

# The East Coast Pygmy Goat Club Newsletter

Spring 2011

*East Coast Pygmy  
Goat Club*



It certainly has been a very long winter-thankfully Spring is now here. The 2011 Show season is underway! I am very proud to announce that there is a new show in New Jersey. The show will be held the first weekend of August, Judges: Doug Bragg, Jason Overman & Gail Degough. Pam Mayfield is the show secretary for this show, please contact her for more information. Information is also enclosed in our newsletter. We are currently working on holding the 3rd Annual Cynthia Malmrose Show in Chesterton, MD. Save the date: September 23 & 24 th. Judges TBA!

We would love to hear from our members...articles, photos, stories of your pygmy endeavors. Please feel free to send information to our editor, Hannah Atkins (hmatkins@cvm.tamu.edu).

Please remember to pay your dues if you have not already. Please mail your dues to Michael O'Kelly 145 Spencer Hollow Rd Springfield, VT 05156. Wishing you all a very successful year!

Michael O'Kelly

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## ECPGC Newsletter

### News and Announcements

#### **Membership Chair NEEDED:**

For more information contact

**ECPGC President, Michael O'Kelly:**

cfpygmygoats@aol.com

(802) 428-2243

#### **Have goats for sale?:**

Sell them through the ECPGC Newsletter for FREE!

Send the goats' information, your contact information and a picture to  
hmatkins@cvm.tamu.edu!



**Have you paid your dues for 2011?  
Pay now and don't miss the excitement!  
Membership forms are available on the club website:  
<http://ecpgc.yolasite.com/>**

**Forms and dues should be mailed to:**

**Michael O'Kelly  
145 Spencer Hollow Rd  
Springfield, VT 05156.**



## Spring 2011

### **1st Annual NPGA Region 5 Zone Show and Camden County 4-H Fair**

August 5th, 6th, and 7th, 2011

Held at Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds  
275 Bridgeton Pike (Route 77)  
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062

Sponsored by Key Brooke Farms LLC

Show Secretary: Pam Mayfield

Contact Information: (856) 889-0223 or keybrookefarms@yahoo.com

3 Wether, Buck, and Doe NPGA Sanctioned Shows Including 3 Master Champion Doe and Buck  
Classes

Showmanship Including an Adult Jackpot Class

1 Unregistered Doe and Buck Class

1 All Breed Jackpot Obstacle Course

Judges: 1st Doug Bragg, Burntwood Farms, Ohio; 2nd Jason Overman DVM, Simple Necessities,  
Virginia; 3rd: Gail DeGough

Win Money and Trophies!

Lots of Fun For All

Chinese Auction

50/50

In the Zone Cup

Door Prizes

Music, Entertainment, Amusement Rides, Great Food

#### **Anyone Interested in Presenting a Clinic?**

(Topic of Your Choice)

Please Contact the Show Secretary

#### **Want to Raffle Off a Pygmy Goat?**

Proceeds Split with Goat Owner

Please Contact the Show Secretary

**More Information Coming Soon**

**Hope to See You at the Show!**



# ECPGC Newsletter

## 2011 Eastern United States Show Schedule

### OPGA Lloyd Smetzer Memorial Show

July 16 & 17, 2011  
Wooster, OH  
Sheryl Howard: 740-745-1218; esfpygmygoat@windstream.net  
2 Doe, 2 Buck, 2 Wether Shows  
1st Judge: Rusty Repp  
2nd Judge: Sarah White

### The Goatie Mountain Getaway

July 23, 2011  
Boone, NC  
Maggie Leman: 919-596-0984; maggidans@msn.com  
2 Doe, 2 Buck, 2 Wether Shows  
1st Judge: Doug Bragg  
2nd Judge: To Be Determined

### 1st Annual NPGA Region 5 Zone Show & Camden County 4-H Fair

August 5, 6, 7th, 2011  
Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds  
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062  
Pam Mayfield, keybrookefarms@yahoo.com  
1st Judge: Doug Bragg  
2nd Judge: Jason Overman DVM  
3rd: Gail DeGough

### Ohio Family Classic

August 6 & 7, 2011  
Wooster, OH  
Sandy Vaught 330-201-3938 yardhoppergoats@aol.com  
2 Doe, 2 Buck, 2 Wether Shows  
1st Judge: Sarah Read; 2nd Judge: Mary Beth Guenther

### KPGC Summer Sizzle

August 20 & 21, 2011 (Sanctioned)  
Hagerstown, MD  
Maggie Leman 919-596-0984 maggidans@msn.com  
3 Doe, 3 Buck, 3 Wether Shows  
1st Judge: Debbie McGhee; 2nd Judge: Keith Harrell; 3rd Judge: Denise Fraser



# Spring 2011

## 2011 Eastern United States Show Schedule

### 3rd Annual ECPGC Cynthia Malmrose Show

September 17, 2011  
Chestertown, Maryland  
2 Jr Grand Doe, 2 Sr Grand Doe, 2 Buck, 2 Wether Shows  
Judges: Debbie McGhee & Christopher Rowley

### Get Your Goat Fall Show

October 1 & 2, 2011  
Wooster, OH  
Penny Clark 330-696-3900 saltboxfarm@aol.com  
2 Doe, 2 Buck, 2 Wether Shows  
1st Judge: Doug Bragg; 2nd Judge: To Be Determined

### NC State Fair

October 21 - 23, 2011  
Raleigh, NC  
Maggie Leman: 919-596-0984 maggidans@msn.com  
1 Doe, 1 Wether Shows  
Judge(s): TBA

### The Festival Of Pygmies

November 18 - 20, 2011  
Greensboro, NC  
Maggie Leman: 919-596-0984; maggidans@msn.com  
2 Doe, 2 Buck, 2 Wether Shows  
1st Judge: Debbie McGhee; 2nd Judge: To Be Determined



## Mommie Dearest

By Maxine Kinne

Not every doe is a perfect model of motherhood. She may take one look at those soggy kids and take a hike.

Mothering ability is one of the most highly valued heritable traits in all breeding animals. Females with poor mothering performance may pass this trait to their offspring. We don't want to select for a trait that forces us to bottle feed all the kids these does have. There are strategies you can use to outwit bad moms and convince them into taking their kids the first time this happens. Hopefully, they will get the idea and continue to be good mothers for the rest of their lives.

Make sure the kid acts normal. That generally means normal body temperature, teat-seeking behavior and the right odor. The law of the jungle dictates that kids who don't act right don't live. In the wild, they would slow down the mother or the herd and make many others susceptible to predation. (Humans are the only species that foster defectives.)

Chilled kids don't act right, and they won't eat even if the mother is a very good one. The neonate's body temperature can decline within an hour of birth, depending on weather and whether or not the doe had trouble delivering. Chilled kids need to be warmed up to 102° F (verified with a rectal thermometer). Put a heating pad in a cardboard box and set it on medium. Set the kid on the heating pad and put bath towels over it to retain the heat. Do not cover its head. Stay with the kid to make sure that its mother does not bite the electrical cord - she can electrocute herself.

Aside from behavior, maybe a rejective mother's sense of smell clues her the kid is defective. Kids also may pick up a strange odor when they are towel-dried if you use fabric softener. When one of my angora does attacked her son, I picked him up for a cuddle and realized that he smelled just like my laundry. Forget your squeamishness and pick up a big, gooey gob of placenta or amniotic fluid and rub it on the kid's head, back and especially its bottom. If that doesn't work well enough, a little Vicks VapoRub or peppermint extract on the doe's muzzle are good odor blockers.

Do you wear a lot of perfume? Does identify their offspring primarily by smell, at least for the first few days. Watch them smell bottoms every time the kids nurse. The kid who tries to sneak a sip from anyone besides his mom usually gets clobbered! Many dams are even fussy about which kid nurses which half of her udder. (I'm sure they name these Right Baby and Left Baby.) Use perfume judiciously for the first few days or of letting heavy Avon users fondle your kids.

## Mommie Dearest-cont'd

Difficult births may result in rejection. Take the placenta or some of the birth fluids and smear it all over the doe's nose and in and around her mouth. Often, her first few licks of it will elicit a positive mothering response. Most reluctant mothers get the idea and begin talking to and licking the kids. Pain medication will make her feel better (no aspirin!) and may get her back in the swing of things more quickly. (Consult your veterinarian about the use of analgesics!)

Sometimes a doe butts her newborn away or attacks it even more viciously. She can be encouraged to accept it. Build a small enclosure by nailing a short length of 1" x 10" wood planking in a corner to confine the kid (18" - 24" high for dairy goats). This allows her to see and smell the kid without doing it harm. Put mother and kids together for short periods while monitoring them, and separate them again if mom's attitude is still poor. This may take up to several days.

A stanchion can be very helpful during rejection. Lock the mother into the stanchion and plug the kid in to her udder. Make sure it nurses all it wants. Repeat this about four times a day. When the mother's smell comes through the baby's bottom, she may well accept it. This is particularly helpful if the kid has been given colostrum or milk from a source other than the mother.

It is rather rare for rejection to occur after the bonding process has taken place. This might be due to a kid who acts abnormally, although it would have to be pretty doggoned strange, or that a kid has been nursing another doe and picked up her smell. I've also heard of certain mothers who prefer one gender over another.

Here's to great maternal behavior and strong, healthy kids. But if you don't have one or the other, be patient and some of these suggestions ought to help. Many of these tricks also work to graft an orphan onto a surrogate mother. Good luck!



Photo submitted by Christine Raider

# ECPGC Newsletter

## Supplemental Feeding

By Dr. Kay Orlando, DVM (Reprinted from WPGC Newsletter, January/February 1997)

Two is company, three is a problem, and four is a real crowd when kids are nursing their dam. Triplets and quadruplets are not uncommon in pygmy goats. But these multiple births may produce problems when it comes to making sure that all the kids get enough to eat. Knowing when to supplement is critical for the survival of all the kids. Triplets that consist of all does or two does and a buck will commonly get by without supplemental feeding if the doe has enough milk. If one of the kids is smaller or two of the triplets are bucks, then the kids need to be watched carefully. One or more kids in a set of quadruplets commonly will need more milk than it is getting from mom. If you think that one or more of the kids will need extra help, try feeding right away. If all the kids seem to be getting enough food, watch the group carefully for the first week to ten days. Buck kids commonly get larger greedier and stronger than doe kids by this time.

Kids that are not getting enough milk will appear to be hungry all the time. Instead of playing when mom is through feeding, they will be trying to get more to eat. When the other kids are off exercising, hungry kids will stick by mom and try to eat the instant they get a chance. Hungry kids don't have as much energy for the usual play and will hang back from the others.

Preemie baby nipples with the hole made a little larger work well for feeding kids. Since pygmy milk is higher in fat than dairy goat milk, add ½ cup cream to a quart of pasteurized goats milk. This seems to satisfy the kids for a longer period. Usually twice a day feeding is sufficient if the kid is getting some milk from mom. With quadruplets, it may be easier just to take a bottle out twice a day and feed any of the kids that are hungry. If the kid does not nurse at all from mom, then you may want to increase its feedings to four times a day. After about six weeks of age, cows milk with the added cream can be substituted for goats milk.



# Spring 2011

## For Sale

**No goats for sale this newsletter!**

**Got an animal for sale?** Advertise here for **free!** Just send the goats' names, pedigrees, your contact info, and other relevant information to:

[hmatkins@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:hmatkins@cvm.tamu.edu)



## ECPGC Mission Statement:

The East Coast Pygmy Goat club is a nonprofit club founded January 2009 by fellow pygmy goat enthusiasts. Our knowledge, dedication and compassion will be the key to our success within this club. Our goal of dedication is to focus on the future of the Pygmy Goat by educating the new members, promoting health, longevity and the welfare of the pygmy goat. As a club we intend to have shows, seminars on management, health, reproduction and other challenges. Join us in our compassionate endeavor. The East Coast Pygmy Goat Club welcomes all. Owning a pygmy goat is not necessary to be a member. We do ask that you share the same interest, dedication and enthusiasm in the welfare of the pygmy goats and the future of the NPGA.





# ECPGC Newsletter

## Region 5 Directors:

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## Current Club Officers and Contact Information:

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**Website:** <http://ecpgc.yolasite.com/>



# Spring 2011

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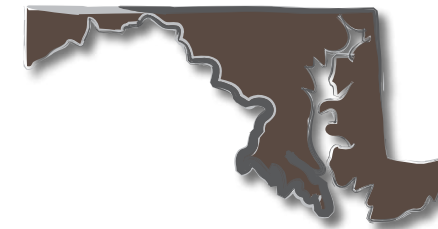
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# ECPGC Newsletter

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