

Dairy Goat News

March 2010 Vol. 3 Issue 3



*Think
Green!*

Date: 3/10/10

*Can you smell the spring in the air?
Are you seeing the signs?
Feeling the warmth in the air?
Enjoying the sunshine?*

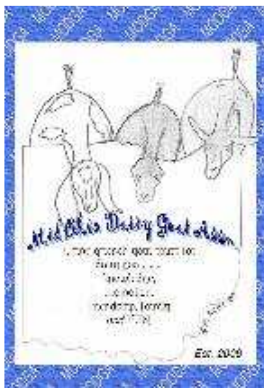
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Mid-Ohio Dairy Goat Association

3911 Federal Rd.

Cedarville, OH 45314



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Dear Members,

Guess what? I think spring is just around that corner, and so are our spring plans. Remember we are going to try to get together on April 10th for some show and grooming practice for everyone. Keep posted to the MODGA group list for reminders.

We do need everyone to pitch in and help get those raffle table donations and help to make sure everyone is comfortable and has a good time at our show on May 15. So please keep in touch on the list and let us know how things are going and if you have questions and suggestions to share, that's the place to do it.

Hope to see more of you join in on the on-line meeting coming up this Saturday, March 13th! All you have to do is keep in touch with your goat group to have lots of good goat tips and help right at your fingertips. I've learned so much from each of you, so keep sharing.

Blessings,
Sue



M.O.D.G.A. Membership Application

MODGA application for adult membership dues are \$20.00 per year. This includes membership in the Ohio Dairy Goat Association (ODGA) and a newsletter from both ODGA and MODGA. A junior is \$10.00 per year. After 25 years of continuous membership you earn LIFETIME membership with no dues paid.

This application can also be downloaded at www.modga.org

I would like to join the association, I am sending my dues to:
Debbie Wiseman, MODGA Treasurer
3911 Federal Rd.
Cedarville, OH 45314-9540

Name: _____

Herd Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

County: _____ Phone: _____

Website and/or e-mail: _____

Breeds owned: _____

Buck Service available (which breeds): _____

RENEW NOW!

Last Issue

What you get

- MODGA membership
- ODDGA membership
- Newsletters
- Programs
- Shows/clinics
- Group opportunities (DHIR, LA, Futurities)
- Fun, family and goat friends!

Mid-Ohio Dairy

Goat Association

Serving Mid-Ohio Dairy Goat

Promotion/Programs/

Developments

www.modga.org

It's time to renew

MODGA 2009

Membership

Dues

We welcome all individuals interested in

learning, sharing and enjoying promotion of

all caprines. Ownership not required, just a

joy and enthusiasm

for sharing with in

all things caprine!



\$20.00 Adults/Family

\$10.00 Youth



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MODGA Membership/Application Dues 14-16

OFFICERS:

Sue Smart, President — fancycolorsnubians@sbcglobal.net

Tom Justice, Vice President — tomjustice@juno.com

Debbie Wiseman, Treasurer — delwi@sbcglobal.net

Teri Knox, Secretary — knoxmailbox@juno.com

March Meeting Agenda

Date: March 13, 2010

Time: 10:00 AM to 10 PM

Place: Your Place at your convenience

Log-in to:
<http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/modga>



AGENDA

Call to Order — by President @ 10:00AM

Roll Call — announce your present when you log-in

Secretary's Report —in the group files

Treasurer's Report —in the group files

Correspondence

Committee Reports

Show Committee: Sue Smart

Clinic Committee — Need volunteer

Programs/Education — Need volunteer

Promotion/Fund-raising — Debbie Wiseman

Unfinished Business

Clinic

Show

New Business

Programs and Education

ODGA Updates

Next meeting itinerary

Adjournment — 10 P.M Any polls (motions) may be voted on in the group homepage until midnight 2/14/10.

Tattooing Tips

As a member of the American Dairy Goat Association I am most familiar with their rules. These rules do not apply to all Goat Associations, so if you are tattooing your goat as a means for recordation be sure to know all the requirements before you start.

ADGA uses a unique set of assigned letters for which you will need to contact them. There is no charge for that service. You will use this unique set of letters in the right ear or tail web. In the left ear you will use a tattoo letter that identifies the year, for 2010 the assigned letter is "A" in 2011 it will be "B" etc. The letters G, I, O, Q, U are not used.

The actual process of tattooing is easy, although I never fail to seem to get it on myself or my clothes so I recommend wearing old clothes and surgical gloves. Clean the area with alcohol, verify you have the tattoo letters in correctly by testing them on a piece of paper. It's also a good test that your letters aren't worn if they pierce the paper evenly and clearly. With your tattoo tongs aligned, try to avoid veins, press firmly. Apply your ink and rub it into the tattoos.

Ink — I prefer the green roll-on ink, but have had greater success with the paste if I really rub it into the tattoo with a gloved finger or eraser. On really dark tattoos I've also used the white paste, but have used the green with equal success.

This is also something you want to be sure your goat has been vaccinated against tetanus before starting. Also remember that the tattoo must match the information on the application for registration. Having an incorrect or illegible tattoo may make your goat ineligible for certain ADGA programs. If in doubt contact your association or refer to their guidebook.

Good luck!

Spring

To Do List

- Make sure all your fences are in good repair and safe.
- Check all goat tattoos for legibility before heading out to shows.
- Get that hoof trimming done that you let slip all winter.
- Worm and vaccinate your goats as necessary
- Don't neglect your bucks
- Scrub out those buckets and feed pans that you may have neglected during the winter.
- Check your clippers to be sure they are ready for a full season of clipping goats.
- Make sure you get all your papers sent in on new kids for registration before the show season starts.
- Clean out your barn.
- Clean out mineral and baking soda feeders and get fresh. Also replace salt licks as needed.

MODGA YOUTH CORNER

Newsletter



**MODGA's Youth Editor
Alaina Schraufnagel**

peacefulmeadowsgoats@yahoo.com.
www.peacefulmeadows.webs.com.

Hey youth have you ever heard the song about the lonely goat herder? Well let me introduce you to Alaina our lonely Youth Editor, could you please help her out and send her some pictures, stories, ideas, things you'd like to see in the newsletter. Please see to it that she has some items to keep her busy. No one wants her to be lonely, but only YOU can help her out!

2010 MODGA Doe Chain

Applications for the 2010 MODGA Doe Chain are due in by March 31, 2010 please don't forget to get your application on-line at www.modga.org Please share this opportunity with your friends as well!

Hurry Don't Miss Out!

hot iron. Another must in my experience is a good pair of leather gloves to protect your own hands from any accidental burns.

BE SURE ALL YOU KIDS ARE VACCINATED AGAINST TETANUS BEFORE YOU DO ANY TYPE OF DISBUDDING, DEHORNING, OR SCUR REMOVAL.

Other items of equipment we use are electric clippers, wire saw, and cooling wound spray (should fight bacteria and not contain oils that would increase heat).

We shave the excess air from around the horn buds, and brush the excess hair and debris away. After testing the iron on a piece of soft wood, to see if it leaves a quick full burn, we place the hot iron on horn bud and hold it for about 6 to 10 seconds. Pressing firmly and rotating until it leaves a full "copper" circle around the horn base. The horn will come loose like a little leather cap, we'll remove it and burn the root again quickly. Sometimes we'll use the wire saw to take the horn bud off if it's larger and will keep the iron from going down the base, and then use the iron to cauterize any bleeding. Wait a minute or two for the head to cool and then do the other side. Spray with wound spray to help cool and protect. Since the kids seem to forget it quick as you have them out of the box, we probably just give them a little milk from the bottle for our own comfort more than theirs, but it's part of the process on our farm.

We check them every couple of weeks to make sure no scurs are growing, and if we notice one we repeat the process. It's much easier to get this done when they are young than fight it when they are older.

Good luck, and please share tips you have that you've learned to make this or any herd management care easier. We all are happy to learn labor, cost and time saving techniques.

L R S T O M A C H T U B E S F M
A M L R G D T B K F B T Y E L I
U S S L R I K T M T N R N L M L
N E T R L S N C X L I T L P K K
A V N B S B M Q N N H Z Z P T R
M O E R P U M M G N T L D I Y E
H L M P I D W E R X Z W K N H P
T G E K L D S Z D H N O Q E N L
L L L H C I J S R T O L Z L F A
A A P L L N O N E T T L M T B C
E C P P E G Z D T N N G L T W E
H I U N V I V A I V I K F O L R
T G S L A R T R K N L C D B Q L
A R K B N O Y Z N N E H C T P W
O U B T B N S E L D E E N A R P
G S C N J R V N R X L W T V V G

www.WordSearchMaker.com

- Bottle nipples
- disbudding iron
- goat health manual
- iodine
- milk replacer
- navel clips
- needles
- stomach tube
- supplements
- surgical gloves
- syringes
- tamoo kit
- vaccines

Disbudding Kids

There have been good discussions and articles written on the pros and cons of having goats with horns vs. no horns. The horns have a purpose to help the goats regulate temperature and defend themselves from predators in hostile environments. They really were not intended for a means for handling a goat, as I've noticed many folks use them. These are decisions each herd manager will need to make for themselves.

My preference is to have no horns, and it's my belief that all goats in a herd should be either with or without horns. I also strongly believe and recommend that all goats should be disbudded at birth and not have to endure the process of being dehorned. These are just my preferences though, each individual should do their own research on the subject and make the decisions they feel best for themselves and their own herd.

I'm going to share with you the process we use for disbudding goats, the supplies you will need, and options for equipment. Over the years, as I have, you will figure out what works best for you.

The disbudding iron is essential. It comes in various warts with different size tips, I use the regular goat tip and the Rhinehart X50. If I was only doing a few kids a year, I would probably use a low watt iron, at an early age 3 to 10 days. Since this is my least favorite "job" in caring for the goats, I tend to do them in groups once every several weeks. The high watt iron allows me to do the kids that may be closer to several weeks olds with horn buds already erupted, and allows me to do several goats in a row without waiting long for the iron to re-heat in between.

I also prefer using a kid holding box, rather than struggle to hang on to the kid and keep their head still, my free hand has more control to keep just the head still and in the case of Nubians, ears away from the

ADVERTISEMENTS

SEEKING Goats and Goat Items for sale: We get e-mails in the MODGA mailbox from folks looking for goats to buy or items for sale. If I know you have them I can send them your way, but you can also do that yourself by placing your ad here, remember it is **FREE** to our members.

Swap, Sell, Buy and Trade: All usable goat and goat related items. Bring them to the meeting on April 10th.

Meeting location for April will hopefully be the Madison County Fairgrounds, so start rounding up your stuff and inviting your friends, neighbors and others. We'll get you posted through the list and on the MODGA website.

