



The East Coast Pygmy Goat Club

HOOVES-LETTER

Summer 2009

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Note from the Editor

Welcome to the first ECPGC Newsletter!

We lost a wonderful friend and fellow pygmy enthusiast, Cynthia Malmrose, this week. She brought joy and laughter to every pygmy goat show she attended. Cynthia's companionship and dedication to the breed will be treasured forever. This premier issue of the ECPGC newsletter is dedicated in her honor. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Region 5 Directors

"Your voice matters! Call us and give us your input!!"

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ECPGC Mission Statement:

The East Coast Pygmy Goat club is a nonprofit club founded January 2009 by fellow pygmy goat enthusiasts. Our knowledge, dedication and compassion will be the key to our success within this club. Our goal of dedication is to focus on the future of the Pygmy Goat by educating the new members, promoting health, longevity and the welfare of the pygmy goat. As a club we intend to have shows, seminars on management, health, reproduction and other challenges. Join us in our compassionate endeavor. The East Coast Pygmy Goat Club welcomes all. Owning a pygmy goat is not necessary to be a member. We do ask that you share the same interest, dedication and enthusiasm in the welfare of the pygmy goats and the future of the NPGA.



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A Potential Treatment Alternative to Urinary Blockage in Male Goats

Jason Overman, DVM

Urinary Stones (urolithiasis) is a common problem in male goats, particularly wethers. The obstruction most often involves the urethra due to its small size. There is no known solitary cause for the disorder but genetics, diet, management, and early castration are all commonly accepted theories as to the development of this condition. This is both a costly and life threatening disease.

Historically surgery has been the only feasible treatment option for goats with urolithiasis. There are surgeries that provide temporary or permanent diversion of urine. These surgeries vary in success rate and most often will result in sterility for an intact buck. A recent study was published out of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Texas A&M University that looked at using a solution called Walpole's solution to aid in the dissolution of stones as a means for treating urolithiasis.

Walpole's solution is an acidifying agent, with a pH of 4.5, that has been used in other species to dissolve certain types of stones. This study used an ultrasound to locate the urinary bladder and then infused the solution directly into the bladder using syringe and needle. Animals were infused anywhere from 1 to 3 times. Results showed an 80% resolution of urethral obstruction; however 30% of these animals were subsequently reexamined due to urethral obstruction.

If you have a goat that develops a urinary blockage it may be worthwhile to try this nonsurgical technique first. All of the animals in this study did have the urethral process amputated as this is almost always a site of obstruction due to its incredible small size. However, these goats did not have to undergo extensive costly and risky surgery. This may be a much cheaper alternative with a better long term outcome. Do not be afraid to ask your veterinarian about this option, it is something they may or may not have heard of. Also please keep in mind that every case is different and your veterinarian may have cause to think this procedure would not be in the best interest given the animal's complete case.

Reference:

Janke JJ, Osterstock JB, et al. Use of Walpole's solution for treatment of goats with urolithiasis: 25 cases (2001-2006). JAVMA 2009;234:249-252.

Copper Toxicity in Goats: "It Happened to Me"

Stefany H. Hemmer, BSN, RN

The purpose of this article is to inform fellow goat enthusiasts who are jumping on the "Goats need more copper" wagon, that we should be extremely careful when we supplement this vital but potentially deadly mineral. Communicate with buyers of your animals about what you've given the animals sold as far as supplementation.

Monique was an average pygmy doe of good breeding. She was two years of age and I was trimming her hooves, and checking for signs of anemia. Her inner eye lid color was a little paler than I like to see. So, I wormed Monique with Ivermectin to take care of any parasite load. (Continued on next page)

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Copper Toxicity in Goats: “It Happened to Me” (continued from previous page)

Since copper deficiency in goats has been rumored to be a problem, and Monique’s coat looked a bit ruddy, my vet recommended dosing my goats with “E 2Multi-Min” at the cattle dosage. Multi Min is a cattle supplement with copper, zinc, selenium, magnesium and some other trace minerals as ingredients.

A few days went by, and Monique began to go off feed intermittently. She stood at times “star gazing”. So, I took her temp, which was normal. Scratching my head, I gave a shot of Thiamine to prevent and or treat the dreaded goat polio at the recommended dosage.

Over the next few days, Monique’s health failed. She lost her appetite almost completely. My vet (who is a Boer goat breeder) prescribed the continued aggressive treatment of goat polio and Nuflor as a prophylaxis to ward off any opportunistic infections. Sadly, none of these treatments worked. We watched in vain as Monique’s once robust pygmy body withered away to a tiny remnant of what she once had been.

Three weeks after her symptoms started, Monique died. I rushed her body to the state lab for a necropsy, perplexed that the Thiamine treatment hadn’t saved my little goat. As I gave Monique’s history to the vet, I remembered that the person I had bought Monique from had given her a copper bolus exactly one year ago. I gave that information to the State Vet who didn’t seem to think that was such a big deal. I also told him that I gave her a shot of Muli-Min three weeks prior to her death.

That night, the phone call came from the lab. Diagnosis: probable copper toxicosis. On gross exam, “both kidneys were diffusely “gun-metal” black colored.” The vet explained to me that this is almost always associated with copper toxicity. He also told me that in his 25 years of practice he had “never seen a goat with copper toxicity.”

Of course, I beat myself up over “over-dosing” Monique for a long time afterwards. Apparently, copper toxicity occurs over time. You don’t know your goat is toxic until they get that last dose, which tips the barrel.

The purpose of this article is to inform fellow goat enthusiasts who are jumping on the “Goats need more copper” wagon, that we should be extremely careful when we supplement this vital but potentially deadly mineral. Communicate with buyers of your animals about what you’ve given the animals sold as far as supplementation.

Monique’s sellers informed me of the copper bolus given to her the year before she died. I simply did not understand the consequences of giving her copper on top of that slow-release bolus.

My hope is that this article will save another goat from Monique’s fate. It is hard to find information regarding goats and copper supplementation. Perhaps, this article will give us an opportunity to hear from some other breeders who might have some similar experiences.

The Feed Bowl Recipe Corner

Goat's Milk Fudge

Courtesy of Debbie McGhee

A fun and easy recipe:

- ☪ 3 cups sugar
- ☪ 2/3 cup goat's milk
- ☪ 3/4 cup margarine
- ☪ 6 ounces chocolate chips
- ☪ 7 ounces marshmallow cream
- ☪ 1 teaspoon vanilla

Combine sugar, milk, and margarine in heavy quart sauce pan. Stirring constantly, bring to full rolling boil. Reduce heat to medium, and continue boiling for 5 minutes. Remove from heat, and stir in chocolate chips until melted. Add marshmallow cream and vanilla, beating until well blended. Pour into greased 9 x 13 pan. Cool at room temperature. You can add nuts if you wish also. The chocolate chips can be substituted with butterscotch chips, almond bark, etc., if you want to try out different flavors of fudge too.

This one is so easy, the kids can do it!



Normal Health Values for the Domestic Goat (*Capra hircus*)

Temperature

(Take temp at same time every day; lower in the morning)
101.5°F - 104.0°F

Pulse

70 - 80 beats per minute

Respiration

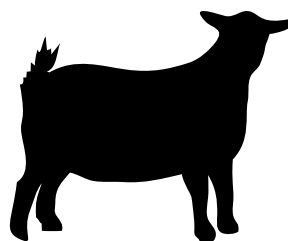
12 - 15 per minute

Puberty

4-12 months

Rumen Motility

1 - 4 per minute



Estrus Length/Estrus Interval

12-48 hours/16-24 days

Gestation Length

144 - 155 days

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Selling Goats Ethically

Linda Colville, NPGA Judge

I have been raising and selling pygmy goats since 1989. What should new owners of pygmy goats expect from us the seller. I hope that most breeders are honest and helpful with the new owners that have bought goats from you. I am not going to state what you must do but will give you examples of what I do.

When I bought my first pygmy goat, it was an unregistered wether as a pet. I was so impressed with the personality and interaction I received, that I decided this was a breed of goat I wanted to raise. The hard part was finding someone that would help me and sell me a structurally correct goat. It seems there are people out there that just want to sell you their cast offs and not some of their better goats. Don't be that type of person.

We have a small community of 40,000 plus people that live here in Klamath Falls, Oregon. I have groups of children from schools, churches, and organizations that come over to see the goats and I give them a talk on care and housing, handling of goats, vet responsibilities, ect. When I have a family that want to buy a goat from me, I ask certain questions like where they are going to keep their new pets, what are their expectations of having goats, have they raised goats before. I try to answer their questions. I feel it is important to pass on your experience and knowledge, and let these new owners know they have a support system in you the seller. I give each local family that purchases a goat from me, an NPGA basic pygmy goat manual. I also give them a recommendation of good local vets and best possible feed. Show them what I feed and how often. Explain how you house them in an area that protects them from both outside elements (weather) as well as other animals that might cause them harm.

Be up front and honest with these people. If you are selling a pet quality animal, tell them why. If you are selling a goat because they are not sound or healthy, be honest and tell them. If you treat your new owners with respect and honesty, you will have repeat customers and recommendations to other prospective buyers.

When I get calls on the phone from across the united states, asking for help or information on where to find or buy pygmies, I try to help them locate breeders in their areas that can sell them goats. If they are specifically requesting information on goats I have for sale, I will give them my honest opinion on the strengths and weaknesses. How you as a seller, relate to your new pygmy goat owners will not only be rewarding to you but the goats you're selling. Be supportive and help your new owners.

Show Results

Summer Fun Show

1st Judge: Matt Burton

Best Wether:

Hope Hill Farm Mama's Boy
Shunney

Reserve Best Wether:

Simple Necessities Inder
Hemmer/Muller

Jr. Champion Doe:

Country Farm's Modern Design
O'Kelly



Reserve Junior Champion Doe:

Little Legends Ursula
Roberts-Brown



Grand/Sr. Champion Doe:
Little Legends Twist and Shout
Brown



Reserve Senior Champion Doe:

Whirlwind Farms Just Beautiful
O'Kelly

Reserve Grand Champion Doe/ Junior Champion:

Country Farms Modern Design
O'Kelly



Jr. Champion Buck:
Whirlwind Farms Absolute
Domination
O'Kelly



Reserve Junior Champion Buck:

Echo Springs Zephyr
Brown



Senior/Grand Champion Buck:

Little Legends Domino
Brown

Reserve Senior Champion/ Reserve Grand Champion Buck:

Mamrose Farm Drayton
Malmrose

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Show Results

Summer Fun Show, continued

2nd Judge:
Jason Overman, DVM



Best Wether:

Hope Hill Farm Little Rascal
Shunney

Reserve Best Wether:

Simple Necessities Inder
Hemmer/Muller

Junior Champion Doe:

Little Legends Ursula
Brown

Reserve Junior Champion Doe:

Coutry Farms Modern Design
O'Kelly

Senior Champion/Grand Champion Doe:

Whirlwind Farms Just Beautiful
O'Kelly

Reserve Champion/Grand Champion Doe:

Little Legends Twist and Shout
Brown

Junior Champion Buck:

Echo Springs Zephyr
Brown

Reserve Junior Champion Buck:

WWF Absolute Domination
O'Kelly

Senior/Grand Champion Buck:

Malmrose Farm Drayton
Malmrose

Reserve Grand/Senior Champion Buck:

Little Legends Domino
Brown

Dates to Remember: Upcoming Region 5 Shows

🐐 Summer Sizzle V August 21-23

Hagerstown, MD

Contact: Maggie Leman, maggidans@msn.com

🐐 The Summer Gathering August 29

Claysville, PA

Contact: Sarah Read, oospygmy@comcast.net

🐐 WV's Wild Wonderful Traveling Pygmy Goat Show September 19-20

Martinsburg, WV

Contact: Kim Shunney, kshunney66@aol.com

🐐 "The Cynthia Malmrose Memorial Show"

Chestertown, MD

September 26





**In Loving Memory of
Cynthia Roy Malmrose**



To My Friend Cynthia

Thank You My Dear Friend
For coming into my life and making a difference.

Thank You, for always listening and understanding, and for all your kind words of encouragement.

Thank You, for always recognizing my strengths and bringing out the best in me.

Thank You, for never judging me and always trying to be fair.

Thank You, for understanding those little things that others never will.
Only God's chosen ones possess that gift.

Thank You, for allowing me to take part in those special things that brought our lives together,
our dedication and passion for the people around us and the animals that we so dearly loved.

Thank You, from one nurse to another for sharing the gift of healing the sick
and embracing the lifelong art of caring for others.

Thank You, for the warm smiles and big hugs, the joy and laughter,
and for all the good times we shared.

Thank You, for finding that deep place in my heart where your loving memory will stay forever.

Thank You, for you daughter Jana,
a mirrored image of you the beautiful person I came to know and love.
Your precious memory lives on in the beauty of her face.

Thank You, for being the gaurdian angel who now peacefully watches over me.
I know that you are here beside me...
I will never be alone.

Thank You My Dear Friend, for our time we had together.
Cindy, I will never forget you.
I will always love you girl.
I miss you.

But it is time to spread your wings and fly.
Until I see you again...God Bless.~

Debbie McGhee

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“The Cynthia Malmrose Memorial Show”

The East Coast Pygmy Goat club is a nonprofit club founded January 2009 by fellow pygmy goat enthusiasts. Our knowledge, dedication and compassion will be the key to our success within this club. Our goal of dedication is to focus on the future of the Pygmy Goat by educating the new members, promoting health, longevity and the welfare of the pygmy goat. As a club we intend to have shows, seminars on management, health, reproduction and other challenges. Join us in our compassionate endeavor. The East Coast Pygmy Goat Club welcomes all. Owning a pygmy goat is not necessary to be a member. We do ask that you share the same interest, dedication and enthusiasm in the welfare of the pygmy goats and the future of NPGA

September 26th, 2009

Location:

Hemmer/Muller Farm
1612 McGinnes Rd
Chestertown, MD 21620

Judges: AM Show-Michael O’Kelly PM Show -Jason Overman, DVM

No animals with the herd name “Country Farms” shall be shown under Michael O’Kelly or “Simple Necessities” shall be shown under Jason Overman.

Two Junior Grand Champion Doe Sanctions and Two Senior Champion Doe Sanctions
Two Wether/Buck Shows

NPGA Rules to govern and take precedence over all others. All animals must be accompanied by original registration papers and appropriate inter and intra state health papers as required by law. It is up to individual exhibitors to be familiar with requirements of Maryland and to have the appropriate documentation. Please be considerate, do not bring sick animals to this show. This is a private farm, anyone bringing sick animals will be asked to remove them from the property immediately. Thank you.

Entries :\$8.00 per animal/per show for non members; \$7.00 for ECPGC members. \$5.00 per animal/per show for 4-H youth. Deadline: Friday, September 18th, 2009. Entries postmarked later than 9/18 will not appear in the show book. Fees must accompany entry forms and are non-refundable.

Class Sponsorships: \$5.00 per class. Please specify class you wish to sponsor. Business Cards: \$10.00

There will be NO PENS PROVIDED as this is a “Backyard Show”. Please bring your own pens. There are shaded areas but please bring tarps, etc. to provide for your animals comfort. You may also show directly from your trailers/vehicles. (Information continued on next page)

[Click Below for Show Information](#)

[Click Below for the Show Bill](#)

“The Cynthia Malmrose Memorial Show” (cont’d)

Silent Auction/Raffle Items:

Folks, this is a brand new club. We really need to raise funds to get this club going. Be as generous as you can. Bring fun items for the silent auction or items to raffle off. Help YOUR club!

Schedule:

Friday, September 25th: Check in from 2:00pm-whenever

Saturday, September 26th: Check in from 8:00 am-9:00 am

Show Time: 9:00 am Judge: Michael O’Kelly

Lunch will be at the end of the first show. A club meeting to follow lunch and then to proceed to the second show.

Saturday Afternoon: Show 2, Jason Overman, DVM

The Fun Stuff!

- Breed Seminar: Presented by Debbie McGhee-NPGA Licensed Judge
- SPECIAL: A Purina Dealer will be present on Saturday. They will be available for all your questions on Purina feed!

Saturday Evening Events:

- SOCIAL EVENTS / COCKTAIL HOUR-Let’s have some fun. Music & Games
Let’s celebrate the passion in our pygmies!!!!

Directions:

Call or e-mail Stefany Hemmer for directions or other inquiries at (410)703-8257, stefany@joplinrotts.com

From points North: From I-95 take exit indicating (896 to 301 South) towards Annapolis/Middletown. Follow 896 into Middletown, DE. 896 turns into 301 South. Take 301 South to Rt. 544 towards Chestertown to 1612 McGinnes Road on left. Note: DO NOT GET OFF OF 896! FOLLOW THE SIGNS ALL THE WAY THROUGH UNTIL YOU GET TO 301. THIS CAN BE TRICKY SO YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS. CALL US IF YOU NEED HELP. YAHOO AND GOOGLE WILL TAKE YOU ON THE SCENIC ROUTE.

From the South: Take 301 North to Route 50 East. Cross the Bay Bridge onto Eastern Shore. Take 213 North to Chestertown. Right on 544 to Knee Deep Farm on right.

From Northwest: Take 695 East to 97 South to 50 East then follow above directions from 50 East.

Accommodations:

- Courtyard Inn, 6336 Church Hill Rd, Chestertown MD (410)778-2842
- Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Chestertown, 150 Scheeler Rd, Chestertown MD 21620 (800)343-8082

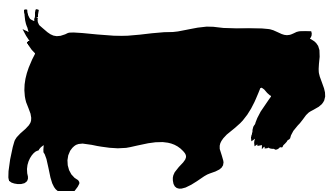
• We have only a small space available for individual campers. Please let us know if you are planning on bringing one. We will provide room for trailers.

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ECPGC! This is YOUR Newsletter!

Do you have something you would like to see in the newsletter?
A photo? A recipe? An announcement?



Suggestions? Comments? Technical Issues?



E-mail:
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“Thank you” to those who have contributed to this issue of the ECPGC Newsletter!

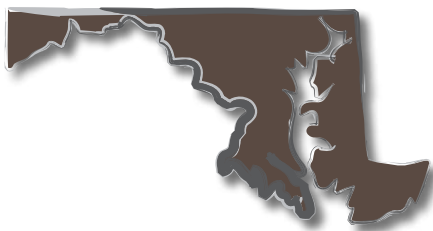
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