kids, born from does milking over 5lt a day with nice udders, to provide one to every single backyard crossbred herd, as well as every breeder. On that thought, there really is no reason ever to keep or sell a buck kid from a lower quality milker - him being better than the crossbred herd he would go to means nothing when there are several better bucks than him available.



If we are committed to improving dairy goats in Victoria, as we have agreed to do as breeders, it is up to us to seek to improve every herd we sell bucks to, and to provide good blood to the average breeder. It has been a great encouragement to me personally, seeing some very good breeders selling quality unregistered bucks to crossbred herds who would never have been able to afford a registered buck, but are now propagating huge improvements thanks to those generous breeders.

-Doe kids - see below on suggestions to make your ads more appealing and informative. Generally, other breeders will know what they are looking for, but for new owners it is imperative that we educate on breeding, kidding and raising to prevent poor/inhumane care, bad practices, and potentially a bad reputation coming back on us. Let's also be aware that selling a feral, badly behaved kid doesn't help anybody, especially not the public perception of dairy goats which we are all seeking to improve. :)



## Disposing of unwanted kids

Currently there is legislation in place to allow breeders to dispose of unwanted kids within 24hrs of birth. However, with a major rise in public interest in animal welfare and ethics, not to mention sustainability and making use of resources, it seems wise to look into a worthwhile and economically viable alternative for our kids.

#### \*Meat market

Several different options are utilised, including: lining up buyers for when the kids are born who will then do the raising, lining up buyers ahead of weaning to ensure breeders aren't stuck with kids after raising themselves, and raising to eat or sell through the butchers. Particular drawbacks are time constraints and cost of milk or replacer. Generally young weaning (around 2 months) or share care (the method of raising where the doe is separated from the kids for 12hrs before milking, but feeds the kids the rest of the time) are utilised to mitigate the high input for return.

#### \*Pet market

Many breeders are wary of the pet market, and rightly so, due to horror stories of inappropriate care. I would maintain though, that any well meaning buyer can be educated to be a responsible and caring owner. The key is finding well meaning buyers. The following questions have helped me to find good homes for over a hundred wethers.

Do you have goats/had before?

What are your fences like?

How much land do you have?

Are you prepared to bottle feed twice a day?

Do you have a PIC?

Do you have a goat shelter? Hay feeder?

And are you aware that goats need to go in pairs as they are herd animals?

With positive answers to these questions, I have generally found buyers who are willing to spend money to do things right. Also, the National Vendor Declaration (the only legally required document to sell goats) requires the full name and address of the buyer. This can provide a less awkward way to ask for these details.

### Information pages for buyers

Now that you've found the lovely family for sweet little Bobby and Jimmy, you want to save yourself two months of phone calls asking when to drench them, what vaccine is right, do goats get lice, when will those scabs fall off their heads, and are you sure it won't hurt them to cut their toenails.

Providing an information page with all goats we sell is an obvious answer. Sections I provide in mine are:

Basic summary of goats and their needs

Bottle raising, including common problems and solutions

Feeding after weaning

Training

Fencing

Shelter

Medications and procedures - drenching, vaccine, lice treatment, hoof trimming

Summary of diseases, CAE and JD

My contact details and disclaimer on treatment advice



## Making an advert that sells

Knowing what we want to sell, and which buyers we would like, doesn't help if the two aren't connected. Selling online usually doesn't have a word restriction - or if it does, it is substantial - and good descriptions are our friend.

What is the summary of what you are selling? Age, breed, sex, registration. Then what are the selling points? If to a meat market, size and weight. Pet market, friendliness, horn status and colour. For breeding - what is the body like? Udder history, genetic background, milk production figures.

What care does it require? Don't under-exaggerate - care requirements also weed out unsuitable buyers.

### ***Boosting market value and improving your reputation go hand in hand.***

Do you lice treat before sale? Preventative treat for coccidiosis? Drench, or provide drenching advice? Vaccinate? For older goats, hoof trim? For wethers, ear tag, for all goats, information pages, health statement and NVD (National Vendor Declaration)? Most breeders CAE and JD test or protect, and disbud - these are excellent selling points and help your professional appearance as well. Most of these tasks are also part of our normal care for our own herd, and don't cost much in comparison to the value they add. Saving your ads for a later year can also make the time investment of writing them worthwhile.

## **DGSA NOTES ON HERD RECORDING by Carol Burns (reprinted by request)**

As the new HIPA representative for the Victorian Branch I would like to encourage all our DGSA members to take part where they can in herd recording their goats and participating in 24 hour milk tests.

As an older member of the society and a long time participant in milk recording I can attest to the value of a regular milk testing. My herd recording days go back to the 1970's when the herd recorder rang you up at any time and not at a time of your choosing. They usually stayed overnight with you if their home was not nearby and they tested the milk on your property on the day so you had your tests results straight away.

You could note what feeds were affecting your goats' production and a seasonal production profile was built up. We had many happy times with our herd testers talking about their experiences and what was happening in the dairy scene. As we were part of a cattle herd recording scheme it was interesting to see how our goat milk production was comparing with that of the cattle. There were fun times too as I remember one day playing table tennis with our herd tester while a violin serenade was being played and we had to try and hit the table tennis ball to the time of the violin piece. We were in stitches while all this was going on. Try it yourself and see how you go. You will find yourself half conducting like a conductor with the bat and get yourself into all sorts of contortions trying to hit the ball on time.

Of course nowadays we are far more sophisticated and the herd testing is done in huge laboratories with whizz bang technology. Your milk for testing will have to be sent away to one of these testing laboratories but



the results will be far more informative than our 1970's herd tests ever were. Nowadays you will not only have your goat's milk butterfat recorded but her protein and her cell count will be recorded as well. Your goats' lactation seasonal production milk curve will also help you evaluate how each individual goat in your herd compares to the other goats in your herd.

As the society is trying to get Estimated Breeding Value (EBV) figures for Bucks and especially in AI use in the future we must have figures from milk records to be able to assess a sire's progeny. We cannot even begin to correlate these figures without more figures becoming available. The dairy cattle industry has been able to improve their milk production in an amazing way simply because most dairy farmers as a matter of course herd record their animals. They see it as an essential part of their dairy operations. This is the attitude that I would like to see our dairy goat members adopt. It is not difficult nowadays to herd record your animals. If you haven't got a person who can steward for you, you can do it yourself with the only drawback being your figures will be farm based recorded instead of officially base recorded. You will be supplied with the test tubes and instructions on how to take the milk samples, you will post them off or drop them at the herd recording facility and a couple of days later you will receive your results in the mail. At the end of your goats' lactation you can request a 365 day lactation report and if your goat has been herd recorded for previous lactations that record will be there also for a present lifetime figure.

One of the interesting facts that herd recording will show you is that not all goats that come in with a high yield at the start of their lactation will at the end of their lactation be any higher than another goat that has only seemed average at the beginning of their lactation. The goat with an average but more consistent yield, may end up with similar figures at the end of their lactation. Which is the better goat? How have their butterfat and protein totals compared at the end of the lactation? These are things that herd recording clearly identifies.

I hope I have put a case forward for members to see that milk testing their goats is not hard or difficult to do and is well worth doing for the information the testing provides. The only expenses are an approved set of scales, the fees set by the branch to participate and the cost of mailing the test tubes to the testing facility. Considering some of the costs we are prepared to pay to keep our goats, I think these costs are well worth the outlay and the results essential for knowing how well our goats are really doing. All the while we are learning the effect of our feeding regimes, the effect of the weather and feed on our herd butterfat and protein, and the cell count in each goat's milk. We are also building a milk history of each goat and a future a base for EBV's.

The costs this year for herd recording are \$50 per herd plus \$8 per goat. If you are interested in herd recording or even doing a 24 hour milk test let me know and I can send out the paperwork and costs to you.

**Send to : Carol Burns, 255 Higgs Rd, Drouin, Vic. 3818 or**

**Email : [carol.burns1@hotmail.com](mailto:carol.burns1@hotmail.com) or**

**Phone : 03 5625 4626; Mob.0418 551 778**

## **Simple instructions for Milk testing - courtesy Kylie Hopkins**

*Editors note - I asked Kylie to provide some basic steps for newbies like myself who didn't know where to start with milk testing, and find it hard to make head or tail of the herd book. I hope her detailed instructions are as useful to you as to me!*

### **24 hour milk testing – requires 3 milkings in 24 hours**

- 24 hour milk tests must be supervised by a milk test officer. Check with your state Milk Awards Officer for a list of people who can supervise a milk test. If there is no one nearby, you may consider having a friend or neighbour trained as a milk test officer. A milk test officer does not need to be a DGSA member.
  - A 24 hour milk test can occur at any point in a doe's lactation.
1. Strip out
    - a. Before milking starts, record the time. The third milking will need to occur within 24 hours of this time.
    - b. Milk out each doe.
    - c. Milk test officer checks does are empty and checks tattoos match does names on recording sheet.
  2. Record first milking
    - a. Record the time. This milking does not have to be exactly 12 hours after the first milking, if the time is recorded it does not matter when it takes place.
    - b. Milk each doe.
    - c. Milk test officer weighs each bucket of milk. Make sure calibrated scales are used and the weight of the bucket is not included in the milk weight.
    - d. Milk test officer takes a sub sample of milk for testing. Check with milk testing lab for sample size (ml), preparation and storage.
    - e. Milk test officer checks tattoos match does names on recording sheet.
    - f. Store milk samples as described by lab (usually in the fridge) until next milking.
  3. Record second milking
    - a. Record the time, ensure it is within 24 hours of the first milking.
    - b. Milk each doe.
    - c. Milk test officer weighs each bucket of milk. Make sure calibrated scales are used and the weight of the bucket is not included in the milk weight.
    - d. Milk test officer takes a sub sample of milk for testing. Check with milk testing lab for sample size and preparation.
    - e. Milk test officer checks tattoos match does names on recording sheet.

### **Herd Recording**

- Herd recording uses many 24 hour milk tests over the lactation of a doe to record her yearly production.
- The first milk test must be conducted within 90 days of kidding. Every test after that must not be more than 70 days apart.
- Herd recording can be conducted using a milk test officer (R figures), measuring and sampling the milk yourself (F figures) or a combination of both (RF).

### **General notes**

- DGSA Herd Book has the most complete milk testing instructions, steps for calculating awards, and eligibility criteria for awards.
- Check with your state Milk Awards Officer or HICO (Carol Burns) for recommendations on milk test laboratories and to obtain the correct paperwork and equipment to conduct and record the milk test.
- Each state has slightly different rules for milk testing application and payment, so make contact with your state Milk Awards Officer in advance to plan your test.

Kylie Hopkins

# Kidding tips



## Umbilical Cord Clamps

I recently had a kid born from a very stressful birth. The umbilical cord was torn or too short. Luckily a friend had told me about using umbilical cord clamps as babies often suck them causing them to bleed to death.

I was lucky enough to stretch the cord enough to get a clamp on it.  
The clamps are not in sterilized packaging.  
I just spray the clamp with antiseptic.  
In the past I have used dental floss to tie off cords but this was way too short.  
*Craig Thomas. Nictara dairy goat stud.*



## 5x the adventure!

Very unexpectedly, our second timer Anglo Nubian doe gave birth to quintuplets! Also not to our expectations, she delivered three, and then more than 6hrs later had the other two. I had done a mild belly check, but she was very sore and passing placentas (plus 3hrs after kidding), so I didn't push the issue. One didn't make it due to the cold - always worth a belly check, even with placentas coming! *Carrie Florance*

