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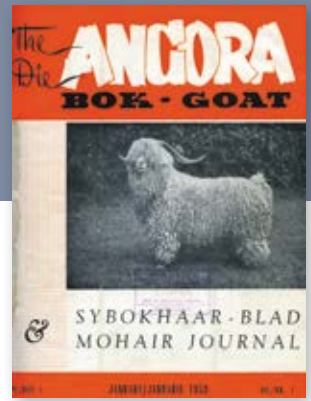
THE DIE **ANGORA**

Bok- en Sybokhaarblad | Goat & Mohair Journal

Vir almal in die sybokhaarbedryf | For everyone in the mohair industry



Editorial / Redaksioneel



The Angora Goat and Mohair Journal has reached its fiftieth year of existence, this being volume 50 number 1.

This is an event worth celebrating and all members of the South African mohair industry can justifiably be proud of this, their own, high quality and informative publication.

We salute the pioneers of the Journal. In 1959 Gielie Grobler served as the first editor and retained that position for the next twenty-five years, while John and Margaret Kettlewell played a leading

During the past fifty years there have been many dedicated members of the editorial committee who voluntarily bore the brunt of maintaining the high quality of the publication.

role in its establishment as a mouthpiece for the industry. During the past fifty years there have been many dedicated members of the editorial committee who voluntarily bore the brunt of maintaining the high quality of the publication. More recently Johan Engelbrecht served for many years as editor and was instrumental in starting to change the image of the Journal to make it more attractive and readable.

Our present editor, Linda Henderson, supported by the committee, has led the way in introducing further innovative changes. A major step taken in the previous Journal was to publish most of the articles in either English or Afrikaans and not in both languages as in the past. This was done as a cost saving measure and has as yet not drawn any negative comment. This publication belongs to the mohair industry and we would welcome feedback and ideas from our readers.

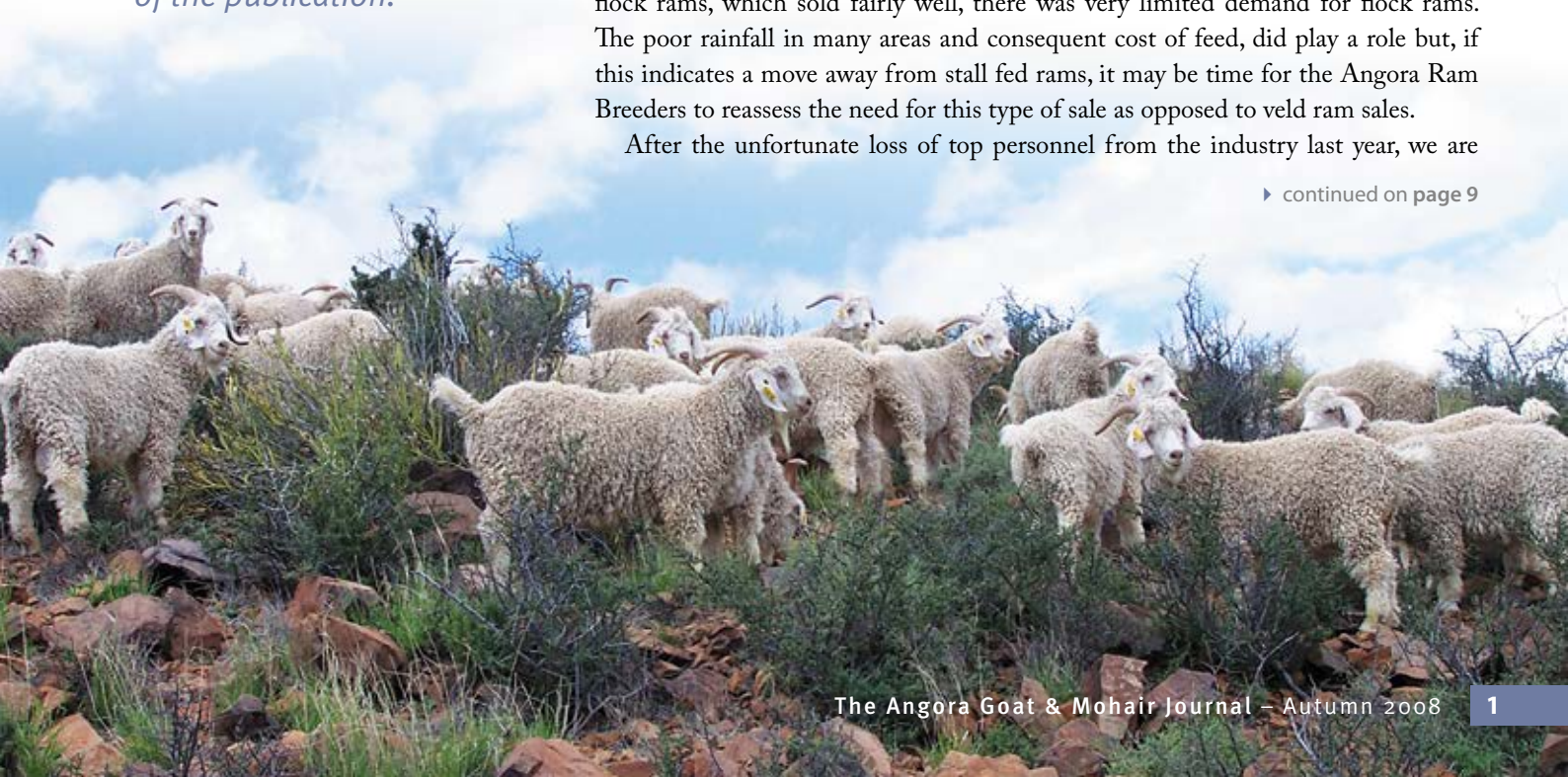
The number of young breeders and producers, who accompanied the Angora Ram Breeder's tour in November, prompted the idea of publishing practical tips from experienced producers and previous Journals with the aim of assisting these younger farmers. The intention is to make this a regular feature in the Journal so we appeal to all our readers to send in tips, which they have acquired during their daily management of Angora goats.

Reports from overseas visits indicate that although there appears to be some resistance to the price level of adult mohair, the sentiment towards mohair is still positive. The trip to Paris and Italy by the Zegna winners is beautifully described in this Journal and will hopefully encourage all producers to make the effort to be part of this experience.

In spite of the relatively favourable mohair prices during 2007, the November ram sale at Graaff-Reinet was disappointing. Except for a number of stud and selected flock rams, which sold fairly well, there was very limited demand for flock rams. The poor rainfall in many areas and consequent cost of feed, did play a role but, if this indicates a move away from stall fed rams, it may be time for the Angora Ram Breeders to reassess the need for this type of sale as opposed to veld ram sales.

After the unfortunate loss of top personnel from the industry last year, we are

▶ continued on page 9





From the Editor

How quickly fifty years seem to fly past. While designing the layout of the article commemorating the fiftieth birthday of the Journal, I paged through a compilation of past Angora Journals and famous faces and events seem to jump off the pages. Men of great stature have lent their leadership and insight to an industry that despite many challenges has grown vastly over the years. At a time when the industry is facing new challenges, it is hoped that the example of those who have preceded us will inspire us to greater heights.

Die reis na Europa saam met die Zegna-prysweners was uit die boonste rakke. Die besoek aan die Zegna-aanleg het my opnuut laat besef dat dit jare se investering in tegnologie en kennis vereis om 'n kilogram sybokhaar na 'n meter materiaal van die hoogste gehalte te omskep. Dit is jammer dat meer produsente nie aan hierdie ervaring blootgestel kan word nie.

The word from the fashion industry is that there is a tremendous move towards bio-degradable, eco-friendly fashion. The concern with environment preservation is extremely serious and our industry will have to look at creating an environmentally friendly fibre. The concern with chemical effluent from dipping mixtures is starting to raise concern in Europe and it would be wise to be proactive in this matter.

2009 is the international year of the natural fibre. As one of the noblest natural fibres, mohair should be out there vying for attention from designers.

Until we meet again.
Enjoy your farming!
Geniet julle boerdery!
LINDA HENDERSON



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Front Cover

Creativity and elegance in mohair from Gruppo Lineapiù in Italy.

Die Angorabok- en Sybokhaarblad

Posbus 50, Jansenville, 6265

Tel: 049 836 0140

E-pos: samga@xsinet.co.za

Webtuiste: www.mohair.co.za

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REDAKTEUR: Linda Henderson

Bladuitleg deur WalkerDigital,

E-pos: paula@walkerdigital.co.za

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Posbus 2881, Port Elizabeth, 6056

E-pos: info@cadar.co.za

Die Sybokhaarblad aanvaar nie verantwoordelikhed vir enige aanspraak wat in advertensies gemaak word nie. Die menings van medewerkers is ook nie noodwendig dié van die Sybokhaarblad nie.

The Angora Goat and Mohair Journal

P O Box 50, Jansenville, 6265

Tel: 049 836 0140

E-mail: samga@xsinet.co.za

Website: www.mohair.co.za

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EDITOR: Linda Henderson

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E-mail: paula@walkerdigital.co.za

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P.O. Box 2881, Port Elizabeth, 6056

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Mohair Management: 2008



New Appointments



MRS JACKIE GANT

Mrs Jackie Gant was recently appointed as Marketing and Promotions Manager for Mohair South Africa. Jackie grew up in the Eastern Cape near Graaff-Reinet and after matriculating at Collegiate in Port Elizabeth, followed a career in Human Resources and Marketing and Sales. Jackie is married to John, lives in Port Elizabeth and divides her time between her work and two lively children at home. We wish her well and congratulate her on her appointment as the first female executive to Mohair South Africa.



MR PHILIP VOSLOO

Mr Philip Vosloo has been appointed as Manager of the South African Mohair Growers' Association and fills the position previously held by Mr Anton Steynberg.

Mr Vosloo, his wife Marlene, and their son Donovan, joined the mohair family in Jansenville in January 2008. Mr Vosloo served a long career in the services of the bank. Since matriculating from Nico Malan in Humansdorp he worked for Volkskas, Nedbank and the Bank of Transkei, doing duty in towns as far a field as Pretoria and Umtata. We also welcome him to the fold and wish him and his family a long and happy association with the mohair community.



Mohair Management: 2008

Sybokhaar Suid-Afrika | Mohair South Africa:

Voorsitter/Chairman:	R du Randt (SAMGA)
Ondervoorsitter/Deputy-Chairman:	M H Claasens (SAWAMPO)
Lede/Members:	F Alberts (Farm Workers Association), DR Nel (SAWAMBA), W Cornelius (Mohair Brokers Association), A Oelofse (SAMGA), A M Short (Ram Breeders), C R H van Hasselt (SAMGA), D Saayman (General Manager), I Smith (SAWAMBA), Jackie Gant (Marketing and Promotion Manager), F Michau (SAMGA)

South African Mohair Growers' Association | Suid-Afrikaanse Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging

President:	J L Retief
Vice-President/Onderpresident:	B D C Snijman
Members /Lede:	I R Bekker, R du Randt, J L de Klerk, G J Grobler, E D B Hobson, C A Nel, A Oelofse, C Stegman, B van der Westhuyzen

Angora Ramtelers | Angora Ram Breeders

President:	A R Hobson
Onderpresident/Vice-President:	A M Short
Bestuurslede/Executive Members:	R du Toit, A B Hobson, M Shires, R du Randt, C van Hasselt, F Michau
Bestuurder/Manager:	P Vosloo

Angora Goat And Mohair Journal | Angorabok- en Sybokhaarblad

Chairman/Voorsitter:	A M Short
Vice-Chairman/Ondervoorsitter:	B D Snijman
Editor/Redakteur:	L Henderson
Manager/Bestuurder:	P Vosloo
Members/Lede:	L J Retief, A B Hobson, D Saayman, R du Randt, W Cornelius, E D B Hobson

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Manager/Bestuurder:	P Vosloo

Kontak Besonderhede | Contact Details

Ram Breeders/Action Angora/Journal/SAMGA

Adres/Address: Posbus/P O Box 50
JANSENVILLE
6250

Tel: 049-8360140

Faks/Fax: 049-8360329

e-pos/e-mail: samga@xsinet.co.za

Manager/Bestuurder: Philip Vosloo

MSA and Trust

Adres/Address: Posbus/P O Box 2243
North End
Port Elizabeth
6056

Tel: 041-4871386

Faks/Fax: 041-4871336

e-pos/e-mail: info@mohair.co.za

Hoofbestuurder/General Manager: Deon Saayman



South African Mohair Growers Association

Suid-Afrikaanse Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging

List of branches together with the names and contact details of the chairman and secretaries respectively.
 Lys van takke tesame met die name en adresse van die voorsitters en sekretarisse respektiewelik.

ABERDEEN:

D van Schalkwyk, Posbus 79, Aberdeen, 6270
 (Tel 049-846 9000)
 Me E van Niekerk, Posbus 167, Aberdeen, 6270
 (Tel 049-846 9025)

ADELAIDE:

A C Lombard, Posbus 186, Adelaide, 5760
 (Tel 046-684 0721)
 E A van de Vyver, Posbus 117, Adelaide, 5760
 (Tel 046-645 3016)

ALBANIE/ALBANY:

J S Brown, PO Box 293, Grahamstown, 6140
 (Tel 046-622 2675)
 Jenny Emslie, PO Box 811, Grahamstown 6140

BEAUFORT-WES/WEST:

R du Toit, Posbus 1281, Beaufort-Wes 6970
 (Tel 023-416 1674)
 S Reynolds, Posbus 250, Beaufort-Wes 6970

BEDFORD:

A F van Niekerk, Posbus 171, Bedford 5780
 (Tel 046-685 0683)
 S A King, Box 116, Bedford 5780
 (Tel 046-685 0645)

COCKSCOMB:

S NeI, Posbus 90, Steytlerville 6250
 (Tel 049-837 0022)
 H Slater, PO Box 638, Uitenhage 6230
 (Tel 041-922 9285)

CRADOCK:

M L Steyn, Posbus 130, Cradock 5880
 (Tel 048-881 4275)
 A de Klerk, Posbus 7, Mortimer 5870
 (Tel 048-886 0643)

DRAKENSBERG:

Maxwell Mangoali, Box 1354, Matatiele 4730
 (Tel 039-737 3591)
 Vuyo Mtiya, PO Box 1354, Matatiele 4730
 (Tel 039-737 3308)

FORT BEAUFORT:

B J Mildenhall, Bath Farm, Fort Beaufort 5720
 Me R van Coller, Posbus 63, Fort Beaufort 5720
 (Tel 046-645 1771)

GEORGIDA:

W Ferreira, Posbus 73, De Rust 6650
 (Tel 044-771 1060)
 H Bleuler, Posbus 94, Uniondale 6460
 (Tel 044-752 1428)

GLENCONNOR:

A J Kleynhans, Noorslaagte, Glenconnor 6234
 (Tel 042-232 0569)
 A J Kleynhans, Noorslaagte, Glenconnor 6234
 (Tel 042-232 0569)

GRAAFF-REINET:

G Harris, 105 Caledon Street, Graaff-Reinet 6280
 P F de Klerk, Posbus 299, Graaff-Reinet 6280
 (Tel 049-891 8108)

IKWEZI:

R T Jeyi, PO Box 161, Jansenville 6265
 (Tel 082 439 0572)
 NG Kolobile, PO Box 108, Jansenville 6265
 (Tel 082 731 7907)

JANSENVILLE:

J T Terblanche, Posbus 168, Jansenville 6265
 (Tel 049-836 9060)
 E van den Berg, Posbus 168, Jansenville 6265
 (Tel 049-836 0720)

KLEIN-KAROO:

W Truter, Posbus 5, Herold 6615
 (Tel 044-888 1722)
 P van der Westhuysen, Posbus 2091, George 6530
 (Tel 049-836 0720)

KLIPLAAT:

M Shires, Bluegumvale, PB Klipplaat 6255
 (Tel 049-834 9050)
 J F Gouws, Posbus 6, Klipplaat 6255
 (Tel 049-834 9072)

MIDDELBURG KP/CP:

J H Moolman, Rusoord, Middelburg 5900
 M Moolman, Posbus 46, Middelburg 5900

MORTIMER:

C Stegmann, Posbus 16, Mortimer 5870
 (Tel 048-886 0623)
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 (Tel 048-886 0643)

MURRAYSBURG:

C T van der Merwe, Posbus 434, Murraysburg
 6995 (Tel 049-852 9113)
 F J Retief, Posbus 415, Murraysburg 6995
 (Tel 049-8519411)

PEARSTON:

H C Davenport, Posbus 24, Pearston 5860
 (Tel 042-246 1534)
 ASE Lombard, Hudsonstraart 42, Pearston 5860
 (Tel 042-246 1312)

POST RETIEF:

E Klopper, PO Box 107, Adelaide 5760
 (Tel 046-684 1032)
 A E Moorcroft, PO Box 326, Adelaide 5760
 (Tel 046-684 0739)

PRINS / PRINCE ALBERT:

Chris Marincowitz, Posbus 50, Klaarstroom 6932
 Chris Marincowitz, Posbus 50, Klaarstroom 6932

RICHMOND KP/CP:

O D Hugo, Posbus 30, Richmond 7090
 (Tel 0536912-2004)
 F Theron, Posbus 22, Richmond 7090
 (Tel 0536912-2531)

RIETBRON:

Barries D C Snijman, Posbus 137, Willowmore
 6445 (Tel 044-934 1037)
 W Schoon, Posbus 324, Beaufort-Wes 6970
 (Tel 044-934 1165)

SOMERSET-OOS / EAST:

R P Gouws, Posbus 53, Jansenville 6265
 (Tel 042-243 3706)
 B Henderson, Posbus 14, Somerset-Oos 5850
 (Tel 042-243 3645)

STEYTLERVILLE:

M Hayward, Bus 66, Steytlerville 6250
 (Tel 049-835 9000)
 H Dorfling, Bus 51, Steytlerville 6250
 (Tel 049-835 9045)

SWAERSHOEK:

Tollie Jordaan, Grootvlakte, Somerset-Oos 5850
 (Tel 042-243 2157)
 D F Erasmus, Loskop, Somerset-Oos 5850
 (Tel 042-243 3567)

TARKASTAD:

Wayne Porter, PO Box 26, Tarkastad 5370

UNIONDALE:

DJ van Rensburg, Posbus 100, Uniondale 6460
 (Tel 044-745 1353)
 N Fourie, Posbus 189, Uniondale 6460
 (Tel 044-771 1070)

VICTORIA-WESIWEST:

W Viljoen, Posbus 130, Victoria-Wes 7070
 (Tel 0536912-3630)
 Henk Marais, Posbus 181, Victoria-Wes 7070

WATERFORD:

P A H Gouws, Posbus 8, Kleinpoort 6286
 (Tel 049-836 9093)
 G J Grobler, Posbus 4, Jansenville 6265
 (Tel 049-838 0001)

WILLOWMORE:

A L Nortje, Posbus 189, Willowmore 6445
 (Tel 044-923 1970)
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C J Pietersen, Posbus 232, Uitenhage 6230
 (Tel 041-964 1006)
 L Pietersen, Posbus 34889, Newton Park 6055

ZUURBERG:

J J Moolman, Posbus 15, Kommadagga 5800
 (Tel 042-235 1568)
 C Gowar, Posbus 92, Paterson 6130
 (Tel 042-235 1574)



Angora Ram Breeders

Angora Ramtellers

Onderstaande is 'n volledige lys van lede van die bogenoemde vereniging. Ten einde die hoë standaard van die angorabok in Suid-Afrika te handhaaf en te verbeter, word op aansoek om lidmaatskap die geskiedenis van enige stoet ondersoek en aanbevelings gemaak.

The following is a list of the above society. In order to improve and maintain a high standard of the Angora goat in South Africa, all studs are inspected and flock histories investigated upon receipt of application for membership.

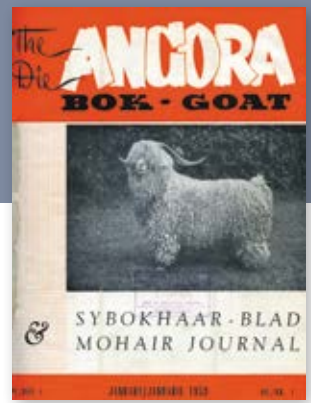
Lede / Members

Stoet Nr. Stud No.	Eienaar/Owner	Stoet Nr. Stud No.	Eienaar/Owner
214	Baakensrug Angoras, Posbus 1281, Beaufort-Wes 6970	200	Loch Dale Angoras, Hobson D A and Sons, Box 114, Jansenville 6265
248	Barkhuizen Trust, Posbus 193, Uniondale 6460	121	Looek en Seuns, M C, Volmoed, Posbus 13, Willowmore 6680
148	Biggs, R G & Sons, Droëkloof, PO Box 106, Jansenville 6265	196	Lötter, G J L, Doornpoort, Willowmore 6445
312	Botha, Andries P R, Kareekrans Boerdery, Posbus 440, Somerset-Oos 5850	318	Maasdorp, D C, Box 75, Pearston 5860
187	Cawood, P L, Cawoodholme, P/Bag, Klipplaat 6255	270	Michau, F Box 237, Cradock 5880
153	Colborne, F E & Sons, Kilborne, PO Box 161, Willowmore 6680	323	Mohair South Africa - Grootfontein Studente, Posbus X529 Middelburg, Oos-Kaap 5900
315	Colborne, N, Box 165, Willowmore 6680	133	Moolman & Seuns, C A J, Trelawney Angoras, Posbus 1, Mortimer 5870
322	Cornelius, C W, Posbus 6, Pearston 5860	293	Mulder, A van Z, Harmonie, Glenconnor 6234
212	Dodds, N M, Box 30, Klipplaat 6255	191	Nortje, J E R, Posbus 153, Willowmore 6680
169	Du Preez, O M, Posbus 100, Cradock 5880	320	Oelofse, A, Rietgat, Posbus 153, Jansenville 6250
230	Du Randt, Reinhold, Schoongezicht, Posbus 63, Pearston 5860	168	Rathbone & Seun, B, Wilgerhof, Steytlerville 6250
299	Ferreira, G T & Seuns, Snyberg Angoras, Posbus 73, De Rust 6650	313	Retief, J L, Driehoeksfontein, Posbus 425, Murraysburg 6995
244	Ferreira, G T & Seuns, Snyberg Angoras, Posbus 73, De Rust 6650	188	Retief Willem, De Bad, Posbus 65, Hanover 7005
286	Ferreira, G T & Seuns, Snyberg Angoras, Posbus 73, De Rust 6650	242	Schoeman & van Hasselt, Swartberg Angoras, Box 137, Prince Albert 6930
266	Ferreira, G T & Seuns, Snyberg Angoras, Posbus 73, De Rust 6650	117	Shires, M "The Angora Stud", Mount Stewart, Private Bag Klipplaat 6250
306	Ferreira, G T & Seuns, Snyberg Angoras, Posbus 73, De Rust 6650	116	Shirlands Angora Stud, Box 325, Graaff-Reinet 6280
321	Fitzhenry, C, Posbus 31, Aberdeen 6270	217	Short and Sons, A M, Box 325, Graaff Reinet 6280
152	Gowar, A, Stonefountain, Kommadagga 5800	178	Slabbert, L A F, Posbus 23, Aberdeen 6270
120	Henderson, P J W, Box 14, Somerset East 5850	262	Slater & Nel, Drie-Kuilen, Posbus 90, Steytlerville 6250
155	Herold (Pty) Ltd, David, Ordonantie, Posbus 196, Graaff-Reinet 6280	175	Terblanche, J T, Driekopslei-Wes, Jansenville 6265
213	Heydenrych & Sons, J F, Uitsig Angora Stud, Box 154, Jansenville 6265	250	Theron & Seun BK, DW, Posbus 22, Richmond, KP 7010
295	Hobson Pastoral, Box 482, Eppingdust 7475	317	Thorn Berg Angoras, Box 47, Steytlerville 6250
105	Hobson, A B, Box 129, Jansenville 6265	142	Thorn Park Angoras, Box 47, Steytlerville 6250
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215	Hobson, G & A, Box 47, Steytlerville 6250	301	Van der Westhuyzen, B, Posbus 53, Adelaide 5760
223	Hobson, G M and Sons, Careysbrooke, Box 100, Jansenville 6265	101	Van Hasselt Farming, C van Hasselt, PO Box 137, Prince Albert 6930
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267	Lategan, J H, Fairview, Aberdeen 6270		
174	Lee, S J, Claremont, Klipplaat 6255		
109	Loch Dale Angoras, Hobson D A and Sons, Box 114, Jansenville 6265		

Editorial / Redaksioneel

► continued from page 1

pleased to welcome two new appointments, who took up office in January 2008. Mr Philip Vosloo has taken up the manager's post in Jansenville while Mrs Jackie Gant has been appointed as promotion and marketing manager at MSA, a post which producers requested for a number of years. We wish them well in taking the industry forward in a positive and united way.



Met hierdie uitgawe, volume 50 nommer 1, vier die Angorabok- en Sybokhaarblad sy vyftigste verjaarsdag.

Dit is 'n geleentheid wat gevier moet word en alle lede van die Suid-Afrikaanse sybokhaarbedryf kan besonder trots wees op hierdie, hulle eie, hoë gehalte en insiggewende publikasie.

Ons bring graag hulde aan die pioniers van die blad. In 1959 is Gielie Grobler as die eerste redakteur aangestel en het hy die pos vir die volgende vyf-en-twintig jaar bekleed, terwyl John en Margaret Kettlewell 'n groot rol gespeel het om dit as die amptelike mondstuk van die bedryf te vestig. Oor die volgende vyftig jaar was daar menigte toegewyde lede van die bladkomitee wat vrywillig die verantwoordelikheid van die hoë gehalte van die blad op hulle skouers gedra het. Meer onlangs het Johan Engelbrecht vir baie jare as redakteur opgetree en was hy instrumenteel in sommige van die veranderinge wat die blad meer aantreklik en leesbaar gemaak het.

Ons huidige redakteur, Linda Henderson, het met die ondersteuning van die bladkomitee, verdere innoverende

wysigings aangebring. 'n Groot verandering wat in die vorige uitgawe aangebring is, was die publikasie van elke artikel in of Engels of Afrikaans en nie beide tale soos in die verlede nie. Dit was 'n maatreeël om koste te bespaar en het tot dusver geen negatiewe kommentaar ontloot nie. Hierdie publikasie behoort aan die sybokhaarbedryf en ons verwelkom enige terugvoering van ons lesers.

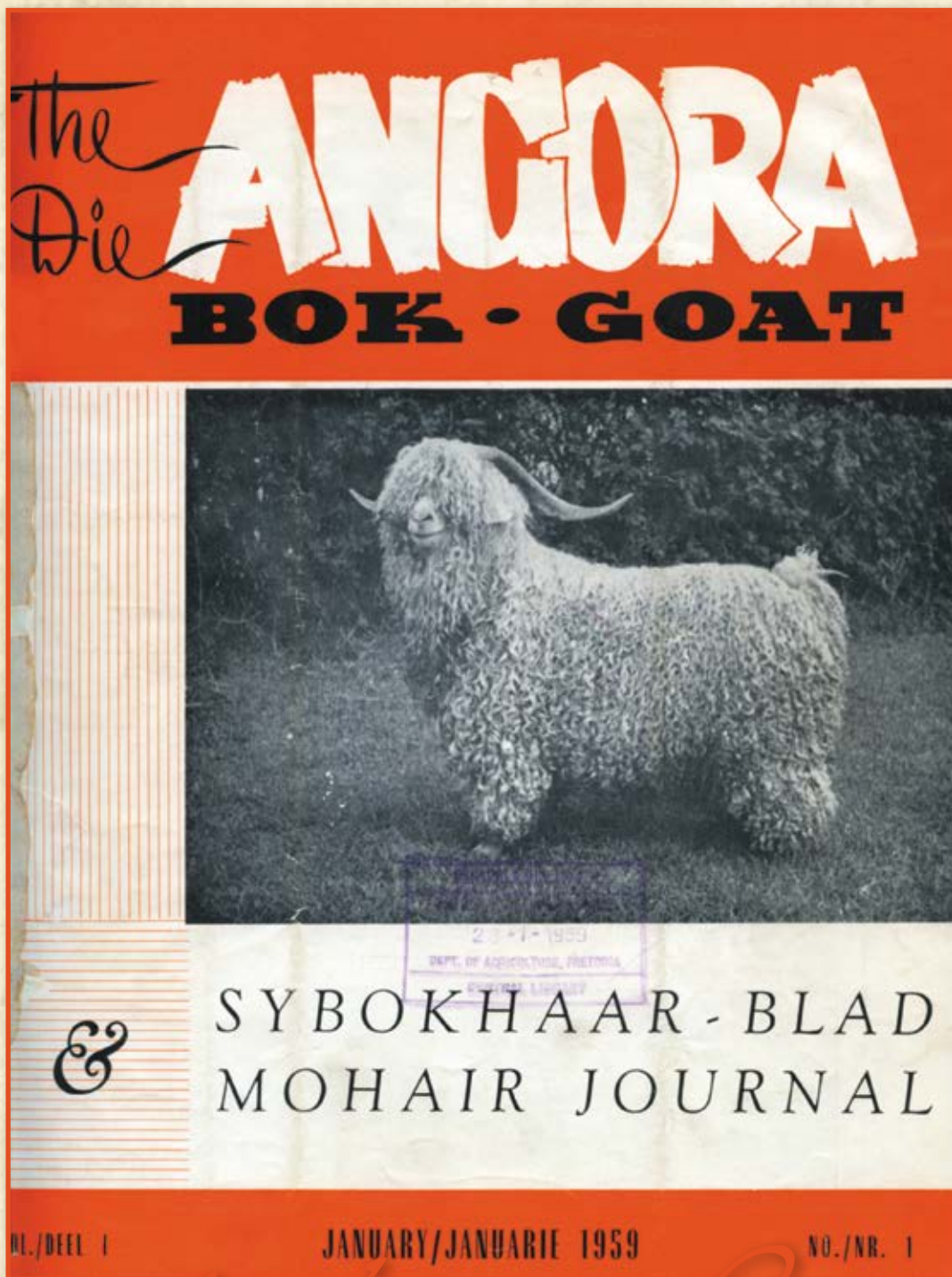
Die aantal jong produsente en telers wat die Angora Ramtelers se ramtoer mee gemaak het, het die idee laat ontstaan om praktiese wenke van ouer produsente met meer ervaring en wenke uit vorige uitgawes, te publiseer. Die voorneme is om hierdie 'n gereelde insetsel in die Blad te maak en ons moedig alle lesers aan om wenke wat hulle met die alledaagse bestuur van angorabokke ondervind, in te stuur.

Verslae van oorsese besoeke dui daarop dat, alhoewel daar 'n mate van weerstand teen die hoër prysvlakke van grootbokhaar is, die sentiment jeens sybokhaar nog positief is. Die reis na Parys en Italië deur die Zegna-pryswenner is pragtig in hierdie Blad beskryf en sal hopelik almal aanmoedig om die moeite te doen om deel van hierdie ondervinding te wees.

Ten spyte van die relatiewe gunstige sybokhaarpryse van 2007, was die ramveiling in Graaff-Reinet in November, teleurstellend. Behalwe vir 'n aantal stoet en geselekteerde kudde ramme, wat redelik goed verkoop het, was daar 'n beperkte aanvraag vir kudde ramme. Die lae reënval in sommige dele en die daaropvolgende hoë koste van voeding het 'n rol gespeel, maar as dit 'n aanduiding is dat daar 'n beweging weg van gevoerde ramme is, mag dit tyd vir die Angora Ramtelers wees om die behoefte van hierdie soort veulings in vergeleke met die veldram veulings, te oorweeg.

Na die ongelukkige verlies verlede jaar van top personeel in die bedryf, is ons bly om twee nuwe aanstellings, wat in Januarie 2008 gemaak is, te verwelkom. Mnr Philip Vosloo het die pos as bestuurder vir die Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging in Jansenville aanvaar terwyl mev Jackie Gant aangestel is as bemarkings- en bevorderingsbestuurder van SSA, 'n aanstelling wat die produsente al 'n geruime tyd versoek. Ons wens hulle alle sukses toe om die bedryf in 'n positiewe en verenigde rigting vorentoe toe te lei. ■

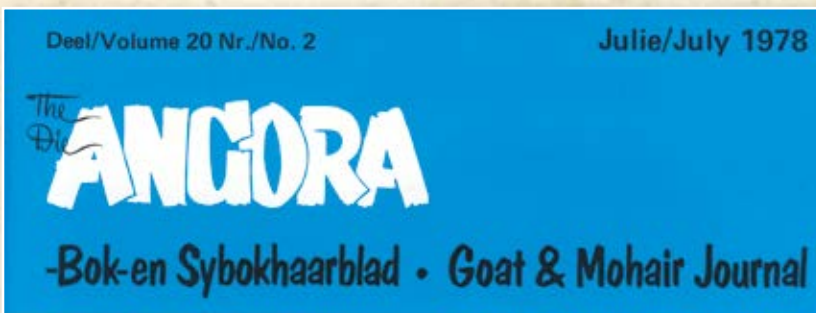
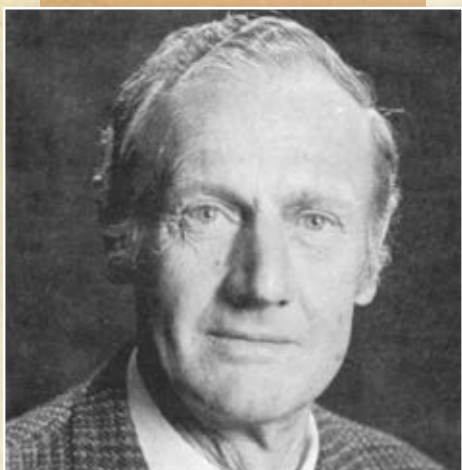




Looking Back 50 years

Gielie Grobler

During the early fifties several appeals were made for the mohair industry to have its own special publication. At that stage the industry lacked infrastructure, staff and finances to be able to launch such a project.



Above: The record priced ram sold by Messrs. A. B. Hobson & Sons of Martyrsford, Kendrew, for R8 500 at the Somerset East sale. The buyer was Mr R. W. Hobson of Shirlands, Kendrew. (July 1978).

Top: The industry produced many fine gentlemen. The passing of William Carey Hobson in July 1983 was a great loss to the mohair industry (January 1984).

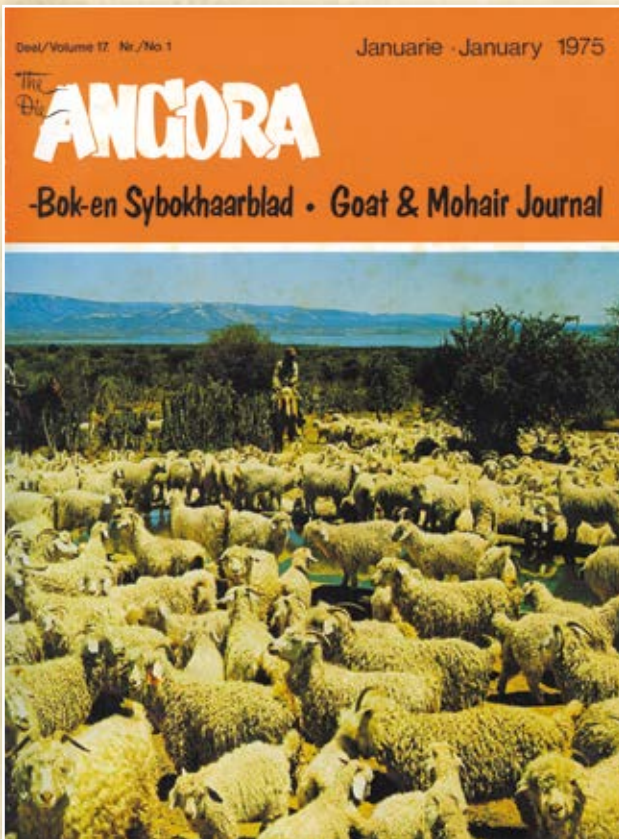
Centre: Mohair fashion from the Anton Randall Collection 2001 (March 2002)

Bottom: E. (Baas) Cawood, Chairman of the Angor Ram Breeders Society 1939 - ? (July 1984).

During 1956 the first permanent staff member was appointed by the SA Mohair Grower's Association and when a similar appeal was made at the 1958 congress, and met with approval, the Executive tackled the matter in earnest.

A committee was formed with representatives from both the Mohair Grower's Association and the Ram Breeders' Society with the directive to give effect to this appeal as soon as possible. The starting point would be for this publication to distribute information to the entire industry.

Initially consideration was given to the idea of working together with the Merino Stud Breeders' Association to print a joint publication. After several meetings with this organization at their offices in Graaff-Reinet to discuss



Above: Angora Goats in typical goat country (January 1975).
 Top: Mr. G. Casali (left) a mohair buyer, in discussion with some mohair friends of long standing, Mr. A. L. Hobson (centre), and Mr. E. H. G. Outram (right), a former President of the Association. (July 1975).
 Middle: S.A. Champion Ram – 1972 bred by S. B. Fitzhenry, Karoovlakte, Jansenville. (January 1975).
 Bottom: The winner of the first National Angora Goat Flock Competition, Mr H. J. Marx. (July 1978).

the particulars of such an agreement, it was decided to continue alone and to print a fully bilingual publication (English and Afrikaans).

It is interesting to note that the committee which was tasked with the production of an own publication, met for the first time on 8 October 1958 and the first issue of the Angora Journal, although only 32 pages, appeared as soon as January 1959. The committee comprised three members each of the SA Mohair Growers' Association and Angora Ram Breeders' Society. The editor was the joint secretary of both these organizations. The committee tackled its task with no knowledge about the production of such a publication, but with endless enthusiasm. The Angora Goat and Mohair Journal was a success right from the start and at present, 50 years later, it is still the most influential publication of its kind.



Three previous editors of the magazine

The Angora Goat and Mohair Journal was a success right from the start

The lack of funds to publish the first issue presented a problem and the chairman of the Mohair Advisory Board at that time, Mr SJJ de Swardt, was sceptical about the idea of a journal and was not prepared to make a financial contribution. Consequently the two organizations had to dig into their own pockets and each made a interest-free loan of R300 to the Angora Journal. This was sufficient to finance the first issue.

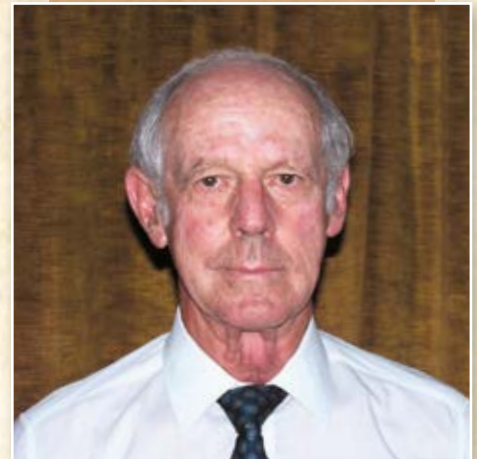
As result of the success of the first issue, the Mohair Advisory Board changed its point of view and decided to finance future publications of the journal. The access to funds and the enthusiasm of everyone involved with the production of the Angora Journal ensured that it went from strength to strength.

This decision by the Mohair Advisory Board resulted in an enlargement of the Editorial Committee. In latter years the mohair trade is also represented on the Committee, with the result that the most important role-players in the industry currently serve on the Editorial Committee.

Over the years several changes and improvements were made, but the format remained basically unchanged. The most significant change was probably the decision by the Editorial Committee, taken during July 2007, to discontinue the printing of all articles in both English and Afrikaans. Instead it was decided to publish articles in future in the language in which they are submitted, at the same time maintaining a balance between English and Afrikaans. The Editorial will, however, still be printed in both Afrikaans and English.

Another interesting point is that since its inception the Journal never had a formal constitution to guide its actions. All decisions were made in a spirit of co-operation and mutual support, in the interest of the entire industry. However, current tax and legal requirements forced the editorial committee in its forty-ninth year, to have a constitution drawn up. The person tasked to do this was the first editor, Gielie Grobler. Now, in its fiftieth year, the Journal has its own constitution!

Gielie was appointed in 1959 as the first editor and did yeoman's service for twenty five years. The original front cover was also designed in that year by Margaret Kettlewell and remained the same until it was recently changed. Other editors to do service includes Dr Jan van der Westhuysen , who served a two year stint followed by Johan Engelbrecht, who was only allowed to retire after twenty-one years of dedicated duty to the industry in 2006. Linda Henderson was appointed as editor in 2007. ■



Top: Gielie Grobler
Centre: Dr Jan van der Westhuysen
Bottom: Johan Engelbrecht

Review: 2007 Winter Season

Deon Zaayman



The 2007 winter season was characterized by a larger than usual offering of short hair as a result of the drought in the largest part of the production area, which resulted in a premium being paid for hair of good length.

The average market indicator for the season was R65.81, compared to R68.65 for 2006.

The high price levels of the 2006 winter season, for especially adult hair, could not be sustained and the average market indicator for the season for fine adults was R56.38 and R55.47 for strong adults.

In 2006, adult hair saw the effect of the high price levels when manufacturers scaled down the content of mohair in their yarns to compensate for the increased prices. If the Russian and Turkish markets improve early in 2008, the adult market will be given some measure of support. It is expected that if and when the quotas on textiles exported from China to the European Union are lifted in January 2008 there will be a positive spin off for mohair consumption.

There were considerable exchange rate fluctuations during the winter season, with the Rand ending up 5.6% stronger to the Dollar than at the beginning of the season.

The highest price achieved for the 2007 winter season was R200.00 per kilogram, compared to the R165.00 per kilogram in 2006

A positive trend during the current winter season was the improved level at which kid's hair traded compared to the previous season. The highest price achieved for the 2007 winter season was R200.00 per kilogram, compared to the R165.00 per kilogram in 2006.

The weight offered on the auction floor increased by 6% from the 2006 winter season, a clear indication that more producers are making use of the auction system.

From a recent fact finding mission it was clear that there is currently a good fashion demand for mohair, especially in lady's knitwear. As the demand for finer yarn counts in ladies knitwear increases, traditional users of adult hair are starting to use kid's and young goat's hair. This tendency was demonstrated during the visit to China, where the fashion trend lags approximately six months behind that of Europe.

Weavers, who traditionally use mohair, are optimistic about new emerging markets like India and the positive effect that global warming will have on natural fibres.

Because of the current drought, it is predicted that the 2008 summer kid clip will be somewhat smaller than the 2007 clip, and this will also support the price levels of kid's hair.

If the Rand does not strengthen to extreme levels, it is assumed that the demand prospects for mohair will remain good, especially for the finer side of the clip. A pre-requisite for sustained demand remains a relatively stable price at secondary level. ■

Dr AC Geyer

Spesialis Navorsers: Landbou-ekonomie
Grootfontein Landbou-Ontwikkelingsinstituut



'n Oorsig van die

Angorabok Studiegroepresultate

1. AGTERGROND

Die inligting in hierdie artikel is van die studiegroepresultate vir 2005/2006. Van die 34 studiegroepede is daar 14 boere met angoras. Uit die 9 studiegroepe is daar 4 studiegroepe wat ook angorabokvertakkings het. Die studiegroepe is:

- Rietbron
- Klipplaat
- Tarkastad
- Noupoot

Daar is 27 678 angoras wat gesamentlik 78 619 kg sybokhaar geskeer het (Ongeveer 2.84 kg sybokhaar per bok). Waar na die 2007 resultate van Rietbron en Klipplaat verwys word, was 10 boere betrokke.

2. DOEL

Die doel van hierdie artikel is om die gemiddelde produksie-, reproduksie- en bestuursnorme van die angorabokvertakking in die onderskeie studiegroepe te bepaal. Die finansiële resultate word in persentasies uitgedruk.

3. FINANSIËLE RESULTATE

Die volgende finansiële norme is vir die angorabok vasgestel:

▶ BRUTO PRODUKSIEWAARDE (BPW)

- Produkinkomste : 90.09% (sybokhaar)
- Handelsinkomste : 9.91% (vleis)

▶ DIREK ALLOKEERBARE VERANDERLIKE KOSTES (DAVK)

- Voer : 23.27%
- Dieregesondheid : 23.64%
- Vervoer : 4.04%
- Bemarking : 19.09%
- Losarbeid : 17.00%
- Pakmateriaal : 3.86%
- Diverse : 9.40%

- Ongedierbeheer : 0.65%
- Saad : 7.22%
- Kunsmis : 1.95%
- Ander : 8.49%

- ▶ DAVK as persentasie van die BPW : 17.83%

▶ TOTALE KOSTE ONTLEDING

Die totale koste ontleding sluit die gemiddeldes van alle vertakkings van die 9 studiegroepe in:

- Bruto Produksie Waarde (BPW) : R 759 248
- Direk Allokeerbare Veranderlike Koste (DAVK) : R 138 128
- DAVK as persentasie van BPW : 23.76%
- Oorhoofse Koste (OK) : R 261 623
- OK as persentasie van BPW : 44.15%

▶ PERSENTASIE VERDELING VAN OORHOOFSE KOSTES

- Permanente arbeid : 30.02%
- Brandstof en smeermiddels : 20.67%
- Meganisasie : Instandhouding : 12.87%
- Vaste verbeterings : Instandhouding : 9.09%
- Boekhoudersfooi : 2.98%
- Bankkoste : 2.66%
- Telefoon : 5.18%
- Elektrisiteit : 6.27%
- Water : 4.63%
- Grondbelasting : 2.59%
- Ander : 9.43%

4. REPRODUKSIE NORME

- Ramme by die ooie : 3.33%
- Aantal teelooie in kudde : 937
- Aantal ooie afgelope seisoen gepaar : 904



- Ooie oorgeslaan : 9.76%
- Ooie geaborteer : 4.24%
- Lampersentasie : 78.68%
- Lampersentasie = Lammers lewendig gebore / Ooie gepaar
- Speenpersentasie (Bestuursvermoë) : 86.25%
- Speenpersentasie = Lammers gespeen / Lammers lewendig gebore
- Speenpersentasie (Reproduksiedoel-treffendheid) : 68.21%
- Speenpersentasie = Lammers gespeen / Ooie gepaar

5. PRODUKSIE NORME

- Gemiddelde sybokhaarproduksie per bok : 2.64 kg

6. BESTUURSPRAKTYKE

- Tydperk van ramme by die ooie : 9 weke
- Paar u jong ooie apart? : Ja
- Watter maande word gepaar? : Maart - Mei
- Belangrikste redes vir verliese :
 - Ongediertes
 - Droogte
 - Koue
 - Bestuur
 - Moedereienskappe
 - Lammers swak by geboorte
 - Onervare ooie
 - Aborsies
 - Lamprobleme

7. GEVOLGTREKKING

- Die omvang van die resultate en die norme wat vasgestel is bied 'n goeie basis waarop verder uitgebrei kan word. Meer

mense moet betrek word om groter en meer betroubare bronne van verteenwoordiging te verkry. Hierdie 14 boere kan nie die hele angorabedryf verteenwoordig nie.

- Die sybokhaar (90.09%) teenoor vleis (9.91%) verhouding staan dus op ongeveer 90% teenoor 10%. Hierdie verhouding is nie gesond nie. Daar word nie genoeg vee verkoop (handelsinkomste) om van die vleiswaarde gebruik te maak nie. Baie redes kan daarvoor verantwoordelik wees (droogtes, te min surplus vee ens.) Die 2007 sybokhaar teenoor vleis verhouding vir Rietbron (69.88% : 30.12%) en Klipplaat (69.68% : 30.32%) is baie beter. Met 'n ongeveer 30% : 70% verhouding is die inkomste heelwat beter.
- Die angoras het gemiddelde 2.64 kg sybokhaar per dier produseer wat 'n belangrike produksienorm vir die bedryf is. Die hoogste gemiddelde produksie van 3.12 kg het by die Klipplaat studiegroep voorgekom. Die 2007 gemiddelde produksie syfer vir Klipplaat is 2.94 kg met Rietbron op 3.08 kg per dier per jaar. Hierdie gemiddelde produksiesyfers te laag en is vir die sybokhaarbedryf 'n uitdaging om hierdie probleem op te los.
- Voer (23.27%) en dieregesondheid (23.64%) is die grootste direk allokeerbare veranderlike kostes.
- Permanente arbeid (30.02%) en brandstof en smeermiddels (20.67%) is die grootste oorhoofse kostes.
- Lampersentasie is 'n belangrike reproduksie norm wat vasgestel is. Dit word bereken volgens die aantal lammers gebore teenoor die aantal ooie gepaar. Die gemiddelde lampersentasie was 78.68%. Die 2007-lampersentasie vir Rietbron is 78.11% met Klipplaat op 79.55%. Hierdie lampersentasie syfers is ook te laag.
- Die ander baie belangrike reproduksie norm is die speenpersentasie. Die gemiddelde speenpersentasie word in twee afdelings hanteer:
 - Bestuursvermoë: Hier word die speenpersentasie bereken deur die aantal lammers gespeen te bereken volgens die aantal lammers gebore. Die gemiddelde syfer vir 2006 is 86.25%. Die 2007 resultate vir Rietbron is 92.98% en vir Klipplaat 92.95%.
 - Reproduksiedoeltreffendheid: Hier word die speenpersentasie bereken volgens die aantal lammers gespeen teenoor die aantal ooie gepaar. Daar word dus verwys na die aantal ooie wat gepaar is wat ook 'n lam kon speen. Die gemiddelde 2006 syfer is 68.21%. Die 2007 syfer vir Rietbron is 72.61% en vir Klipplaat 73.91%. Hierdie resultate is deurgaans te laag.
- Die volgende 4 faktore was as die mees belangrike oorsake vir vee verliese :
 - Ongediertes
 - Droogte
 - Koue
 - Bestuur
- Bogenoemde resultate dui op goeie norme vir die angorabokbedryf. Daar word met groot verwagting uitgesien na die volledige 2006/2007 resultate. ■

DNA-technology: Angora goats taking the lead

E van Marle-Köster¹, C Visser¹ & MA Snyman²

Department of Animal & Wildlife Sciences, University of Pretoria¹,
National Department of Agriculture, Grootfontein, Middelburg, CP²

Since the early nineteen nineties, South Africa has become the only reliable producer of quality mohair in the world, thereby establishing a permanent market for its product.

* Refer to the terminology chart at the conclusion for clearer understanding – Editor

Introduction

To exploit South Africa's unique position, it is however crucial that the quality of the clip be maintained. Demands for finer fibre, decreasing profit margins, a harsh production environment and changed land-use patterns are only a few of the factors that Angora farmers need to consider in defining their breeding objectives.

For many years quantitative studies and research on various aspects of mohair production have been applied successfully to increase mohair production. Despite the progress made with quantitative selection, it has certain limitations. Current selection based on breeding values doesn't account for population effects or genetic diversity and selection is optimized for a general response in the next generation, rather than the highest long term response. Genetic progress is therefore relatively slow.

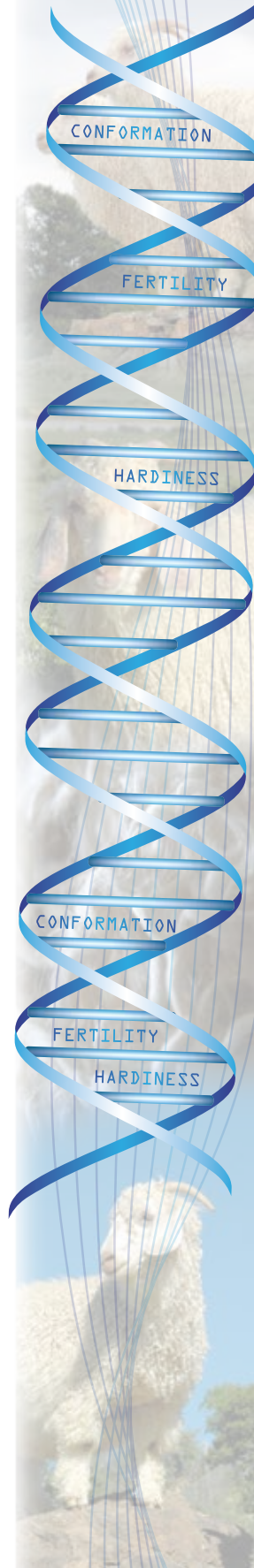
Advances in DNA-technology have provided new opportunities for animal geneticists and breeders to study the genetic composition of farm animals. Since the initiation of the Human Genome Project 16 years ago, projects have been established to map and sequence the **genomes** of most farm animal species, including the goat. DNA technology has been proved as a useful tool to provide clarity on inheritance patterns, genetic relationships and economically important production traits. In farm animals most of the performance observed in traits of economic importance is the result of **quantitative variation**. **Loci** affecting these quantitative traits are referred to as **Quantitative Trait Loci (QTL)**.

If QTLs that are associated with specific profitable traits could be identified, this would lead to a better understanding of the biological background of the trait, and eventually to much faster, more accurate and more efficient selection. This could lead to the application of Marker Assisted Selection (MAS) in Angora goat breeding, and breeders will start reaping the benefits of high quality mohair producing animals much sooner, without years of conventional selection.

Although sheep and goats were the first domestic animals to be used for food production and still contribute significantly to most countries' agricultural industries, these small-stock species have received a lot less attention from genomic researchers during the past decade. While the whole-genome map for cattle is updated at regular intervals, the most recent version of the goat linkage map was published in 1998, and lacks complete genome coverage. Only one other research group is currently working on QTL identification in goats, namely the INTA group in Argentine in collaboration with INRA in France.

During 2004/5 discussions were held with Mohair South Africa and Grootfontein regarding QTL research on Angora goats. This resulted in the establishment of a DNA Biological bank containing

Advances in DNA-technology have provided new opportunities for animal geneticists and breeders to study the genetic composition of farm animals



South Africa needs to develop a competitive, sustainable fast-growing economy and therefore we need to apply the modern technology available

DNA samples of all the goats at the Jansenville Experimental farm, which were to serve as a base population for the QTL study. The Department of Animal & Wildlife Science, University of Pretoria submitted an application for funding of an initial genome scan for QTL associated with mohair traits to the National Research Foundation, which was approved for a two year cycle, and later extended for another two year period. To increase the reference animals for the QTL study and accelerate the project, a number of Angora breeders were approached to participate in the project. Their animals have been sampled since 2005, stored in the Angora Bio-bank and used as reference families for the QTL study.

Prerequisites for QTL research

In order to identify the QTL that is associated with a specific trait, many animals have to be **genotyped** for a large number of **DNA markers** on different chromosomes. The animals need to belong to a specific population structure, which we refer to as a **reference population**. A reference population usually consists of an experimental flock or a population of animals, which can be bred according to the prerequisites of identifying QTLs. In farm animals, out-bred populations are also considered as reference populations, as the production of inbred lines are often impractical. In most cases aspects such as the size of the population, number of DNA markers, genome coverage and statistical power will play a role in the establishment of a reference population, which is evaluated against cost and practical management factors.

The DNA marker and the QTL (the group of genes responsible for the expression of the trait) must be inherited together in order to identify the QTL. If they are not inherited as a unity, no association between the superior performance and a specific genotype can be detected. This is referred to as **Linkage Disequilibrium**, and is found within families of out-bred populations, due to the co-segregation of the marker and the QTL. Experimental designs for out-bred populations have been based on the analysis of families within existing populations, where both the full-sib and half-sib designs can be applied in relatively large families. Should the trait under consideration only

be expressed in one gender, only the daughters / sons are genotyped.

The South African Angora goat industry involves relatively few breeders, with limited genetic linkage between flocks. This adds to the existing difficulties of long generation intervals, high ram: ewe ratio and high mortality rates under lambs, in developing an appropriate design for QTL mapping. After consideration and statistical testing, it was decided that a half-sib design will be the most appropriate. The offspring of a specific sire are genotyped for the DNA markers and scored for the quantitative trait. Marker **alleles** are then traced from the sire to his offspring to determine whether progeny that inherited the alternative sire alleles differ with respect to the quantitative trait. Under a certain set of conditions, the difference between groups of progeny for the quantitative trait will be due to a QTL linked to a marker allele that is **heterozygous** in the sire. The half-sib design is used chiefly in populations where one sire can have hundreds or more progeny with records on quantitative traits, while each dam has only a few progeny. The challenge of QTL design in out-bred populations lies therein that on the one hand there is a force towards a small number of sire families with large progeny groups, while on the other hand there is the probability that the sires used in the project is not heterozygous.

An essential component in QTL studies is of course accurate and complete phenotypic data of the traits under consideration. In the final analyses the phenotypic and genotypic information are combined for identification of the putative QTL. In this regard the breeders make a major contribution to the research by taking part in official recording schemes or contributing relevant performance records for Angora goats.

Current population structure and Angora DNA-bank

The current QTL study is performed in collaboration with four Angora goat breeders where 10 families have been identified with sufficient progeny (averaging 100 offspring per sire) for a half-sib design. Currently the rams and their offspring of three kidding seasons have been



genotyped with 100 microsatellite markers. The current research project aims to identify a possible QTL for fine mohair traits, but performance traits are also taken into consideration. Should a putative QTL be identified, fine-mapping will follow. The first phase is a four to six year project, depending on the number of progeny born per sire with complete phenotypic data.

For future projects aspects on reproduction need consideration and a well structured reference population will be essential for finding answers within a reasonable time frame.

Conclusion

South Africa needs to develop a competitive, sustainable fast-growing economy and therefore we need to apply the modern technology available.

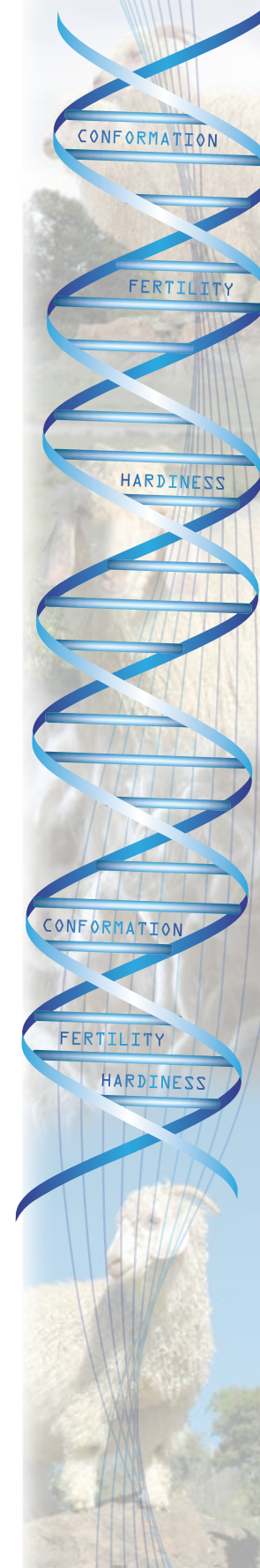
Terminology

Term/concept	Definition/description
Gene	This is the unit of inheritance that is passed to the offspring of an animal. Each gene has a specific function. It is a fragment of DNA that encodes a protein for a specific function
Locus	The specific place where the gene is found on the chromosome
Alleles	Different versions of the same gene. In humans you have a gene for eye colour, with different alleles encoding for different colours, i.e. brown eye allele (b), blue eye allele (B) etc. These alleles are always situated at the same place (locus).
Genotype	The genetic make-up of the animal for the specific gene. Each mammal has two alleles for each gene (one on each chromosome of a pair), and therefore three possible combinations (BB, Bb or bb)
Homozygous	A term used to simplify the description of the genotype. Animals with two copies of the same allele are called homozygotes (with a homozygous genotype), i.e. BB or bb.
Heterozygous	The alleles at the same locus on the homologue chromosomes are different for the specific animal, i.e. Bb. In this case the brown eye allele is dominant and suppresses the expression of blue eyes.
Genome	All the genetic material of the animal – the total gene composition of all genes on all chromosomes.
Genome mapping	A chromosome map containing in order the genes associated with each specific chromosome.
Quantitative trait	A trait in which the phenotype (the measured trait in kg, l etc.) shows a continuous variation, e.g. fleece weight, milk production.
QTL	A region on the chromosome containing a group of loci that affects a quantitative trait, i.e. a group of genes affecting fiber diameter.
DNA markers	A known DNA fragment at a specific locus. This is usually not a gene, but a specific repeat sequence within the DNA.
Linkage disequilibrium	The probability that two genes, or a gene and a DNA marker, will be inherited together
Parentage verification	The use of genetic markers to accurately predict the parents of certain offspring. This can also be used to verify pedigree records.
Reference population	A population of animals that can be mated and selected according to the prerequisites of a particular study. The animals must have complete and accurate pedigree and phenotypic records.

This project is the first initiative where molecular technology is being applied in the search for QTLs in farm animals in South Africa. The identification of a microsatellite set to be used for parentage verification in Angora goats will be an added benefit from this project. In South Africa we have to rely on our natural resources for creating wealth and ensuring economic growth and it is essential that the newest technology available will be applied. The Angora goat industry has taken the lead in utilising new tools available to maintain their stronghold in the global market.

Acknowledgement

The authors wish to thank the Angora stud breeders participating in the project and Mohair South Africa for their support of the DNA Biological bank for South African Angora goats. ■





Tips from Old Timers

The Texans leave a crop of hair on the back of the goat during shearing to protect it during inclement weather.

It was so rewarding to note the number of young and enthusiastic producers who joined the ram tour and the thought occurred that experience is the one commodity they are short on. This column seeks to share the wisdom of producers who have been in the industry for years and who have walked the walk. Any pearls of wisdom from these gentlemen will be greatly appreciated. – Editor

Managing seed contamination

The price we have to pay for the wonderful late summer rains we have recently experienced is the malady of seed contamination.

The late Blake Hobson from Loch Dale, made the following suggestions to counteract the problem:

1. Place cattle in camps as early as possible before you utilize them for grazing by goats. They will keep the grass as short as possible.
2. Leave a few cattle in the camp when first introducing your flock of goats. The remaining cattle will keep the grass short.
3. Make sure your camp fences are in good order. Goats creeping through into seed contaminated camps make all your hard work pointless.

Classing seed hair

Pierre van der Vyver from CMW suggested the following measures when preparing and classing seed hair:

1. If the seed is still green, dip the animals in any remedy, even clean water approximately six weeks prior to shearing. The more you dip the better because it accelerates the rotting process of the seed
2. Break open matted hair on the goat approximately 14 days before shearing and dip again in a remedy, which will improve handling and remove loose hair
3. If you class mohair which is totally contaminated with seed, it is important to keep the following characteristics in mind.
 - A. **Fineness:** -keep age groups separate and divide each group into a strong and fine line. In winter the over-strong young

The price we have to pay for the wonderful late summer rains we have recently experienced is the malady of seed contamination



- goats can be added to the adults and the over strong kids to the young goats
- B. Length:** -seedy hair is usually divided into only two lengths namely short and long. Long seedy hair has a C-length (100mm or longer) and short seedy hair is of D-and E-lengths (50-100mm)
- C. Heavily contaminated hair** can be broken or torn apart to improve the type, but he implores farmers please not to follow the practice of putting the hair through a hammer mill! It causes tremendous damages to the hair!

Disease control in a period of above average summer rainfall

Pastuerellosis, coccidiosis, internal parasites and plant poisoning are all problems related to wet, hot conditions.

Dr Greta Snyman from Grootfontein suggests that the following common sense measures be taken to prevent the outbreak of these diseases:

Besides following the correct

inoculation programme to prevent these problems, she suggests that these measures will reduce the risk factors.

Prevent the accumulation of large quantities of wet dung especially in kraals or sheds.

The congestion of animals in small areas should be avoided.

Unnecessary wet conditions should be avoided by draining pens properly and by repairing leaking drinking troughs. Prevent the formation of large stagnant pools of water where animals congregate.

Anticipating the winter cold

To counteract the heavy losses due to inclement weather the Ferreira's from Uniondale dip their newly shorn goats

in an oil rich dip mixture. This treatment gives the goats a better resistance against the cold and helps them to graze better in cold winds and light rain. Their skins stay healthy and they have fewer problems with lice. Pregnant ewes that kid soon after shearing look after their kids better and also produce more milk.

THE MIXTURE:

3 litres of Shell Rimula D Oil
3000 litres of water
1 litre Little's dip as disinfectant and
½ litre diesel as diluent

Mixing Instructions.

First, mix the Little's dip with the water in the dip tank. Mix the Rimula oil and diesel in a 20 l can and add the mixture to the dip tank. Stir the contents of the dip tank constantly before any animals are dipped. Keep the mixture of 3 liters Rimula oil and ½ l of diesel handy. When approximately 200 animals have been dipped, add one liter of this mixture in the dip tank. This process is constantly repeated. The run off water is not allowed back into the dip tank when approximately 500 l of water have been withdrawn from the tank, it is replenished with clean water.



Sheds should be placed on the northern side, or in a north-facing kloof.

Emergency mixture for animals suffering from cold stress

Dr Greta Snyman says that prevention of this condition is much more important than reviving goats which already have cold stress. Although the most obvious measure would be to provide adequate shelter, it is advisable to have an adequate supply of chocolate maize available. This energy rich feed can then be used to maintain the blood sugar levels if shedding is done over a prolonged period. Chocolate maize is produced when a commercial product known as Korn Kandy is mixed with maize. If animals however are suffering from cold stress, the ones that have collapsed can be treated as follows.

1. 50ml of saturated glucose solution can be injected intraperitoneal (in the abdominal cavity)
2. A 20% glucose solution can slowly be given intravenously (into the vein) together with an injection under the skin
3. Lucozade can be administered through the mouth when nothing else is available and the animals have not collapsed
4. Dr Snyman says that the boereraat of using a small amount of brandy (5ml-10 ml) has a positive reaction in wet and cold kids. The alcohol used in sweet wine and in brandy is ethanol. This is broken down to glucose by enzymes, but that no other alcohol e.g. methyl alcohol found in methylated spirits should be used as it extremely dangerous for domestic animals and ruminants.

Leaving a cape of hair on the goats during shearing

The Texans seem to have reduced their loss factor due to cold by leaving a cape on the back of the goats at the winter shearing. A strip of hair the width of a man's hand is left on either side of the spine during shearing. This hair remains on the goat until the summer shearing when the goat is



Every shearer dips his shears into his own mixture of formalin and water.

clean-shorn. It is amazing how much of the goat's body can be protected in this way.

Reducing weaning stress

Billy Colborne, a prize-winning breeder with many awards to his name, is delighted to share some of his wisdom, gathered through years of experience with, to the younger, more inexperienced producers.

Billy has been able to reduce weaning stress significantly by interchanging the ewes and kids of two or more flocks for a short period at weaning. Although the kids are in actual fact weaned, they still run with ewes, thereby reducing weaning stress. After about two weeks the kids can be permanently separated from the mature goats. "A foster mother is better than no mother", says Billy.

Shearing hygiene

Another gem of wisdom from this source is his ultra hygienic shearing conditions.

The shearers are required to clean their shears after shearing every goat by dipping their shears in a mixture formalin and water. This prevents contamination from one animal to another. Billy also believes in dipping the animals straight after shearing. This helps to disinfect any cut wounds, and helps the goats to acclimatize better. ■



Shearing hygiene is very important.

The effect of different weaning practices on Angora kids

J.H. Hoon#, W.J. Olivier & P.J. Griessel

Grootfontein Agricultural Development Institute, Private Bag X529, Middelburg (EC), 5900
Corresponding author: E-mail: JanHo@nda.agric.za

INTRODUCTION

Weaning is normally a stressful period in the young kid's life and is often characterized by a decrease in weight gain, total cease in growth and in some cases even weight loss. This response is referred to as weaning shock. The level or degree of shock depends on age and weight of the kids, as well as the feeding program before weaning. From studies with both goats and sheep, it appears that body weight at weaning is normally more important than age when attempting to minimize weaning shock. Other factors influencing the effect of weaning shock on the growth of Angora kids are, amongst others, the general health of the kids, sex and other stress factors (O'Brien, 1998). The weaned kid goes through a very critical growth stage from weaning (4-5 months of age) until it reaches the young goat stage (2-tooth). Terblanche (1991) indicated that a mortality rate of 12.5 % occurred in Angora kids from weaning until 2-tooth age, compared to only 3 % in Merino sheep.

The aim of the project was to find practical solutions for the problems generally experienced by Angora goats during the post-weaning period. The objectives of the project were therefore to determine the effect of different weaning practices on the post-weaning growth of kids, the body weight change of ewes from weaning until mating/scanning, the milk production of the ewes and the conception rate of ewes in the next breeding season.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The project started on a farm in the Middelburg district during the 2003/2004 kidding season. It was repeated at the same locality during the 2004/2005, 2005/2006 and the 2006/2007 kidding seasons. The farmer's own animals were used and the animals grazed on natural veld. At the onset of the project, a flock of Angora ewes and their kids were randomly tagged with three different colour ear tags and numbered individually at the start of the kidding season in August 2003. In the following years, the nucleus of ewes in each group consisted of ewes that were also used in the project during the previous kidding season. Since ewes were culled from the flock as a normal management practice, replacement ewes were added randomly to the nucleus. The replacement ewes, as well as the kids of all the ewes, were randomly tagged with three different colour ear tags and numbered individually

at the onset of kidding in each year.

At the time of weaning each year (January/February), the three treatments commenced as follow: Weaned – Kids and ewes were separated, i.e. normal weaning took place; Swopped – Kids were separated from their mothers, but were put with other mature ewes, i.e. normal weaning, but weaned kids stayed with other ewes; Not weaned – Kids and ewes remained together, i.e. no weaning took place.

In the 2004/2005 kidding season, ten ewes from each group that kidded in the same week and had single kids, were identified and marked. Milk production of these 30 ewes was recorded on a weekly basis from 3 weeks until six weeks after kidding and on a two-weekly basis thereafter until the next mating season started (Week 28). The oxytocin method was used to determine the 4-hour milk production of the 10 ewes in each group (Bencini, 1995).

Body weights of all the ewes were recorded at weaning and at mating/scanning. Body weights of the kids of all three groups were recorded at weaning and on a monthly basis up until the age of 10 months. The conception and scanning percentages of all the ewes of the three groups were determined by means of ultrasound scanning. The hair production of the individual kids was recorded at second shearing (\pm 12-month age) in 2005, 2006 and 2007. All the animals stayed in their respective groups until the final body weights of kids were recorded at 10-month age. The animals were subjected to the same management practices throughout the experimental period.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The average milk production of the 30 ewes in the 2004/2005 kidding season over their lactation period until weaning, as well as the milk production of the 10 ewes per treatment from weaning until mating, are illustrated **Figure 1**.

From Figure 1 it is evident that the ewes reached their peak milk production at 4-6 weeks after lambing. At the commencement of the different treatments at weaning (Week 22), the milk production of all the ewes of the Weaned group dropped to zero during the following four weeks. However, the ewes of the other two treatments continued to produce milk, although the amounts were small.

The body weights, body weight change (BWC) and average daily gain (ADG) of the kids from weaning until approximately 10 months of age for the four year period, are

presented in **Table 1** and **Figure 2**.

The combined data of the kids for the four year period showed that the BWC and ADG of the kids of the Weaned group did not differ ($P>0.05$) from the Not weaned group, but both were higher ($P<0.05$) than the kids of the Swopped group. The combined data also indicated a decline in growth rate of kids after eight months of age, coinciding with the start of the dry, winter period and subsequent deterioration in grazing conditions.

The body weights, body weight changes (BWC) and average daily gain (ADG) of the ram and ewe kids respectively, from weaning until approximately 10 months of age for the four year period, are presented in **Table 2**.

The BWC of the ram and ewe lambs of the Weaned and Not weaned groups were higher ($P<0.05$) than the respective

Swopped groups. The ADG of the ram lambs of the Weaned group were higher ($P<0.05$) than the other two groups, while the ADG of the ewe lambs of the Weaned and Not weaned groups were higher ($P<0.05$) than the Swopped group. However, the overall ADG of the ram and ewe lambs did not differ ($P>0.05$).

The body weights of the ewes at weaning and mating/scanning and the BWC over the four year period are presented in **Table 3**.

The combined data for the three year period from 2003/2004 to 2005/2006 indicate that the body weight change of the ewes where kids were weaned (Weaned), was higher ($P<0.05$) than for the other two groups. In 2006/2007, the body weight of the ewes at scanning was higher ($P<0.05$) for the ewes of Weaned group compared to the Swopped group, but did not differ ($P>0.05$) from the Not weaned group. The body weight change of the ewes of the Weaned group from weaning until scanning was also higher ($P<0.05$) than the other two groups.

The average conception and scanning percentages of the ewes of the different groups for the four year period, are presented in **Table 4**.

The average conception and scanning percentages over the four year period were in favour of the ewes of Treatment 2 (Swopped) and Treatment 3 (Not weaned), compared to the ewes of Treatment 1 (Weaned). Despite the variation in conception and scanning percentages of ewes observed over the four year period, it is clear that the non-weaning of kids did not have any negative effect on the reproductive rate of the ewes.

The average hair production of the kids at second shearing (± 12 -month age) for the three years (2005 to 2007), are presented in **Table 5**.

The differences in average hair production of kids at second shearing were relatively small, with a higher value ($P<0.05$) for Treatment 2 (Swopped) compared to Treatment 1 (Weaned). No differences ($P>0.05$) in hair production were, however, observed between Treatment 1 (Weaned) and Treatment 3 (Not weaned), as well as between Treatment 2 (Swopped) and Treatment 3 (Not weaned).

CONCLUSION

The BWC and ADG of the kids from weaning until approximately 10 months of age did not differ between the weaned and the unweaned kids for the four year period from

Figure 1. Milk production of ewes over their lactation period

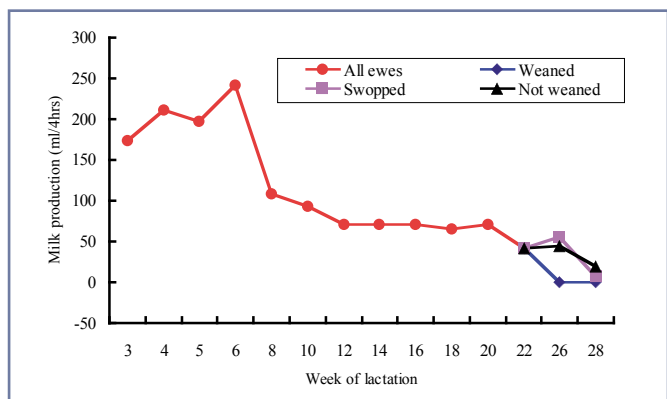


Figure 2. Body weights of kids of the different groups after weaning for the four year period

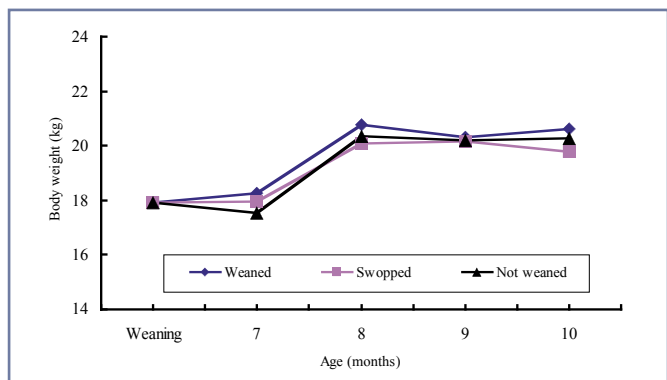


Table 1. Body weights, body weight change and average daily gain (ADG) (\pm s.e.) of kids of the different groups after weaning for the four year period

	Weaned	Swopped	Not weaned
Weaning (kg)	17.93 \pm 0.16	17.90 \pm 0.18	17.92 \pm 0.22
7-month age (kg)	18.26 \pm 0.11 ^a	17.96 \pm 0.13 ^a	17.52 \pm 0.17 ^b
8-month age (kg)	20.78 \pm 0.11 ^a	20.10 \pm 0.13 ^b	20.36 \pm 0.15 ^b
9-month age (kg)	20.33 \pm 0.12	20.17 \pm 0.13	20.19 \pm 0.16
10-month age (kg)	20.60 \pm 0.12 ^a	19.79 \pm 0.14 ^b	20.27 \pm 0.16 ^a
Body weight change (kg)	2.64 \pm 0.13 ^a	1.82 \pm 0.15 ^b	2.31 \pm 0.18 ^a
ADG (g)	19.5 \pm 0.9 ^a	13.7 \pm 1.1 ^b	17.0 \pm 1.3 ^a

^{ab} Values with different superscripts in rows, differ significantly ($P<0.05$)

Table 2. Body weights, body weight change and average daily gain (ADG) (\pm s.e.) of the ram and ewe kids of the different groups after weaning for the four year period

	Rams			Ewes		
	Weaned	Swopped	Not weaned	Weaned	Swopped	Not weaned
Weaning (kg)	18.51 \pm 0.21	18.57 \pm 0.25	18.72 \pm 0.30	17.17 \pm 0.16	17.18 \pm 0.26	17.31 \pm 0.30
7-month age (kg)	18.40 \pm 0.14 ^a	18.18 \pm 0.18 ^{ab}	17.68 \pm 0.23 ^b	18.14 \pm 0.16 ^a	17.84 \pm 0.23 ^{ab}	17.52 \pm 0.23 ^b
8-month age (kg)	20.86 \pm 0.14 ^a	20.38 \pm 0.17 ^b	20.56 \pm 0.21 ^{ab}	20.81 \pm 0.16 ^a	19.97 \pm 0.18 ^b	20.54 \pm 0.20 ^a
9-month age (kg)	20.55 \pm 0.15	20.43 \pm 0.18	20.43 \pm 0.22	20.16 \pm 0.17	19.98 \pm 0.19	20.32 \pm 0.21
10-month age (kg)	20.84 \pm 0.15 ^a	20.12 \pm 0.19 ^b	20.35 \pm 0.24 ^{ab}	20.40 \pm 0.15 ^a	19.50 \pm 0.19 ^b	20.48 \pm 0.24 ^a
Body weight change (kg)	2.66 \pm 0.16 ^a	1.91 \pm 0.20 ^b	2.07 \pm 0.26 ^a	2.61 \pm 0.18 ^a	1.68 \pm 0.21 ^b	2.65 \pm 0.25 ^a
ADG (g)	19.7 \pm 1.2 ^a	14.4 \pm 1.4 ^b	15.4 \pm 1.8 ^b	19.3 \pm 1.3 ^a	12.6 \pm 0.15 ^b	19.4 \pm 1.8 ^a
ADG (g)	16.5 \pm 0.9			17.1 \pm 0.9		

^{ab} Values with different superscripts in rows, within sex, differ significantly ($P < 0.05$)

Table 3. Body weights and body weight change (\pm s.e.) of ewes of the different groups for the four year period

	Weaned	Swopped	Not weaned
2003/2004-2005/2006			
Weight at weaning (kg)	29.21 \pm 0.26 ^a	31.62 \pm 0.27 ^b	31.40 \pm 0.27 ^b
Weight at mating (kg)	31.63 \pm 0.27 ^a	33.57 \pm 0.28 ^b	33.18 \pm 0.28 ^b
Body weight change (kg)	2.40 \pm 0.14 ^a	1.81 \pm 0.15 ^b	1.73 \pm 0.15 ^b
2006/2007			
Weight at weaning (kg)	34.78 \pm 0.65	34.97 \pm 0.80	36.04 \pm 0.70
Weight at scanning (kg)	42.07 \pm 0.64 ^a	39.97 \pm 0.79 ^b	41.87 \pm 0.69 ^a
Body weight change (kg)	7.29 \pm 0.36 ^a	5.00 \pm 0.45 ^b	5.84 \pm 0.39 ^b

^{ab} Values with different superscripts in rows, differ significantly ($P < 0.05$)

Table 4. The conception and scanning percentages of the ewes for the four year period

	Weaned	Swopped	Not weaned
Conception percentage (%)	87.2	92.2	92.9
Scanning percentage (%)	104.4	112.0	112.3

Conception % - number of ewes scanned pregnant per number of ewes mated

Scanning % - number of kids scanned per number of ewes mated

Table 5. The hair production (\pm s.e.) of the kids at second shearing for the three year period

	Weaned	Swopped	Not weaned
Hair production (kg)	1.20 \pm 0.02 ^a	1.27 \pm 0.02 ^b	1.23 \pm 0.02 ^{ab}

^{ab} Values with different superscripts, differ significantly ($P < 0.05$)

2003/2004 to 2006/2007. Also, no differences in BWC and ADG between the ram and ewe kids within treatments were observed over the four year period. With regard to the body weight of the ewes, it is evident that the weaning of kids had a positive effect on body weight change from weaning until mating/scanning in all four years. Only small differences in the average hair production of kids at second shearing for the three year period from 2005 to 2007 were observed among the three groups. The most important result from this study is, however, that the non-weaning of kids did not have any

negative effect on the reproduction rate of the ewes in any of the years. It is also noteworthy that none of the ewe kids staying with their mothers got pregnant during the mating period in any of the years. ■

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following institutions/persons are acknowledged for their contribution to the project:

- Mohair SA for partial funding of the project
- The participating farmer, J Moolman (Rusoord, Middelburg).



SSA bring besoek aan die Ooste

Deon Saayman en Reinhold du Randt

Hierdie besoek aan die buiteland is gereël om die nuwe bestuurder van SSA aan die gebruikers van sybokhaar voor te stel en die rol van SSA, wat die bevordering en die ontwikkeling van die produk betref, as 'n neutrale en onafhanklike organisasie te herbevestig.

Japan

Die afvaardiging het met die volgende indrukke teruggekeer:

- Daar is deurentyd deur die gebruikers van sybokhaar in Japan verwys na die swak yen. Dit plaas 'n groot las op hul vermoë om sybokhaar aan te koop.
- Dit het op die Japannese deel van die toer duidelik geblyk dat goeie gehalte 'n geweldige rol speel vir al die gebruikers van sybokhaar en dat een spesifieke verwerker slegs Camdeboo-haar gebruik.
- Die persoonlike bestedingsvermoë van die gemiddelde Japanees groei nie en die totale bevolkingsaanwas volg 'n afwaartse kurwe.
- Die afgelope winter was bogemiddeld warm en dit was tot nadeel van die breigarebedryf.

- Die verbeterde wolprys het 'n verrassende negatiewe impak op sybokhaar gehad. Omdat sybokhaar tradisioneel met wol vermeng word en omdat wol nou te duur geword het, word poliëster gebruik in die vermengingsproses, anders kan vervaardigers nie die mas opkom nie.
- Die afvaardiging is ook ondervra oor die effek wat die uitbreiding van die wilddedryf op die produksiestatistieke sal hê.

Wewers

Sommige wewers het die mening uitgespreek dat aardverhitting 'n geweldige positiewe uitwerking op die verbruik van sybokhaar sal hê omdat die eienskappe van die vesel dit besonder geskik maak vir ligter somersmateriale.

Die formele tradisionele Japannese manspakke geniet nog 'n groot marktaandeel en die bevolking trek nog redelik formeel aan. Hierdie verskynsel het ons waargeneem tydens 'n reis op 'n Tokio trein op 'n Sondag toe die mans steeds, ten spyte van die naweek, in hul formele pakke geklee was.

Die wewers volg die modeneigings wat in Milaan voorgeskryf word, meer slaafs na en die plaaslike Japannese mark bly hul grootste verbruiker. Een wewer wat ons besoek het, het 'n kontrak met Dunhill onderteken om sybokhaar van Camdeboo te gebruik om sportbaadjies mee te vervaardig.

Sybokhaar word nog meestal as 'n somergewigmateriaal gebruik, maar daar is een wewer wat besig is om 'n sybokhaar en kasjmier vermenging vir die winter te ontwikkel.

Een besonder interessante nuwe ontwikkeling wat die afvaardiging gesien het was denim jeansmateriaal wat dertig persent sybokhaar bevat. Hierdie wewer verkoop sy produkte onder sy eie naam maar voorsien ook voorraad aan bekende handelsname soos Burberry en Dunhill.

Spinners en breiers

Die spinners en breiers ondervind ook 'n probleem met die hoë wolprys. Die siergarebedryf is sensitief vir prysskommeling en die dames modemark is redelik onstabiel. Hulle was egter van mening dat hierdie afdeling van die mark, soos in Europa, 'n opwaartse neiging toon.

Nog 'n spinner wat gare vir die handbreimark produseer en na vyf-en-twintig lande uitvoer, gebruik net 26-28 mikron sybokhaar. Hy stel ook baie belang in Suid-Afrikaanse wol en beoog om 'n reeks met hierdie twee vesels van Suid-Afrika saam te stel.

Sommige van die spinners aan die duurder segment van die mark vir damesbreidrag gebruik sybokhaar so fyn as 20-21 mikron vir sekere reekse en 24-26 mikron vir ander. Alhoewel hulle handel drywe in die duurder segment van die mark, beïnvloed pryse ook hulle handel. Vooruitsigte na die Pitti Filati handelskou lyk rooskleurig met handelsname soos Dolce&Gabbana, Prada, Yves Saint Laurent en Gucci wat belangstelling toon. Amerika is steeds 'n groot

Left page

Left: Mr Aki Ogura, Yoshihito Inoue, Masami Ozeki, Reinhold du Randt and Mamoru Sakurai.

Right: Nagoa City.

Right page

Left: At Miyuki Keori Ltd are Masa Suzuki, Deon Saayman, Kiyoshi Okumura, Reinhold du Randt and Aki Ogura.

Right: Changzhou Shenyi Textile Co in China. Admiring their yarns are Me Jianhong Jin, Mr. Zhenfa Ni, Mr. Jianrong Mao, Reinhold du Randt, Deon Saayman and Carl Zhang.



uitvoermark vir hierdie afdeling. Nuwe ontwikkeling sluit die ontwikkeling van 'n siergare met katoen en Japannese papier (washi) in.

Die Japannese Pers

Een van die grootste mode handelskoue vind in Januarie 2008 in Japan plaas en SSA het onderneem om drie advertensies in die Senken Shimbun handelstydskrif te plaas wat al die lesers in die tekstiel- en veselbedryf bereik.

Sjina Agente

Agente het die afvaardiging meegedeel dat daar 'n skuif binne die Sjinese mark na Suid-Afrikaanse wol is omdat die opbrengs beter is en dat die kwota wat op die invoer van vetwol vanuit Australië geplaas is, nie die gebruik van sybokhaar in Sjina sal beïnvloed nie.

Daar is berig dat die mark vir grootbokhaar huidiglik aan die stil kant is as gevolg van die styging in die pryse die vorige jaar, maar daar was 'n mate van optimisme dat die aanvraag sal verbeter indien die aanvraag in Rusland en Turkye verbeter.

'n Verbetering in die tegnologie in Sjina en 'n neiging om fyner sybokhaar te gebruik is bespeur. Vier Italiaanse spinaanlegte het onlangs na Sjina verhuis.

Die algemene gevoel wat vorendag gekom het was dat die plaaslike Sjinese mark redelik stabiel gebly het, maar dat die uitvoermark redelik gedemp was. Sommige spinners het die sybokhaarinhoud van hulle gares met die helfte verminder as gevolg van die hoër prysvlakke van 2006.

Sommige spinners was van mening dat die gehalte sybokhaar sedert die 1990s afgeneem het en dat dit nie dieselfde glans as in die verlede het nie. Hulle was ook van

mening dat die surrogasie van sybokhaar met sekere tipes wol groot skade aan hulle sybokhaarbesigheid verrig.

Hulle was ook van mening dat daar tans te veel spinners van siergares in Sjina is, dat besigheid kompetender is en dat die styging in die prys van sintetiese vesels tot voordeel van natuurlike vesels is.

Die meeste spinners hou nie sybokhaargare in voorraad nie en vervaardig na gelang van bestellings.

Wewers

Besoek is afgelê aan die grootste weefaanleg in Sjina wat nagenoeg agt-en-twintig miljoen meter materiaal per jaar produseer. Hulle het in die verlede grootbokhaar gebruik, maar soos baie Sjinese maatskappye na kleinbökkiehaar (24-25mikron) oorgeslaan. Die rede wat hulle hiervoor aanvoer is dat die kleinhandel, soos deur die mode voorgeskryf, fyner garetellings vereis. Vyftig persent van hulle produksie word deur die plaaslike mark opgeneem en die res word na Japan, Europa en die VSA uitgevoer. Hulle vervaardig onder hulle eie handelsnaam, maar voorsien ook voorraad aan mode handelsname soos Hugo Boss.

Verwerkers

'n Beleefdheidsbesoek is aan die grootste wolkammery in Sjina, wat twintig duisend ton wol van Australië invoer, gebring. Hulle het begin om groot hoeveelhede wol van Suid-Afrika te koop en dit wil voorkom of dit in die vervolgt kan toeneem omdat hulle baie beïndruk is met die gehalte van die Suid-Afrikaanse skeersel.

'n Aantal projekte is aan die direksie van SSA vir oorweging en implementering in 2008 voorgestel. ■





casa Zegna

Linda Henderson

The Zegna name has for many years been closely associated with award winning mohair and the trophy that carries enormous prestige, but very few producers have had the privilege to pay a visit to Casa Zegna, the home of the brand that carries so much status. It was my privilege to journey with the Zegna prize-winners to this destination and to view the Casa (home) more closely.

Nestled among the Italian Alps, the town of Trivero rises like a movie set, complete with Tuscan villas, Alpine forest drives and Italian master artisans.

The bus driver, who is Italian, and is able to negotiate the sharp curves with obvious confidence and a good smattering of Italian passion, takes a final turn in the winding road before we stop at the lovely home and workplace of the Italian family who have linked their name to mohair.

Ermenegildo Zegna, a tailor, founded Lanificio Zegna in 1910. Although he started out with only a small mill and a few looms, the young entrepreneur immediately set himself an ambitious task: to compete in terms of quality with the world-leading British textile manufacturers. Zegna soon gained a reputation



*Above: The stylish exterior of the reception centre at the Zegna Mill.
Top: The label that carries so much prestige.*

for producing fine quality wool suits and by the end of the 1930s, the outfitter employed a thousand workers.

In 1942, the company was re-branded to Ermenegildo Zegna and sons as Aldo and Angelo joined the company. Since then the business has grown by leaps and bounds and today they are a multi-faceted company that work primarily with the best quality wool, mohair, cashmere, silk and vicuna that their breeders can produce. They are quality and perfection driven and believe that only these natural fibres can produce the results that satisfy their high demand. Fineness plays a major role and every year the company sponsors international quality awards for fineness in mohair and wool.

The Zegna group produces mainly woolen and worsted fabrics and employ mohair extensively for its resilience and lustre, which is most suitable for producing permanent-press clothing. They buy the finer varieties of kid mohair (<math><27\mu</math>) and is one of the world's biggest buyer of this speciality hair.

Zegna suits long popular in Italy were first sold in the United States in 1938 and all suits were made to measure until 1968 when the company launched a line of ready-made suits from factories in Spain and Switzerland.



The company invests vast amounts on modern technology.

The first retail store was opened in Paris in 1980 and by 2000, there were three hundred Zegna retail locations worldwide. These retail outlets sell the Zegna label of merchandise which includes corporate and sportswear and a client is able to buy the complete wardrobe under one label of expertise. Their flagship boutique locations are mostly found in the USA, Europe and Japan. The merchandise is produced from eight plants in Italy, two in Spain, three in Switzerland, one in Mexico and one in Turkey. These plants make a wide range of products including suits, neckties, knitwear, shirts, accessories and sportswear.

www.zegna.com

Zegna style...



The factory in Trivero has an annual output of over two million meters of fabric. The company produces about three hundred and fifty-five thousand suits, one million units of sportswear and employs four thousand workers world-wide. Most of the Zegna suits cost in the region of \$2000-\$3000 and are in the same category of price and quality as their direct competition Gucci, Fendi, Prada, Versace and Armani.

This is indeed a proud record from such a humble beginning!

However, the group is about more than just fabrics and merchandise. This family is very involved with the welfare of the community and the health of the world ecology. Locally they are committed to the needs of their employees, many of whom have given generations of service to the factory. A project to restore the Alpine Mountain facade, near the village, included the planting of the spectacular Rhododendron Valley and the restoration of the Panoramic Zegna road. This demonstrates the company's commitment to live in harmony with its habitat. The Zegna Foundation also partners various other projects within the fields of cultural, social, environmental and medical research.

The most recent addition to Casa Zegna is the historical archives and cultural centre in Trivero. This stylish building was created by the Zegna Foundation as a manifestation of the company's sensibility and corporate responsibility to conserve the mill's history and industrial experience. The project includes an archive, an exhibition space and an open workshop in which tradition goes hand in hand with transformation.



Billy Colborne next to a sample of the fleece that won him the Zegna Trophy in 2005. This exhibit is on permanent display.

The Zegna Foundation also partners various other projects within the fields of cultural, social, environmental and medical research



The Archives contain a complete record of every fabric that was ever produced at the mill.



*Top: The exterior of the mill with the original chimney stack.
Centre: The elegant reception area. The paintings on the wall depict the history of fabric production.
Bottom: The classic modern archive that houses the history of the mill.*

During the conducted tour of the premises, we were given an insight into the vast collection of fabrics that the company has created over the years. One memorable specimen was the mohair rich fabric used by the Italian army during the two world war campaigns. I'm pleased to report that technology and breeding have improved much since then, since my impression was that the army was fighting the battle on two fronts: the allies on the one hand and the durable but scratchy uniforms on the other!

The Zegna fabrics are designed by their own designers who certainly have their fingers on the pulse of fashion and since they know how to utilize the characteristics of every fibre, they are able to produce seductive fabrics that answer the needs of the most discerning buyer. This company does not compromise on quality and their range includes summer and winter weights with strong classic infusions.

Generations of knowledge in the fabric and fashion trade and generous investment in new technology has placed this company at the forefront of the apparel trade.

One of their newest innovations is the use of wearable solar technology. This refers to the functional, robust implementation of micro-electronic circuits into innovative textiles or garments in a way that is suitable for everyday use. In the basic configuration two very small silicon-based, monocrystalline solar modules generate a charging power of approximately 1Watt in direct sunlight. This is temporarily stored in Li-ion rechargeable batteries. A sports jacket employing this technology in its collar has lately been introduced into the range.

Although visiting the retail outlets takes preference to buying on the internet, South African consumers, who may be far from these outlets, are able to view and buy this range by visiting the company's webpage: www.zegna.com.

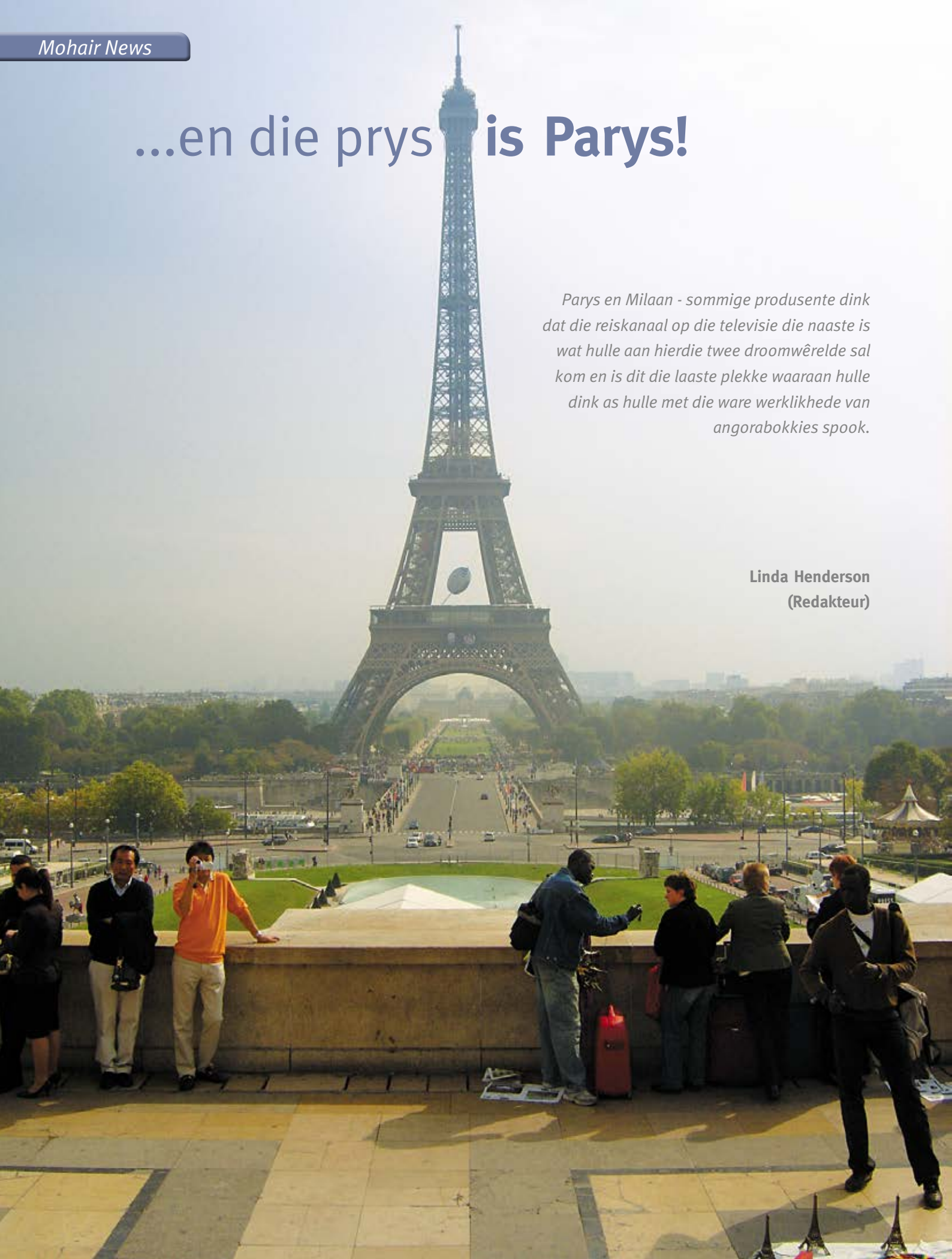
It is possible to order your specific size, cut and colour from a vast range of products over the internet.

The first and last impression that one has of this company is that dedication, perseverance and focus on their field of expertise and investment in human skills and technology has placed them in a superior category of excellence. The South African mohair industry should be proud to be associated with them. ■

...en die prys is Parys!

Parys en Milaan - sommige produsente dink dat die reiskanaal op die televisie die naaste is wat hulle aan hierdie twee droomwêrelde sal kom en is dit die laaste plekke waaraan hulle dink as hulle met die ware werklikhede van angorabokkies spook.

Linda Henderson
(Redakteur)



Maar dan 'n op dag, glimlag die gode vir hulle en vind hulle hulle name op die lys van tien finaliste wat die beste baal kleinbokkiehaar ter wêreld lewer.

En wanneer hulle die glimlagte op hulle gades se gesigte sien as hulle die trappies van die Boeing klim, besef hulle opnuut: Bokkie, al is jou stertjie soms baie kort is dit die moeite werd om styf daaraan vas te klou !

Die top vyf Zegna-finaliste van 2006 en 2007 is saam met hulle gades na Europa genooi om die gesogte prys persoonlik te ontvang en ek was bevoorreg om dit saam met hulle te kon mee te maak.

Wat die reis met die sybokhaarfamilie meer besonders gemaak het, was die wete dat die Rugby Wêreldbekertoernooi in Parys in volle swang was en wie sou kon dink dat ons 'n Springbokwedstryd in die skadu van die Eiffeltoring sou besigtig!

Die opgewonde klomp het op 19 September die poorte van die land deur die Oliver Tambo lughawe verlaat en na 'n moeisame vlug Parys in die vroeë oggendure begroet.

Die opgewondenheid was tasbaar en dié wat hulle bene wou rek het die strate na Mont Marte en die kunstenaars-domein geneem terwyl die res na Première Vision, 'n baie groot tekstielhandelskou, vertrek het.

Hierdie skou is eie aan sy soort en trek nagenoeg seshonderd wewers van een honderd-en-sestig lande wat daar uitstal. Toe ek by die ingang van hierdie massiewe uitstal doolhof staan en tot die besef kom dat sybokhaar minder as 'n half persent van vesel wat deur die wêreld gebruik word verteenwoordig, het ek gedink dat ek die spreekwoordelike naald in die hoorn moet soek. Die skou betrek die hele wye tekstielmark en dit was 'n fees vir die oog en een middag was veels te min tyd om al die verleidelikheid te verwerk!

Ek het by 'n paar wewers uitgekom wat sybokhaar manspakkemateriaal weef. Sybokhaar word meestal vir somergewig materiaal gebruik en die gehalte was uitstekend. Daar was groot opgewondenheid toe ons die Camdeboo sybokhaarstof wat vir die Dunhill baadjie asook die materiale wat deur Cape Mohair vir 'n maatskappy in Skotland, Lochcarron, gewef word, opgespoor het. Die wewers kon nie uitgepraat raak oor die prima gehalte sybokhaar wat Suid-Afrika lewer nie.

Dit blyk tog dat die modetendens vir hierdie seisoen beslis sterk neig na wol en kasjmier. Hierdie neiging was in elke groot winkel in die hoofstede waar ons besoek afgelê het, te bespeur.

Parys is 'n smeulende ondervinding vir elke sintuig en deur middel van die vinnige huurmotors, doeltreffende Metro en baie moeë bene het ons veel gesien en beleef.

Die gees in die groep was uitstekend en ons het die voordeel van die ondervinding van sommige van die 'old timers' gehad wat tot die feestelike gemoed van die toer bygedra het. Daar is onomwonde besluit dat Billy Colborne seker gestalte gegee het aan die begrip Billy Goat, want waar hy hom begewe het, was daar aksie. Billy is 'n ware seun van die Karoo en het gasvryheid en mensliewendheid met moedersmelk ingekry, dus het hy dit sy plig beskou om met elke persoon van kleur op die metro te kommunikeer. Hy wou in sy ernstige onskuld weet hoe dit met die persoon so ver van sy huis gaan en of hy Afrika net so veel mis soos hy. Sonder uitsondering is daar in krom gebare en met skewe Engels gekommunikeer en



*Bo: Dis nog vroeg in die dag en die bene weet nie van die 288 trappe tot bo in the Arc de Triomphe nie.
Middel: Hier het Pierre sy man teen die Mafia gestaan!
Onder: Voetseer en bankrot, maar dis Parys, en wie gee om?*



Clive, Irene, Pierre en Karien voor La Douma Katedraal in Milaan.



Rugby geesdrif by Rugbypark net langs die Eiffel Toring.

Ons maaltye het soms die voorkoms van 'n nagmaaltafel gehad soos vriende disse geproe en aangestuur het vir ander om te geniet.

dikwels was die reis vir altwee vreemdelinge net te kort.

Die groep het die tweede dag in Parys benut om die wêreld wyer te bespied. Dit was die moeite werd om die tweehonderd-en-tagtig trappe van die Arc de Triomphe te klim om Parys uit die lug te sien. Hierdie ou dame van styl en karakter is beplan in 'n era toe spasie nie 'n premium was nie en om die twaalf rylane wat om die monument inmekaarvleg te besigtig was iets unieks. Om te sien hoe hierdie menigte voertuie om die monument maal sonder enige verkeersbane of verkeersbeamptes met geen ongelukke nie, was vir die Suid-Afrikaners 'n wonderwerk, want hier in Afrika, eisch!

En toe was dit die geleentheid waaroor elke vrou droom- 'n wandeling deur die Champs Elysées in die geselskap van Gucci, Armani, Anna Klein, Guerlain en die ander gode van die modewêreld. Gelukkig het die swak wisselkoers en die beperking op bagasieruimte die vrouens nugter gehou en het dit die geleentheid beperk tot 'n fees vir die oog en die meeste mans kon met groot verligting hulle beursies toe hou, maar by die Guerlain parfumerie het daar 'n paar kredietkaarte seer gekry en 'n mens het die gevoel gekry dat daar opgehoopte huweliksskuld by die winkel skoongevee is!

Die mode in Parys is altyd 'n inspirasie en hierdie jaar is dit die kort pikante winterjassies met die groot knope en die vergrote krae wat die aandag getrek het. Dit wil lyk asof die jare veertig weer die mode inspireer omdat die twee-kleur skoene met die bandjies om die voet, Chanel pakkies en elegante tog, strak lyne baie opsigtelik was. Dit het gevoel asof Greta Garbo of Coco Chanel enige oomblik uit 'n winkel gestap sou kom.

En wat 'n verligting was dit nie om geen verveelde mans in die geselskap te hê nie! Daar was meer as genoeg jong Franse mode in die vlees en op straat waaraan hulle hulself kon verlustig!

Parys in twee dae is net te kort. Daar is soveel sintuie om te bevredig en ek vermoed dat die tong die meeste getrekteer is op hierdie tog. Dit sou 'n skreiende skande wees om nie die gastronomie van die gasheerland te beproef nie. Dit was koud en wat is beter om die koue te verdryf as 'n glas opregte sjokolade van 'n egte Franse chocolaterie en 'n kraakvars appel croissant wat jy sommer so op straat kan koop.

Na 'n vermoënde dag van winkellykery en wenskopery het ons die geleentheid benut om die Franse kokke se vernuf te toets. Genadiglik was Clive se suster, wat Frans goed magtig is, altyd byderhand om die spyskaart te ontsyfer. Oor die algemeen was ek trots op die Suid-Afrikaanse waagmoed om nuwe smake te trotseer liever as om by die bekende te bly. Tog was daar min wat die bekende foi gras wou eet toe daar in goeie Afrikaans verduidelik is dat dit eindelijk gebarste ganslewer is, wat sy oorsprong het in 'n gans wat sy lewer skenk as hy van oorgewig sterf! Ons maaltye het soms die voorkoms van 'n nagmaaltafel gehad soos vriende disse geproe en aangestuur het vir ander om te geniet. Die Franse is meesters in die kombuis en daarvan kan ons getuig na aanleiding van die scallops, sorbets, souffles, cassoulets en menigte glase wyn wat hulle pad verby ons lippe gevind het. Ek het selfs deur my onkunde en swak interpretasie van Frans, Tuna tartar bestel, geëet en eers later besef dat dit die rou visdis is wat die Franse



Daar is geëet en geëet...



Op pad om die Zegna Prys te gaan haal.

meer bekend maak as hulle parfuim. Die patisseries wat op elke hoek hulle pragtige fyngebak uitstal was 'n marteling vir die siel en 'n groot inspirasie vir die spyseniers op die toer. Die kos in Parys is heerlik en redelik goedkoop en miskien is dit maar 'n bedekte seën dat ons net twee dae vertoef het, anders sou party van ons oorgewig op die vliegtuig moes betaal!

Maar soos ek gesê het, Parys is oor veel meer as kos en mode. Daar was genoeg geleentheid om die pragtige klassieke argitektuur van hierdie sjarmante stad te besigtig op 'n oopkap bustoer en 'n vaart op die Seine en so tussen die eet en loer is daar besoek afgelê aan die Notre Dame, Place de la Concorde, Tuine van Tuileries, Grand Palais, die Louvre, die Eiffeltoring en 'n menigte ander klassieke geboue. Vir 'n oomblik kon ons die vaal Karoo afskud en ons in die romanse van die Europese leefstyl indink.

En toe kom die groot oomblik vir die mans. Dis rugbytyd in Parys en die Springbokke speel teen Tonga. Orals in die strate en in die Metro loop ondersteuners in hul land se kleure rond. Die rugbygees is tasbaar en die opwinding groot en daar heers 'n gemoedelike gees in die hoofstad van die Hane. Die kaartjies by die stadion is te duur, maar daar is plek by die Eiffeltoring se Rugby Park. Soos een man vertrek ons op die Metro om die Bokke te ondersteun. In die vroeë stadions van die toernooi is die sentimente ten gunste van die kleiner nasies en ons groepie Bokondersteuners moes uithaal en wys om ons span te ondersteun. Na 'n paar benoude oomblikke en met die nodige medisinale Castle lager teenvoeter het 'n trotse en verligte nasie hul pad na die hotel teruggevind. Die laaste plesier van Parys was 'n vaart op die Seine op 'n baggerboot. Vir die meeste van hierdie Karoo boere was die wonder van die massa water

Parys is oor veel meer as kos en mode

en die besproeiingsmoontlikhede seker van groter belang as die grootsheid van die argitektuur (lees die storie Overheard between Paris and Willowmore) Die wêreld het so perfek gelyk. Skemer op die Seine met die liggies van Parys in die agtergrond en die maan wat soos 'n perfekte sekel langs die Eiffeltoring wag hou oor die pragtige stad van romanse!

Die volgende been van die toer was Milaan, die hoofstad van styl, waar die Zegna-groep ons gashere was. Na 'n lui warm Sondagmiddag op die plaza langs die imposante La Douma gotiese katedraal en 'n wandeling deur die pragtige Milaan Galleria winkelsentrum, is ons op 'n besonder gasvrye manier deur Zegna onthaal by 'n eg tradisionele Italiaanse restaurant. Die aand het op 'n humoristiese noot geëindig toe

Pierre Strydom 'n oneerlike taxibestuurder die leviëte voorgelees het omdat hy een groep met 'n paar Euros verkul het. Met manhaftige Italiaanse drif en passie het hy Pierre uitgedaag om hom buite in die straat te ontmoet sodat hulle die saak daar kon beslis. 'n Besliste tragedie is voorkom, maar nie sonder manhaftige weerstand van Pierre nie. Dit is seker sulke moed wat ons die Rugby Wêreldbeker laat wen het, want dit het my later opgeval dat ons in die hoofstad van die Mafia beweeg het en 'n mens nooit weet hoe die hef daar in die hand steek nie. Pierre, ons was trots op jou!

Ons is die volgende dag na die Zegna-aanleg buite Trivero aan die voetheuwels van die Italiaanse Alpe. Die prentjiemooi gesig wat ons begroet het was asemrowend. By die mooi fabrieksaanleg is ons deur die elegante Matteo Loro, hoof van veselaankope, ontmoet en op 'n begeleide toer deur die fabriek geneem. (Sien artikel elders in Blad).

Daar is geen twyfel in my gemoed nie dat hierdie ware



Die water en die windpomp van Parys.

vakmanne is, wat meesters is op die gebied van veselverwerking. Die materiale is verleidelik, mode-en gehaltegedrewe en beslis van die hoogste wêreldgehalte.

Dit het my opnuut laat besef dat dit jare se ondervinding, ure se toewyding en 'n groot belegging in tegnologie verys om een kilogram sybokhaar in 'n produk van hoogstaande gehalte te omskep. Daar is nie 'n kortpad na sukses nie en dit is jammer dat meer produsente nie die blootstelling aan hierdie ervaring kan hê nie. Dit sal die frustrasies en wantroue wat soms in die bedryf bestaan in perspektief plaas. Om met sybokhaar te werk is 'n hoogs gespesialiseerde proses en daar moet begrip daarvoor wees.

Na die toer is ons na die pragtige Switserse restaurant bo in die Alpe waar die oorhandiging aan die prysweners geskied het.

Na 'n kort besoek aan hulle nuwe argief en Zegna-winkel, waar die laaste paar Euros geblaas is, het ons weer na Milaan verhuis.

Dit was 'n wonderlike toer wat 'n beloning op baie harde werk is. Produsente behoort aangemoedig te word om aan die kompetisies deel te neem en om die vrugte van hul harde werk te pluk.

Dit het my opnuut laat besef watter spesiale produkte die sybokhaarboere en hulle diere is. Op 'n toer waar pryse onder die toerlede in 'n gemoedelike gees vir goeie en swak gedrag oorhandig is, behoort daar ook 'n prys vir uithouvermoë te wees vir diegene wat ten spyte van die uitdagings van die bedryf, voortgaan om vesels van wêreldgehalte te lewer. ■



A Texan's view of things

The annual angora ram tour was a very educational, very enjoyable experience for me. Over the years I have heard so much about the South African goats and their breeders and it was well worth the effort to experience it first hand.

Over the years I've discovered that no matter where you go, be it down the road to visit a neighbor or cross country to another state or half way around the world to a foreign land, there are good people to be found. That was certainly the case in South Africa.

More importantly over the years I've discovered that every individual has something to offer, a lesson to be learned or just an experience to share. The people of the land in South Africa have that same tough, resilient, die-hard spirit that my goat rancher friends in Texas have. It was as if the two worlds weren't separated at all by vast stretches of oceans. The only thing that reminded me that I was half way around the world was when the farmers talked in their native Afrikaans.

The mohair industry worldwide has been through some tumultuous times in recent years. While the South African industry still has its challenges, it appeared to me that the industry that has emerged is perhaps stronger and more unified than ever before. That's definitely a positive from my perspective. There also seems to be a sense, a desire to work closer with other mohair producing countries. I think the exchanges and interaction between Mohair South Africa and the Mohair Council of America that have taken place over the last two years is progress, and I hope that will continue.

Young people are the future. Perhaps the greatest aspect, certainly one of the most refreshing and the one thing that gave me the most hope for the industry, was the number of young, dedicated, enthusiastic Angora goat producers that participated in

Colleen Schreiber, a visiting journalist from Texas, who writes extensively for LIVESTOCK WEEKLY, a Texas magazine, accompanied the producers on their annual ram viewing tour and shares some of her impressions.



Rambreeding requires deep thought!



Prospective buyers inspecting the quality and conformation of rams on offer.

the two-day tour. I realize that your goat numbers have dropped precipitously as have the number of farmers, but it was evident that there are still young farmers staying in the business or coming back to the family farm.

Sadly that is not happening in America, certainly not to any great extent. I estimate the average age of our Angora goat producers to be 50 to 60. This trend, however, is not exclusive to the mohair industry; it is a trend that is occurring throughout all of agriculture.

I learned that while the heart of the mohair industry is still in the Eastern Cape there has been a shift to the west. Likewise in Texas there has not only been a shift but a noticeable shrinking of what was once prime Angora goat country and the reasons that its happening are the very same reasons as I heard in South Africa - namely predators, a shift in land use, and labor.

The blackback jackal is very similar to our coyote, but we also battle, bobcats, foxes, wild hogs and eagles.

In Texas many producers find game ranching far more profitable than any sheep or goat operation and certainly less work. During the high-tech boom of the

1990s many of those multi-millionaires invested their profits in land.

From what I gathered a similar scenario is taking place in South Africa. Another of the Aberdeen farmers talked about how the influx of game ranches has inflated the value of the land which in turn makes it that much harder for farmers to compete.

The same is true here. The price is not based on the number of animal units the country can carry, but rather it's based on aesthetic value and wildlife habitat.

One of the take home messages from that discussion came from another comment: "If I take my Angora goats out of the equation and buy more Merinos, I'm not going to make the same amount of money because the goats utilize a piece of my veld that the Merinos don't use."

The other take home point repeated by several farmers was that if they didn't raise a lamb from their Boer goats or their Dorpers they had nothing. That's a message definitely worth repeating to our farmers.

It seemed that your shearing cost at R2.10 is a fraction of the \$3-5 that we pay, but I realize that one can't really compare the two because our economies, the cost of

living, parity, if you will, are so different.

In the end everything circles right back to economics. Admittedly over the last few years the mohair market has been relatively stable and relatively profitable. However, several growers commented that R60-70 for mohair isn't really enough to encourage farmers to swap to Angoras. As for the Texas industry, the prices that producers have received for their last few clips seems for now to have stopped the bleeding in that goat numbers, an estimated 200,000 head, seem to be stabilizing.

Grower after grower commented to me that one of their biggest challenges is in raising a good kid crop. Those who focus a lot of effort on reproduction can achieve an 80 to 100 percent kid crop.

In general though, I was surprised to learn that the average weaning percentage across the board in South Africa was 60 percent and that this figure is expected to be off this coming season by as much as 20 percent due to the drought.

Though the average number surprised me some in reality it's no different than the Texas number. The big difference is that in Texas, very little extra care is taken during kidding and for most ranchers it's

It was also evident to me that the South African clip had much more style and character than the Texan clip

Young people are the future. Perhaps the greatest aspect, certainly one of the most refreshing and the one thing that gave me the most hope for the industry, was the number of young, dedicated, enthusiastic Angora goat producers that participated in the two-day tour.

a labor issue. That said there are some who work harder at it and therefore have greater success.

I enjoyed the bus tour immensely not only because it gave me a chance to interact with a wide variety of farmers, but also because it gave me a chance to see a broad swath of South Africa's prime angora goat country. I was surprised at how similar many parts of the Eastern Cape looked to parts of West Texas. The thorny scrub bushes, particularly the acacias that were so prevalent were very similar to some of those found in parts of South Texas and Southwest Texas.

It was evident to me that the South African native range with its highly palatable, highly nutritious scrub brush beats the native Texas range hands down. Though the drought has had an impact it was clear that supplementation is not typical in an average year. I was surprised when one producer said he normally only has to supplement one out of every six years. That's definitely

unheard of in Texas. Our goats have to be supplemented at least through the winter months, sometimes longer depending on the conditions. Rising feed costs due to the ethanol boom isn't playing out well either for Texas producers.

I found the discussions about the veld ram project particularly interesting. For many years some breeders here have participated in the Texas A & M Angora Goat Central Performance Test. The primary difference between this system and the veld project is that our test is done in a feedlot situation.

Though this centralized performance testing system has proven merit, participation by breeders has fallen in recent years. At least one of the reasons for the decline is that some of the producers are of the opinion that the kind of animal being tested is not the kind of animal that should be perpetuating the breed. Specifically the animals on test, some say, are not the kind of animal that is best suited to the environment.

It seemed to me that more of the South Africans were particularly cognizant, perhaps more so than in the past, of the importance of producing an animal that is best suited to their particular circumstances, their needs and more important the native range environment. It was also clear that this shift in thinking was demand driven from the commercial producers. And, it seemed clear to me that the breeders were receiving the message loud and clear.

"When mohair was booming, farmers focused on producing as much mohair as possible," one breeder explained. "Then through the decade of the 1990s the focus was primarily on moving towards a finer clip. In the process, however, length suffered as did overall body size. We moved away from the bigger, robust type animal, but now we seem to be coming back to producing an animal that is more adapted to its environment."

Ray Hobson, President of the Angora Ram Breeders, explained that they strive for a veld-type animal, with good conformation. They want a good strong head, good legs and then length of body, which goes with conformation. Conformation is reproduction and reproduction is the biggest financial or economic factor," At the same time they should not carry too much hair and be in the right micron range.

I found it interesting how breeders selected different types of rams for the fed sales and another type for the veld project. I also found it interesting that breeders selected a certain type of ram for a particular sale. I learned that the Graaff-Reinet fed ram sale was typically



Some rams drew more attention than others.



Clive van Hasselt shares his views about his goats.



Rams ready for inspection.

were the finer rams were sold while the Somerset East fed sale tended to have bigger, robust rams with slightly stronger (coarser), more open fleeces. It made sense after it was explained to me that it was all about selecting an animal according to where one farms.

Some commercial producers talked about the importance of balance and constitution.

“A goat can grow beautiful hair, but if it’s small it doesn’t have constitution and constitution is everything in reproduction. The focus is on bigger goats, less hair and more kids.”

Comparatively in Texas growers, some more so than others, understand that if too much emphasis is placed on growing hair, reproductive performance suffers. And while our producers recognize the importance of growth, they also understand that it’s critical not to carry growth to the extreme.

It seemed clear to me that there was a definite shift, and again it was demand driven by the producers, to move away from the fed ram system towards the veld ram system. Why? The consensus seemed to be that the veld rams are proven under natural conditions without a lot of fluff and pampering.

One of the new breeders stressed “farmers want to see a ram’s true potential. That true potential mustn’t be disguised. I want to see what that animal can produce

under natural farming conditions.”

As for my impressions of the goats themselves I’ll be the first to say I am definitely not an expert, I can’t even say I’m well schooled. However, it was clear to me that a great deal of emphasis has been placed on lock length. It was also evident to me that the South African clip had much greater style and character than the Texas clip.

Conformation is reproduction and reproduction is the biggest financial or economic factor

I was surprised to learn, however, that the South African clip is considerably coarser than the Texas clip though in doing so length suffers. The lesson I took away was that each clip has attributes in which it excels and those attributes aren’t necessarily the same.

One of the field officers commented that South African growers have made tremendous strides in terms of fleece quality over the last 15 to 20 years. In particular he pointed to the uniformity of the fleece.

I found the discussion and interchange between buyers and growers very interesting. The buyers seemed pleased overall with the direction that growers appeared to be heading with their breeding programs. The buyers seemed

particularly pleased with the attention that breeders seemed to be paying to lock length while they emphasized the important role of fineness.

My ears pricked up when one of the buyers commented that the short kid crop could very well impact kid prices in the coming season. One of the buyers emphasized that “last year was a bloody good clip throughout. If this one is as

good, expect price to go up, but if length is different then we have a different scenario,” he warned.

The discussion about the mixing and blending of fine adult and young goat also interested me. The buyers insisted that while the micron may be the same, the handle is different thus they seemed to be discouraging blending of the two. I also found the discussion about the EGT system interesting. It seemed to be beneficial to the producers though the buyers seemed to use it more as a guide if at all.

Overall I would say that I came away with a feeling of optimism and hope for the future.

Come see us in Texas! ■



Amptelike Ramveilings 2007/2008

Official Ram Sales 2007/2008

The continuous drought at the time of the sales undoubtedly had an impact on demand and prices. Prices attained at the official sales were 11,70% lower than the previous year, whilst the veldram sales fared somewhat better with only a slight decrease in year on year price.

The highest prices realized were as follows:

Somerset East:

Highest Price: R25 000
Buyer: Francois Michau, Cradock
Seller: Zwartberg Angoras, Prince Albert

Graaff-Reinet:

Highest Price: R30 000
Buyer: George Stegmann, Willowmore
Seller: Gannahoek Angoras, Prince Albert

Willowmore:

Highest Price: R30 000
Buyer: Vleikuil Boerdery, Rietbron & IR Bekker, De Rust
Seller: Van Hasselt Farming cc, Prince Albert

Graaff-Reinet:

Highest Price: R21 000
Buyer: AC Fitzhenry & PM Broeksma, Aberdeen
Seller: JH Lategan, Aberdeen

Jansenville:

Highest Price: R31 000
Buyer: Shangrilla Farming Graaff-Reinet
Seller: Van Hasselt Farming cc, Prince Albert

Summary of Sales – Samevatting van die veilings

Sale Veiling	Rams Offered/ Ramme Aangebied		Rams Sold Ramme Verkoop		Average Price (R) Gemiddelde Prys (R)	
	2006/07	2007/08	2006/07	2007/08	2006/07	2007/08
Somerset East/Oos	127	133	124	130	4464	4196
Graaff-Reinet	124	134	122	104	4350	3558
Graaff-Reinet	76	84	73	71	3699	3091
Willowmore	104	94	99	85	3260	3408
Jansenville	94	59	93	54	3825	3718

The Angora Ram Breeders are again congratulated with the outstanding quality of breeding material they offer to the SA Mohair Industry.



Amptelike Ramveilings 2007/2008

Official Ram Sales 2007/2008



Somerset East

Clive van Haasselt (seller), Francois Michau and son (buyer) and Cassie Cartens (CMW).



Graaff-Reinet

Michael and George Stegman (buyers), Clive van Hasselt (seller), Abraham McDonald (handler) and Cassie Carstens (CMW).



Willowmore

Clive van Hasselt (seller), Barries Snijman (buyer), Cassie Carstens (CMW) and Rothner Beckei (buyer).



Graaff-Reinet

Paul Broeksma (buyer), JH Lategan (seller), Charles Fitzhenry (buyer) en Justin Coetzee (CMW).



Jansenville

From left: Brandon Leer (CMW Auctioneer), Cassie Carstens (CMW), Clive van Hasselt (seller) and Petrie Marê (CMW). The buyers were Francois Michau and Denys Hobson.

Babes and Bears frolic in mohair



Teddy bears have been the source of comfort for children for many years and they have inspired several children's stories. Most children have owned one, several remember cutting their teeth on them, and some have refused to go to bed without them while others used them as surrogate friends or family. Teddy bears and their antics seem to be a part of growing up and will find the same place in the annals of history as Father Xmas and the tooth fairy.

Linda Henderson

Less known is the fact that the first jointed teddy bear was made from mohair and was designed by Richard Steiff, a German, in 1902.

The teddy bear owes its name to the company founder, Reinhard Schulte, who produced the plush mohair fabric for the first bear. Schulte Mohair is a German company that produces plush mohair for the toy, clothing and home textile trade. Their main focus is mohair although they also use alpaca for certain ranges.

The company is situated in Duisberg and the entire production process takes place on its own premises. Schulte is

one of a few companies in the world to have its own weaving mill, dye shop and all the facilities required to manufacture its products under one roof. The mohair yarn is supplied by spinning mills in England and France and the intricate weaving and finishing processes take place in Duisberg.

This company has mastered the art of perfecting plush fabric. Producing this intricate cloth requires specialist knowledge and entails several dyeing and washing processes in dyes, that are guaranteed free of formaldehyde, are colour and saliva fast, which means that they are completely safe for the hands and mouths of children and babies. Once the fabric has been woven and dyed to the desired colour, the highly

intensive precision work begins to give the material its final touch. It undergoes more than twenty different finishing processes before earning the title “Original Schulte Mohair.”

The challenge of creating a really good mohair plush is therefore found in the finishing. The fabric is ironed - to make it supple, cropped - to make sure all the fibres are the same length, napped - to open the fibre, dried, batted and dressed to ensure that teddy keeps his coat even when he gets older, stretched or dampened. Machines have also been built to accommodate special surface structures such as wrinkling, ratinée, tipping, wave and whirl effects. Schulte ensures that teddy bears stay in fashion and is very aware of the latest trends among the youth and bears have been produced in the most exotic colours and finishes to ensure that they retain their charm for children across the ages.



The fur pile fabric can be put to versatile use in interior decoration

But the company is about far more than teddy bears. Their plush fabric is also used for interiors and is applied as soft upholstery on beds (throws) and is equally suitable for upholstering chairs or couches in modern as well as traditional applications.

The fabric can be put to versatile use in the interior decoration of a private jet, yacht or that special motorcar. Whether the interior decoration or upholstery is completely covered with a fur or only individual accents in the form of cushions or wall coverings the incomparable character of their handcrafted furs create an atmosphere of luxury and elegance.

The company is also active in the male and female fashion industry and regularly exhibit at the various European fashion shows such as Prada. The fur pile fabric carries ecological approval since it does not threaten the extinction of a species and is widely used as a surrogate for good quality fur. ■

Contact details for Schulte Mohair
websites: www.schulte-mohair.de
www.schulte-fabrics.com
email: service@schulte-mohair.de

Somerset-Oos: 21 Februarie 2008 Sybokhaarbemarkingsdag

Linda Henderson

Die kraaie het gegaap en die mense het gesug oor die hitte, maar die bokke het hulle beste voete voor gesit tydens die nasionale sybokhaarbemarkingsdag wat Aksie Angora in Somerset-Oos aangebied het.

Ten spyte van die feit dat menige boere besig was met hulle somerskeurdery, is die dag goed ondersteun. Die oggend is in beslag geneem deur die kudde- en vagkompetisie beoordeling en selfs die nuwe geslag bokboere het hulle kans gekry.

Na goeie voorligting deur Clive van Hasselt en sy helpers, het die skoolkinders hulle slag gewys met die beoordeling van die diere en die tipering van hulle vagte. Dit was verfrissend om die ondersteuning van die omliggende skole soos Gill, Aeroville, Winterberg en Adelaide te sien en dit het my vrouehart goed gedoen om te sien dat die algehele wenner van die skole kategorie 'n dogter was! Baie geluk aan Louzel Lombard, dogter van Wentzel Lombard, wat die seuns uitgestof het in die individuele beoordeling.

Na 'n smaaklike middagete, wat deur die plaaslike VLV vir die mans aangebied is, het die middagprogram gestalte gekry. Gelukkig kon die dames die koel en pragtige lushof van mev Vega Van Niekerk se gastehuis opsoek om lafenis van die hitte te kry en is hulle trakteer op 'n Mediterreense Mezze Platter wat op stylvolle wyse vir middagete voorgesit is.

Links: Die egte Suid-Afrikaanse sybokhaarpak van Pure Cape wat by uitgesoekte takke van Woolworths beskikbaar sal wees.

Onder links: Prof. Piet Swart kyk hoe Johan Lategan en Weber die mikronne skat.

Onder regs: Die kampioen sybokhaarvag het aan Piet Viljoen van Kleinpoort behoort.





Studiegroep Bevindings

Dr Antonie Geyer, spesialis navorsers in Landbou-Ekonomie aan die Grootfontein Landbou-ontwikkelingsinstituut, het die ekonomiese uitdagings in angorabokboerdery bespreek.

Die totale skeerselsamestelling vir die 2007-seisoen het bestaan uit sterk grootbokke (29%), fyn grootbokke (31%), jongbokke (20%) en kleinbökkies (20%). Die kleinbökkiehaar het 33% bygedra tot die skeerselinkomste, gevolg deur fyn grootbokhaar (25%), sterk grootbokhaar (22%) en jongbokhaar (20%).

Dr Geyer het ook die effek van fynheid, lengte en styl-en-karakter op die prys beklemtoon. Interessant om te kon sien dat daar 'n 20.46% verskil was in die prys van fyn- en superfyn jongbokhaar. Ook was daar 'n 20.54% verskil in die prys van fyn- en sterk jongbokhaar.

Dr Geyer het die aspekte van algemene bestuur, produksie en reproduksie sterk benadruk. Die gemiddelde sybokhaarproduksie per bok per jaar vir 2005/2006 studiegroepede was 2.64 kg. Die 2006/7 produksiesyfers vir Klipplaat is 2.94 kg met Rietbron op 3.08 kg. Hy het gevoel die syfers is te laag. Die hele aspek van reproduksie is in detail aangespreek. Die gemiddelde lampersentasie vir 2005/6 was 78.68%. Die 2007-lampersentasie vir Rietbron is 78.11% en Klipplaat 79.55%. Dr Geyer het dit baie duidelik gestel dat die lampersentasies te laag is. Daar sal meer aandag aan die voorbereiding van die ramme en die ooië gegee moet word voor paring. Indien na die reproduksiedoeltreffendheid gekyk word, is 'n lae lampersentasie die oorsaak van 'n nog laer speenpersentasie (68.21%). Dit gaan dus hier oor die aantal lammers gespeen teenoor die aantal ooië gepaar. Indien die bestuursvermoë van die boere beoordeel word is dit 'n ander prentjie. Die speenpersentasie is 86.25 % indien die aantal lammers gespeen gemeet word in verhouding met die aantal lammers gebore.

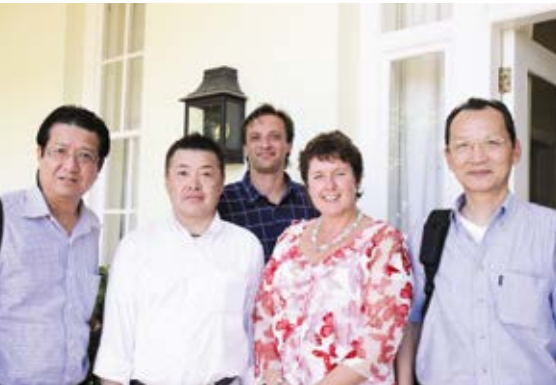
Dr Geyer het die feit beklemtoon dat daar met aangepaste diere geboer moet word. Hy het voorts gesê dat die inkomste van sybokhaar en vleis se verhouding in die orde van 70% sybokhaar en 30% vleis is. Dit is belangrik dat daarop gelet word dat die produkinkomste betekenisvol aangevul moet word deur die handelstekorte. Die ideaal sou dus 'n groter, robuuste tipe bok wees met genetiese fyn haar, baie goeie stapellengte, soliede stapels met goeie styl en karakter.

DNA mutasie verantwoordelik vir kouevrektes

Dr Piet Swart, van die Universiteit Stellenbosch, het die gehoor gaande gehad met die verduideliking waarom die angorabok vir temperatuurfluktuasies gevoelig is. Dit blyk dat mnr Tino Herselman, huidige direkteur van die Grootfontein Landbou-ontwikkelingsinstituut (GADI), die departement Biochemie op Stellenbosch ongeveer veertien jaar gelede genader het om die onvermoë van die angorabok om koue stres te hanteer te ondersoek. Mnr Herselman se navorsing het op daardie stadium gedui dat 'n bynier disfunksie van die bokke die probleem veroorsaak.



*Bo: Barend de Klerk wys sy slag met die beoordeling.
Middel: Clive van Hasselt dra sy kennis aan die jonger geslag oor.
Onder: Louzel Lombard het die studente prys gewen vir die beste individuele beoordeling van die bokke.*



Bo: Vnr: mnre Aki Ogura van Argo International, Katsuhito Nakamura van Hanibishi, Mitsumasa Hashimoto van Hashimoto Mills in Japan. Saam met hulle is mev. Jackie Gant en mnr. Deon Saayman van SSA.

Onder: Somerset House, die gastehuis van mev. Vega van Niekerk was 'n la fenis vir die siel.

Na 'n ondersoek van die angora se meganisme van streshantering, het hulle tot die slotsom gekom dat:

1. Die angorabok se produksie van die belangrike bynierhormoon, kortisol, aansienlik laer was onder strestoestande as in die boerbok en die merinoskaap. Hierdie hormoon, wat onder verhoogde strestoestande afgeskei word, is noodsaaklik vir energieproduksie in die dier tydens erge kouetoestande.
2. Die angorabynier produseer eerder geslaghormoonvoorlopers as kortisol, en is dit die onderliggende probleem t.o.v. lae kortisolvlakke.

Hulle kon na aanleiding van hierdie resultate toe 'n ensiem in die angorabynier identifiseer wat anders funksioneer as by ander kleinveetipes. Hierdie ensiem, CYP 17, speel 'n sleutelrol in die vervaardiging van kortisol in alle soogdiere en is vervolgens verder ondersoek. Ensieme is proteïene en vir elke ensiem is daar 'n geen wat die boodskap kodeer vir die sintese/saamstelling van die ensiem wat dit in staat stel om spesifieke chemiese reaksies teen spesifieke tempo's in die liggaam te laat plaasvind. 'n Fout of mutasie in 'n geen (mutante geen), kan tot gevolg hê dat die ensiem wat dit kodeer nie meer korrek funksioneer nie. Die vraag wat ontstaan het, was: Is daar 'n mutasie in die angorabok se CYP17-geen wat die abnormale steroïedproduksie in die bynier kan verklaar?

Die DNA (geen) wat vir die angora CYP17 kodeer is geïsoleer en ontleed en hulle kon inderdaad aantoon dat daar afwykings in die angora CYP17-geen voorkom en dat daar minstens twee gene (A+ en A-) is wat vir hierdie belangrike ensiem kodeer. Dit was 'n rare ontdekking omdat daar nog nooit vantevore in enige dier meer as een CYP17-geen aangetoon is nie. Verdere ondersoeke van 'n groot aantal verskillende bokke het getoon dat 'n aantal bokke slegs die A-geen het terwyl 'n hele aantal die A+ en die A-geen het. Dit het toe duidelik geword dat bokke met slegs die A-geen beduidend minder kortisolproduseer as bokke met die A-A+ kombinasie. Hulle kon ook aantoon dat die boerbok dieselfde A+A- kombinasie van die CYP17-geen besit.

Aangesien die A+A- diere meer kortisolproduseer sal hulle in die toekoms probeer om, met 'n genetiese toets wat hulle ontwikkel het, vir hierdie diere te selekteer om te sien of hulle beduidend meer gehard is as die A-diere wat minder kortisol produseer.

Panel Discussion:

Panel members: Ray Hobson, Piet Vivier and Kobus de Klerk

The audience was encouraged to comment and debate on factors influencing the current state of affairs in the industry as pertains the breeding direction of Angora goats and the question was asked whether the industry had become over concerned about micron to the detriment of other very important breed characteristics.

The following concerns were discussed:

- Although there were prescribed breed standards, the market demand in the early 1980s seemed to encourage the breeding of big, strong goats with neck folds and clearly distinguishable britches and necklines. The mohair

Mnr Herselman se navorsing het op daardie stadium gedui dat 'n bynier disfunksie van die bokke die probleem van koue vrektes veroorsaak



The question was poised whether it is not possible to gravitate towards breeding a large framed goat with less mohair of finer micron

was stronger and the yield per animal was more. The goats seemed more robust and more adaptable.

- During the latter part of the 1990s, the market seemed to demand finer mohair with lower micron counts and a swing towards micron reduction seemed to grip the industry. The result of this policy was an animal with finer mohair with lower micron counts and an evenly distributed fleece appearance. The increased price for the finer mohair seemed to compensate for the decrease in fleece weight that resulted from this shift in policy. It would appear that the goats were also less hardy and possibly less fertile.
- The discussions centered on the shift in emphasis of the breed direction. It was pointed out that the standards of the breed were still in place, but that the market was demanding finer mohair.
- These finer prototype goats led to a reduction in fleece weight.
- Producers suggested that the only way to accommodate this trend was to keep the flocks young so that a greater percentage of the clip consisted of young goat hair.
- The only way to achieve this was with very good reproduction statistics, which they suggested were the result of excellent management.
- The question was poised whether it is not possible to gravitate towards breeding a large framed goat with less mohair of finer micron. The importance of reproduction was emphasized again and it was felt that fertility and conformation should not be sacrificed for the sake of finer micron. An opinion was expressed that we should learn from the lessons of the past.

Die Dinee en Modeparade

Die dag se aktiwiteit is afgesluit met 'n semi-formele dinee wat in die Laerskool Gill se skoolsaal aangebied is. Ons was bevoorreg om gaste van Frankryk en Japan by ons in die gehoor te hê. Die verrigtinge het afgeskop met 'n vertoning deur Karen Ferreira van Idols faam en is opgevolg met die prysuitdeling van die Miyuki Trofee. Mnr Ashiako Ogura van Argo International het die prys aan die Ferreira-broers van Uniondale vir die elfde agtereenvolgende keer oorhandig. Daarna het Leandre Fourie weer haar sybokhaarmodeversameling van 2007 vertoon. 'n Hoogtepunt was die Dunhill baadjie wat van materiaal van Camdeboo sybokhaar gemaak is wat vir die eerste keer vertoon is. Hierdie pragtige suiwer kleinbokkiehaarbaadjie sal wêreldwyd in al die Dunhill boetieks te koop wees. Nog 'n nuweling op die loopplank was die sybokhaarpak van Cape Mohair wat in sekere Woolworths takke in die land te koop sal wees. Na nog 'n inspirerende vertoning van Karen Ferreira het die gaste hulle vol magies gevryf en tam huiswaarts beweeg na nog 'n suksesvolle dag tussen die sybokhaarfamilie.

Geluk aan Kobus de Klerk en sy span van Aksie Angora. Die harde werk het nie ongemerk verbygegaan nie. ■



Die Dunhill baadjie van Camdeboo Mohair.



mohair

focus on fashion

2009 is officially the year of the natural fibre and in anticipation, it seems that designers from Europe and abroad are flexing their creative muscles and the catwalks are abuzz with wool, cashmere and smaller quantities of mohair, often blended to satisfy consumer needs. Mohair fur pile seemed to be used extensively for trimming garments, as accessories or for coats and jackets. Knitted mohair garments with a very fine yarn count, often blended, seem to be making waves.

Autumn/winter 07/08 presented a tough style with decisive lines for the new woman, a dominatrix with a futuristic look, who does not compromise on her charismatic sex appeal.

Black and optical white, plaids and pinstripes, boucles and tweeds, oversized collars, large buttons and exaggerated buttonholes, inverted pleats and sculptured knee length coats and jackets were a special feature.

Stylists seemed optimistic that global warming will herald a return to natural fibres. Not only is the rising oil price putting pressure on manmade fibres, the swing to ecologically friendly fibres should herald a return to what can be harvested without harm to kith and kin.

What follows is a glimpse of some mohair and mohair rich fashion statements that were spotted on catwalks and magazines in the past season. Our grateful thanks to HARPER'S BAZAAR, RENDEVOUS and MADAME AIR FRANCE magazines where these fashions were spotted.

parigi
purple





focus on fashion



PRINGLE
OF SCOTLAND



focus on fashion



Ermenegildo Zegna Mohair Trophy 2007



From left to right: Paul Michau, GT Ferreira, Werner Ferreira, Andries Oelofse, Billy Colborne and Piet Viljoen.

ZEGNA PRIZE AWARD CEREMONY 2007

The Zegna Prize award ceremony took place just outside Treviso, in the Italian Alps, in a restaurant with breathtaking views of the Italian country side.

The result of the competition was:

1. **Snyberg Boerdery**
2. **F E Colborne and Sons**
3. **PH Viljoen**
4. **A Oelofse**
5. **PCL Michau**

RULES

1. Only summer kid mohair qualifies.
2. Bales must have a minimum weight of 90kg.
3. All entries must have a minimum average length of 100mm or more.
4. Officers of MSA will take random samples of 2kg each from producers' bales as recommended by brokers. These samples will be taken throughout the summer season.
5. Samples taken in this manner will be provided with a code number known only to officers of MSA.
6. The ten winning samples out of all the entries will be identified through a process of judging and objective measurement.
7. All samples will be kept by MSA.
8. Producers will be paid out on the original weight of the participating bale.
9. All qualifying bales must be delivered to brokers not later than 31 May of the particular season.
10. All competitors will be provided with their individual scores against a standardized scorecard and will be informed of the total points scored by the eventual winner.
11. The brokers are responsible for nominating participating bales in consultation with growers. MSA officers will be the final judges of whether nominations qualify for this competition.
12. A panel of judges consisting of three persons will judge all qualifying samples. (The three judges to be drawn from a panel of eight nominated by buyers and brokers)
13. The judges' decision will be final.
14. Judging will be done individually by judges and not in a group.
15. Definition of a "Broker" according to MSA Statute:
"Mohair Brokers, namely such associations, bodies or organizations, registered with the National Agricultural Marketing Council, as may, in the opinion of the other members of the Company, collectively comprise or represent those partners or businesses who carry on the business or buying and selling mohair, or who handle and facilitate mohair exports, or who facilitate trading or deal making in mohair".



Nasionale Vag- en Kuddekompetisie

Somerset-Oos: 21 Februarie 2008

Pryswenners: Nasionale Kuddekompetisie 2008



Mnr. Piet Viljoen van De Hannes Rust op Kleinpoort, het die Kampioengroep stoet kleinbokkie-ooie ingeskryf.



Die wenner van die Versorgde Groep Ooie was mnr. Leon Eybers van Rietbron. Saam met hom is mnr. Piet Vivier, bestuurder velddienste van CMW.



Mnr. Heinrich Bleuler van Georgida, Willowmore was die kampioen in die afdeling vir ooie wat onder veldtoestande aangehou is. Mnr. Sagrys Slabbert, Bestuurder Sybokhaarbevordering, van BKB het die prys aan hom oorhandig.

VERSORGDE GROEPE

1. L Eybers
2. W Truter

INDIVIDUELE OOIE

1. L Eybers
2. L Eybers

OOI BESTE VAG:

S du Preez

OOI BESTE BOUVORM:

L Eybers

VELD GROEP

1. H Bleuler
2. J du Preez

INDIVIDULE OOIE

1. J le Roux
2. J Lategan

OOI BESTE VAG:

J du Preez

OOI BESTE BOUVORM:

G Stegmann

KIDS

1. N Rossouw
2. WS Greeff

STOET OOI TJIES:

1. PH Viljoen
2. AB Hobson

RAMMETJIES:

1. AB Hobson
2. PH Viljoen

OPKOMENDE BOERE

1. B Wienand - Lotjie Saleni
2. R du Randt

INDIVIDUELE OOIE

1. B Wienand
2. B Wienand

VAG TIPERING

1. HK Lombard
2. F Froehlich

MIKRON SKATTING

1. CF Stegmann
2. HK Lombard

PLASING VAN 5 OOIE

1. H Bleuler
2. M Wienand

SKOLEKOMPETISIE

1. Hoërskool Cradock B Span
2. Hoër Landbouskool Winterberg A Span
Gill Kollege B Span
3. Adelaide Gymnasium
4. Aeroville Sekondêre Skool
Gill Kollege A Span
Hoërskool Cradock A Span

VAGKOMPETISIE

Groot Kampioenvag: PH Viljoen, Kleinpoort
Kampioen Grootbokvag: HK Lombard, Bedford
Kampioen Jongbokvag: GF Stegmann, Willowmore
Kampioen Kleinbokkievag: PH Viljoen, Kleinpoort

Pryswenners: Nasionale Vagkompetisie 2008



Mnr. Piet Viljoen het die Groot Kampioen sybokhaarvag vertoon. Mnr Pierre van der Vyver, Hoofbestuurder Sybokhaar van CMW, het die prys aan hom oorhandig.

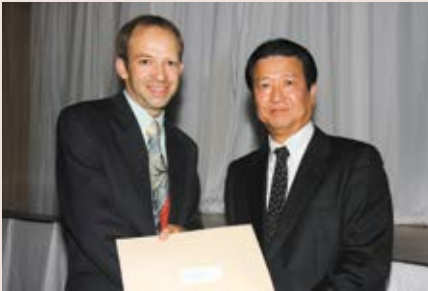
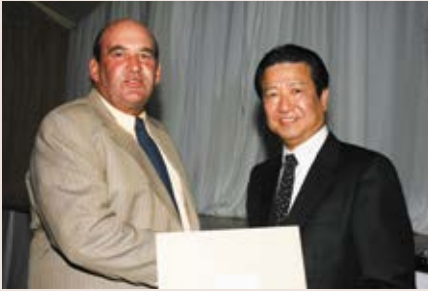
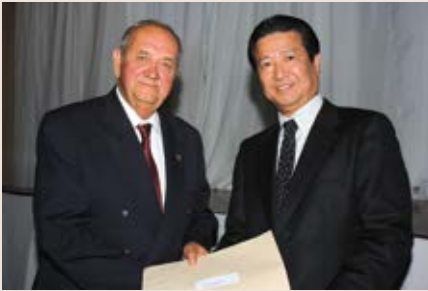


Mnr. HK Lombard van Bedford, ontvang die prys vir die Kampioen Grootbokvag.



Mnr. GF Stegman van Willowmore, ontvang die prys vir die Kampioen Jongbokvag.

Miyuki-Kompetisie: 2007



GT en Werner Ferreira ontvang die Miyuki Trofee van mnr Oki Ogura vir die groot kampioen skeersel vir 2007.

REÛLS:

1. Die somer -en winterskeersels sal geëvalueer word. Om as groot kampioen te kwalifiseer moet aan beide die somer-en winterseisoen deelgeneem word.
2. Een baal elk van elke ouderdomstipe (BSFH, BSYG, BSFK) van dieselfde produsent word verreis vir die somer-en winterskeersels van die bepaalde jaar vir beoordelingsdoeleindes. Die volledige skeersel word met lewering deur SSA beamptes beoordeel, aan die hand van die klas-en verpakkingsregulasies.
3. Ten minste een baal van elke ouderdoms groep moet aan 'n minimum lengte van 100mm voldoen.
4. Mikrontoetse van deelnemende bale moet aan die verskillende ouderdomsgroepe voldoen.
5. Dit is die makelaar se verantwoordelikheid om in konsultasie met produsente, skeersels te nomineer. Makelaars moet SSA in kennis stel by lewering van skeersels, sodat totale skeersels beoordeel kan word.
6. SSA beamptes sal die finale besluit neem of die skeersel kwalifiseer al dan nie, (gebaseer op massa, lengte en seisoenvereistes).
7. SSA beamptes sal verantwoordelik wees vir die beoordeling van die algemene voorkoms van skeersels op die vloer voor beoordeling van ander eienskappe.
8. Die paneel beoordelaars sal bestaan uit drie kopers wie uit 'n paneel getrek word asook een tegniese beampte van SSA.
9. Die beoordelaars se beslissing sal finaal wees.
10. Beoordeling sal op individuele basis geskied oor die totale skeersel en nie op 'n monster basis nie. Die makelaar word verplig om die totale skeersel(LOX, STN, SDY en sakkies uitgesluit) uit te stal.
11. Die skeersel mag in ouderdomsgroep segmente beoordeel word.
12. Makelaar moet 'n gewigstaat saam met die inspeksie voorsien. (Hele skeersel-vol bale -moet uitgestal word)
13. Afsnydatums is: Somerskeersel: 31 Mei & Winterskeersel: 15 November.

Fotos van bo:

1. Billy Colborne en seun het die kampioen somer skeersel gelever.
2. Clive van Hasselt het die reserwe groot kampioen skeersel gelever.
3. Louw Retief en seun was die wenners van die winter skeersel.
4. Andries Oelofse en seun ontvang die prys vir die reserwe kampioen somer skeersel.
5. Barries Snijman van Vleikuil Boerdery ontvang die prys vir die kampioen winter skeersel.

Snyberg Broers behaal 'n Driekuns in 2007

Hierdie bekende Sybokhaarkwekers wat in die Uniondale omgewing van Suid-Afrika boer en lank reeds pryse inpalm het hierdie jaar die bykans onmoontlike regekry. Hulle het sowaar al drie die grotes in dieselfde jaar ingepalm: Daidoh, Zegna en Miyuki !

DIE DAIDOH-TROFEE

Hierdie trofee word toegeken vir die beste gemiddelde prys behaal deur somerkleinbokkieskeersel. 'n Gemiddelde prys word gebruik om alle produsente 'n gelyke kans in die kompetisie te gee.

Hier ontvang die broers die trofee, namens Daidoh, van Philip Stucken, Die Ferreira's het hierdie trofee al vyf keer verower nl. 1998, 2002, 2004, 2006 en 2007.



DIE MIYUKI-TROFEE

Die Miyuki-prys word toegeken vir die beste voorbereide skeersel.

Die Ferreira's het hierdie trofee hierdie jaar vir die tiende agtereenvolgende jaar ingepalm. 'n Rekord wat bitter moeilik oortref sal word!

Mr Aki Ogura van Argon International oorhandig hier die prys.



DIE ZEGNA-TROFEE

Die Zegna-trofee word jaarliks toegeken vir die beste baal somerkleinbokkie haar.

Hier ontvang Werner die trofee in Trivero, Italië, van Matteo Loro van die Zegna-groep.

Die Ferreira broers het hierdie trofee al ses keer verower nl. 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2007.



Die Manne van die Royal Hotel

Jimmy Truter
Kommadagga

Enige aap kan beloftes maak, maar dit kos 'n man om sy beloftes gestand te doen.' Oom Koos Lategan se woorde het in my kop rondgemaak. Hy was 'n man wat nie liggies op 'n ram gebie het nie, maar as hy eers begin het, het hy ook nie opgehou nie. Dat Willowmore die aangewese plek sou wees waar ek hierdie wysheid sou leer het ek nooit gedag nie.

Dis die jare tagtig en die Willowmore-ramveiling is die laaste van die seisoen. Die opwinding van die vroeë veilings op Somerset-Oos, Graaff-Reinet en Jansenville het al vervaag. Dit is hoofsaaklik kudderamme wat aangebied word en die atmosfeer tussen die telers is ontspanne. Laatmiddag, as die ramversorgers se kos vir die aand oorhandig is met so 'n laaste instruksie of wat, verkas die telers na die Royal Hotel om skuiling vir die nag te soek.

Die inboek is informeel: 'Jimmy, jy slaap vanaand in dieselfde kamer as Kotie Lategan en Jan Tieties.' Hulle is die seniors en hulle goed lê op die twee wye beddens in die kamer. Ewe eerbiedig sit ek my koffertjie op die nou kateltjie in die hoek en gaan soek my kamermaats, wat toe al darem die fonteintjie opgespoor het. Die drinkgoed is koud en verfrissend en ek is net betyds om te hoor hoe Kotie vir die kroegman die geheim van 'n grassnyer wat nie wil vat nie beduie. 'Haal net sy exhaust af en haal die air filter uit, dan moet hy vat', kom die wysheid van Kotie. Blykbaar was dit waarmee die man agter die kroeg heeldag gesukkel het.

Die skemerkliekie en die gebruikelike toesprake het die aandag van die dorstiges vir 'n wyle gehou, maar die aand was jonk en die geesdrif groot. Vroegaand al het Hennie de Klerk met 'n Mazda bakkie se wieldop in die kroeg rondgestaan. Diè word mettertyd vol water bo-op die half-ooop gents se deur gestel. Die ouer niksvermoedende gardes is die eerstes wat deurloop en dit is eienaardig met hoeveel geesdrif hulle toesien dat die slagyster weer gestel word en dan wag tot die volgende slagoffer met water bygekomp word. Die meeste aanvaar die dopery in 'n goeie gees, maar as die wieldop 'n bloedstreep op 'n pankop los is dit tyd om ander afleiding te soek.

My kamermaats is diep in gesprek en ignoreer die etensklok heeltemal en dis skuins voor tienuur voor hulle ooreenstemming bereik oor die ram wat hulle gesamentlik op die Somerset-Oos veiling gekoop het en dat hulle agterkom dat hulle honger is. Teen hierdie tyd het die wynkelder al die handdoek ingegooi en ons kry die laaste van die skraapsels op die spyskaart. Ek word afgevaardig om by die kroegman vir nog 'n laaste bottel kultuur te gaan smee, want my kamermaats het nog baie moed vir die aand. Êrens in die hotel word daar luidrugtig aan 'n

veerpyltjiesmarathon deelgeneem, en is daar gesonde verskille van opinie oor die reëls van die spel.

Oom Will en Arthur Hobson en Bert Henderson en al die ouer manne het al gaan slaap. In die eetkamer sluit Jimmy Moore hom by ons tafel aan. Hy is baas van die hotel en vertel die een storie na die ander. Toe ek daar aankom het Willowmore vir my redelik dooierig gelyk, maar in die prentjie wat nou ontplooi kyk ek met nuwe oë na die vaal strate. Die baas van 'n hotel het ook darem toegang tot 'n bottel wyn lank na die kroeg al toe is en so snel die uurtjies verby. Verskeie tentatiewe voorstelle van my kant af dat dit al laat is word geignoreer met 'n instruksie om nie weg te gaan nie want ek het nog 'n werkie.

So om en by drie uur die nag gee Kotie so 'n lang rek en hy vra vir Jan of dit al tyd is om bed toe te gaan. My verligting is groot toe daar beduie word dat dit al laat is. Op pad kamer toe loop ons verby die voorportaal. Die kroegman het dit goedgevind om die grassnyer vir die nag daar te bêre. Skielik tref dit vir Kotie dat 'n man wat laataand 'n bottel wyn kan optower seker geregtig is op 'n ou gunsie of wat, en net daar word ek gestuur om die waterpomptang, wat voor in sy bakkie, is te gaan haal. Terug by die grasmassien word besluit dat die lig daar te flou is, en dat ek ek tog die ding daar in die gang by die slaapkamers moet sit sodat hy kan sien.

Die moertjies is 'n bietjie geroes en dis nie sonder woorde dat die exhaust uiteindelik af is nie. So word daar 'n paar trekke aan die tou gegee, maar vat is min. 'Onthou die air filter', sê Jan. So ja, kyk wat maak hy nou. Een trek en die ding hoes so keer of wat en toe loop daai masjien dat dit lyk of hy wil opstyg en Jimmy Moore moet net klou om te keer dat die ding nie daar wegvlieg nie. Dis 'n nare gespook om te kyk waar 'n mens die ding doodmaak, die lug is potblou en die matte nerf-af toe ek eindelijk die petrolkraantjie toe kry en die ding met 'n laaste backfire doodsnik. Van Kotie en Jan is daar nie 'n spoor toe enkele deure oopgaan om te verneem waar die bohaai vandaan kom nie.

Hoe wonderlik is dit nie as 'n man op sy voete kan dink nie. 'Nee', sê mnr Moore, 'die tapyte groei in die laaste tyd so vinnig, 'n mens moet hulle so 'n bietjie terugsnij en ons vind dit is die beste tyd van die dag, dan kan skoongemaak word sonder om iemand te hinder.'

Met ontbyt was daar wye belangstelling oor die bedrywighede van die nag, maar Kotie was heimlik onbewus van enigiets vreemd.

Mooiloop Kotie, sien jou by die krale.



The Colborne Windpomp.

Overheard between Paris and Willowmore

There is a reason why they live and die in the Karoo. It is a passion that surpasses all logical understanding and it leaves an indelible mark on their persona. It is beautiful, precious, and it is usually in awe of water. It is the soul of the Karoo farmer – Editor.

Act I

Scene 1

PARIS: The Zegna tour group has just completed a balmy sunset cruise down the Seine on a sightseeing trip of Paris. The moon is picture perfect and is hanging at half crescent next to the Eiffel Tower. The party has assembled to return to their hotel but the brothers Colborne are missing.

Tour Leader: Has any one seen Billy or Neville?

Clive van Hasselt: I last saw them standing on the barge. I'll go and look for them quickly.

(Clive goes back and finds them in deep conversation completely oblivious that they are deemed missing).

Billy: Neville, you reckon that is the same moon that we see in Willowmore?

Neville: No, man I don't think so. I think we see the other side.

Billy: Really hey? You think it is the same size? It sort of looks bigger.

Neville: Well, I don't know about the moon, but I tell you it would be just wonderful (pointing to the Eiffel Tower) to have a windpomp that size on the farm. Just think how well you'll be able to hunt from that tower. You could also throw a strong light for the jackal, man. Tuffy Muller would never miss a jackal from that tower.

Billy: Neville, never mind the windpomp, just think how soon a sloop of water that size (pointing at the Seine) could fill Beervlei Dam, man. We'll be able to cut lucerne every day of the year.

Neville: How do you think we'll get that water to Beervlei, boet?

Billy: We could lay a pipe, but man, they'll steel the ruddy thing it when it gets to Egypt!

Clive arrives on the scene.

Clive: Hey chaps, they're looking for you, you'd better come.

Neville: Oh, really, Clivey. Just tell me quickly wouldn't you like a windpomp like that at Prince Albert. Just think of the water it could produce.

Clive: No hell, Neville, nooit. Just think of it, when you've climbed to the top of the tower to fix it, Martiens will remind you that you've forgotten the number thirteen spanner and then you've got to climb all the way down and up again. Just think how you'll sweat and how much time you'd waste. The days in the Karoo are too hot to service that giant.

Neville: Gee, Clivey, that's true. I'd never thought of that. Still, I reckon the bloke who designed this windpomp was a clever bloke, but man you're right there would be too many nuts and bolts to oil every year if you had this monster on your farm.

Act 2

Scene 1

THE SCENE: On top of a sight seeing bus in Paris. The bus is filling up with tourists and while we wait Paul Michau shows Billy the pamphlet for the new Mercedes range.

Paul: Billy what do you think of this car?

Paul points out all the wonderful computerized features of the range and enthuses about the modern look, and despite Paul's best efforts to illicit an enthusiastic response, Billy remains fairly unimpressed.

Paul: So, Billy what do you think?

Billy: Gee Paul, where will you put your woolpacks when you come from Port Elizabeth? You know my old merc was twenty-five years old and it was big Boet, there was always space for woolpacks. Would you believe it, Irene wragtig wrote it off the other day. They don't make mercs like they used to and I don't know what I'm going to do now, boet, that car looks a bit light for our roads and my woolpacks.

Graaffrikaans

Dr Jan van der Westhuysen

I grew up in the Eastern Cape and although I knew that in this region people were generally very bilingual and (often trilingual), the efficient way in which languages were mixed in order to find the most expressive way to put a point across, was most fascinating. It was always done in way that was considered to be absolutely normal as if that was the way in which it is done. No one, except myself, considered it strange, whether it was during a casual conversation or during an important director's meeting. Yet, to me it was precious and a pleasant memory that I will take with me for life. It was particularly used in a certain area of the Eastern Cape. No wonder someone coined it as being Graaffrikaans. Here are some excerpts that left an indelible mark on my memory

THE BEGRAFNIS

“It was really hot that day when I attended the begrafnis of old Swanepoel”, Tony said.

“The Swanepoels were bywoners on our farm for many years so I felt it was my plig to represent the family. The kis was put in the shade of a pruimboom, which apart from the odd karoobossie and the people attending the begrafnis, was the only other thing that represented life on the werf. Now old dominie Swanepoel was maar a bit langdradig and when it came to the gebed, he behoorlik tested our geduld. It was at this time that I noticed a Swiesbok loer-ing around the corner of the bywonershuis and I immediately noticed that this bok was korrel-ing for the only bit of green on the werf.

So by the time old dominee Swanepoel said “Amen”, the Swiesbok had already verdwyn-ed around the corner with the krans in its mouth.”

THE DROOGTE

“In those days we really sukkeled.” Uncle Jack said.

“The droogte was terrible, the mohair price was behoorlik laag and the bank manager was drukking us. We really had moeilikheid and the low mohair prices made us think that the buyers were bedonnering us. Things were really taai and it was nogal difficult to make ends meet. Obviously, under these circumstances the bankbestuurder came into the picture. So when I called him he insisted that I come and see him vinnig. I really smeeked the bank manager and it later appeared as if he was getting a bit sag. So I drove home with some hope.”

“But that is not the end of the story. I beswaarlik got home when my wife walked in and fainted. Knowing that she had visited the neighbouring farm I phoned and asked: “Buurman, what did you give my wife to drink? When she got home she slaated neer like a dog that vreeted gif.”

THE TIER

Looking around the office while Uncle Jack went to fetch a drink for the group of visiting Texan mohair farmers, they noticed the framed photograph of a leopard on the wall. So on his return to the office, Uncle Jack was asked about the story behind the photograph.

“Oh” Uncle Jack said, “You mean the tier. Man we were herding Angora goats that day when Jakobus called me and showed me the spoor which was duidelik in the sandsloot. Now we do not often see tiere in this area so we were both surprised and bang. I instructed the labourers to hou wag while I walked home to fetch my 303. When I got back we decided to spoorsny. We had not got far when the tier let of a terrible grom which really gave us a proper skrik. I must say that although I hit the tier it was a bit of a geluk because I sommer bewe-ed properly.”

I was never sure how much of the story was really understood by the Texans.

THE POLICE

“We all attended the weekly rugby practise for more reasons than one. One reason was because if you did not play rugby, you were considered to be a moffie. Secondly, it made you dors enough to justify a bymekarkoms after the game,”

Dave explained.

“After this particular evening I got into my bakkie and drove out of town. As I drove over the first bult I noticed that someone was jaaging me. Now I was not sommer going to be caught so the reisie was on. I gooi-ed vet, but the roads were boonop so bad that the bumper of my bakkie kept on kap-ping on the sinkplaat. Going over the next bult I saw that the lig was gaining on me. Now it is strange what your gedagte can do to you when you are bang. It was only when I the drove up the next bult that I realised that I was jaaging away from the moon.”

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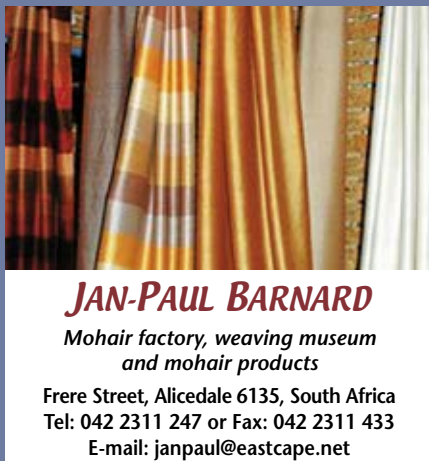
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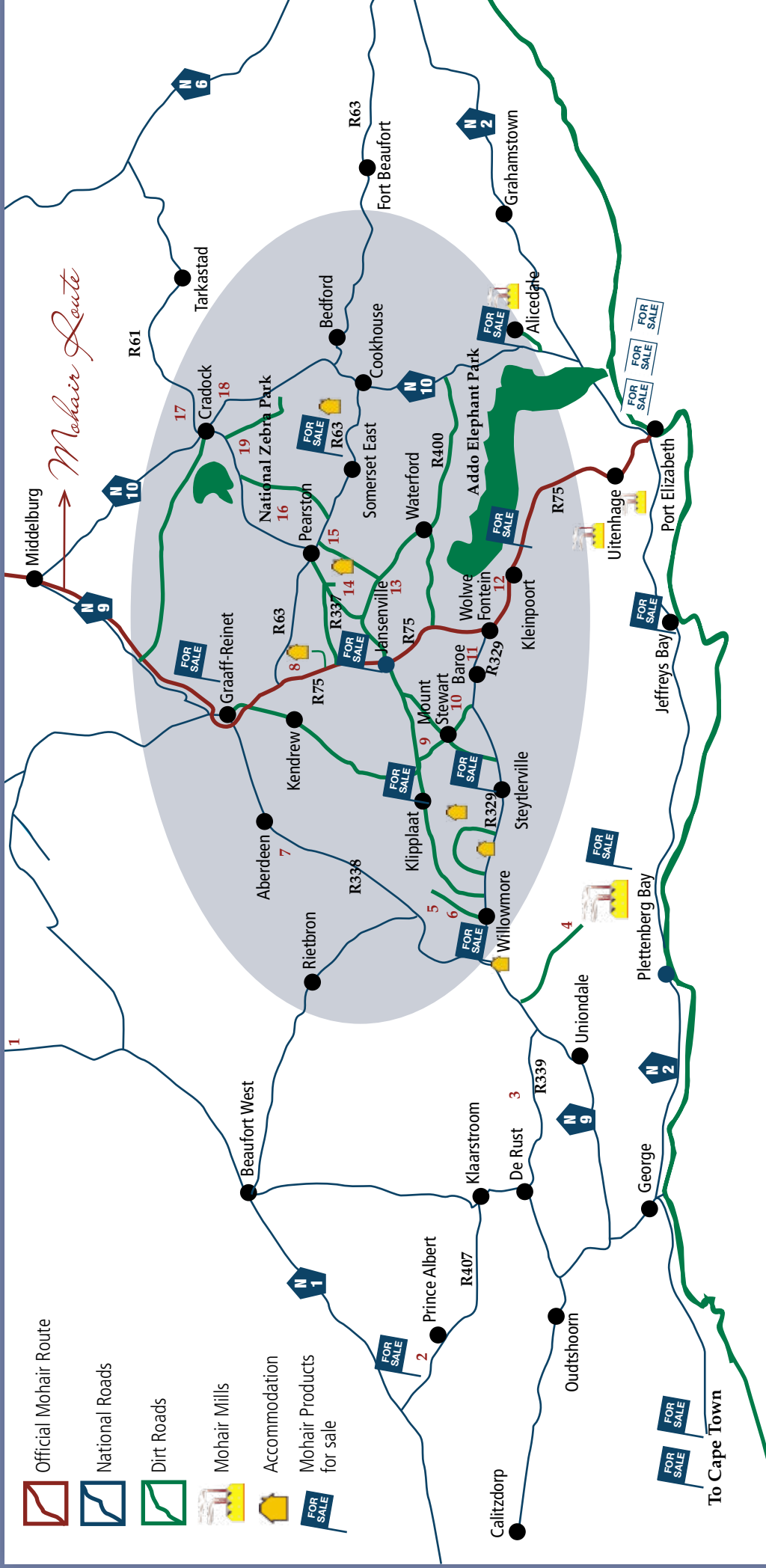


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