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American Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Association



2018 TOTAL PERFORMERS

The Total Performer Awards recognize animals that excel in the show ring, in the milk pail, and in conformation through appraisals.

Applications are due by May 1st for consideration.

Congratulations to the 9 Total Performer Does who won this award for 2018:

SGCH Aries RR Cauldron 5*M SGCH Cedar View Isabella 4*M GCH Little Tots Estate Paeonia 1*M SGCH NC Promisedland MS Jitterbug 6*M GCH Cedar View Beyonce 2*M GCH Walnut-Mtn. BW Buttons2*M GCH Cedar View Belladonna 3*M

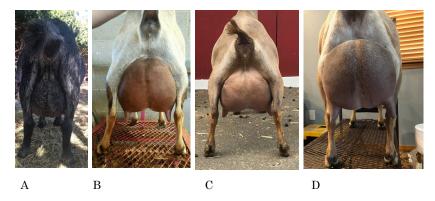
SGCH Cedar View Heleena4*M

GCH Cori's Fancy WW Damiana 3*M

Photos of these elite animals can be seen on our website and Facebook page.

SCORECARD BREAKDOWN

Evaluate the following 4 animals based on the ADGA and AGS scorecard and put in placement order from 1st to 4th. Answers based on Tom Rucker evaluation can be found on the ANDDA Discussion page the 2nd week in January.



ANDDA Youth

We are excited to announce a new Youth Committee. The Committee is in the process of developing programs to give our youth a platform to showcase their stewardship of youth-owned Nigerian Dwarfs.

The programs will consist of year-end awards in DHI and Show. Also, showcasing youth who can attend the ADGA and AGS national shows and their award-winning goats.

It is vital that youth are properly identified in the membership as a youth member and current on their dues in order to be recognized.

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2020 Member Goals

The best goals are measurable. We want to hear fr what are your 2020 goals for your herd?

- Learn to make soap or lotion.
- Start Milk Testing
- Participate in LA or Classification
- Attend a Show
- Mentor a new Member

Researc Attend

- Learn b
- Join a C
 - Other

4-H Meeting Idea

Promoting Dairy Goats in 4-H and FFA is important to ensure the future of the dairy industry. With kidding season upon us, a good topic would be to cover tattoos.

If there are not enough youth for a dairy club, join together with a rabbit or livestock club to present.

In advance of the meeting, cut out paper "ears" for the youth to practice using a clamp tattoo.

Explain how and why we tattoo a dairy goat. In

Promoting Dairy Goats in addition, show where the H and FFA is important ensure the future of the registration papers.

> Demonstrate how to identify what ear is the "left" and what ear is the "right" when facing a goat.

Have a clamp and digits available for youth to load and practice on the paper "ears." It is a good routine to always check your work on a piece of paper before clamping an animal.

A hands-on demonstration will allow the youth to gain practical experience when they are ready to tattoo their own dairy animals.



Youth member, Paul Goodchild, demonstrates how to install digits in a clamp for fellow 4-H members.

GAIL PUTCHER AGS DHI COORDINATOR, RETIRES

Many of you are familiar with Gail Putcher from the well-known herd name Gay-Mor, or as the AGS DHI Coordinator for 22 years.

Gail made the decision to retire after many years of service to the Nigerian and dairy goat community, in part due to her declining vision and her husband's dementia and mounting health costs. If you would like to send a note of thanks and encouragement to Gail, her address is



1210 Berry Farm Rd, Whitehouse Sta, NJ 08889.

Kathy Winters is coordinating a donation fund to help Gail with mounting health costs. If you would like to contribute, please contact Kathy at kwinters@sprintmail.com.

Meet our Directors—ANDDA VP

Jane Bailey is the owner of Tiny Town Goats out of Maryland with a herd of both Nigerian Dwarf and Oberhasli.

"We chose Nigerians back in the day because I had read about them and thought they sounded like the perfect dairy goat for my son's 4H project," she said. "At the time they were not allowed in ADGA, only AGS, and we went with them anyway knowing we would not be able to show them at our county fair. It wasn't a long wait and they were in - and so were we!"

Jane is currently the ANDDA Vice President, but joked that she almost can't recall a time when she was not representing the East coast within ANDDA.

"I would like members to know that I am approachable - whether it is an ANDDA issue, an idea issue, a management issue, or even in my ring at a show, I am always happy to try and help." She also welcomes ANDDA members to come introduce themselves to her at a club show or fair, whether she is there as a competitor or judge.

In addition to an active ANDDA member, she is also a licensed judge. The highlight of her Nigerian career was in 2013 when she had two does that she owned and bred make the ADGA Top Ten list.

"I do show - I do DHI and have done both 305 and 1 day, as well as LA;" Jane said. "however, I haven't figured out how to continue that with my judging schedule which is taking me off farm a lot during the season."

She sees the biggest benefit to ANDDA

membership is having a voice at the table at ADGA – "By being a member and contributing your voice, sweat and treasure, you give credence to the national breed club which is always consulted on issues affecting our breed," she advises. "A unified well written statement is always put into the record on our behalf."

Her advice to new members would be to volunteer on a club committee. "There are options for all talents!" she said.

Jane mentioned the club needs volunteers for Facebook or the website, to organize and manage club awards, assist with fundraising, promote the club at nationals and conventions, or positively contribute to social media discussions.

"In 2020 I would like to see massive increase in membership - and uniting of our breeders/owners.," she said. "We have gone in just over 10 years from being an endangered species to the top of the numbers!"

With the crackdown of animal sales on Facebook, she would like to see ANDDA create their own networking system to post sales and recognition through ANDDA's website. "There is power in numbers and as a united group we have a very powerful voice!"

She wants to remind membership of the many long time members who were the pioneers that got the breed where we are today. "Feel free to reach out to them, and ask for help," she recommended. "DHI looks terribly hard when you attempt to read the rules, but with someone explaining it to you, and helping you through that first test.... you will soar! Pass it forward!"

Use of Ultrasound During Pregnancy in Goats

By Whitney Newberry, Slate Creek Farms, Home of SC Goats

The use of Ultrasound (sono) has become more popular over the past few years. More dairy goat owners are researching the possible benefits of owning an ultrasound machine. We will review some benefits, types of machines, and basics of ultrasound to see if this might be a benefit to your herd.

What Is Ultrasound?

Ultrasound sends waves away from the probe (transducer) and records how they bounce back and the time it takes to bounce back. This is what creates the picture that is seen. White on the sono are areas that bounce back faster and black is the areas that take the longest to bounce back. Fluid and air does not bounce back sound waves, so this shows up black. Bone and tissue do bounce back waves, so it shows up white.

Uses of Sono in the Goat World



The primary use of ultrasound in the dairy goat world is pregnancy confirmation and determining number of potential kids. Ultrasound can allow for

more opportunities for management of does. We all know that those does who we wonder if she's pregnant or just a little

pudgy. Feedings can be adjusted for those who are still open or those who have a whole herd in there, vaccinations like our CDT boosters in late pregnancy can be given with accurate timing, and other decisions about the doe who will not settle can be made. If there are possible multiple breeding dates from herd breeding, ultrasound can help to pinpoint the likely date of pregnancy. Ultrasound can be done as early as day 20, but most accurate diagnosis is between 32-34 days gestation with a specificity of 100 percent (Gonzales-Bulnes et al. 2010). The number kids can be determined up to 100 days, but the best time is somewhere between 30 and 50 days post breeding.

Brands of Ultrasound Machines

There are several brands of ultrasound machines. Price can vary significantly from just under \$1000 to over \$5000. Two popular portable models are Contec CMS600 which can be found on Ebay or Amazon readily and the VIS ScanPad. The most common transducer or probe is the convex probe for use with goats.

How to Scan

When looking for pregnancy, put a liberal amount of ultrasound scan gel (this is different from OB lubricant) on the probe, and then place the probe against the abdomen above the udder in the hairless area between the leg and body. The ultrasound sends out waves and makes an image. If the doe if pregnant, images of the

American Nigerian Dwarf

SONO (Continued from page 4)

uterus, fluid inside the uterus and the skeleton of the kid(s) can be visualized. If she is not pregnant the uterus maybe in a different position/area and instead the bladder and intestines are seen. When using the ultrasound for counting you should slowly scan from right to left at the same level to localize the pregnancy. After that, the direction of the scanning movements should be perpendicular to the rst set of movements at different levels to cover

the complete scanning area systematically to avoid scanning the same fetus twice.





The photo on the right is zoomed in on a 28 day fetus.

All Pictures courtesy of Ilene Benson Leader of Ilenes Rascals Farm



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Aries Herd Owner 1 of 9 to Win Top Honors

By Melanie Bohren

Have you ever looked at your favorite doe and thought "Now she's the total package!"

Thanks to ANDDA's TOTAL PERFORMER PROGRAM, Nigerian Dwarf goats who are true all-around superstars can compete for a chance in the spotlight.

The ANDDA Total Performer Program is intended to be for those does that have excelled in the show ring, are on DHIA and are milking above average, and have been Appraised and/or Classified at the Excellent level. It is an ANDDA Program that is designed to be won by the elite animals that use these "measuring sticks" offered through AGS and ADGA.

Let's meet one of this year's winners., Jennifer Herrscher of Aries Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Goats in Texas. She bred and owns SGCH ARIES RR CAULDRON 5*M, one of the nine does recognized as a 2019 Total Performer winner.

Jennifer is a relatively new breeder, beginning in 2013 with the herd name New Bellwether and 5 registered does. Jennifer's success demonstrates while these awards celebrate the best of the best, they aren't just won by established herds.

Cauldron's first freshening date was Oct, 2017. She was shown heavily and was always first in her class; she got one Reserve Championship and had many mentions that it was between her and an older doe for the Reserve spot.

She freshened again in Oct of 2018 and went to the Hamilton Legends two ring show were she took both rings winning Best in Show under Jeff Klein.

Cauldron finished her Championship with a Houston Livestock Show win. She went as a Champion Challenger to several shows winning the Champion Challenge in Corsicana, TX and Decatur, TX under judges Scott Horner and Elizabeth Henning, respectively. She picked up another BIS win from Judge Carrie Baker Khale in Corsicana, TX as well. In 2019, Cauldron earned her Advanced Registry star.

Jennifer participates in Linear Appraisal where Cauldron received an LA score of VEVE 90 as a first freshener; Cauldron was eligible for that score because of her extended lactation. She had an LA score of VEEE 91 for her second freshening appraisal.

Cauldron is out of Jennifer's strongest dam line - the SG Beaujest Cairo's Siren Song 3*M line. "They all can show and milk and hold extended lactations," Jennifer said.

She really lucked out with Cauldron's sire; Deb P's Red River +B was the first buck she had ever bought. "When I bought him I knew nothing and I mean Nothing!," Jennifer said. "I didn't even know enough to look at udder shots of his female relatives."

While her background wasn't in dairy goats, once Jennifer got started breeding she decided that she wanted to breed a quality animal. She began the pursuit of knowledge of what is a good dairy goat and why. Some of the things she has learned along the way are:

- Don't breed for an udder breed for correct structure.
- Have your animals LA'ed or at the very least audit an LA session so that you gain an understanding of the structural strength and weakness of your animals. The ANDDA Total Performer

Program is open to any ANDDA member who shows, is on milk test and has their goats appraised. Who knows, the next award winner might be you!

Youth Breeder-Baylee Newberry Slate Creek Farms, Home of SC Goats

1. How did you get started with Nigerian Dwarf goats?

I started out with two rambunctious, unregistered Nigerian-cross wethers. Our family fell in love with Fynn and Poe. I wanted to explore the possibility of showing registered goats and off to the 2016 Kansas State Fair my mom and I went just to look. Needless to say, I found a sweet but headstrong goat just like me while at the fair, and it's history from there. I currently have a small herd and am focusing on maintaining superior genetics and milk production.

2. What is your favorite part of owning Nigerian Dwarves?

They are cute and cuddly! They each have their own personalities and are small and easy to handle. They don't judge when you have crazy hair, no makeup, and boots with your jammies! My friends joke with me that I'm the crazy goat lady, but I think they are missing out!





3. What goals do you have for 2020 with your herd?

I am looking forward to milk test for the second year and hope to participate in LA and possibly classification this year. I am continuing to build my herd and will continue to show in ADGA/AGS shows including the American Goat Society National Show in Norman OK! I also hope to have my bucks collected this coming Fall.

4. I know you are having difficulty getting a dairy goat group together in your county. How have you made dairy goats part of your 4-H and FFA project?

I have had difficulty finding a mentor locally as we live in "meat goat" country. We had no 4-Hers enrolled in the dairy goat project. Our county fair didn't even have dairy goat classes. I was able to change this and our county has now added Senior and Junior doe classes. I hope to have a Dairy Goat wether class added this coming year. I

Youth Breeder—Baylee Newberry Slate Creek Farms, Home of SC Goats

(Continued from page 7)

continue to talk about and have had multiple programs about goats. I hope to continue to help educate others about dairy goats. I even bring goats with me.

My family has been supportive of my showing and I've been able to attend multiple shows in Oklahoma, Missouri, and Texas. I have received my FFA Dairy Goat Production Award in 2019. I keep record books with expenses, income, and my goals for my goats. I keep health records, records of show wins, and milk test results. I have also been able to start a goat milk soap business and enjoy soapmaking too!

I was given the opportunity to be an Ambassador at the Youth Leadership Program USA-Turkey



Left to Right, Easton, Baylee, Whitney, and Jason Newberry attend dairy goat shows in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas as a family.

for the United States. I was one of six from the US. This was an initiative of the US Department of State and was able to meet youth and young adults from around the world (US, Turkey, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Germany and other nations) to talk about agriculture and my dairy goat project.



5. What advice would you give to a youth owning dairy goats seeking support or mentorship?

Just keep going. Don't be afraid to talk to "Big Breeders". They were newbies at one time too, and most don't mind questions and love to talk about goats. I have been able to meet great people at shows through striking up conversations. Also, don't be afraid to show other peoples' goats and including other breeds. It's a great experience. Ask judges questions. They have a lot of knowledge. Just have fun!

Are Your Does Ready For Kidding, Nursing or Milking?

Jennifer Parrish, PNP Nutrition- specializing in goat nutrition

The question to all breeders is, are our does ready for kidding? Are they nutritionally sound to be going through parturition and then on into the milking string or dam raising their kids? Was their nutrition through the dry period and gestation adequate enough to meet all of their needs as well as the growing fetus (es) they are/ were carrying? Will the babies be vibrant and standing in just minutes to nurse or will it take a few hours? Will the does pass their placenta in an hour or less or will they have a retained placenta?

All of these questions lead back to the nutrition of the goats and if they were fed what they should have been fed or needed to be fed during a period of time in their life cycle. Poor nutrition during the dry period and through all of gestation will lead to weak kids, a doe that goes down before or after kidding, a doe that loses condition after kidding, a doe that has poor milk production, and many more things that could happen. These are only a few things that can happen due to poor nutrition during this time in the goat's life.

How can you stop these things from happening? It may seem harder to do than what it really is to keep these does healthy during the dry period and through all of gestation, but it's actually rather simple. The does should be fed a 10-12% CP total ration with a low energy level until a month before kidding. A month before kidding, the energy requirements of the does increases due to the kids growing inside, this is the time when the kids are doing the most growing. If the doe is having twins, triplets, or quads this even more of a need for the doe to get proper nutrition. This should not be a drastic change in energy but a gradual increase over the period of time. The overall ration Crude Protein in the diet should remain around 10-12% for most of the dry period and gestation, increasing gradually in the last few weeks of gestation to get the does ready for lactation. Crude Protein and

energy balanced correctly are not the only things that lead the goats to good nutrition. The levels of vitamins and minerals have to be sufficient enough for the does to carry the fetuses to full term. If there are vitamin and mineral deficiencies in the does you may have weak kids, floppy kid syndrome, poor expulsion of the placenta or retained placenta, a doe that goes down either prior to kidding or after kidding, or poor suckling response of the kids when trying to get them to nurse. With these small occurrences can, and possibly will, lead to other illnesses for the does and kids. With improper Vit A and D, the mucus membranes won't be able to ward off colds and pneumonia. With low Vit E and Selenium you will have more cases of retained placenta which will lead to infection of the uterus and a decrease in milk production, this is also something that leads to weak kids at birth. These are only a few things that can happen, but there are many more. The CP, energy, and vitamin and mineral levels will vary from herd to herd, location to location, and depending on what feed stuffs are being fed to the goats at each farm.

Once your does kid and they have cleaned off their babies or the babies have been removed from the dams at birth, make sure you give them some alfalfa hay, something also for quick boost of energy such as Nutra Drench or Molasses in warm water, this will help with them wanting to eat and get them wanting to move about more. You want to make sure that the rumen gets filled to take up the space where the babies once were, not too quickly, but getting that into them will help get that rumen functioning back to normal and to its full capacity. I have never seen a case of Displaced Abomasum in a goat before, but in cattle it happens a lot. After kidding would be the perfect time for this to occur, since the abdominal area in the goat is

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

French Style Chevre

This recipe is from *Goats Produce Too! The Udder Real Thing*, Volume 2 by Mary Jane Toth. I'd highly recommend that book as a clear, concise, quick-start book to cheese making. I've added a few notes and adjustments based on my experiences making it over the years.

Timing

You'll need to collect 2 gallons of fresh, clean goat's milk. In my case, milking only a few Nigerian Dwarf Goats at a time, that means planning a couple of days in advance to make sure I have the 2 gallons in time for cheese making. You'll also have a lot of whey left over from your cheese making, so you might want to start thinking about what you'll do with it.

For the cheese making, this recipe will take 19-22 hours from start to finish, but with only about 2 hours of actual work on your part.

Planning and Preparation

Great tasting, healthy cheese begins with well managed goats and a good milking process. I set my standards, even though I'm not a commercial dairy and my cheese is made only for my family, to be as close to grade A as possible. This becomes especially important if your making raw, unpasteurized cheese.



Cheese making requires some specialized equipment, ingredients and setup. I've found it very useful to use the recommended muslin cheesecloth, with about a 2 foot square portion cut off for draining and the rest used for removing any remaining whey. I also have a large stainless steel (SS) stockpot, SS slotted spoon, SS fine mesh strainer, large SS mixing bowl, SS teaspoon and 1/3 C measuring cup, and digital thermometer. For ingredients, you'll need your culture and rennet and a place to store those long term in your refrigerator. You'll need a space to drain and work with the cheese that is clean and out of the way, since it will be there for several hours. I have a corner of the kitchen and a large clean cutting board. You might even consider draining the cheese in the refrigerator if you have the space for it. For packaging, I use plastic wrap and label quart freezer bags, so it's ready to go for eating or freezing.

Before beginning, I use a diluted bleach spray (1 Tbsp bleach to 1 Gallon water) to sanitize all of the equipment I'll be using.

Ingredients

- 2 gallons of fresh, whole goat milk (I've tried skimming the cream off to make it lower fat, but it's just not near as good!)
- 1/8 tsp Mesophilic DVI culture (I have been happy with the Aroma Type B blend)
- 2 Tbsp diluted rennet = 3 drops rennet in 1/3 C Cool water (I use the DCI Supreme Double Strength Microbial Rennet)
- ~1/4 C Salt (I like kosher, particularly the kosher salt that my husband smoked with Pecan wood!)

Directions—Culture

Pour your milk into a large stockpot and heat to 80° F. I've found that going over a few degrees doesn't hurt anything, just be sure to stay under 90°. Stay with it because it happens pretty quickly and it takes much longer for it to cool back down. Once at 80°, it's time to mix in your diluted rennet and culture. The rennet can be prepared as your milk heats, but I've found the culture powder absorbs moisture and gets tacky and hard to mix if you prep it too soon. Pour in your 2 Tbsp of diluted rennet,

stir gently and then sprinkle 1/8 tsp culture over the top of the milk, let it sit a moment to "bloom", if you like, and then stir it in. Cover the pot and move it to the back burner to sit for 8-12 hours. I like to wrap the pot with clean dish towels to try to retain the warmth.

Drain

The cheese is ready to drain when the curd has separated from the whey. There will be two distinct layers, a thick white curd layer at the bottom with a liquid yellowish whey layer over the top. For draining, you can try to hang the cheesecloth, filled with curds, over the bowl, but I've found it easier to line a strainer with cheesecloth and place that where it sits just inside the bowl. Drain off the majority of the whey from the pot and then scoop out the curds with a slotted spoon into your prepared cheesecloth. Once in the cheesecloth, I break the curds into about 1-2 inch peices with the spoon to allow the whey to drain a little better. Fold the remaining cheesecloth up and around the cheese to protect it. The cheese will drain for 6-10 hours. I let it drain for 10 hours since the cheese will last

longer and freeze better with less liquid, and it makes the last step easier. Check it every hour or so to see if the whey needs to be poured off, or to break up the curd to allow more whey to drain. It is done when it is the consistency of cream cheese.

Season and Dry

Once drained, lay out the remaining dry cheesecloth over your workspace. Place the drained curds on the dry cheese cloth and sprinkle a portion of salt over the top. Use the cheesecloth to fold the cheese over and gently press out additional whey. Do that many times until your satisfied with the consistency and taste of your cheese. Cheese is the absolute best when it is just made, so treat yourself for your hard work!

Package and Store

You can form your cheese any way you like. I roll it out into



6x1 inch logs and wrap it tightly in plastic wrap and then put about 5 logs into a quart freezer baggy, removing any excess air before sealing, labeled with the current date. Then it's ready to eat or freeze. If you'd like to flavor your cheese, the sky is the limit, but it should be eaten fresh and not frozen. Freezing takes the added flavor right out of it, in my experience. Fresh cheese is good in the refrigerator up to two weeks.

For freezing, the cheese is good up to 6 months. Remove one log at a time and thaw in the refrigerator, season if you like, and consume within two weeks after thawed.



Cleanup

I hand wash the cheesecloth in warm soapy water and then soak it in a bath of diluted bleach water (1 Tbsp bleach/1 gal water) and then hang it to dry, out of the way. It is packaged clean and dry in a bag so it is ready for the next use. All other equipment is run through the dishwasher or cleaned and sprayed with diluted bleach.

Resources

Of course, I recommend the book where I got this recipe, which I mentioned before. Then, I got my cheesecloth, rennet and culture from GetCulture.com. They have a wealth of additional information, but I find it can get a little overwhelming.

Summer Cataldo, Emerald C Ranch, December 2019

Feed—(Continued from page 9)

stretched from the kids being there and now nothing is present to keep that Abomasum (the true stomach, the last of the 4 stomachs in the goat) from twisting and moving around freely. That is why it's a good idea to get that rumen full to take up more space, so this doesn't occur in your goats. Since the rumen was constricted to a smaller space and not to capacity due to the kids growing and pushing on it so the doe couldn't eat as much, the rumen has not been to full capacity for a month or so before kidding, so it's a good idea to feed some hay to get that starting back up to capacity.

Once they are in your milking string or a few days of nursing the over-all crude protein of the diet should be between 14-18% depending on the milk production of the goats or how many kids the does are nursing. This level also depends on how much you are wanting to push the goats to milk and if the does are first fresheners and still growing or if they are older does and done growing. The energy level should be balanced according to the protein level in the ration as well. And yes, the vitamin and mineral levels also need to be balanced for the need of the goat as well on how much milk she is producing or the number of kids she is nursing. If you feed maintenance levels you will get minimal return on production, so you

will need to feed for the production or number nursing. Again, these will vary from herd to herd, location to location, and depending on what feed stuffs you are feeding to your goats. This is where a balanced ration from a nutritionist comes into play.

All hays should be sampled to get the most adequate figures on what the CP, Energy, Vitamins and Minerals are in them. These play a huge role in the formation of the ration and what will need to be fed. Corn, Oats, and other ingredients can be sampled as well, but most of the time these come back average, so average samples are generally used, but if you would want them to be taken that would be up to you the producer. Rations for goats are very important so that they are balanced for the weight, size, breed, lactation #, pounds of milk being produced, # of kids being nursed, and so forth. Balanced rations for these things help make sure that the goats are getting what they need at all times during their life.

Well I hope that this helps you with understanding some of the importance of good nutrition for your goats. Our goats are our business and to some our life, so why not make them the healthiest they can be with a well balanced ration to help them live up to their upmost potential. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to email me at pnpnutrition@gmail.com and I will be happy to do a consult for you.



Editor: Karen Goodchild OK Doe K Dairy Goats

Please let us know if you have a comment or article idea!