



# KINDER GOAT BREEDERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER, 2000

## ANTI-GOAT PRODUCTS MESSAGE – REPORT FROM THE MIDWEST

First on July 20, 2000, and now again in the first week of January, 2001, the Today Show continues its incorrect messages about goat products. In the most recent show in a segment on different types of cheese, host Katie Couric made a point of saying that pregnant women shouldn't eat goat cheese because it isn't pasteurized.. A second woman, who said that she was pregnant, reported that her doctor had advised her to stay away from goat cheese entirely, pasteurized or not.

The show left the impression that all goat cheeses were of the fresh, soft variety, and unpasteurized. The American public needs to receive correct information – goat breeders need to 'rise up' and educate, educate, educate the uninformed, biased media. You can register your comments with the Today Show by e-mail at: [today@nbc.com](mailto:today@nbc.com).

Paul Hamby, Northwest Director of the United Missouri Goat Producers responded with an excellent letter to the Today Show. In it he expressed his disappointment with their misinformation, gave them a clear outline of the correct information, and offered to help them put together a positive segment on goat milk products in America.

Great job Paul! If more of us would take the time to respond to these frequent instances of bad information, perhaps our correct message would be heard!

*Pat Showalter*

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES!  
THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER IF DUES ARE NOT  
RENEWED BEFORE THE NEXT PUBLISHING DATE.**

...REPORT...DEAR...SWEET...NOTE...FLY...THE GOOD, THE BAD...WORRY...FUN...





## REPORT FROM THE REGISTRAR

At the closing of the books on 11/24/2000 there were a total of 142 registrations for the year 2000.

DOES – 109 1st generation – 4, 2nd gen. – 28,  
3rd gen. – 42, 4th gen. – 21, 5th gen. – 12, 6th gen. – 2

BUCKS – 28 1st gen. – 1, 2nd gen. – 6, 3rd gen. – 12,  
4th gen. – 6, 5th gen. – 2, 6th gen. – 1

WETHERS – 5 TRANSFERS – 68

*Margi Kehres-Ulrich  
KGBA Registrar*

## DEAR KGBA,

Well, another year's come and gone. Many changes for us this year at Quiet Dreams – the kidding season from hell (4 C-sections, all Pygmies), and apparently the Saanen buck courted a few Kinder does cuz we had several very white (mutt) kids. No problem kidding there though! 5 very pretty 4th generation doe kids, 5th's next year (I hope, it's sure taking us awhile). But I sure like these black and white girls born on Mother's Day – worth waiting for.

Once again Annie took Kinders to the Pacific County Fair. They were well received and one took Best of Show, Junior Doe, over some very nice Toggenburgs.

During the summer one of my 5 doe kids disappeared – don't know if she was stolen or a predator got her, but we were pretty upset and kept everyone close for quite awhile. We've also purchased 3 Cormo sheep. Interesting note, while others are getting guard llamas and guard dogs to protect goats and sheep, the Cormo ram has adopted the remaining 4 doe kids and nothing gets close to them, including the cat.

I'm including some research type information on 'that vinegar thing', (elsewhere in this Newsletter). Interpret as you will, I'm a believer. What doesn't show on the charts is that we've had no (not one) respiratory problem since we've started using the vinegar. Also 4 bucks and a wether and no urinary calculi. One other note: with, at times, over 40 goats, we've had just one case of mastitis (and that was) in a large, heavy milker whose teats often touched the ground. Like I said, I'm a believer!

This year we've purchased a new manufactured home, should be in by Christmas. We logged some trees (the goats ringed them last winter), finally bought a pickup, fenced another 5 acres, and as soon as the old mobile home is moved out, we're building a barn. Don't know which excites me more – a new house for my girls (daughters), or a new house for my girls (goats).

Well, Merry Christmas and a heartfelt wish for a good 'goating' year!

*Jeannie Colley  
Quiet Dreams  
Elma, WA*

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**MEMBERSHIP:**  
138 members; 34 states, 3  
countries(more or less)



## REMEMBER SWEET ALYSSUM?

Sweet Alyssum is one busy Kinder doe. It has been her job to introduce many people to the delights of raising Kinder goats. Just to bring you up to speed, she was born 6/28/94 in Snohomish, WA, the very first 5<sup>th</sup> generation Kinder goat. Even her ear tattoo records that historic event – F1ST5! As she matured, she continued to distinguish herself, first by giving birth to triplets on her first kidding, then by earning her production star (on butterfat) on her first lactation. It was not difficult with a butterfat average of 7.38%, and a high of 9.2%.

She was sold to the Kelly family of Santa Maria, CA as a bred doe, where she introduced the community to Kinder goats. With the Kellys, she continued to blossom into a gallon a day milker, and a prodigious producer of handsome offspring. Her second kidding produced 4 kids, then 6, 2, and 5 – all live births.

The Kelly family moved from California, and sold Alyssum, again bred, to her present owner and new Kinder enthusiast, Beth Serven. Beth is a new Youth member of the KGBA, and is getting an education about Kinders from her new doe. Part of that education has included a 6<sup>th</sup> uneventful kidding of triplet doelings, putting Alyssum's live birth total up to 23 kids. (The Kinder record of 28 live births [in 7 kiddings] is presently held by a cousin of Alyssum's, Zederkamm Buttercup, now retired.) Congratulations, Beth and Alyssum! Beth has shared photos of herself with Alyssum, and the triplet doelings, seen elsewhere in this Newsletter.

*Pat Showalter  
Snohomish, WA*

## A NOTE FROM BETH SERVEN:

Alyssum is the only Kinder we have right now (note written before the birth of the triplets). I am hoping to build up to 4-5 milking does (thanks to Alyssum, Beth could be there sooner than she expected!). I am 15 years old and the third in a family of eight. We use a lot of milk! My goal is to have enough milk for our whole family. I would also like to have extra does and bucks to sell if there ends up being a market for them.

I heard about Kinders through Mrs. (Susan) Marks, the owner of Laredo, the sire of Alyssum's recent triplets, and the Kelly family.

I raised three lambs last spring and summer to help fund my goat project. My brother and I remodeled a chicken house for the milking area, and built a fence. It has been a fun, challenging experience so far. I am looking forward to my first kidding with Alyssum.

I have been teaching my 5 year old sister how to care for the goat. I am hoping she'll learn to milk too. I hope to give her one of Alyssum's does. I'll let you know when she kids!

*Elizabeth Serven  
Pasa Robles, CA*



## TO FLY, OR NOT TO FLY – THAT IS THE QUESTION!

***This is the sad and frustrating tale of a failed Kinder shipment. Not to worry! All Kinders involved are fine and healthy, it is just that they didn't get to their planned destination. Hopefully, my 'tale of woe' will be instructional for others of you wanting to ship Kinders.***

I have been shipping first Pygmy Goats, then Kinders for quite a number of years, with 100% success and good experiences – until last fall. In the last 2 years, shipping options have become more and more limited, with a number of airlines giving up the shipping of livestock entirely. There are only two carriers now that regularly transport goats within the continental US – American Airlines, and Delta.

I have chosen to use American because their service has been excellent, and is usually at least ½ the cost of Delta's service. A recent drawback has arisen with their change to the use of many narrow-body aircraft. This means that they can transport nothing larger than a #400 kennel on most of their flights due to the smaller size of the loading doors. When I used American Airlines in 1997 to ship four height-extended #500 kennels and one #400 kennel, they were all able to go on the same flight together. Today the limit is two #400 kennels to the same destination on the same flight. (By the way, Delta does have some flights that will take a #500 kennel – but at a very high price!)

Those are the least of the problems, however. I learned the hard way that Air Cargo supervisors have the final say on all American Airlines shipments, no appeal, whether they follow the airline regulations or not. I know this firsthand, because I tried to appeal what I believed to be an incorrect decision to upper management, and was told in no uncertain terms that American backs their supervisor's decisions, right or wrong.

The experience began well – I shipped two Kinders in #400 kennels to Missouri. They were weighed and checked in at Sea-Tac International (Seattle/Tacoma) air cargo facility without problems, and made an uneventful trip to Kansas City International, through Chicago. Two smaller Kinders were to come back to Sea-Tac, in the same kennels, starting at KCI. Health certificates were all in order, reservations made, then a two hour trip to the airport. Easy, wouldn't you think?

Wrong! KCI has an Air Cargo supervisor who doesn't follow the airline's published requirements – he has his own personal set. He looked at the kennels, and pronounced them to be too small. The goats could lift their heads and touch the top of the kennels! (Does he realize that no kennel is tall enough to preclude that?) In addition, he noted that their hind legs were 'bent' (has he ever heard of 'angulation'? ). Shipment refused! ***The goats are still in Missouri.***

If you read the published requirements for acceptance of a livestock shipment for a domestic flight, they read "Kennel requirements – will allow the animal to easily stand, sit, lie down in a natural manner". Don't commit to a shipment



## **SWEET ALYSSUM – PHOTOS**



**Alyssum with Beth**

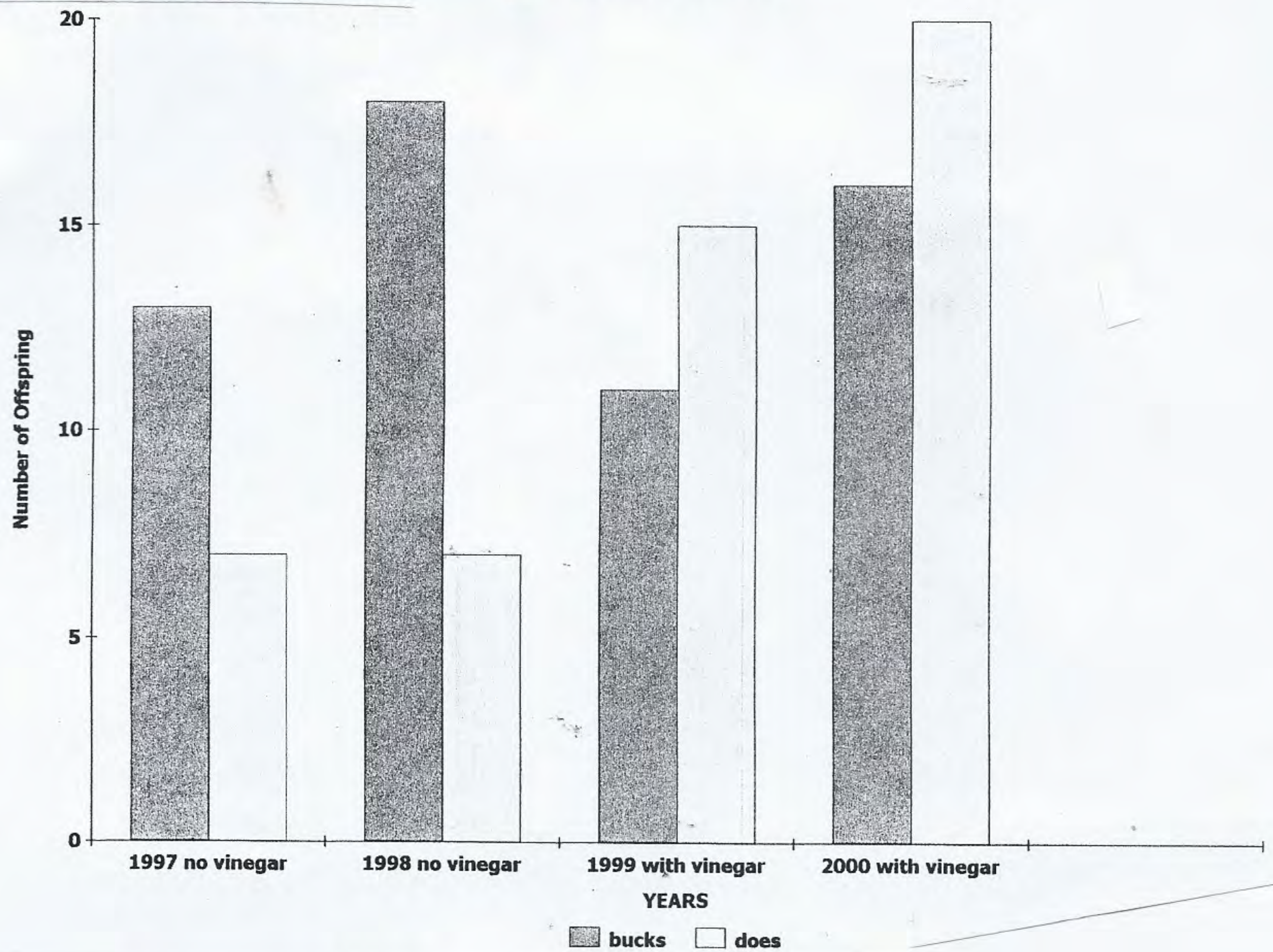


**Alyssum's Year 2000 Triplets**

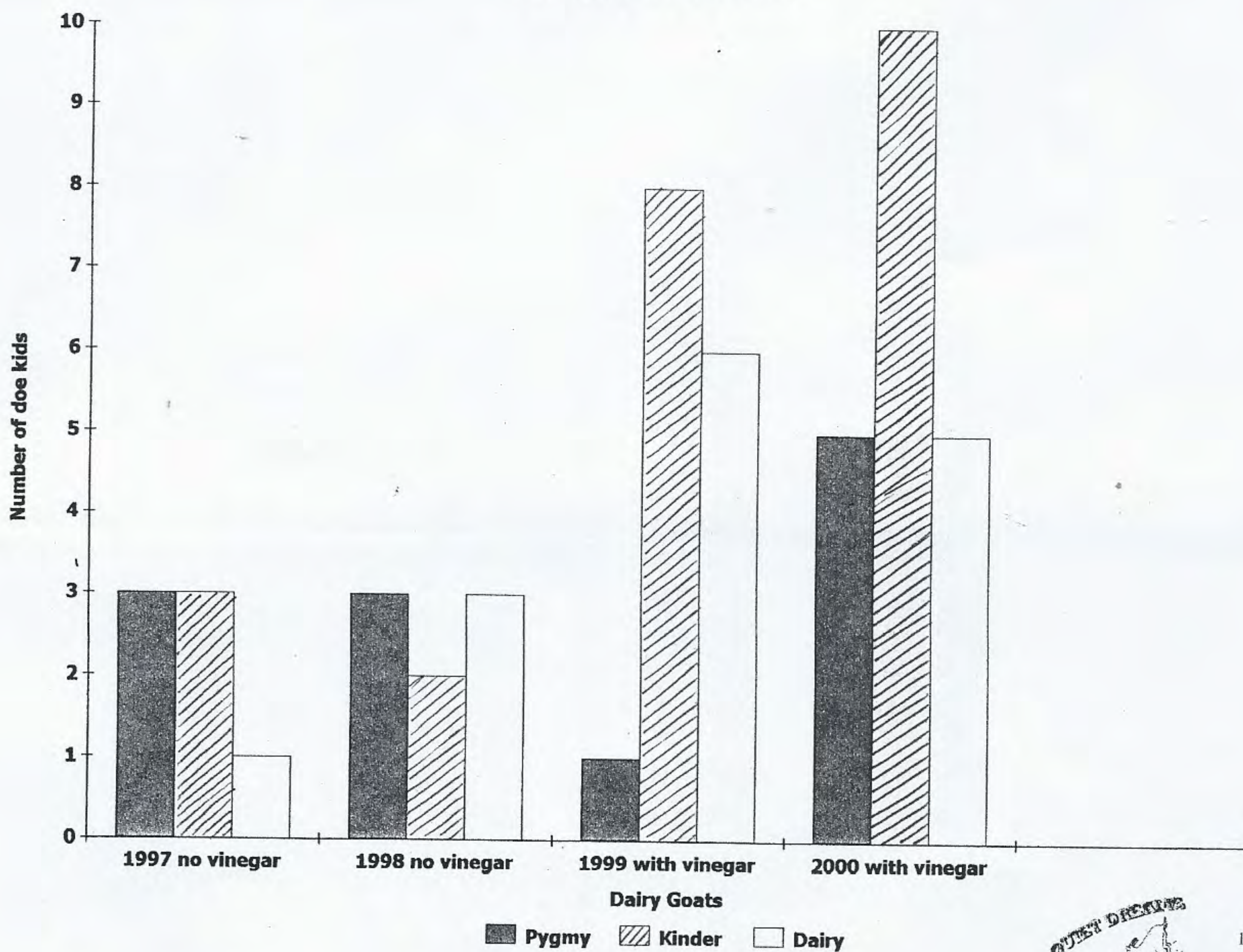


# 'THE VINEGAR THING' GRAPHS

Vinegar Use Results



## Comparison of Breeds



Jeannie Colley  
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without checking out your Air Cargo supervisor! He/she is not required to stick to the airline's published regulations – or at least, they can interpret them so broadly as to make them quite unlike the original. The only other alternative was Delta, but their \$500+ as opposed to American's \$240 put the shipment out of my budget parameters at the time.

I did check out what I had been told might be another alternative shipper, PetAir. This is a company that arranges shipments through the standard carriers – whichever are available. Their advertised prices appeared to be a bit more than American, but a lot less than Delta – but beware! Things are not as they seem on their website (<http://www.flypets.com>)! They have a nice, neat page of requirements for the shipment of dogs and cats. The kennel size requirements that they post are the same as those published by American Airlines.

When I typed in that I wanted to send a 60# goat from KCI to Sea-Tac in a #400 kennel, the next day I received an e-mail response that said the following: *"The cost of shipment that you requested would be about \$169. All prices are subject to change and will be confirmed when a reservation is made. Company policy only allows us to do shipments for known shippers. To become a known shipper you need to mail in a completed shipping contract application and have it approved. A copy of our shipping contract can be found on our website at <http://www.flypets.com>. Application takes at least seven days from time of receipt of original to be verified."* Sounds simple? You can FAX or e-mail the completed contract with your non-refundable \$25 application fee (it won't be processed without payment, of course).

I still had a few questions, including the duration of the contract (1 year from date of application), so decided to call and talk to someone at PetAir directly to get clarification. ***Good thing that I hadn't sent them any money! I found out that I could not have shipped a 60# goat in a #400 kennel through them at all!***

They follow International livestock shipping regulations exclusively (IATA), and no animal over 50# can be shipped in a plastic airline kennel. Over that 50# limit, a specially built solid wood crate is required. If goat and crate together weigh more than 132# (a probability with a solid wood crate) it must have fork-lift spacer bars built in. I was greatly disappointed to have been so misled. PetAir did take the trouble to FAX me a copy of the IATA regulations, if anyone is interested in seeing them, ***but don't believe their website information!***

The story is still unfinished, but hopefully can be concluded later this spring with the shipment of two small Kinder kids from Missouri to Washington. I'll let you know what response, if any, I get from my letters of complaint to American Airlines, and PetAir. My faith in the system has been thoroughly shaken, and ***I've learned not to trust anyone's word without very thorough investigation and questioning of every detail from several different directions.*** Honesty and open disclosure, and concern for the customer seem to have become a rare commodity in the current business world, and I am saddened.

***Pat Showalter  
Snohomish, WA***



## WHAT DO YOU WANT FIRST – THE GOOD NEWS, OR THE BAD?

Tuberculosis bovis is an ancient disease that has been around in this world for a long time. It was once very common in the US, but for years now has been rare. In 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries, such as some of the African nations, it is still prevalent, and infecting thousands of head of livestock – including goats. Because it is often ignored in these areas, humans are severely affected by the disease as well.

A young college student from our town of Snohomish, WA, just recently returned from a government grant funded 10 month study program in Tanzania. Participants were testing livestock for TB, and trying to educate the populace about the dangers, the need to eradicate the disease, and methods of doing so. It seemed a nearly impossible task to stop what amounts to an epidemic largely ignored.

Humans can avoid infection by avoiding eating infected meat – but they must be willing to determine whether or not there is infection. How do you convince a livestock owner who counts his wealth in his stock, that his animals must be tested. – but on the other hand, if they are found to be diseased, he must destroy them all. How do you convince people that the milk would be safe to drink if only they would pasteurize, but in a tropical country with little electricity and little firewood and already too much heat, who wants to comply?

But here in the US with all of our marvelous technology – we're safe, right? Ask Texas, where they have documented a number of cases along their border with Mexico. Better yet, ask Michigan – they are currently struggling to control a recent outbreak of bovine TB there.

In October of 1997, bovine TB was showing up sporadically, first in wild deer, then in captive deer herds in the Northeast corner of the state of Michigan. Five counties were designated as High Risk Areas, and testing of dairy and beef cattle was begun. In January of 1998, the governor issued an Executive Directive requiring three state agencies to jointly develop an eradication strategy. The first thing they did was to put in place an indefinite ban of new deer and elk farms in the 5 county area, and restricted the feeding of wild deer.

By November of 1999, the 4<sup>th</sup> herd of beef cattle was confirmed infected, and in January 2000, TB infected deer were identified for the first time outside of the Movement Restricted Area. In the next few months, three more counties reported infected deer. Several more beef herds and a dairy herd were also confirmed to be infected. The 'cure' – total depopulation of the affected herds!

In May, 2000, Congress appropriated the first \$6 million in federal funds to fight bovine TB in Michigan. At the end of June, 2000, the USDA finally officially lowered Michigan's status as a TB free state – they weren't controlling it. Compulsory statewide testing of all cattle went into effect, and must be completed in a 12 month period. Northeast Michigan has their own, tougher requirements All dairy herds in those original 5 counties must have annual testing for bovine TB by October 20 of every year.



Why should all of this be of interest to goat breeders? Goats are specifically at risk for bovine TB because of their close relationship to deer. I'm surprised that in all the reports of testing, goats were not mentioned. I have seen deer grazing in pastures with goats, just as I have seen deer grazing with cows. It is only a matter of time before goats will be affected too.

***The good news is that an all-out effort is now under way to stop the disease, and there is plenty of helpful information available to keep breeders updated on the progress of the battle.*** You're familiar with the old saying, 'to be forewarned is to be forearmed'? It is not difficult to discover how to protect your family and your livestock. Check out your own state veterinarian to find out the status of livestock disease in your area. Attend those goat workshops and conventions where guest speakers come to keep us informed. Check out the Internet, join some goat e-groups – great sources of information. To see how Michigan is reporting their problem and progress, take a look at their excellent website at <http://www.bovinetb.com/SubPage.asp?sec=1>.

*Pat Showalter*

## **NEED ONE MORE THING ON YOUR WORRY LIST?**

For some fascinating, but terrifying reading on Mad Cow Disease and its human counterpart, Creutzfeld-Jacob Disease (CJD), variants of which can affect sheep (scrapie) and goats, take a look at the first article in a series written by Geri Guidetti of the Ark Institute. She calls the series 'Apocalypse Proteins', and when you read it, you'll see why! The web address is <http://www.arkinstitute.com>.

In Part 1 there is a description of an apparently new variant of the human form of Mad Cow Disease (nvCJD) that is believed to be the first case of blood transmission of the disease. The case involves a young mother who died of the disease seven months after giving birth to a little daughter. Now the eleven month old baby is gravely ill with the same disease – apparently infected in utero.

It was originally believed that there was an incubation period averaging 10 ½ years after eating infected beef. With these two new cases, the spectre of an increasing nightmare may be unfolding in the UK – contaminated blood supply from infected donors, and contaminated surgical instruments. (No sterilization techniques now known are sufficient to disable the disease organism.)

Scrapie, in sheep, is a closely related disease that is suspected of starting the current problem in cows in Europe, and it has come within the US borders. Members of a herd of several hundred sheep in Vermont were discovered to be infected, and were all destroyed. The source of the disease was probably Europe, since some of the sheep had been imported. You probably have read occasional reports on measures being taken to forestall the spread of this disease within our borders. For updates on the problem, there are two other excellent websites. For links to reports published in scientific journals, go to <http://www.mad-cow.org>. For media updates, go to <http://www.rense.com> and go to the bottom of the home page and look in the list of articles under 'HEADLINES'. You'll find quite a few articles listed.

*Pat Showalter*



## **JUST FOR FUN – A SPECIAL KGBA DRAWING!**

At the suggestion of our Registrar, to encourage Kinder breeders to more actively market their stock, we're having a voluntary drawing just for the fun of it. In this Newsletter you will find an entry form.

If you would like to participate, just fill out the form and return it to the KGBA by February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2000. There will be a series of three separate drawings, done at the end of the first week in March.

**DRAWING #1 PRIZE** – one year listing of your farm (\$35 value) on the Kinder Breeders Page in Dairy Goat Journal.

**DRAWING #2 PRIZE** – 1 copy of The Kinder Moments Gestation Calendar, 2001

**DRAWING #3 PRIZE** – 2 free Kinder goat registrations – buck, doe, or wether, any generation

***Why not give it a try? For the cost of a new \$.34 stamp, you could be a winner!***

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