

GOAT COMMITTEE**Steve Roots**

(Chairman)

Mohair

Molong

(02) 6366 9444

cardui2@bigpond.net.au**Bob Muir***Cashmere*

Quirindi

(02) 6746 5594

robertmuir@reachnet.com.au**Aled Hoggett***Dairy*

Gloucester

(02) 65585557

capparis@harboursat.net**Sandra Strong***Meat*

Gunnedah

(02) 67437228

gsstrong@bigpond.com**Rick Gates***Western Division*

Via Wilcannia

(08) 80919464

gatesgoats1@bigpond.com**NSW FARMERS'
ASSOCIATION STAFF****Angus Gidley-Baird**

Policy Manager

T 02 8251 1876

gidleybairda@nswfarmers.org.au[u](#)**Claire Hull**

Policy Officer - Goats

T: 02 8251 1885

hullc@nswfarmers.org.au

T: 1300 794 000

F: 8251 1750

www.nswfarmers.org.au

Dear Goat Members,

The Goat Industry Committee has been busily preparing for the 2009 Biennial Goat Conference (please see below some further information). So far, we have a number of guest speakers confirmed and the Conference is shaping up to be very informative and topical for producers. The Committee has been working on the progression of the 2007 biennial Conference motions and a progress report table on each motion is contained in this Update. The Goat Committee will hold their next Committee meeting in May. The major issue to be discussed will be the Biennial Conference.



Steve Roots

Chairman – NSW Goat Industry Committee

2009 NSW Farmers' Association Goat Conference

The NSW Farmers' Association Goat Industry Committee invites you to attend the 2009 NSW Goat Biennial Conference which will be held on Wednesday 17 June 2009 at the Dubbo Showground. The theme of this year's Conference will be '*Healthy Goats, Healthy Profits*'. If you would like to attend the Conference, please complete the attached registration form or contact the NSW Farmers' Association Member Service Centre on 1300 794 000. **Note:** The cost of attending this year's conference is \$15 for NSW Farmers Association members and \$30 for non-members.

Election of Office Bearers

Committee members are to be elected from Members of the Association who are registered as goat producers. Members who wish to nominate to the Committee need to provide a resume of not more than 250 words, which includes a statement of the contribution they would make as a Committee Member. Where there are not sufficient nominations for the Committee received prior to the Biennial Conference, nominations are to be called from the floor of the meeting. At the first Committee meeting after the biennial conference, a Chairman for the Committee will be elected.

Following the 2009 Biennial Conference, the Committee will comprise of five members with at least one member residing in the Western Division.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE BEARERS

If you would like to nominate for the Goat Committee please complete the attached nomination form and return it by 5pm on Monday 4 May 2009. Send by fax to (02) 82511750, Attention Claire or mail to:

Claire Hull - Policy Officer
NSW Farmers' Association
GPO BOX 1068
SYDNEY 2001

Submission of 2009 Biennial Conference Motions

The Biennial Conference is the main policy formulation event for the NSW Farmers' Association Goat Members. If you would like to submit a motion for consideration and help shape the Goat Committee's policy priorities for the next two years, please complete the attached motion submission form and send it to Claire Hull, Policy Officer by fax or mail (see above for fax number and postal address) by 5 pm Monday 4 May.

Agendas will be sent out to those who have registered by Friday 5 June 2009. Agendas will also be available to people who attend on the day.

Meeting report from Goat Industry Council of Australia

The Goat Industry Council Australia met in the Association offices on Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 March 2009. The Council discussed a range of issues including NLIS, Goat Health Statement, Marketing and the Beale report.

GICA has formulated and agreed on a memorandum of understanding between GICA and Animal Health Australia ('AHA'). The document states that the different roles required by AHA for various Committees will be shared by GICA representatives.

The Association's Goat Committee submitted the following resolution for decision to GICA

That GICA and MLA implement a minimum value of \$5.00 per head sales value before the 37.7c transaction levy is applied.

The motion was lost and the Association is waiting on formal correspondence from GICA outlining the outcome of the motion.

Meat and Livestock Australia ('MLA') provided the meeting with an overview of current MLA projects, stating that MLA would like to improve their communication networks and processes, which would involve MLA publications and attendance at field days.

The Queensland Department of Primary Industries ('DPI') provided an update on the development of the Goat Depot Guidelines project. The project is undertaking research on current handling practices used in the goat industry. The development of the guidelines will be carried out primarily through consultation with operators across the supply chain. The aim is to devise best practice guidelines for use by depot operators and traders supplying the goat meat and live export markets. The DPI representatives provided Councillors with the definition of a goat depot, the methodology of consultation and discussed timelines.

National Goat Statement

All producers should have by now received the National Goat Health Statement, which became available to producers from 1 February 2009. The Statement will allow producers to provide additional information about the health status of their goats. It will also reduce some of the risk to producers as it provides the health status of the goats they intend to trade. The statement was developed by the goat industry for the goat industry and will bring a new level of assurance for producers involved with trading goats. For more information or to obtain a copy of the National Goat Health Statement visit the Goat Health website www.goathealth.com.au

Progress of 2007 Motions

Motion	Report
M1 That the Association's GIC actively campaign for common sheep husbandry chemicals to be approved for use on goats.	The Association has contacted the Australian Veterinarian Association to seek what chemicals they would recommend for use on goats. The Association is in the process of contacting DPI to discuss chemical use for goats
M2 That once the Pool Faecal Culture test is approved by Sub-Committee on Animal Health Laboratory Standards ('SCAHLs') for use on goats, the Association's GIC seek unrestricted access to Gudair vaccine for any goat producer.	Goat Producers have the same access to Gudair vaccine as sheep producers.
M3 That the Association's GIC work with the NSW DPI to finalise the NSW Goat Health Statement by <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Developing a kid rearing plan- Having the GHS approved as a legal, sufficient travel document which satisfies NSW Stock Diseases legislation and NSW NLIS legislation	The Association wrote to NSW DPI seeking advice on whether the travelling stock statement and the Animal Health Statement could be combined on the one document. Correspondence received suggested the Association raise this issue directly through GICA when the National Health Statement is reviewed
M4 That the Association's GIC continue to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) support the exemption of NLIS tagging of goats in the Western Division andb) investigate whether movement documents can be lodged on a central database as an alternative to tagging.	NSW currently has an exemption from NLIS tags for rangeland goats sold direct to slaughter. The Association has continued to progress this policy through representation on the NSW NLIS Committee.
M5 That the Association's GIC investigate how live export protocols for goats might be changed to enable goats vaccinated with Gudair vaccine to be eligible.	The Association sent a letter to AQIS asking their view on the issue. Live exporters have replied saying that they do not want goats that have been vaccinated.
M6 That the composition of the Association's GIC be changed from the current system sector representation to one which is open to 5 generic goat farmers with the proviso that at least one member of the committee must be resident within the Western Division.	The composition of the Association's Goat Industry Committee has been changed to: <i>The Committee shall comprise five members with at least one member residing in the Western Division.</i>

M7 That casual vacancies on the Association's GIC occurring more than 3 months from a scheduled election are to be filled as soon as possible, by the appointment of unsuccessful candidates at the most recent election, or by calling for nominations and conducting a new election.

The Goat Committee by-laws now read:

Casual vacancies on the Goat Industry Committee occurring more than 3 months from a scheduled election are to be filled as soon as possible, by the appointment of unsuccessful candidates at the most recent election or, if there are no unsuccessful candidates, by calling for nominations and conducting a new election.

M8 That the Association's GIC reinstate its policy of regular consultation with and reporting to members, including reporting the outcomes of GIC and GICA meetings.

The Goat Committee has provided members with a bi monthly *Goat Update*, which includes reports on Goat Industry Committee and GICA meetings and outcomes.

M9 That the Association's GIC lobby GICA and MLA to implement a minimum value of \$5/head before goat transactions are liable for the 37.7 cent transaction levy.

The Goat Committee put this motion to GICA for a national decision, however, the motion was not carried. The Association is waiting on a formal response from GICA to outline the progress of the motion

M10 That Association's GIC

- a) lobby GICA to write to the Victorian OJD Compensation Advisory Committee to request the immediate cessation of the Victorian Government's 12cents/head stamp duty on goats sold and/or slaughtered in Victoria.
- b) That the Association's GIC pursue this issue on its own, if the GICA is unwilling to act on it immediately.
- c) That if the Victorian OJD Compensation Advisory Committee is unwilling or unable to waive the stamp duty on goats, the Association's GIC request that NSW goat producers have the same rebate rights as interstate sheep producers have had since 2005.

The Association contacted the Victorian DPI and received communication back which stated as follows:

Introducing the ability to refund goat producers will require a change to the Livestock Disease Control Act 1994. It is our intention to introduce the necessary changes to this Act to Parliament in the Spring 2009 session.

The Goat Industry Committee will keep Goat members informed on this issue and the outcomes from the Spring 2009 session.

M11 That the Association's Goat members are informed of the motions that have been submitted for debate at the conference prior to the day

The Goat Industry Committee will provide goat members with an agenda prior to the Conference, which will include the motions which have been submitted by Monday 5 May 2009.