



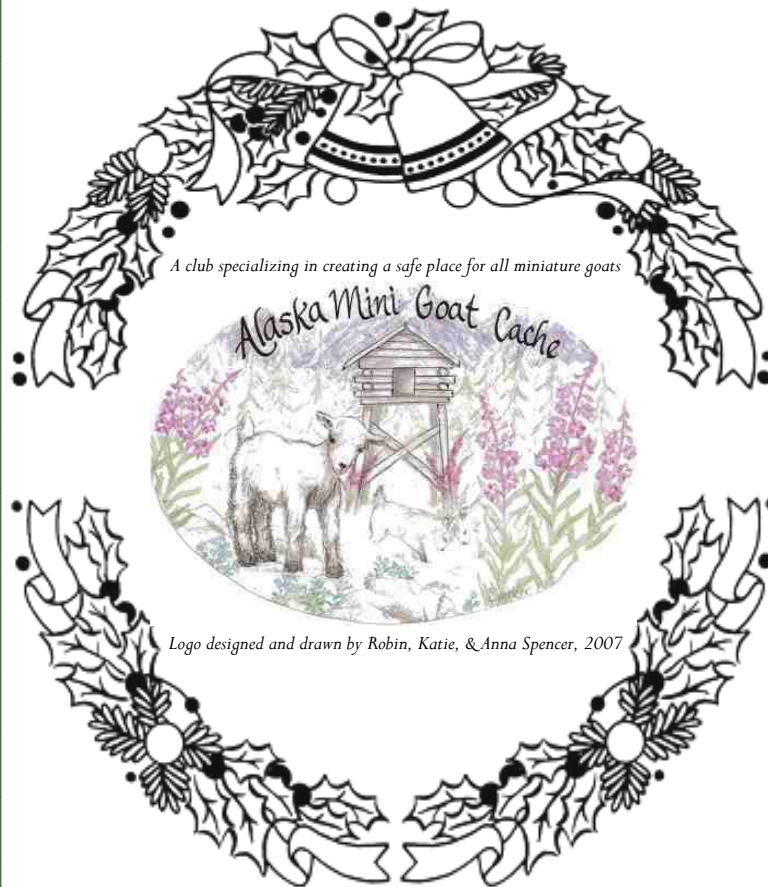
Alaska Mini Goat Cache  
Editor/Distributor  
Heather Fair  
645 G St., Ste #100-579  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501



# ALASKA MINI GOAT CACHE NEWS

A CACHE OF NEWS FOR ALASKA'S MINIATURE GOAT ENTHUSIASTS

DECEMBER 2009



*A club specializing in creating a safe place for all miniature goats*

*Logo designed and drawn by Robin, Katie, & Anna Spencer, 2007*

*This issue is also available, **in full color**, online at  
<http://AlaskaMiniGoatCache.com>*



Greetings fellow goat enthusiasts! 2009 has been a busy year! In June, the Alaska Mini Goat Cache held a two-day, two-ring ADGA/AGS/NPGA event. The first ADGA/AGS day was done in collaboration with the Alaska Dairy Goat Association and judges Keith Harrell (NC Promised-Land) and Gary Whitehead (Pecan Hollow). The second day, Mr. Harrell judged AGS and NPGA events and conducted AGS Classification for three herds. Then in August, we put on several events at the Alaska State Fair in Palmer. First was an ADGA event with judge Will Pearson (Jug Tavern), then an Official ADGA 1-Day Milking Competition, and finally our Annual Obstacle Course For All Ages. Fair Skies began a new "Goats On Loan Program" for the obstacle course that proved to be very popular and will likely continue in future years! All in all we had a fantastic time and we were so grateful to our wonderful volunteers, like Kari McKellar, who fearlessly ring-stewarded for us all day at the Fair!

We also welcomed three new members to the club this year: Leah Hagee (Lotsa Zip Farm), Becky Oviatt (Fleece 'Em Acres), and Tisa Witham (Edgefield Farms). In addition, the club opened a PayPal account; launched a new website (<http://AlaskaMiniGoatCache.com>); set up online membership and show entry form acceptance; built a [Facebook](#) page; and even started tweeting on [Twitter](#)!

With all the excitement of 2009, the club managed to have just five meetings and newsletters have been few and far between. We have many great ideas, but we need more able minds, willing bodies, and stable funds to put our plans to action. Fundraising will begin early this year and we're hopeful that we'll have more active members to help with community outreach.

We look forward to higher participation levels this year and welcome you to attend our meetings, which are open to the public. Our next meeting is scheduled for a federal holiday (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day), Monday, January 18, 2010, 2PM, at Chili's Restaurant in Wasilla. Please join us and help us plan for the new year!

Heather Fair  
2009 Secretary, Webmaster, & Newsletter Editor



## Alaska Mini Goat Cache Membership/Subscription Application

The Alaska Mini Goat Cache is open to anyone interested in miniature goat breeds, breeders of registered and unregistered goats, show enthusiasts, and single pet owners alike, regardless of age, race, or creed, all are welcome.

Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

Your first and last names for membership: \_\_\_\_\_  
(you may include farm or herd name)

Your mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(this is where you will receive ballots and club news)

Your phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your website: \_\_\_\_\_

Breed(s) of goat(s) you have: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you offer buck service? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

May we add you to our website's member list? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

### Annual Membership Fees:

Individual Membership (one vote): \$20

Family membership (two votes): \$25

**Your membership includes a subscription to our newsletter and free online classifieds on our website.** If you would like to place an ad in the next issue, or if you have something to share, please contact the newsletter editor and webmaster, Heather Fair in Wasilla at 907.232.5414 or in Anchorage at 441.1851 or email [fairskies@allisawfarm.com](mailto:fairskies@allisawfarm.com).

### Please send this form and your payment to:

Alaska Mini Goat Cache c/o Laura Manary

4274 N. Farm Loop Rd.

Palmer, AK 99645

Make checks payable to **Alaska Mini Goat Cache** or **AKMGC** or **pay online with PayPal** at

<http://alaskaminigoatcache.com/joinpay.htm>.

## It's a terrific time to become a member or renew your membership in the Alaska Mini Goat Cache!

It's just \$20/yr for an individual (one vote) or \$25/yr for a family (two votes). Members get free online classified ads, a subscription to the newsletter, and an opportunity to network with like-minded, caring people that know how to have fun with their goats!

### You can now join or renew in one of three ways:

- 1) **Fill out the form** on the facing page (printable form also available on our website at <http://alaskaminigoatcache.com/membershipform.pdf>) and mail it in with a check;
- 2) **Bring the form to one of our events** and pay in person; or
- 3) **Fill out the online form** at our website at <http://alaskaminigoatcache.com/joinonline.htm> and use our online payment form at <http://alaskaminigoatcache.com/joinpay.htm> to pay with PayPal (major credit cards and direct bank account drafts accepted).

### And bring a friend!



**Kidding season is just around the corner. Remember to place a classified ad in the next newsletter!**

Goat-related products and services are welcome for publication in our newsletter. Members can also advertise relevant sale items on the club's website for free! **To place an ad or submit pictures or content for the next newsletter, contact Heather Fair in Wasilla at 232.5414 or in Anchorage at 441.1851 or email [fairskies@allisawfarm.com](mailto:fairskies@allisawfarm.com).**



Disclaimer: The opinions and advice given in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions and advice of the editor and/or club as a whole. Nor is any advice meant to replace proper veterinary care.

Articles from the Alaska Mini Goat Cache's newsletter may not be reproduced without express, written permission. Where approved, articles reappearing elsewhere must include appropriate credit as to the origin of the material. Artwork remains the property of the artist(s).

## Call to action for Pygmy owners!

The Alaska Mini Goat Cache is an affiliated club with the National Pygmy Goat Association (NPGA). We would like to continue sponsoring pygmy goat participation in the events fallen to critically in 2009, despite garner sponsorships hibernators, we were fly in a pygmy goat State Fair in Palmer. hold a pygmy goat Summer Solstice



shows, but participation and planning has low levels. In fact, several attempts to and encourage exhibitors and encourage exhibitors to judge for the Alaska We did, however, show at our June Show, but due to low entry numbers, we failed to meet sanctioning requirements.

**Please come to our meetings, renew your memberships, recruit fellow pygmy owners, and proudly exhibit your beautiful animals at our shows. While your goats make great pets, they also act as wonderful stewards to the public and we would love to see them more often! We have all tremendously enjoyed the events focused on your breed over the last several years and we need your guidance and support to secure these events well into the future. Of course we'd also love to see your other goats at our events too!**

*Special thanks to Mark Simpson of Mark Simpson Photography who tirelessly photographed our Summer Solstice Shows in June 2009. Prints are available for a very reasonable fee!*

**Mark Simpson PHOTOGRAPHY**

**746-7766**



**16766 E. Knik River Rd.  
Palmer, AK 99645**



## Local Miniature Goat Websites of Interest:

(\*\*as with all internet links, parental supervision is advised\*\*)

### **Clubs:**

#### Alaska Mini Goat Cache

Club website: <http://www.alaskaminigoatcache.com>

On Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Alaska-Mini-Goat-Cache/213112487339?ref=nf>

On Twitter:

<http://twitter.com/akmgc>

On Yahoo Discussion Groups:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/alaskamgc>

*(must be a member to join discussion list)*

#### Alaska Dairy Goat Association

On Yahoo Discussion Groups:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/akdga>

*(must be a member to join discussion list)*

### **Other Local Sites of Interest:**

Alaska Livestock Sales: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/alaskalivestocksales>

Craig's List Alaska Farm & Garden: <http://anchorage.craigslist.org/grd>

Alaska's List Farm & Garden: [http://alaskaslist.com/1/posts/14\\_Farm\\_Garden/0](http://alaskaslist.com/1/posts/14_Farm_Garden/0)



## National Miniature Goat Organizations of Interest:

### **Breed Clubs:**

American Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Goat Assoc.: <http://www.andda.org>

Currently running a membership/renewal drive, just \$10 before January 30!

### **Registries:**

American Goat Society: <http://www.americangoatsociety.com>

American Dairy Goat Assoc.: <http://www.adga.org>

Nigerian Dwarf Goat Assoc.: <http://www.ndga.org>

Kinder Goat Breeders Assoc.: <http://kindergoatbreeders.com>

Miniature Dairy Goat Assoc.: <http://www.miniaturedairygoats.com>

National Miniature Goat Assoc.: <http://www.nmga.net>

The Miniature Goat Registry: <http://www.tmgronline.org>

Miniature Silky Fainting Goat Assoc.: <http://www.msfgaregistry.com>

National Pygmy Goat Assoc.: <http://www.npga-pygmy.com>

Pygora Breeders Assoc.: <http://www.pygoragoats.org>

PCA Goat Registry: <http://www.pcagoats.org>

## Current Members (as of December 2009)

*Remember to renew your membership for 2010—and bring a friend!*

### Craig and Kathy Baker

Gray Owl Farm

Pygmy Goats

Palmer, Alaska

907.745.0353

[grayowl@mtaonline.net](mailto:grayowl@mtaonline.net)

### Janie Brittain

Chugiak, Alaska

### Brouillet Family

My Kids Farm

Contact Karlene and McKenzie Brouillet

Nigerian Dwarf, LaMancha, Alpine,

Experimental, Purebred Nubian, & Mini

-Nubian Dairy Goats, Boer Goats

Point MacKenzie, Alaska

907.357.4865

[karleneb@mtaonline.net](mailto:karleneb@mtaonline.net)

<http://mykidsfarm.com>

### Ruth Clark

Sutton, Alaska

907.746.4748

### Heather Coleman

#### **2009 Club Vice President**

Pygmy Goats

[hdrorbaugh@yahoo.com](mailto:hdrorbaugh@yahoo.com)

### Ehrlich Family

Coy's Bridge Farm

Contact Judy Ehrlich

Goat milk soaps

Sutton, Alaska

907.746.1216

[akgoats@mtaonline.net](mailto:akgoats@mtaonline.net)

### Heather Fair

#### **2009 Club Secretary, Webmaster, & Newsletter Editor**

Fair Skies

Purebred, Dual-Registered Nigerian

Dwarf Dairy Goats

Wasilla, Alaska

907.232.5414 or 907.441.1851

[fairskies@allisawfarm.com](mailto:fairskies@allisawfarm.com)

<http://fairskiesalaska.com>

### Rayna Fritcher

Eight Stars

Registered Nigerian Dwarf and Nubian

dairy goats

Wasilla, Alaska

907.373.8082

[Rainy4279@gmail.com](mailto:Rainy4279@gmail.com)

### Manary Family

Laura Manary

#### **2009 Club President**

Boreas Acres

Contact Laura and Madison Manary

Nigerian Dwarf and Nubian Dairy

Goats, Boer Goats

Goat milk soaps

Palmer, Alaska

907.745.6010

[laura@boreasacres.com](mailto:laura@boreasacres.com)

<http://boreasacres.com>

### Robyn McBride

#### **2009 Club Treasurer**

Winterhaven

Pygmy Goats

Goat milk soaps

Wasilla, Alaska

907.376.4951

[akpygmies@yahoo.com](mailto:akpygmies@yahoo.com)

### Suzanne Nevada

SilverAurora

Nigerian Dwarf, Nubian, & Saanen

Dairy Goats

Wasilla, Alaska

907.373.2687

[silvera@mtaonline.net](mailto:silvera@mtaonline.net)

<http://www.silveraurora.com/nd.html>

### Okonek Family

Contact Debi Okonek

Wasilla, Alaska

907.376.0889

[lopsidedrabbitfarm@hotmail.com](mailto:lopsidedrabbitfarm@hotmail.com)

### Robin, Anna, and Katie Spencer

[robinsp7@netscape.net](mailto:robinsp7@netscape.net)

## Your Club Officers of 2009

Elections are coming up—come to our next meeting to nominate the persons you think will do the best job for the club in 2010, or volunteer yourself!

### Laura Manary—President

Boreas Acres  
Palmer, Alaska  
907.745.6010

[laura@boreasacres.com](mailto:laura@boreasacres.com)  
<http://boreasacres.com>

### Robyn McBride—Treasurer

Winterhaven  
Wasilla, Alaska  
907.376.4951

[akpygmies@yahoo.com](mailto:akpygmies@yahoo.com)

### Heather Coleman—Vice President

Bubba's Peanut Pygmies  
Wasilla, Alaska

[hdrorbaugh@yahoo.com](mailto:hdrorbaugh@yahoo.com)

### Heather Fair—Secretary

Webmaster & Newsletter Editor

Fair Skies  
Wasilla, Alaska  
907.232.5414 or 907.441.1851

[fairskies@allisawfarm.com](mailto:fairskies@allisawfarm.com)  
<http://fairskiesalaska.com>

## The next meeting will be:

2:00PM, Monday, January 18, 2010  
at Chili's Restaurant, Wasilla,  
off George Parks Hwy.

This is our annual nominations meeting. Our meetings are open to the public, but only members may vote and review the minutes. Please renew your memberships and encourage a friend to join.



## Welcome New Members of 2009!

Remember to renew your membership for 2010—and bring a friend!

### Leah Hagee

Lotsa Zip Farm  
Registered Nigerian Dwarf goats  
[bartels995@yahoo.com](mailto:bartels995@yahoo.com)

### Becky Oviatt

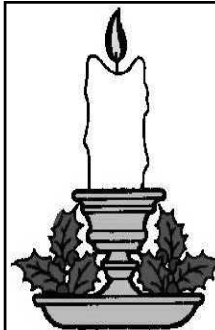
OV8 Farms - Fleece 'Em Acres  
Pygmy and Pygora goats  
Palmer, Alaska  
907.745.2204  
[bexterov8@yahoo.com](mailto:bexterov8@yahoo.com)

### Tisa Witham

Edgefield Farms  
Registered Nigerian Dwarf goats  
Wasilla, Alaska  
[lovinmylife@mtaonline.net](mailto:lovinmylife@mtaonline.net)

Find our club By Laws online at:

<http://alaskaminigoatcache.com/bylaws.pdf>



## *Winterhaven* "Home of the Lit'l Ones" Dual Registered Pygmy & Nigerian Dwarf Goats



Raising goats the natural way

Registered Goat Kids  
(NPGA, AGS Pygmies & AGS, ADGS Nigerians)  
Buck service  
Goat Milk Soap & Herbal Lotions  
Herbal Assistance

Robyn McBride  
4228 Country Fair Dr. Wasilla, Alaska 99654  
(907) 376-4951 [akpygmies@yahoo.com](mailto:akpygmies@yahoo.com)



## Fair Skies

high-production dairy goats  
selectively bred for the show ring  
caringly raised for your family



at All I Saw Farm, Wasilla, Alaska  
907.232.5414 or 907.441.1851

## It's time to stock up!

Here are some popular online suppliers:

<http://caprinesupply.com>

<http://hoeggergoatsupply.com>

<http://jefferslivestock.com>

<http://pbsanimalhealth.com>

## Silveraurora Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Goats



Registered ND Dairy Goats

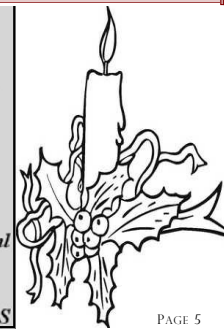
Suzanne Nevada, owner  
Wasilla, Alaska

907.373.2687

[www.silveraurora.com/nd.html](http://www.silveraurora.com/nd.html)

Member:

ADGA, ANDDA, NDGA, AGS



## Is it legal to sell milk?

by Heather Fair

In Alaska, it is *technically not currently legal to sell raw (unpasteurized) milk, except under a few, very specific circumstances*. Did you catch all those italics? Here's the scoop: the relevant regulations fall under the watch of the State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) as part of the Alaska Administrative Code. *Pasteurized* milk can be sold under various rules and regulations, but under 18 AAC 32.060, "raw milk or a raw milk product, including cream from raw milk" can only be *removed from the farm* if:

- "(1) the product is being transported directly to a milk processing plant with a permit issued under 18 AAC [32.030](#) or by another state; or
- (2) the product has been decharacterized with an approved denaturant and labeled "FOR ANIMAL FOOD NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION" in letters at least three inches high on each container; for purposes of this paragraph, "approved denaturant" means
  - (A) finely powdered charcoal;
  - (B) FD&C Blue No. 1, FD&C Blue No. 2, Ultramarine Blue; or
  - (C) FD&C Green No. 3, FD&C Red. No. 3, or FD&C Red No. 40."

After reading the list of required additives, one might hesitate to feed the "decharacterized" milk to any living thing, least of all a sick or weakened animal that may otherwise benefit from ingesting wholesome, raw milk. And from reading this, you might think you would be breaking the law if you so much as strolled to your neighbor's with a cup of your morn-

ing café au lait in hand. However, there *is* one *crucial* exception for legally transferring raw milk without having to mix this concoction and it doesn't exclude human consumption as an intended use. Cited within this very regulation, it begins: "except as provided in 18 AAC [32.010\(c\)](#). . ." The referenced regulation states, "***the provisions of 18 AAC [32.010](#) - 18 AAC [32.060](#) do not apply to a person who owns a cow, goat, or sheep and uses the milk from the animal for that person's personal use.***" This clause leaves an opening for "shares" or "condos".

When dealing in shares, a customer typically agrees to purchase a partial ownership in an animal in order to consider it partly their own and invoke the aforementioned clause. They are thereby legally allowed to consume the milk from the animal without adhering to the rest of the regulations pertaining to raw milk. Share customers usually pay a small buy-in fee and then a monthly husbandry fee and in turn, they are entitled to receive some amount of milk on a regular basis.

For a while, ADEC was apparently actively serving cease and desist orders upon anyone they discovered selling shares and condos. It wasn't until February 2009 when ADEC's Dr. Robert Gerlach, VMD, issued a statement reversing his prior interpretation of the existing regulations. *ADEC has now acknowledged that shares are in fact legal.*

For more than a decade, Alaskans have been calling for changes to specifically allow direct sales of raw milk from the farm to the informed consumer, but progress has been slow. The last legislative bill concerning legalizing the sale of raw milk, was introduced by Rep.

## The objectives of the AkMGC shall be:

1. To function as an official club, with coordinated and organized efforts to provide reliable information on goats; to promote miniature goat breeds and goat products; and to educate the general public about the breeds, and their value beyond being novel pets.
2. To advertise the breeds more efficiently than is possible to do individually, and to publicly provide for and service the goat industry.
3. To support well-equipped and -managed miniature goat farms as one of the best means of introducing the goat and related products.
4. To promote good will and understanding among its members and to discourage destructive thoughts and acts. To these ends we pledge our greatest efforts.
5. To assist its members and others, whether show or pet breeders, in producing the best goats of their chosen breeds, and to breed for healthy, productive goats.
6. To study and encourage balanced rationing and the cooperative buying of suitable feeds at a reasonable cost.
7. To encourage all available assistance from City, County, and State, and to protest undesirable laws that would injure the industry.
8. To assist the "herdsperson" (politically correct) and breeders in dispersing of their products at a price that will tend to build up the industry through truthful advertising, and further, to reject and call attention to advertising found to be misleading or otherwise less than truthful.
9. To provide a means for a group of people who share a common interest in goats to come together in spite of geographic location, in order to learn more about the breeds, exchange ideas and knowledge about raising, maintaining, breeding, improving, and promoting goats and goat products.
10. Through the strength of a club to foster and support the development of miniature goats in 4-H, and State fairs, as a means of helping the youth of our communities.
11. Through the membership of a club, and fundraisers, to sponsor annual shows, where individuals will have a means of gauging progress in their own breeding program and thereby contributing to the continued overall improvement of goats as a whole.
12. And through the memberships of the club functions, to offer everyone ways to enjoy their animals.



## Remember when...

The first meeting of the Alaska Mini Goat Cache was called to order on November 18, 2003 at 1:05 PM at the home of Robyn McBride in Wasilla, Alaska, with the idea of creating a safe haven for all miniature goats.

Since then, we have continued to provide entertainment with our goats for public petting zoos at church events, Family Night with the military, and promotions at local businesses. We also hold shows at the Alaska State Fair annually and we have been involved in State parades. Occasionally, we sponsor health and testing clinics and strive to provide educational resources to our community.

**The Alaska Mini Goat Cache is open to anyone interested in miniature goat breeds. Breeders of registered and unregistered goats, show enthusiasts, and single pet owners alike, regardless of age, race, or creed, are all welcome.**



*2009 Club Treasurer, Robyn McBride with Apache*

**Our next meeting is 2:00PM, Monday, January 18, 2010  
at Chili's Restaurant, Wasilla, off George Parks Hwy.**

**Can't make it to the next meeting?**

**You can now renew or join the club online  
and even pay your dues with PayPal!**

<http://AlaskaMiniGoatCache.com/join.htm>

\$20/year for an individual (one vote)

\$25/year for a family (two votes)



<p><b>Edgefield</b> <i>Registered</i> <b>Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Goats</b></p> <p>Wasilla, Alaska 907-537-1737 edgefieldfarms@aol.com</p>	<p><i>Special thanks to Tisa Witham of Edgefield Farms</i></p> <p><i>for supervising our ADGA One-Day Milking Competition at the 2009 Alaska State Fair in Palmer.</i></p> <p><i>Tisa patiently attended three milking at 12-hour intervals!</i></p>
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Mark Neuman (R) of House District 15 (Rural Mat-Su) in 2008. The bill made it to the House Resources Committee where some club members testified telephonically in support. Unfortunately, opponents stalled the bill in committee through the session's end.

After discussions with Dr. Gerlach, we remain concerned that ADEC will propose changes to the existing regulations (*see pages 18-19*) to specifically *disallow* shares and condos and make it even harder to legally obtain milk outside the grocery store. Since this would be a *regulatory* change versus a *statutory* change, it may go relatively unnoticed if not for our collective watchful eyes. For these reasons, we call upon each and every one of our fellow dairy enthusiasts to be diligent in protecting our

rights and our interests in continued legal access to healthy, wholesome foods, including raw milk. We ask that you watch for public notices of changes to the regulations, comment appropriately when such changes are introduced, and stand up and speak out loud to help shape our laws and regulations to reflect your views. We also ask that you promote responsible food handling practices and inform your customers of the risks and rewards of consuming raw milk. Please contact your legislators regularly to ask that they again sponsor a bill to specifically legalize the sale of raw milk from farm to consumer in *statute*. The more often our legislators hear this request, the more likely they are to eventually heed our calls for action.

**To contact your legislators, visit:**

<http://www.ltgov.state.ak.us/elections/distcom.php>.

For more information, please view the **February 2009 Statement** from Dr. Gerlach, VMD at ADEC: <http://fairskiesalaska.com/shares.pdf>.

**To watch for public notices from ADEC:**

[http://dec.alaska.gov/public\\_notices.htm](http://dec.alaska.gov/public_notices.htm).

**General information (with citations) also available at:**

<http://fairskiesalaska.com/faq.htm#Raw>, <http://fairskiesalaska.com/faq.htm#history>, and <http://fairskiesalaska.com/faq.htm#update>.

**See also:** <http://realmilk.com>.

*While accurate by reference, the content herein is not intended to act as legal advice.*

*For more information, please consult a legal professional.*

## Hypocalcemia: How to Recognize, Treat and Prevent It

By Sue Reith, Carmelita Toggs, Bainbridge, WA

*Reprinted with permission*

**Introduction:** The small segment of the goat population in which Hypocalcemia is primarily found is rarely seen by a veterinarian in large livestock practice, whose clients are more likely to be business-oriented raisers of hair or meat goats, or those that keep dairy goats for commercial milk production. Generally it is the small-animal practice veterinarian, not particularly familiar with or experienced in caprine management, that is called upon to treat the pet goats, family milkers, and show stock kept in relatively small, home-oriented herds.

**Purpose:** This article is presented to provide information for goat owners that will enable them to avoid hypocalcemia. It was also written to encourage veterinarians that read this information, when called upon to treat does with the symptoms outlined below to ask, before making a diagnosis, a very simple, fundamental question: "What are you currently feeding this animal, and how much of each substance is being fed?"

### *Goat Owners:*

*Please feel free to give a copy of this article to your veterinarian.*

### **How can I tell early on that my goat has hypocalcemia?**

Ask yourself: In the early months of pregnancy (or during lactation, if she is in milk) have I been feeding my doe a regular, ample grain ration along with her hay? And especially, have I been feeding this ample grain ration along with grass hay instead of alfalfa?

Signs to watch for any time from the 12th week of the pregnancy on:

- Does the doe gradually or suddenly lose interest in her grain ration?
- And soon after that, does she also lose interest in her hay ration?

If this is the case, and if no corrective action is taken quickly, you can expect

the next signs to be: She weakens fast, acts lethargic, is depressed. Her rear legs appear wobbly. If this situation is allowed to progress without intervention, she goes down and won't get up. Her body temperature will be normal (102.3) when these signs first appear, but will drop to sub-normal (below 102) as they progress. These symptoms are classic for hypocalcemia. Without fast and correct intervention she will die.

### **What is hypocalcemia?**

Hypocalcemia (calcium deficiency) is a serious condition in which the calcium that a doe needs to support herself and provide for the needs of her developing fetuses (or to produce milk if she is lactating) is unavailable to her because of incorrect feeding.

If you enjoyed this newsletter, perhaps you would consider advertising in our next issue. To place an ad today, please contact Heather Fair in Wasilla at 232.5414 or in Anchorage at 441.1851 or by email at

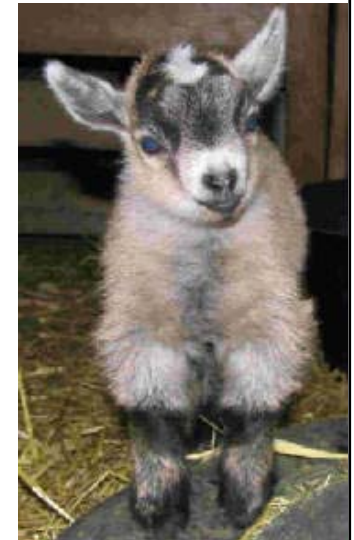
[fairskies@allisawfarm.com](mailto:fairskies@allisawfarm.com).



### Newsletter Advertising

<u>Half Page:</u>	1 Issue	\$8ea
	6 Issues	\$20ea
	12 Issues	\$36ea
<u>¼ Page:</u>	1 Issue	\$4ea
	6 Issues	\$12ea
	12 Issues	\$20ea
<u>Business Card:</u>	1 Issue	\$2ea
	6 Issues	\$8ea
	12 Issues	\$15ea
	Website only 6 mos.	\$25
<u>Classified Ads:</u>	20 words	\$1ea
	30 words	\$2ea

**with picture sized relative to ad + \$1ea**



We aim to publish six or more newsletters annually. Deadline for new business or classified ads is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month prior to the next publication. After this date, ads will be added only as space allows. To obtain discount on multiple issues, ads must be paid in full before first publication.

### *Did you know?*

Members can advertise relevant sale items on the club's website **for free!**

<http://AlaskaMiniGoatCache.com>

*Special thanks to Ellen Kane at Pioneer Ridge B&B, who graciously provided discounted lodging for our 2009 Alaska State Fair judge.*



## THANK YOU!

The following sponsors helped us promote our commitment to Alaska's miniature goats in 2009.

### **Boreas Acres (Laura Manary) - <http://boreasacres.com>**

Sponsored ADGA Champion Challenge sanctioning fees for Toggenburg, Nubian, A. O. P., and Recorded Grades Sr. & Jr. Does, and A. O. P. Bucks, and photography services in our Summer Solstice Shows June 24-25, 2009, as well as design and print services for our show posters for our 2009 Alaska State Fair Shows.

### **Bubba's Peanut Pygmies (Heather Coleman)**

Sponsored photography services for our Summer Solstice Shows June 24-25, 2009.

### **Eight Stars (Rayna Fritcher)**

Sponsoring All NPGA sanctioning fees in our next Alaska State Fair Shows.

### **Fair Skies (Heather Fair) - <http://fairskiesalaska.com>**

Sponsoring all web hosting and design fees, AGS A. O. P. sanctioning fees and photography services for our Summer Solstice Shows June 24-25, 2009, and award plaques for ADGA One-Day Milk Test and ADGA Best in Show awards 2009 Alaska State Fair Shows.

### **My Kids Farm (Karlene Brouillet) - <http://mykidsfarm.com>**

Sponsored AGS dual-sanctioning fees in our Summer Solstice Shows June 24-25, 2009 and provided judge's transportation for our 2009 Alaska State Fair Shows.

### **Winterhaven (Robyn McBride)**

Sponsored NPGA All Pygmy Wethers sanctioning fees in our Summer Solstice Shows June 24-25, 2009, as well as design and print services for our show posters.

### ...and our vendors

### **Mark Simpson Photography (Mark Simpson)**

Provided photography services for our Summer Solstice Shows June 24-25, 2009, sponsored by Boreas Acres, Bubba's Peanut Pygmies, and Fair Skies. Prints are available for a VERY small fee (as low as \$1.50 for a 4" x 6"! ) Contact Mark to order, by phone at 746.7766 or email at [simpsonphotography@alaska.com](mailto:simpsonphotography@alaska.com), or contact the club officers to review the prints.

### **Pioneer Ridge Bed & Breakfast LLC (Ellen Kane)**

Providing discount judge's accommodations for 2009 Alaska State Fair Shows. Thank you for help making our 2009 Alaska State Fair Shows a possibility! Please help us thank Pioneer Ridge by giving them your business year 'round. Contact them by phone at 907.376.7472 or 1.800.478.7472 or email at [info@pionerridge.com](mailto:info@pionerridge.com).

## Hypocalcemia: How to Recognize, Treat and Prevent It (Reith)

### What steps can I take to correct this?

*(Before continuing, I want to point out that any dosages I mention herein are intended for full-sized dairy-type does, weighing ~ 120-150 lbs avg. If the doe you are concerned about is of a smaller variety you will need to adjust recommended doses accordingly.)*

Immediately, and time is of the essence here, start her on Nutridrench or oral propylene glycol to provide her with the necessary energy so that she will not become ketotic. (Ketosis is a metabolic problem caused by the animal's having to live on its own body reserves because it has stopped eating food. If not corrected, this will result in coma and subsequent death.) I recommend either the appropriate dose of Nutridrench for her weight, or 60cc propylene glycol, 2x daily for 2 days to restore her, with 30cc daily thereafter until she is clearly eating properly again, to prevent/reverse ketosis.

Then, start her on calcium replacement therapy quickly. While calcium gluconate is commonly used for this, I prefer a product called CMPK (or a generic substitute thereof), because calcium gluconate contains only calcium, whereas the CMPK products contain magnesium, phosphorus, and potassium as well, all of which make the calcium more readily available for the body to use. Logic tells us that calcium that is in combination with these other elements that make it work better will be able to correct the deficiency and restore the doe to health much faster than can a product that contains the same amount of calcium alone, with no enhancements. One caveat: keep in

mind that a single dose, or only a few doses, of this product will ONLY balance the doe's calcium level FOR THE MOMENT, but those babies will continue to grow and to drain her system of the needed calcium and phosphorus, so you will need to continue the doses daily until she freshens and is eating sufficient amounts of properly balanced nutrients to enable her to lactate properly.

The CMPK should be given at the rate of 30cc (1oz) every 2 hours or so until she appears bright and alert and willing to eat once more. The reason we give this specific amount every two hours, instead of giving a larger dose less often, is because calcium, necessary for muscle contractions, plays a vital role in the proper beating of the heart. But the downside of that is that to give a larger dose all at once, particularly at the later stages of the treatment, might actually cause the heart to beat too rapidly and create further difficulties to add to the ones the doe is already experiencing. We avoid this potential for overdose by giving smaller amounts more often, as I recommend here. I advise people who are administering calcium to check its effect upon the patient's heart by periodically checking the heart rate of another, normal doe (70 - 80 beats per minute), and comparing it with that of your hypocalcemic doe. Initially the hypocalcemic doe's heart rate will be considerably slower than that of the normal doe because she lacks the calcium to keep it beating normally. When the treated doe's heart rate is the same as, or a tiny bit faster than, the normal doe's heart rate, things are going well.

After bringing her heart

### *Hypocalcemia: How to Recognize, Treat and Prevent It (Reith)*

rate up to normal, she will need DAILY MAINTENANCE DOSES OF ~ 30cc (1oz), continuing UNTIL SHE FRESHENS, at which point she will no longer need to provide large amounts of calcium and other nutrients for the fast-growing fetuses within her. Should she start to deteriorate at any time before then, that amount should be increased appropriately, but only temporarily, until she is regulated once more. Hopefully, for future pregnancies this doe's diet will be corrected so that this disorder will not re-occur.

BTW: Once her calcium level has been regulated and she resumes eating, she will probably initially refuse any grain that is offered. That should not cause you concern because her instinct is still trying to regulate her calcium-deficient condition and she is the best monitor of that. In short order she will probably resume eating the grain again, at which time she should be limited to just a small amount at each feeding.

If she is not eager at first to eat her hay (grass is OK initially if that's what you have access to... Alfalfa or alfalfa pellets would be a really good choice now) you would be wise to bring her some of her favorite browse... I feed Salal up here in the Northwest, and the wild huckleberry, both of which stay green all winter... In your area there must be something yummy that, of course, is not toxic. If you don't know her favorite, give her a variety and let her choose.

If possible, it would be better to use injectable CMPK instead of the oral form to treat your doe. This is because:  
(a) It's always risky to dose a seriously debilitated animal orally

as there is a potential for part of the fluids to end up in the lungs of the struggling animal, resulting in aspiration pneumonia, and (b) Calcium is, in concentrated form, somewhat caustic, and it will often burn the tender membranes of your goat's throat. The problem with my telling you this is that in their infinite wisdom the powers that be have decreed that injectable CMPK, while relatively inexpensive (about \$4/1000ml in the catalogs) should be a prescription-only item, available therefore only under the guidance of a veterinarian. The down side of this is that in addition to an increased per-dose cost, many veterinarians, especially those that are not goat-oriented, may not understand hypocalcemia, or why continued doses are necessary. As a result they might be overly-cautious about its use and generally will only want to prescribe/provide a single dose, or perhaps two. This is tantamount to trying to fix a leaking dam by putting your finger in the hole to stop the water flow.

One additional, important note regarding treatment of your hypocalcemic doe:

While you are treating her, keep in mind that if this very weak and debilitated doe has been down for 3 or more days, it is essential that you get her back up on her feet ASAP. Otherwise her legs will quickly lose their muscle tone and be unable to support the heavy weight of her body if she tries to get up on her own. If she is allowed to remain down for too long a period, her leg joints may begin to 'ankylose', or freeze permanently in the bent position. This is irreversible. To prevent it you may have to create a makeshift

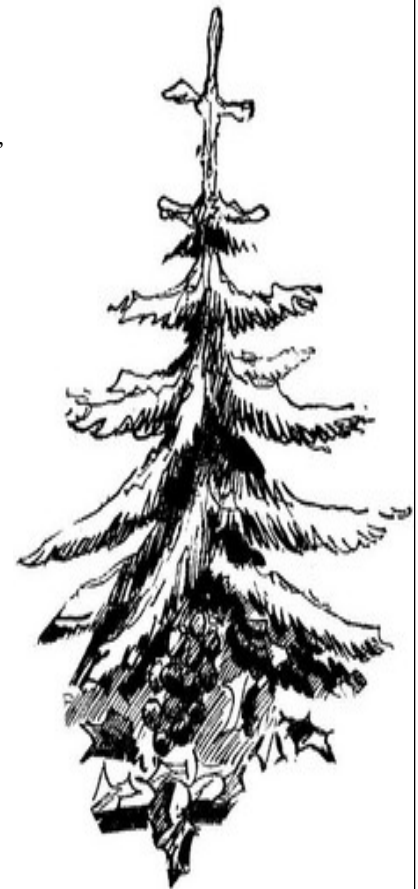
### *Hypocalcemia: How to Recognize, Treat and Prevent It (Reith)*

minerals. He says, "If there is a severe imbalance of them during pregnancy and early lactation, 'milk fever' <smile> may occur." And he continues, "Therefore, in order to prevent these problems, the calcium:phosphorus ratio should be at least 2:1." (2 parts calcium: 1 part phosphorus.) (FYI: He also states: "In males an imbalance of calcium to phosphorus often leads to the development of urinary calculi.")... Finally, as an addendum to those among us who rely on grass hay to feed our goats, Dr. Ensminger suggests that where additional calcium is needed, ground limestone is generally the mineral of choice, but if the animals are in need of both calcium and phosphorus the best choices for provision of these 2 essential minerals are di-calcium phosphate or steamed bone meal.

Another knowledgeable person, a man with whom I had the good fortune to come into contact when I was living in So. California where I first began to raise dairy goats, was a veterinarian named Dr. Robert A. Jackson. He was what you could call a goat vet's goat vet, and he and a dairy goat breeder/judge named Alice Gaye Hall frequently co-wrote articles on dairy goat management. In one such article, printed in the July '82 Dairy Goat Guide and entitled, 'What to Know about Medications', the readers were advised that calcium is an important substance for goat owners to keep in their cupboards because goats often come down with 'eclampsia, which is much like milk fever...'. As do others, they called it milk fever when it is actually just one of the elements one finds in that disease, and while they don't

address its dynamics, they do make the observation that a calcium deficiency (hypocalcemia) sometimes exists in the pregnant/lactating goat, and that the owner should be prepared to treat it when it shows up.

Sue Reith  
Carmelita Toggs  
Bainbridge Island WA  
[suereith@msn.com](mailto:suereith@msn.com)



## *Hypocalcemia: How to Recognize, Treat and Prevent It (Reith)*

Matthew's book actually make very little of hypocalcemia, despite the fact that (while admittedly it remains unrecognized due to lack of text reference information on the subject) it shows up quite frequently in the 'down' pregnant/lactating does managed by inexperienced goat owners. As a result, its potential for use as a diagnosis is overlooked entirely by veterinarians seeking guidance from these books in their efforts to come up with a proper diagnosis and treatment for the animal. The huge down side of this is that when the hypocalcemic condition is not recognized, the veterinarian that is inexperienced in diagnosing 'down' pregnant goats will, using these books for reference, almost always opt for a diagnosis of Pregnancy Toxemia, or Pregnancy Ketosis, or any combination or variation of those words. When asked directly about the possibility of a calcium deficiency, he/she frequently responds, "This goat's problem has nothing to do with calcium." The predictable treatment regimen will then be: "Treat with propylene glycol for ketosis, and get the babies out fast (C-section or, even worse, suggestion of Lutalyse for abortion, which will not work because the uterus has no muscle tone with which to expel the fetuses when put into the labor mode) to save the life of the doe." In instituting calcium therapy in lieu of such drastic measures I have never experienced loss of either the doe or the kids, and does thus properly treated to correct the condition invariably go on to freshen normally. Were it my goat down with this problem I would most surely engage the vet as a partner in instituting this treatment prior to embarking on anything so dras-

tic as C-section or abortion!

A number of our foremost dairy goat nutritionists and veterinarians have made reference to the existence of hypocalcemia in their writings over the years, although none seem to address the actual cause of it, which is critical to its treatment. As actual livestock management is not their field, perhaps they assume that all dairy goat people instinctively understand how to correctly feed their pregnant stock? They apparently are unaware that it is the mistakes in the feeding programs made by those of us who do not understand this essential 2:1 nutritional need that cause this hypocalcemic (too little calcium) condition.

Here are a couple of contributions made by respected individuals that have helped us in our understanding of goats' dietary needs, and have suggested potential corrective measures to take when the needs are not met:

Dr M.E. Ensminger, a renowned livestock nutritionist from whose work a vast body of our experts draw today in order to determine the content of livestock feeds and make nutrition recommendations, says in his 'bible' of livestock nutrition called *Feeds & Nutrition - Complete*, published in 1978, that Alfalfa (lucerne), a legume, "is high in calcium, protein, and carotene, and in many other minerals and vitamins".

He notes that "legumes are excellent calcium sources, while grasses and silages tend to be substantially lower in calcium content". He points out clearly that both bone growth and lactation (and muscle tone as well, BTW) require substantial quantities of these

## *Hypocalcemia: How to Recognize, Treat and Prevent It (Reith)*

'sling', attaching it to a pulley that is fastened to an overhead beam in the barn. About every 2 hours the sling should be raised up so that she can touch the ground comfortably with her feet and move around, and then lowered again so she can rest for a while... The process should be repeated continuously, 2 hours up and 2 hours down, until she can once again support her body's weight with her own legs. This generally takes but a few days, though her pregnant condition may place an added burden upon her as she tries to get her strength back. If the reader wants a picture of a sling I have one in my archives, at [sreith@qwest.net](mailto:sreith@qwest.net).

### **How could my pregnant goat get hypocalcemia? And how can I prevent it?**

If your doe is still milking when she is bred, she will need to continue the ration you have been giving her to support her milk production. But if she is 'dry' (not lactating) when you breed her she will need little or no grain for the first 3 months of her pregnancy, as calcium is not yet required for support of fetal growth. You see, at 3 months the fetus is no bigger than a newborn baby kitten.

But once that first 90 days or so has passed, the now completely formed fetus starts to grow rapidly. It will continue to do so, making increasingly greater demands for calcium to achieve that, over the next 8 weeks. So it's appropriate at that point to begin giving a small amount of alfalfa with the grass hay, increasing it gradually until at the time of freshening she is getting all alfalfa, which in my view should be

continued for the length of time she remains in milk. The feeding of alfalfa should taper off only as her milk production tapers off, until she reaches the end of that lactation, at which time she can once again be given all grass hay.

At that same 90 day (3-month) point when you start giving the pregnant doe alfalfa, you should also start offering a small amount of grain, no more than a handful at a feeding. It should be increased slowly over the next 60 days (2 months) so that by the time the animal freshens she is getting maybe a cup in the morning and a cup at night. Then, depending on the amount of milk the doe is giving per milking, you should increase the grain so that she is getting enough to help produce the milk but not make her fat. A pound of grain is usually recommended for 8 lbs (~ a gallon) of milk. I add alfalfa pellets to a doe's grain to keep her busy while I milk her out.

The cause of this hypocalcemia (calcium deficiency) problem that can show up in a doe anytime in the last 6-8 weeks of pregnancy is very basic. How best to explain it? Let's see... Most of us know that water is made up of a ratio of 2 parts Hydrogen to 1 part oxygen (H2:O). If you don't have that ratio, you don't have water. And some of us, particularly those among us that are raising goats in copper-deficient areas, understand that a ratio of 10 parts copper to 1 part molybdenum (10:1) is essential in order for copper to be available for our goats. Following that line of thinking, a ratio of 2 parts calcium to 1 part phosphorus (2:1) is needed to make calcium available to us, AND to our pregnant/lactating goats. *(continued on page 20)*

## Milk Chocolate Pots de Creme

A free recipe from <http://AmericasTestKitchen.com>

### Pots de Crème from the Episode: French Classics

A tablespoon of strong brewed coffee may be substituted for the instant espresso and water. Covered tightly with plastic wrap, the pots de crème will keep for up to 3 days in the refrigerator, but the whipped cream must be made just before serving. Serves 8.

- 12 ounces [milk chocolate](#), chopped fine
- 5 [large egg yolks](#)
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon [table salt](#)
- 1 1/2 cups heavy cream
- 3/4 cup half-and-half
- 1 tablespoon [vanilla extract](#)
- 1/2 teaspoon instant espresso powder *mixed with 1 tablespoon water*

### Whipped Cream

- 1/2 cup heavy cream (*cold*)
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon [vanilla extract](#)

**Garnish (optional)** Cocoa powder *for dusting* & Chocolate shavings *for sprinkling*



1. **MAKE ANGLAISE:** Heat egg yolks, sugar, salt, cream, and half-and-half to 175 to 180 degrees.
2. **MELT CHOCOLATE:** Pour warm anglaise through strainer and into bowl with chocolate.
3. **WHISK TO COMBINE:** After 5 minutes, whisk gently to combine anglaise and chocolate.
4. **POUR AND CHILL:** Divide chocolate custard among ramekins and refrigerate until set.



**NOT YET:** When its temperature is between 165 and 170 degrees, the custard will still be thin, and a line drawn on the back of the spoon will not hold



**READY:** When its temperature is between 175 and 180 degrees, the custard will coat the spoon, and the line will maintain neat edges



**TOO FAR:** When its temperature goes above 180 degrees, small chunks will become visible in the curdled custard

## Hypocalcemia: How to Recognize, Treat and Prevent It (Reith)

disease. Regarding the lack of resource material covering this disorder, I will say that I have been making a valiant effort to encourage the veterinarians who write these books to update their work to include it, but progress is slow. While most of goat management coverage in our current resource books is quite helpful, in this particular area I see the following deficiencies:

In the Merck Veterinary Manual *a single sentence* does address this disorder that appears at times in later gestation. In the 8th Edition it is found on P.744, the 'Pregnancy Toxemia in Ewes' section, in the paragraph called 'Diagnosis'. The single sentence reads: "Hypocalcemia, uncomplicated by pregnancy toxemia, should always be considered for recumbent late-gestation sheep." That's it! There is no discussion of either causation or treatment to be found anywhere for this briefly referred-to hypocalcemia. I can only speculate that it is because it is not well understood by the author.

Smith and Sherman's 'Goat Medicine' book does a fine job of pointing out in the section on goats' dietary needs that a diet containing 2 parts calcium for every 1 part phosphorus is important. Unfortunately, it appears there was a lapse in transferring that information over into other areas of the book where it is needed. For example, in a discussion of 'metabolic disorders appearing in late gestation' a reference is made to hypocalcemia, which is then followed up by a vague comment about some magical but unexplained chemical imbalance within the hypocalcemic goat that makes calcium unavailable to her. The author fails to make use of this golden opportunity to explain to the

reader (many of whom do not understand the nutritional needs of a pregnant/ lactating goat) the importance of providing a diet that contains 2 parts calcium for every 1 part phosphorus to free up calcium for her fetuses/milk production in order to prevent this hypocalcemia. Once again, I am left to assume that the authors are not making this connection? Oddly, there is another comment in that same section on metabolic disorders about goats needing "2 parts 'forage' to 1 part 'concentrate'", a misleading statement at best, and a recipe for disaster at worst, since vast numbers of goat owners have only grass for forage, and grass contains very little calcium at all.

John Matthews, in his 'Diseases of the Goat', talks about 'hypocalcaemia', noting that it may appear in late pregnancy... AND in any stage of lactation (an important bit of information!). Sadly, he also misses the simple cause, a dietary imbalance that prevents the uptake of calcium from the feed, and relies on that magical but unexplained "failure in the homeostatic mechanisms to meet the increased demand for calcium". However, in his discussion of 'Hypocalcaemia' he does redeem himself admirably with the accuracy of the following statement that: "All recumbent or comatose goats should be treated as potentially hypocalcaemic and given calcium."

Disappointingly, in addition to failing to explain the actual cause of hypocalcemia (unbalanced diet), none of these popular reference books offer any suggestion that continued calcium replacement during this owner-created crisis be started as a treatment for it. In fact, all excepting John

## Hypocalcemia: How to Recognize, Treat and Prevent It (Reith)

(continued from page 11)

If we don't have 2 parts of calcium for every 1 part of phosphorus, calcium isn't available. So you can see now how important it is that all of these ratios remain in balance. When they are not, the substance we need will not be available to us. In line with this, the goat must be provided with a ratio of at least 2 parts calcium (abundant in alfalfa) to 1 part phosphorus (abundant in grain) to make the calcium available to



her that she must have to support herself as well as the rapid fetal development within her uterus (or a lactating udder). If her owners do not provide the correct balance for her in the feed she is given, she will become hypocalcemic (calcium-deficient).

At the beginning of the gestation, before the babies start demanding a lot of calcium so they can grow within her, a mature doe (not a yearling, however, that is herself still growing) can survive on an unbalanced diet heavy in phosphorus (in grain) and virtually devoid in calcium (in alfalfa), generally without serious consequences. But when suddenly at 3 months into her gestation her body starts needing lots of calcium for the babies' growth,

with that same unbalanced diet she's been getting all along the calcium will not be available

Even if she were getting lots of good alfalfa along with that ample grain ration, she simply would not have the rumen capacity to eat enough alfalfa to achieve the 2:1 balance necessary to release sufficient calcium to meet the demands of her own body AND the rapidly growing fetuses inside of her. Her amazing instinct tells her to cut back on the grain to free up calcium from the hay. Well, when she stops eating that large amount of high-energy grain she has become accustomed to, she quickly becomes nutritionally deprived, in addition to the calcium deficiency she is already experiencing. She weakens fast, becomes lethargic and wobbly, and goes down, and owners and consulting vets stand around scratching their heads, not realizing what led up to this, and try to figure out what's wrong. They (might) offer her Nutridrench or propylene glycol to correct the ketotic situation she finds herself headed for (or in), and then they wonder why she continues to get weaker and weaker, not realizing her problem is that the mismanagement of her feeding program has deprived her of much needed calcium, vital not only for the babies' development, but for her own muscle tone as well. No calcium, no muscle tone, no heart pumping, dead goat.

**I can't find anything in the goat books about this disease. Where can I get more information?**

Hypocalcemia is a correctable metabolic disorder (condition), and not a



## Joyous news from our members!



Many of us remember Karlene Brouillet (My Kids Farm) showing her goats in 2008 with an extra helper on board. The Brouillet Family (My Kids Farm) welcomed lucky number seven, Noah Pierre, shortly after the 2008 Alaska State Fair.

Robyn McBride (Winterhaven Farm) welcomed her first grandbaby.



## Our thoughts go out to...

Former member, Deb Frost (Spring Promise Pygmies and Pygoras) - her husband, Jer, was critically injured this fall while maintaining their property in Wasilla. Although he is recovering remarkably well, Jer spent a number of weeks in the hospital with many serious injuries, including a severe closed-head wound. We hear he's finally home, but still on the mend. We're all hoping for a full recovery.

Many of us have said goodbye to some wonderful friends this year. If you would like to pay tribute to any of those you've lost, please submit their names to the Newsletter Editor for inclusion here. We will withhold your name unless you specifically ask that we mention you.

## In loving memory 2008 and 2009:

*Squirt*

*Fair Skies XK Yunaska*

*SilverAurora XR Yentna*

*My Kids Farm B OncelnABlueMoon*

*SilverAurora SB WaitingForMe*

*Fair Skies YZ Zapata*

*SilverAurora JT Villa Nova*

*Fair Skies XK Zambezi*



## Some of our members

### Show results available online



*Heather Fair  
(Fair Skies)  
with  
SilverAurora TH XBean 3\*D (3\*M pending)*

*Beanie was awarded Best Jr. Doe In Show out of 68 entries across all dairy breeds under Daniel Considine (ADGA) at the 2008 Alaska State Fair in Palmer.  
Beanie is a purebred Nigerian Dwarf.*

*Photo by Mark Simpson Photography © 2008.*

*Heather Fair (Fair Skies)  
with Fair Skies XK Yantarni*

*Yantarni was awarded Best Jr. Doe In Show out of 46 entries across all dairy breeds under Will Pearson (ADGA) at the 2009 Alaska State Fair in Palmer.  
Yantarni is a purebred Nigerian Dwarf.*

*Photo by Mark Simpson Photography © 2009.*



*Laura Manary  
(Boreas Acres)  
with  
Funny River Dixie*

*Dixie was awarded Grand Champion Jr. Doe in the ADGA Show under Heather Arts (ADGA) at the 2008 Tanana Valley State Fair in Fairbanks.  
Dixie is a purebred Nigerian Dwarf.*



## SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE - Proposed Changes in the Regulations dealing with Milk, Milk Products and Reindeer Slaughtering and Processing

ADEC proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 18 Chapter 32 of the Alaska Administrative Code. The following new sections are proposed:

- 18 AAC 32.310 addressing the purpose and applicability of the cheese production regulations
- 18 AAC 32.315 addressing the adoption by reference of federal requirements
- 18 AAC 32.320 addressing the permit requirements for processing cheese or cheese products
- 18 AAC 32.323 addressing the water, wastewater, solid waste and plumbing requirements for cheese processing facilities
- 18 AAC 32.325 addressing the construction standards for cheese processing facilities
- 18 AAC 32.330 addressing the standards for personnel involved in cheese processing
- 18 AAC 32.335 addressing the standards for equipment and utensils utilized in cheese processing
- 18 AAC 32.340 addressing the sanitation standards for cheese processing
- 18 AAC 32.345 addressing the standards for ingredients used in cheese processing
- 18 AAC 32.350 addressing the testing standards for cheese processing
- 18 AAC 32.355 addressing the record retention requirements for cheese processing
- 18 AAC 32.360 addressing the labeling and identification standards for cheese processing
- 18 AAC 32.365 addressing the inspection standards for cheese processing
- 18 AAC 32.370 addressing the de-

struction and destruction of cheese and cheese products

- 18 AAC 32.375 addressing the civil fines for violation of the cheese processing standards
- 18 AAC 32.380 addressing the right to appeal a decision
- 18 AAC 32.385 addressing fees

Amendments are also proposed that update the federal requirements adopted by reference in 18 AAC 32.020 and add new terms to the definitions in 18 AAC 32.990.

**This is a SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE adding to the NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES that was issued on October 30, 2009 concerning these proposed regulation revisions contained in the Department of Law file number JU2009200933. This SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE is being issued to extend the public comment deadline from December 3, 2009 to January 4, 2010.**

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to Jay Fuller, Assistant State Veterinarian, Division of Environmental Health, Department of Environmental Conservation, at 5251 Hinkle Road, Anchorage, AK 99507, by facsimile at 907-929-7335, or by e-mail to [jay.fuller@alaska.gov](mailto:jay.fuller@alaska.gov). The comments must be received no later than 5:00pm on January 4, 2010.

This notice has been truncated to fit within this space. To view the entire notice, visit <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/regulations/index.htm>.

## ALERT!

### Changes to Cheese Regulations Proposed!

As you read earlier in this newsletter (*see pages 6-7*), the State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) oversees Alaska's regulations on Raw Milk and Raw Milk Products (18 AAC 32). ADEC has proposed changes to 18 AAC 32 governing cheese making. **The comment & public notice period has been extended through January 4, 2010.** ADEC's Dr. Jay Fuller, DVM, issued these statements in November 2009:

Dear Interested Parties,

Attached is the public notice for draft cheese production regulations. The draft regulation is now posted on the internet for public comment.

A raw milk fact sheet is also attached for your information. Please feel free to disseminate this information to any other people that may be interested. We plan to hold a workshop this month to discuss the regulation. Please let me know if you are interested in participating so we can arrange a schedule.

Thank You,

Jay Fuller, DVM  
ADEC Assistant State Veterinarian

Inclusions are available for download:

Cheese Regulations Draft: <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/regulations/pdfs/Cheese%20Amendments%20Public%20Notice%20Version.pdf>

Raw Milk Fact Sheet from ADEC: [http://fairskiesalaska.com/RAWMILKFACTSHEET-COWANDGOATSHARES10\\_29\\_09.pdf](http://fairskiesalaska.com/RAWMILKFACTSHEET-COWANDGOATSHARES10_29_09.pdf)

Supplemental Public Notice: <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/regulations/pdfs/Supplemental%20Public%20Notice%20Cheese%20Amendments.pdf>

Public Notice: <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/regulations/pdfs/Public%20Notice%20Cheese%20Amendments.pdf>

Dear Interested Parties,

The Office of the State Veterinarian had hoped to host informal workshops on the draft cheese regulation this month to allow for face to face dialogue with stakeholders. Unfortunately, the State Dept. of Law has informed us that procedural laws for such activities prohibit them from occurring without formal oral public hearings. The small number of cheese producers and potential cheese producers in the state, as well as budgetary constraints will not allow us to hold formal oral public hearings on this regulation.

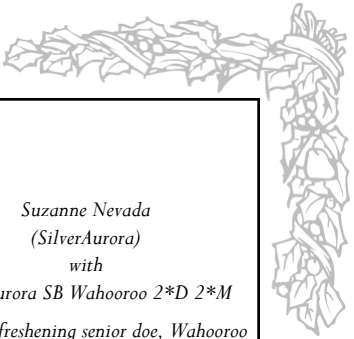
Stakeholders are encouraged to call our office with any questions they may have about the regulation, including clarification of language, purpose, or intent. Such discussion may help you with any written comments you may wish to submit during the comment period. Documents that are referenced within the draft regulation are available on the internet or at our Anchorage office and can be made available at our Wasilla office upon request.

We apologize for the fact that we cannot have workshops but still want to ensure that stakeholders fully understand the draft regulation before formally commenting on it.

Jay Fuller, DVM  
ADEC Assistant State Veterinarian

with their goats...

at <http://alaskaminigoatcache.com>



Suzanne Nevada  
(SilverAurora)  
with

SilverAurora SB Wahoooro 2\*D 2\*M

As a first-freshening senior doe, Wahoooro was awarded Division Champion for the open livestock goat classes at the 2008 Alaska State Fair in Palmer. Wahoooro is a purebred Nigerian Dwarf.



Heather Fair  
(Fair Skies)  
with

SilverAurora TH Xtreme Grace  
\*D (4\*M pending)

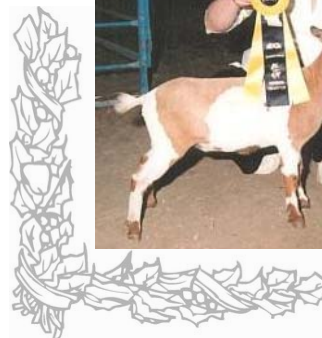
As a first-freshening senior doe, Gracie was awarded Division Champion for the open livestock goat classes at the 2009 Alaska State Fair in Palmer. Gracie is a purebred Nigerian Dwarf.



Karlene Brouillet  
(My Kids Farm)  
with

Piddlin Acres DJ Ida Bomb

Ida was awarded Grand Champion Jr. Doe in the ADGA/AGS Show under Rusty Repp at the 2008 Alaska State Fair in Palmer. Ida is a purebred Nigerian Dwarf.



**Some of our members**  
**Show results available online**



*Madison Manary  
 (Snowy Day Farm)  
 with  
 petting zoo pygmy kid  
 at the 2008 Alaska  
 State Fair in Palmer.*

**with their goats...**

at <http://alaskaminigoatcache.com>



*Karlene Brouillet  
 (My Kids Farm)  
 with  
 CH Piddlin Acres V Shanghai's Kia  
 Kia has been awarded several Grand  
 Championships and Best Udder awards  
 in ADGA & AGS shows.  
 Kia is a purebred Nigerian Dwarf.*



*Heather Fair (Fair Skies) with  
 CH SilverAurora  
 TH Xenya \*S \*B  
 As a senior buck,  
 Xenya was awarded  
 Best Buck in Show  
 under Pat Hendrick-  
 son (ADGA) at the  
 2009 Tanana  
 Valley State Fair in  
 Fairbanks.  
 Xenya is a purebred  
 Nigerian Dwarf.*

*Heather Fair (Fair Skies) with  
 MCH CH Sandy Hollow UK Chesire Cat \*S \*B  
 As a senior buck, Chesire has been awarded Best Buck In Show several  
 times in ADGA & AGS shows.  
 Chesire is a purebred Nigerian dwarf.*



*Karlene Brouillet's  
 (My Kids Farm)  
 ARMCH GCH Piddlin Acres PV  
 FeelTheRythym \*D 1\*M  
 Rythym has been awarded Best  
 Sr. Doe In Show and Best  
 Udder In Show many times in  
 ADGA & AGS shows.  
 Rythym is a purebred Nigerian  
 Dwarf.*



*Heather Fair (Fair Skies) with  
 SilverAurora JC WhisperSweetly  
 2\*D 2\*M  
 With 3# milk, WhisperSweetly  
 won High Milk, Miniature Breed,  
 at the 2009 ADGA One-Day  
 Milking Competition at the  
 Alaska State Fair in Palmer.  
 Whisper is a purebred Nigerian  
 Dwarf.*