



New Zealand Boer Goat Breeders Assn Membership Newsletter Spring 2025

Contact us:

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www.nzbgba.nz

Material for next edition by **1st Dec 2025**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I trust you are all having a successful Spring. From my perspective, Wanaka has avoided its usual September snow fall and the spring growth is proving very useful in getting this year's kids off to a good start. Main challenge is stopping goats being pigs and getting bloat!

Lots of NZBGBA matters happening currently. The Association now has its' new Constitution and Rules in place following ratification at the AGM. These updates were necessary to keep us compliant with the new Incorporated Society Rules. A copy of both of the Constitution and Rules is on the website www.nzbgba.nz .

Two things that became apparent when doing the updates were that we need clarity around registration of stock (see an article later in the newsletter) and our list of current stock (held on our behalf by Genetic Gains) is woefully out of date.

When buying and selling registered stock please promptly advise the Association of these changes. If you are having difficulties with your registration, please contact the Association. We are here to help!

The second challenge we face is keeping herd records up to date. This has two parts to it. Firstly, new stock needs to be registered as soon as possible after kidding. You should have already received your pre-kidding list from Genetic Gains. If not received please contact me. We ask that you complete your list as soon as possible after kidding. The other challenge that seems more problematic is regularly updating your herd lists. We effectively pick up those changes recorded via the registration system, but we are very poor at recording stock that have died or been sold as unregistered stock. Our current records would suggest we have a huge national herd and that is clearly not correct. While this may appear just unnecessary paperwork it is important that we know our total stock numbers. One significant reason is to be able to advise exporters the size of the national Boer Goats herd and hence likely availability of stock. So when you receive your kidding list from Genetic Gains please promptly update the list with both new kids as well as changes to your herd since your last update.

Other matters of interest include

- A lack of export opportunities at the moment due in part to unavailability of Air New Zealand aircraft doing direct flights to our markets. I will keep you advised of any improvement in this situation to assist with herd planning.
- The Association will be supporting the Christchurch Show this year with an overseas judge. This is a great opportunity to come along to get an overseas perspective of our

animal standards and also to network with other breeders. Entries close on 29th September so urgent action required.

- We will also support the Wanaka Show again in 2026 and planning is already underway. Put the dates of 13th and 14th March 2026 in your calendar.

Good luck with your kidding and I look forward to seeing as many members as possible at the Christchurch and Wanaka Shows.

John Binney

johnbinney@iinet.net.au

WANAKA A&P SHOW 2025

Geoff Mitchell from Australia was the boer goat judge for the Wanaka Show on Friday 7th March. Geoff owns a large and successful breeding stud called Coomboona Boer Stud that has exported stock throughout Asia and the Middle East. He kindly agreed to run a session after the judging, which the public attended free of charge, to discuss many aspects boer goat farming.

WANAKA A&P SHOW RESULTS 2025

Class	First		Second		Third	
	Tag	Owner	Tag	Owner	Tag	Owner
450 Doe Kid Born after 1/7/24	CBG 2405	CBG	SVB 01/24	SVB	CBG 2404	CBG
451 Doe 12mths and under 24mths	SVB 09/23	SVB	RBB 2316	RBB	CBG 2303	CBG
452 Doe 24mths and under 36mths	CBG 2208	CBG				
453 Doe 36mths and over	CRU 21/54	SVB	RBB 19/18	RBB	CBG 2108	CBG
454 Buck Kid Born after 1/7/24	SVB 03/24	SVB	CBG 2403	CBG	CBG 2401	CBG
455 Buck 12mths and under 36mths	CBG 2301	CBG	CRU 22720	CBG	RBB 2306	RBB
456 Buck 36mths and over	WAB 2015	RBB				
457 Dam and Kid Progeny	RBB 18/5	RBB	CBG 2208	CBG		
458 Sire Progeny	CRU 22720	CBG				

Champion Classes

Champion Kid Doe	CBG 2405	CBG
Champion Senior Doe	SVB 09/23	SVB
Grand Champion Doe	SVB 09/23	SVB
Champion Kid Buck	SVB 03/24	SVB
Champion Senior Buck	WAB 2015	RBB
Grand Champion Buck	SVB 03/24	SVB
Supreme Champion Boer Goat	SVB 09/23	SVB

Owners

CBG	Criffel Boer Goats	John and Sandra Binney
RBB	Raynbird Boers	Marita and Burkhard Eisenlohr
SVB	Seaton Valley Boers	Christine and Graeme Lear

WANAKA SHOW 2025 – WORDS FROM GEOFF MITCHELL

I was privileged to be invited by the New Zealand Boer Goat Association to judge the 2025 Wanaka Boer Show for a second time after judging at Wanaka back in 2014.

The Wanaka show forms part of one of New Zealand's largest agricultural, pastoral & community events. Wānaka Showgrounds and Pembroke Park came alive, with livestock, agricultural equipment and products and a vast array of craft and home products and most importantly a lot of visitors.

The Boer goat section was extremely well positioned adjacent to the main entrance gate and judging took place on Friday morning. I was impressed with the number of visitors entering the showgrounds who wandered across to view the judging. Most people were intrigued by the goats and during my judging I was able to communicate to the public what I was looking for in the Boer Goats.

I thank the exhibitors from different parts of the South Island for making the effort to come and show their goats at Wanaka. Showing Boer Goats should not always be about winning ribbons, its more about networking and catching up with friends to see how they are progressing with their breeding programs. My observations from this show to my prior judging in 2014 is that the bucks have lost their masculinity and meat capacity whilst the does were a mixture of type lacking some width behind. At the completion of the show, we were all able sit down and relax with an open forum discussion.

I listened keenly to discussions on the issues confronting Boer Goat Breeders in New Zealand and also the commercial goat meat industry. Some of your issues are similar to what we are facing in Australia. I was asked many questions on my experiences with the Australian Boer Goat and commercial meat goat markets

It would appear, that we both face serious problems getting reasonable and cost effective access to Abattoir's. Covid and the current world financial situation had definitely impacted the demand for live export opportunities for fullblood Boer Goats

The Australian meat goat industry went through a significant growth surge on the back of high goat meat export prices. This flowed on to increased demand for commercial bucks and the prices paid, however a recent major downward restructuring of the export price grid has now eroded confidence resulting in low prices for bucks again.

We had some interesting discussions on how Australian breeders have improved the Boer Goats, particularly in the Red and Black solid coloured Boer Goats. Since the NZ genetic pool is much smaller, I suggested that the breeders work together sharing and using only the best bucks available. Your does determine your studs baseline path to genetic improvement, but this can only be maintained by careful selection and use of bucks.

The great thing about being able to sit down with other breeders and volunteers is the sharing of everybody's husbandry and farming experiences. I would urge all NZ breeders to make the effort to attend your shows even if you don't bring any goats.

On a social note, we all enjoyed a quiet dinner, beer and wine at Johns and Sandra's farm as the sun set behind the mountains overlooking Lake Wanaka. I'm told it's an annual event.

At the showgrounds on Saturday the goats were on display in pens attracting a steady flow of visitors. It's amazing to see the positive reactions of young children and teenagers to the Boer Goats and this all goes well the future of goats in New Zealand.

Finally, I would like to thank the New Zealand Boer Goat Association for the invitation to Judge at Wanaka and for the hospitality and friendships made with the exhibitors and volunteers.

Geoffrey Mitchell BBGAA Judge

Doe kid class



Champion Junior Doe



Doe hogget class



2th class



Doe 36 mths+ class





Champion Senior Doe (Reserve on left)
Grand Champion Doe



Buck kid class



Buck 12-36 mth class



Buck 36 mths +



Champion Senior Buck



Grand Champion Buck



Supreme Boer Goat Wanaka A&P 2025 SVB 09/23

MACKENZIE A&P SHOW 2025 & 2026

No boer goat entries in 2025. If anyone is interested in showing at Fairlie on Easter Monday in 2026 please let Jenny know on 021 318 369 so we can gauge interest and advise the show committee. It is a neat one day show and great to get the goats on show to the public. Also the chance to win a fabulous tartan for Champion Boer Goat!

NEW MEMBERS

Looking back on past newsletters, it's been a while since I did a welcome to new members. So apologies if you have been with us for a bit, but thank you for being a member of the NZBGBA!

SCF – Shady Creek Farm	Amanda Borrie	Paparoa, Northland
TTB – Totara Trig Boers	Nick & Rebecca Irwin	Cromwell, Central Otago
STE – Stellar Boers	Korran & Kathleen Larsen	Invercargill, Southland
MBS – MDS Boer Stud	Jason MacDonald	Kinleith, Waikato
BRA – Boera	Basil Victor	Waiotira, Northland
WSB – Whitestone Boers	Hedley John Exporters	Christchurch, Canterbury

NZBGBA AGM 2025

The AGM was held online on 18th May with only a few studs present. The 2025 executive is:

John Binney	President. Wanaka Show convenor
Brian Loughhead	Treasurer & Registrations
Marita Eisenlohr	Secretary
Jenny Bassett	Editor. Canterbury A&P Show convenor

CURRENT ACTIONS

- NZBGBA revised Constitution and Rules & Regulations ratified.
- Ongoing conversations with exporters.
- Planning for Canterbury and Wanaka shows.
- Discussion on membership issues.

Discussion on NZBGBA membership – submitted to Executive by Jenny Bassett, May 2025:

Maybe we need to relook at our aims for the next five years and provide this as a working document - this is what we want to achieve by 2030 and reviewed annually until that point to keep the focus. Some discussion points may be:

- *Increase membership by ?% each year (2025 = 18 as at the AGM, 2030 = ?) - and how do we try to achieve this?*
- *More annual register updates completed by members (number now from Julia & then future aim)*
- *Breeders Workshop - one every 2nd year?*
- *Judging school L1 - one every 5 years?*
- *Field visit - one every 2nd year as a minimum?*
- *Shows - continue with Wanaka & Canterbury each year with min 3 breeders exhibiting?*
- *Exports - work with exporting companies to get export orders successfully completed every 2nd year?*
- *Other things that might be helpful to say this is where we are at now, this is what we are aiming for by 2030.*

To help us with our aims and potential exports, we will be asking that you provide us with some data. In 2018, I (Jenny) organised a survey for members which was completed online via Survey Monkey. This gave us a snapshot of how many goats (registered & unregistered), what members wanted from the Association, what they attended, etc. Seven years ago we were concerned about the level of membership and it has reduced further now. We need to have some strategies to look at improving numbers of members and registered boer goats nationwide.

The Executive will decide what info we are wanting & you will be contacted in due course. We appreciate your co-operation with us to give us a better picture of where we are at now and potential to supply export orders, etc.

TRANSFERS OF REGISTERED ANIMALS

If you have sold animals and the purchaser wants to keep the animals and subsequent progeny registered, there are two major steps at time of sale. Ideally this would be completed as soon as possible, but is allowed up to six months from the date of sale (this is to minimize issues between all parties well after sale of animals).

1. Purchaser to become a member of the NZ Boer Goat Breeders Assn.
 - Form for new membership applications found in the membership section on www.nzbgba.nz
 - Current membership is \$125 per year.
 - The purchaser nominates a stud name and three letter prefix and this is approved by the Executive (after checking against previously registered names and prefixes).
2. Animal registrations are transferred to purchaser.
 - Forms are found in the membership section on www.nzbgba.nz
 - Each animal needs its' own form due to the details required on parentage, etc
 - Once the forms have been completed and signed by the purchaser, they get emailed to nzbgba@gmail.com.
 - The Vendor is then invoiced transfer fee/s by the NZBGBA.
 - Once paid, the NZBGBA will advise Genetic Gains to action the transfer of registered animals to the new owner.

It is the responsibility of the NZBGBA member to keep your herd register current. As a minimum, this should be on an annual basis with a completed kidding list (template is emailed out by Genetic Gains each year).

Contact Julia at julia@genetic-gains.co.nz for your current herd list & pedigrees, and update any animals on the register that have been sold (not for stud), died, etc.

EXPORT ENQUIRIES

Currently there are export enquiries for animals and semen which are in the early stages. No details as yet as to price, weights, contract, etc.

As with any export, it is not guaranteed until the goats have been paid for so if there are other opportunities for sales it may be recommended to take them. The NZBGBA advise potential overseas interests about the need for forward planning by the purchasers and exporters so that the breeders can make the appropriate decisions about their progeny.

NZBGBA SHIRTS & CAPS

Orders for NZBGBA branded merchandise – t-shirt and cap, please contact Marita via nzbgba@gmail.com

The attached photo shows past member Geoff modelling the new combination. Price will depend on number of items in each order, but approximately \$80 for both the cap and shirt.



CANTERBURY A&P SHOW 2025

Significant changes this year with the show being held from Thursday 13th to Saturday 15th of November, with the Boer Goat section being judged on **FRIDAY 14th NOVEMBER**. Goats will arrive from Thursday late afternoon, showing starts at 9am on Friday and continues throughout the day. Exhibitors and boer goats will be present on the Saturday and be able to leave on Saturday from 5pm. Dairy goats are exhibiting on Saturday and there will be no angoras present this year.

Working bee is being held on the weekend prior, normally from Sunday 1pm, but we may do this earlier due to other commitments. Please contact Jenny on 021 318 369 if you are able to help.

We are pleased to advise that Carole Axton from Australia is judging, and that we have secured our regular stewards Anna James and Peter Stewart. We welcome you to come and see the boer goats while judging on Friday, or view on Saturday. We will look at having a group dinner on the Friday evening – TBC. Numbers to Jenny 021 318 369.

If you have cups / trophies remember to get them engraved and cleaned & bring to the show (or post prior to Jenny Bassett, 1532 Tramway Rd, RD 1, Darfield 7571).

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES EXTENDED TO MONDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER @ 5PM.
NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED. WWW.THESHOW.CO.NZ**

CAROLE AXTON

Carole is a long-term Boer Goat breeder from the southern part of Victoria Australia., who now lives in Queensland.

Carole began her journey with Boer goats in the early 1990's while visiting a NZ quarantine station inspecting the new South African Angora goats. Having seen Boer goats there, she was most impressed with their appearance and potential. When the Boers were released from quarantine, her stud combined the genetics imported from NZ, together with other genetics imported direct from South Africa around year 2000.

Carole was one of the first established Boer goat Studs in Australia and successfully bred between 100 to 300 registered does a year.

Carole has shown Boer goats at National, State and local shows, as well as breeding and exporting Boers to various countries.

She is a 10-year experienced registered BGBAA Boer goat judge, as well as having special interest in providing training programs, breeders workshops, and husbandry information days.



NEWSLETTER

The editor welcomes articles, photos, etc for inclusion in the newsletter via bassetttag@outlook.com

We aim for a quarterly newsletter. Apologies that the Winter Issue did not eventuate due to health issues.

*Disclaimer: The information and opinions contained within this newsletter are not necessarily those of the New Zealand Boer Goat Breeders Association (NZBGBA).
We recommend seeking veterinary advice for any animal health issues.*