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# THE DIE **ANGORA**

Bok- en Sybokhaarblad | Goat & Mohair Journal



*For everyone in the mohair industry*

*Vir almal in die sybokhaarbedryf*

# Redaksioneel

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*Daar waai 'n vars en positiewe briesie deur die Suid-Afrikaanse sybokhaarbedryf, wat vele beloftes en 'n opwindende toekoms vir al die rolspelers inhou.*

**D**ie onlangse kongres van die Suid-Afrikaanse Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging, waar daar 'n gees van samewerking tussen produsente en alle rolspelers in die bedryf, asook tussen bedrywe was, getuig hiervan.

Die openingsrede het die tempo vir positiewe en opbouwende debattering vir alle sake wat bespreek is, aangegee en die verskeie verslae het aangedui dat daar met 'n verenigde poging 'n versekerde toekoms vir sybokhaar is.

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging het 'n nuwe en begeesterde president, mnr. Barries Snijman en ons wens hom voorspoed, in sy nuwe leierstaak, toe en ons bedank terselfdertyd mnr Louw Retief vir sy jare lange toegewyde diens aan die bedryf.

Die ondersteuning vir Sybokhaar Suid-Afrika se aanstelling van 'n Bemaking- en Bevorderingsbestuurder was bemoedigend asook haar verslag aan kongres, wat in hierdie Blad gepubliseer is oor haar eerste oorsese besoek. Sy bring beslis 'n nuwe en positiewe dimensie aan SSA met aktiwiteite wat sal groei soos haar ondervinding verbeter. Sterk leierskap en 'n vriendeliker benadering met groter samewerking tussen alle rolspelers dra vrugte. SSA kan nou fokus op een van sy kernfunksies, naamlik die bevordering van sybokhaar, beide plaaslik en internasionaal.

SSA het ook 'n leiersrol in die ontwikkeling van 'n SEB-strategie vir die bedryf gespeel. Die suksesvolle SEB-projekte het 'n model vir ander SEB-inisiatiewe geword.

Die aantal jong mans en dames wat bedryffunksies soos kongres, Aksie Angora en die Angora Ramtelersgenootskap-aktiwiteite bywoon, is 'n positiewe teken vir die toekoms. Hierdie jong mense moet aangemoedig word om op alle vlakke deel te neem en opleiding by alle opvoedkundige instansies moet deur die bedryf ondersteun word. Die angorabok produksie-eenheid by die Grootfontein Landboukollege verskaf 'n wonderlike geleentheid aan jong boere om die potensiaal van sybokhaarproduksie te sien.

Sybokhaarproduksie is onder druk en die vraag bly, "Teen watter vlakke is dit te veel of te min?" 'n Goeie bestaan kan beslis teen die huidige vlakke uit sybokhaar gemaak word, ten spyte van bestuursbeperkings op produksievlak. 'n Redelike toename in wêreldproduksie sal waarskynlik groter stabiliteit aan die groter sybokhaarbedryf verleen.

Kom ons sit die vars briesie agter ons rûe en beweeg vorentoe om die toekoms van sybokhaar te verseker. ■

# *From the Editor* *Van die Redakteur*

*It is with sincere gratitude that we see the passing of winter and the dawning of spring. With it comes the hope of abundant rain and prosperous mohair prices.*

**T**he same mood of optimism is tangible in the mohair industry and planning for a Mohair Summit in 2009 to highlight the awareness of the United Nations Year of the Natural Fibre is testimony of this positive energy.

Die boodskap wat ons van alle internasionale oorde ontvang is dieselfde: Word Eko- bewus! Die verbruikersmark is erg besorg oor die gesondheid van die heelal en dit is nie meer n opsie om nie betrokke te raak nie. Die toekoms van die bedryf hang van sy vermoë om die erns van die saak aan te spreek, af.

The adoption by the industry of the Code of Best Conduct for producers will go some way to address the issue, but manufacturers and processors will be wise to focus on these matters as well. The prize-winning exhibition by SAITEC at Decorex this year drew enormous attention and the comments by Nika Smit, the Marketing Manager of Decorex says it all. "What people want now is to make emotional connections; to be surrounded by things that mean something. More than ever we want to be comforted by beauty, quality and eco-conscious design."

Mohair fits the bill perfectly, but innovations of design and product development are crucial if mohair is going to ride the emotional tide. We need innovation to change the perceptions of mohair as the fluffy yarn. It is so much more!

Dit is ook met hartseer dat ons kennis neem van die mediese terugslag wat twee van ons top produsente onlangs ondervind het.

Billy Colborne had a very serious heart bypass procedure and Clive van Hasselt is undergoing treatment for cancer. Our thoughts and prayers are with these fine gentlemen and we carry them and their families in our daily prayers.

Voorspoed met die boerdery tot ons weer gesels!

Enjoy your farming till we chat again.!

LINDA HENDERSON

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## Front Cover

*Preparing for a show? South African goats will find themselves on the world stage in 2009 with the International Mohair Summit that is planned in the production area.*

## Die Angorabok- en Sybokhaarblad

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*Amptelike tydskrif van die SA Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging, Angora Ramtelersgenootskap en Sybokhaar Suid-Afrika.*

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# Letter to the Editor

Dear Madam

I address this letter to you but it is actually directed at all the members of the Angora Goat Ram Breeders Society, as well as leading commercial mohair producers.

The ram breeders are supposed to be the people who should supply the rest of the industry with superior breeding material so that South Africa can remain the leading producer of top quality mohair in the world.

I have been associated with the mohair industry at all levels for more than five decades. I have witnessed how our predecessors have improved the breed since the early fifties. At that time hard chalky ears, white faces, kemp along the backs and under the tails, even in the fleece in some cases, were fairly common. Bare necks, hard tails and light on the bellies as well as the hind legs often occurred. However, over time the breeders improved the Angora to such an extent that animals were well covered with good quality mohair and very little or just about no kemp. Both conformation and constitution were exceptional and general appearance was pleasing to the eye.

Some breeders did unfortunately place too much emphasis on quantity resulting in a lack of style and character with a negative impact on size and consequently fertility. This may have caused an over-correction in breed policy with detrimental effects. It is a well-known fact that a middle-of-the-road approach in any breeding is the most successful in the long term. Over-correction is not the way to go!

What we see now at official ram sales is distantly removed from fifteen to twenty years ago when South-African breeding material was well sought after in many producer countries. The traditional proud sire has gone. Instead we see animals that

remind me of "kapaters" of the past. Bare necks, hard tails, light bellies and limited cover on the points! There is far less hair on the animals while I certainly do not notice much improvement, if any, in length. Another very important point is the lack of yolk. While some may not realise this, yolk is the one characteristic which has a major effect on longevity of fleece and is essential in processing to produce a good "healthy" tops!

I am very concerned about the current trend in breeding and the long-term negative effect it could have on our clip. Already we see a significant drop in production and this to a relatively large extent due to animals producing so much less hair. My question to leading breeders is: Can we continue along these lines, and where are we going to end up? South Africa's production in world terms has dropped from 61 percent to 54 percent in a very short period of time, and this is not all due to less animals. Other countries also experience a drop in numbers – so we have to look inwardly and specifically at breed policy.

I realise that the breed fraternity might be up in arms about the letter, but it is an earnest attempt to urge breeders to take stock of their current breed policy and to consider a major change. It is not going to be easy and cannot happen overnight. It will take a lot of soul searching and debate, but I believe it is imperative that a change is made rather sooner than later.

Yours sincerely  
GIELIE GROBLER

## FROM THE EDITOR

*Constructive debating is a necessary tool to raise awareness and to bring about change. Communication of this nature is welcomed and we appeal to all readers to use this medium to voice their opinions and concerns.*



## Mohair in Motion

*The newly acquired set of wheels places MSA at the forefront of fashionable transport. Easy to recognize and difficult to steal, this vehicle carries the mohair message to many corners of the country and raises public awareness of this noble fibre wherever it goes.*



# Editorial

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*There is a fresh and positive wind stirring in the South African mohair industry, which promises an exciting future for all stakeholders.*

**T**he recent SA Mohair Growers' Association Congress was evidence of this, where a spirit of co-operation, not only among producers and industry role players, but also between industries, was seen.

The opening address set the tone for positive and constructive debate around the issues discussed, while the various reports indicated that, with a united effort, there is an assured future for mohair.

The SA Mohair Growers' Association have a new and enthusiastic president, Mr Barries Snijman, and we wish him well in taking the growers forward while at the same time thanking Mr Louw Retief for his years of dedicated service.

The support for Mohair SA's appointment of a Marketing and Promotion Manager was encouraging as were Ms Jackie Gant's reports to congress and those of her first overseas visits, published in this Journal. She has certainly brought a new and positive dimension to Mohair SA, activities which will grow as she gains experience. Strong leadership and a more friendly approach to all stakeholders are bearing fruit with greater co-operation on all levels. Mohair SA is now able to focus on one of its core functions – promotion of mohair, both locally and internationally. It has also played a leading role in developing a BEE strategy for the industry and in the BEE projects which are proving successful and becoming a model for other BEE initiatives.

The number of young men and women seen attending industry functions, such as congress, Action Angora and Angora Ram Breeders Society's activities, are also a positive sign for the future. These young people should be encouraged to participate at all levels and training through the educational institutions must continue to be supported by the industry. The Angora goat production unit at Grootfontein Agricultural College provides a wonderful opportunity for young farmers to see the potential in mohair production.

Mohair production is under threat but the question remains, "At what level can it be considered to be too little or too much?" Certainly at present levels there is a good living to be made from mohair, in spite of the management constraints at producer level. However, a reasonable increase in world production would probably create more stability within the greater mohair industry.

Let us put this fresh wind at our backs and go forward to ensure the future of mohair. ■

# Mohair Management 2008



## Mohair South Africa

**Back from left to right:** Fred Alberts, Ivan Smith, Francois Michau, Deon Saayman (General Manager), David Nel, Arthur Short, Jackie Gant (Marketing Manager)  
**Front from left to right:** Wessel Cornelius, Reinhold du Randt, Malcolm Claasen, Clive van Hasselt  
**Absent:** Andries Oelofse



## Suid-Afrikaanse Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging

Barries Snijman, President en Kobus de Klerk, Vice-President

*Fotos van Theuns Botha*

# Mohair Management 2008

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## Sybokhaar Suid-Afrika | Mohair South Africa:

**Chairman/Voorsitter:** R du Randt (SAMGA)  
**Vice-Chairman/Onder-voorsitter:** M H Claasen (SAWAMPO)  
**Lede/Members:** F Alberts (Farm Workers Association), W Cornelius (Mohair Brokers Association), Jackie Gant (Marketing Manager), C R H van Hasselt (SAMGA), F Michau (SAMGA), D R Nel (SAWAMBA), A Oelofse (SAMGA), D Saayman (General Manager), A M Short (Angora Ram Breeders Society), I Smith (SAWAMBA)

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## South African Mohair Growers' Association | Suid-Afrikaanse Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging

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

---

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

---

## Angorabok- en Sybokhaarblad | Angora Goat And Mohair Journal

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---

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# Angora Ram Breeders Society

## Angora Ramtelersgenootskap

*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

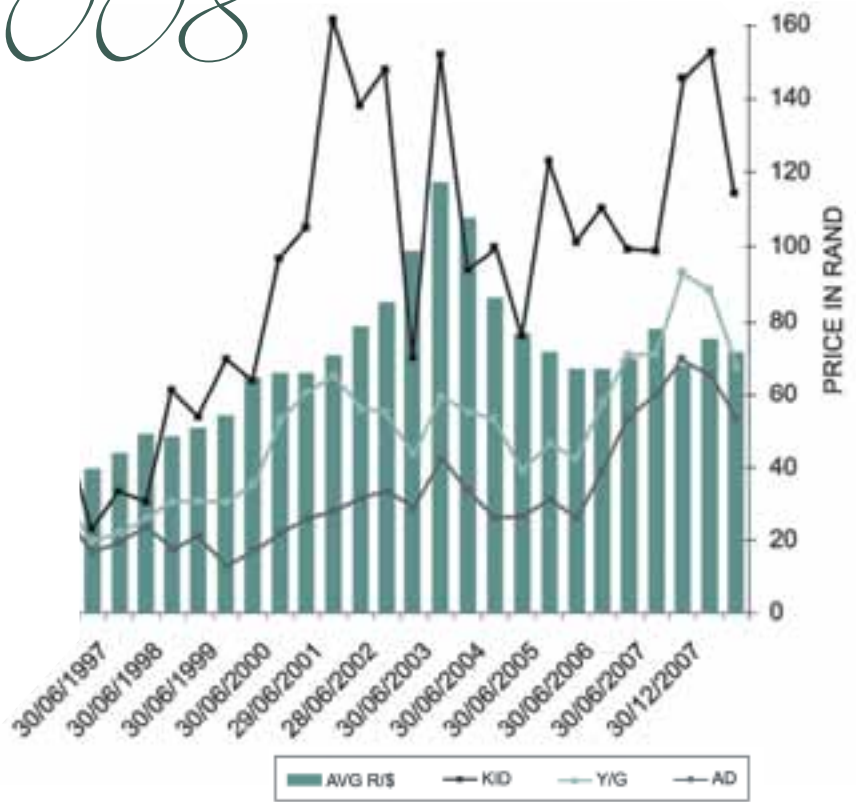
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248	Barkhuizen Trust, Posbus 193, Uniondale 6460	121	Loock en Seuns, M C, Volmoed, Posbus 13, Willowmore 6680
148	Biggs, R G & Sons, Droëkloof, PO Box 106, Jansenville 6265	196	Lötter, G J L, Doornpoort, Willowmore 6445
312	Botha, Andries P R, Kareekrans 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
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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, Driehoekfontein, 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, Driekopsvlei-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
118	Hobson, David, Redcliffe, Box 16, Pearston 5860	192	Troskie, Johan C, Middelburgplaas, Posbus 177, Cookhouse 5820
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
106	Hobson, G A, Box 82, Graaff- Reinet 6280	233	Vermaak, S V E, Brakfontein, Posbus 163, Jansenville 6265
195	Jordaan, Willie, Posbus 68, Cradock 5880	185	Viljoen, P H, De Hannesrust, Kleinpoort 6236
102	Kirkman, J D & Son, Nashvale, Steytlerville 6250	302	Viljoen, P P, De Hannesrust, Kleinpoort 6236
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		

# Seasonal Review –

## Summer 2008

Deon Saayman

The 2008 summer season closed nearly 11% higher than the first sale of the season, the overall market indicator positioned at R71.55 after the closing sale.



AVG Prices vs AVG R/\$ Rate / GEM Pryse vs GEM R/\$ Hoers

Although the average market indicator for the season was 8.5% lower than the 2007 summer season, the increase of 33% in the average price of kid's hair was the most positive trend of the season. This season the price levels of young goat's hair were disappointing while the price for adult hair remained fairly stable throughout.

The average market indicators for the 2008 summer season were as follows:

Kids	R169.06
Young Goats	R 64.32
Fine Adults	R 53.29
Strong Adults	R 52.28
Overall	R 72.84

The entrance of a new buyer to the auction sales room had a positive effect on competition, especially on the price of kid's hair. The result of the severe drought in 2007 and the decreased supply of summer kid's mohair in 2008, added to the demand for this sector of the clip.

Export figures for the first five months of the year were 17% higher than the corresponding period in 2007, with Italy and the UK being responsible for the biggest increase in sales volumes.

The volume of hair on offer during the 2008 summer season remained stable when compared to the comparative period in 2007, with a weaker currency lending some support towards a more stable adult mohair market.

The outlook for the 2008 winter season remains positive, despite the internationally depressed textile market and a challenging international economic climate.

The increase in the price of young goat's hair on the last summer sale is hopefully a positive sign for the coming winter season for this segment of the market.

Although the current fashion trend is not presently in favour of fancy yarns like mohair, information gleaned from overseas delegations is that the fashion trend will soon swing back towards the mohair look. ■

# PERSPEKTIEF:

## *Produsente, Pryse & Probleme*

**Inf**lasie, die resultaat van te veel geld in die ekonomie, versterk deur te min produksie en gebrekkige produktiwiteit, het gestyg na dubbelsyfers (15.7% voedsel en VPIX 10.4%), wat buite bereik van die regering se teiken is (3 - 6%).

Hierdie styging het veroorsaak dat rentekoerse aangepas moes word na 'n repokoers van 12%, en 'n prima-uitleenkoers van  $\pm 15\%$ . Dit het tot gevolg gehad dat die ekonomiese groei afgeplat het, en ontleders praat van die skerpste enkele kwartaaldaling in veertig jaar in S.A. - voorwaar nie 'n rooskleurige prentjie vir die huidige nie!

Stadiger ekonomiese groei en stygende rentekoerse sal dié verbruiker in 'n groter wurggreep kry, en duurder voedselprodukte (bv. vleis, melk en geprosesseerde voedsel) sal die impak voel. Arm mense spandeer soveel as 50% van hul inkomste aan voedsel, en met stygende voedselpryse sal die armes verder verarm. Die onlangse xenofobiese aanvalle op buitelanders is simptome van gemeenskappe wat bedreig voel deur hulpbronne en verbruikersgoedere (o.a. voedsel) wat beperkend en duur raak, 'n tipiese oorlewingsinstink wat oorneem en wat ernstige gevolge kan inhou vir die veiligheidsituasie in S.A.

Die blanke Suid-Afrikaanse boer word deur 'n groot deel van die Suid-Afrikaanse gemeenskap beskou as 'n ryk, minderheidsgroepering wat meeste van die landbougrond besit, en verder nog instrumenteel is in die styging van veral voedselpryse.

Die Rooivleis Produsente Organisasie (RPO) het d.m.v. 'n nuusvrystelling probeer om perspektief te gee met betrekking tot die rooivleispryse en insetkoste vir rooivleisprodusente. Hierdie nuusvrystelling was aanleidend om oorsigtelik te kyk na prysbewegings in rooivleis, sybokhaar en wol, omdat hierdie die vernaamste produkte is wat geproduseer word in die tradisionele sybokhaarproduksiegebiede. Produsente het bepaalde ekonomiese realiteite rakende produksie, insetkoste en bemerking wat hulle toenemend in die gesig staar.

### Die produsenteprys van bees-, lam- en skaapvleis het sedert die begin van 2007 tot die einde Februarie 2008 soos volg verander:

		2007 (R/kg.)	2008 (R/kg.)	% verandering
Beesvleis	A2 Klas	20.09	22.18	+10.4%
	C2 Klas	17.33	17.23	-0.6%
Lamsvleis	A2 Klas	30.21	29.05	-3.8%
Skaapvleis	C2 Klas	23.61	19.99	-15.3%

Bron: RPO Nuusvrystelling

### Die verbruikersprys van sekere rooivleis produkte het van 2007 tot Februarie 2008 soos volg verander:

	2007 (R/kg.)	2008 (R/kg.)	% verandering
Lamtjops	64.07	72.18	+12.65%
Bees kookvleis	35.02	40.22	+14.84%
Bees kruisskyf	62.55	71.66	+14.57%

Bron: RPO Nuusvrystelling

**Ben van der Westhuyzen**

*Die Suid-Afrikaanse verbruiker het gedurende die 1ste en 2de kwartaal van 2008 'n paar harde prysdwarssklappe gekry wat hom behoorlik laat steier het. Die prys van ru-olie is met 'n drafstap verby die \$120 per vat, en volgens ekonome, goed oppad na \$200 per vat. Die brandstof prysstygings het 'n rippeleffek deur die ekonomie gestuur, met prysstygings in voedsel en produksie middele.*

Die afleiding kan gemaak word dat die kleinhandelprys met  $\pm 14\%$  toegeneem het, terwyl produsentepryse in dieselfde periode oorwegend gedaal het – skaapvleisprys met soveel as 15.3%.

Rooivleisprodusente kry tans ongeveer 45% van die verbruikersrand, maar die aandeel (45%) is besig om te daal na 40%. Hierdie tendens is kommerwekkend vir produsente, sowel as die RPO.

### Produsenteprys van sybokhaar 2007 Somer – 2008 Somer:

	2007 (R/kg.)	2008 (R/kg.)	% verandering
Kleinbökkie (MI)	127.17	169.06	+32.9%
Jongbok (MI)	83.27	64.32	-22.8%
Fyn Grootbok (MI)	70.08	53.29	-23.9%
Grootbok (MI)	69.32	52.28	-24.6%
TOTAAL (MI)	79.57	72.84	-8.5%

\*MI = Markindikator

Bron: Mohair SA

Die afleiding kan gemaak word dat die prys van sybokhaar in 2008 laer is as 2007, soos aangedui deur die algehele MI. Slegs kleinbökkiehaar het 'n verhoging in prys/kg. getoon van 'n 2007 MI van R127.17 tot 2008 MI van R169.06 - 'n verhoging van 32.9%. Al die ander tipes haar het 'n daling in prys/kg. van  $\pm 24\%$  getoon. Die algehele markindikator het van 2007 Somer tot 2008 Somer met 8.5% gedaal.

### Produsenteprys van wol 2007 - 2008:

	2007 (R/kg.)	2008 (R/kg.)	% verandering
MI (alle tipes skoonwol vir seisoen)	48.18	61.51	+28%

Bron: Cape Wools

Die huidige markindikator vir alle tipes skoonwol beloop R61.51/kg. teenoor R48.18/kg. in 2007. Dit beteken 'n verbetering van 28% in prys tussen 2007 en 2008.



## Styging in die produsent se insetkoste:

Die afgelope jaar het produsente te kampe gehad met insetkoste stygings wat enorme druk op hul winsgewendheid plaas. As in aanmerking geneem word dat brandstof prysstygings hoofsaaklik na Februarie 2008 in werking getree het, sal die persentasie styging soos in onderstaande tabel aangetoon, verder verhoog.

Item	% styging afgelope jaar (28 Febr. 2008)
Diesel	55%
Entstowwe	26%
Misstowwe / bemesting	22% tot 113%
Saad	24%
Mielieprodukte	24%
Beeslek	28%
Skaaplek	31%

Bron: RPO Nuusvrystelling

Uit die ontledings kan die afleiding dus gemaak word dat die produsent net so blootgestel is aan ekonomiese markkragte en prysstygings as die verbruiker van voedsel. Die produsent is 'n rolspeler in die voorsieningsketting, en in die meeste gevalle, 'n prysnemer eerder as 'n prysbepaler. Op die insetkant van boerdery word produsente baie ernstig geraak deur vraag/aanbod; ekonomiese realiteite soos rentekoersverhogings, brandstofstygings en inflasie. Die marge bo produksiekoste is besig om kleiner te raak, en produsente se finansiële posisie kom toenemend onder druk.

Die Suid-Afrikaanse boer, en derhalwe ook die Angoraboere, kan hulself regmaak vir 'n redelike rowwe rit in die volgende tydvak. Insetkoste sal styg as gevolg van styging in brandstofkoste en elektrisiteitskoste, en sal 'n duidelike rippleffek op die ekonomie hê.

Rentekoerse sal styg, maar die Regering sal 'n fyn balans moet kry tussen groei in die ekonomie en die hokslaan van inflasie. Met stygende oliepryse, sal natuurlike vesel se mededingende voordeel ten opsigte van sintetiese vesel (by-produk van olie) wêl toeneem. Die groter druk van die "GROENES" met "ORGANIC" as belangrike bemarkingsfoefie sal produsente verder laat glimlag!

Vleispryse kan wêl onder druk bly a.g.v. duurder insetkoste, o.a. mielies, voerkoste by afronding, minder geld by die verbruiker vir die luukse van vleis, en moontlik die opheffing/verslapping van invoertariewe op ingevoerde vleis, wat die aanbod van vleis kan opstoot en groter kompetisie met Suid-Afrikaans geproduseerde vleis veroorsaak.

Op makro-ekonomiese vlak sal die regering sy ekonomiese beleidsbenadering dringend moet hersien met meer klem op groei, werkskepping en kapitaalprojekte met langtermyn welvaartskeppende oogmerke. ■

TO OUR ENGLISH READERS: This article about producers, their problems and the mohair price in perspective is available in English on our website: [www.mohair.co.za/files/journals/English50\\_2.pdf](http://www.mohair.co.za/files/journals/English50_2.pdf)

## Wêreld Rekord Pryse vir Suid- Afrikaanse kleinbokkiehaar World Record Prices for South African kid mohair



Photo by CMW

Mr Paul Michau (left) and Mr Billy Colborne (right) are two of three producers who achieved record prices for a bale of kid mohair which was sold to New England Buyers for R420.00 per kg on the last mohair sale of the summer season. With them in the photo are Pierre van der Vyver (Executive Director, Mohair CMW), Mrs Irene Colborne and Mr Ken Read (centre) of New England.

GT en Werner Ferreira van Snyberg Angoras naby Uniondale het ook 'n rekordprys vir 'n baal van hul kleinbokkiehaar ontvang. Hier staan hulle by mnr Ken Read, die koper van New England wat die baal op die laaste veiling van die somerseisoen teen R420.00 per kg gekoop het. Hierdie produsente het ook al drie die groot sybokhaarpryse nl. Zegna, Miyuki en Daidoh in dieselfde jaar (2007) ingepalm. Baie geluk met hierdie merkwaardige prestasie.



Foto van Ettienne Bezuidenhout





# Mohair

## *down under*

*Janet Leigh - the epitome of an Aussie farmer - with her trusty workers at her side.*

### AB Hobson

*It is a well-known fact that in terms of livestock production, Australia boasts massive potential. It is said that the early Australian economy was built on the back of the merino. Although the modern economy in Australia is currently dominated by mining and industry, the continent remains a major international player in the livestock industry.*

**M**ohair production in Australia peaked at 1,2 million kilograms during the late eighties but has recently dropped to approximately 0,02 million kilogram. The reasons for the unprecedented drop in production are akin to international trends in mohair producing countries during the past two decades.

The South African mohair industry has recently embarked on a process of interacting with other mohair producing countries in an effort to stimulate the production of quality mohair. With this goal in mind, visits to Turkey, Argentina and Texas were followed by a visit in February and March to Australia. Andries Oelofse, his wife Elzanne, and I were privileged to represent MSA on a three-week trip to the main production areas in the states of Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.

#### **Our brief from Mohair Australia was to:**

- Judge animals and fleeces at two of their major shows.
- To attend field days to promote commercial mohair production in Australia.
- To witness a practical demonstration of Thermoskin on newly shorn Angoras.
- To visit commercial and stud ranches, including those that have imported South African genetics.
- Visits to the two broker houses in Australia in order to get an insight into mohair marketing in Australia.
- A visit to the head quarters of Mohair Australia in Narrendera.

*Janet Leigh's herd of goats near Coura, NSW.*



### Judging at the Australasian and NATS shows:

On arrival at these venues, one is immediately struck by the neat and orderly appearance of the venues and the slick organization, which attests to the value the participants attach to the shows.

The judging of the fleeces is done on the day before the judging of the animals.

The standard of the fleeces was generally pleasing, but as judges we were frustrated by the points system which seemed to over emphasize fleece mass. Often a lighter fleece of good quality would be discriminated against in favour of a heavier fleece of lesser quality. The 10 kg composite samples were also of a superior standard.

A very interesting competition entry involved groups of five wethers, which were shorn at the venue. The fleeces were classed into different lines and the animals were judged on a combination of body weight and fleece quality.

The judging of the animals was well organized and a strict protocol was adhered to. The enthusiastic involvement and dedication of the Australian women in all matters of Angora husbandry is very commendable. It was also interesting to note the participation of the youth in the judging arena at these shows. The early exposure of the industry to the youngsters must be a good learning experience that should have a very positive spin-off.

We were left with the impression that there has been a radical improvement in the standards of the Australian Angoras. In our opinion there is a strong enough genetic base for the expansion of large-scale commercial production.

There is, however, room for improvement in terms of kemp, colour and general constitution. Although the recent importation of South African genetics by way of frozen embryos has made a positive contribution in this respect, a more significant impact could be achieved once the protocols governing the importation of frozen semen are put in place.

### Field Days

The two field days that we attended were very successful and I believe that this concept should be promoted to increase large-scale commercial production of mohair in Australia.

Once again, the planning and execution of the day's activities were very impressive and the animals and fleeces on show were of an exceptional quality.

The media coverage at these events was excellent and the Australian mohair industry used this vital tool successfully to promote their production.

Our delegation did a power point presentation of the South African mohair industry. This led to great deal of inter action with the Australian producers. Special emphasis was placed on the fact that merinos and Angoras can be successfully integrated due to the efficient utilization of the infrastructure and more efficient utilization of available grazing.

A comparison of factors inhibiting and promoting mohair production in the two countries was drawn and this led to lively discussion.

### Factors influencing mohair production in Australia and South Africa.

- Expansion of game farming in traditional Angora farming areas in South Africa. This threat does not exist in Australia.
- Vermin losses. In Australia foxes are a problem, but not to the extent that they cannot be managed effectively with the use of guard dogs.

*Below: Andries and Blake sharing some practical tips on sorting mohair.  
Far Below: A typical Ausie shearing shed.*







*Andries, Justine Hall and Norm McRae at the offices of Mohair Australia.*

- Stock theft. This is not a major problem in Australia.
  - Risk of stock losses due to inclement weather. In Australia, this problem is greatly reduced since Angora goat farming is mostly semi-intensive and rounding up the animals in the smaller paddocks poses no problem.
  - Price volatility is a problem affecting both countries.
  - There appears to be a stigma attached to Angora goat farming, especially amongst the Australian merino producers. No such stigma exists in South Africa and often Angoras and sheep are farmed together to utilize the diverse grazing conditions.
  - Shearers in Australia are loath to shear Angoras. Fortunately, that problem does not exist here.
  - Labour costs are considerably higher in Australia than here.
  - In Australia, there is a total lack of field services and brokers are not willing to get involved.
- During our travels, it became evident that the Australian industry is very widespread with vast distances between producers, brokers and consumers. This may be the reason why their industry is fairly fragmented when compared to our more localized situation.

### Visits to brokers

We were privileged to visit both brokers operating in Australia and observed some interesting phenomena.

- The two brokers have completely different marketing strategies.
- Due to the lack of large-scale commercial mohair growers most of the mohair needs to be re-classed and pooled at the brokers.

- A general lack of labour and skills on farms lead to indifferent classing standards. With the lack of clip preparation, this adds to the problems encountered by brokers.
- The re-classing and pooling are labour intensive and expensive.
- Expensive practices such as micron testing and coring on smaller lots add to the cost structure.

### A visit to the headquarters of Mohair Australia

The last leg of our journey took us to Narrandera where Justine Hall looks after the interests of the Australian mohair industry. We found Justine's passion and commitment to Angoras and mohair inspiring. The office doubles as a promotional venue and is ablaze with colour from an inspiring variety of different mohair products, which are for sale.

We were indeed very privileged to be hosted by many fine mohair folk. New friendships were forged, relationships were strengthened and the ties between the mohair producing countries were consolidated.

During our travels, we became aware of the vast livestock potential in Australia. Despite various inhibiting factors quite different from the ones experienced locally, we believe that there is great potential for expanding the mohair production in terms of quality and quantity in that large continent down under. ■

*Blake Hobson judging at NATS in Goulbourn, NSW.*

*Justine Hall, industry liason and promotion officer of Mohair Australia and Andrew Gossip, co owner of the grand champion of NATS 2008.*



*Ermenegildo Zegna suite in Lotte department store Seoul, Korea.*



### **Jackie Gant**

*A delegation from MSA recently paid a visit to China, Korea and Japan with the intention of introducing the newly-appointed Marketing and Promotions Manager, Jackie Gant, to the wider aspects of international mohair textile manufacturing.*



*Sales person in Lotte department store Seoul, Korea.*

# Jackie is introduced *to the East*

**J**ackie met role players from all sectors of the industry including, agents, spinners, weavers, knitters, retailers and manufacturers in an attempt to familiarise herself with the industry.

This inaugural trip left her with much to ponder about and she shares some of her impressions.

## **JAPAN**

'This beautiful Land of the Rising Sun has a long and loyal association with the South African mohair industry and meeting these refined consumers and manufacturers was a glorious pleasure.'

### **Some of the pertinent issues that were discussed included:**

- The rising price of wool internationally. Traditionally wool is blended with mohair and, although the price of mohair has been fairly stable for the past three seasons, spinners are required to reduce the mohair content of the yarn in order to meet the client's price requirements. The reduced mohair content has a negative effect on the appearance of the final product.
- Since South Africa is considered to be the international leader of mohair production, questions were asked about steps the local industry were taking to replace the international mohair mark, which used to be the domain of the now defunct IMA.

- Questions were also asked about the availability of organic mohair.
- One manufacturer explained that due to the increased summer temperatures, the market showed an increased demand for lightweight fabrics in polyester, wool and polyurethane blends and that mohair seemed to find favour in the spring and autumn seasons.
- It would also seem that the younger consumer is moving to a more casual dress style and that the suit is making way for the casual jacket sans the tie.
- Spinners saw a drop in the demand for fancy yarns in favour of flat yarns, and were of the opinion that tweed yarns would find favour in the Winter 2008/2009 season.
- A meeting with a newspaper company that focuses on the textile market and has a daily distribution of seven thousand copies, was convened to examine strategies to incorporate them into the general marketing strategy.

'It became evident that the Japanese consumer trends differ somewhat from the Chinese trends. In Japan a thorough awareness and knowledge of the qualities and tactile characteristics of a fibre play a significant role in the choice of textiles for garments. It would seem that the choice of brand labels has greater significance with the Chinese consumer, often at the cost of quality.'

In an attempt to popularise mohair, there was a request





Above: Lotte department store, Seoul, Korea. Sales person, Mr S Lee, Dongha Trading Company and Mr R du Randt (MSA) discussing a mohair suit.  
Above right: Ms Jin Jianhong and Ms Jackie Gant at Shine, China.

from some of the Japanese manufacturers, who sell to the Chinese consumer market, for marketing material, which could be used to educate the sales staff that ultimately interact with the end consumer.

'Our delegation also met various manufacturers and retail outlets and a company that owns six mills that cater for the *made to order* market.'

This is a boutique concept, which they would like to introduce to South Africa. Here a client can be measured and personally outfitted in a personal choice of fabric in products ranging from suits to ties and shirts. The information would be sent to Japan where the products are manufactured and would be couriered back to South Africa

'In an environment of mass manufacturing this individualism should be most appealing to our top end users of mohair'

'We also paid a visit to a factory that is doing trials with weaving mohair jeans material. It would seem that there are quite a few hurdles to overcome but they are optimistic that they will shortly produce a suitable product.'

A very positive move is the appointment of Mr Okamura from Miyuki to CEO of the retail division of their company. Mr Okamura has a wealth of knowledge of mohair and his loyal association with the fibre could have a meaningful influence at consumer level.

## CHINA

China's vast population of 1.3 billion people is an attractive target for mohair consumption when one considers that 130 million of the population is categorised as wealthy.

Traditionally the Chinese prefer easy maintenance clothing, which require minimum care. Mohair fabric requires special care and this, coupled to the price, could be seen as factors influencing the popularity of this fibre to the mass market.

Mohair is, however, exported to China in various stages where it is put through the manufacturing chain and turned into yarn, cloth or garments and exported internationally.

After visiting various role players in the manufacturing sector we were left with these impressions:

- Fancy yarn is being manufactured in China and 99% is being exported to Europe, USA and Korea. The European markets are the biggest end users. Fancy yarn is not in fashion in China. There is an increased demand for adult mohair. (Similar to 2005).
- The delegation was informed that scoured and greasy mohair (mainly from Argentina and other countries) was available at cheaper prices this year. Mohair tops from Russia were being imported to China and are 40% cheaper. However, the quality of mohair from these countries still remains a problem.
- 'Many of the companies we visited wanted the SA quality of mohair.' Some manufacturers claimed that there is a shift away from using adult mohair towards using young goat and kid mohair.
- There is concern across the board for the increase in input costs in China as labour had increased by 30%, and sewage, electricity, bank charges and transport by 5%. These factors impact negatively on the manufacturing price and the consumer's purchasing power.

Top: Pongs Valour showroom.  
Centre: Pongs Valour company, Germany.  
Bottom: Rogatis mohair suit in Lotte department store, Seoul, Korea.





*Right: Knitted samples from a company in China.  
Far right: Mr S Lee, Dongha Trading Company, and sales person discussing suites in Lotte department store.*



*China's vast population of 1.3 billion people is an attractive target for mohair consumption when one considers that 130 million of the population is categorised as wealthy.*

- One of the companies reported a reduced consumption of mohair, which was directly related to price, but they were more optimistic about the new season after receiving a positive response to marketing initiatives in the USA.
- An agent from China will represent MSA at the 2008 Spinexpo, which is to be held in Shanghai. A suggestion was made to produce a mohair brochure, which targets the fashion and textile designers for Spinexpo. MSA will consider sending a representative to Spinexpo in 2009 depending on the results of the 2008 event.
- An agent suggested that MSA do a road show to the top six Chinese cities that have Designer Associations so that a presentation can be made to them on the mohair fibre and the benefits of the quality of South African mohair.
- The issue of a mohair mark was raised and it was felt that there is a strong need for this emblem to protect the South African clip.

## **KOREA**

The textile industry in Korea has, during the past seven years, shrunk significantly and much of their manufacturing has moved to China.

The volume of SA mohair being imported into Korea in 2008 has decreased significantly from the same period last year. This is mainly due to the international economic slow down and the price of mohair.

The delegation paid a visit to a department store where a variety of mohair suits were available. It was observed that the sales staff were not well-informed about the qualities of mohair and that no reference to the source of origin of the mohair was available. There was also a notable absence of other mohair products including socks and jerseys on the shelves.

A meeting was held with the purchasing division of one of the top Korean suit brands (a Samsung owned company). They are a vertical operation and supply to other apparel operations as well. Information from this source indicated that, due to the weak state of the economy, the Korean markets were focusing on the middle end market in preference to the top end market. Concerns were again raised about the price of mohair.

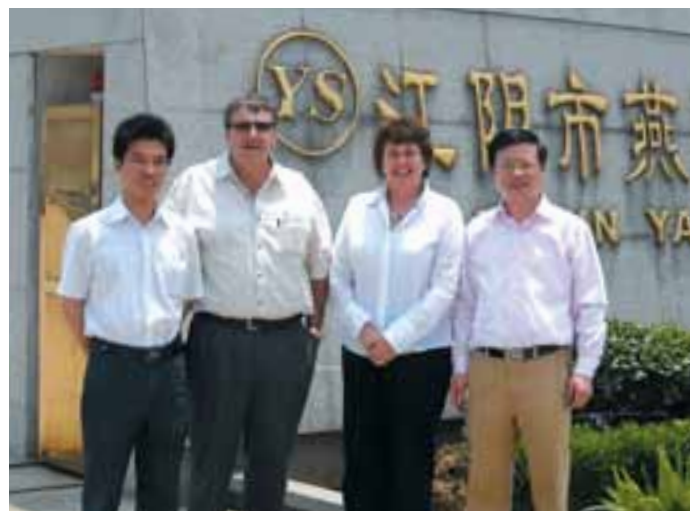
A meeting was held with the SA Embassy in Korea. We met members from the DTI, including the marketing officer and the Counsellor for Economics.

They advised the delegation on advertising circumstances in Korea and made suggestions on effective ways of reaching the Korean market. A special space for displaying South African mohair products, which could be used at trade shows, was offered.

Discussions about the possibility of hosting the Ermenegildo Zegna Trophy award ceremony in Korea in 2009, were also held.

'My visit to the East was both informative and inspiring. I view the opportunity of extending and enhancing the partnership we share with other mohair partners as both exciting and challenging. Mohair is a noble fibre but it needs considered thought and creative marketing to maintain a leading role in an international economically challenged environment'. ■

*Mr GU from Jiangyin Yanshun Textile Company, R du Randt, J Gant and Mr Ni, Landlink Company, in China.*





# Europe

## *in a nutshell...*

**Jackie Gant**

*'My introduction to the European mohair platform included visits to Italy, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany where I met agents, spinners, weavers, knitters and velour manufacturers. Perhaps the highlight of my tour was meeting with Li Edelkoort, an internationally renowned trend forecaster.'*

'While most of the news was positive and the folk I met were inspirational, Europe has its own set of challenges. The economic downturn has not left them unscathed and certain initiatives have had to be put in place to adapt to the changing circumstances.'

### Italy

The increasing cost of labour has forced the Italian manufacturing sector to look to China and the East for less expensive manufacturing options. Prato, the knitting and yarn centre of Italy, is experiencing this trend and Italian factories are now only working thirty-five hours per week. Cheaper Chinese labour is used to stimulate productivity.

To counteract this trend, the Italian manufacturing sector is focusing on producing quality fabrics for the discerning top end consumers instead of catering to the needs of the greater mass market.

Although the demand for mohair is still above average, it is alpaca and cashmere that are currently very fashionable. It would seem that the volatility of the mohair price and not the price as such, and the concern about the declining South African clip, are contributing factors to the hesitancy to commit to mohair.

A meeting with Li Edelkoort, an international trend forecaster, was particularly inspiring as she predicted that agriculture was to be the next major financial growth segment. With her helicopter perspective of world economies, Li foresaw the advancement of farms to medical centres of healing and mass food production as economies struggle to feed their masses. She is very upbeat about mohair and believes that the upholstery sector will see an upswing. She is a keen supporter of natural fibres and enjoys the qualities of mohair.

Ermenegildo Zegna is celebrating their centenary in 2010. These long term friends and associates of the industry are keen to encourage new entrants at producer level and have requested that a new category be introduced into the competition to entice new producers to join the mohair industry.



*Left: Twan Ramaekers, Jackie Gant and Addo de Voogd at a meeting with Schelles, Eindhoven, Belgium.*





*Ermenegildo Zegna is celebrating their centenary in 2010.*

### France

A request to establish why the South African government would not sanction the importation of greasy mohair from Turkey to South Africa was received and a promise was made to examine the situation.

The quality of the South African clip was complimented and South Africa was strongly encouraged to utilize the marketing opportunity of 2010 to establish Port Elizabeth (South Africa) as the mohair capital of the world.

### Belgium

This country, which produces top class velours, reported that, although the demand in the USA was still very strong, the fastest growing demand for this fabric came from the emerging markets of Russia, Eastern Europe and India. Recently the Plaza Hotel in New York has been outfitted in mohair velour and Starbucks, the major coffee shop franchise, has added mohair velour couches to their interiors.

The velour weavers are of the opinion that the durability of mohair velour places it in a unique marketing position.

They were of the opinion that a direct marketing approach to decision-makers in the architectural and interior design field could contribute to a higher consumption of the fabric.



*Right: Li Edelkoort, one of the world's most renowned trend forecasters.  
Far right: R du Randt, Ronald de Lagrange-Chancel, Jackie Gant and Dominique Carpentier at the meeting with ADF FFM Peronne, France.*

### Netherlands

A company that initiated a sock project five years ago has asked MSA for assistance and guidance with marketing and promoting the product. They require marketing support, and material from MSA that will link the socks to their origin to create an awareness of the properties of mohair and the story of the fibre.

### Germany

To end our European tour on a high note we were informed of the Billionaire's Fare that is hosted in Russia for the super rich. Here price is not a consideration and the wildest fantasies are catered for, including fabric that is interwoven with Swarovski crystals.

Could this be the showplace for our mohair? Perhaps a visit to this exotic destination and an exposure of our noble fibre should be in the pipeline when dreaming of new markets for mohair. ■







*South African Mohair  
Growers' Association*



*Suid-Afrikaanse  
Sybokhaarkwekers-  
vereniging*



# Congress 2008 Kongres



# Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging: *Jaarverslag*



Louw Retief,  
President van Suid-Afrikaanse  
Sybokhaarwerkersvereniging

*Mnr Louw Retief, president van die Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging, het sy indrukke van die sybokhaarbedryf op die vyf-en-sestigste jaarkongres van hierdie vereniging soos volg, in sy jaarverslag gestel.*

## **Sybokhaarpryse:**

Pryse het gedurende die 2003-winterseisoen van 'n laagtepunt van R35-94 per kg gestyg tot 'n hoogtepunt van R78.08 per kg gedurende die 2006 somer- en winterseisoene. Hierdie gemiddelde prys het op R78.38 per kg in 2007 te staan gekom terwyl sybokhaar op die voorlaaste veiling van die somerseisoen van 2008 vir 'n gemiddeld van R77.86 per kg verkoop is. 'n Verblydende verskynsel op dieselfde veiling was die verkoop van kleinbokkiehaar teen R400.00 per kg.

In nominale terme is dit die beste pryse ooit vir kleinbokkiehaar. Meer verblydend was die mate van stabiliteit wat die pryse oor die afgelope vyf seisoene gehandhaaf het.

## **Sybokhaarproduksie:**

Die wêreldwye daling in sybokhaarproduksie gaan nog steeds voort soos die volgende tabel aantoon:

### **Sybokhaarproduksie (Miljoen kg)**

Jaar	SA Produksie	Wêreldproduksie
1988	12,2	26,0
1994	5,7	13,3
2003	4,0	6,6
2006	3,35	6,05
2007	3,00	5,6





Suid-Afrika lewer tans 54% van die wêreldproduksie teenoor die 61% van drie jaar gelede. Suid-Afrika bly egter die grootste produsent van hoë kwaliteit sybokhaar ter wêreld. Die VSA en Lesotho neem onderskeidelik die tweede en derde plekke in.

Willowmore/Rietbron met 11,3%, Aberdeen met 10,2%, Jansenville met 8,8%, Cradock met 8,2% en Somerset-Oos met 7,7% is die vyf grootste sybokhaarproduserendedistrikte in Suid-Afrika. Saam produseer hulle 46.65% van die land se sybokhaar.

Die samestelling van die Suid-Afrikaanse skeersel dui daarop dat dit beslis fyner word wat 'n positiewe uitwerking op pryse het.

### **Invoere:**

Invoere het in 2007 afgeneem tot 831 000 kg, 'n verdere daling van 34%, sybokhaar is dus nie meer so gereidelik in die buiteland beskikbaar nie. Suid-Afrika se verantwoordelikheid as 'n betroubare verskaffer word dus al hoe belangriker.

### **Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging:**

Die belangrikste aktiwiteite van die SASKV het om die bedryfsondersoek, SEB en die gedragskode vir die sybokhaarbedryf, gesentreer.

Onmiddellik na die kongres in 2007 is daar uitvoering gegee aan kongres se versoek om die produsente skriftelik in te lig omtrent die New Hair-projek en om produsente se moontlike deelname aan hierdie alternatiewe bemarkingsopset te toets.

Op 'n bestuursvergadering van die SASKV, wat op 02 Oktober 2007 gehou is, is die terugvoering van die produsente ontleed en baie deeglik bespreek en is daar besluit om, as gevolg van gebrek aan produsente-ondersteuning, nie verder met die projek te gaan nie.

Die bestuur het sy dank en waardering teenoor alle betrokkenes by die ondersoek uitgespreek. Net die tyd sal leer of dit die regte besluit was.

Sover dit SEB betref, is dit my voorreg om heel eerste na die projekte wat tans onder die bekwame mentorskap van mnr Gielie Grobler plaasvind, te verwys. Ek verwys na die Hardwood-projek by Klipplaat waar daar op meentgrond, met infrastruktuur wat deur die provinsiale regering en diere en produksiemiddele wat deur die bedryf voorsien word, voornemende opkomende sybokhaarboere opgelei word om selfstandige kommersiële boere te word. Dit sluit alle moontlike praktiese opleiding, onder andere finansiële bestuur, in. Na die voltooiing van hulle kursusse sal daar gepoog word om hulle met staatshulp van grond te voorsien. Ek is oortuig dat dit die enigste suksesvolle metode is om opkomende boere te vestig. Ek glo dat die staat dit begin besef nadat die pers, radio en TV hierdie suksesverhaal gedra het. Mnr Grobler het selfs in PE by geleentheid 'n toekening ontvang vir die mees praktiese bydrae ten opsigte van die vestiging van opkomende boere. Soortgelyke projekte word ook op Prins Albert en Pearston in die vooruitsig gestel. Mnr Grobler verdien die grootste waardering en dank van kongres vir sy groot opofferings met hierdie projekte. Tydens kongres sal mnr Deon Saayman 'n voorlegging doen oor die Sybokhaartrust se voorstelle ten opsigte van verdere SEB.

At the meeting of the Executive in February 2008, the members were unanimous in their decision that the practical implementation of BEE projects should be the responsibility of SAMGA and should form part of farmer development at producer level.

The capable Mr Gerhard Grobler investigated the Code of Conduct, a document under investigation by the wool industry, for the mohair industry. He received wonderful cooperation from the NWGA. He, on behalf of his committee, will present an executive resolution to congress in this regard. We thank them in anticipation.

Mr Barries Snijman, the Vice-President, and Ms Karen Oelofse from OVK, continued to investigate risk insurance for Angora goats. One of the conditions of the proposed scheme was that all Angora goats in the country be insured at R6-40 per goat per annum. Due, mainly to this condition, the executive turned this offer down. Our sincere thanks to Mr Snijman for all his endeavours in this regard.

Research workers at Grootfontein Agricultural Institute are still investigating the concept of jackets for Angora goats as well as the possible use of Thermoskin, a new lanolin based aerosol product used in New Zealand, to counteract cold stress in goats. It is hoped that this product can be used successfully on Angoras.



*Fanie van Heerden (regs) ontvang 'n Meriete Toekening van Louw Retief, President van SASKV. By hulle is sy vrou Marietjie.*



*Dr. Jan van der Westhuysen ontvang 'n Meriete Sertifikaat van Gielie Grobler namens die SASKV.*



*Mnr Gielie Grobler spreek kongress toe.*



*Anthony Kirsten, James de Jager, Ivan Smith and Philip Stucken.*

*Die belangrikste aktiwiteite van die  
SASKV het om die bedryfsondersoek,  
SEB en die gedragskode vir die  
sybokhaarbedryf, gesentreer.*

The Executive also arranged for Mr Dirk Gunter from the Douglas branch of OVK, who renders a specialist weather service for farmers in that region, to address congress. It is another attempt to protect Angoras against inclement weather.

#### **Personeel:**

Mnr Philip Vosloo het op 7 Januarie 2008 by die SA Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging as bestuurder diens aanvaar. In die afgelope vyf maande het hy homself reeds bewys as die regte persoon vir hierdie betrekking. Sy aangename persoonlikheid, sy ywer en entoesiasme, tesame met sy leergierigheid en betroubaarheid, kan hom 'n groot aanwinst vir die sybokhaarbedryf maak.

Weereens 'n woord van opregte dank aan mnr Gielie Grobler, wat vir 'n langer tydperk as bestuurder waargeneem het as waarvoor ons gereken het.

#### **Aksie Angora:**

Hierdie sub-komitee van die SASKV, onder die bekwame leiding van mnr Kobus de Klerk, doen baie belangrike werk om die produksie van gehalte sybokhaar in stand te hou en die publiek meer bewus van sybokhaarprodukte te maak. Die Ekspo op 21 Februarie vanjaar is 'n skitterende voorbeeld daarvan. Die gehalte van die diere en die vagte, wat vir die verskillende kompetisies ingeskryf was, bly die beste ter wêreld. Die wenner van die Miyuki-kompetisie is dieselfde aand gedurende 'n glansdinee bekend gemaak. 'n Modeparade met sybokhaarskeppings van Leandra Fourie het groot luister aan die geleentheid verleen.

The winners of most of the various competitions of the mohair industry can be seen in the report of the Executive Committee in the Congress Agenda. I would like to congratulate all the winners on great achievements. I once again wish to reiterate that the mohair industry is privileged that leaders of the industry feature to such a large extent in these competitions.

Gedurende Mei vanjaar het Aksie Angora die bedryf weer by NAMPO verteenwoordig. Ongeveer vyf duisend mense het deur die Angorabokstalletjie beweeg. Vanjaar is daar 'n register gehou van persone wat navraag gedoen het oor sybokboerdery en/of produkte. Die belangstelling van hierdie persone sal opgevolg word. Ons dank en waardering teenoor Philip Vosloo, Riano Greyling, Eugene Dakwe, Gary Hobson en Stanley Jafta, wat die stalletjie beman het en die diere beskikbaar gestel en versorg het.

CMW se stalletjie, waar produkte verkoop mag word, het 'n omset van ongeveer R270 000 gehad. Die sybokhaarbedryf kan dit nou nie meer bekostig om nie by NAMPO gesien te word nie.

#### **Angora Goat & Mohair Journal:**

Mrs Linda Henderson is going from strength to strength as editor of the Journal. Her new approach is like a fresh breeze through the Journal. The high standard and contents of the Journal must be highly appraised. A word of congratulations to all people involved. I am proud to be associated with such a publication.

#### **Mohair South Africa:**

This executive arm of the mohair industry under the leadership of Mr Reinhold du Randt is doing essential work on behalf of the industry. I still think that it is a debatable point if they can ever do enough to promote the fibre and be instrumental in new product developments through joint ventures. We thank them for their achievements and wish them well for the future.

After twelve years of service as general manager of MSA, Mr

*Die Henfred Coetzer trofee vir die tak wat die beste gedurende die jaar presteer het is gewen deur Pearston. Richard Hobson ontvang die trofee van Philip Vosloo, bestuurder van SASKV.*





*In saying this I once again want to express my appreciation to our regular buyers and the part they are playing in the industry as well as far as Congress is concerned. We hope that the mohair growers will be able to supply you with enough good quality mohair*

Frans Loots decided to take early retirement at the end of June 2007. He did good work abroad and cultivated good relationships with a number of companies using mohair. We wish him and his wife well for the future.

#### **The Mohair Trust:**

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The trust is going from strength to strength in managing the assets of the industry. As trustee, I can assure you that this is done with great responsibility and professionalism, especially when you take the volatility of the JSE into account. I want to thank the Chairman, Mr David Hobson, and his fellow trustees for their dedication.

#### **The Brokers:**

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On behalf of the industry and individual producers, I wish to thank the different brokers for their achievements. You play an essential role and the more efficient you are, the better the future of the industry.

#### **SAWAMBA**

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The mohair industry is encouraged by the participation in the mohair market of Mr Ken Read from the New England Buyers House. We want to welcome Mr Read and express the hope that his association with the mohair industry will be of mutual benefit. In saying this I once again want to express my appreciation to our regular buyers and the part they are playing in the industry as well as far as Congress is concerned. We hope that the mohair growers will be able to supply you with enough good quality mohair

#### **The Future:**

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The question arises whether there will ever be a right price for mohair and perhaps the answer lies in the responsibility of every role player in the industry to contribute towards achieving the

happy state where everyone is satisfied with his share of the profit.

From the producer's point of view it is risk and labour intensive to produce mohair and if the financial reward is not lucrative enough the goose that lays the golden egg will be annihilated to the detriment of the whole industry.

Seen from the other perspective however mohair is competing with a wide range of fibres in a market that is very competitive and fastidious.

It is not the sole responsibility of any individual role player to balance these factors and only co-operation in the whole chain including brokers, buyers, processors and producers and possible joint ventures will ensure success.

For a bright future in the industry it is necessary that parity is found between these market forces and the onus is on every role player to contribute meaningfully to the process.

#### **Ten Slotte**

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Dit was 'n besonder verrykende voorreg om die bedryf die laaste ses jaar as president te dien, maar die tyd het aangebreek om die leisels aan bekwame jonger manne, wat die bedryf verder sal uitbou, oor te gee.

Graag sou ek my komitee en vise-president, Barries Snijman, opreg wou bedank vir hulle ondersteuning en bydrae deur die jare. Opregte dank ook aan die Aksie Angora komitee en bestuur, mnr Gielie Grobler, Philip Vosloo en Anita Stears vir hulle besondere bydrae.

Ten slotte wil ek graag my gade, Grada en my seun Frans, bedank vir hulle voortgesette ondersteuning tydens my ampsjare.

Sonder die onderskraving van die Hemelse vader sou dit onmoontlik gewees het om die veeleisende jare binne die kwekersvereniging die hoof te bied en is dit met die wete dat ons die toekoms van ons bedryf in hierdie moeilike land in Sy hande kan oorlaat dat ek afsluit en die sybokhaarprodusente voorspoed vir die toekoms toewens. ■





Reinhold du Randt,  
Chairman of M.S.A.

# MSA Chairman's Report

*Mr Reinhold du Randt, Chairman of Mohair South Africa, delivered his annual address at the congress of the Mohair Growers' Association, and started his address with internal mohair affairs.*

## Local Promotion

Local promotion is an aspect which will be expanded but not to the detriment of international promotion, where the major consumption for our product lies. During the first five months of 2008, substantial progress has been made with contact visits to manufacturers in South Africa.

### During 2007:

- MSA continued as a sponsoring member of SAITEC in order to support manufacturers on a more sustainable basis to enable them to participate at international trade shows. A permanent show room was opened in Atlanta (USA) in which three of our mohair manufacturers exhibited.
- In March 2007 a promotion day, in conjunction with Action Angora, was held at the Boardwalk in Port Elizabeth. The event took place over an entire weekend and the mohair industry received tremendous publicity from this event.
- MSA also participated in a project with SARIE magazine, where a series of advertisements, featuring specific mohair retail products, were placed in the magazine. This culminated in a competition in the December issue of the magazine, where 100 readers could each win a hamper of mohair products. MSA purchased these products from various mohair manufacturers, placing mohair in the hands of consumers who might not otherwise have had exposure to this product.
- In the year, a feature on mohair and wool, linked to the suit project of a local supplier, was planned on the programme 3 Talk on SABC3. Unfortunately, this feature did not materialize during the reported period and a similar project could possibly be on the cards for the future.
- Liaison with government has improved considerably in 2008 and MSA placed an article highlighting the mohair industry in the Vuna Agricultural publication, which is distributed to various agricultural departments, as well as to the broader agricultural sector.
- The bursary scheme at Grootfontein Agricultural College continued and was increased during the year to compensate for the effect of inflation.

During the 2007 financial year, R2,4 million was spent on local promotion. This includes the funding of the South African Mohair Growers' Association for R730 000.00, R276 000.00 funding for the Investigating Committee and R173 000.00 for funding the BEE projects.

**Produsente word gevra om  
die voorkoms van Swelsiekte  
by dr Johan van Rooyen  
of dr Gretha Snyman by  
Gootfontein aan te meld**

Tel: 049 842 1113

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GrethaSn@nda.agric.za

*In the 2007 financial year, R2,4 million was spent on local promotion.*

## *Internasionale bevordering sal altyd een van die belangrikste funksies van Sybokhaar Suid-Afrika bly*

### **Internasionale Bevordering**

Internasionale bevordering sal altyd een van die belangrikste funksies van Sybokhaar Suid-Afrika bly en oorsese reise vorm 'n kardinale deel van die uitbreiding van verhoudings met internasionale rolspelers en die aanknoop van projekte.

Vennote-in-missie vorm die hoeksteen van wêreldprojekte en vervaardigers wat die meeste waarde vir sybokhaar kan toevoeg, word noukeurig uitgesoek. Gedurende die jaar is besoeke afgelê aan Japan, Sjina en Argentinië.

Gedurende 2007 is R607 000 aan buitelandse bevordering spandeer. Die maatskappy het gedurende September 2007, in samewerking met die Spaanse Tekstielvereniging, aan Spinexpo in Shanghai deelgeneem. Hierdie ekspo is een van die grootste gare-uitstallings ter wêreld en is vinnig besig om erkenning as die belangrikste gareskou te verkry.

Die Zegna opvoedkundige toer het gedurende September 2007 plaasgevind, met besoeke aan Frankryk en Italië.

Die sybokhaar-advertensieveldtog, in samewerking met die Bel Maille groep van Frankryk, is met groot sukses gedurende die jaar afgesluit.

Verskeie internasionale gaste is gedurende die jaar geakkommodeer, wat blootstelling van die bedryf aan oorsese rolspelers verhoog het.

Daar is ook gebruik gemaak van die Wool Exporter Magazine, 'n publikasie in Sjinees, om inligting deur te gee aan bestaande en potensiële gebruikers van sybokhaar in Sjina.

### **Production Promotion**

Production promotion will remain at the top of the priority list. Initiatives to stimulate the production of mohair will have to be considered and addressed carefully to minimize the negative influences on Angora goat farming.

Mohair South Africa continued to fund the initiatives of Action Angora. This

included farmers' days at branch level, assisting with Nampo and the Boardwalk Expo in March 2007.

### **Swart Ekonomiese Bemagtiging**

Die eerste opleidingsprogram wat in 2006 tot stand gebring is, het gedurende 2007 operasioneel geword, met die eerste vyf kandidate wat by die Klipplaat-skema ingeskryf het. Na die suksesvolle voltooiing van die drie jaar opleidingsperiode sal kandidate 'n sertifikaat van deelname ontvang. Mnr. Gielie Grobler tree as mentor op vir dié leerders en twee ander opleidingsprojekte, wat in die proses van implementasie is. Die provinsiale en nasionale regerings vorm 'n integrale deel van die beplanning en implementering van hierdie projekte, met befondsing vir infrastruktuur van die provinsiale regering en ondersteuning van die nasionale regering vir die aanskaffing van grond, na die voltooiing van die opleidingskursus.

Gedurende die jaar is R173 000 spandeer om hierdie opleidingsinisiatief suksesvol te laat funksioneer.

SSA het ook aan die SEB strategie, wat deur die Sybokhaartrust opgestel is, sy volle ondersteuning gegee.



*Top: Keeping the finger on the pulse of manufacturing in the East. Above: Supporting student training at Grootfontein Agricultural Institute.*

*Below: MSA is actively involved with BEE. A delegation from the Department of Agriculture visiting Hardwood.*





Left: MSA continued as a sponsoring member of SAITEC. The showroom in Atlanta.

## *Die voortgesette goeie vraag na sybokhaar was verantwoordelik vir die handhawing van 'n redelike bestendige prysvlak*

### **Navorsing**

Die navorsingsadvieskomitee vergader elke jaar gedurende Augustus om die vordering van projekte te evalueer en om nuwe projekte te oorweeg.

- Swelsiekte projek gaan voort met befondsing wat reeds goedgekeur is.
- DNA Bank. Die vestiging van 'n DNA Bank vir angoras gaan voort met die meerderheid van befondsing wat voorsien word deur die Dept. van Landbou.

### **Speenskok en kleinbokkievrektes**

Hierdie projek is afgehandel en die finale verslag is gepubliseer.

### **Gehardheidsprojek**

Die projek is afgehandel en die moontlike oorsaak geïdentifiseer. Verdere navorsing word nou gedoen om 'n moontlike oplossing te vind.

### **Glans in sybokhaar en semenbevriësing**

Hierdie projekte duur voort met befondsing deur SSA.

### **Inligting**

Die bekendmaking van inligting aan alle rolspelers bly een van die belangrikste take van die maatskappy, en daar sal voortdurend gepoog word om inligting meer doeltreffend weer te gee.

### **Mohair Pools**

The voluntary floor price/pool scheme ensures producers a guaranteed minimum average price (currently R49.55 per kg) for their hair. This is unique to any other sector of the agricultural industry in South Africa.

The Board of Directors, with all relevant stakeholders being consulted, is currently investigating the possibility of making an upward adjustment to the floor price.

### **Die Mark en Produksie**

Die voortgesette goeie vraag na sybokhaar was verantwoordelik vir die handhawing van 'n redelike bestendige prysvlak, met 'n positiewe prysneiging vir kleinbokkiehaar wat later in die jaar na vore getree het.

Die gemiddelde skeerselrealisasie van R78.38 per kg was bykans onveranderd van 2006. Aangesien 'n vergelykbare markaanwyser vir 2006 nie beskikbaar is nie, word die algehele markaanwyser vir 2007 nie aangehaal nie.

Daar was 'n daling van ongeveer 10% in produksie vanaf 2006. Die totale sybokhaarproduksie vir Suid-Afrika in 2007 word op 3 miljoen kilogram beraam, wat 54% van wêreldproduksie verteenwoordig. 'n Groot bydraende faktor tot die daling was die geweldige droogte wat in 'n groot gedeelte van die produksie-area ondervind is.

Uitvoere in 2007 het 3,47 miljoen kilogram beloop, wat effens laer as 2006 was. Die hoof-eindbestemmings vir die haar was Italië, Sjina, Frankryk en die Verenigde Koninkryk. Invoere vir die jaar het 830 747 kg behels.

### **Statutêre Maatreëls**

Soos verlede jaar by kongres berig is, het diefstal in die sybokhaarbedryf 'n kommerwekkende probleem geword en is daar derhalwe 'n aansoek vir statutêre maatreëls by die Minister van Landbou ingedien.

### **Administrasie**

Mnr. Frans Loots het bedank en op 3 Julie 2007 uit diens van die maatskappy getree. SSA het herstruktureer en mnr. Deon Saayman is as hoofbestuurder aangestel, en sodoende is 'n bevorderingsbestuurspos geskep wat op 15 Januarie 2008 deur mev. Jackie Gant gevul is.

### **Uitvoerende Struktuur**

Mnr. SJ van Heerden en G Cawood het op 31 Desember 2007 uit die direksie van SSA getree, en mnr. F Michau en IF Smith is in hul onderskeie plekke aangestel.

### **Ten Slotte**

SSA bly verbind om die sybokhaarbedryf in totaliteit en in al sy fasette uit te brei en pro-aktief op te tree om die bedryf in 'n nuwe era in te lei.

Ek wil graag my dank en waardering teenoor my mededirekteure, asook die personeel van SSA, vir hulle hulp en ondersteuning, uitspreek. ■





David Hobson,  
Chairman of Mohair Trust

# Trust Report to congress: *June 2008*

*Mr. President, guests, delegates, ladies and gentlemen.*

*It is my pleasure to present this, the tenth trust report to the mohair congress. While ten years can be seen as a milestone, this must also be considered as one of the most difficult years from an investment perspective.*

**W**hile last year and the year before, the trust was able to achieve a year on year (as at the end of May), investment growth of 18,2% and 20,9% respectively, the last 12 months has produced a 6,2% growth.

## INVESTMENTS

As the equity market rose to new heights over the past two years, the trustees have restructured the investment portfolio to minimize the downside risk. This has been done by going into multi-asset class funds where the fund managers have the flexibility to switch between asset classes on a day-to-day basis if necessary.

There has been extreme volatility in the equity market, and it has been important to keep focused on at least a three-year performance to assess relative investments.

The entire investment portfolio remains within the Old Mutual Fairburn Capital

“wrapper”, which has certain tax advantages as well as providing access to other fund managers like Sanlam, Allan Gray, Coronation and Investec. Furthermore, switches within the wrapper are at no cost.

The benchmark set by the trust has been to achieve an annual growth of inflation plus four percent. The four percent is to meet the trust’s commitments, and in addition, at least equal inflation so as not to erode capital in real terms. With inflation currently more than 10%, the benchmark goal is now a greater challenge and should be looked at over a three-year term.

In order that trustees are informed in matters relating to the investments, representatives of Old Mutual are invited to every trust meeting and the trustees have also retained the expertise of an actuary as a consultant. There is a mechanism of communication between Old Mutual, consultant and the trust.

## BEE

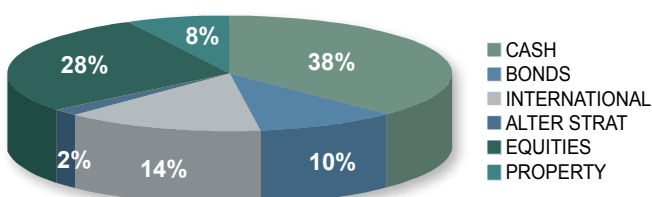
Much time and effort have been devoted to formulating a BEE strategy for the mohair industry. This strategy was needed because the trustees had to get legal opinion whenever a project was put before them to ensure that it fell within the parameters of the Trust Deed. This will be presented to congress, so I will avoid repetition. Suffice to say that at this stage it is a strategy only with much detail to be filled in. We need government and other parties to buy in, for it to succeed. Participation is voluntary. The trust also funds various BEE projects, which are part of MSA’s business plan and budget.

## CONCLUSION

There has been no change to the trustees during the previous year. However, later this year the terms of office of four trustees will expire. These are the trustees appointed by SAWAMBA (Mr. Anton Masters); the minister (Mr. Dirk Pieterse) and elected by the mohair producers (Messrs Louw Retief and David Hobson). In conclusion, I wish to thank the trustees and staff for their cooperation and constructive contributions to the successful functioning of the trust this past year.

An appeal is made to all producers of mohair to register with the trust if they have not done so already. ■

Split per Asset Class at 30 May 2008





Kobus de Klerk  
Voorsitter Aksie Angora

# Jaarverslag: *Aksie Angora*

*Mnr Kobus de Klerk, voorsitter van Aksie Angora, het soos volg rekening van die doen en late van hierdie organisasie gedurende 2007 gegee.*

## BEVORDERING OP TAKVLAK

'Daar is verskillende suksesvolle inligtingsdae en kuddekompetisies oor die hele produksiegebied aangebied waar die diere en organisasie van hoogstaande gehalte was.'

Hy het sy dank teenoor die organiseerders en deelnemers uitgespreek wat by Adelaide (20 Junie), Beaufort-Wes (20 Junie), Albanie (2 Julie), Murraysburg, Pearston (22 Mei), Jansenville, Rietbron en Aberdeen suksesvolle produksiebevorderingsdae aangebied het. Hy het ook sy dank aan komiteede van Aksie Angora, wat hierdie dae bygewoon het, uitgespreek en die borge, onder andere BKB, CMW, MPC, VIRBAC en OVK, vir hulle bydrae bedank. Sonder goeie organisasie en mildelike ondersteuning van alle partye sal hierdie geleenthede nie moontlik wees nie.

## NAMPO

Aksie Angora het die bedryf in Bothaville by hierdie groot nasionale landbou-uitstalling verteenwoordig en dank is teenoor Riano Greyling en Philip Vosloo uitgespreek vir die vervoer en oprigting van die stalletjie, en aan Gary en Ray Hobson vir die voorbereiding van die diere en die bemanning van die stalletjie.

## TOERISME ROETE

Pierre van der Vyver, Jackie Gant, Linda Henderson en hulle komitee dryf hierdie aksie en is in gesprekvoering met Cacadu Munisipaliteit en die Oos-Kaapse toerismekantoor om hierdie projek verder te dryf.

## RAMPRISIKO BESTUUR

Daar is weer na die moontlikheid van 'n versekeringspolis vir veeverliese gekyk, maar die ondersoek het getoon dat dit nie haalbaar is nie.

Die gebruik van jassies vir die bokke gedurende die sensitiewe na-skeertydperk, en die gebruik van organiese spuitstof om op die bokke te spuit om koue verliese te beperk, word tans ondersoek.

Die aanwending van 'n gespesialiseerde weervoorspelling word ook nagevors.

## ONGEDIERTE BEHEER

Aksie Angora begroot jaarliks groot bedrae aan ALPRO, 'n nasionale komitee wat navorsing oor ongediertes doen. Mnr Coligny Stegmann verteenwoordig die bedryf op hierdie komitee.

## STUDIEGROEPE

Hierdie aspek het 'n wyle 'n laer profiel gehandhaaf, maar dr Antonie Geyer sal na sy aanstelling by die Grootfontein Landbou-ontwikkelingsinstituut weer die studiegroepe se belange op die hart dra en alle takke en produsente word aangemoedig om van hierdie unieke geleentheid, om hul eie produksie onder die loep te neem, gebruik te maak.

## DINKSKRUM

Aksie Angora het dit goed gedink om 'n openbare dinkskrum oor sy optredes en aksies te hou om oor die pad vorentoe te besin. Die publiek word genooi om hulle bydraes en insette by hierdie vergadering op 1 Augustus 2008 te kom lewer.

'2009 is die Internasionale Jaar van die Natuurlike Vesel en die Oos-Kaapse regering, in samewerking met Ikwezi Munisipaliteit, (Jansenville) beplan 'n groot geleentheid wat as die *Mohair Summit* bekend sal staan, om hierby aan te sluit.

Mnr de Klerk het ook sy dank teenoor die Sybokhaartrust, die direksie van SSA, die personeel by Jansenville en al die komiteede van Aksie Angora, wat hom so getrou deur die jaar bygestaan het, uitgespreek. ■



*Links: Mnr Kobus de Klerk tydens 'n tak besoek aan die Drakensberg Sybokhaarwekkersvereniging in Matatiele.*



*Ray Hobson, Chairman of  
Angora Ram Breeders Society*

## Annual Report:

# Angora Ram Breeders Society

*Mr Ray Hobson, chairman of the Angora Ram Breeders Society, gave this report at the annual congress of the Mohair Growers' Association.*

**T**his past year has been one of many changes within our society as well as the entire mohair industry. Just after our Annual General Meeting in April 2007, the manager, Mr. Anton Steynberg, took seriously ill and passed away on 18 May 2007. Anton's dedicated service to the industry and the Angora Ram Breeders Society spanned over twenty-six years.

It was not long after this tragedy that my brother, Blake Hobson of Loch Dale, had a serious car accident and after making good recovery, suddenly died of complications on 8 June 2007. Blake served the Breed Society as an executive member from 1990 and as vice chairman during 1996/1997.

I would like to add my sincere condolences to all these families and thank the members who wrote the very moving obituaries.

In these tragic times, the society has been very fortunate to be able to rely on the very experienced and competent Mr. Gielie Grobler, to act as manager and then to tutor Mr. Philip Vosloo, who was appointed from January 2008. Mr. Grobler was able to do many ewe inspections in this time as well as to get the office running for a smooth take over by Mr. Vosloo. We welcome Mr. Vosloo to the post of manager and look forward to the smooth and efficient running of this post with some new and fresh ideas. Thanks must be extended to Mrs. Anita Stears for running the office so capably under such trying times.

During the year we appointed field men from the brokerages of CMW and BKB to do ram sale inspections and micron sampling as well as ewe inspections on the farms. I do want to thank these companies for making their men available to the society. We are truly thankful for the efficient manner in which they performed every duty for the industry and the society throughout the year. With many younger breeders and new field men in the industry, it may be necessary to run a judge's course again.

### PERSONNEL CHANGES

While dealing with the changes of personnel, I wish to congratulate Mr. Deon Saayman on his appointment as General Manager of MSA after the early retirement of Mr. Frans Loots and would like to thank MSA for the continued support and co-operation extended to our society and the promotion of our industry as a whole. We wish Mrs. Jackie Gant as Marketing and Promotions Manager well in this appointment to MSA and trust that she will bring a fresh look to the promotion and usage of mohair, both domestically and abroad.



*Left: Encouraging quality mohair production.  
Judges Appraisal Course in Prince Albert.*



*The continued drop in the production of mohair and the decline in the number of Angora goats in South Africa are of major concern*

*Below: The Annual Ram tour is very well supported*

## MOHAIR PRICES AND PRODUCTION

The continued drop in the production of mohair and the decline in the number of Angora goats in South Africa are of major concern. Grazing conditions over the past year have been fair, except for a very serious drought in the western districts of the mohair-producing region. The mohair prices have been relatively good over the past season and the average price moved to an all time record during March 2007, with the summer season market indicator at R79.57 and the winter market indicator settling at R65.81.

The drop in the mohair price may have been a contributing factor to the decline in demand for rams during the November auctions. I do feel that we will have to look at the total number of ram sales held as there appears to be a declining demand for rams, especially at the November offering in Graaff-Reinet.

The rams from the veld ram project were in good demand and I believe we must build on this concept. Thanks must be extended to the managers for the role they played in managing the rams. The remuneration packages for these managers will have to be re-evaluated and re-assessed and brought into line with the increase in input costs and the time, effort and dedication that it takes to make this concept a success.

In the past year, we have had the unfortunate resignation of five of our members, but we are very pleased to welcome Messrs Willem Retief, Cornel Cornelius, Johan Lategan and Grootfontein Agricultural Institute as new members.

We had the dispersal sales of Pierre Strydom and Mike Hobson, two of our members, during the past year and I am pleased that members of the Angora Ram Breed Society have retained the majority of the top quality genetics that were offered on these sales.

## PROJECTS

The annual ram tour was the usual success, but perhaps consideration should be given to extending it to three days so that more time could be spent with individual breeders.

The Frozen Semen Project is continuing. Six rams are presently at RAMSEM and to date 250 pellets have been frozen. Laproscopic AI will only take place in 2009. Not enough semen was frozen in 2007 for the full trial to be completed.

The Longevity of Fleece Project is still in the data collection stage and is linked to the DNA project, being coordinated by Dr Greta Snyman.

The mohair information and promotion day in Somerset East in February was a showcase for the excellent Angora genetic material that South Africa has and the national fleece and flock competition was a testimony of this. Dr Antonie Geyer on mohair economics and Prof. Piet Swart on cold stress, took up the afternoon with interesting talks.

Without sponsorship our activities would not be possible and we would like to thank CMW, Afrivet, Virbac and Midland Auto for their support during the year. A word of appreciation to the brokers who have, with enthusiasm, supported all our activities.

This year has also been an extraordinary one for some of our members and here the exceptional performance of Snyberg Angoras needs to be highlighted. They managed to

win all three the prestigious mohair awards i.e. Zegna, Miyuki, and Daidoh in the same year. Clive van Hasselt also deserves special mention for his outstanding performance at the national ram sales. Congratulations to these and all the other members who swell the ranks of our industry and who made us proud.

In closing, I want to thank the executive, as well as the members participating in the Society's activities, for their support during the past year. I am also truly thankful to Arthur Short, my vice president for so admirably assisting and guiding me, and on a personal note, thank you to AB Hobson for all his interest and advice. ■



# SASKV Kongres Verslag

# 2008



Daniël De Kok

Linda Henderson

*Die openingsrede is deur ds. Daniël de Kok, voormalige kapelaan van Voortrekkerhoogte, model fotograaf, tans motiveringspreker, skrywer van kosboeke en lewensentoesias, gelewer.*

## OPENINGSREDE

Hierdie moderne man wat nie skroom om dinge op hul naam te noem nie, het 'n vurige boodskap van entoesiasme aan kongresgangers oorgedra. Die passie waarmee hy sy boodskap gelewer het, het geen twyfel gelaat dat hy geen simpatie vir diegene het wat die lewe soos 'n "57 hang gat Zephyr" aanpak nie.

Die strekking van sy boodskap was die leuse waarmee hy sy dagtaak aanpak: Carpe Diem!

Sy boodskap van hoop en passie vir die toekoms was aansteeklik en hy het kongresgangers trakteer op pittige voorbeelde van nietighede wat party mense so swaarmoedig maak dat

hulle doelloos deur die lewe drentel met geen visie vir hulle lewenstaak nie.

Sy raad aan negatiewe mense is om uit hulle groef van depressie te ontsnap, omdat hulle denke so hard raas dat mens nie kan hoor waaroor hulle kla nie! Hy maan hulle om die moed van hulle oortuiging te ontwikkel deur die aankweek van 'n positiewe gesindheid jeens die lewe en dat sukses liever in terme van dinge wat suksesvol afgehandel gesien moet word, eerder as suiwer finansiële beloning.

Hy het boere gemaan dat, tensy hulle met 'n positiewe houding die boerdery aanpak, hulle die mas besonder swaar in hierdie land met sy eiesoortige uitdagings sal opkom. Daar is nie meer plek in die landbou vir pessimisme nie.

Sy boodskap moes 'n gevoelige snaar geraak het omdat hy later dikwels deur kongresgangers aangehaal is.

## RESOLUTIONS:

After the various annual reports from the Chairmen of the various affiliations of the Mohair Growers' Association, congress resumed with discussions of the resolutions from branches of the Association.

Mortimer and Rietbron thanked MSA for the fresh and positive approach and environment from a more industry friendly organization. They also encouraged MSA to intensify and to extend the marketing projects in order to ensure a sustainable market for mohair.

Rietbron requested a presentation of MSA's local and international marketing strategy.

Mr Reinhold du Randt emphasized that the mandate of MSA is the promotion of mohair and that the marketing of the fibre is not their domain.

The newly-appointed Mrs. Jackie Gant, Marketing and Promotions Manager of MSA, gave a progress report of the ground she has covered since her appointment in January and included impressions she acquired while on her inaugural international trip.

## Local Projects

Action Angora organized the Mohair Information and Promotion day in February in Somerset East in conjunction with MSA. This event focused mainly on encouraging producers to extend their production and included the annual flock and fleece competitions. There was also a strong emphasis on encouraging the youth to become part of the industry and various competitions for schools were held. The afternoon was used by economists and technical personnel from the industry to disseminate management information to producers. The evening culminated with a dinner and fashion show where the Miyuki

*There was also a strong emphasis on encouraging the youth to become part of the industry and various competitions for schools were held*

Trophy prize-winners were announced.

The new Goats Head logo has been identified as an industry emblem and is currently being registered as a trademark. This brand identification has been established in order to identify the mohair fibre and a guideline for its use in the trade will shortly be available.

MSA have launched their new logo and brand identification in order to modernize the image of MSA and to align it with a natural and eco friendly identity.

Delegates from MSA attended the SA Sanlam Fashion Week in Johannesburg and made useful acquaintances with top role players in the South African fashion industry, with the intention of extending their co-operation in various new fields.

They also attended the 27 Fashion Exchange Conference in Cape Town and gleaned an understanding of the needs of the local and international markets.

Several local manufacturers were visited in the Western Cape, including SA Fine Wools, Hextex and Cape Mohair.

Several smaller local manufacturers and retail outlets were visited including,

Dombeya Knits, Scarf Imitative, South Seas enterprises, Karoo Classics, Cape Union Mart, Jan-Paul Barnard, Memento's of Africa, Pure Cape, some of whom have a strong upliftment element to their industry.

An Eco-Friendly Labeling Conference was attended in Cape Town where guidelines were given to interested parties in South Africa who wished to follow the EU standards.

### **Projects in progress**

Closer communication with NMMU was established to become involved with the process of selecting suitable fashion design candidates who would benefit the industry in the long term through their loyalty and devotion to the fibre. MSA would like more insight into the curriculum with reference to mohair to establish the correctness of the education material.

Communication with a Dutch company that have a brand of socks that caters for the middle end market and which will be launched shortly. The socks are manufactured in South Africa from 40% mohair.

Communication with a Japanese company that is in the process of creating mohair rich denim stretch fabric from 33 micron mohair. The fabric is said to contain between 70% to 100% mohair.

MSA is a sponsoring member of SATIEC (SA Textile Industry Export Council) who were instrumental in setting up a permanent show room in Atlanta, USA. Currently there are three SA mohair manufacturers that are utilizing the exhibit space.

A proposed international Mohair Summit to be hosted primarily in Jansenville and Graaff-Reinet is planned for 2009. This will highlight the international public's awareness of 2009 as the International Year of the Natural Fibre and will be sponsored primarily by the Eastern Cape Government, Inkwezi Municipality and MSA.

The Mohair Tourism Route is also receiving attention from Cacadu Municipality and local government who are eager to become actively involved in the project.

There were motions of support and appreciation from the floor for the work Mrs. Gant was performing.

### **MOHAIR IN USA DOLLARS**

Georgida put forward a request that mohair prices be quoted in USA dollar in order that producers benefit from the weakening rand.

Mr Ivan Smith explained that quoting the sales price in dollar terms was an administrative matter which could be addressed by MSA, but that selling mohair in USA dollars was not possible since Reserve Bank restrictions only made it possible for four commodities in South Africa to be traded in USA dollars, those being diamonds, gold, steel and oil.

### **KEMP IN SA MOHAIR**

Rietbron requested SAWAMBA to inform Congress about the levels of the kemp content in the S A clip and its effects on processing. This could serve as a guideline to producers as to the tolerable levels of



kemp in the clip with a view to breed policy. They also requested to know whether there was:

- Any price advantage from the relatively kemp free South African clip.
- Whether blending with kempy hair was not contaminating recognized brands.
- Had it not become appropriate for MSA to support brands of kemp free mohair?

Mr Ivan Smith explained the categories of mohair types that were offered for sale and explained the difference between kemp and medulated hair (see article by Greta Snyman). He explained that kempy hair was very unacceptable for the weaving of fine yarn fabrics, but, that in the case of some knitting yarn types, kemp and medulated hair could be removed. The South African clip was, however, considered to be relatively kemp free and that clips from Lesotho and Turkey were recognized as being more kempy.

Mr Ray Hobson expressed the wish for an objective method of testing samples of hair from rams to establish their kemp content. Such a system could benefit the buyers of rams at sales.

Mr Reinhold du Randt reiterated that kemp poses a problem with international buyers and that MSA would give support to kemp free hair.

## CODE OF BEST PRACTISE

Mr Gerhard Grobler, from Waterford, introduced a resolution suggesting the acceptance by the mohair industry of a Code of Best Practice document, similar to the one adopted by the wool industry. This document is a manual with a code of conduct that focuses on the demands of the environmentally conscious consumers and watchdog associations.

It covers matters relating to animal health and well-being, natural source protection, labour practices, human and animal rights, etc. and has been adopted by the wool industry after the public outcry about muelising in Australia. It was suggested that the industry forms a close working relationship with the NWGA to formulate a similar document for the mohair industry. It is seen as vitally important that the mohair industry adopt this code of practice given the world's awareness and sensitivity to matters of the environment and the well-being of animals. This motion was considered to be very important and was unanimously accepted by Congress.

Mortimer requested SAMGA to investigate the possibility of closer co-operation with NWGA as far as BEE, empowering emerging farmers through mentorship programmes, research, problem causing animals and other overlapping areas of common interest were concerned.

Both Mr Petrus de Wet from NWGA and Mr Albie Jacobs representing the RPO welcomed this approach and promised their co-operation.

## ONGEDIERTE VERSOEK

Prins Albert het kongres versoek om 'n georganiseerde poging aan te wend om plaaswerkers en boere wat self ongediertes jag, beter te laat oplei in 'n poging om 'n meer professionele diens te lewer en om te verhoed dat verkeerde praktyke skelm ongediertes tot volg het. Daar was 'n voorstel dat 'n kliniek vir die praktyk opgerig word. Hulle het ook fondse van die trust vir die poging bepleit.

## INTERNETVEILINGS:

Mnr Kobus de Klerk het 'n beskrywingspunt wat deur die uitvoerende bestuur geformuleer is, voorgestel waarin versoek word dat 'n ondersoek deur die makelaars gedoen moet word na die instelling van 'n elektroniese veilingstelsel vir sybokhaar. Dit is 'n verhandelingsmetodiek wat elektronies gebruik word vir verhandeling van vee en sybokhaar.

'n Voorstel van die makelaars dat daar 'n komitee vanuit die kwekersvereniging aangestel moet word om saam met die makelaars en kopers hierdie konsep deeglik te evalueer is eenparig aanvaar.

## PRODUKSIEBEVORDERING

Waterford het Aksie Angora versoek om meer aandag aan die bevordering van produksie op boere- of inligtingsdae te gee sodat produksie op grondvlak aangemoedig kan word. Dit sou dalk 'n groter bydrae tot produksiebevordering hê as die soort ekspo wat in Somerset-Oos of Port Elizabeth aangebied is.

Die plaaswerkersvereniging het versoek om verteenwoordiging op Aksie Angora te kry sodat hulle 'n bydrae tot die bedryf kan maak.

## SKEERDEROPLEIDING

Beaufort-Wes het versoek dat SASKV fondse bewillig vir skeerder- en klasseerder- opleiding in al die produksiegebiede om sodoende die bedryf te bevorder. Dit kan ook as 'n swart bemagtingsinisiatief gesien word. Die versoek is deur die plaaswerkersvereniging gesteun om werk te verskaf in die dorpie waar werkloosheid hoogty vier.

## ANGORABOKVLEIS

Steytlerville het 'n versoek gerig dat ondersoek ingestel moet word om angorabokvleis en lewendige angoras op 'n manier te bemark wat 'n optimale prys vir angoras sal verseker.

Mnr Albie Jacobs van die RPO het ook aangekondig dat hulle druk op die regering uitoefen om BTW op rooivleis af te skaf en dit as 'n noodsaaklike voedselbron verklaar te kry. ■



**Jimmy Truter**

*Intensive care for ewes during kidding is as old as the Angora industry itself. Early pioneers farmed without the luxury of boundary fencing and kraaling of small stock at night was common practice.*

# Goatel -

## the concept revisited

*Ewes bonding with their new born kids. Any kidding problems are easy to identify.*

**K**eeping the kids back when the ewes were let out in the morning made good sense since the ewes would be able to feed unencumbered and the kids would not be exposed to predators. Since those early days, however, much has changed and will continue to change, forcing the farmers to adapt in order to stay financially functional.

### CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES

The magnificent surface water that enabled the huge flocks of yesteryear to flourish along with the bountiful virgin vegetation found in the region by the first settlers is long gone. The National Fencing Act of 1933 ensured that the rampant predator problem was temporarily under control and in many cases created conditions where animals could be left to kid unmolested in veld conditions. Each development had a unique set of lessons to accompany it. Establishing fixed boundaries meant that flocks were no longer nomadic and since early pioneers failed to realize the devastating impact of overgrazing, much harm was done to the natural resources. Much else can be added to the historic review of the Angora industry but it falls outside the parameters of this discussion and I will suffice by examining the situation as it stands today. A seemingly more erratic climate and an influx of predators has created a situation that needs to be responded to in creative ways.





*Over the years, the challenge of improving the reproductive efficiency of flocks on the farm was approached in numerous ways.*

*Above: Ews are accommodated in smaller camps around the shed prior to kidding.  
Below: The comfort and safety of the Angora ICU at Verdun.*



## VERDUN

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Verdun is a farm situated in the southern part of the Somerset East district near Theuns se Winkel. It is a farm that has much to offer by way of grazing diversity, being suitable for small stock, large stock or game. Some irrigation is done from the Little Fish River. Altogether a very farmable proposition. However, the aspect of raising kids or lambs has come under pressure over the past few years with the number of game farms encroaching on the traditional small stock areas. The combined effort of hunting dogs, traps and night shooting produced a total of 63 kills for 2007 on seven thousand hectares. This figure is fairly representative of the area. Warthogs have made their appearance and are creating havoc on the seventy-year-old fences.

It did not take long for this situation to be reflected in the kidding percentages and although extensive use is made of grazing on irrigated lands next to the Little Fish River, the 100% plus kidding percentage remained elusive. It also became clear that the kidding percentages were reflected by more than predators since twin kids would sometimes be found abandoned by their mothers or hungry unmarked kids could not be reconciled with their mothers.

Over the years, the challenge of improving the reproductive efficiency of flocks on the farm was approached in numerous ways, and yet for every problem there always seemed another detail that needed to be fine-tuned. The fact that Verdun has a relatively large percentage of veld compared to irrigation means that it is not possible to kid and lamb all breeding ewes on the lands at the same time, let alone try to control the losses.

## GOATELS

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On a visit to Maastricht, home of the late Mr Bennie Strydom in the early seventies, the use of a goatel was first observed. The system was unsophisticated and enabled the kid to be identified with its mother. It is not recalled how the system catered for feed and water, but individual pens were provided for individual ewes and their offspring and enabled the kid to be identified with the mother. At the time, other breeders seemed to respond by using systems modified to their own circumstances to good effect. One of the reasons cited at the time for not pursuing the goatel concept, was the capital needed for such a structure. Years later a



*An added bonus was that for the first time the kids outnumbered the ewes.*

visit was made to the farm Sneeuwberg of Mr W Jordaan, to attend a ram sale and in the yard was a system of pens for ewes with their lambs. The day was bitterly cold and yet the ewes were successfully lambing twins in conditions, where unprotected the mortality rate would have been disastrous. The possibility offered by the system now appeared in new focus. If lambing/kidding could be done in an environment shielded from extreme weather, the breeding could be done in batches that would facilitate the feed flow in the irrigated pastures.

### THE FIRST STEPS

It was decided to synchronize a group of 100 ewes to test the viability of the concept. The first group was synchronized and mated by being exposed to all the available breeding rams, the condition of the ewes was reasonably good and of the group that was mated 92 conceived. A start was made to convert all available under roof space to rudimentary cover using all available materials including old doors, bakkie rails, gates etc. A total of 146 lambs was successfully weaned after the first trial.

Encouraged by this result, further groups were put through the process but results were not always equally pleasing, however much was learnt along the way. A very pertinent lesson was learning to acquaint ewes with feed well in advance of the projected lambing date. The experience of having droves of 'hanslambs' to tend to was not an experience to be repeated lightly. The concept of group mating had to change to AI since the number of rams required to successfully mate bigger lots became prohibitive. Conception figures of some of the earlier AI groups were disappointing but consulting with feed experts addressed many woes. A spell of really cold weather during a synchronized lambing session was a pertinent reminder that under roof construction was essential if disaster was to be averted.

When the time came to mate Angoras, AI was used as with

sheep. This experience was rewarding since proper care could be given to the weak kids and poor mothers could be identified very quickly. An added bonus was that for the first time the kids outnumbered the ewes. The tentative steps described above were carried out in existing structures widely dispersed on the yard and the materials used for the partition and feed and water of the ewes left much to be desired.

### THE NEW SHED

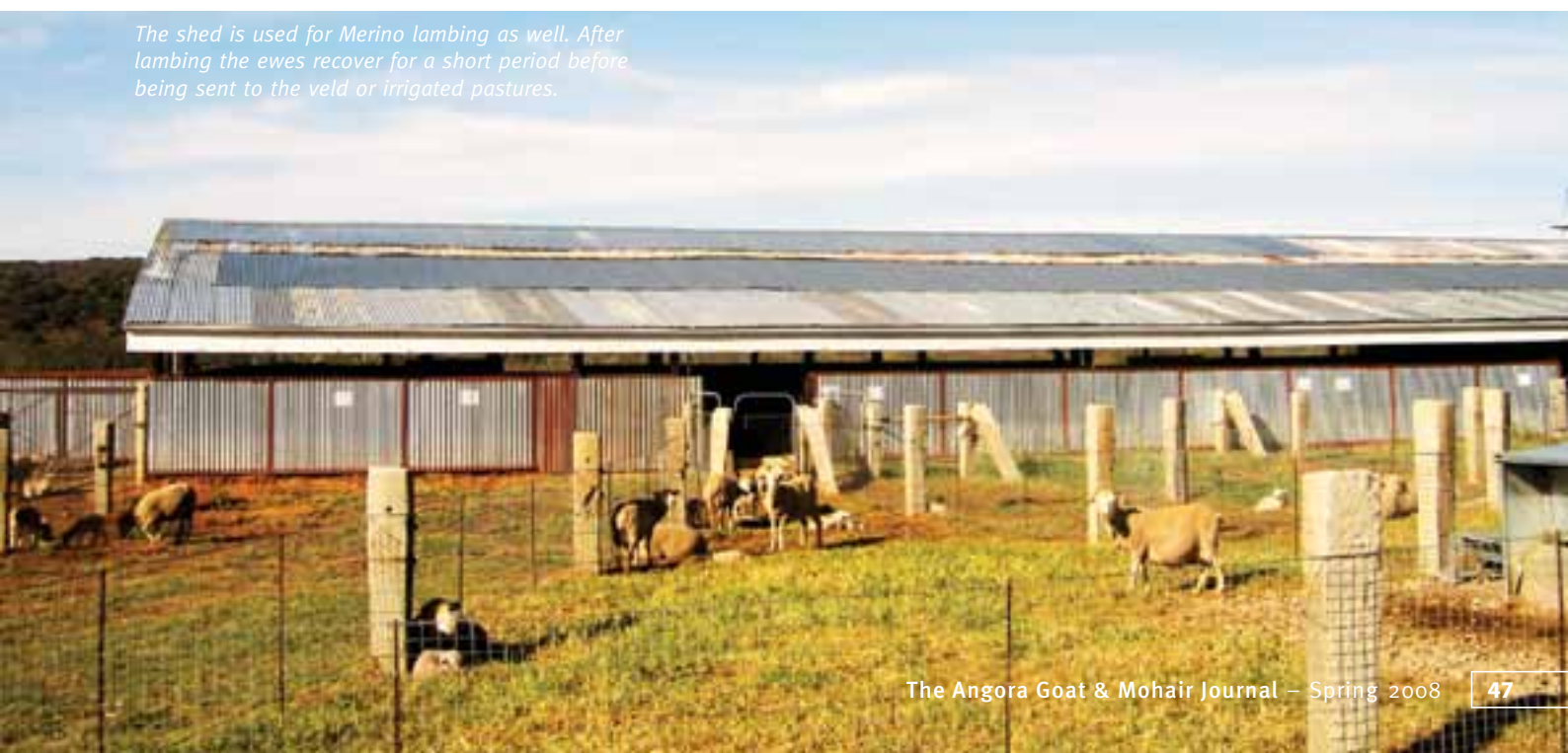
Because results with such a system showed so much promise, it was decided to build a shed that could accommodate 240 individual pens. The idea was to construct a shed which was reasonably labour friendly and which would allow an easy flow of animals into and out of pens. It was found that the ewes tend to excrete a lot of fluids and that the floor gets very messy, so it was decided to use drift sand as a floor. Although drawing a cultivator through the sand can clean the floor, the ideal floor is not yet in place and the ideal surface has yet to be identified. The shed complex was worked on for a number of months and is currently in full operation.

It is evident that the concept of a Goatel or a penning system has its merits and that really amazing results can be obtained, but it is equally clear that good management is a must, since the system concentrates a lot of animals in a relatively small area and proper care must be taken to prevent the spread of disease.

In response to a question of whether the cost involved justified the erection of a shed the answer is a definite yes, since the lambing percentages have responded amazingly.

Results obtained by kidding in a shed have resurrected expectations of profitable small stock farming in an area wedged in between the Addo National Park in the south and extensive game farms in the east towards Grahamstown, where jackal and lynx are rapidly starting to claim terra firma. ■

*The shed is used for Merino lambing as well. After lambing the ewes recover for a short period before being sent to the veld or irrigated pastures.*





*Mr. Henry King demonstrating the application of Thermoskin on Merinos and Angoras.*

AB Hobson

# Spray away the *winter chills*

*An innovative product developed by Australian chemical and cosmetic manufacturer, Mr Henry King from Sydney, who has spent the past four years researching and developing this remarkable product may spell the end of winter woes for Angoras and producers alike.*

**T**he risk of stock losses amongst Angoras during the first few weeks after shearing has been an inherent problem for mohair farmers. Adequate shelter and a commitment to be constantly aware of sudden weather changes, have traditionally been the only solution to this problem. During the last decade, however, lifestyle changes, labour legislation and seemingly more unpredictable weather patterns have substantially increased the risk factors. This has led to unnecessary losses in an industry that is striving to promote production.

With the profit margins being continuously eroded by the alarming escalation of production costs, the risk of stock losses due to inclement weather is proving to be an inhibiting factor in terms of production promotion. Due to the extensive nature of Angora goat farming a practical alternative to sheltering is an attractive option.

One such option is a lanolin-based product called *Thermoskin*. It claims to be the twenty first century's alternative to shedding. It is a weather shield that aims to protect shorn animals from the chilling elements of wind and rain in the immediate post-shearing and extended six week period.

Applied as a spray and invisible to the eye, *Thermoskin* is also designed to reduce the loss of body weight during this critical period.

An application of 50 milliliters per animal is applied by spray gun or portable jetting system set up within the holding race. Once the animal has been coated it can be exposed to rain ten to fifteen minutes after the treatment.

*Thermoskin* is made from natural ingredients including lanolin, is physiologically harmless, is biodegradable, environmentally friendly



*It claims to be the twenty first century's alternative to shedding.*

and does not interfere with the skin's natural respiration.

The product is easily removed from the fleeces during commercial processing by employing the normal scouring procedures.

Besides being an effective weather shield, it is anticipated that this product will also promote the healing of shearing cuts.

A meeting with Mr King was arranged for the MSA delegation who visited Australia earlier this year. We were privileged to be entertained to a practical demonstration of the application of *Thermoskin* on both newly shorn Angoras and merinos at a field day held on the farm of Roger Clark in New South Wales. For the purpose of practical demonstration, the product was applied using the portable spray race.

*Thermoskin* is applied in a fine mist while the animals move through the race at a steady pace. There was no visible

discoloration and the only discernable difference seemed to be a slightly oily tactile one.

As if orchestrated by supernatural marketing powers a shower of rain fell shortly after the demonstration and the product's effectiveness could be seen first hand. It was certainly a case of water off a goat's back!

MSA has arranged for a batch of *Thermoskin* to be imported with the view of having comprehensive trials done at Grootfontein's Research Institute.

Is the mohair industry on the brink of a major breakthrough in terms of being able to spray away the winter chill while achieving peace of mind and adhering to the anticipated Code of Best Practice doctrine?

This good news would be so welcome to producers who always seem to be on the receiving side of production challenges. ■





# The Angora Veld Ram Project -



*an indisputable success*

## Mark Shires

*In 1987 it was decided by the Angora Goat Stud Breeders Society of South Africa to run an Angora veld ram project. The objective was to supply quality veld adapted rams to the mohair industry.*

*A group of veldrams under the management of Mark Shires near Jansenville. These rams were sold in Graaff-Reinet in 2007.*

*The significant difference in the 1988 and the 2008 sales was the average micron difference.*

## Introduction

The concept was that the rams would run together from August to the end of January, under veld conditions, receiving only supplementary feeding. This culminates into an offering of rams carrying a six-month fleece with performance data of both fleece and body weight. Thereafter they would be inspected and only those rams deemed to be of a sufficient standard would be sold at the auction. This concept has not changed.

## A brief history

The first official Angora veld ram intake took place at Koks kraal, the farm of Mr. C Troskie, in Bedford on the 19 August 1987, under the supervision of Mr. John Hobson. On the 19 February 1988, 69 of the original 133 rams were offered for sale. In 1989 the project was moved to the farm of Mr. W. Louw of Cookhouse, again under the watchful eye of Mr J.Hobson. As the project became more popular, it was decided to move it to a more central venue and Graaff- Reniet was chosen. Mr Jimmy Crouse was given the task of managing it. In 1993 the management again changed hands and Messrs Peter Cawood and Mark Shires were entrusted with the project that it is to date still being run on the farm "Bluegumvale" at Mount Stewart.

In 1999, due to the success of the Graaff-Reinet project, it was decided not to hold a prepared ram auction sale in Beaufort West, but to rather have a veld ram project. Mr Barries Snijman of Vleikuil, Rietbron, was asked to manage it, and he still is successfully doing so.

As the projects grew in popularity, it was decided to change the prepared ram sale at Jansenville to a veld ram project and Mr.Neil Outram of Leeuwfontein, Klipplaat, was identified to run it. He did so ably and enthusiastically until 2006 when Mr. Blake Hobson

## Ram Sales 2008/2009

### Prepared ram sales:

Somerset-East 15th November 2008

### Veld ram project sales:

Willowmore 24th January 2009

Graaff-Reinet 1st February 2009

Jansenville 8th February 2009

of Loch Dale, Jansenville, succeeded him. After his untimely death in 2007 Mr. George Hope, his son-in-law, took over the project.

In 2005 a decision was made to move the sale venue from Beaufort West to Willowmore where successful sales have been held ever since.

## General

At the inaugural sale held in Queenstown in 1988, a 40 kg minimum weight was imposed on the rams that were entered. The average intake weight was 50 kg's. The rams gained on average 7.7 kg's over the six-month period and weighed 57.7 kg's at the sale. The micron average was 44 microns and the average price was R999,63. The breeder's identity was withheld until the completion of the sale of the ram.

In 2001 it was decided that there would not be a minimum intake weight for the rams to discourage breeders from feeding. In 2004 it was decided not to withhold the breeders identity at the sales and their stud numbers were printed on the catalogues.

The significant difference in the 1988 and the 2008 sales was the average micron difference. In 1988 it was 44 microns compared to the 33 microns in 2008. This meant that the 2008 rams were, on average, 11 microns finer, whilst body growth of 8 kg on average has been maintained, indicating the breeder's commitment to supply, not only veld adapted rams, but also rams that meet the market trends. 210 rams at an average price of R 3380,54 were sold at the 2008 veld ram sales compared to the 234 rams at R 3912,40 on the two prepared ram auction sales.

## Conclusion

In 1988 there were 7 official prepared ram sales, whereas in 2008 there were only 2 official prepared ram sales and 3 veld ram sales. Buyers and sellers have identified the need for these projects. In 1988 only 52% of the intake of rams were sold compared to the 70% in 2008. Breeders have recognized the success of these projects and only rams of a high standard are accepted at intake. At the final classing there is a strict selection policy where rams that have not adapted to veld conditions, are culled. The remaining rams are then classed to the standard of excellence required by the Angora Ram Breeders Society and only those, which are approved, are presented at the sales. Buyers have found that rams bought at the veld ram project sales have adapted quickly to their conditions and have been used successfully on their flocks. Rams have also been bought and used as top quality stud sires indicating the standards that these sales have achieved.

The objectives of the first veld ram project, to supply quality, veld adapted rams for the mohair industry, have not changed to this day. Continued improved performances



*No shortage of quality on this fleece.*

in all aspects, from breeding through to adaptability, have proved the wisdom to move into veld ram projects. The growing requirements of changing management practices and the improved standards of the rams offered, have proved that these projects are an indisputable success.

## The future

The Angora Ram Breeders Society decided in 2008 to offer only one prepared auction sale to be held at Somerset-East during November 2008 and three larger offerings of veld ram sales at Willowmore, Graaff-Reinet and Jansenville. The dates for these sales are as follows:

### Prepared ram sales:

Somerset East - 15th November 2008

### Veld ram project sales:

Willowmore - 24th January 2009

Graaff-Reinet - 1st February 2009

Jansenville - 8th February 2009 ■

*This ram of Clive van Hasselt fetched the top price at the Willowmore veld ram sale.*



*A group of veldrams under the management of George Hope from Lochdale. These rams were offered on the Jansenville veld ram sale in 2007.*







*Dit was 'n unieke geleentheid om van die beste genetiese materiaal wat tans beskikbaar is te bekom om die droom van die stoetery uit te brei.*

*Grootfontein Landbou Instituut – die hek tot groter kennis.*

# Studente kry unieke opleiding *met angoras*

*Met die aankoop vroeër in 2008, van ses-en-veertig ooie uit die Careysbrook stoetery het die studente van Grootfontein 'n unieke geleentheid gekry om met top genetiese materiaal hul opleiding in hierdie afdeling van die kleinvee bedryf af te rond. Met behulp van Pieter Jordaan, 'n voormalige student aan die Instituut, het Linda Henderson 'n beter insig oor die Angorabok produksie – eenheid of te wel die Angora mini-plaas van Grootfontein Landbou-instituut gekry.*

**D**ie angora produksie-eenheid, oftewel miniplaas, van Grootfontein Landboukollege het in 1999 sy ontstaan gehad. Die hoofrede vir die ontstaan van die verskillende produksie-eenhede was om die finale jaar studente 'n kans te gee om die kennis wat hul gedurende die voorafgaande twee jaar opgedoen het, prakties toe te pas. Op hierdie manier kry die studente die unieke geleentheid om te leer uit hul foute sonder dat dit hulle as boer 'n knou gee, soos wat in werklikheid op die plaas die geval sou wees.

'n Groep van vyf of ses studente, onder leiding van die betrokke dosent (Hans Greeff by die angorabok-produksie-eenheid), is verantwoordelik vir die bestuur van die produksie-eenheid. Dit sluit in: algemene- en gesondheid bestuur van die vee, veldbestuur sowel as bemarking van die produkte en finansiële bestuur van die

produksie-eenheid. Noukeurige beplanning en rekordhouding is baie belangrik aangesien die studente deurentyd skriftelik verslag moet doen van die stand van sake en aan die einde van die jaar moet 'n volledige finale verslag deur elke student ingedien word.

Die angorabokke waarmee daar op die miniplaas geboer word, is die eiendom van Sybokhaar Suid-Afrika. SSA het 'n afsonderlike rekening waar alle inkomstes inbetaal word en waaruit al die uitgawes betaal word. Die angorabok produksie-eenheid is daarvoor bekend dat dit die eenheid is wat jaar na jaar die grootste wins toon (In 2006: Inkomste per ha = R 530 ; Inkomste per KVE = R 475, In 2007: Inkomste per ha = R742 ; Inkomste per ooi = R1070, hierdie sluit die verkope van ramme in).

Die miniplaas is 218 ha groot en tans besit die boerdery sowat 125 teelooie met hul bokkies, 27 vervangingsooitjies en 22 jaaroud rambokkies wat in November te koop sal wees asook agt



Bonsmara koeie en 'n bul, wat gebruik word om die groot hoeveelhede gras te benut. Hierdie diere is van 'n baie hoë gehalte en daarom is besluit om h' stoet in 2007 te registreer, stoetnommer 323.

Vroeër in die jaar is daar ses-en-veertig ootjies uit die jaartal 2006 en 2005 en 2004 op die Careysbrook stoetveiling aangekoop. Dit was 'n unieke geleentheid om van die beste genetiese materiaal wat tans beskikbaar is te bekom om die droom van die stoetery uit te brei. Nie net sal die studente deur middel van die stoet die alledaagse bestuurskennis onder die knie kry nie, hulle sal nou ook die unieke geleentheid kry om teling toe te pas met die doel om 'n goed aangepaste dier met markverwante behoeftes te teel. Doeltreffende diere is die sleutel tot finansiële sukses en die nodige kennis om dit te doen is van onskatbare waarde.

In die verlede is ramme wat van Snyberg Angoras kom gebruik en tans word ramme wat van Clive van Hasselt afkomstig is, in die stoet gebruik.

Die miniplaas het 'n goeie gemengde gras-bossie veld met struik wat in 'n uitstekende toestand is. Dit word van die studente verwag om 'n geskikte veldbestuursprogram op te stel, waarin hul die aantal weidare per kamp moet bereken en ook die datums waarop die vee verskuif moet word, moet uitstip. Daar is tans vier kampe wat deur die jaar bewei word, verder word drie klein kampies slegs gedurende lamtyd gebruik, daarom maak die studente van 'n twee-kamp weidingstelsel gebruik.

Parasiete en koksidiöse veroorsaak soms probleme, daarom word daar maandeliks mismonsters geneem vir ontleding en die bokke word dan daarvolgens gedoseer. Drie weke na skeer word die bokke voorkomend teen rooiluise gedip en daarna soos nodig. Dit is ook 'n standaard praktyk om die bokke net voor skeer in 'n wasmiddel te dip, om só die voorkoms van die haar te verbeter.

Die studente het in 2005 besluit om van die EGT diens wat deur CMW gebied word, gebruik te maak en sedertdien word



*Studente kry praktiese ondervinding met angorabokke.*

*Vroeër in die jaar is daar ses-en-veertig ootjies uit die jaartal 2006, 2005 en 2004 op die Careysbrook stoetveiling aangekoop.*

*Links: Die mooi nuwe gesig van landbou in Suid-Afrika.  
Regs: Hans Greeff (lektor), regs, en twee derde jaar studente, Johannes Oelofse en Robbie Kleynhans by 'n groep ramme wat in November te koop sal wees.*



*In 2006 is 'n lampersentasie  
van 109 % behaal.*

dit met elke skeer gebruik. Die haarmonsters word sowat twee weke voor die skeerdatum geneem. Gedurende skeertyd word elke vag dan in sy eie sakkie gesit en genommer. Die vag word dan geweeg en binne die spesifieke skeergroep geklas. In 2006 het die produksie-eenheid 'n besonderse prestasie behaal toe hul die tweede hoogste gemiddelde prys van R 99,83 per kilogram vir hul skeersel op die vierde somerveiling in Port Elizabeth behaal het. In 2007 het die studente R98,45 per kilogram gekry en R95,35 in 2008 op dieselfde veilings.

Die teelddoelwitte vir die angora produksie-eenheid kan as volg opgesom word :

- Ons wil 'n bok teel wat fyn tot medium haar met 'n goeie styl en karakter produseer,
- van 'n goeie lengte met soliede stringe produseer,
- en waarvan die vag egalig is.
- Beide ooie en ramme moet uitstaande vrugbaarheid toon.
- Elke bok moet oor 'n goeie funksioneel doeltreffende bouvorm beskik,
- en goeie groeivermoë en lewenskragtigheid toon.

In 2006 is 'n lampersentasie van 109 % behaal, wat uitstekend is as 'n mens in ag neem dat 42 % van die ooie wat gelam het uit jong (tweetand) ooitjies bestaan het. Daar word van groep-paring gebruik gemaak, met koggelramme wat vooraf gebruik word vir 9 dae as 'n natuurlike manier om die ooie te sinchroniseer. Die ooie lam in klein kampies, waar hul aanvullende voeding soos ooi-en-lampille of lusern ontvang. Dit is die studente se verantwoordelikheid om die bakkies daaglik te merk en ook om die ooie gereeld, minstens twee maal daaglik, te besoek om seker te maak dat alles vlot verloop. Gedurende lamtyd word al die nodige inligting wat later benodig sal word vir prestasietoetsing ook versamel. Dit sluit die bakkie sowel as sy ma se oorplaatjie nommer, geboortedatum, geboortestatus en geslag van die bakkie in.

Al hierdie dag-tot-dag bestuurspraktyke word reg deur die jaar in 'n logboek aangeteken om sodoende presies te kan weet wanneer en watter aksie uitgevoer is.

Hierdie produksie-eenheid is sonder twyfel 'n baie belangrike deel van 'n voornemende boer se opleiding op Grootfontein. Dit verskaf iets aan die student wat nie met geld gekoop kan word nie, ondervinding! ■

*TO OUR ENGLISH READERS: This article pertaining to the Angora goat mini-farm project at Grootfontein Agricultural Institute is available in English on our website: [www.mohair.co.za/files/journals/English50\\_2.pdf](http://www.mohair.co.za/files/journals/English50_2.pdf)*



*Bo: Studente kry praktiese ondervinding met angorabokke.  
Middel: 'n Groep van die ooie wat vroeër vanjaar uit die Careysbrook stoetery gekoop is.  
Onder: Studente leer die fynere kunsies van sybokhaar klasering.*



# Kemp en gemedulleerde vesels *in sybokhaar*

Dr Gretha Snyman

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*Die voorkoms van kemp en gemedulleerde vesels in sybokhaar is 'n onderwerp wat wêreldwyd aandag geniet. Vrae soos die volgende word oral gevra: Is dit moontlik om die voorkoms van medullasie in sybokhaar deur middel van seleksie te verlaag?*

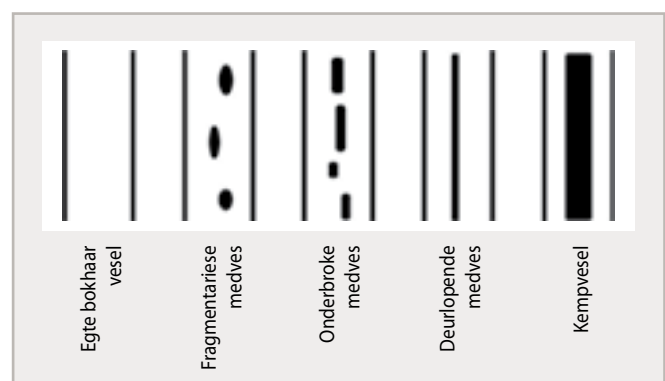
**W**at is die oorerflikheid van medullasie en die genetiese en fenotipiese korrelasies daarvan met ander ekonomies belangrike produksie-eienskappe van angorabokke? Watter omgewingsfaktore, soos bv. seisoen, voedingspeil, siektes, ouderdom of geslag, beïnvloed die voorkoms van kemp en gemedulleerde vesels en tot watter mate? Die meeste van hierdie vrae kon egter nog nie met sekerheid beantwoord word nie. Met hierdie oorsig word daar gepoog om van die belangrikste aspekte rakende kemp en gemedulleerde vesels aan te spreek.

## Wat is kemp en gemedulleerde vesels?

'n Egte sybokhaarvesel bestaan uit keratien en bevat geen medulla nie. In sybokhaarvagte kom daar egter ook vesels voor wat tot 'n mindere of meerdere mate gemedulleerd is. Hierdie vesels kan op grond van die graad van medullasie in vier kategorieë ingedeel word. Vir die doel van hierdie artikel sal daar gesamentlik na die eerste drie tipes, as medves verwys word. Met die term gemedulleerde vesels sal alle medves sowel as kempvesels bedoel word.

- Fragmentariese gemedulleerde vesel
- Onderbroke gemedulleerde vesel
- Kontinu/deurlopende gemedulleerde vesel
- Kontinu gemedulleerde kemp

In Figuur 1 word die tipe medulla en deursnee van elke tipe vesel aan die hand van sketse verduidelik.



Figuur 1. Tipes medullasie in sybokhaar

Kemp is die ekstreme vorm van 'n gemedulleerde vesel en is sigbaar met die blote oog as 'n kalkagtige, wit vesel in die natuurlike sowel as gekleurde staat. 'n Tipiese kempvesel het gewoonlik 'n groot medulla, en is 'n bros vesel wat nie buigbaar of elasties is nie. Die vesel is gewoonlik reguit en ovaalvormig in dwarsniet. Die kenmerkende dof, kalkagtige wit voorkoms van kemp word veroorsaak deur die aanwesigheid van die medulla, waarvan die selle hol is en klein lugblasies bevat. Wanneer lig op



die lugbevattende selle val, word dit in 'n menigte vlakke gebreek voor dit teruggekaats word. Die kempvesel wat lug bevat is ook nie so sterk en buigzaam soos die egte bokhaarvesel nie.

Kempvesels is geheel en al ongeskik vir gebruik in die vervaardiging van hoë gehalte, fyn kledingstukke en wel omdat :

- Kemp as vesel te grof en dik is.
- Kemp gedurende die verwerkingsproses maklik breek en dus 'n garing van minderwaardige gehalte lewer.
- Kemp weens sy luginhoud kleurstowwe swak absorbeer. Egte sybokhaar daarenteen is bekend as dié vesel van dierlike oorsprong wat sagte pastelkleure die beste vertoon.

Omdat kemp ongewens is, moet dit gedurende die verwerkingsproses uitgekam word. Dit beteken nie alleen 'n verlies aan gewig in die vorm van kamafal vir die fabrikant nie, maar ook verhoogde produksiekoste. Sybokhaar wat dus 'n oormaat kemp bevat word dus hoofsaaklik gebruik vir items soos matte en tapyte. Kopers maak veral beswaar teen medves omdat dié vesels nie tydens die verwerkingsproses uitgekam kan word nie.



Figuur 2. Gemedulleerde sybokhaarvesels

### Verskille tussen kemp en medves

Hoewel kempvesels met die blote oog waargeneem kan word, kan die meeste van die medves nie met die blote oog van egte sybokhaarvesels onderskei word nie. Die medulla van die medves beslaan minder as 60 % van die deursnee van die vesel, terwyl die medulla van 'n kempvesel meer as 60 % van die deursnee van die vesel beslaan. Kemp is korter vesels van 30 - 50 mm lank, terwyl medves net so lank soos egte bokhaarvesels is. Hulle kan dus nie deur middel van uitkaming van egte bokhaarvesels geskei word nie. Gevolglik is die medves 'n groter probleem as die kempvesels.

Tydens 'n analise van 2659 gemedulleerde vesels, wat verteenwoordigend van VSA-bokhaartipes is, is die volgende gevind: Indien die deursnee van die medulla teenoor die deursnee van die vesel geplot word, kan daar nie 'n definitiewe onderskeid tussen kemp en medves gemaak word nie. Die algemene tendens is egter dat die medulla neig om groter te word soos die veseldeursnee toeneem. Bokant 100 mikron veseldikte is alle gemedulleerde vesels kemp, tussen 20 - 30 mikron is alle gemedulleerde vesels medves, terwyl daar geen gemedulleerde vesels onder 20 mikron in bokhaar voorkom nie. Dus, tussen 30 - 100 mikron is daar 'n area van

oorvleueling waar die vesel óf 'n medves óf 'n kempvesel kan wees.

Kempvesels word deur die primêre haarfollikels geproduseer, terwyl medves aan die ander kant deur die sekondêre haarfollikels geproduseer word. Medves groei dwarsdeur die jaar, terwyl kempvesels 'n seisoenale patroon van verharing volg. Die primêre follikels wat kempvesels produseer, toon verhoogde aktiwiteit in die lente en somer, terwyl dit onaktief in die herfs en winter is. Die volgende seisoenale siklus is by 'n primitiewe bokras gevind: Gedurende Oktober is 15 % van die follikels wat kemp produseer, reeds aktief. In November is 38 % aktief, terwyl al die follikels teen Februarie vesels produseer. Gedurende November is die kempvesels 30 mm lank, waarna hulle in lengte toeneem deur die somer om 'n maksimum lengte van 50 mm in April te bereik. Teen April is daar reeds 84 % van die vesels in die kemp-produserende follikels wat borsel-eindes gevorm het. Honderd persent van die vesels het teen Julie borsel-eindes gevorm en is dus gereed om te verhaar. Die nuwe kempvesels begin reeds weer om te groei voordat al die ou kempvesels uitgeval het.

### Persentasie gemedulleerde vesels

Objektiewe metings van kemp en medves, wat vir agt agtereenvolgende jare op 600 tien-maande-oue bokkies van die angorabokkudde op die Jansenville proefplaas gedoen is, toon 'n persentasie medves van 0.69 %, 0.03 % vir kemp en 99.28 % vir haar. Vir Australiese angorabokramme word die volgende persentasies aangegee, naamlik 4.9 % onderbroke gemedulleerde vesels, 3.4 % deurlopend gemedulleerde vesels en 0.6 % kemp.

### Variasie in medullasie oor die vag

Daar kom meer kemp in die broekgedeelte as in die midsy en nekgedeeltes van angorabokvagte voor. Ander ondersoekers het ook gevind dat die persentasie kemp in haarmonsters van die broek, romp en langs die stert (1.09% tot 1.47%) hoër is as dié van die midsy, skouer en nek (0.25% tot 0.65%). Die midsy-monster, in vergelyking met die hele vag, bevat 'n misleidende laer persentasie kemp. Die persentasie kemp in die midsy is slegs middelmatig ( $r=0.37$ ) gekorreleer met die persentasie kemp in die hele vag. Om kemp dus akkuraat te bepaal, moet 'n verteenwoordigende monster van die hele vag gemeet word.

### Invloed van seisoen op die voorkoms van medullasie

Verskeie outeurs het gevind dat die persentasie kemp en medves hoër is in die herfsskeersel as in die lenteskeersel. In Texas, aan die ander kant, is geen verskil ten opsigte van hoeveelheid kemp tussen die twee skeersels gevind nie, maar wel dat daar betekenisvol meer medves in die lente- as in die herfsskeersel teenwoordig is. In Indië is ook geen verskil ten opsigte van kemp gevind nie, maar wel meer medves in die herfs- as in die lenteskeersel. Uit hierdie teenstrydige resultate is dit dus duidelik dat die effek van seisoen op die voorkoms van kemp en medves in sybokhaar nog nie uitgeklaar is nie.

### Invloed van voedingspeil op medullasie

Drie voedingstudies wat in Texas uitgevoer is, toon aan dat energie-inname, proteïenvlak en frekwensie van proteïenbyvoeding nie die voorkoms van kemp of medves beïnvloed nie. Dieselfde gevolgtrekking word deur outeurs vir Turkse angorabokke gemaak.

Aan die ander kant is bevind dat die persentasie kemp van 55 ramme wat aan die angorabokprestasietoetskema in Texas deelgeneem het en op 'n hoë voedingspeil was, betekenisvol verhoog het vanaf 0.16 % tot 0.29% vanaf 11- tot 15-maande ouderdom. Die persentasie medves het terselfdertyd nie-betekenisvol van 0.81 % tot 1.87 % toegeneem.

### Oorerflikheid van medullasie

Uit 'n ondersoek na die voorkoms van medullasie in 20 stoeterye in Australië, blyk dit dat medves 'n genetiese grondslag het, aangesien die voorkoms van medves in vier van die stoeterye hoër was en dit juis dié stoeterye was wat van tyd tot tyd van ramme met medves gebruik gemaak het.

Die meeste oorerflikhede wat in die literatuur vir kemp aangegee word, is gebaseer op subjektiewe kemp "scores". Hierdie beramings wissel vanaf 0.05 tot 0.43. Oorerflikheidsberamings van 0.16 tot 0.39 vir persentasie medves en 0.20 vir persentasie kemp (objektief) is vir 12-maande-oue bokkies beraam. Die standaardfoute van dié beramings is egter hoog, wat moontlik aan die klein hoeveelheid vaders toegeskryf kan word. Herhaalbaarhede van  $0.50 \pm 0.06$  vir medves en  $0.35 \pm 0.06$  vir kemp is vir Suid-Afrikaanse angorabokke beraam. Dit blyk dus asof kemp en medves deur middel van direkte seleksie verlaag kan word.

*Uit 'n ondersoek na die voorkoms van medullasie in 20 stoeterye in Australië, blyk dit dat medves 'n genetiese grondslag het.*

Kemp "scores" is net bruikbaar om diere met 'n hoë proporsie sigbare kemp te identifiseer. Daar word beweer dat die huidige lae persentasie kemp in Texas se angorabokke die gevolg van visuele seleksie teen kemp is. As gevolg van die lae korrelasie tussen subjektiewe kemp "score" en die objektiewe meting daarvan (0.05 tot 0.20), sal 'n verdere verlagings in kemp alleenlik deur middel van objektiewe kempmeting van die hele vag verkry kan word. Dieselfde geld sekerlik vir die Suid-Afrikaanse angorabokbedryf, waar die huidige lae voorkoms van kemp en medves ook aan jarelange subjektiewe seleksie teen kemp toegeskryf kan word.

Die vraag ontstaan of seleksie vir verlaagde kemp tot die verlagings van alle gemedulleerde vesels in die vag sal lei? 'n Fenotipiese korrelasie van 0.05 is in 'n ondersoek tussen medves en kemp "score" verkry, wat voor-die-hand-liggend is, aangesien 'n mens kemp kan sien, maar medves nie. Aan die ander kant is 'n fenotipiese korrelasie van 0.33 tussen persentasie medves en kemppersentasie beraam vanaf data van 306 ramme wat aan die Texas angorabok prestasietoetskema deelgeneem het. 'n Fenotipiese korrelasie van 0.72 tussen persentasie medves en persentasie kemp is vir Suid-Afrikaanse angorabokke beraam.

Medves en kemp mag dalk 'n enkele eienskap wees, of aan die ander kant mag dit twee verskillende eienskappe wees wat slegs vesels met oorvleuelende medulla-eienskappe bevat. Hierdie aspek moet dus nog verder ondersoek word.

### Korrelasies van medullasie met ander eienskappe

Wat die verwantskap tussen medullasie en veseldikte aanbetref, blyk dit uit verskeie ondersoeke dat daar geen betekenisvolle genetiese óf fenotipiese korrelasies tussen kemp en veseldikte gevind is nie, maar wel medium tot hoë genetiese en fenotipiese korrelasies tussen medves en veseldikte.

Geen definitiewe tendens ten opsigte van die korrelasie tussen medullasie en vagmassa kan in die literatuur gevind word nie. Korrelasies wat aangegee word wissel van -0.18 tussen kemp "score" en vagmassa tot 0.49 tussen kemp en 12-maande-oue vagmassa. Ten opsigte van liggaamsmassa is daar oor die algemeen geen betekenisvolle korrelasies tussen medves en liggaamsmassa beraam nie, maar wel 'n positiewe korrelasie van 0.18 tussen liggaamsmassa en kemp. Die feit dat daar verskillende korrelasies van kemp en medves met ander haar- en liggaamsmassa-eienskappe deur verskeie outeurs beraam is, laat 'n mens weereens wonder of kemp en medves een eienskap is en of hulle nie dalk geneties twee verskillende eienskappe kan wees nie.

### Gevolgtrekking

Dit blyk dus dat seleksie teen kemp en medves wel moontlik kan wees, indien die seleksie uitgevoer word op diere wat ouer as een jaar is en die seleksiemaatstaf wat gebruik word objektiewe kemp- sowel as medves-metings op 'n verteenwoordigende monster van die hele vag is. Hierdie metode is egter tydrowend en sal moeilik vir die produsent implementeerbaar wees.

Die gebrek aan genetiese parameters vir kemp en medves, gebaseer op objektiewe metings, is 'n groot leemte wat gevul moet word alvorens die probleem van kemp en medves opgelos sal kan word. Ondersoek na praktiese metodes vir die bepaling van kemp en veral medves behoort ook 'n prioriteit te wees. ■

TO OUR ENGLISH READERS: This article about Kemp and Medullated Hair in Angora goats is available in English on our website: [www.mohair.co.za/files/journals/English50\\_2.pdf](http://www.mohair.co.za/files/journals/English50_2.pdf)

# Die bedreiging wat *Wesselsbronsiekte & Slenkdalkoors* vir die sybokhaarbedryf inhou

JL Retief

*Met my vertrek van die Landboukollege Grootfontein aan die einde van Junie 1974 (na 31/2 jaar as dosent in angorabokke en sybokhaar) het ek uiteraard die mense, met wie ek saamgewerk het, in hulle kantore gaan groet. Wyle dr Marius van Tonder, die veearts op Grootfontein, se woorde aan my was dat hy nou nie vir my 'n geskenk het nie, maar hy beveel aan dat ek, sodra ek op die plaas kom, al my diere teen Wesselsbronsiekte en Slenkdalkoors moet gaan ent. U sal miskien onthou dat dit gedurende die buitengewoon goeie reënjare van 1973 – 1977 was.*

**E**k het vir etlike jare volgehou om my diere in te spuit. Beide entstowwe se poeier word na dieselfde botteltjie steriele water oorgedra. Die inspuiting word net eenmaal in 'n dier se leeftyd toegedien in die boonste derde van die dier se nek onder die vel. Enige ouderdom diere kan geënt word, maar lammers van gesoute diere moet eers op sesmaande ouderdom gespuit word. As al jou diere dus een maal gespuit is, word slegs die lammers jaarliks op sesmaande ouderdom net een maal in hulle leeftyd geënt. Tans word aanbeveel dat die twee entstowwe apart toegedien moet word. Dit kan egter gelyktydig gedoen word aan weerskante van die nek.

Na die verloop van 'n klompie jare het ek opgehou om my diere te spuit, want die siekte het nooit sy verskyning gemaak nie. (Miskien omdat die diere geënt was.) Later het die entstof onverkrygbaar geword, hoofsaaklik omdat boere dit so min gebruik het.

Gedurende Februarie 2006 slaan Wesselsbronsiekte toe. In Februarie 2006 (na 'n baie nat Januarie) begin my diere vrek; nie net angoras nie, maar ook merino's en dorpers. Diere lê in die veld dood, veral naby staande water. Diere wat ingebring word vir skeer, sak uit en vrek binne 'n dag of twee. Die mees herkenbare simptoom is geel slymvliese van byvoorbeeld die oë. Word 'n stukkie van die vel afgesny, dan is die karkas goudgeel. Die niere en lewer word erg aangetas, vandaar die geel karkasse. Vrektes kan voorkom, totdat dit behoorlik ryp. Vir twee tot drie maande vreet dit aan jou. Elke dag vrek daar 'n paar; dan weer vir 'n dag of twee geen vrektes. Dan vrek hulle weer. Volgens literatuur kan tot 4% van jou kudde vrek. Vier persent van my kudde het gedurende 2006 gevrek.

Volgens literatuur kom Wesselsbronsiekte en Slenkdalkoors dikwels saam voor in baie nat en warm toestande. Langtermynweervoorspellers wil dit hê dat hierdie toestande in die toekoms al meer in die Oos-Kaap sal voorkom. Dieselfde literatuur stel dit duidelik dat Slenkdalkoors tot 80% van jou diere kan laat vrek. Dragtige diere aborteer feitlik sonder uitsondering. Dit kan in der waarheid die sybokhaarbedryf se einde beteken.

Die entstof is tans beskikbaar teen R224/100 dosisse vir Wesselsbronsiekte en R218/100 dosisse vir Slenkdalkoors. Vir 'n skamele R4-42 per bok eenmalig, kan 'n groot ramp voorkom word.

Dr Marius van Tonder se raad aan my in 1974 was dus meer werd as wat ek beseef het. ■

*Volgens literatuur kan tot 4% van jou kudde vrek.*

TO OUR ENGLISH READERS: A translation of this article about The threat that Wesselsbron Disease and Rift Valley Fever hold for the Mohair Industry is available on our website: [www.mohair.co.za/files/journals/English50\\_2.pdf](http://www.mohair.co.za/files/journals/English50_2.pdf)





# SEB beur

*voorrui*

Gielie Grobler

*Mnr. Derek Hanekom (derde van regs) en 'n afvaardiging van die Departement van Landbou het Hardwood vroeër hierdie jaar besoek.*

## HARDWOOD

**D**ie eerste diere vir die Hardwood-projek het gedurende Maart 2007 op die plaas aangekom terwyl vyf "studente" (die deelnemers aan die projek) eers vanaf Julie 2007 betrokke geraak het. Die vertraging was te wyte aan sekere interne reëlings wat langer geduur het as wat verwag is.

Die 210 ooie wat deur SAMIL beskikbaar gemaak is, het 181 bokkies opgelewer. Ons het 18 bokkies weens ongediertes verloor, maar nadat die nodige stappe geneem is, het geen verdere verliese voorgekom nie.

Op die Maart 2008-produksieveiling op Mount Stewart is 74 kapaterbokkies te koop aangebied. Die bokkies is in drie groepe volgens grootte verdeel en die eerste lot het die rekordprys vir bokkies van R325-00 stuk behaal. Daar is tans 88 ooibokkies wat in 2009 gepaar sal word.

Die ooie is weer vanaf 15 April vir ses weke gepaar; so lamtyd sal middel September 'n aanvang neem.

Ten spyte van die droogte is die diere tydens skrywe van hierdie artikel (Junie 2008) in goeie kondisie. 'n Groot bydraende faktor hiertoe is die feit dat die firma Virbac die projek met doseermiddels borg en dat hulle doseerprogram getrou nagevolg word.

Tydens die jaar het ons twee ramme verloor – die een het gevrek (oorsaak onbekend) en die ander een was so beseer dat hy nie weer gebruik kon word nie. Nuwe ramme is aangekoop met fondse wat deur Sybokhaar Suid-Afrika bewillig is. Die Hobson-familie van Martyrsford het ook 'n ram vir die projek geskenk.

Die Ikwezi Munisipaliteit, aan wie Hardwood behoort, is so beïndruk met die vordering dat nog 1 250 ha (fase 2) vir die projek beskikbaar gestel is. Sekere verbeterings is reeds aangebring terwyl bestaande infrastruktuur nog opgradeer moet word.

*Hierdie projek het amptelik op 1 April 2008 'n aanvang geneem toe 174 ooie en 6 ramme op die plaas Tryntjiesrivier aangekom het.*

Die Grootfontein-opleidingsinstituut is gedurende Februarie genader om 'n aantal lesings saam te stel wat aan die studente beskikbaar gestel kan word. Van Grootfontein se personeel sal ook betrek word om lesings aan te bied. Virbac se verteenwoordigers het reeds ingestem om die studente oor diere-gesondheid toe te spreek.

Adjunk-Minister Derick Hanekom is deur die Nasionale Uitvoerende Komitee van die ANC ontplooi om projekte wat met landbou verband hou te besoek en aan die komitee te rapporteer. Mnr Hanekom het op 7 April 2008, tesame met 'n afvaardiging van die Ooskaap se Provinsiale Regering, Hardwood besoek. Na gesprekke met hom is die afleiding gemaak dat hy heel beïndruk was met die projek. Elke bietjie help om die sybokhaarbedryf se betrokkenheid by SEB wyer bekend te stel.

Agri SA en Agri Ooskaap het ook kennis geneem van die bedryf se inisiatiewe.

Aandag word geskenk aan die beskikbaarheid van staatsfondse

*Onder: Mnr Gielie Grobler by die groep studente wat by Hardwood opgelei word. Hulle het Kongres bygewoon. Heel onder: Mnr Siswe Mngwevu, burgemeester van Inkwezi Munisipaliteit by 'n groep angoras op Hardwood.*



om die studente te help om hul eie grond aan te koop na voltooiing van die kursus. Samesprekings met die Departement van Grondsake lyk belowend en 'n mens kan maar net hoop en vertrou dat sukses ook met hierdie baie belangrike faset van die plan behaal sal word.

## PRINS ALBERT

Hierdie projek het amptelik op 1 April 2008 'n aanvang geneem toe 174 ooe en 6 ramme op die plaas Tryntjiesrivier aangekom het. Die vier studente het reeds 'n BK gestig en kontraktuele ooreenkomste tussen die Munisipaliteit van Prins Albert, die studente en die SA Sybokhaarkeikersvereniging is reeds onderteken.

Weens 'n verdragging met die beskikbaarstelling van fondse vanaf die Weskaapse Departement van Landbou, is al die nodige infrastruktuur nog nie opgerig nie. Daar is egter reeds voldoende kampe en veesuiplings vir die projek om voort te gaan.

Weens die feit dat Prins Albert ver van die Jansenville-kantoor geleë is, word van die dienste van 'n plaaslike bokhaarprodusent gebruik gemaak om met die dag tot dag behoeftes en opleiding te help. Met verafgeleë projekte sal van plaaslike produsente as mentors gebruik gemaak moet word.

Die studente is baie opgewonde en intens geïnteresseerd en dit word vertrou dat die projek suksesvol sal wees. Die ooe is gedurende Julie 2008 geskeer en sal begin September begin lam.

## PEARSTON

Die Blue Crane Munisipaliteit het reeds die keikersvereniging se aanbod aanvaar om 'n soortgelyke projek op Pearston te begin. Die grond is in Mei geïdentifiseer en die behoeftebepaling bespreek. Die ontwikkeling van die grond is nou in die hande van die Departement van Landbou en vordering sal bepaal word deur die fondse wat beskikbaar gemaak kan word. Dit blyk op hierdie stadium dat diere nie voor Februarie of Maart 2009 aangekoop sal word nie.

Agt persone is reeds deur die gemeenskap benoem om die opleiding te ondergaan. Hulle sal nou aansoek doen om as 'n regsentiteit te registreer sodat die nodige ooreenkomste opgestel en onderteken kan word.

## ALGEMEEN

Skrywer het op 9 November 2007 'n voorlegging aan sowat 75 senior personeel (waaronder die Direkteur-Generaal) van die Nasionale Departement van Landbou gemaak en is beloon met 'n toekennning vir die beste voorlegging. Dit het daartoe gelei dat die departement kennis geneem het van aksies wat die bedryf loods wat positief vir die bedryf is. Op 7 Mei 2008 is nog 'n voorlegging gemaak by 'n saamtrek van 250 voorligtingsbeamptes en is verskeie versoeke ontvang vir 'n afskrif van die voorlegging.

'n Hoëvlak afvaardiging van die Muslontoe Munisipaliteit het Hardwood op 11 Junie 2008 besoek om hulle te vergewis van wat die projek behels en wat reeds bereik is. Dieselfde konsep kan natuurlik vir ander veerasse aangewend word en kan werklik bydra om boere te vestig wat positief tot die landseksonomie kan bydra.

Ander moontlikhede van opleiding en bemagtiging word ook ondersoek en daar sal op 'n latere geleentheid oor rapporteer word. ■



# Daidoh Awards 2008



Photo from Theuns Botha

Back (left to right): Justin Philips, Francois Michau, A Charles Fitzhenry, Andries Oelofse, Elna van den Berg, Aubrey van den Berg, Werner Ferreria  
Front row (left to right): GT Ferreria, Neville Colborne, Billy Colborne, Paul Michau.

## Daidoh Prize Winners

### *First*

Snyberg Angoras

### *Second*

F E Colborne & Sons

### *Third*

P C L Michau

### *Fourth*

A C Fitzhenry & Son

### *Fifth*

Rietgat Familie Trust

### *Sixth*

N Colborne

F Michau

Oelofse Boerdery (Elna van den Bergh)

J W Phillips

R P van der Merwe

## More about DAIDOH

Daidoh, established in 1879, is a vertically integrated Japanese company that buys its mohair tops from South Africa.

Their mills spin their yarns and weave their own cloth. Most of the manufacturing is done in Shangai, China, but some is done in Japan.

- Their retail brands are Brookes Brothers and New Yorker
- There are 75 outlets of Brookes Brothers and 250 of New Yorker in Japan.
- Their annual fabric production is estimated at 1,5 million metres of which mohair accounts for 10%
- Their annual suit production is in the region of five hundred and fifty thousand units.
- They cater for the very discerning market and the top of the range suits sell at approximately R30 000.00
- They employ an estimated one thousand three hundred people in the manufacturing sector and about seven hundred and fifty in the retail section.

*The Daidoh Competition has been going since 1991 and the trophy is awarded annually for the highest average price for a summer kid clip and aims to encourage the production of superior quality summer kid mohair.*



[www.Daidoh-limited.com](http://www.Daidoh-limited.com)



# Angora Ram Breeders Society

## *Advanced goat subjective appraisal course*



*The course was well attended.*

Prince Albert,  
6 – 7 August 2008

### **Linda Henderson**

*It has been a while since a course of this nature has been presented and any doubt about the level of interest or need to run such a course disappeared when the organizers welcomed the more than fifty participants representing the wider spectrum of the mohair production area.*

*Participants learning the ropes.*

**I**t was inspiring to see that the course drew the attention and interest of field agents, producers, processors, younger farmers, a few ladies and a visiting Australian mohair grower.

The two-day course started with a talk on the historical background of the Angora goat and continued with a lecture on the standards of excellence of the breed. The discretionary and culling faults of the breed were discussed in detail and debate from the floor was welcomed. After tea the participants were given practical demonstrations by senior field agents and judges on using score appraisal sheets to assess the goats. This hands-on approach continued after lunch with participants being given the opportunity of doing their own scoring of the animals after guidance from the senior judges.

The afternoon continued with a lecture on judging protocols and procedures and the general discussion from the floor drew much interest. The afternoon culminated with a discussion by the course presenters on the placing of the animals that the trainees had practiced on earlier.

The day ended with a wonderful meal and much merrymaking at the Bush Pub watering hole in Prince Albert. This was a wonderful opportunity for a small cross-

*Andrew Gossip from Australia taking a closer look at South African goats.*



section of the industry, who were there, to interact and to communicate on a meaningful level. Some misconceptions that exist at producer level could be ironed out and we left with the impression that meaningful dialogue on a social level had taken place. Opportunities to communicate with role players across the industry are of incalculable value and besides the dissemination of the correct information; it also builds faith and confidence in our industry.

Andrew Gossip, a visiting Aussie mohair producer and board member of Mohair Australia, was a very welcome participant at the day's events. It was wonderful to witness his passion for Angora goats and we hope that his constitution survived the rigorous South African hospitality that he experienced!

The following day participants had the opportunity of placing the animals. Although this course was not an official judge's exam, participants who performed well, will be invited to the official Angora goat judge's exam later in the year.

It was the general consensus that this course was well received and there was a suggestion that more courses, in different parts of the production area, would do much to encourage quality mohair production at producer level. ■



*Top: Colour in the eyelashes.  
Middle: Too much character in the mohair.  
Bottom: Too much pigment on the ear.  
Below: Kemp in the mohair.*





# Rietbronnertjies deel hul *angorabokkennis*



## Barries Snyman

*Die Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging se tak in Rietbron, in samewerking met Laerskool Rietbron, het onlangs 'n baie geslaagde angorabokjeugkompetisie aangebied.*

*Cassie Carstens speel onderwyser.*

**A**nders as verlede jaar toe slegs laerskoolkinders van Rietbron en omgewing aan die kompetisie deelgeneem het, het daar vanjaar 'n honderd agt-en-twintig laerskoolkinders, ook van besoekende skole soos Glenwood House op George, Knysna Primêr, Union Laerskool en laerskole van Oudtshoorn saam met die Rietbronnertjies, deelgeneem. Die angorabokjeugkompetisie het saamgeval met 'n laerskole hokkietoernooi wat op Rietbron aangebied is.

Daar is nie gewoonlik so baie besoekers op Rietbron nie, maar toe hierdie opgewonde kinders ons kom besoek het wou ons hul graag leer wat uniek aan hierdie vaal vlakke is. Verlede jaar het twee jong kinders uit die Rietbron-omgewing elk 'n stoet angora-ooi, in die kompetisie wat toe aangebied is, gewen. Sedertdien is hul ywerige sybokhaarprodusente en hul eerste kleinbokkies behoort in hierdie seisoen gebore te word.

Alhoewel plattelandse kinders heelwat van 'n moderne leefwyse by hul tydgenote uit die stad kan leer, was die ervaring van die na-

aan-die-natuur leef en natuurlik geproduseerde produkte, soos sybokhaar, vir die besoekers 'n nuwe leerervaring.

Na 'n kort opleidingsessie het die kinders in twee ouderdomsgroepe aan die verskillende kompetisies deelgeneem met weer 'n angora-ooi in elke groep vir die algehele wenner.

'n Kort lesing oor die geskiedenis en interessante feite van angorabokke is gegee, CMW het 'n angorabokhantering- en beoordelingskompetisie aangebied en BKB 'n baie gewilde boktelkompetisie.

Daar was ywerig aan die vraestelle ingevul en die opgewondenheid was groot tot dit teen skemeraand tyd vir prysuitdeling word. CMW en BKB het gesorg dat die eerste vyf plekke in elke afdeling 'n prys wen. 'n Baie entoesiastiese Carla Cupido van Knysna was die algehele wenner in die bo 12-jaar groep en William Eybers van Rietbron in die onder 12-jaar groep. Hulle is elkeen met 'n angora-ooi huis toe. Wie weet, dalk is daar hieruit vir die toekoms 'n modeontwerper van sybokhaarprodukte of produsente van wêreldgehalte sybokhaar gebore. ■



# Jansenville deel kennis op Grondolak

**Elna van den Berg**

*Op 23 April 2008 het die Jansenville Landbouvereniging 'n inligtingsdag wat op die voetsoldate van die angorabedryf gemik is, gehou. Tagtig plaaswerkers van twintig omliggende plase in die omgewing het die goed beplande dag, wat in samewerking met Aksie Angora gehou is, bygewoon.*

*Onder: Justin Coetzee wys die fynere punte van 'n angorabok.*

*Heel onder: Dr Johan van Rooyen voer 'n nadoodse ondersoek op 'n ooi uit.*

*Onder regs: Die manne luister aandagtig.*



**D**ie program het afgeskop met 'n aanbieding oor weiding- en veldbestuur wat deur Cor Uys aangebied is. Daarna het dr Johan van Rooyen 'n nadoodse ondersoek op 'n dooie skaap uitgevoer en 'n doodgebore lammetjie gebruik om verlossingsprosedure te demonstreer.

Albertus Mulder het daarna die manne se algehele aandag geniet toe hy hulle oor jakkals gewoontes ingelig het.

Na 'n aangename middagete het CMW die leisels oorgeneem en hulle meer van skeerderij vertel. Cassie Carstens het ook die fynere punte van 'n ideale angorabok uitgewys.

Daarna is daar met groot deernis en ondersteuning na die diere, wat aan die kuddekompetisie deelgeneem het gekyk, en die manne is met goeie prysgeldjies aangemoedig om weer volgende jaar deel te neem.

Al die deelnemers het 'n bywoningssertifikaat ontvang en is vol entoesiasme terug plase toe.

Hierdie soort uitreikaksie is vir die bedryf van onskatbare waarde en, behalwe vir die uitruil van kennis, teken dit punte aan vir arbeidsverhoudinge. ■



# Angoras – the binding agent

## *in Beaufort-West*



### Tiny Middleton

*It was about more than just Angoras when the Beaufort-West Mohair Growers' Association held their annual production promotion day on 25 June 2008 on a beautiful sunny winter's day on Montana, home of Ralph and Diana Koster.*

**U**nder the able guidance of the newly-elected chairman, Roland du Toit, the day took on a holistic look when industry, agriculture, family values and wholesome labour relations celebrated under the African skies.

The farm yard took on a festive trade fair appearance under the banners of BMW and Toyota, who exhibited their latest mobile seductions and, apart from the sixteen teams of Angora kids that were entered for the competition, the audience had the added entertainment value of sampling good wine, viewing sparkling jewelry and eating wholesome food.

There was also much to do for the junior Angora enthusiasts who were encouraged to cook their own meal on a fire that they were encouraged to stoke themselves. What an experience for the youngsters!

The women played an integral part in the day's activities and the

Nellies (ladies' staff members) were encouraged to sell and share the delightful edibles that formed part of their Open Day Competition. Chicken and mutton casseroles, wholesome home-baked breads and roosterkoek delighted the palates and kept the audience occupied while the mohair component of the programme for the day continued, with micron judging, mohair typing, and goat placing taking centre stage. It was delightful to see the ladies participating as keenly as their male counterparts in matters of the goat!

What made this day so exceptional was that everyone was encouraged to participate. There were categories and prizes for farm workers and farmers alike and the healthy competition amongst the farms was tangible.

The format of this day is something that should be encouraged throughout the industry. One could sense the feeling of pride, achievement and esprit de corps as prize-winners came to collect their prizes. ■



# Bokhaar produkte wen pryse

*by die Royal Skou  
in Pietermaritzburg*



**A**nnette Oelofse, van Klipplaat, het onlangs die Royal Skou in Pietermaritzburg, wat hierdie jaar vir die eenhonderd agt-en-vyftigste keer aangebied is, besoek met bokhaarprodukte uit die Oos-Kaap.

Hierdie landbouskou is een van die grootstes in die land en lok duisende besoekers. Annette het die geleentheid benut om die bokhaar boodskap aan 'n wye menigte besoekers en kliente te verkondig en het merkwaardige bemerking vir die bedryf gedoen. Sy kon die wye perspektief vanaf die produksie van sybokhaar, wat die insetkoste insluit, tot die voordele wat die produkte vir verbruikers inhou, met haar blootstelling aan die publiek dek. Sy het 'n gewillige gehoor gehad en haar entoesiasme het aan haar stalletjie 'n goue medalje in die skaap en-wol afdeling besorg asook die wisseltrofee van die Royal Landbouskouvereniging vir 'n spesiale poging om van die skou 'n sukses te maak. Wel gedaan Annette, mag jou energie en positiewe gesindheid vermenigvuldig word met duisend!

Annette verkoop 'n wye reeks sybokhaar produkte wat komberse, kouse, dekens handskoene, breiwool en veel meer, insluit.

*Kontak haar by 049-8349011/082-4666174  
annetteoelofse@gmail.com*



# Contemporary

# Mohair



with a lot of  
*Soul & Style*

Martin Viljoen

*The efforts of the SATIEC (South African Textile Industry Export Council) to promote and develop South African benefited mohair products and to help them find a place on the world stage, received a major boost at the recently held DECOREX interior decorating show, which was held at Gallagher Estates in Johannesburg at the beginning of May.*

**T**his was their first appearance at DECOREX and the stall, which was designed and executed by Josef Greeff, a man with oodles of creativity, won the Best of Show award. This is no mean feat when one considers the competition at this prestigious interior decorating trade show, where the top designers using the most evocative products all vie for the attention of possible consumers.

SATIEC has been involved in initiating two commercially focused projects, the DESIGN SOUTH AFRICA home lifestyle wholesale hub in Atlanta, USA, and the DESIGN AFRICA export initiative. Both of these projects focus on the home textile and home décor products from South Africa and Africa respectively. Their target is the top-end décor segment of targeted global markets.

SATIEC identifies manufacturers with outstanding product development capability, using raw materials like mohair and who are able to create products exhibiting the essence of Africa. Although mohair products form a high percentage of their products, they also cater for manufacturers using other materials.



*The world's artists and designers have found inspiration in the rich crafts, culture and material of Africa, but now a shift is underway. Africa itself is taking the lead. A new generation of designers in Africa is coming to the fore and they are ready to show the world the continent's true talent.*



**I**nterpreting their own traditions and stories, using materials and crafts to create something at once astonishing and new. Products such as those from Abafazi and Shuttleworth Weaving have surprised the Canadians at their top end SIDIM International Show as well as South Africans at Decorex 2008 in Johannesburg.

**The mission of DESIGN AFRICA is to:**

- Present a positive brand image of African exports through superior quality handcrafted products using innovative designs with contemporary applications.
- Commit to a global product positioning strategy to show case superior quality high priced items that are individually crafted compared to the mass produced cheaper products from India and China.
- To support market entry for African producers to international markets.
- To present home décor products with a story featuring possibly the designer, artisan or community.

The Design Africa collection represents designers from seven countries including Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland and Zambia. The wealth and creativity on the continent and the demand to join the collection is driving Design Africa's continued expansion. The designer's collections demonstrate the high standards of commercial professionalism desired by international interior designers, architects, specifiers, decorators and retailers.

design  
africa   
contemporary style with soul

The design Africa logo expresses the unique identity of designers represented in the collection: energetic, vibrant, inventive, cosmopolitan, sensual and inspired by their soul. 'Contemporary style with Soul,' clearly distinguishes the collection from stereotypical expectations of African design. The Design Africa icon celebrates an ancient Andinkra symbol signifying wisdom and creativity. The fusion of these concepts echoes the inspiration of many of the collection's designers who find the seed for their innovation in an appreciation of their legacy. The icon, with its rays depicted in orange, also suggests unlimited creative potential and the successful expansion of Africa's leading designers to all points of the compass.





**Comments and congratulations for the award winning stand  
from Nika Smit, Marketing Manager of Decorex**

At the award ceremony Cairey Slater, general manager exhibitions, noted that the excesses of the 1980s and the style-first approach of the 1990s have been replaced by the era of emotion-in-design. "What people want now is to make emotional connections; to be surrounded by things that mean something. More than ever we want to be comforted by beauty, by quality, great craftsmanship and eco-conscious design." Slater continued. "The successful exhibitor understands that we live in the Age of Aesthetics, and that good design transforms both culture and economy. The winners offer that x-factor that draws us in on an emotional level." The successful exhibitor finds inventive ways to present themselves and their products in the most aesthetically pleasing way - even the smallest stand can be a monumental stage if the basics are understood and combined with a fresh, innovative approach. Yet, a successful stand is more than just a pretty face; it is about giving careful consideration to the most minute details. Design Africa, the best overall winner understood all this, turning a blank canvas and an empty stand space into something distinctive that made the heart beat faster.

The judges commented that the Design Africa stand with its magnificent products from all corners of the continent is more than a stand. This was a show-stopping total experience. The products, from as far afield as Ghana, Senegal, Mali, Ethiopia, Zambia, Swaziland and South Africa, are exceptional and beautifully presented. The space created by designer Josef Greeff is a radical departure from general exhibition design, and sets a new benchmark in South African exhibition spaces.

The judges also noted the blend of sophisticated, organic and artistic elements, using a mud-covered designer dress and fashion apparel as art objects. "While on an international level, it breaks from all the clichés about African design: the subtle, muted mood is elegant and truly international. Another indication is that all the designers at Decorex are talking about this stand as the 'must-see', creating a buzz and motivating others to lift their game." ■

*What people want now is to make  
emotional connections, to be surrounded  
by things that mean something.*







# DESIGN SOUTH AFRICA

*Home Lifestyle Hub  
in Atlanta, USA*

*The objective of the Atlanta Trade Hub is to create a trade platform in the USA for SMME's and BEE initiatives to facilitate and handle all aspects of the export process from South Africa to the USA.*

The goal is to facilitate direct market access to focused target segments, to identify suitable distribution channels for each enterprise and to assist with ongoing product development. The Home Lifestyle Hub is a permanent facility, which is open daily to the trade. It is a stunning forum that highlights South African products.

They opened their doors on 9 January 2007 and won the 'Best in Show for Outstanding Design' at its premier show. Some of the star participants were Ricca Turgel of Abafazi in Alicedale, with her beautiful throws and scatter cushions, Helen Shuttleworth of Shuttleworth Weaving, who exhibited her beautiful handwoven rugs while Momento's of Africa exhibited their raised mohair throws and blankets.







Design South Africa has been a resounding success. It has far exceeded all initial expectations and goals. Inquiries have increased over a 1000% in the first sixteen months, sales have increased by 495% from the first five months and permanent showroom space has been increased by an additional 200m<sup>2</sup> to accommodate the additional twelve companies who have been added to the original list of fourteen exhibitors.







*A medley of autumn fancy yarns.*

**Linda Henderson**

*You find the turn-off for Southseas Mohair rather unexpectedly as you take in the natural beauty of the southern coast of South Africa. Nestled between the up-market seaside development of Kleinemonde and about 25 km from Port Alfred, lies the farm that has been a source of income for many Xhosa ladies from the surrounding areas since 1983.*



*Spinning beautiful mohair threads.*

# Spinning a golden thread *with the diamond fibre*

**A**dele Cutten, the owner, has been their inspiration and guide since the inception of this spinning and knitting project and she has been a part of the landscape that has seen many changes, both politically and socially.

Adele started her spinning and knitting project when the coastal development in that area was under the looking glass and the area was the focus of much curiosity. The Fish River Casino was still a novelty and the ensuing traffic warranted the running of a coffee shop as well as her spinning mill and craft shop. Hand knitting was popular, local trade was brisk and the business was booming.

Initially all the yarn, which was mostly wool at the time, was handspun and the colour remained natural. It was the era of the big chunky jerseys and Adele employed a host of private knitters from as far afield as the Transkei to give substance to her beautiful creations. Eventually there was a need for more colours in her range. That was when she introduced mohair into the creations to add texture and lustre. At that



*Initially all the yarn, which was mostly wool at the time, was handspun and the colour remained natural.*

time there were at least twenty spinning wheels whirring at high speed to supply the demand. She attended a trade show in Germany where there was a request for a ton (in weight) of each of her styles and since her production capacity was limited, she could not supply the demand.

However, fashions change and cycles come to an end and new innovations need to replace old ones. Sadly the enterprise also did not skip the politically volatile period pre- the 1994 election, when tourism virtually came to a halt and certain adjustments had to be made. Fortunately Adele is a natural entrepreneur and she found other means to keep the till going.

From focusing solely on the local market, Adele started looking for markets further afield for her beautiful knitting yarns. She also changed her range from chunky jerseys to home textiles and concentrated on making scarves, shawls, pashminas and blankets. Her operation changed from spinning all the raw yarn to acquiring certain very finely spun yarns from the two local commercial mohair spinning mills. She started making fancy yarns by adding certain components to the basic yarns. Currently there is a choice of 12 textures including ribboned, beaded, slubby, boćcled and brushed yarns in 46 colour combinations in her range. Of great interest are the magic



*Above: A shawl with feathered trim.  
Right top: The magic balls with a magic textured shawl.  
Right bottom: Spinning beautiful mohair threads.*

**Adele's products are distributed through a network of shops locally but she can be contacted at:**

Tel: +27 46 75 1090  
Cell: +27 82 328 3678  
southseasmohair@albanynet.co.za  
www.southseasmohair.co.za



balls with as many as ten textures and colours. This beautiful serenade of texture and pigment would satisfy the needs of any cloak of many colours that Joseph could dream of.

Of particular interest is the super soft mohair baby's blanket that weighs a mere 120 grams and is sheer enough to pass through a wedding band! The perfect blanket to show-off a new offspring in the family and something, which should steal any grandmother's heart! Her collection also includes light-weight, warm knitted knee rugs and beautiful shawls with feathered trim in a multitude of colours.

Adele has found a ready international market for her goods and the agent who operates from USA is responsible for distributing her products to 250 stores nation wide. There is also an agent in Ireland who is doing well for her.

This inspiring lady has recently returned from *EXPRO 72*, a conference sponsored by CBI, a Dutch Government initiative, that focuses on the needs of the developing world. The conference aimed at assisting and mentoring role players from the informal or smaller business sector to become effective participants and exporters to the EU economies.

Adele and twenty-five employees are ably assisted in their endeavours by Sarah Oberholzer (workshop manager) and Andrea Smith (Office).

With the demand for export orders so high, there is not much time for chit chatting, but they welcome visitors to the factory on Wednesdays between 10 am and 4 pm. ■

## Mohair SA

# Stability through upliftment in the mohair industry

The mohair industry started their BEE activities a few years ago with the establishment of a training farm for emerging Angora goat farmers in the Klipplaat area in the Eastern Cape.

The aim is to train emerging farmers over a three-year period to farm successfully with Angora goats. The project was co-founded by Samil (mohair buyer), the Ikwezi Municipality, the Department of Agriculture and Mohair South Africa. A process is currently under way to ensure that land will be available for the trainees upon the successful completion of the training course.



A second training scheme has been established in the Prince Albert region and a third one is planned in the Pearston district. After the establishment of these training schemes, the trustees of the Mohair Trust formulated a strategy aimed at ensuring meaningful participation by the Trust in the National Empowerment Initiative.

The concept centres around the stakeholders within the mohair industry, as well as historically disadvantaged individuals (HDIs). The aim is to create stability and infrastructure development within the industry and enhance the social and economic situation of HDIs.

The strategy will be formulated around a scorecard approach and when a certain score is achieved, the participant will be certified as a Level X contributor and will then be entitled to certain rewards. Participation will be voluntary and participants would need to do upliftment and advancement of HDIs before rewards would be forthcoming.

The scorecard will focus on the following activities:

- Training
- Economic involvement
- Wages
- Infrastructure
- Recreational facilities
- Management involvement
- Community involvement

Incentives at grassroots level would further enhance the industry and in itself be an opportunity for BEE. Depending on points achieved on the scorecard, incentives could include shearing and classing costs, vermin control and a contribution to infrastructure spend.

For this strategy to succeed, it is imperative for Government to support this initiative and to contribute on at least a rand for rand basis. The Mohair Trust have already committed to financial support over a five-year period.

Mohair South Africa, in partnership with the Cacadu District Municipality, The Office of the Premier of the Eastern Cape and the Ikwezi Municipality have also embarked on a skills development programme in the Ikwezi district, which has the aim of providing essential skills to the mohair industry, whilst creating job opportunities and providing poverty alleviation.

To celebrate the International Year of the Natural Fibre and to create an event that will have economic benefits for the Ikwezi district the inaugural International Mohair Summit will take place in November 2009. This event will attract international and local role players within the mohair and fashion industry and create a platform for dialogue amongst interested parties. ❁



*This article was commissioned by Mohair South Africa. For further information please phone 041 487 1386, e-mail [info@mohair.co.za](mailto:info@mohair.co.za) or visit [www.mohair.co.za](http://www.mohair.co.za)*