

Saying "Adios" to Sore Mouth ...

Continues to be an Industry Challenge

Despite research, "sore mouth," also known as "scabby mouth" or contagious ecthyma, remains an industry challenge. A six-year-old survey showed that four out of 10 U.S. sheep and goat operations reported sore mouth infecting their flocks in the previous three years. And, with no known treatment and only 14 percent of nursing lambs vaccinated-and just 5 percent of operators using a vaccination in replacement or breeding ewes, sore mouth will continue to invade sheep and goat herds. *(This article is credited to A National Institute for Animal Agriculture Publication Fall/Winter 2007 Sheep and Goat Health Report.)*

To read more, please click on the link below.

[Sore Mouth and Goats...](#)

This Week in the Meat Goat Markets...

Market Trends

The American Boer Goat Association has embarked on providing its members a weekly service consisting of meat goat market trends from two of the largest markets in the United States.

After a couple weeks of recess, the two largest goat auctions were busy in early January. A "weaker undertone" was noted at the San Angelo market for all classes of goats. Softer prices may be attributed to the build-up in supply at the first sale after a 2-week break. About 4,301 goats sold last week in San Angelo compared to roughly 3,500 per week during the last couple months.

[Marketing Trends...](#)

A New Discovery...

Nor-98 Found in United States

In reference to an article titled, "Discovery of Nor98- Like Scrapie Found in United States," in the *Sheep Industry News*, in February of last year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) officially announced the discovery of a Nor98-like scrapie case in a ewe from a flock in Wyoming. This was the first case of scrapie consistent with Nor98 discovered in the United States. Since then, four more cases have been discovered that originated from flocks in Colorado, Indiana, Minnesota and California. These cases are not related to either the first one in Wyoming or to each other. This scrapie type was first found in Norway in 1998 and has since been found in sheep and goats in many countries in Europe.

"It does affect goats," says Diane Sutton, DVM, national scrapie coordinator for USDA. "So far not here in the United States, but chances are, we might eventually see it in goats here too."

Behind the Scenes...

The Secret Lives of Goat Parasites

According to an article titled, "The Secret Lives of Goat Parasites," produced by Karin Christensen, goat owners mount a significant effort to eliminate infections of parasites which can cause harm and misery to their goats. If, for only a short time, the worry over parasites can be set aside in favor of a closer look at their life history, interesting, even mysterious discoveries can be learned.

To read more, please click on the link below.

[Behind the Scenes...](#)

Step Right Up...

Taking Baby Steps Toward Marketing Success!

Attention ABGA and JABGA Members! Pay your membership dues by February 29, 2008 and take advantage of the following special values included in the newly developed ABGA Membership Benefit Program:

- Waiving of the setup fee for a sale (production) catalog.
- OR
- Waiving of the setup fee and the enrollment of five animals for a private treaty (sale at the farm) catalog.

The ABGA Board of Directors have embarked on creating a membership benefit program to not only elevate the interest and productivity of the catalog marketing area, but continue to provide unique opportunities for the members of ABGA. The ABGA website accumulates approximately **700,000** hits monthly. Ride the wave of interest in ABGA's site by creating a catalog! Take one more step toward marketing success by accepting this one time offer!

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