

THE BIRTH OF A BRAND NAME:

When MSA embarked on an international marketing campaign for mohair, it became patently clear that a symbol was needed to identify the fibre at retail level.

LINDA HENDERSON

onsumers needed to be made aware of the presence of the fibre in articles and the unique properties it would add to the final products. Cashmere, cotton and wool, among other natural fibres, had already identified this need and have been reaping the benefits for some time.

Creating an identity for a product, which originates from a natural creation, is an awesome responsibility and quite a daunting task. How do you reduce the superb qualities of this natural fibre to one symbol, which expresses all the emotions and properties that are associated with it?

Is it possible and where would one start?

MOHAIR The mohair story is so wholesome that all one would need to do, is to recall everything from the beginning. The associations, emotions and properties related to the fibre will flow automatically, while symbols expressing them will follow.

WHERE DOES IT START?

"Thou shall make curtains of goats' hair for a tent over the tabernacle". Exodus 26:7

This biblical command places mohair in a revered place! How many modern products have the Bible as first reference? Is it possible that the durability of mohair was recognised even then? It was certainly perceived as sufficiently valuable and appropriate to cover the most holy

of places! This spiritual reference to mohair elevates it to a very special position among natural fibres.

> Not only is the story of mohair touched with sanctity, it is supported by several fine properties that raise strong emotions. Its durability evokes a sense of security, its warmth a feeling of comfort and its lustre a sense of pride.

The versatility of the fibre's applications takes it across many product lines. It is worn by athletes conquering high mountains, by highpowered executives on aeroplanes and lovers who snuggle under cosy mohair blankets. In addition, it ticks all the blocks for sustainability, a low carbon footprint and humane treatment of animals.

A truly unique product ...

When the designers of the Mohair Mark where tasked with designing a symbol that could

be used as an identity for mohair at retail and consumer level, they were given the brief that the mark had to comply with all these facets.

It must be remembered that the purpose of the mark is the identification of the presence of the fibre in final products and will not serve as a verification mark to guarantee a certain percentage or quality of mohair. The aim of the symbol is to educate consumers to recognise the symbol, and to associate it with mohair and its various properties.

A local and international launch of the mark is scheduled for 2014, when the mark will be available to all manufacturers with a proven record of accomplishment.







FRONT COVER

Cover: Feel the love

DIE ANGORABOK- EN SYBOKHAARBLAD

Posbus 50, Jansenville, 6265

Tel: 049 836 0140, E-pos: samga@xsinet.co.za, Webtuiste: www.mohair.co.za Amptelike tydskrif van die SA Sybokhaarkwekersvereniging, Angora Ramtelersgenootskap en Sybokhaar Suid-Afrika.

REDAKTEUR: Linda Henderson

Bladuitleg deur Walker Digital, E-pos: paula@walkerdigital.co.za Drukwerk deur Cadar Printers, Posbus 2881, Port Elizabeth, 6056 E-pos: info@cadar.co.za

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THE ANGORA GOAT AND MOHAIR JOURNAL

P O Box 50, Jansenville, 6265

Tel: 049 836 0140, E-mail: samga@xsinet.co.za, Website: www.mohair.co.za Official journal of the SA Mohair Growers Association, Angora Ram Breeders Society and Mohair South Africa.

EDITOR: Linda Henderson

Page layout by WalkerDigital, E-mail: paula@walkerdigital.co.za Printing by Cadar Printers, P.O. Box 2881, Port Elizabeth, 6056, E-mail: info@cadar.co.za

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LETTER TO

When the planning of the 2013 International Mohair Summit commenced early in 2012, we held the perception that there was ample time to execute the mandate that was given to us. Little did we realise how valuable a commodity time is!

s a tremendous amount of time and effort goes into the planning of such an event, all the individuals from the stakeholder groupings made sacrifices by labouring long hours, sometimes till late into the evening and over weekends. Against all expectations, government funding was secured and

Whilst the scepticism about pulling off a successful event in Jansenville could be understood, the commitment of funding from the industry and involvement from Mohair South Africa and the South African Mohair Growers Association were indications that the industry

transferred into the summit account well in advance.

had faith in a successful event.

Endless hours were spent on communication with international users and potential speakers that were to attend the conference. The calibre of panellists, all specialists in their field that were secured at the end of the day will in all probability never be found together on one stage again.

The Summit was therefore the ideal opportunity for mohair producers to interact with these experts of skilfully processed fibre and to listen to their opinions. However, this opportunity was utilised by a disappointingly small group of producers, and therefore, many missed a chance to add great value to their business ventures and farming operations.

Although fewer people attended this summit than the one held in Graaff-Reinet in 2009, it was a great success with the town of Jansenville exceeding all expectations. The outcomes and likely projects for the future also far exceed those of 2009.

The use of local labour and supplies, the transfer of specific skills, as well as the tangible infrastructure that was left behind have made a huge impact on the economic development of the region and the industry.

An event like this creates unique opportunities, which should be utilised to its full potential to build a solid platform for future co-operation and interaction across all sectors of the mohair industry.

Deon Saayman General Manager Mohair South Africa



VAN DIE redaktrise



Die Internasionale Sybokhaarberaad wat in Oktober op Jansenville aangebied is, behoort sonder twyfel as die hoogtepunt van die sybokhaaralmanak vir 2013 beskou te word.





Die kleinbokkies in ons bedryf is net so mooi soos hul bokmaatjies!

oewel die logistieke om 'n beraad juis daar aan te bied 'n bron van kommer was, moet 'n mens erken dat dit 'n groot sukses was, wat deels te danke is aan die toegewydheid van 'n groepie administrateurs binne die bedryf wat baie hard gewerk het om die droom 'n werklikheid te maak.

Die program het groot verskeidenheid gebied; seminare en besprekings het gestrek van ekonomiese vooruitsigte tot dieregesondheid en die bemarking van sybokhaar. Een jammerte was dat afgevaardigdes nie op twee plekke gelyk kon wees nie, wat beteken het dat diegene wat die hoofberaad bygewoon het, die program wat terselfdertyd op die krieketveld aangebied is, misgeloop het. Tweedens was dit hartseer dat daar nie meer produsente die geleenthede wat geskep is benut het nie. Die gehalte van die aanbiedings was eersteklas en die kanse dat dié mense weer almal saam op een verhoog sal optree is skraal. Die terugvoering van afgevaardigdes wat van oorsee gereis het om die beraad by te woon was baie positief, en die bedryf en Jansenville se plaaslike gemeenskap het beslis ekonomies daarby gebaat.

Nog 'n baie positiewe wending hierdie jaar was die aanhoudende prysstygings vir die meeste sybokhaarlyne. Die rekords het by elke veiling die een ná die ander gespat en winter kleinbokkiehaar het veral nuwe pryshoogtes bereik. Die vooruitsigte vir sybokhaar in die kort- tot mediumtermyn lyk goed en die boodskap van die mark is dat sybokhaar beslis in die mode is en dat ons in die 2013/2014-winterseisoen

waarskynlik baie sybokhaar gaan sien!

Daar is met groot afwagting na die koms van die sybohaarstempel uitgesien en die bekendstelling daarvan sal 'n groot mylpaal vir die bedryf wees. Dié stempel of merk, wat soortgelyk aan die wolmerk is, sal help om produkte wat sybokhaar bevat op koopvlak te identifiseer. Die doel van die stempel is veselidentifikasie en moenie met 'n metode van veselsertifikasie (waarvoor daar nie tegnologie en administrasie beskikbaar is nie) verwar word nie.

Verandering word soms gesien as die positiewe energie wat nodig is vir vernuwing, en dit is met hierdie gedagte dat die bedryf besluit het om ons huidige hoofkwartier in Jochla-weg na 'n nuwe adres in Walmerpark in Port Elizabeth te verskuif. Daarmee saam kom die aanstelling van 'n kommunikasiebeampte wat voortaan vir die samestelling van die Angorablad verantwoordelik sal wees.

Graag wil ek die die redaksiekomitees wat vir meer as vyftig jaar vir hierdie taak verantwoordelik was bedank vir hulle lojale ondersteuning en harde werk. Dit was 'n plesier om oor sybokhaaraangeleenthede te berig.

Die reis was lank en daar was baie avonture langs die pad. Dit is my wens dat almal wat die angorabok en sybokhaar edel ag, die reis sal voortsit.

Beste wense tot ons miskien weer ontmoet. Linda Henderson Redaktrise

FROM THE editor

The International Mohair Summit, hosted in Jansenville in October, should without a doubt be considered the highlight of the mohair calendar for 2013.







n spite of concerns regarding the logistics to host the summit at that particular venue, the event was extremely successful. A dedicated and exceptionally hard working group of mohair administrators committed themselves to make it happen.

The programme was remarkably varied and included seminars and discussions, ranging from the economic outlook to animal husbandry and the marketing of mohair. Regretfully, delegates could not be in two places at once, and those who attended the main conference missed the parallel programme, presented at the cricket field, and vice versa. Another regret is that not more mohair producers used the opportunity to attend the event. Although the quality of presentations was top class, the chance that these very presenters will all be assembled on the same stage again is unfortunately remote. The feedback from delegates who travelled from abroad has been especially affirmative. It is anticipated that the economic returns for the industry, and more specifically for the Jansenville local community, will be positive after this event.

Another very positive trend this year was the continued rise in mohair prices across most lines. Records tumbled at each sale and winter kid mohair hit new price heights. The prospects for mohair in the short to medium term are looking very good and the message from the market confirms that mohair is indeed in fashion, and has been hailed as a very strong trend in the 2013/2014 winter season.

The arrival of the Mohair Mark has been keenly anticipated and its launch will be a milestone for the industry. A mark similar to the Wool Mark, it will help to identify products containing mohair at retail level. Its purpose is fibre identification and not fibre certification, for which technology and administration is currently lacking.

Change is often heralded as a positive energy, which is needed for renewal, and it is with this in mind that it was decided to move the present headquarters of the industry in Jochla Road to a new address in Walmer, Port Elizabeth. With this change comes the appointment of a communications officer who will henceforth be responsible for the compilation of the Mohair Journal.

I would like to thank the editorial committees who were responsible for this task for more than 50 years, for their loyal support and hard work. It has been a pleasure reporting on mohair matters to producers and processors alike.

The journey has been long with many adventures along the way. It is my wish that this road will continue to be travelled by all those who hold the Angora goat and mohair dear.

Go well. Perhaps we will meet again Linda Henderson Editor

FROM THE MSA BOARDROOM



Reinhold du Randt

Chairman's Message

2013 proffered mixed fortunes for mohair farmers from a production perspective. While some areas suffered the effects of a crippling drought, other regions had above average rainfall. The uneven precipitation should, however, not influence the kid crop on the whole and a meaningful reduction in kid mohair is not expected.

he stabilisation and slight increase of mohair prices in general bodes well for production in the short to medium term. Despite the drought, production has shown a steady increase over the past two years, and prospects of reaching the 3 million kilogram mark seem more attainable now.

Co-operation and trust between the different industry bodies is at an all-time high, which influences people's faith in the integrity of these organisations. Regular meetings between SAMGA, MSA and the Trust continue to stimulate the mutual understanding of the challenges faced by each of these organisations. This is good news for the expansion of the industry – as is the purchase of a building to replace the now outdated property in Jochla Road.

The International Mohair Summit at Jansenville in November stands out as the highlight of the year. It was the culmination of two years of planning and brought together the entire mohair family from across the globe. We should nurture opportunities like these and continue to play the leading role that we do play in the global mohair industry. Producers should also avail themselves of the opportunities that present themselves at these events. Top panellists did presentations on topics of special interest to them, and it is a pity that more producers did not utilise the occasion to engage with the different mohair roleplayers.

From a marketing perspective, MSA is now reaching maturity in its strategy, having built the platform for a continued focussed drive toward executing our objectives. The approach that has been followed over the past two years – to focus on partnering with companies that are already in a position to take products to market – has proved to be very successful and we will continue to pursue this approach in our marketing mandate.

A breakthrough in 2014 is the long anticipated Mohair Mark. This consumer-facing symbol should not be seen as an accreditation mark, as its purpose is the identification or awareness of mohair in consumer goods and its aim is to stimulate interest and awareness of the fibre at retail level. The registration of the mark has been completed and the rollout is scheduled for later this year.

Local marketing activities in 2013 included the Design Indaba which was aimed at stimulating mohair interest at national design level. This proved to be very effective, with more and more mohair stalls making

their appearance at the show.

The Kirkwood Wildsfees is a popular local showcase for the industry and the mohair tent is an effective marketing tool to stimulate both production and consumer interests. Interaction with the media is extremely important and networking opportunities with several top end magazines keeps the fibre in the limelight.

The association with tertiary institutions remains high on our agenda, with the NMMU's fashion and textile design programmes being expanded to include interior design. Over the years, this association has grown in leaps and bounds and has established quite a few entrepreneurs in the value chain!

On an international level, the marketing activities have also gone from strength to strength, but meeting the objectives is tricky, given the weak Rand. Marketing events are therefore carefully considered to establish their possible return value.

Spin Expo, a knitting yarn trade show, is proving to be a very effective platform for market entry into China, while Salon de Mobile in Florence and NeoCon in the USA are great opportunities for collaboration with velour companies. Several marketing collaboration efforts in the knitting yarn sector have also proven successful.

The future of mohair remains bright. Producers should take inspiration from fellow farmers who have showed that focussed management practises yield generous returns.

It is, however, the duty of all industry members to remain vigilant in adhering to environmentally compliant management practises. More and more pressure is being applied from processors and consumers for producers to provide evidence of a sustainable humane industry that leaves a negligible carbon footprint. Industry members are requested not to contravene any management prescriptions that could harm our reputation in this respect. Natural fibres are very sensitive to the negative media coverage associated with any form of environmental contraventions.

I would like to thank my fellow directors and all industry roleplayers for their continued support. Together we are able to reach great heights in this industry, *our* industry, of which we are so immensely proud!

VAN DIE PRESIDENT

se Lessenaar

Alhoewel 2013 'n jaar van uiterstes was, het die hoogtepunte die laagtepunte oorskadu.

eidingstoestande was redelik in die eerste drie maande, maar het byna in ramp- en droogtetoestande in party gebiede ontaard toe die reën tot na die winter weggebly het. Gelukkig het dit oor die grootste gedeelte van die produksiegebied goed gereën in die laatsomer, waarvoor ons almal baie dankbaar was

Die stygende sybokhaarproduksie is verblydend en kan aan die styging van die mark gekoppel word. Verskeie rekords is dan ook tydens hierdie seisoen in die veilingslokaal opgestel. Die verwagting is dat die prys van bokhaar hierdie rekords sal handhaaf en selfs verder verbeter. Baie geluk aan produsente wat deur toegewydheid en moeite dié prysvlakke vir hul skeersels behaal het. As medeboere behoort ons dieselfde top standaarde te handhaaf om die kwaliteit van ons skeersels te beskerm en waar moontlik te verbeter.

Geringe klagtes is onlangs ontvang van kambolvervaardigers wat hoë vlakke van onaanvaarbare aktiewe bestanddele in die vesels gevind het. Produsente word daaraan herinner om streng by die doseer en dipmiddelvoorskrifte en maatreëls wat op volhoubare produksie betrekking het, te hou.

Ongediertes bly seker nog die grootste probleem vir produsente. Die aksies wat die SASKV gedurende 2013

geloods het, was baie suksesvol en produsente word aangemoedig om alle wettige hulpmiddels tot hulle beskikking te gebruik om hulle kuddes te beskerm. Die Sybokhaar Trust het weer 'n aansienlike bedrag bewillig om produsente te ondersteun om predasie te help bekamp, waarvoor boere baie dankbaar is.

Ek wens alle produsente goeie veldtoestande en hoë sybokhaarpryse toe vir 2014

Lekker boer! Kobus de Klerk President, SASKV



Kobus de Klerk 'President van SASKV

2013 ANNUAL REVIEW



Deon Saayman

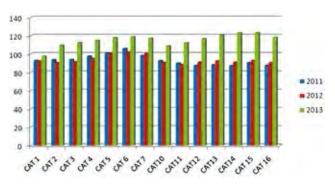
The 2013 year proved to be an exceptional year for producers and the mohair industry as a whole. The market continued to deliver strong results during 2013, with clear indications that the prices achieved in real terms would make 2013 one of the best years in recent times.

DEON SAAYMAN

he summer season started off on a positive note at 6% higher than the opening sale of 2012, foreshadowing a good demand for kids' hair during the season. The summer season showed progressive gains, closing at 20% higher than the opening sale.

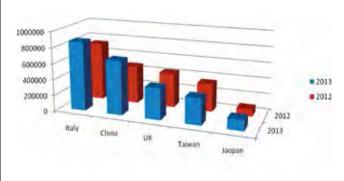
This trend continued during the 2012 winter season with the market opening at 20% higher than in 2012. The kids and young goats performed exceptionally well in the winter season, with adults also maintaining the good levels of the summer season. The excellent performance during the winter season resulted in an average market indicator of R117,60 per kg, which was higher than the summer season with its average of R112,69. This brought the average market indicator for the year to R115,14, which was an increase of 23% from the 2012 year.

Graph showing a comparison of the past three years' average market indicator:



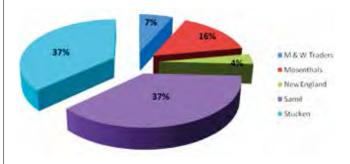
The competition among the various buying houses was very stiff throughout most of the year. This was driven by continued strong demand, especially from Italy and China, with exports showing a significant increase from the 2012 year. Japan also showed renewed interest in the mohair fibre, which bodes well for the finer end of the clip.

Exports for the first 11 months of the year compared to 2012 exports (up 13,6%):



The bulk of the clip was once again taken up by the topmakers with the greasy buyers playing a vitally important role in the saleroom.

Purchases for the year were as follows:



The actual average price for the year came to R142,26, compared to R106,01 in 2012.

There are once again very positive indications that production will show a small but very significant increase, with volumes offered via the auction system up by around 5% from 2012.

The 2013 season has delivered remarkable results on the back of a good quality offering, as well as a continued strong demand across all sectors.

It is envisaged that strong demand will continue for the bulk of the offering during 2014, with the good demand driven market maintaining prices at an acceptable level. The demand from China is always an unknown, but all the signs seem to indicate that the good demand for adult clips will continue for the foreseeable future.



JANSENVILLE

30 October – 2 November 2013

Talking about Angora goats, their prospects, their future and their marvelous mohair from the heart of the production area.





INVESTORS' CONFERENCE

Call to Investors and Government to Develop Human Resources in Ikwezi

LINDA HENDERSON REPORTS

r Mcebisi Jonas, MEC of the Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism, welcomed delegates to the investors' Conference at the International Mohair Summit with a message of hope, encouragement and some words of congratulations to the Ikwezi municipality.

Mr Jonas mentioned that the goal of his department was to encourage the integration of agriculture and tourism to develop the human resources of the Eastern Cape and that small town beneficiation programmes, among others, aim to stimulate employment opportunities.

"The summit should serve as an encouragement to the local municipality to develop infrastructure in order to encourage economic growth. The successful upgrading of Ikwezi's water reticulation system is an example of how well developed systems could attract investors to your town."

"Agriculture is the main economic activity in the area and investments that offer employment opportunities for local economic development should be encouraged at all costs."

When compared to other provinces, the Eastern Cape has a small primary sector, which is a huge barrier to development. Another challenge the province faces, is that half of the population is located in the former Bantustans with a historic background of poor development.

LOOKING AHEAD

If the province could focus on developing its mainly agrarian economy by drawing strong government support, it would be able to address the issue of growth and job creation.

The province would also have to look at ways of improving the competitive edge it once held and must be made aware that small-scale farming operations alone cannot address the rural employment needs. Not only must ways of developing commercial agricultural enterprises be found, but research and development into effective agricultural practices should be prioritised to grow the economy and to change the economic model. Labour-intensive interventions should be pursued with vigour.

According to Mr Jonas, private sector investment must be encouraged to create employment opportunities and skills development should be prioritised.

"While pursuing international markets is laudable, developing a local demand for the products of the area has other long-term advantages that stimulate the economy. These advantages should be examined and pursued, but the most essential intervention is government support for agricultural reform. Government should be lobbied and brought to the table with the commercial agricultural sector, and together they should focus on transforming the agricultural industry."

The East Cape Development Corporation and Department of Agrarian Reform explained their financial incentives in support of sector development in the Eastern Cape. These include investment, trade and export promotions as well as the rental of very affordable commercial or manufacturing space in industrial zones.

Bongani Ndhlovu, Development Officer of the Mohair Empowerment Trust, made an impassioned plea for government support for the mohair



projects, which enjoy the assistance and support of the Empowerment Trust. He requested government intervention and assistance for the acquisition of an independent training facility, which could successfully train emerging and commercial Angora goat farmers.

A report from the Department of Water Affairs on the state of Jansenville's water supply concluded the presentations. Here the progress, which had been made by supplying the town with clean and sustainable water from borehole resources, was explained. In the discussion that followed, attention was given to issues that were raised during the presentation.

Mr AB Hobson, chairperson of the Empowerment Trust, in turn also pleaded for government support for mohair initiatives run by the Mohair Empowerment Trust to develop successful commercial Angora goat farming operations.

The Investors' Conference concluded with a call to government, industry and private enterprise to work jointly towards transforming the mohair industry, in an effort to support the local agrarian economy and to develop local human resources, as this would be to the benefit of all.

MAIN CONFERENCE

Highlights from the Main Conference

he second International Mohair Summit at Jansenville attracted a host of top industry leaders and decision makers from government, business and agriculture. Delegates to the summit were treated to quality presentations from well-informed panellists who engaged with the audience on a wide range of topics that covered a broad spectrum of mohair interests.

AN ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE OF THE MOHAIR INDUSTRY

Mohair is not produced or consumed in an economic vacuum and, like all other consumer goods, is influenced by global conditions that affect demand and supply. Nicola Weimar, Nedbank's senior economist, sketched a somewhat sombre picture of the sluggish global economic malady from which South Africa is trying to recover. With only 2% growth in 2013, the local economy is unable to cope with the demand for jobs. This is partly due to the high levels of private and government debt, as well as the large number of industrial disputes, which are slowing down the recovery process.

The American economy, on the other hand, seems to be in a recuperative mood and it would appear that their property market, which is indicative of consumer spending, has turned the corner. This has enabled the US economy to create more employment opportunities but their growth rate is still sluggish due to the high government debt rates.

Also to be considered is the Eurozone, which is still in a massive ditch and faces a long and protracted road to recovery. The Chinese economy



by contrast has shown two decades of energetic growth but with a current growth rate of 7,5%, there is concern that it may be slowing down as the country tries to clean up and regulate its financial systems.

Nicola predicts that the next financial year will generally be another slow one for world economies and that the only way to survive the downturn is to increase financial competitiveness. This however, will be a challenge in a country with rising labour costs, where the electricity supply is unreliable and where service delivery is exceptionally poor.

Chris Louw, chairperson of the board of directors of BKB and a mohair producer, saw the increase of efficiency of their farming operations as the only way out for farmers in this dilemma. Since farmers are primary producers, they are essentially price takers and not price makers and they have very little control over the prices they are paid for their produce. The primary influence on the price of their mohair is the welfare of the first world.

Conditions for agriculturists have become extremely challenging and input costs have risen alarmingly. The only way to increase efficiency and profitability is to establish very effective management systems that decrease input costs and increase output.

LUXURY RE-INVENTED - THE NEW CONSUMER

Colin Cowie, connoisseur extraordinaire and arbiter of style, had a captive audience as he profiled the luxury consumer, a category of client he came to know very well in his business as events coordinator to celebrities around the world.

"When economies fizzle — luxury sizzles!" proclaimed Colin. Despite the global economic gloom that the world struggles to escape from, the demand for luxury goods has never been as good and the sales in this category has increased dramatically as the middle class aspires to buy into luxury.

"The profile of the high-end consumer has changed a lot recently," said Colin, who believes that this type of consumer is younger than ever. Of global luxury consumers, 20% reside in China and the average age of these Chinese millionaires is 29! There is also a gender twist as men shop like women and women spend like men. Christian Laboutin's men's shoes outsell their women's range, while men's handbags outsell their female equivalents on *Mr Porter*, a very stylish online fashion store.

Luxury consumers now demand exclusivity of another kind — good service! Since most consumer goods are available online, suppliers need to ask themselves what exclusive services they can offer the customer to access their product of choice with as little discomfort as possible.

Luxury still demands exclusivity. Companies that chose vertical integration to make their products more available to the mass market have lost that exclusivity. When a top brand becomes too available and affordable, it loses its lustre.

"There was a short period from 2008 to 2011 when luxury was considered distasteful as individuals and friends, even among the wealthy, were struggling to survive the economic downturn. Somehow though, the memory of deprivation was short-lived and clients are out there again,

looking for newly curated and personalised style", continued Colin.

The scarcity of mohair renders this product ideal for the luxury consumer, who will also find the story behind mohair very appealing. The challenge is to capture his attention with the fibre in the right product format and to preserve its exclusivity.

RESEARCH AND APPLICATIONS

A panel of experts dealt with a topic, without which no industry can survive. Professor Pieter Swart from Stellenbosch specialises in research that aims to identify the genotype associated with the Angora goat's inability to adapt to physiological stress.

In the meanwhile, it is pleasing to note that the genotype associated with the production of cortisol, a stress antidote, has been identified and soon producers will, by means of a blood test, be able to identify the goats carrying the gene. This, in particular, will assist ram breeders to identify the sires, carrying this specific gene, for hardiness.

Dr Abdalla Latif from the Agricultural Research Council at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute and expert on tick-borne diseases gave a report back on the progress of the heartwater vaccine, which is currently being researched.

It is also pleasing to note that preliminary tests done on an attenuated vaccine, which produces immunity from this tick-borne disease, are very promising. It is just a pity that, although the field trials are in their final stages, the accreditation process by the relative animal health authorities will delay the final roll-out of the vaccine by an estimated two years.

Dr Anton Botha, a researcher in textile science from the CSIR in Port Elizabeth, underlined the need for a proper animal fibre-testing facility, so that properties associated with different fibres and fibre blends can successfully be identified and tested for commercial application and fibre verification.

INTERNATIONAL MOHAIR MARKETING CO-OPERATION

Successful marketing constitutes the most important aspect of any sustainable product and mohair is no exception. Discussing some of the merits of marketing and the profile of the mohair consumer was Mr Denys Hobson, CEO of Cape Mohair and manufacturer of a wide range of mohair and mohair-blend socks.

"To create demand for mohair the consumer must have a pleasant experience. That is how you generate re-sales. In my company I have to give the buyer of my socks that experience every time he wears a pair," said Denys.

"I needed to develop a product that could support the claims I make on my label. For footwear, the most important aspect is comfort and smell, and the fact that mohair reduces smell, is of utmost importance. I punted that message very prominently! Once I had perfected the product that I wanted to put in the market, I could turn to big brand names to support and extend the volumes of my sales. My advice to local manufacturers is to make use of the incentives provided by government to stimulate the growth of their companies. There are several support programmes



waiting to be utilised", concluded Denys Hobson.

Anlè Marais, marketing coordinator of MSA, gave a visual presentation of the marketing activities of MSA and stressed the importance of working in collaboration with companies that are already using mohair. MSA also utilises the services of the WGSN (Worth Global Style Network), leading world forecaster of consumer behaviour patterns. This information is channelled to manufacturers and retailers to keep them abreast of trends and consumer demands

Francis Vercaemst, owner and manager of Casalis, a top-end Belgian carpet and fabric design company, shared some of the success of his mohair products. Casalis is experiencing a great demand for the threedimensional kid mohair pouffes, as well as the mohair and silk carpets, which his company designs. Francis believes that employing artists with great creative skills, who can interpret the qualities of the fibre, pays handsome dividends.

"There has to be a newness that draws interest from consumers and artists are best equipped to do that," said Francis.

MOHAIR USERS' PERSPECTIVE ON SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Anthony Kirsten, from the Stucken group, explained that the demand dynamic is completely consumer driven. Consumers are spoilt for choice with the retail pattern veering towards online shopping and instant gratification, and the challenge lies in meeting the needs of the consumer. Mohair is in line with the current trends and answers to the luxurious, sophisticated and individual demands of the luxury consumer who wants to purchase products that are unique and personalised.

Although there is some concern about the decreasing supply of mohair, the industry is satisfied that it can meet the consumer demand at present. Productivity would need to increase at every level though, to meet the price points along the line. There is a genuine need to reduce the supply chain complexities in the value chain. Some of the complexities the mohair system is vulnerable to, include the world economy, price fluctuations and exchange rate volatility. Like the poor, these will always be with us.

Carl Zhang, businessman from Shanghai in China, who specialises in the import and export of textiles, gave an interesting account of the massive potential of the domestic market in China, where 1,3 billion people from 56 nationalities live on 9,6 million km² of land. On a continent where the focus on development and education receives massive attention, the population is expected to peak at 1,5 billion in 2020. This continent has also seen a dramatic move towards urbanization since 1985, when only 20% of the population lived in urban areas. Today that figure is close to 50% and continues to rise as China diversifies from a rural to an urban economy. Despite the large population, the continent has a vibrant economy with a GDP growth rate of 7,8% and an unemployment rate of only 4%. People work hard in China and, although the wages have increased, increases are always coupled with productivity. Young people are extremely consumer-driven and supportive of high-end fashion and therefore the prospects of mohair in the domestic market are very good.

China imports mainly adult mohair from South Africa and small amounts also reach the continent from Russia. 'While they have become more quality conscious, the Chinese are still somewhat uninformed about the noble characteristics of mohair, and MSA is doing a fine job of marketing the generic qualities of the fibre at trade shows and other interventions in China. There is also a great move towards giving mohair a young and vibey edge, and MSA is working in the right direction by collaborating with young designers, concluded Carl Zhang.

Andrew Laing, from SAMIL mentioned that there seems to be a perception that, from a profit perspective, the link further up the mohair chain benefits more than the one below it. "The grass always looks greener on the other side until you get to the other side!" Andrew said.

"Every link in the mohair chain must survive and prosper and everyone should understand the complexities of the process either before or after it. There are so many factors that influence this", he said.

The question that remained unanswered however, was, "What is a sustainable supply?" None of the panellists was comfortable to answer this as world consumer patterns seem to be in flux and predictions are difficult to make. The general consensus however, is that there is spare capacity at sources and processors, who need volumes of mohair for their mills to be productive, but that spinners and weavers have other options to turn to should the supply become irrelevant.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY

Dr Anton van Rooyen from the Grootfontein Agricultural Development Institute in Middleburg, who is passionate about sustainable farming, based his presentation on the five pillars of sustainability, i.e., risk reduction, productivity, viability, conservation and acceptance, and stressed how each played a role in the decision making of any sustainable system. His suggestion was that the industry should define its goals as far as requirements for fibre and fleece are concerned, and that with this requirement in mind, producers should breed animals for maximum adaptation to their resource area. Producers should also manage their bio-security and protect their animals against endemic diseases.

Geoff Kingwill, wool producer and chairperson of Cape Wools, mentioned that the greenhouse gas-emission value adjudicated to mohair and wool production needed to be reassessed. He also commented that sustainable land use was an individual's choice and that a balance between long and short-term goals should be maintained in order to remain sustainable.

Roy Heydenrych, mohair producer and first recipient of Sustainable Mohair Farmer of the Year Award, stressed the importance of interactivity between social, environmental and economic forces for the success of sustainable farming.

The session concluded with remarks from the trade that reiterated the need for proof of sustainability and predicted that this will become the driving requirement for natural fibres in the not too distant future.



PARALLEL

at the



ARTHUR SHORT

s part of the training focus at the Mohair Summit, the Angora Ram Breeders' Society conducted an Angora Goat Judges' Course, which was attended by Grootfontein students, BKB and CMW field men and breeders.

At the elite ram sale, lectures were conducted on judging protocols and breeding standards, which were followed up the next day with the practical judging of young ewes and rams. For the final test, the twenty participants had to show how they would place both a group of ewes and a group of rams, while providing reasons to justify their placing. The Breeder's Society maintains a high standard for the qualification of judges and only those showing a reasonable degree of judging prowess in the test were invited to attend a judge's exam to be conducted early in 2014.

There was a certain amount of spectator interest in the practical demonstration and placing of the animals, especially from the Lesotho delegation, while the enthusiasm shown by the young participants was an encouraging sign for the future of the mohair industry.

The goats used for the course were prepared and transported to the Summit by Grootfontein, AB and Sean Hobson. This was not an easy task and we are grateful for their time and effort.

FARM WORKERS PROGRAMME

MARK SHIRES

The summit provided a unique opportunity for farm workers to attend training in different spheres of mohair farming as well as attending lectures in a number of subjects to help to improve themselves as mohair farm workers.

There were numerous shearing demonstrations throughout the summit to teach and entice people to try their hand at this important aspect of mohair farming.

A mohair classing course was held under the expert tuition of Riano Greyling (MSA), Gary Willows (CMW) and Gerhard Van Heerden (BKB). The sorting tables that were used for this purpose were purchased by the Summit Committee and were kindly donated to the Mohair Empowerment Trust at the conclusion of the course. The classing course was extremely well attended and a keenly contested competition was held at the end of the course. The winners were: 1) Amos Moseati – Middelburg 2) Henri Africa –Jansenville 3) Johannes Gouws - Klipplaat.



PROGRAMME

Cricket field

All farm workers who attended the courses as well as those who stayed overnight were issued with a mattress.

The parallel sessions in which farm workers could attend lectures were well attended. The first lecture was presented by Nedbank who addressed the issue of the financial fitness of farm workers. The lecture was easily understood and was a highlight of those who attended it.

The next lecture was a unique opportunity for farmers as well as farm workers to jointly discuss a mutually beneficial working environment. This discussion was facilitated by Mr Chris Hayman from Graaff- Reinet. The opportunity was provided to discuss ways for better working arrangements between farmers and farm workers. A number of Government Departments attended the discussion and were impressed by the interaction at the meeting.

The following day Dr. Mackay Hobson, the industry vet, gave a talk on how farm workers can recognize and help with animal health. He highlighted the recognition of symptoms of illnesses in goats. This important talk was well received by those farm workers who attended.

On the Saturday Mrs. Elna Van den Berg ran a programme for two schools in the Jansenville district. The program included mohair classing, shearing demonstrations and animal classing. These school projects are an important tool to introduce young people to mohair farming.

After two rather congested days the rare opportunity for farmers and farm workers to interact, attend talks and discussions together, as well as the mohair training, was one of the most successful ventures of the summit.

The summit provided a unique opportunity for farm workers to attend training in different spheres of mohair farming as well as attending lectures in a number of subjects to help to improve themselves as mohair farm workers.





LAMHOKKE - 'N BESTUURSPRAKTYK wat meerlinggeboortes ondersteun





Om meer lammers as ooie in die kraal te tel is elke boer se ambisie en droom. Daar is egter talle natuurlike struikelblokke, waaronder ongediertes, droogtes en swak besettingsyfers wat dié droom kan kelder.



LINDA HENDERSON

aarom is die geboorte van tweelinge een manier om die getalle aan te vul. Paul Broeksma boer onder uiterste klimaatsomstandighede op die plaas Teerputs op die Aberdeense vlaktes, waar die natuur soms maar ongenaakbaar kan wees en koue reënbuie en westewinde gedurende die lamtyd groot verliese kan veroorsaak. Paul glo dat hy die ooie wat tweelinge baar, moet ondersteun, omdat dit soms moeilik is vir 'n ooi om in droë en koue omstandighede sonder bystand twee bokkies groot te maak.

"As ek dit doen is my getalle altyd van so 'n aard dat ek seleksie kan toepas", sê Paul.

Lamtyd word voorafgegaan deur 'n goed deurdagte bestuursprogram.

"Dit help nie om die ooie eers aan die einde te help nie. My ooie word op negentig dae ná paring geskandeer om te bepaal watter ooie tweelinge

dra, en ek skeer hulle ten minste drie weke voor lamtyd. Dan het die ooi genoeg haar op om haar teen die elemente te beskerm maar die bokkie het nog maklik toegang tot die spene. Tog sal hierdie bokooie beskutting soek as dit regtig koud word, wat tot voordeel van die bokkies is."

Paul ontwurm dan die ooie en dien ook die gebruiklike dosisse vitamien A, Multimin en Multivax-P toe om die ooie die grootste moontlike kuddegesondheidvoordeel te bied.

Twee weke voor lamtyd word die tweelingooie nader gebring en stelselmatig met ooi- en lampille gevoer teen 'n tempo van 300 g per ooi om hulle gewoond te maak aan die veranderende spyse en om melkproduksie aan te moedig.

Voor lamtyd word die ooie verdeel in groepies van 30 of 40 en in kleiner 4-ha kampies gejaag. Elke oggend word die ooie wat gelam het, uitgevang, gemerk en dan in lamhokke geplaas, waar hulle vyf tot tien dae staan om 'n hegte band met hulle bokkies te smee en om die

Jannie Nel se tweeling ooie lam in netjiese hokke in 'n groot skuur.

Paul Broeksma se tweeling ooie lam in lamhokkies naby die huis.



natuurlike moedersinstink aan te moedig.

"Ek vind dat 90% van my ooie binne 'n maand lam. Daar is 'n klein persentasie ooie (tot 4%) wat nie tweelinge produseer nie en hulle word uitgeskuif na die veld. Ek help net die ooie wat tweelinge dra deur hierdie proses", sê Paul.

Paul se vrou, Dianne, se rol is van onskatbare waarde gedurende hierdie tyd, want sy versorg die bokkies asof hulle in 'n 'Bokkie-ICU' is. Die naeltjies word met Woundine ontsmet, die ooie word nagegaan vir swak of ondoeltreffende spene en die kleinbokkies word gehelp om van die prop, wat soms met die eerste ontlasting 'n probleem is, ontslae te raak.

Na vyf dae word die hekke van die hokkies oopgemaak en die ooie en hulle bokkies beweeg na 'n groter area waar hulle in groepies van drie ooie en ses bokkies beweeg om te verhoed dat die lamhokkies te nat word. Saans word elke ooi weer met haar eie bokkies afgehok. Die lamhokke word elke dag skoongemaak en met ongebluste kalk ontsmet om die opbou van kieme te verhoed. Die waterbakke word ook daagliks versorg. Waar daar probleme met enige diere opgemerk word, kan hulle onmiddellik versorging ontvang. In nat weersomstandighede word daar 'n skuiling van sinkplate gemaak om die diere te beskut.

Geleidelik word daar groter groepies (20-40 ooie en hulle bokkies) na

groter kampies geskuif, waar hulle twee keer per dag gevoer word. Ná h paar dae word dié ooie weer in groepe van 50 verdeel en saam met hul bokkies na nog groter kampe van ongeveer 100 ha verskuif, waar hulle drie keer per week gevoer word. Die bokkies word gereeld gemoniteer om seker te maak dat hulle behoorlik drink.

Ná drie weke begin Paul met kruipvoeding vir die bokkies, want teen daardie tyd het hulle al by die ooie geleer hoe om pilletjies te vreet. Paul maak seker dat sy kampe goed beskerm is teen ongediertes en dat die drade heel is.

"Ek het al soms gewonder of die hulp wat ek die ooie gee die moeite werd is as 'n mens die ekstra tyd en bestuur in ag neem. Ek wonder ook soms of ek nie kunsmatige omstandighede skep wat die natuurlike moedersinstink onderdruk nie, maar as ek na my lampersentasie en sukses oor die laaste maande kyk, verdwyn my twyfel. Ek het verlede jaar 511 bokkies van 262 ooie gespeen met hierdie bestuurspraktyk, wat vir my wys dat dit die moeite werd is.

"Onder normale omstandighede lam my enkelingbokke op die veld en aangesien ek daar nie dieselfde bestuur kan toepas nie, verloor ek dus maar hier en daar bokkies as gevolg van omstandighede, maar dan maak die tweelinggetalle op vir die verliese."

- 01 Die netjiese lamhokke wat bydra tot die goeie speenpersentasie.
- **02** Die lamhokke se hekke word na vyf dae in groepe van drie oopgemaak om te verhoed dat die hokkies te nat word.
- Twee weke voor lamtyd word die tweelingooie met ooi-en lampille gevoer om melkproduksie aan te moediq.





LAMHOKKE IN 'N SKUUR

Jannie Nel, ook van die omgewing, se plaas, Uitkyk, lê in die skaduwee van die Slapende Reus, 'n deel van die Kamdeboo-berge. Hierdie plaas met sy besonder mooi uitsig oor die Aberdeenvlaktes word gedurende lamtyd in Augustus getreiter deur yskoue winde en mistroostige weer.

"Ek ly soms groot verliese as gevolg van my onvermoë om doeltreffende skuiling te bied aan die ooie wat gedurende die nag of wanneer dit koud en reënerig is, lam. Ek het in die verlede probeer om my tweelingooie hier naby die huis onderdak te hou en hulle dan elke dag na die weikampies te skuif, terwyl ek die tweelingbokkies in hokkies agterhou. Bedags was die tweelingooie dus buite in die veld en saans by hul bokkies in die hokke, maar dit was 'n groot beslommernis wat baie tyd en arbeid in beslag geneem het. Ek kon letterlik niks anders op die plaas uitgerig kry in daardie tyd nie."

Dis toe dat Jannie aan 'n meer permanente stelsel vir beskutting teen die ongure weer gedink het, spesifiek vir sy tweelingooie. Hy het 'n baie





doeltreffende skuur (30 x 13 m) opgerig, wat 104 ooie op 'n slag kan huisves. Die binneste ruimte van die skuur is verdeel in lamhokke wat van water voorsien is en waarvan die vloer droog bly danksy hortjies. Die hokkies (1,5 x 1,5 m) is gesweis van metaal en is opvoubaar. Wat die skuur so besonders maak, is dat daar gedurig 'n deurvloei van lug is wat die diere area droog hou en verhoed dat siektes en kieme opbou.

Die eenlingooie lam onder op die lande op 12 tot 20-ha veldkampies rondom die lande en word dan soos hulle lam daagliks opgetel en na die lande aangery.

"Ek besef dié manier is arbeidsintensief en dat daar met beide die ooi en die bokkie gekarring word, maar die stelsel werk al vir jare baie effektief vir my"

Dit is dus maklik om die bokkies in presiese ouderdomsgroepe van een, twee of tot drie weke bymekaar te hou. In elke kamp is daar 'n klein skuurtjie waar die kleinbokkies snags ingedra kan word as die weer deur die nag sou opsteek, terwyl die ooie buite slaap. Dit is egter net 'n laaste uitweg, want beide bokkies en ooie word sover moontlik buite gehou.

Al die vooraf-geskandeerde tweelingooie word voor lamtyd naby die huis in 'n kamp gehou. Hier word daar dan spesiale voeding aan hulle gegee wat deurvloei-proteïene, Maxiwol en lusern insluit, om melkproduksie aan te moedig.

Wanneer die tweelingooie dan lam, word hulle met hul bokkies na die skuur gedra, waar die ooie en bokkies dan vir ten minste vyf tot sewe dae kans kry om mekaar rustig beter te leer ken, en waar enige probleme met betrekking tot die lamproses opgelos kan word. As 'n tweeling- of drielingooi nie self haar bokkies kan grootmaak nie, word hulle afgeneem en aan 'n Switserse ooi gegee, wat dan die grootmaakwerk doen.

Die hoofredes vir die oprigting van die skuur was om die arbeid rondom die lamproses van meerlingooie te verminder en die situasie tydens ongure weersomstandighede makliker te maak. Dit was Jannie se eerste seisoen met die nuwe skuur en dit was 'n groot sukses.

Daar bestaan dus min twyfel dat toegewyde aandag aan meerlingooie met sukses beloon word. Dit stoot die lampersentasie op, wat die ekonomiese opbrengs per hektaar positief beïnvloed. Kortom, dit maak eenvoudig nie sin om dit nié te doen nie!

- **01** Jannie Nel en sy vrou Christelle.
- *Jannie se netjiese skuur wat vir lamdoeleindes opgerig is.*
- **03** Die hokkies het ruim staanplek vir die bokkies en die ooi.
- 04 Hierdie skuur kan 104 ooie op 'n slag huisves.







een kodder in SIX DAYS!

South Africa and the Karoo in particular, as part of a semi-desert biome, are often prone to droughts, which could have crippling effects on livestock and associated income resources.

LINDA HENDERSON

uring these times, having lucerne fields or other green fodder options is an enviable commodity for many Karoo farmers, who stay on properties with no or limited water resources. Even farmers with access to water though, are starting to feel the effect of the high input costs that include electricity, labour and machinery, and are beginning to consider the economic wisdom of producing green fodder in the traditional way. Thinking out of the box and applying new technology to produce cost effective fodder solutions are beginning to look very attractive.

David Short from Wheatlands in the Graaff-Reinet area agrees and has ventured into using a system, which supplies fresh fodder from sprouted seeds within six days.

"I started using this system during the drought in 2013 and initially, I found that it was a good source of protein for my kidding ewes as it stimulated milk production. Later, I started using it for my dry stock and kapaters and found that it was an effective source of nutrition when the veld was so very dry. This is only the first year that I'm using it, so in a way, I'm still finding my feet, but I'm impressed with the results so far."

The green fodder factory is in essence an insulated box-like structure where hydroponics is applied to transform seeds into sprouts within six days. It is also described as a biomass growing chamber, which is used to sprout seeds and grains for livestock feed and human consumption.

These developed systems range in daily production, varying from 50 kg to 500 kg of fodder per day. Water consumption is very efficient and a unit, which delivers 500 kg of food daily, will require approximately 500 litres of water per day.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

A selection of grains and legume seeds is spread onto the specialised growing trays and are watered at pre-determined intervals with overhead sprays. A set temperature is maintained inside the growing chamber to ensure the best growth and highest nutritional value fodder possible.

Every day, you simply slide the feed out of the trays, rinse the tray, reseed and push the newly seeded tray into the other end of the system. The system holds enough trays to ensure that one produces the desired nominated amount of feed every day.

The sprouts grow on the specially designed sprouting trays with no growing medium. Malt-quality barley germinates within 24 hours of seeding. The barley grows in the same tray for six days and is ready for harvest as a 15cm high grass mat. It takes six days to grow from seeding to feed out!

The sprout mat is completely edible and highly nutritious as it is a living food. The animals can eat the entire mat, roots and green growth, so there is no waste.

"I have been advised to add some form of roughage to the feed mats since they contain lots of moisture. Once I have removed the mats from the chamber, I put them through a mixer that slices the mats into shreds while mixing it with hay or wheat straw. This mixture is then fed to my goats early in the morning and they clean out the feeders well before lunchtime. They took to the feed without any difficulty and seem to thrive on it", David said.

According to Herman Jolink, from the company Fodder Solutions, whose unit David is using, the nutritional value of the sprouted grass mat is sufficient to sustain the needs of any livestock.

"However, it may be necessary to add some supplements if you are fattening lambs. Fodder Solutions barley sprouts have been tested at every stage of growth. The peak spectrum of nutrients is available at the six-day growth stage, which is when the barley sprouts are harvested. The nutritional breakdown of the barley sprouts shows that the sprouts are very high in energy and protein, and contain sufficient amounts of these to meet the needs of most livestock.

Barley grass is considered the most nutritional of the green grasses, containing an abundance of nutrients unsurpassed by any other type of

- **01** Depending on the size of the model these units can produce between 50kg and 500kg of green fodder daily.
- The seed trays are popped into this side of the unit on day 1.
- Overhead sprayers wet the seed trays at regular intervals.
- O4 The same seed trays are removed from the other side of the box 6 days later as grass mats.











grass. The benefits of fresh green feed such as barley grass have been well documented over the past 50 years.

Barley grass was shown to increase the overall health of the animal as it improves the digestion of hay and grain. While overall wellness is the most noted result, studies indicate improved performance results in other areas as well. Not only will animals be healthier, but they will experience greater energy, vitality, a well-developed immune system and a reduction in anti-nutritional properties.

Independent research studies, which prove the value of using barley grass, have been conducted by qualified academic institutes. These studies show that barley grass is both beneficial to livestock and cost effective as a substitute for the traditional fodder supplements.

Some of the benefits that can be expected when feeding the barleysprouted mats to Angora goats in particular, include:

- > Good weight gains on poor quality pastures
- > Improved conception rates in ewes
- > Improved weaning rates in flocks on poor quality pastures
- > Fewer herd health problems
- > Improved milk yields in lactating goats
- > Improved appearance of fleece in fibre goats

The low water consumption, low labour component and sustainable supply of quality feed, when needed, makes this a system, which should contribute greatly to the cost effectiveness of supplementing lactating ewes or feeding growing young stock. It should be a real consideration for every mohair farmer in the extensive part of the production area.

It is already very popular in the dairy industry and has proved a cost effective way to address the nutritional needs of cows so — what is good for the cow must surely be better for the goat!





01

The fodder mats are cut into shreds with this implement.

⁰² The grass mats before they are put through the shredder.

⁰³ Pouring the seeds into the trays on the first day.

WAT 'N JAAR VAN

REKORDS!



O1 Die rekord Zegna bale. Mnre. Mathew Fox (CMW) Charles Fitzhenry, Gerrit Fourie (Stucken-buyer) Billy Colborne, Pierre van der Vyver, (CMW) Piet Viljoen.

PIERRE VAN DER VYVER

013 sal nog lank in die annale van die sybokhaarbedryf onthou word as 'n jaar van rekordpryse, maar ook as 'n jaar waarin die gety vir die bedryf gedraai het. Vir CMW as makelaar was dit ook 'n besonderse jaar, danksy die aanbod van Kaapse sybokhaar wat met bykans 10% gestyg het. 'n Verdere rede tot trots was dat CMW-produsente in die veilingslokaal alle rekordpryse laat spat het!

HOOGSTE INDIVIDUELE PRYS

Die hoogtepunt van die jaar moet verseker die R601,00/kg (11 Junie 2013) wees wat die Stuckenkopershuis betaal het vir die Ermenegildo Zegna-wenner baal van Billy en Fred Colborne van Willowmore. Daar was baie groot internasionale belangstelling, en natuurlik ook van al die plaaslike kopershuise, in die drie finalis-bale van die kompetisie. Die drie bale van onderskeidelik Billy en Fred Colborne, Piet Viljoen en Charles Fitzhenry is allerweë beskou as die beste drie bale wat nog ooit in die kompetisie gesien is. Hoe gepas dat die drie bale ook verkoop het vir die hoogste pryse ooit, naamlik R601,00/kg vir die eerste en R560,00/kg vir die tweede en derde bale.

HOOGSTE SKEERSELGEMIDDELD

Nog'n hoogtepunt was beslis die gemiddelde prys van 'n vol skeersel, met die klem op 'n volledige skeersel. **Phlippie Retief** van Boksfontein Boerdery, Murraysburg het sy eie rekord gebreek, in die somer seisoen en toe ook in die winter seisoen (29 Oktober 2013) teen 'n allamintige **R233,34/kg** vir sy skeersel. Dit was 'n besonder unieke gebeurtenis dat die eerste, tweede, derde en sesdehoogste skeerselgemiddeldes almal afkomstig was van een distrik – Murraysburg! Die skeersels van Phlippie







Retief, Louw en Frans Retief, Theronnie van der Merwe en Bennie Conradie het dus een gemene deler: Behalwe dat dié produsente van een distrik afkomstig is en rekordgemiddeldes gehad het, is almal ten volle **EGT-getoets**. Dit sê ook iets!

HOOGSTE PRYS WINTER KLEINBOKKIES

Ons moes tot die laaste veiling op 3 Desember 2013 wag om te bepaal wie die rekordhouer vir winter kleinbokkiehaar sou wees – veels geluk, **Charles Fitzhenry** van Aberdeen! Dis ook gepas dat die beste kwaliteit baal van die seisoen (24,6 mikron) teen die nuwe rekordprys van **R451,00/kg** deur die New England-kopershuis aangekoop is. Wat dié prestasie nog meer uniek maak is die feit dat mnr Fitzhenry in die somer seisoen R560,00/kg vir die eerste skeersel van die bokkies behaal het, en daarna vir die tweede skeersel van dieselfde bokkies R451,00/kg! Met ander woorde, dieselfde bokkies het R1 011/kg in een kalenderjaar gelewer! Geen wonder dat die skeersel ook die internasionale Diadoh-trofee vir die hoogste gemiddelde prys vir kleinbokkiehaar verower het nie!

Terloops, **Rothner Bekker** van De Rust se rekordprys van **R320,50/kg** wat destyds in 2008 vir 'n baal EGT-jongbokhaar (as winterbokkies aangebied) behaal is, is dus nog veilig!

HOOGSTE PRYS JONGBOKHAAR

Hoewel daar die afgelope seisoen verskeie bale jongbokhaar, wat as winter kleinbokkies aangebied is, deur die R300,00/kg vlak gebars het, het nie een baal die 2008-rekordprys van R320,50/kg oorskry nie. Louw en Frans Retief van Murraysburg se 28 mikron, EGT-baal jongbokhaar, wat as jongbokke aangebied is, het egter op 12 November teen die nuwe rekordprys van R290,00/kg verkoop aan die New England-kopershuis.

HOOGSTE PRYS GROOTBOKHAAR

Al twee die rekordpryse vir grootbokhaar is in die somer seisoen behaal. Grootbokke aangebied as jongbokke (30 mikron) is teen 'n rekordprys van R212,00/kg verkoop deur Gay van Hasselt van Van Hasselt Farming, Prins Albert, aan die Mohair & Wool Traders-kopershuis. Grootbokke aangebied as grootbokke (31 mikron) se rekordprys is behaal vir 'n EGT-baal van Ben van der Westhuyzen van Adelaide. Dié baal is aan SAMIL verkoop teen R193,20/kg.

REKORDGEMIDDELDES

Vir Cape Mohair & Wool (CMW) was dit ook 'n besonderse jaar. Nie net het sy markaandeel in Kaapse sybokhaar gegroei nie, maar CMW was as makelaar ook verantwoordelik vir 'n hele paar rekords! Op die vyfde veiling (29 Oktober 2013) van die winter seisoen is die hoogste veilinggemiddeld (nie markaanwyser nie) ooit deur 'n makelaar aangeteken, naamlik R160,50/kg! Op die sesde veiling (12 November 2013) het die CMW-veiling 'n nuwe rekordvlak vir 'n gemiddelde markaanwyser bereik, naamlik R137,00/kg! Behalwe dat dit die hoogste markaanwyser ooit deur 'n makelaar was, was dit ook 11,12% bo die nasionale gemiddelde markaanwyser van R123,29/kg vir daardie spesifieke veiling!

Baie dankie, en welgedaan, CMW-ondersteuners!

- **01** Frans en Louw Retief by die 28 mikron EGT baal jongbokhaar wat teen R290,00 per ka verkoop is.
- **02** Gay van Hasselt het die rekord behaal vir somer grootbokhaar wat as jongbokhaar teen 'n rekord prys van R212.00 per kg verkoop is.
- O3 Charles Fitzhenry wat 'n rekord prys van R451,00 per kg vir sy vir winterkleinbokkie haar behaal het. L-R: Mathew Fox, (afslaer) Ken Reed (koper), Charles Fitzhenry en Pierre van der Vyver (CMW) bestuurder.



SAMGA CONDUCTS FARM RESEARCH PROJECTS

In an attempt to improve the treatment and preventative health care of Angora goats, SAMGA (the South African Mohair Growers Association) is conducting investigations and trials on foot abscess (*sweerklou*), worm resistance, aloe ferox as a treatment for internal and external parasites, and the heartwater vaccine at farm level.



Dr Mac Hobson

oot abscess is a significant problem on many Angora goat farms, leading to losses in respect of the condition of the goat, its mohair production and its reproductive performance. The reason the animal's joints are so susceptible to infection and abscess formation, is that on the interdigital aspect the joint capsule protrudes above the coronary (hoof) border. At these sites, only interdigital skin and a minimal amount of subcutaneous tissue protect the joint capsule.

The bacteria *coryne bacterium pseudotuberculosis* (formerly *C. ovis*) or sometimes *actinomyces pyogenes* (formerly called *C. pyogenes*), often causes the foot abscess to enter through a penetration of the skin in a number of different ways. Most commonly it is caused by the mouthparts of ticks, but the softening of the interdigital skin after rain, the hoof sinking deeper into soft soil and picking up thorns and grass seeds, may all be predisposing factors.

Initially, the foot becomes warm to the touch and is painful if pressure is applied. The swelling then develops above the hoof margins and can burst open with discharging pus. The goat becomes lame and, if a severe septic arthritis develops, the affected joint will often never fully recover, due to the arthritic changes caused by the infection.

Treatment is frustrating and antibiotic penetration into the site of infection is limited, due to the encapsulated nature of the abscess. In individual animals, the abscess can be lanced and flushed, but this is not viable when treating a flock. Isolating affected animals, helps prevent the spread of the condition, though. The use of footbaths, 10% zinc sulphate and 5% formalin, for tick control, has been successful, along with various other remedies. Antibiotic combinations and anti-inflammatories are also used, but with mixed results. Preventative treatment with footbaths and

pour-on tick treatments are vital in controlling this condition.

A trial is being conducted on a farm where the active infection has been cultured and identified as coryne bacterium pseudotuberculosis to determine whether vaccinating Angora goats with the commercially available coryne bacterium pseudotuberculosis vaccine will reduce the incidence of foot abscess in a flock.

ANGORA VELD RAMS WORM-RESISTANCE TRIAL

Anthelmintic resistance (the ability of roundworms to survive a dose of *anthelmintics* — drugs administered to expel parasitic worms) is a worldwide problem. Goats are particularly susceptible as they metabolise anthelmintics at a much faster rate than sheep, which means that roundworms develop resistance much more quickly in goats than in sheep. New active ingredients for doses are unlikely to be developed in the near future and, due to the quicker development of resistance in goats, drug companies are not likely to register any new doses for goats. A number of these companies are advocating dosing goats at 1,5 to 2 times the sheep dose (off-licence), due to the shorter half-life of anthelmintics in goats.

There are two types of immunity that goats have against roundworms:

- (i) Innate immunity is the inherent ability to resist infection with worms.
- (ii) Acquired immunity develops after goats have been exposed to worms. Adult goats have better acquired immunity, whereas kids until 6-8 months old have very poor acquired immunity. Normally, when ingested by the goat, about 5% of infective L3-stage larvae establish themselves as adult worms, but this increases 30-40% in the ewe during late pregnancy and lactation, due to the reduced immune status of the ewe under stressful conditions.

Immunity to worms affects worm burdens in three stages:

- (i) Fewer incoming worm larvae establish themselves and become adults.
- (ii) Established female worms produce fewer eggs.
- (iii) The goat rejects established adult worms.

It is for this reason that SAMGA is doing a trial on the veld rams to -

- (i) determine whether there are viable differences in Angora rams' resistance to worms under veld conditions;
- (ii) enable the selection of worm-resistant Angora sires (Index);
- (iii) work out cost-effective, practical ways of selecting genetically resistant goats, which are applicable to both stud and commercial breeders;
- (iv) eventually identify genomic sequences for worm-resistance to determine whether there is any relationship to the hardy Angora goat gene.

Similar trials in sheep demonstrated that sheep with poorer resistance –

- (i) remained more anaemic, despite dosing (often repeatedly);
- (ii) had a higher fecal egg count on average, despite dosing;
- (iii) had lower growth rates than dosed rams; and
- (iv) produced lighter, finer micron fleeces ... which begs the question, "Have we in the past been selecting goats with poorer worm-resistance?"

There were also significant differences between lambs from different sires. Unweaned lambs of selected resistant sires had very low fecal egg counts of 0-500 e.p.g – eggs per gram – compared to extremely high challenge situations where the average egg counts of all the lambs were 11 000 e.p.g

There are a number of farmers in the Karoo who have either been using the commercial aloe ferox bitter powder or producing their own extracts for dosing their Angora goats.

ALOE FEROX AS AN ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT FOR INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PARASITES

Goats are known for browsing the leaves of the aloe ferox and the use of aloe ferox for medicinal purposes is well documented. In South Africa, aloe ferox has been used for some years to treat livestock for internal parasites, ophthalmia, skin conditions and even red water. The ash from the burnt leaves has also been used as an insect repellent. There are a number of farmers in the Karoo who have either been using the commercial *aloe ferox bitter powder* or producing their own extracts for dosing their Angora goats. Anecdotal reports from farmers have suggested that this has had a significant impact on internal parasites and some claim an effect on external parasites as well.

Studies published by the Department of Paraclinical Sciences at the University of Pretoria in 2006 show that, in a laboratory environment, certain concentrations of ferox extract stopped half the wireworm eggs hatching and stopped the development of larvae into adult worms.

A small study performed on six goats by the Department of Livestock and Pasture Sciences at the University of Fort Hare demonstrated a reduction in roundworm eggs at certain dose levels of aloe ferox extract.

The aim of the SAMGA study will be to test the commercially available aloe ferox powder at their recommended dose rates, as well as locally farmer-produced extracts, to determine the effect on internal and external parasites.

With anthelmintic (dose) resistance becoming a recognised problem within the industry, alternative treatments need to be investigated to determine whether they are viable.

'N PLAN OM KOUE WEER TE TROTSEER

Die gevolge van koue, nat weer is 'n dilemma wat menige angorabokboer jaarliks moet trotseer.

aar is al navorsing gedoen oor jassies vir bokke en aanspuitbare middels om die probleem te probeer hokslaan, en sommige boere glo dat 'n sinkskuur die enigste oplossing vir die probleem is. Deon Barkhuizen, 'n bekende ramteler wat tussen Uniondale en Willowmore met bokke geboer het, het egter 'n ander benadering gehad. Die Uniondale/Willowmore-gebied lê in 'n klimaatstreek wat baie aan koue fronte en ontydige weerskommelinge blootgestel is.

"Weet jy, ek boer in 'n area waar daar wel natuurlike beskutting vir my bokke was gedurende koue tye, maar ek het tog hierdie plan van my toegepas en het in 8 jaar nooit 'n bok ingejaag of aan koue verloor nie. Vir my het dit gewerk, maar ek skryf dit natuurlik nie voor as 'n onfeilbare oplossing vir al die koue-probleme nie.

"Ek het opgelet dat die bokke wat met olie behandel word dadelik begin wei ten spyte van die koue en nat omstandighede. Dit was asof hulle 'n natuurlike beskerming teen die koue gehad het.

"Nog 'n voordeel is dat 'n mens dragtige ooie wat onder die skêr uitkom en wat nie baie hantering kan duld nie, tog 'n mate van hulp teen koue kan bied sonder om hulle te benadeel.

"Ek glo dié behandeling het baie meriete, al is dit miskien nog nie wetenskaplik getoets nie. Vir my het dit baie goed gewerk", sê Deon.

Wat baie interessant is, is dat hierdie metodes tog al wetenskaplik getoets is en dat daar wel meriete blyk te wees in die behandeling wat Deon toegepas het. Op die SASKV-kongres in 1997 is die Grootfontein Landbouontwikkelingsinstituut versoek om die meriete van 'n soortgelyke bewering te toets. Die bevindinge was uiters interessant.

Wat toe alombekend was, is dat die kouevrektes veroorsaak word deur 'n dramatiese afname in die bloedglukosevlakke van die bokke. Een manier om dié probleem aan te spreek is om diere gedurende sulke tye 'n byvoeding met 'n hoë energie-inhoud soos 'sjokalade mielies' te voer. Dit help om die dalende bloedglukosevlakke uit 'n voedingsoogpunt aan te spreek.

Toetse wat met die oliebehandeling uitgevoer is het aan die lig gebring dat dié behandeling wel 'n mate van waterdigtheid aan die poreuse vel bied, wat verhoed dat water – wat bydra tot 'n daling in liggaamstemperatuur – die huid binnedring. Toetsuitslae het aan die lig gebring dat by diere wat nie met die olie behandel is nie, die water onder die huid langer daar gebly het as by dié wat wel met olie behandel is, en ook dat bokke wat met 'n olieemulsie behandel is vir langer tye hul liggaamstemperatuur kon handhaaf.

Cassie Carstens glo dat die oliebehandeling bokke meer weerstand teen die koue bied en dat dit die boer tyd wen om hulle onder dak te kry as dit







^{01 &#}x27;n Vlekvrye staaldrom word gebruik om die water warm te maak. Die water word deur middel van 'n pomp onttrek om op die bokke te spuit.

O2 Die oliemengsel moet gereeld geroer word om te verhoed dat dit skei.

Die metaalspaan wat in die drom pas is so gemaak dat dit die olie emulsie goed roer.

⁰⁴ Die olie en water emulsie word nou op die bokke gespuit.

⁰⁵ Die spaan pas goed oor die drom en draai in 'n as.







onverwags regtig buitensporig koud word.

"Dis tydens daardie koue reëns wat onverwags in die nag uitsak waar hierdie behandeling baie waarde het. Dit gee die boer tyd om bykomende planne te maak as dit nog nodig is", sê Cassie.

DIE BEHANDELING WERK SO:

Daar is verskillende resepte vir die behandeling. In sommige word 'n dipmiddel bygevoeg as deel van die bestuursplan, maar die hoofbestandeel is olie. 'n Drom water (200 liter) word verhit totdat dit sterk lou is en die emulsie word daarby gevoeg. Die hitte is nodig om die olie-emulsie in die water op te los. Die louwarm water word gedurig in teenoorgestelde rigtings geroer om te verhoed dat die mengsel skif. Die bokke word dan onder die skêr net na skeer met die middel gespuit en die hele lyf word bedek. Daar is teen skeertyd 6 maande later geen residu in die haar te bespeur nie en die behandeling het geen newe-effekte vir die diere nie. Produsente wat graag inligting oor die resepte wil hê kan die kantoor op Jansenville skakel by 049 836 0140.

VOERBAK VAN SKADUNET

'n Mens leer altyd iets as jy op 'n werf rondstap. Planne met voerbakke was my les toe ons onlangs vir Aubrey en Elna van den Bergh in Jansenville gaan kuier het. A ubrey het hierdie plan beraam toe hy gedurende die droogte groot groepe diere moes voer. Die foto's demonstreer die konsep duidelik. Die 'bak' is gemaak van 80% skadunet wat oor 'n staaldraad raam gespan is. Die raam moet ondersteun word om te verhoed dat dit te swaar word en tot op die grond sak. Die voordeel van hierdie bak is dat dit diep genoeg is dat die voer nie uitwaai nie en dat dit reën sal laat deurloop wat sal verhoed dat die voer muf.

Sê mos altyd ... 'n boer kan 'n plan maak!







Die plaas Trutersdal van Weeber Truter in die Heimersriviergebied naby Herold, was Dinsdag 12 November die ene rep en roer toe produsente en opkomende boere die inligtingsdag oor sybokhaar as differensiasiebedryf vir boerdery in die Wes-Kaap bygewoon het.



- **01** Weeber Truter en lede van SASKV en SSA wat die dag aangebied het.
- **02** Die belangstelling by die krale was sterk.
- 03 Die program is in die skuur van die plaas aangebied.
- **04** Cassie Carsten verduidelik die meriete van die bokke.

LINDA HENDERSON

ie dag is in samewerking met die Departement van Landbou in die Wes-Kaap gereël met die doel om sybokhaar te bevorder in 'n area waar, naas volstruise, angoras eens deel van die landbou-ekonomie van die gebied uitgemaak het.

Na 'n warm koppie koffie is die dag se verrigtinge geopen deur Carol Levendal, direkteur van die Farmer's Support Programme in die Eden Distrik. Sy het genoem dat die uitbreiding van die sybokhaarbedryf na die Wes-Kaap dalk kan meebring dat Suid-Afrika dan 60%, in plaas van 50%, van die wêreld se produksie sal lewer.

Justin Coetzee het die funksie van die SASKV as ondersteuningsorganisasie beskryf en die aanstelling van 'n veearts vir die bedryf genoem. Hy het ook melding gemaak van die projekte wat boere met produksiebevordering help.

Daarna het Anlè Marais, bemarkingskoördineerder vir SSA, 'n verslag van die bemarkingsaksies van die liggaam gegee, wat plaaslike sowel as buitelandse bevordering ingesluit het.

Chrisna Coetsee het op insiggewende wyse verslag gedoen oor ekonomiese data van boerderybestuursgroepe. Chrisna doen ekonomiese opnames vir beide die wol- en die sybokhaarbedryf en het studiegroepe oor 'n breë gebied van die sybokhaarproduksiegebied gedek. Produsente kan dié inligting benut om hulle eie produksieeffektiwiteit te bepaal .



Na 'n smullekker middagete van braaivleis het Jurie Wessels namens Bayer 'n praatjie gelewer oor dieregesondheid en die belangrikheid van 'n gesonde immuunstelsel, waartydens hy ook die waarde van die toevoeging van mineraal- en vitamienaanvullings beklemtoon het. Hy het veral klem gelê op die bestuursprogram ten opsigte van ooie en lammers.

Mnr van As van Molatek het in sy praatjie weer die voedingsbehoeftes van angorabokke aangespreek en die belangrikheid van deurvloeiproteïene beklemtoon.

Om die praktiese sy van angoraboerdery aan te spreek het Cassie Carstens van CMW die vereistes van goeie bouvorm en die eienskappe van goeie kwaliteit sybokhaar aan belangstellendes in die kraal uitgewys. Boere het vrae oor eienskappe en kwaliteite gevra en Cassie moes bontstaan om alles te antwoord.

Die dag is afgesluit met 'n besoek aan die dipgat waar Weeber 'n demonstrasie gegee het van hoe sy dipstelsel werk. Hy het ook sy bestuursprogram gedurende die lamseisoen verduidelik.

Vir diegene wat in angoraboerdery belangstel, was daar seker nie 'n faset wat nie aangespreek is nie en die organiseerders kan gelukgewens word met 'n uitstekende dag vol praktiese wenke.





Murraryburg boere ONDERNEEM OPVOEDKUNDIGE TOER

Ons, 'n paar Angorabokboere van Murraysburg, het op 5 November verlede jaar 'n opvoedkundige toer van 2 dae na Port Elizabeth onderneem.





Murraysburg se A-span!

Hy het ons kortliks oor die werksaamhede van die Trust ingelig en vir ons sy unieke dipstelsel gewys, waar die bokke ná die dipproses met tuinsproeiers afgespoel word.

FRANS RETIEF

p pad het Justin Coetzee, Dr. Mac Hobson en Paul Broeksma op Graaff-Reinet by ons aangesluit, betyds vir ons eerste stilhouplek by die veldramprojek, waar Mark Shires vir ons die ramme wat in Januarie 2014 op Graaff-Reinet verkoop gaan word, gewys het.

Daarna het ons op Uitenhage die heerlike kospakkies wat Elna van den Bergh vir ons ingepak het, geniet, en toe is ons na Gubb & Inngs, waar ons gesien het hoe 'n bestelling met sy eie unieke eienskappe opgemaak, gewas en gekam word, en het ons Mohair Spinners en die Hinterveldfabriek besoek. Hinterveld se pragtige bokhaarkomberse het ons almal opnuut trots gemaak op ons produk.

In Port Elizabeth het Anlé Marais en Lindsay Humphreys ons by SSA verwelkom met 'n aanbieding oor bokhaarbemarking en –bewusmaking. Die aand is ons na die Bush Pub vir 'n heerlike kuier saam met die bokhaarkopers. Later het 'n paar manne besluit om die PE naglewe verder te geniet – daar is dus nie veel geslaap nie!

Die Woensdagoggend het mnr. Pierre van der Vyver in sy aanbieding verwys na hoe goed die Murraysburgers op die veilings vaar en hoe hulle gereeld die rekords laat spat. Ons is saam met Pierre en Matthew Fox deur CMW se pakhuise, waar ons kon kyk na die bokhaar wat op die tweede laaste veiling aangebied sou word. Almal was dit eens dat 'n Murraysburg-skeersel, die van Louw en Frans Retief, ook van die top pryse behoort te haal. (31 Januarie 2014: Hulle hét toe ook 'n nuwe rekord opgestel vir jongbokke – aangebied as jongbokke – en die tweede hoogste prys ooit vir 'n volle skeersel verdien!)

Op pad terug het ons mnr. Arthur Rudman, een van die grootste bokhaarprodusente, besoek, wat vir ons gewys hoe hy sekere

Middagete was by die SASKV-kantoor op Jansenville, gevolg deur ons laaste besoek – aan die voorsitter van die Sybokhaartrust, mnr. Davie Heroldt, net buite Graaff-Reinet. Hy het ons kortliks oor die werksaamhede van die Trust ingelig en vir ons sy unieke dipstelsel gewys, waar die bokke ná die dipproses met tuinsproeiers afgespoel word.

Groot dank aan Justin Coetzee – dit was 'n heerlike, insiggewende, motiverende wegkomkansie waarby ons báie gebaat het - ons was net spyt dat daar so min van ons was, en dat die ander produsente dit misgeloop het!

Maar hopelik kom jy volgende keer saam? Ja, hierdie artikeltjie is jou uitnodiging!

Mohair Buyers come forward

IN SUPPORT OF Needs

n August 2013, in what can be seen as a sincere gesture of support in respect of the sustainability of the mohair industry, the Mohair Buyers signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mohair Trust, in which they (the buyers) undertook to make a voluntary donation of 30c per kilogram of greasy South African and Lesotho mohair purchased by them.

The buyers recognised the necessity of supporting the longevity and profitability of all stakeholders in the South African mohair industry, and realised that research and development are vital and essential components in ensuring the future of the trade.

By signing this agreement, the parties wish to co-operate in developing a mutually acceptable mechanism to facilitate the generation and contribution of funds by the South African Wool and Mohair Buyers' Association (SAWAMBA) to support the functions of the Mohair Trust.

The funds will be applied at the discretion of the two parties concerned, and will be allocated to projects that endorse the goals and objectives set out in the memorandum. The contribution per kilogram will be revisited from season to season to provide for changes.

Running the industry effectively is a financially daunting task. This contribution will make it easier for the industry to fulfill its mandate and is sure to be welcomed by all concerned.

It is imperative that all industry bodies work toward the common good of the future of the fibre. This gesture by the buyers will be seen as support of working towards that goal.

EXCELLENT DEMAND FOR ANGORA

JUSTIN COETZEE

With the recent run of good mohair prices and an optimistic future, producers seem to feel confident about investing back into their flocks.

his encouraging trend was seen in the 2013/14 Angora ram selling season. To support the International Mohair Summit held in October 2013, the ARBS (Angora Ram Breeders Society) decided to host an elite ram sale during the Summit. This sale took the form of an evening cocktail with strictly selected rams that met the minimum standard for stud and selected flock rams. The sale was received extremely well and was a proud showcase for South African Angora genetics.

There has been a definite movement toward veld rams over the past few years and this was once again seen in the last selling season. Because most Angoras are farmed in semi-arid extensive areas, more and more producers are moving towards veld-adapted animals that perform under

such conditions. It appears, therefore, that adaptability, length and quality have become sought after and non-negotiable characteristics.

The impact that rams can have on a flock, and ultimately on mohair production, cannot be emphasised enough. It is important that potential ram buyers not be disconcerted by the high average prices being quoted for rams, as the high prices paid for stud rams influence the sales prices, giving distorted average prices for the sales. In an analysis of the sale averages, flock rams sold for R2500 to R6500, while selected flock rams fetched R6500 to R12500, and stud rams from R12500 upwards.

The Ram Breeders must be commended on the quality of rams presented across the selling season, and thanked for their commitment to providing quality genetic material to the industry.



Jansenville Prestige Summit Sale – 31 October 2013:

Highest price: R62 000

Grootfontein ADI, Middelburg Buyer: JH Lategan, Aberdeen



Jansenville (Veld Rams) -24 January 2014:

Highest price: R65 000

Seller:

Borden Farming, Graaff-Reinet & D Short, Graaff-Reinet & Buyer:

AB Hobson, Jansenville AR Hobson, Steytlerville



Somerset East - 14 November 2013:

Highest price: R18 500

Buyer: AC Fitzhenry & Son, Aberdeen Seller: JH Lategan, Aberdeen



Graaff-Reinet (Veld Rams) - 30 January 2014:

Highest price: R44 000

Buyer: J & JM Trust, Rustenburg Seller: Van Hasselt Farming, Prince Albert

RIVAT

RAMS IN 2013/14 SELLING SEASON

SUMMARY OF SALES - SAMEVATTING VAN DIE VEILINGS

Sale Veiling	Rams offered Ramme aangebied		Rams sold Ramme verkoop		Average price (R) Gemiddelde prys (R)	
	2012/13	2013/14	2012/13	2013/14	2012/13	2013/14
Somerset East Official Sale	79	102	76	102	R5 147	R4 601
Jansenville Prestige Summit Sale	-	39	-	38	-	R10 072
Graaff-Reinet Veld	58	66	58	66	R6 693	R8 530
Jansenville Veld	71	64	71	64	R6 579	R8 553
Van Hasselt Farming	72	84	72	84	R6 539	R9 106
Baakensrug	35	49	35	49	R2 000	R3 321
Welgedacht	-	52	-	52	-	R7 144
Noorsveld	30	43	30	22	R2 420	R2 795



Van Hasselt & Guests - 16 January 2014:

Highest price: R72 000

 $AB\ Hobson, Jansenville\ \&\ AR\ Hobson, Steytlerville$ Buyer:

Seller: Gay van Hasselt



Baakensrug – 4 February 2014:

Highest price: R8 500

Buyer: Eben van Eck, Beaufort West Seller: Baakensrug Angoras, Nelspoort



Welgedacht – 5 February 2014:

Highest price: R75 000

Buyer: Karoo Game Breeders, Rietbron Welgedacht Angoras, Rietbron Seller:



Noorsveld – 5 February 2014:

Highest price: R6 500

Buyer: Ernie & Tiboy Deyzel, Steytlerville Cawoodholme Angoras, Klipplaat Seller:

Veldmanne

DIE STIL SPILPUNT



Dis 'n bloedige warm Januarie en die kwik styg tot 43 grade Celsius tydens Willowmore se veldramveiling.

LINDA HENDERSON

ie bokke hyg na asem en die nuwe sinkdak kraak so af en toe onder die hittegolwe. Billy Colborne het al lankal sy broekspype tot by sy knieë opgerol.

Wie kan werk onder sulke omstandighede? So wonder ek terwyl ek vir die soveelste keer 'n bottel koel water nadertrek en om my heen kyk. Cassie Carstens vee die sweet met 'n blou sakdoek af terwyl hy praat en beduie, en wys na sy katalogus. Die teler langs hom sê nie veel nie, want hy luister aandagtig. Daar anderkant staan Petri Marè halflyf oor 'n bok gebuig en blaai soos

nie, want hy luister aandagtig. Daar anderkant staan Petri Marè halflyf oor 'n bok gebuig en blaai soos 'n pianis deur dié se vag, terwyl hy beduie vir die man wat langs hom staan en notas maak. In 'n ander ry staan Andries Coetzee, effens ongebalanseerd gebukkend oor die rug van die beste bok op die veiling, terwyl die sweet van sy voorkop tap. Die man langs hom knik instemmend op iets wat hy sê.

Hierdie scenario speel hom by elke ramveiling af, ongeag wie die makelaar van die dag is. Vandag is CMW se manne in die kollig en by Baakensrug se veiling sal BKB se veldbeamptes, Corné Nel, Bernard Johnston en Jacques Laubser, weer hulle slag moet wys.

Oom Jan Venter, oud agent en jarelange meester op hierdie gebied, sit stil en toekyk, netjies uitgevat in sy kortbroek, oopnekhemp en drafskoene. Oom Jan het al lankal as veldman afgetree maar in sy hart klop die bokbloed nog sterk. Hy kan nog op 'n afstand 'n swak ram uitken en, ten spyte van sy ouderdom en die hitte, mis hy hierdie dae nie. As hy maar net al daardie kennis aan iemand in sy boedel kon nalaat!

Dis asof hierdie manne so meegevoer en in hulle element is, dat hulle nie vandag se lastige hitte voel nie. Hulle is dit gewoond, want hulle spandeer ure in krale en skure by die produsente. Vandag is die klimaks van 'n hele seisoen se voorbereiding. Die veiling begin, die afslaer het sy *cowboy* hoed op en is op sy stukke. Hy praat só vinnig dat die prys net elke nou en dan hoorbaar is. Sy arms waai, sy vinger wys en in sy regterhand swaai hy daardie indrukwekkende gevaarlike stukkie hout rond

VAN DIE BEDRYF

wat groot verskuiwings in bankbalanse meebring as dit die tafel tref. Langs hom staan die veldbeamptes wat die gehoor soos arende dophou vir aanbiedinge. Hulle moet fyn kyk. Die kopers wat redelike opsigtelike gebare gebruik om 'n bod te maak, is gewoonlik die manne wat nie 'n beperking op hul begroting het nie. Sommige knik kwalik merkbaar die kop of sein effens met die hand, terwyl ander weer die veilingkatalogus oprol en met senuweeagtige klein gebaartjies waai om te laat weet hulle stel ook belang.

Dis 'n goeie veiling en daar is nie winskopies nie. Rekords word gebreek. Die kopers sug en die verkopers loop breëbors rond. Ten midde van alles kyk die veldbeamptes, aan wie baie dank verskuldig is aan die dag se gebeure, stil maar tevrede toe. Produsente is dit eens dat hierdie manne se bydrae tot hulle sukses van onskatbare waarde is. Tog bly hulle dikwels die onbesonge helde van hierdie sagas.

"Weet jy, hierdie manne het nie werksure nie. Hulle moet beskikbaar wees wanneer dit die boere pas en soms word hulle misbruik, omdat hulle dag nie aan kantoorure gekoppel is nie. Boonop moet hulle tog só diplomaties met party produsente te werk gaan, want party se velletjies is maar dun, en dan vererg hulle hul soms vir die waarheid en ontgeld die veldmanne en hulle maatskappye dit. Ek verkies 'n reguit antwoord en 'n direkte opinie, want dan weet ek waar ek staan", sê Gert Jordaan van Aberdeen.

"Ek het geweldige vertroue in ons plaaslike veldbeampte. Hy is al jare in die bedryf, werk elke dag met angorabokke en sy opinie is altyd onafhanklik. Aangesien hy my behoeftes en omstandighede ken, gee hy raad wat my boerdery vorentoe vat. Ek stel sy integriteit hoog op prys en hy is een van die hoofredes vir my lojaliteit teenoor my makelaar".

"Jy weet, boere wat hulle boerdery wil verbeter, gebruik hierdie manne. Daar is ander wat maar net voortploeter, maar hulle moet dalk onthou dat 'n slegte dier net soveel vreet as 'n goeie dier", sê Gert.

"Dis die manne wat altyd agter die skerms werk en ek dink hulle kry nie altyd die erkenning wat hulle toekom nie", sê Ben van der Westhuizen. "Hierdie ouens moet soms baie persoonlike opofferings maak ten opsigte van tyd en dis dikwels 'n ondankbare werk. Ek het nog net goeie raad van my veldbeampte gekry wat my ook maar vermaan het om die middeweg in my teelbeleid te volg deur 'n dier te teel wat by my omstandighede aard. Wat belangrik is, is dat produsente eienaarskap van hulle eie besluite moet neem en nie veldbeamptes moet blameer as dinge nie reg uitwerk nie. Dit is onbillik en onregverdig om ander te blameer vir besluite wat jy self neem. Alhoewel hierdie manne 'n beter insig in die mark en die gehalte van die nasionale kuddes het, probeer hulle altyd in die produsent se persoonlike belange optree. Wat ek van my veldbeampte waardeer, is dat hy altyd objektief en baie professioneel bly, en sy raad aan my dat ek nie giere moet najaag nie, het vir my nog net goeie vrugte afgewerp", sê Ben.

"Ek wonder of die belangrikheid van hierdie manne regtig besef word", beaam Francois Michau Ben se vertwyfeling. "Jy weet 'n goeie veldbeampte kan 'n streek of 'n veeras maak of breek deur sy betrokkenheid







- 01 Ray Hobson, oom Jan Venter en AB Hobson geniet 'n gesellige oomblik by die veiling. Saam is daar genoeg sybokhaarkennis om 'n boek te skryf!
- 02 Cassie bespreek sake met 'n jong produsent.
- 03 Cassie Carstens klas die veldramme in Willowmore.
- 04 TT Paulsen help twee jong manne met 'n keuse.











en entoesiasme vir sy werk. Waar die veldmanne goed is, floreer die bedryf. 'n Goeie veldman behoort die totale pakket van sy kliënt in oënskou te neem. Hy behoort te weet wat die kliënt se boerderyomstandighede is sodat hy raad kan gee met 'n teelbeleid. Hy moet hom ook van raad kan bedien by ram- en veeveilings en hy moet weet waar hy vee kan inkoop wat by sy teelbeleid pas. Dis toegewyde belangstelling en kennis wat die verskil tussen swak en goeie agente onderstreep".

"Dis egter jammer dat hierdie manne deesdae soveel tyd aan skeerdienste moet afstaan. Dit word al hoe moeiliker om boere, skeerdatums en logistieke te balanseer en dan ly baie van hierdie waardevolle toewyding skipbreuk", sê Kalla.

"My veldbeampte speel ook 'n waardevolle rol om my seun wat nou net begin boer het van kennis te bedien. Ek het bloot nie altyd die tyd om dit self te doen nie en ek waardeer sy insette in hierdie verband", gaan Kalla voort.

"My veldbeampte is amper soos my tweede vrou", skerts Roland du Toit. "Ons lewe baie na aan mekaar en sy perspektief is vir my bitter belangrik. Hy bring die nodige kundigheid en sy opinie is belangrik omdat hy met soveel ander kuddes behalwe myne werk. Dis waarom ek my makelaar ondersteun, want hulle kan vir my dienste soos hierdie lewer. Hierdie manne is enige tyd beskikbaar en hulle vriendelike professionele houding is 'n riem onder die hart".

Almal is dit eens. Die veldmanne speel 'n onontbeerlike rol in die bedryf. Vra maar die boere wat die toekennings inpalm. Agter elke suksesstorie sit 'n veldman wat leiding en ondersteuning gegee het. lemand wat sy passie en kennis met integriteit en sonder eie belang gedeel het om 'n medemens 'n voorsprong te gee.

"As makelaars besef ons hulle waarde en belê ons baie tyd in die keuring en plasing van hierdie manne in ons bedryf. Dit moet onthou word dat hierdie diens uniek is in die wêreld. Australië, wat seker die naaste vergelykbare omstandighede het, se grootste makelaar het slegs drie beamptes in diens wat tegniese advies gee! Dit is vir ons belangrik dat hulle goeie opleiding ontvang en dat hulle die nodige ondervinding opdoen, want hulle is 'n verlenging van die dienste wat die maatskappy aan die boere bied. Hulle moet op datum wees met hoe die nuutste tegnologie en inligting toegepas word. Gaan kyk maar wie die leierboere is wat in teling (ramme) en die amptelike kompetisies (kudde en haar) presteer, en wat rekord sybokhaarpryse behaal. Daar is een gemene deler. Hulle maak intensief van 'n veldbeampte gebruik', beaam Pierre van der Vyver, bestuurder van sybokhaar by CMW.

"Hierdie manne leef daarvoor om hulle kliënte se boerderye te help verbeter. Hulle vra nooit vir erkenning of buitensporige vergoeding nie. Wat dit so moeilik maak om die regte mense te kry is die feit dat hulle so passievol oor hulle werk is. Ek kan heeltemal verstaan dat 'n boer so erg oor sy tegniese raadgewer is want dit is amper soos 'n huwelik; besluite wat vandag geneem word kan vêr in die toekoms nog 'n verskil ten goede of kwade hê. Dit is hoekom integriteit en kundigheid so belangrik in ons bedryf is", sê Isak Staats, hoof bestuurder van Wol en Bokhaar by BKB.

Miskien het die tyd aangebreek dat die bedryf hierdie erkenning op 'n tasbare wyse toon.

⁰² Billy Colborne het net een plan vir die hitte.

⁰³ Andries Coetzee besig met 'ramsoek'.

⁰⁴ Gary Willows weet meer van Angoras as die meeste mense!

⁰⁵ Petri Mare is altyd gereed om goeie raad te gee.



AB HOBSON

he high failure rate of so many of the empowerment initiatives is well documented. A number of elementary, but critical, mistakes need to be corrected in order to achieve success. While we acknowledge all the efforts carried out to date, our point of departure, when dealing with the strategic plan, is an understanding that, for us, success is non-negotiable! A number of basic interventions need to be adopted though, in order to enhance the chance of success.

MOHAIR TRAINING CENTRE

What is most urgently required is a suitable training farm. This will form the hub of all empowerment activities. Here the Empowerment Trust requires a property, which meets the following criteria:

- It must have the potential to become a sustainable economic farming unit.
- > It must be suited to Angora goat farming.
- The infrastructure must be operational.
- Its location remains imperative to ensure that a strong support base
- > It should be a commercially viable farming unit, with the capacity to run sufficient stock to remunerate students and subsidise short courses.

CURRICULUM

The necessary curriculum will be developed with the help of Agri-Seta. The Empowerment Trust and Agri-Seta have established a memorandum of understanding in order to take this process forward.

Accredited short courses will be developed to meet the following needs:

- > Skills training i.e. mohair classing, animal health, welding, vehicle and tractor maintenance, fencing et cetera. (These short courses will be especially beneficial to the mohair farm workers.)
- > Financial fitness for farm workers
- The social upliftment of the worker's family
- Cottage industry training
- > Finance and administration

The training of young, future mohair farmers will have to be a lot more thorough. It is envisaged that the Mohair Empowerment Trust will be the custodian of the training farm with a well-qualified farm manager providing full-time training, both practical and theoretical.

IDENTIFICATION OF SUITABLE TRAINEES

This is another critical success factor, which needs serious attention. The selection of potential students must be carried out thoroughly and with professional help, without any form of political intervention.

On completion of the course, only those with proven commitment and ability will be recommended as beneficiaries for government farms.

ASSESSMENT OF SUITABLE PROPERTIES

Those beneficiaries who qualify must not be set up for failure! This can be avoided by collaborating with the mohair industry to address the

- > The Empowerment Trust is committed to aid the government in the identification of suitable mohair farms with the necessary operational infrastructure.
- > The desired property should be of a suitable size to ensure financial viability.
- The concept of multiple beneficiaries
- > The industry should identify suitable mentors for the further support of beneficiaries.

In conclusion, let me state that we have a dream, which is to create the success stories so lacking in BEE initiatives to date. The Mohair Empowerment Trust has a strong and committed team, consisting of the chairpersons of the Mohair Trust, Mohair South Africa, the SA Mohair Growers Association and two young and dynamic officials, namely, Bongani Ndlovo (Mohair Empowerment Officer) and Justin Coetzee (Mohair Production Advisor).

As a team, we bring a great deal of experience and enthusiasm to the various empowerment initiatives. We appeal to both Government and the private sector to get on board. Together we can achieve success and make a difference.

Bestuursmaatreëls om 'n afname in ABORSIES EN LAMVREKTES TE BEWERKSTELLIG

DR VLOK FERREIRA

an die heel belangrikste faktore wat inkomste in 'n Angora kudde bepaal is hoë vrugbaarheid/reproduksie en lae boklamvrektes. Hoe hoër die vrugbaarheid en laer die mortaliteite, hoe höer is die persentasie duurder jong bokhaar in die skeersel wat jaarliks bemark kan word.

Gedurende die laaste 6 weke van dragtigheid vind 'n vinnige toename in fetus groei plaas wat meebring dat die voedingsbehoefte dubbel die van 'n dröe ooi is, terwyl gedurende vroeë laktasie die voedingsbehoefte van 'n tweeling ooi drie keer die van die dröe ooi is.

Voedingstres sal direk bydrae tot aborsies gedurende laat dragtigheid, veral 'n energie-tekort. In 'n proef waar dragtige ooie vir die laaste twee-derdes van dragtigheid op 'n lae energie-voedingvlak was, is 52% aborsies aangeteken vs. 7% in die kontrole groep. 'n Skielike energietekort (a.g.v een of ander strestoestand), het die volgende in die bok tot gevolg:

- > Vinnige daling in bloedglukose konsentrasie
- > Skielike styging in sirkulerende estrogene
- > Verlaging in sirkulerende progesteroon

> Aborsie van die normale fetus

'n Produksielek kan onder die volgende omstandighede 'n belangrike rol speel in die voorkoming van aborsies gedurende laat dragtigheid:

- > Gee 'n produksielek tydens ongunstige toestande, bv. in droogte toestande en koue.
- > Gee pasgeskeerde bokke in die winter ook 'n produksielek.
- > 'n Verandering in die dieet kan 'n tydelike energie-proteïen tekort tot gevolg hê – gee in hierdie oorganstydperk 'n produksielek.
- > Dragtige ooie op groen aangeplante weiding met 'n baie höe vog inhoud kan nie genoeg voedingstowwe inneem nie en sal 'n energieproteïen tekorte ondervind.
- > 'n Kombinasie van 'n melasse en graan bevattende produksielek speel 'n belangrike rol om bloedglukosevlakke vining te laat styg.
- > Dit is veral jong ooie wat vir die eerste keer dragtig is wat aborteer a.g.v. 'n energie tekort, omdat hul nog self groei.
- > Strawwe inwendige en uitwendige parasietbesmetting moet voorkom word.
- > Normale hantering van dragtige ooie het geen of baie min effek op aborsies.

In 'n opname deur M. A. Snyman onder 12 Angora-stoetkuddes tussen 2000 en 2004 is bevind dat 39,1% van die lam vrektes tussen

geboorte en speen op 4 maande ouderdom voorkom as gevolg van ongediertes. Die mees belangrikste oorsake was klein en swak gebore lammers wat moet gehelp word om te suip (18,6%); ooie met min of geen melk (6,8%); ooie wat hul lammers weggooi (6,8%); Die laaste 3 oorsake van vrektes tesame met ooie wat uier probleme (3,5%) het, het 35,7% van voorspeense vrektes veroorsaak. Die probleem is grotendeels een van BESTUUR aangesien 67,5% van die lam vrektes veband hou met bestuur. In sommige gevalle kan lamvrektes aansienlik verminder deur klein bestuursaanpassings, maar soms behels dit die hersiening van die hele bestuursprogram. Ondervoeding (veral energie en proteïen) gedurende laatdragtigheid lei tot onvoldoende melkvloei en klein boklammertjies wat nie behoorlik kan suip nie.

Belangrike maatreëls om lamverliese te verminder, is die volgende:

- (a) Voldoende voeding vir laatdragtige bok ooie (laaste 2 maande) deur spaarkampe en/of byvoeding van 'n produksielek.
- (b) Ooie moet lam in kampe wat voldoende skuiling bied.
- (c) Voortdurende toesig van swaar dragtige en lammerooie is ook van groot direkte belang om verliese te verminder, omdat tydige stappe geneem kan word om lamvrektes te verhoed.

Vermeng Molatek produksielek soos volg:

1. 450 kg Molatek Wolmeester konsentraat + 450 kg gemaalde mielies + 100 kg sout

2. 160 kg Meester 20 (40 kg) + 150 kg gemaalde mielies + 100 kg Molatek Bypass + 50 kg sout

Verskaf aan laatdragtige ooie (6 – 8 weke voor lam) die produksielek teen 250 – 350 g/ooi/dag en verhoog dit gedurende die eerste 6 – 8 weke van laktasie na 300 – 400 g/ooi/dag. Verminder die sout om voldoende innames te verseker indien nodig.

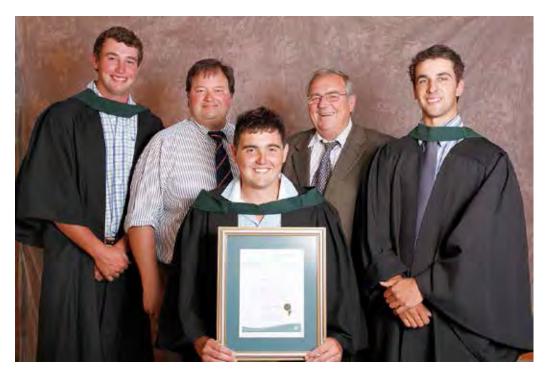
Die hou van volledige en akkurate rekords van die simptome en oorsake van lamvrektes kan nuttige inligting verskaf om aanpassings in die lamstelsel asook bestuur- en voedingspraktyke te maak om lamvrektes in die toekoms te beperk. 'n Hoër winsgewendheid uit u Angora vertakking is sodoende moontlik.

Kobus Gerber (082 452 4031) – Klein Karoo Hennie Slabbert (082 336 6442) – Oos Kaap Charl Vorster (084 812 7378) - Sentrale Karoo Nasionale Tegniese Bestuurder, MOLATEK, Posbus 47, Malelane 1320

Kontak hierdie kundige Molatek personeel in u gebied:



GROOTFONTEIN LANDBOU INSTITUUT GRADE PLEGTIGHEID: 2013



HIERDIE DERDEJAARSTUDENTE HET DIE MEESTE PUNTE MET ANGORABOKKE BEHAAL: Van links na regs: Bennie Lotter (derde), Hans Greeff, Cobus Claassen (eerste), Ray Hobson, Robert Bosch (tweede).



Moharr.

TEXT AND PHOTOS: CHRIS SUNDSTRUM

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Chris Sundstrum owns Mohair Pacific, a marketing and export company that classes New Zealand's mohair clip, as well as Mohair Fibres, run by John Woodward. Before going into business, he gained experience in farming and worked for an Australian company, lan Laycock Ltd. Chris and his wife Pam run their business from a small rural holding, 30 km from Christchurch in North Canterbury, which is in the middle of the South Island of New Zealand. They also own a small flock of 34 Angoras.

Linda Henderson caught up with them at the Mohair Summit in Jansenville and asked their opinion about the mohair industry in New Zealand.

Chris and his wife Pam are regular visitors to these shores and also attended the previous mohair summits at Beaufort West (1999) and Graaff-Reinet (2009).

"While our trip was all too short, we had much pleasure in catching up with old friends and making new acquaintances. We found the South African hosts very hospitable with the ability to put us all at ease. I would have enjoyed a few more days to visit some of the farms in order to see a few more goats. The increased openness in the Angora face and cleaner leg is a distinct improvement since I was here last. I believe this will be a much healthier and more fertile goat", commented Chris.

"I found the Summit programme very interesting and varied since it included a wide array of topics, stretching from marketing to finance, and animal care to shearing demonstrations. My only problem was that I needed to be in two places at the same time in order to have taken advantage of the interesting and varied programme".

HISTORY OF THE INDUSTRY IN NEW ZEALAND

Angora goats were first raised in New Zealand in the early nineteen hundreds but were released or dispersed a few years later. A semi-pure herd was captured in about 1970, and with the import of a few Australian animals the industry was born again. A large number of wild goats around the country were then captured and used to breed with these Angoras. With the world demand for mohair very strong in the 1970/80 era, prices soared with investors pushing up the price of goats to unrealistic levels. This led to a production of approximately 500 000 goats, but producing very light, kempy, crossbred mohair, which gave very low returns during the recession of the late eighties. Many of those who had entered the industry for tax reasons lost on large investments on inferior stock and withdrew at that stage, which vastly reduced the goat numbers.

The early nineties saw imports from Texas and African stock, which created a rapid improvement in both small stock and mohair, but greatly reduced the national flock totals. As returns improved, totals settled, but since then, the production has slowly declined to the current 35 tons.

While the New Zealand mohair industry is very small, it seems to be reasonably settled at a guesstimate of about 35 000 kg, produced at an average of 3,5 kg per animal, which brings the number of goats in New





- These photos come from a producer near Hawkes Bay who keeps about 1800 goats.
- **02** Mohair is also shorn twice a year in New Zealand and under good conditions can reach 110 mm in six months.
- 03 In winter New Zealand can become a hostile place for Angoras.

01





Most of the fibre is now sold to South African buyers, with a small amount being used by niche spinners in New Zealand.

Zealand to about ten thousand. This production shows a marked decrease from the 60 tons of ten years ago. The main reasons for this can be ascribed to the rapid expansion of the dairy industry and the retirement of some of the large producers. There is also a perception that goats are hard work and are hard to contain. This is misunderstood by those who had captured the free-running feral goats for crossbreeding in the late seventies and eighties, and has unfortunately stigmatised goat farming today.

The two companies mentioned previously, market mohair by a pooling system by which producers are paid out on the sale of the pool. Most of the fibre is now sold to South African buyers, with a small amount being used by niche spinners in New Zealand.

Today's New Zealand Angora is a more *farmable* animal, with a fleece yield of up to 5 kg, which can also be as low as 3 to 4 kg in the lower nutrition areas of the country. Most of the larger Angora flocks are farmed on the east coast of the North and South islands. There are six main producers running from 400 to 1800 animals each, who between them produce over half of the country's fibre. The majority of the other flocks are farmed in numbers, ranging from 300 to single figures. Keeping goats is also popular among those living on life-style farms. With average kidding rates of 1,25 to 1,5%, stock numbers can be built up quite quickly.

Apart from the occasional attacks by domestic dogs, New Zealand has no animal predators, for which we are grateful. The main animal health problems are external and internal parasites. There is a resistance to drenches, caused mainly by reckless over-drenching, as well as the heavier stocking rates of 7,5 to 12,5 per hectare, which are partly overcome by triple drenches and partly by good management. Culling susceptible animals is also helping to overcome the problem. Pour-on external parasite controls are proving to be far less effective than saturation dipping. Feet can be a problem, especially in wetter areas, as many of the pastures have no stones or rocks to wear the hooves, and being wet most of the time, the hoof growth is often rampant, leaving them susceptible to scald and foot rot.

Mohair New Zealand is now part of a larger goat producer's group. The aim is to achieve unity amongst goat farmers and to attract support in order to raise levies for the good of the industry. The AGM of this group will be held in the picturesque town of Queenstown in the Southern Lake District from 23 to 25 May 2014. We would welcome a visit from any South Africans from the mohair industry who wish to attend this event. I am sure such a visit would be a great stimulant to the local Angora industry.

New Zealand goats seem to be better behaved than their South African counterparts and respond to a hooter!



GOURMET PRODUCTS FROM Leather,

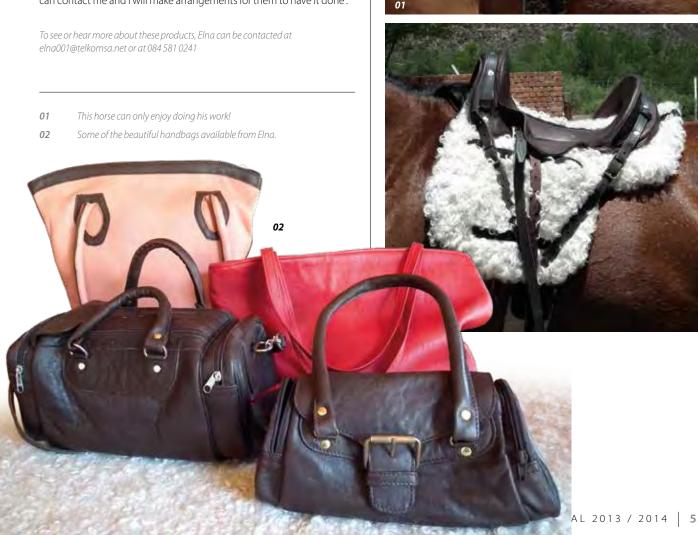
n the past Angora goat skins were considered unsuitable for traditional applications such as shoes and handbags due to the perception that they are too brittle or too porous. Fortunately, technology has changed and some beautiful products from Angora goat leather are currently in production in South Africa.

Saddles with saddlecloths from tanned Angora skins, as well as girths from woven mohair thread, can be purchased in South Africa. The saddles, available in two styles, are extremely comfortable for the rider and the horse is evidently delighted with the comfort factor provided by the hairy, but soft surface of the tanned fleecy skins.

The handbags are especially popular and Elna van den Bergh, coowner of the business, Gourmet Goats, reports that the handbags were extremely popular at their launch during the summit in Jansenville.

"We make them in a variety of styles and colours and clients are impressed with the soft, pliable feel of these 'goatee' bags".

"We are also able to satisfy producers' wishes in other ways. Farmers, who would like to have some of their own mohair converted into carpets, can contact me and I will make arrangements for them to have it done".



TAKING MOHAIR TO the World in 2013

Transforming a brand into a socially responsible leader doesn't happen overnight by simply writing new marketing and advertising strategies. It takes effort to identify a vision that your customers will find credible and aligned with their values.

- Simon Mainwaring



ne marketplace is flooded with brand names, shouting in neon lights from high-rise buildings, advertising billboards and media covers. It's like a feeding frenzy for promotional space to attract the consumer's attention and to keep his loyalty. Companies spend millions to achieve the *preferred brand*-status and boardrooms are hard pressed to increase profit margins, which rely on effective marketing campaigns.

How to make sense of this marketing confusion in an overcrowded and chaotic marketing space in order to spread the mohair story to

all corners of the world falls on the shoulders of Lindsay Humphreys and Anlè Marais, the small but dedicated marketing team of Mohair South Africa.

Together they accumulated thousands of voyager miles travelling to China, Europe and the USA to tell the beautiful story of mohair that originated here. This potent message is gaining more and more support from a market that is hungry for authentic natural products from a sustainable source. We believe that marketing has played a significant role in the recent price improvement of the fibre.

SPIN EXPO - SHANGHAI, CHINA

n March, MSA continued its presence in China, at this very important summer and spring trade show for commercial knitting yarn. Mohair and alpaca were selected as the two most suitable fibres for the coming season, and were exhibited in the Fibre Lounge, an exclusive exhibition space at the show. Judged by the number of enquiries that were received afterwards, the feedback was very positive.

Spin Expo continues to be a very important marketing and promotional space for reaching the Chinese spinners and manufacturers of knitting yarn. The fact that very specific questions are asked about the technical requirements of using the fibre, means that Spin Expo offers question and answer opportunities that could well attract new users.

MSA continued their presence at Spin Expo in September and hit the headlines as they featured very prominently in all the trend forecasts. They also received front-page attention from the media and the Daily Journal, the official publication of the Expo. The extract below serves to confirm that mohair is in demand as a fashion fibre:

"Mohair feels fashion right again, with the current international focus on the punk influence together with interest in the 80s club scene, said Ms Jane Sked, creative director for the Consinee Group."

According to Ms Sophie Steller, SPINEXPOTM's creative director, "...mohair doesn't have to be fluffy.



It can be quite smooth and lustrous. Many spinners have developed products using kid mohair fibre, which could be as fine as 25 microns, resulting in exceptionally light, less hairy yarns."

This year, the MSA stand was well received and took on a more boutique quality, in line with the 2014/15 trends, in which simple DIY textures saw a contemporary reinvention with crafted embroidery as embellishments.

Mohair was showcased in various forms, from raw materials to yarns, and interesting fabric swatches and designer garments. Sponsors were delighted to donate yarns to be used on the stand and the direct feedback was that sales were made on those yarns. With the trend area featuring at least 40% mohair, there is no doubt that it will feature prominently for the next couple of seasons. Important business connections were made that have cemented relationships towards possible collaborations into 2014.

⁰¹ Lindsay and Anlé at Spin Expo in China

The Summer trade fair: Spin Expo in China







The mohair booth at VOGUE LIVE.

02 Joining the Casalis Company at Salon de Mobile.

VOGUE LIVE, SEATTLE, USA

In April, MSA had a booth at *Vogue Knitting Live*, one of America's largest live experimental knitting events, which caters to the demands of the hand knitting and craft market of the USA. This is a very vibrant marketplace for hand knitting yarn in a sector, which consumes millions of kilograms of yarn, and where a passion for handknitting and crocheting still rules supreme. This event is staged at three prominent venues in the USA and it is envisaged that MSA will participate at every event in the near future.

SALON DE MOBILE, MILAN

This Milanese furniture fair is held annually and is the largest of its kind in the world. It highlights the latest in furniture design from countries across the world, and is considered a leading venue for new products by designers of furniture, lighting and other home furnishings. This year there were 2 720 exhibitors from diverse international destinations. At this event, MSA supported Casalis, an innovative fabric design company from Belgium. Casalis is an award-winning design house with products mostly used in commercial applications, which deals with international designers and architects worldwide. Casalis dedicated most of their stand to mohair, which included their new wall-to-wall mohair carpeting range, as well as customised pieces, woven with a new weaving technique and made from 100% mohair yarn.

To give the stand a South African twist, biltong and droëwors were served at the cocktail event at the end of each day's show. This evoked much conversation about the origins of mohair. The stand was extremely busy and trade was brisk.

NEOCON TRADE SHOW: CHICAGO

Investigating new markets and understanding the roles played by users of merchandise are very important for the marketing mandate of the MSA team. With this in mind, the team visited the NeoCon Trade Show in Chicago from 12 June. NeoCon is North America's largest design exposition and conference for commercial interiors, providing over 40 000 architecture and design professionals with nearly 100 CEU accredited seminars, association forums and top-notch keynote speakers. NeoCon is a trade show for large commercial contracts where thousands of innovative products and resources for corporations, hospitality, healthcare, retail, government and institutional and residential interiors from more than 700 showrooms and exhibitors are showcased. This is the forum where architects, contractors and designers of large developments assemble, and where contracts worth millions of rands are signed. Anlè and Lindsay joined the Schellens and Vescom Mohair Velour group at their stand, and attended several very interesting research and development seminars, which aided their marketing perspective in going forward.

After the event, they also attended a knitting workshop by Steve Berg, better known as 'Steven Be', glitter knitter from Minneapolis and the guest of honour at the local mohair-knitting workshop, which was presented in Port Elizabeth recently.

The MSA team was joined by Steve at the Yarn Garage in Minneapolis, his yarn emporium and studio, to present mohair and all it has to offer the enthusiastic craft and knitting market.

As Anlè Marais, Marketing Co-ordinator of MSA, summed up, "With the knitting craze hitting the US by storm, there is a massive potential market for our proudly South African product. When knitters make the switch to mohair yarn, they have the possibility of turning any pattern into a timeless piece of luxury."

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MSA COLLABORATES WITH LINEAPIÙ

Creating historical databases for researchers and designers, who need technical advice on the use of mohair, is of great importance. The ever accelerating wheel of fast fashion does not allow for the comfort of experimentation and R&D to create the look that inspires a season's fashion or a designer's inspiration. If the knowledge or expertise to create a fantasy does not exist, designers will follow different routes to give expression to their creativity. This is why the yarn and knitwear archives at Lineapiu, a yarn company in Italy, should be lauded. Here professional designers have a large research database to consult with technical and design answers at hand.

In July 2011, the Foundation Lineapiu Italy launched a major project, to which MSA contributed, dedicated to the construction of their archives.

This project was aimed at organising and making available the amount of research on materials and yarns used by the company over the years. This led to a rigorous methodological process of inventorying, cataloguing, digitizing, preserving and displaying historical yarn and fabric samples, the fruit of many years of research and experimentation.

The archival collection consists of yarn drape, proof points, drapes,

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wall hangings, accessories, experimental knitwear, photos, books and magazines, devoted to fashion, knitting and pure creativity.

The creation of the Historical Lineapiù can be interpreted as a great contribution to the Foundation Lineapiù Italy. It offers a source of information to the world of fashion for professional designers, researchers, clients, students and journalists.

Giving an organized and rational approach to history, it places a systematic order in the *creative disorder* and is a means both to save the old and to create a new future.

With this project, Lineapiù Italy intends to enhance not only their own history, but also a work method, an example of creative ability and manufacturing, which over time has changed the profile of knitting in Italy and in the world.

For this, a program was launched, in partnership with some of the most important educational institutions in the world, with the intent to develop partnerships and projects, which can enhance the archival collection and at the same time, spread a culture closer to a better use of yarns and development of knitting.

The archives and textile library at Lineapiu in Italy

⁰² Lineapiu's showroom and archives

NIHON ADDS YOUTHFUL LUSTRE

In an effort to stimulate interest for mohair among young consumers, Mohair South Africa has been supporting a designer development programme at Mode Gauken, a prestigious school of fashion design and make-up in Nagoya, Japan, for several years.



LINDSAY HUMPHREYS

ode Gakuen opened in 1966 in Nagoya. It is currently Japan's largest specialised training college, with schools in front of each terminal train station in Tokyo, Shinjuku, Osaka and Nagoya. The schools present special lectures by specialists who are active on the front lines of the industry, which includes the development of a curriculum that anticipates the needs of the time. They provide a cutting-edge learning environment and have about 3 500 students learning about fashion, design, business, interiors, graphics and make-up and different fields of beauty therapy!

The dynamic Mode Gauken Spiral Towers building, home to the design training college in Nagoya, seems to represent the energy of the students and appears to change shape when viewed from different angles. The classrooms in the 170 m tall building that twists around a cylindrical core are arranged in three wings.

This top design institution has links with several prestigious design training facilities and universities in among others France (Academie International de Coupe de Paris or AICP), England (London College of Fashion), Italy and the USA (Fashion Institute of Technology New York). Mode Gauken graduates are grabbed by top designers from around the world. For example, H&M, Marc Jacobs, Zara, Nike, Uniqlo H.P. France and N.D.C. Japan are all employees of Mode Gauken graduates (class of 2013)!

MSA supports the students concerned in their third year of design, and supply material, yarn and information to help the students design a collection of garments and so participate in an annual design competition. The material supplied is sought from local and international mohair companies who can see the value add of this





- 01 Lindsay addresses the audience at Mode fashion show.
- **O2** Having discussions with the organizers of the Mode Mohair programme.
- Madame Simoda Naoka, (first from the right) a respected knitting expert was a judge of the competition.

Mohair marketing across all boundaries and world destinations remains an imperative of Mohair South Africa and every effort is needed to bring our fabulous fibre to the world's attention.

exercise. The much sought after prize includes a trip to South Africa where the students are taken on a complete mohair tour from farm to factory. This includes a visit to an Angora goat farm; the mohair brokers where the mohair is offered on official sales; the processors where the mohair is washed and combed; the spinning mills where the students witness the creation of yarn; and finally a weaving mill, to complete their 'mohairising' experience. In addition, the winning entries are exhibited at the Nelson Mandela University's annual graduation fashion show for design students, a project that MSA supports as well.

Before coming to South Africa, the students in Nagoya take part in their own graduation fashion show, which is a very impressive affair that attracts coverage from six television channels. There were 15 000 seats available for the most recent event, and yet tickets were hotly contested for! In late 2013, the students paid their visit to South Africa before their graduation to co-incide with the International Mohair Summit that was hosted in Jansenville. This enabled them to use the footage of their trip, which was screened on a huge overhead projector at their fashion show in Nagoya. The screening was very popular and added untold media value to the exercise.

This trip also coincided with the announcement of the winners of Nihon Vogue Magazine's mohair knitting competition. Nihon Vogue and Mohair South Africa collaborated two years ago by launching a mohair design competition with two categories (fashion and accessories). The competition was advertised across Voque's six publications and the 23 finalists (a few of whom were men) were all present at the South African Embassy in Tokyo where the award ceremony was hosted.

Around 70 visitors attended the function, which had an entirely South African theme, and where Japanese guests were treated to South African wine, biltong and dried sausage!

Madame Simoda Naoka, a recognised and revered sensei (teacher) who has several publications on knitting and handcrafts to her name, was one of the judges of the competition.

Mohair marketing across all boundaries and world destinations remains an imperative of Mohair South Africa and every effort is needed to bring our fabulous fibre to the world's attention. Of course the volatile exchange rates make the playing field very uneven for us – actually the word 'rocky' comes to mind – but hey, no one is more up to that challenge than South Africa's charming but hardy Angoras!

LOCAL PROMOTION

Introducing mohair to the designers, consumers and manufactures of South Africa is an important mandate for Mohair South Africa. The marketing team continued to spread the mohair message to the local market, reminding them of its unique properties and alluring characteristics.



DESIGN INDABA

South Africa's premier design show was once again graced by the presence of mohair.

There was great interaction with the local press, and products for photo shoots were sent to the major design and lifestyle magazines of SA.

STEVEN BE, MOHAIR KNITTING WORKSHOP

In February, MSA invited Steven Be, glitter knitter from the USA, to host a knitter's workshop at the Granary in Port Elizabeth. This event was very well attended and, judging by the demand, many more tickets could have been sold. Local knitters, who are starved for knitting ideas, thoroughly enjoyed the experience (see article elsewhere).

THE KIRKWOOD WILDSFEES

With mohair being displayed with true character and style, festival goers were able to experience its natural beauty and luxury in the craft arena of the mohair tent from the 28 to 30 June.

This year, the mohair lifestyle arena was a buzz of activity, catering for the whole family. Visitors were delighted with the variety on offer, including an array of gorgeous mohair products, as well as an interactive yarn art installation, an exciting kid's activity corner and a chance to win one of many luxurious prizes. Visitors also experienced a truly authentic coffee experience as Port Elizabeth's award-winning Urban Express Coffee Company was selling amazing coffees and mouth-watering eats in the Mohair Tea Garden.

Anlè Marais reported, "After the phenomenal success of 2012, MSA was very excited to return to the ever-growing ABSA Kirkwood Wildsfees and enjoyed showcasing our internationally soughtafter fibre to our local consumers."

THE PORT ELIZABETH MUSEUM AND MOHAIR

MSA has been given exhibition space at the Port Elizabeth Museum, where a display of mohair products received much attention from visitors, including school groups and tourists.

01 The mohair display at the museum of Natural Sciences in Port Elizabeth





THE MOHAIR MARK

With the different mohair brands that grace the consumer landscape, including the now defunct IMA symbol, a need arose for a clear identification symbol that could and would identify the presence of mohair in a garment or item - much like the wool mark. After much thought and attention to detail, a mark has been designed and has been registered in some international countries.





Some of the entries received by Visi magazine.

INTERACTION WITH VISI MAGAZINE

Interacting with the media to spread the mohair story is of untold value. Making it to the front cover of a national design magazine is amazing enough, and winning national awards for that front cover is remarkable, but being considered for an international award for publishing brilliance, is extremely humbling!

MSA and Visi magazine collaborated for their 64th issue with a DIY-theme contest. Readers were given the opportunity to produce a work of art by using the cover of the magazine and mohair yarn, supplied by MSA, to create a cross-stitch work of art, which they could enter to win an award.

This was pure marketing and publishing brilliance! In the process, readers spent hours working with the cover and getting acquainted with mohair and, judging by the thousands of entries, this was a very valuable marketing exercise. Visi magazine, edited by Sumien Brink, scooped the Consumer Publishing Excellence Award for this cover.

According to Irna van Zyl, founder and executive director of New Media Publishing, "We expected some wins, but the recognition New Media has received from the local and global industry, has been both overwhelming and humbling. Also incredibly proud, are our client partners without whose assistance we would never have been able produce these publications so beautifully".

Visi's collaboration with MSA received a mention in the official PICA book as the cover made the finals for the well-acclaimed international New York Pearl Awards for Best Cover in a Design Category.



Enjoying the fun on the Sunshine Coastal Run.

SPORTING EVENTS

As MSA uses every opportunity to market the benefits of mohair socks to sportsmen, they joined the action at the Sunshine Coast Trail Run on Sunday 7 September, highlighting the amazing Cape Mohair trail running, as well as the compression and road-running socks. Athletes were put through their paces running through the Alexandria dune fields, the largest of their kind in the southern hemisphere.

The feedback from the organisers was very good. Every runner received a pair of mohair socks and, instead of medals, winners were awarded with mohair socks.

"The socks are amazing and we convert many athletes every time we host an event. Athletes enjoy the wicking ability of the socks and the great comfort factor. They usually cannot believe that the socks also protect their feet from smelling! Once exposed to mohair socks, they never return to the old brands. Compression socks are usually bought for long-haul flights and are popular for the comfort they bring", said Dallas Benado, organiser of the event.

Gus the Goat, enjoyed prime position during the prize-giving, which also included mohair lucky-draw prizes!

MSA JOINS THE FUN AT THE URBAN RUN

The Urban Run in Port Elizabeth that took place on 14 September was a fun-filled social charity event, where the 1 500 participants had to raise money for selected charities. This year, the charities that benefited from the main event were Khaya Cheshire, an outreach project in Summerstrand for disabled children and youths living in the impoverished Walmer Township, and Cleft Friends, a national project of the Smile Foundation, which is a support group for parents and medical professionals dealing with babies born with cleft palates.

The Urban Run is a 10 km, non-timed, charity fundraising event that starts and finishes on the Donkin Reserve. The course meanders through the inner-city central business district and participants have to contemplate several obstacles requiring agility, balance and strength. The focus is on completing, rather than winning, the race, while raising a minimum amount of R1000.00 per entrant for the selected charities.

This is a popular event on the social calendar of families in Port Elizabeth since it encourages family interaction and quality outdoor time. There is also a special event for children in several age categories.

MSA sponsored several pairs of mohair socks for the event and also designed a mohair-focussed obstacle that required much agility to conquer!

MSA also contributed to the success of the Amazing Karoo Cycling event in Steytlerville in October where prize winners were rewarded with mohair cycling socks.

There is no better way to spread the good mohair news than experiencing the comfort directly. Once converted, these athletes remain loyal supporters of the fibre.









MSA were delighted to be part of the programme of the Mandela Bay Development Agency which promoted the artists of Nelson Mandela Bay at the iconic Athenaeum

MSA SUPPORTS LOCAL ARTS AND CRAFTS

MSA were delighted to be part of the programme of the Mandela Bay Development Agency which promoted the artists of Nelson Mandela Bay at the iconic Athenaeum – also called, the city's Grand Lady of Arts and Culture – to showcase the *Know your Artist* series.

The week was jam-packed with innovative workshops by four well established South African designers, who worked with 20 Eastern Cape crafters, helping them to develop products for an exhibition while enhancing their skills. MSA sponsored yarn and needles for all participant crafters, allowing them to work with mohair and to create magical pieces that were exhibited on the last day of the week.

Craig Jacobs, one of the attending designers, was so impressed by the quality of the workmanship that he promised to make use of the crafters' skills in his future fashion ventures.

MOHAIR RECEIVES ROYAL ATTENTION

The city of Grahamstown in the Eastern Cape was abuzz with excitement when Britain's Earl and Countess of Wessex came to visit on 8 October. Representing Queen Elizabeth, Prince Edward and Princess Sophie attended the 30th anniversary of the President's Awards for Youth Empowerment.

Deon Saayman and Anlè Marais from MSA attended the celebration, and presented the royal couple with mohair and silk throws. Deon and Anlè were selected to sit next to the royal quests and enjoyed a very memorable lunch with them. They used the opportunity to mohairise the royal couple who showed a keen interest in the fibre.

RUGBY SEVENS

The South African leg of the Rugby World Cup Sevens tournament took place in Port Elizabeth at the Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium from 7 to 8 December and Mohair South Africa (MSA), together with Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism (NMBT) added some mohair magic to the event by sponsoring players and their management team with mohair socks – giving each side an opportunity of scoring a winning try with a traditional outdoor range that is versatile by nature.

Lindsay Humphreys, Marketing Co-ordinator of MSA added, "With rugby 7's hitting our shores, we are proud to promote our proudly South African product right here in the Eastern Cape – the home of Mohair South Africa. From farm to final product, it all happens in and around our city so it's fitting that we were part of the game. This is also the perfect opportunity for the players to take a piece of our province back home with them."











'Welcome, ladies and gentlemen!'

How do you celebrate a jubilee in business in a dignified way to show appreciation to business associates and clients who have been part of your successful journey?

TEXT: LINDA HENDERSON PHOTOS: THE STUCKEN GROUP

fter some thought the answer seems obvious.

Invite them to celebrate the milestone, remind them of the journey you travelled and the role they or their forebears played, spoil them rotten while reflecting for a moment, with grace and gratitude, how fortunate you are that your paths crossed. Then raise a glass to toast the future!

This is exactly what the Stucken Group, originally from Bremen in Germany, did to celebrate a 150 years of trading in wool and other niche natural fibres.

On 28 September 150 carefully considered guests (symbolic of their company's age) who included business associates, clients and very special friends from international destinations across the globe gathered in Bremen at Haus Schütting, a 16 century building now housing Bremen's Chamber of Commerce, to celebrate this auspicious occasion.

This beautifully restored and gracious edifice was a most appropriate venue to host the celebrations. Those observant enough to read the motto of Haus Schütting's crest positioned above the main entrance would have agreed that in many ways it epitomises the history of the

Buten und binnen, wagen und winnen, it reads (At home and abroad, risks and rewards). This is true of the company that started in Bremen 150 years ago and which certainly took major risks when they started trading abroad during difficult times, but for whom gratefully the rewards have been handsome!

THE SHOW

The celebrations were choreographed like a West End theatre production with the help of Maryn Stucken, sister of Philip, who works professionally in her own theatre company in Hamburg.

Guests included Mr and Mrs Kurono from Nagawe Co. as well as Mr and Mrs Okada from Sanko Keito Co. in Japan, start up partners of the Stucken Group at Mohair Spinners South Africa, who had travelled far to honour the celebrations as did many other prominent mohair velour business associates, agents, financial partners and clients.

Awaiting the guests on the landing of the sweeping stairway below a magnificent stained glass arched window stood a narrator and a pageboy holding the Stucken family crest, ready to take small groups of guests on a 30 minute historical vignette spanning six generations.

When the doors to a magnificent reception room opened, guests were greeted by the nostalgic rhythms of a Russian accordion which set the mood for a brilliant account by a local actress of the Russian chapter of the group's history. This included the establishment by Engelbert Stucken of the Wolga Spinnerei Manufaktur, a spinning mill and two wool washing facilities in 1890s. It also recorded tales of hardship, challenges and opportunities, spoken on behalf of Olga, wife of Hans Stucken, the owner of the business in the early 1900s. It left guests with a deep appreciation of the social, economic and political conditions that faced the Stucken company during the volatile industrialisation of Tsarist Russia.







The legacy then further unfolded in a second room where a cameo of the Bremen sample room was portrayed by actors dipping into trading traditions of the mid 1950s. This scene where countless wool and other rare fibre samples were wrapped in blue paper to be sent to traders across the world, recalled fond memories of a seemingly uncomplicated era where men often traded by honour and word of faith alone across vast oceans using simple communication systems.

The Hermes typewriter – often on his lap – used by Rudi Stucken to record sales and orders for the business during his first year as chairman of the group in South Africa, took centre stage!

The slick side parting, Harris tweed jacket, Argyle jumpers and wide trousers of the actors in the play brought back memories of Brylcream hair oil, black rimmed glasses, affordable quality fabrics and tailored garments which were then well within the range of middle class consumers.

Guests where finally ushered to the last episode of the company act. Genteelly sipping a cup of tea and knitting a sweater in front of an open hearth was a reminder of middleclass South Africa at the time of Rudi's arrival when moms were at home looking after the comforts of kith and kin. It portrayed the circumstances around which the group extended their trading roots to South Africa after the Second World War when conditions were extremely bleak in Germany.

Armed with little more than enthusiasm and dogged determination Rudi Stucken embraced his new country with the opportunities it brought. To show his sincerity and to contribute to the country that welcomed him after the war, he gave up his German nationality and became a South African citizen.

From his humble lodgings with a harbour view at the Balmoral Hotel in Whites Road, Rudi set about building Blenkinsop and Stucken, the South African extension of the Bremen company. Perhaps it was the red and black smoke stacks of the Union Castle boats that he saw from his window that inspired him to build a company that today could be considered fully integrated. With the assistance of Otto Isenbeck, a skilled wool man, the business expanded rapidly and by the mid seventies was well established as a leading buyer, processor and exporter of wool in South Africa.

Recalling operations in South Africa on a wide television screen helped guests to comprehend the extent of their current business interests in this country. During the performances guests saw how the group had grown in the space of six generations from a company trading mainly in wool

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Recalling the Russian chapter of the group's history.

⁰² Mr Kurono from Nagawe company.

⁰³ Mr and Mrs Okada from Sanko Keito in Japan.





and other natural fibres in scoured and grease format only to a fully integrated concern that now includes a washery, a combing and spinning mill and more recently a weaving mill.

After the theatrical interlude guests were treated to snacks and wine while various toasts were raised in honour and appreciation of all the business' roleplayers. Upon leaving, each was given a complimentary edition of Milestones in a story of entrepreneurship, which records the history of the Stucken Group. They also each received a very special gift. Made from mohair from the three top Zegna kid bales of 2013, wool and silk were special edition scarves in cream and charcoal, beautifully wrapped and individually packaged. Guests must have felt truly cherished.

Celebrations continued into the evening at the gala dinner in the Golden Room at the Atlantic Hotel in Bremen. Adding a touch of the international flare that earmarks the company were the menu and the entertainment of the evening. South African wine and music by Abdullah Ibrahim, famed jazzman and lyricist from Cape Town, added a nostalgic touch, while the African choir from Bremen University raised gooseflesh with their rendition of Shosholoza. Borsch, a hearty Russian soup, chicken ragout and South African Amarula crème brûlèe added to the culturally diverse culinary experience.

"Celebrating an auspicious occasion like this is a very humbling experience, because one realises that success depends on long-standing relationships and loyalty from friends and associates who shape your destiny. The family was blessed to have many dedicated employees in destinations ranging from Bremen to Moscow and Texas to the Nelson Mandela Metropole. To those we met on our journey we give grateful thanks for your part in our history," commented Philip Stucken, fifth generation chairman of the group.

The business is now in the hands of the sixth generation of Stuckens. Daniel runs Hinterveld, the weaving mill; Nico manages MSSA, the spinning mill; and Anthony Kirsten overseas and is in charge of the trading of natural fibres.

The South African mohair industry would like to add their congratulations to the Stucken Group and wishes them well on the next chapter. May your success continue long into future generations!

- 01 Rudi and his Hermes typewriter.
- Domestic bliss in middle class South Africa at the time of Rudi's arrival. 02
- 03 Mr LR Thaker, Speciality Fibres, Mr Sharma and Mr J Oswal, Oswal Woollens.
- 04 Mrs Rike Stucken, Mrs Brigitte Schulze-Smidt, Mr Philip Stucken and Mr Ruediger Pongs, Pongs Velour.
- 05 The blue sample paper that is still used after all this time.











CASALIS AND DESIGNERS

continue to Inspire

A very welcome visitor to our shores during the Mohair Summit was Francis Vercaemst, Managing Director of Casalis, a top-end carpet and interior fabric company from Belgium.

TEXT: LINDA HENDERSON PHOTOS: CASALIS

rancis delivered a presentation on the challenges of marketing mohair internationally and in the process allowed a glimpse at some of his company's new mohair carpets.

"Design is all important in my market and I'm in the fortunate position to have very accomplished designers who contribute to my company's success. They are able to interpret creative designs into exciting products, which capture the imagination of the consumer. There is a strong need for a good story with a positive message these days and I'm lucky that these designers understand how to do that. Mohair has that quality, and I'm optimistic that the fibre will continue to do well."

Judging by the success of his mohair slumber pouffes, I am confident that his optimism is well placed. Designed by Aleksandra Gaca, a textile designer from Delft in the Netherlands, the pouffes that hug you when you sit in them and spring back to form when you get up, are made from threedimensional woven fabric in kid mohair and wool, and are taking the modern design world by storm.

For Aleksandra, abstract architectural concepts such as order, rhythm and repetition are an important source of inspiration in the language of thread structuring. She uses a wide range of fibres in her designs – from soft mohair to extremely strong polyester. Unconventional fibres such as rigid threads of lurex, paper yarns and wire are also regularly incorporated. It is precisely this contrast, as well as the tactility and range of characteristics, such as matt/gloss, hard/soft and high tech versus natural, which create distinguishing structures and reliefs.

Aleksandra has already scooped up several design awards for her work and it can safely be predicted that this innovative product, which has already found a welcome space in the reception

True luxury underfoot! The mohair and silk carpet in gentle shades of crushed grape.

⁰² Francis Vercaemst during a visit to South Africa in October.







A very beautiful new range in mohair and silk is the Aria carpet in ruffle, smooth and paisley, a quality design by Liset van der Scheer...

areas of Google International, will be her next accolade.

Carpets were really the reason the company was established in 2000, and they continue to be a focus point. A very beautiful new range in mohair and silk is the Aria carpet in ruffle, smooth and paisley, a quality design by Liset van der Scheer, Dutch textile designer and partner in the business. Liset creates the ultimate in unique, stylish and contemporary luxury products with designs exemplifying her commitment to high quality and well-made craft.

"To me, the importance of designing lies in marketing a product that adds to the identity the consumer wishes to convey at that particular moment in time. This could simply be the right kind of colour, or exactly the carpet he or she has been looking for. In my designs, the challenge lies in applying traditional materials in an innovative way, or in applying new materials to existing production processes. I always try to stretch the bounds of possibility."

The Aria carpets are hand-knotted rugs in mohair and silk, and the Aria Paisley design were inspired by designs from Anatolia.

Another innovative product from this company to look forward to is the project, RUGS|, currently under commission by Roosmarijn Pallandt. Roosmarijn explores manufacturing processes that transform raw, pre-fabricated materials into consumer products. She does this by examining the origins and geographical circumstances of the material, as well as the development of human artisanship, technology and product making in relation to the socio-geographical surroundings.

All her projects communicate a deeply felt love for natural elements, a great respect and fascination for human survival on applying these natural sources, and a diligent endeavour always to incorporate the ethical, without compromising the esthetical.

Roosmarijn is currently exploring the possibility of designing carpets from South African mohair that conform to her design vision. The carpets will be entirely crafted from locally available, natural fibres and yarns. Rather than employing traditional motifs, the designs are depicted by Google Earth pictures from the territory where the manufacturers live. Traditional weaving, tufting and knotting techniques visualise aerial pictures without any additional colouring. The designs form a direct connection between modern day Google Earth technology, local natural resources and cultural heritage. Starting from a bird's eye perspective on a landscape and its climate, the designs zoom in pixels on a computer screen and result in carpets.

Project RUGS| will be a dynamic mix of aerial photography, handcraft, research and reportage of the origins and the geography of the development of human artisanship, technology and product-making in relation to the socio-geographic surroundings. The latter also support social and material sustainability without compromising the necessity for welfare.

This project is directly in line with the concept of using mohair in a responsible and sustainable way to benefit the local population and to support socio-economic development of the area.

We applaud this vision and completely support the concept as we hope that it will soon become a reality for mohair in our country.

⁰¹ The beautiful mohair and silk carpets that the company is famous for.

⁰² Aleksandra's famous pouffs.

⁰³ Photos by Google Earth of South Africa which will serve as inspiration for Roosmarijn's carpet range.







Liset creates the ultimate in unique, stylish exemplifying her commitment to high quality and well-made craft.



Liset van der Scheer





speration

Eraditional weaving, tufting and knotting techniques visualise aerial pictures without any additional colousing

















For Ateksandra, abstract architectural concepts such as order, shorthern and repetition are an important source of inspiration in the



MOHAIR EVOLUTION (REVOLUTION)
IS OUR REVOLUTION (EVOLUTION)







Masaki JAPANESE YARN WIZARD

Text by Masaki Sato – CEO, Sato Seni Company Limited, Japan (brand owners of M.& Kyoko, M by Masaki & Kyoko or Masaki Kyoko Homme

PHOTOS: ANDREW LAING AND FRANCS VAN HASSELT

s everybody knows, in order to survive in the extremely competitive market, one has to do something different – something unique and something nobody else is able to do. The question, however, is how one does that.

Almost 25 years ago, I returned to our company to take over the family business. I suppose all Japanese were just 'followers' at that time. Everybody followed trend styles, trend colours, trend sizes and anything to do with trends. Of course I was also one of them. I was just one of the spinning mills following trends in styles, colours and yarns.

Our customers' apparel brands and trading companies always told me, "This is the trend, just follow it and produce similar products at cheaper rates". And I used to reply, "Yes, Sir!" to all their orders and requests.

At that time, there were more than 650 manufacturers in our area. Currently, however, fewer than 30 are still in production. A few years on, almost all the customers have moved their manufacturing locations to China because of the low production costs (twenty times lower than in Japan). Basic garments are being produced in China and I was asked to produce yarn that is impossible to spin in China!

Then a friend invited me to go to Italy to inspect an Italian spinning mill and to attend their biggest yarn exhibition. I suppose that was the biggest turning point for me.

Everything in the Italian factory was amazing! I saw many types of fancy yarns that I'd never seen before. In addition, I had another shock when I saw the factory manager!

In Japan, every factory manager wears a neat company uniform and generates a formal sense of respect. The factory manager of this company was wearing a casual pink shirt and a pair of red jeans. He also had a pair of sunglasses on his head!

Despite his outfit he taught us his passion for the creation of yarn and said, "We create the origin of fashion, we create the trend. We are creators!"

It was a big shock to me. I understood neither what he said nor what he meant. For me, the factory is the factory. I thought it was OK if we followed our customer's idea. This man's words were the exact opposite of common sense in Japan.

At first I wondered if I could copy how Italians create yarn. However, I realised that that would be a mistake. I also realised that copied products never beat originals, and my mission was (and remains) to create objects that nobody else can make. I wanted to create a new trend and have it propagated from Japan. I was so inspired that I could not sleep for even a minute during my return flight from Italy.



Masaki getting better acquainted with his mohair friends.



In the world of wool, Zegna has the biggest share of business in respect of raw material to garment processes. In cashmere, Loro Piana has the lion's share. I knew that even if I created the best cashmere or woolen yarn, it would still be impossible to compete with them. They have huge reputations, and massive knowledge and skills know-how of the creation of their particular fields of expertise.

I would like to add that perception and image play an important role in the market place. Every one knows that Zegna's wool is excellent and that Loro Piana's cashmere is exceptional. This is the common perception all over the world. I knew that I had to attain that reputation, image and perception of my goods if I wanted to be as successful.

Then there was the bad experience in my other business, knitwear manufacturing. Although I designed many beautiful products, they were easily being copied by big Japanese companies or Chinese factories at cheaper rates. I mean, I was just designing to be copied. Of course our business did not perform well.

One day I recalled that there are excellent mohair farmers in South Africa with no spinner to create the best mohair yarn by with using their best raw material. I supposed that nobody realised the bright prospect of mohair and that there is a possibility that it can outperform cashmere one day.

Our partners in South Africa have a great passion for the production of top quality mohair and tops from Angora goats. We share the same passion and motivation to create products of superior quality that will make us leaders in the field of mohair.

Together we hope to form a synergy that will produce the best mohair yarn in Japan from the best mohair in South Africa.





ANDREW LAING

Few people realised when he visited South Africa in 2011, what an impact Masaki Sato of the company Sato Seni would have on the mohair industry, especially in respect of exclusively produced goods in Japan.

Masaki's passion for natural fibres has long been known, and with keen competition from all sectors he embarked on a world tour of the countries producing those natural fibres. South Africa with its vast landscapes, vibrant colours and enterprising and passionate mohair producers inspired Masaki so much that he had only been in the country for a few hours when he expressed his desire to do something special with mohair!

After an exhausting 3 days of travelling from Port Elizabeth to Prince Albert, East London and Graaff-Reinet, Masaki spent his last day in Port Elizabeth, where he visited the brokers and the sorting departments. It was while looking at hair on the brokers' floor that the idea to do something special with a selected lot of mohair was born.

He had spent his night at Prince Albert with Gay Van Hasselt of Van Hasselt Farming, so it was not surprising that, seeing the Van Hasselt clip on the sales floor, he decided to choose those 7 bales to manufacture something unique for the Japanese mohair consumer. Samil (Pty) LTd (Samil Natural Fibres) bought the bales of winter kids and produced a top especially for Sato Seni at the Border Combing Company.

The challenge then was to develop something unique, as well as to figure out a way in which to market this unique product in a manner that would do it justice. Masaki came upon the idea to present the products on a special shopping show on one of the national TV channels. This type of marketing showcases not only the products offered, but also the country and area of production.

Because of his dynamic personality and unique style, Masaki's idea was very well received. However, because people would be buying something they could not touch or feel, it was vitally important that the product should be special in terms of what it looked like and how it could be described.

The item chosen to launch Sato Seni's shopping channel was a reversible ladies' sweater, and to honour the producer of the mohair, the name given to the garment was Grande Madre, referring to a goddess who represents and personifies nature, motherhood, fertility, creation and the bounty of the earth.

Approximately 2000 articles were produced, and on the night of the launch it took a mere 20 minutes to sell all of them! This is testimony to Masaki's marketing skills, but also to the wonderful fibre produced by the Angora goats in South Africa. The video footage and still photographs of the Karoo, and especially Prince Albert, were enthusiastically received by the Japanese viewers and spoken about at textile meetings for a long time afterwards.

Subsequent programmes have been equally successful, which is most likely due to the fact that while it is Masaki's business to manufacture and sell mohair, he also puts immense effort into promoting both the raw material and its country of origin.

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DIE DAIDOH - TOEKENNINGS

Die Daidoh-Toekennings vir die hoogste gemiddelde prys vir die somerkleinbokkiehaarskeersel is op 24 Julie op 'n onthaal in Port Elizabeth oorhandig.



Hierdie jaar was mnr Charles Fitzhenry die ontvanger van die toekenning. DIE FINALISTE IN VOLGORDE WAS

- 1. Mnr Charles Fitzhenry van Aberdeen
- 2. Mnr BK Webber van Aberdeen
- 3. Mnr FE Colborne van Willowmore
- 4. Mnr Andries Oelofse van Jansenville
- 5. Mnr Barries Snyman van Rietbron
- 6. (gesamentlik) JH Lategan (Aberdeen) / Borden Farming (Lloyd Short) / BT Henderson (Steytlerville) / RP van der Merwe (Aberdeen) / MW Truter (Oudsthoorn).

Dit is interessant hoe die punte vir die kompetisie bereken word, gegewe die ongelyke veilingsprestasies, gemiddeldes en prysskommeling binne die seisoen.

Daar word eerstens gekyk na watter veiling die naaste aan die gemiddeld van die hele seisoen is in aggenome die volume, wisselkoers en pryse behaal asook die gemiddelde prys vir die kompetisiehaar. Al die ander veilings word dan 'n faktor gegee vergeleke met die middelmaat (mean average) soos hierbo vasgestel.

Die pryse behaal op die veiling word dan aangepas met die faktor om sodoende die pryse vergelykbaar te maak op al die veilings.











2013 MIYUKI TROPHY WINNERS

The winners of the 2012 Miyuki Trophy Competition, sponsored by Miyuki Holdings, a top-end Japanese fabric weaver for the best classed mohair clip, were announced at a cocktail function in Port Elizabeth on 18 June.



Jordi and Gay van Hasselt

The competition encourages farmers to improve their presentation and the quality of the South African mohair clip. Six prizes were awarded and the total prize money amounted to R20 000.00.

THE WINNERS WERE:

Grand Champion: Van Hasselt Farming, Prince Albert Reserve Grand Champion: JL Retief & son, Murraysburg Champion Summer clip: FE Colborne and son, Willowmore Champion Winter clip: Vleikuil Boerdery, Rietbron Champion: Sustainable Guidelines: RM Heydenrych, Jansenville. Most Improved: Sustainable Guidelines: IR Bekker, Rietbron

This is the second year that the Miyuki Keori Company has included two prizes for adherence to the sustainability guidelines, cementing the green future of the competition and the Miyuki Company.

The mohair industry would like to congratulate each of the winners on their remarkable achievements.

Miyuki Holdings produces superior quality suiting and supplies mohair to suit manufacturers globally, most of them falling into the high –end price range. They have been sponsoring the Miyuki Trophy Competition for South African mohair producers since 1980.





Ermenegildo Zegna Competition 2013

The Zegna award for the best bale of kid mohair was awarded during the gala dinner at the Mohair Summit in Jansenville on Wednesday 30 October. This was the first award since the alteration of the rules and regulation which were announced earlier this year.

The first three place winners were rewarded with cheques that reflected one and a half times the sale's value that their bale achieved on the open auction. There was general consensus of opinion that the first three bales contained the best quality of mohair that has ever been presented for this competition. These bales fetched record prices on the seventh and last sale of the summer season and competition from local and international buyers was extremely keen. Mr FE Colborne's bale was sold for R601.00 per kg while the bales of Messrs Viljoen and Fitzhenry each fetched R560.00 per kg.

Mr Colborne also won a trip to Italy as part of his prize while Mr Roy Heydenrych was the recipient of the lucky draw for all bales that qualified for the competition.

THE PRIZE WINNERS IN ORDER WERE:

- 1. FE Colborne
- 2. PH Viljoen
- 3. AC Fitzhenry
- 4. BT Henderson5. LA Short
- 6. Vleikuil Boerdery (Barries Snijman)
- 7. Snyberg Boerdery
- 8. BKWebber
- 9. AR Hobson
- 10. JL Retief (Frans en Louw Retief)





























in two days!





THE ZEGNA TOU

It was with much excitement that Irene and Jeanine Colborne, and Roy and Brendan Heydenrych departed from the Port Elizabeth Airport on 9 January on their much anticipated trip to Italy as part of the Zegna Award for 2013. Jeanine shared some of the highlights.

TEXT AND PHOTOS: JEANINE COLBORNE

n the stopover in Frankfurt I had to get my head around the fact that we were actually overseas! It was a bit overwhelming! At Malpenza Airport in Milan, a most efficient taxi driver whisked us to the beautiful Sheraton Diana Majestic Hotel, where we were to stay for two nights. Our hosts had organised a perfect welcome and took care of our every comfort during the stay.

As we had the day to ourselves on Friday, we walked about the city, taking in all the sights and enjoying our very first authentic Italian pizza, which was truly awesome! Mateo Loro, from Zegna, then treated us to dinner at a quaint Italian restaurant near our hotel. Mateo even organised a taxi for Brendan and I to show us the nightlife of Milan, something we will not forget in a hurry!

After breakfast the next morning, we were transported to the Zegna fashion show, which turned out to be their men's autumn and winter range for 2014. Since mohair is essentially a summer men's worsted cloth, we did not see any mohair in that range. The show was brisk and exciting though, and over in no time. Paolo Zegna took time from his busy schedule to meet with us and we had a few moments to exchange niceties before being whisked off to an early lunch, courtesy of our host.

After lunch, we were shepherded to the beautiful Duomo Basilica. The cathedral was built over several hundred years and construction started in 1387. This magnificent basilica comprises many building styles and is Milan's most imposing architectural edifice. We also paid a visit to Costello Sforzesco, one of the most famous monuments in Milan. The castle was demolished and rebuilt several times, and is now embellished and restored to become a symbol of both happy and dramatic events, which formed part of the historical background of the city. It currently houses ancient art and musical instrument collections.

After dinner, we were taken to La Scala Opera house for a magnificent evening of ballet and opera. Most of Italy's greatest operatic artists, and many of the finest singers from around the world, have appeared at La Scala over the past 200 years. Today, the theatre is still recognised as one of the leading opera and ballet theatres in the world, and its red velvet and gold embellished interior, with opera boxes stretching eight stories high, is truly awe-inspiring.

After breakfast the next morning, we took a last and lingering stroll around the beautiful city before starting the long flight home. The time in Italy was short but it was definitely a little holiday we will never forget. Everything our host, Zegna, organized for us was truly appreciated. Everything we did and everyone who was involved with the arrangements made it a most enjoyable experience. We would like to thank Ermenegildo Zegna most sincerely for the opportunity!

- 01 In front of the imposing Douma Basilica.
- 02 Mr Paolo Zegna joined the group after the fashion show.
- 03 Brendan Heydenrych, Irene Colborne and Roy Heydenrych at the venue for the fashion show.
- Showing the Zegna winter range for 2014/2015. 04



Honours Mohair Producer

The iconic, Dunhill Camdeboo, pure mohair blazer has been recognised globally as one of the *must have* articles for any gentleman.



legant, timeless and versatile, the blazer remains a pivotal link between the worlds of formal and casual menswear. Dunhill, established in 1893, recently joined in the commitment to quality of the Camdeboo Mohair producer group, by not only requesting pure Camdeboo mohair for this iconic line of blazers, but also by presenting an award for the best quality mohair by a Camdeboo member. Throughout the summer-clip season, samples were adjudicated to identify the eventual winner. Dunhill and Camdeboo Mohair were pleased to announce that Charles Fitzhenry of AC Fitzhenry & Son, who farms in the Aberdeen district, was the Camdeboo member who had won the award for best quality mohair in 2013. The winner received a minted medal from Dunhill, as well as his own Dunhill Camdeboo mohair blazer as a token of gratitude for the producer's dedication to Camdeboo mohair.

In a cluttered and competitive marketplace, Camdeboo Mohair continues to stand out as a genuine article. Camdeboo Mohair has aligned with emerging consumer trends, where greater variety and nuanced diversification are driven by the consumer's growing need for product authenticity, the stories behind products and transparency. The underlying attraction of authentic products is that they are perceived to be made the right way. With this growing development and interest in provenance and authenticity, Camdeboo Mohair is globally positioned as the premium brand in mohair quality, through their partnership with Dunhill.

Through this recognition of mohair excellence, Dunhill and Camdeboo Mohair aim to cement and develop their decade old relationship with the group of producers, as well as role-players further along the chain. Dunhill and Camdeboo Mohair value their partnership with Camdeboo producers very much. May the inaugural prize first won by Charles Fitzhenry in 2013 remain a symbol of this partnership for many years to come!

01 Paul Michau of Camdeboo Mohair hands the award to Charles Fitzhenry in honour of his achievement.

COMMONO HOL CHIN

Minning a yarn 1N CHINA 2013



JUSTIN COETZEE

customs cannot be underestimated.

delegation, consisting of Messrs Rothner Bekker and Reinhold du Randt, to China to gain first-hand experience of the impact of their role. China can only be described as a revelatory experience on both a cultural and a business level, superseding any previous conceptions I may have had. In essence, South Africans have a lot in common with their Chinese counterparts. The importance of values, regular business interaction, visits to both small and large processors, as well as loyal relationships are high on their priority list. The significance of these

n September 2013, I had the privilege of accompanying the MSA

With a full program and a willing interpreter to help overcome the various language challenges, our journey to a range of mohair processors began. Included in our appointments, were visits to Mr Mao Jianrong of Changzhou Shenyi Textile Co. Ltd, one of the larger users of adult mohair, and the Jiangsu Sunshine Group (Sunshine), the largest suit manufacturing company in China, which produces approximately 30 million metres of suit fabric annually. We also met with Jangsu Regal Science & Technology Co Ltd, a business wishing to expand its mohair component, as well as the Consinee Group Co Ltd (Topline), of which the major share of mohair products is exported to Europe and America. Our host for the duration of the trip, Hanscent (China) Co. Ltd, plays an important role in the promotion of South African mohair in China.

The productivity, expansion and the scale of the production units can only be described as extremely efficient and most impressive. The importance and positive influence of interaction between the industry and processors became clear during our visit. A further definite trend is the move towards the production of high-end quality products. It is also apparent that the local demand for mohair products continues to increase. It must be recognised that the competitive edge and sharp business ethic serve as catalysts for rapid development and growth within their industries. However, attention should be given to inspiring more people to buy and use more adult mohair in future.

Having contact with designers and encouraging the use of mohair in their various ranges are of critical importance and could have a potential influence on the future demand for mohair.

In conclusion, China plays a very important role in mohair processing and manufacturing, and its potential for growth must be recognised. It is important that the focus remains on China in future strategies of mohair promotion.

I can only encourage producers and say that mohair remains a unique product with a bright future.

Lastly, I must thank the Hanscent group for the hospitality shown to us as guests in China and for the role they play in the South African mohair industry.





- The South African delegation with Mr Carl Zhang (far right) and Mr Moa, one of the biggest mohair users in China.
- Accompanied by our hosts from Hanscent we visit Topline, a top end mohair company that uses a lot of mohair.

edge and sharp business ethic serve as catalysts for rapid development and growth within their industries.

Glitter Knitter VISITS MOHAIR CAPITAL

Knitting, like many other activities reinvents itself from time to time.







Steven Bee – the knitter extraordinare.

LINDA HENDERSON

hat used to be seen as a crucial skill to create essential garments for warmth, which could protect both kith and kin against the onslaughts of the elements, has taken on a new role.

Although needles are clicking away again with new enthusiasm like they did in the seventies, it seems that the motivation for the revived fad has changed. While there are still dedicated old-school knitters that follow patterns and enjoy creating fashionable garments with love, it would seem that it is the therapeutic and creative reasons for knitting that are gaining ground.

This fact was endorsed at the knitter's workshop that was hosted by MSA at the *Granary*, a popular events venue in Port Elizabeth, on 9 March 2013, when Steven Be bewitched the audience with his resourceful yarn fusion creations.

After a chance meeting in 2012 at Vogue Knitting Live, a knitter's trade show in Chicago, the marketing team of MSA invited Steven Berg, a self-proclaimed *glitter knitter*, and Nadine Curtis to share their enthusiasm for knitting with the local *knitterati*. Nadine imports mainly mohair yarns from South Africa and was here to see local suppliers. As she has strong South African links, having lived here for two years, she jumped at the chance to share her passion.

Steven Be, as his business persona is known, hails from Minneapolis in the USA. He has been passionate about knitting since the age of eight and was taught by his mother, a knitting enthusiast herself. After exploring a career in the fashion worlds of Hong Kong, Milan, Paris and Miami, Steven decided to put his roots down in Minneapolis where he created the *Yarn Garage*, a yarn emporium that carries the most exotic yarns from













many knitters sharpening their needles for winter.

across the world. Like Aladdin's cave, the jewel colours, textures and yarn combinations dazzle the senses. Knitting enthusiasts from around the globe flock to his workshops to share in his knitting inspirations.

Steven is as colourful as his yarns and enthuses about the creative possibilities of yarn fusion and texture knitting. Nothing is safe from his needles – as long as it is a continuous thread, it has knitting potential!

Discarded filament of used films, old tape recordings and feathers felted into a variety of yarns, all add to the rich assortment that forms the palette of his creative arts.

"I knit for creative reasons and I love to combine colour and texture", Steven announced as he held up his jersey, knitted from filaments of film, wool and feathers, for the admiring audience to view.

"There is no right or wrong to design. It is just a reinvention of an

existing style", he explained, showing the ponchita, a modern take on the poncho, which was so fashionable in the seventies.

Very fashionable at the moment, are seamless garments that can be knitted on circular needles. Knitting on the bias is another favourite activity, where a garment starts as one stitch, is increased and decreased at regular intervals, and ends as one stitch again.

Knitting certainly seems to be satisfying several emotional and creative needs, and hand-knitting clubs are popping up like mushrooms in the capitals of the world, where enthusiasts gather around in coffee shops to share their common joy.

The mohair capital was no exception. Steven Be was just what the locals needed when winter bared its teeth, as he shared his magic with the crowds of Port Elizabeth.

Fashian Facus

From witches and warlords to solar flares and milk – there was no shortage of inspiration among the thirdand fourth-year fashion design students of the NMMU when it came to their mohair designs for 2013.



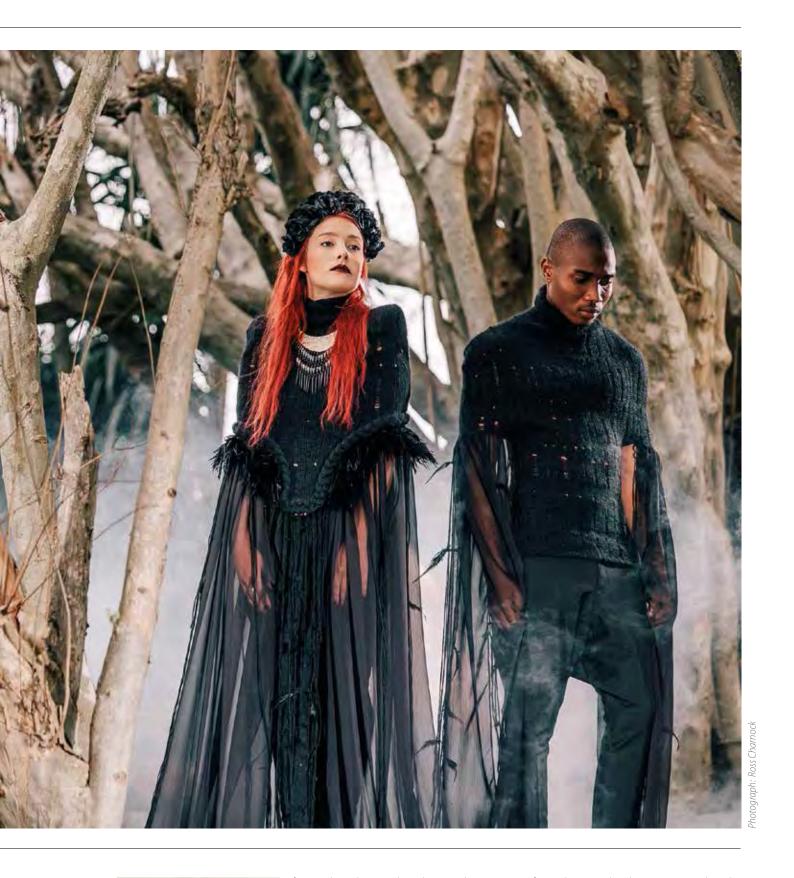
LINDA HENDERSON

halefang Mooketsi, from Botswana, who won the award for best design in the third year, took her inspiration from solar flares and energy bursts, emanating from the centre of the universe and the surface of the sun.

"When one looks at the surface of the sun through a telescope, one notices the gamma and X-rays. They are like popping bursts of energy that explode into an endless vacuum of space. It symbolises the interconnectedness of everything in the synergy of the universe."

Thalefang's knee-length, hand-knitted and crocheted dress in red mohair and wool, took a week of constant knitting to complete.







The Salem witch trials were the inspiration for Carla Vermaak, who came second in the competition. "My designs have no sleeves to demonstrate the defencelessness of the victims of the trials, while the black feathers symbolise the association with death. I used black chiffon, which speaks of kindred spirits, to contrast with the rough mohair breastplate, a symbol of the rough elements the poverty-stricken and unsophisticated villagers had to face."





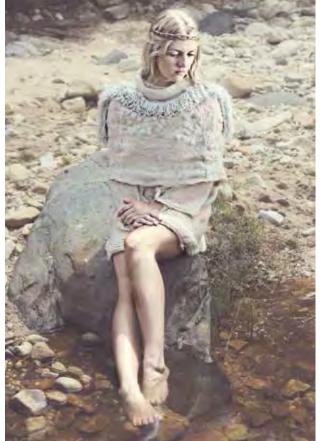




Leigh-Anne Liebenberg was very inspired by Steven Be, the yarn wizard from the USA, who visited Port Elizabeth recently, and took her inspiration for her fourth-year assignment from his creative, free-flowing knitting ideas.

"I used re-cycled and re-dyed off-cut pieces of mohair yarn and just started knitting squares in a deconstructed way. I used the Karoo and fynbos as colour inspiration. There are no patterns and every item is a unique piece. I love working with mohair and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience," Leigh-Ann said.







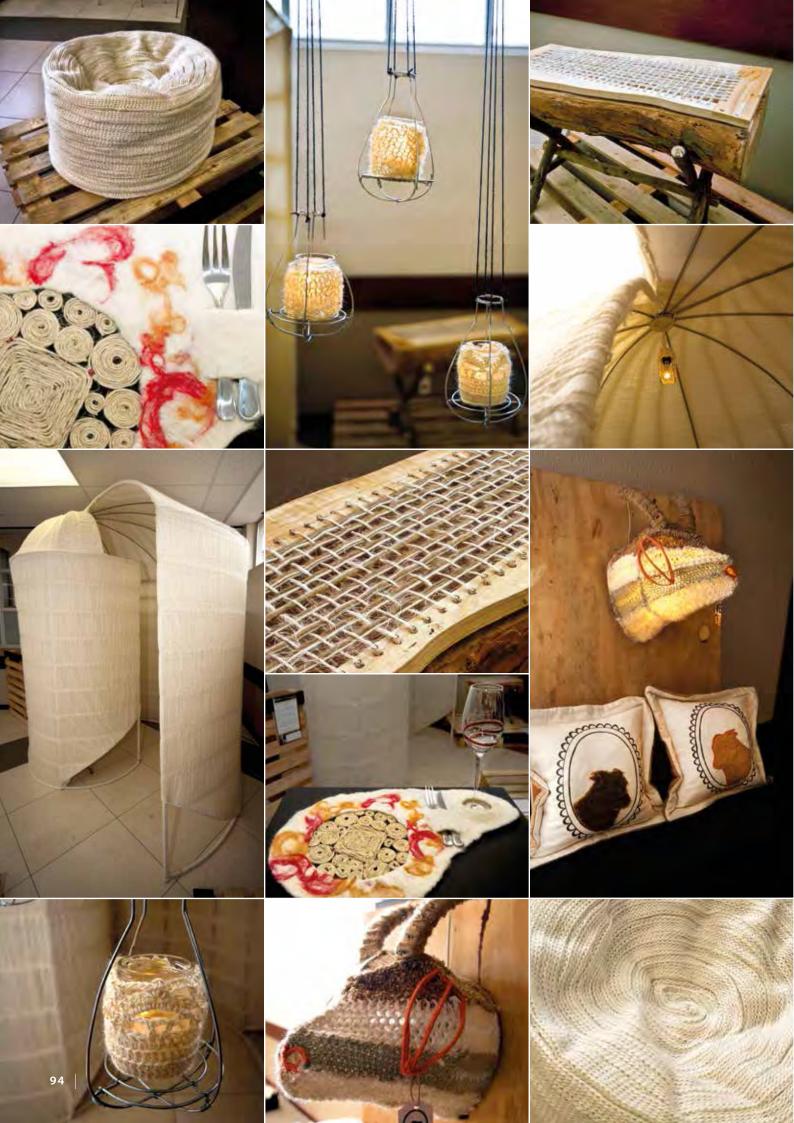




BREAKING NEWS: Ruth MC Naughton will be showing her designs at Design Indaba as an emerging creative! Well done Ruth, we hold thumbs for a great show!



 $Ruth\,McN aughton's\,beautiful\,nuno\,felting\,creations\,in\,mohair\,drew\,much\,attention\,on\,the\,ramp$ at the Mohair Summit. Her nine outfits in textures of white, cream and lilac conjured up images of wispy froth on morning milk. Ruth added a new dimension to the application of mohair by using nuno felting, a process that felts on both sides of the fabric, eliminating any scratch and stabilising the sheerest of cloths. Her very creative use of felting and knitting gave new impetus to mohair, while her cocoon capes and knitted dresses showed a good understanding of the balance between the most delicate versus the more robust use of mohair.





(Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University)

MSA (Mohair South Africa) increased their support for mohair innovation at designer level at the NMMU in 2013.

or the first time, students studying interior design were given the opportunity to show their creativity with the fibre for commercial or residential applications. Students were tasked to design a mohair product and then show a visual presentation of their concept to a selection panel that included members of MSA. Finalists were selected from the group and they had to present their completed articles for assessment.

MOUDOIR

Asha Naran, who shared the first prize with Lauren Rogers, used the opportunity to create a moudoir — a luxurious mohair dressing room. The name moudoir was derived from the first syllable of mohair and the French term, boudoir, meaning dressing room.

The dressing room was designed to fit into a volumetric home that receives a vast amount of natural light protruding through the space. It has a luxurious feel and captures the attention of anyone present while its curvilinear walls have a certain lure.

The Moudoir consists of a metal structure, which creates the basis for the mohair walls. The design of the structure is such that it can be dismantled and assembled when needed. The mohair was woven and sewed together with Velcro in order to attach or detach, should the need arise. The walls consist of a fabric lining, which holds the 100% woven mohair cross thread in place, while it also provides additional privacy for the user of the dressing room.

The fabric is woven to highlight its vertical threads, ensuring that they are more prominent and allow light to protrude easily through the fabric. The purpose of the horizontal threads is to provide structure to the woven fabric. Open curves on either end of the designed structure are main elements, which gives an indication whether the dressing room is occupied or not.

THE COLLISION POUFFE

Lauren Rogers, who shared the award with Asha Naran, created the Collision Pouffe, which is a beanbag-like chair with a loom-weave cover made of 100% mohair yarn. The product is completely hand-woven by the designer. It is a design, which brings together all of the unique qualities of mohair in one beautiful collision: lustre, dye-responsive, crease-resistant, lightweight, durability, non-flammable.

DECONSTRUCTED LIGHT BULBS

This concept by Jessica Reed, a finalist, was to deconstruct lighting to its rawest form. In doing so, the deconstructed delight also challenges the perception people have concerning how and where mohair can be used and constructed.

The bulbs can express many different elements of mohair fibre through lighting. Different forms of light capture certain elements, enhancing their beauty and lustre. Patterns are defined by lighting the candle in the centre of the bulb. The fibre then becomes almost transparent, expressing their true beauty. When using coloured yarns, colours would be enhanced and altered due to different lighting forms and times of the day. This design holds many possibilities and can be varied by using different patterns, knits, crocheting and lacing techniques

The way in which this product was constructed, could open a new truly South African market for mohair, as it would allow street crafters the ability to unleash their incredible talents in a constructive and successful manner. Home decor items could be designed to specifications, manufactured by hand and sold in mohair stores, extending their range.

SENSUAL SETTING

Simone Laubser created a mohair place setting. Her inspiration came from our rushed lives, where our nomadic lifestyles hardly afford us enough time to sit down and eat properly.

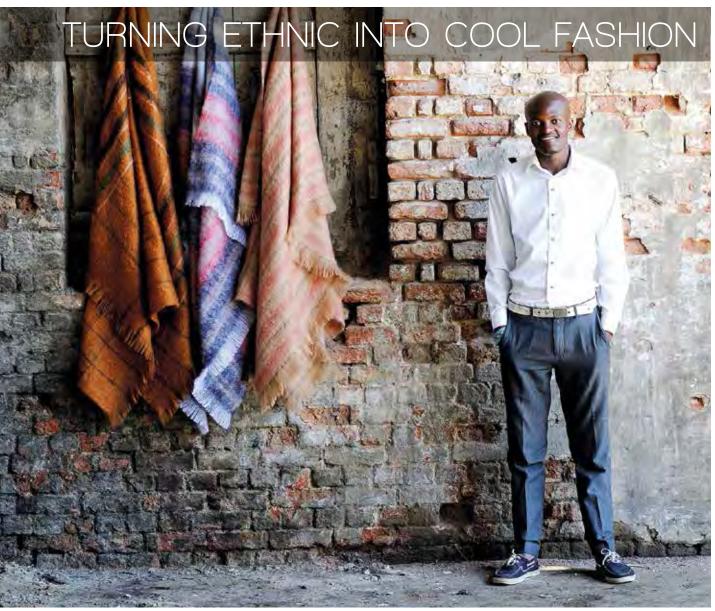
The mohair section of the placemat was felted with wool for added strength and stability, and the sisal plant was used as a locally sourced, contrasting material to the softness of the mohair. The placemat is a product designed for the adventurous person with a passion for the unprecedented.

EBOKWE RANGE

The rawness of nature and the Angora goat itself inspired Janine van Niekerk's range, and she therefore used natural materials such as sisal, timber and then of course mohair. Each product is uniquely local and authentic to the Eastern Cape. All materials were locally sourced and job creation for local, talented artisans was part of the process.

Her product range consisted of a phase A and B. Phase A included soft furnishings, such as eBunting, eScatters (scatter cushions) and a knitted goat's head, eKop. Phase B consisted of eBanki, a bench, constructed out of timber with a riempie-inspired mohair weave.

LADUMA -



Laduma has also collaborated with Hinterveld to design mohair blankets with a heritage inspiration.

Standing tall and turning heads on the catwalks of the fashion and design world, is Laduma Ngxokolo, local legend, whose ethnic designs are causing a buzz.

irst spotted a year ago when he won an international award for colour application from the Society of Colourists in London for his range of Xhosa-inspired mohair cardigans – which formed part of his B Tech design project – Laduma is back with a new range of knitwear, featured at Labo Ethnic Fashion Week in Paris this year.

What made Laduma's award from the Society of Colourists more auspicious is the fact that he was chosen from a list of seven finalists,

emanating from universities in China, Singapore, the UK, Australia and the USA. Who ever said that local is not good enough?

What is sad is that his mom, from whom he learnt the art of knitting, was not around to share in her son's success, as she had passed away two years before the competition. Laduma's mom had a knitting machine that he was often called upon to fix and it was from her that he learnt the rudiments of knitting. He also studied textile design at school, but only





"I used the colours traditionally used in the beadwork as well as the colours associated with the area. There are the rich russet reds and faded blues and greens as well as the earthy browns and purples.



discovered the magic of mohair and wool when he studied textile and fashion design in his third year at the NMMU, when he was awarded a bursary from Cape Wools and Mohair South Africa.

Laduma's designs are inspired by the Xhosa initiation tradition when initiates are called upon to burn their old clothing as a symbol that they have left their old lives behind and are entering a new phase as men. During the next six months the amakrwala, as they are then known, are kitted out by their parents in brand new garments of high quality to celebrate this tradition.

"I felt that there is a gap in the market for garments reflecting the traditions of the Xhosa during this time. It made perfect sense to use mohair and wool for my knitwear since they are both highly prized natural fibres from the Eastern Cape. The colourful patterns are inspired by the beadwork of the amaXhosa", Laduma said.

"And how did your peers take to your designs? Did they relish their cultural connections to the garments or did they prefer the brand names of the retails shops?" I asked, knowing how label-conscious the youth are.

 $\hbox{``They thought the jerseys were cool!''} he laughed.$

And so did the organisers of Labo Ethnic Fashion Week in Paris when they invited him to show his 2013 winter collection. The show was very successful and his designs were warmly applauded.

It is not just jerseys that keep his design brain buzzing, though.

Recently, Laduma collaborated with Hinterveld and designed blankets with a Xhosa theme for their range.

"I used the colours traditionally used in the beadwork as well as the colours associated with the area. There are the rich russet reds and faded blues and greens as well as the earthy browns and purples. Mohair takes dyes so well and is very responsive to light. I adore mohair!"

One would have thought that blankets and cardigans would be the end of his inspiration, but hey, no! There is more to come \dots socks – in creative, colourful designs that match his other knitwear.

"These are just a part of my casual range and they are quite sought after. I decided to repeat the ethnic patterns on the socks and it seems to be very popular", Laduma concluded.

The good news is that Laduma's clothes can now be bought online in cities like London. One can purchase selected styles from his 2013 winter collection on the Agnes & Lola online store (www.agnesandlola.com), or if you're a local, from *The Merchants on Long*, a high-end fashion store in Cape Town.

What is as sure as Christmas in December is that Laduma has turned cultural and ethnic into very cool and edgy. He has a great following on Facebook, is often asked to do presentations on the merits of celebrating one's heritage, and is in great demand as a designer of new products. Laduma has a bright future and we will watch his progress with interest and pride.

Laduma's collection at Labo Ethnic fashion week.









Mohair on the









Mohair on the catwalks of the world: 2013-2014

here is no denying it – mohair is on the lips of designers, on cat walks all over the world, and on the shelves of retail shops for the coming season! Of course, this follows a very strong trend towards replacing fur with natural fibres with a clean green history.

Fashion styles and applications vary in accordance with fashion designs. Pre-season fashion shows featured modular outdoor overcoats in strong colours from Celine, knee-length classic jackets and coats from Jonathan Saunders and Topshop Unique.

Making a great comeback was the oversized sweater as seen in Emporio Armani and Balmain's designs.

INTERNATIONAL CATWALKS







Duro Olowu







Suits, dresses and pants from mohair fabric or yarn were seen as the most risky and extravagant use of this fibre. It is the *creativity* in fashion collections that always steals the show – and deserves special attention. The mohair dresses of Armani and Stella McCartney made an impressive mark, as did the creations of Jill Sanders.

The shiny texture of mohair is often combined with a wide selection of other fabrics including leather and very soft free flowing materials to compliment the luxurious quality of the fibre.

The designers used trendy colour schemes that included: vivid jewel colours (emerald green, burgundy, blue and bright red); black and white; pink; and softer candy floss colours; lavender and blue. The choices of prints were animal, floral, check, abstract prints and various geometric patterns.











Sonia Rykel Balmain Sonia Rykel

MOHAIR INSPIRES DESIGNERS

with African roots



ALEXIS BARREL:

Born in South Africa, Alexis Barrel grew up observing plants and birds in the open plains while drawing and learning about nature. She spent some time studying architecture in Cape Town before moving to Paris to study at the fashion institute Studio Marangoni. After her studies she spent time with the couturier Marc Bouwer to learn about draping and cutting.

She now works from London and her eponymous luxury women's wear company has developed into a success story with selling points in Europe, USA, Australia and Asia.

Her winter and autumn range featured many mohair garments and we assume that it reminds her of her South African roots from where the fibre originates.



NAKED APE:

Having worked as a fashion director, stylist and editor Shaldon Kopman branched out as founder and creative director of bespoke menswear label, Naked Ape. Based in Johannesburg's CBD and inspired by the wealth o creativity found on the streets of Johannesburg and in the multi-cultural societies of Africa, Naked Ape garments are handmade, practical and multi-functional.

Inspired by the culture and spiritual flavour of Ethiopia and unusual locally sourced natural fabrics like hand knitted bamboo and mohair gives his collection an ethnic feel Reflecting who people are as individuals in the world, the worldly suited man remains but has a refreshing touch of new awareness.

It was inspiring to see how this designer used mohair in his







We Shall Lemember Them / Ons Sal Halle Onthou





9/11/1942 - 12/12/2013

Wanneer 'n sagmoedige reus val, breek 'n duisend harte en treur die engele. So het die gemeenskap gevoel na die sinnelose dood van een van Somerset-Oos se geliefde staatmaker boere wat sy lewe in 'n plaasaanval in Desember verloor het.

Jac, soos hy beter bekend was, het 'n suksesvolle gemengde boerdery, wat angorabokke ingesluit het, beoefen. Bekend vir sy sagmoedige en mensliewende geaardheid, was hy 'n steunpilaar vir baie in die gemeenskap en 'n bron van inspirasie vir talle jongmense. Hy was 'n beminde eggenoot, pa en oupa, en het stil en sonder verwagting sy deel in die kerk en gemeenskap met 'n ruim hart bygedra.

Jac, wat op Bassonskraal geboer het, laat sy eggenoot Idelette, vier kinders, Wynand, Lizl (Nel), Hanli (Nel) en Andries, asook nege kleinkinders agter. Ons dink aan hierdie familie en bid vir troos en vergifnis.



17/6/1950 - 17/1/2014

Neville, a prominent and successful mohair producer from the Willowmore district, died the way he always wanted to — quietly in his sleep during a siesta after tending his Angoras and checking their watering points. In essence Neville died whilst wearing the farming harness he loved so dearly.

Neville was a committed and successful Angora farmer, as well as a registered ram breeder and was recognised as an excellent stockman. With his son Neil, he produced top quality mohair that qualified for the Zegna trophy on several occasions.

Remembered for his gentle demeanour, he had very particular habits. He used to go to bed early so that he could rise in the early hours. "Neville is probably the only man I knew that actually had to wake his fowls to feed them", said a well-meaning neighbour.

The mohair community extends its most sincere condolences to his wife, Thelma, daughter, Charlene, son, Neil and brother, Billy. We shall miss him.



04/10/1940 - 21/12/2013

Herman Bekker

Herman (alias Herr Bekker of Harry) was 'n gebore Noorsvelder van die plaas Môrester, wat sy skoolloopbaan op Jansenville voltooi het. Harry was 'n natuurlike sportman en 'n formidabele jukskei-, rugby- en tennisspeler. Daar is baie wat sy ongenaakbare duikslae op die droë, harde rugbyveld van Jansenville sal onthou, asook sy vriendelike, maar ernstige benadering ten opsigte van tennis. Sy vermoë om sy dubbelspelmaat te motiveer was legendaries! Hy het beide rugby (SWD) en jukskei op provinsiale vlak gespeel.

Herman het die bedryf as tegniese veldbeampte vir baie jare gedien en het vir beide BKB (Jansenville) en CMW (Somerset-Oos) gewerk. Herr Bekker sal onthou word vir sy fyn sin vir humor en gevatte opmerkings, maar bowenal vir sy pligsgetrouheid en besorgdheid oor sy kliënte se welstand. Sy kennis en gemaklike persoonlikheid het bygedra tot sy sukses as 'n baie bekwame beampte.

In die woorde van sy neef, Dr Willem Bekker, was Herman iemand wat gestalte gegee het aan Prediker 3:12:

Ek het tot die insig gekom dat daar niks beter is as om vrolik te wees en die goeie in die lewe te geniet nie.

Ons sal sy vriendskap, kennis en menswees geweldig mis.

Bygedra deur Piet Vivier (jarelange vriend en kollega)

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KONTAKBESONDERHEDE / CONTACT DETAILS

ARBS / ANGORA GOAT AND MOHAIR JOURNAL / SAMGA / MSA AND TRUST

SA MOHAIR FARM WORKERS ASSOCIATION

Posbus/P O Box 50 Adres/Address:

> Jansenville 6265

Tel: 049 836 0140

Faks/Fax: 049 836 0329 / 086 588 1568 E-mail/E-pos: samga@xsinet.co.za

Hoofbestuurder/General Manager: Justin Coetzee

Posbus/P O Box 2243 Adres/Address:

North End Port Elizabeth

6056

Tel: 041 487 1386 Faks/Fax: 041 487 1336

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

Hoofbestuurder/General Manager: Deon Saayman

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Lys van takke met die name en kontakbesonderhede van die voorsitters en sekretarisse onderskeidelik List of branches with the names and contact details of the chairmen and secretaries respectively

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Voorsitter: S Danckwerts, 046-6227675/0843876886,

sdancwerts72@gmail.com

Sekretaris: Joanne Webber, PO Box 174, Grahamstown 6140, 0822750227, jopalmer13@gmail.com

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Voorsitter: RW Pringle, PO Box 20, Bedford 5780, 046-6850858/0827116091 Sekretaris: SA King, PO Box 110, Bedford 5780, 046-6850645/0723403523

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Voorsitter: R Herold, PO Box 196, Graaff-Reinet 6280, 0824594833, richardjohnherold@hotmail.com Sekretaris: K Biggs, PO Box 137, Jansenville 6265, 049-8922109/0826839832, kenneth.biggs@isat.co.za

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Voorsitter: SJ Nel, Posbus 90, Steytlerville 6250, 049-8370022/0828258564, schalknel44@gmail.com Sekretaris: R Pietersen, Posbus 6049, Moselville 6233,

CRADOCK

Voorsitter: D van Rensburg, onthegosa@gmail.com, 0766202644

Sekretaris: P Collet, paulcollett101@gmail.com, 0875501373

DRAKENSBERG

Voorsitter: Vuyo Mtiya, 2 Hawkins Avenue, Matatiele 4730, vuyo.mtiya@gmail.com, 0839409359 Sekretaris: T Mavuso, 0720270006

FORT BEAUFORT

Voorsitter: S Herman, Posbus 70, Fort Beaufort 5720, 0827000545, susan@riversidesa.co.za

Sekretaris: K Herman, Posbus 70, Fort Beaufort 5720, 0783514677, susan@riversidesa.co.za

GEORGIDA

Voorsitter: W Ferreira, Posbus 73, De Rust 6650, 044-7711060/0824321138, snyberg1@intekom.co.za Sekretaris: Vakant

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Voorsitter: G Harris, 105 Caledon Street, Graaff-Reinet 6280, 049-8910123, gbharris105@gmail.com Sekretaris: J Smith, Posbus 111, Graaff-Reinet 6280, 049-8910454/0828738835, bulrivier@intekom.co.za

JANSENVILLE

Voorsitter: FA Fourie, Posbus 168, Jansenville 6265, 049-8380101/0832356270. fransief@telkomsa.net Sekretaris: E van den Bergh, Posbus 168, Jansenville 6265, 049-8369079/0845810241, elna001@telkomsa.net

KLEIN KAROO

Voorsitter: W Truter, Posbus 5, Herold, 6615, 044-8881722/0825662070, weebert@mweb.co.za Sekretaris: P van der Westhuysen, Posbus 2091, George 6530, 0442728718/0836356884, pieterzebra@mtnloaded.co.za

KLIPPLAAT

Voorsitter: Chris Lee, Claremont, Klipplaat, 6255, 049-8349038/0823220474, leefarm@jabama.co.za Sekretaris: Neil Outram, Posbus 8, Klipplaat 6255, 049-8349065/0823325380, nejo@vodamail.co.za

MIDDELBURG

Voorsitter: JH Moolman, Rusoord, Middelburg 5900 Sekretaris: M Moolman, Posbus 46, Middelburg 5900

Voorsitter: J Moolman, Posbus 29, Mortimer, 5870, 048-8860685, siretmoolman@yahoo.com

Sekretaris: Vakant

MURRAYSBURG Voorsitter: FJ Retief, Posbus 415, Murraysburg 6995, 049-8519411/0828573365,

selfsorgangoras@gmail.com

Sekretaris: BB Theron, Posbus 380, Murraysburg 6995, 049-8449203 / 0725262045, landsig@mtnloaded.co.za

Voorsitter: T du T Lötter, Posbus 59, Pearston, 5860, 042-2461507/0827825235, tfl@jabama.co.za Sekretaris: ASE Lombard, Posbus 72, Pearston 5860, 042-2461312,

POST RETIEF

Voorsitter: D Davies, PO Box 165, Adelaide 5760, 046-6840741/0722998229, daviesdd@bosberg.co.za Sekretaris: R van Vuuren, PO Box 326, Adelaide 5760, 046-6840812/0725254290, postretieffarmers@gmail.com

PRINS ALBERT

Voorsitter: CWJ Marincowitz, Posbus 50, Klaarstroom 6932, 0235411936, vischgat@pawireless.co.za Sekretaris: CWJ Marincowitz, Posbus 50, Klaarstroom 6932, 0235411936, vischgat@pawireless.co.za

RICHMOND

Voorsitter: OD Hugo, Posbus 30, Richmond 7090, 0536912-2004/0832329346, skietkraaljag@gmail.com, Sekretaris: Vakant

RIETBRON

Voorsitter: Barries Snijman, Posbus 68, Willowmore 6445, 044-9341037/0825707875, vleikuil@telkomsa.net Sekretaris: W Scheün, Posbus 324, Beaufort-Wes 6970, 044-9341165/0725820424, blikkraal@vodamail.co.za

SOMERSET-OOS/EAST

Voorsitter: Greg Brown, 042-2433629,

fionabrown@r63.co.za

Sekretaris: Fiona Brown, PO Box 154, Somerset-East 5850, 042-2433629, fionabrown@r63.co.za

SOMERSET-OOS/EAST (PADDAFONTEIN)

Voorsitter: Rocco Gouws, 0875501056/0824011545, roccogouws@vahoo.com

Sekretaris: B Henderson, 071 659 4724/0845614938, wendy65@bosberg.co.za

STEYTLERVILLE

Voorsitter: HC Dorfling, Posbus 51, Steytlerville 6250, 049-8359045/0828557287, dorfling@jabama.co.za Sekretaris: R Strydom, Posbus 93, Steytlerville 6250, 049-8330006/0721090899, karen.renier@absamail.co.za

SWAERSHOEK

Voorsitter: J Jordaan, 0738567179, jac@gbggroup.co.za Sekretaris: P Delport

TARKASTAD

Voorsitter: Pieter Herselman, Posbus 7, Tarkastad 5370. 045-8469280/0722411555, pieterherselman@yahoo.com Sekretaris: Jalé du Plessis, 045-8469307/0824956097,

UNIONDALE

Voorsitter: DJ van Rensburg, Posbus 100, Uniondale 6460.044-7451353 Sekretaris: N Fourie, Posbus 189, Uniondale 6460,

044-7711070

VICTORIA-WES/WEST

Voorsitter: W Viljoen, Posbus 130, Victoria-Wes 7070, 053-0040087/0738887188, rrnwkaroo@telkomsa.net Sekretaris: Henk Marais, Posbus 181, Victoria-Wes 7070

WATERFORD

Voorsitter: Gerhard Grobler, Posbus 4, Jansenville 6265, 049-8380001/0825734658, boerseun@telkomsa.net Sekretaris: Vakant

WILLOWMORE

Voorsitter: Andries Greeff, Posbus 34, Willowmore 6445, 044-9231887/0827896824, beervlei@gmail.com Sekretaris: Ansie Greeff, Posbus 34, Willowmore 6445, 044-9231887/0827896824, beervlei@gmail.com

WINTERHOEK-BOSVELD

Voorsitter: Frances Williamson, Posbus 259, Addo 6105, 042-2330388/0824855237, williamson1@telkomsa.net Sekretaris: Vakant

ZUURBFRG

Voorsitter: CFB Greeff (Dassie), Posbus 321, Somerset-Oos 5850,

042-2351545/0768467115, chrisgreeff@bosberg.co.za, Sekretaris: P Moolman, Posbus 15, Kommadagga 5800, 042-2351568/0829683415, moolmank@lantic.net

ANGORA RAM BREEDERS SOCIETY ANGORA RAMTELERSGENOOTSKAP

Please contact the ARBS office to update your details. Please supply your telephone, cell and email address.

Onderstaande is 'n volledige lys van lede van bogenoemde vereniging. Ten einde die hoë standaard ten opsigte 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 members of the above society. In order to improve and maintain high standards in respect of Angora goats in South Africa, all studs are inspected and flock histories investigated upon receipt of application for membership.

LEDE / MEMBERS

Stoet Nr.		Stoet Nr.	
Stud	No. Eienaar/Owner	Stud	No. Eienaar/Owner
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325	Bosch, M C & R P, Rietfontein Angoras, PO Box 81,	109	Loch Dale Angoras, Hobson D A and Sons, Box 114,
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133	Du Plessis, P, Karoo-Lelie Landgoed BK, Posbus 65, Cradock 5880	324	SAMIL Farming (Pty) Ltd, Woodlands Angora Stud, PO Box 3446,
169	Du Preez, O M, Posbus 100, Cradock 5880		North End 6056
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266	Eybers, L, Welgedaght Angora Stoet, Posbus 35, Rietbron 6450		Prince Albert 6930
299	Eybers, L, Welgedaght Angora Stoet, Posbus 35, Rietbron 6450	117	Shires, M, The Angora Stud, Mount Stewart, Private Bag
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105	Hobson, A B, Box 385, Graaff-Reinet 6280	248	Truter, MW, Posbus 862, Oudtshoorn 6620
118	Hobson, David, Redcliffe, Box 16, Pearston 5860	301	Van der Westhuyzen, B, Posbus 53, Adelaide 5760
215	Hobson, G & A, Box 47, Steytlerville 6250	101	Van Hasselt Farming, G van Hasselt, PO Box 137,
106	Hobson, G A, Box 82, Graaff- Reinet 6280		Prince Albert 6930
195	Jordaan, Willie, Posbus 68, Cradock 5880	327	Van Zyl, A P, Vlugfontein, PO Box 14, Colesberg 9795
102	Kirkman, J D & Son, Nashvale, Steytlerville 6250	185	Viljoen, P H, De Hannesrust, Kleinpoort 6236
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+27 41 486 1808 info@samil.co.za

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Fax +27 (0)21 868 1837 email sales@loubear.com website www.loubear.com

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BORDER COMBING COMPANY

Division of Samil (Pty) Limited

Contact Processing: Ronny Sternberg

Telephone +27 (0)43 6852254 Fax +27 (0)43 685 2254 Contact Purchasing: Shirley Charles Telephone +27 (0)41 486 2430 Fax +27 (0)41 486 2665

e-mail: shirley@samil.co.za

GUBB & INGGS

Division of Stucken & Company (Pty) Limited Contact Contact Processing: AB Smith

Telephone +27 (0)41 994 7500 Fax +27 (0)41 992 2162

email ab@stucken.co.za | madeleine@stucken.co.za

Contact Marketing: Anthony Kirsten Telephone +27 (0)41 397 4700

Fax +27 (0)41 397 4735 email ab@stucken.co.za website www.stucken.co.za