

## **GOAT NEWS from South Africa 2002.**

### **1. Goat Webpage developed at the Library of the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria**

A Goat Webpage has been developed by Amelia Breytenbach in the Library at the Faculty of Veterinary Science. Please visit this site, which has links to other sources of information.

The address of the Webpage is: [www.up.ac.za/asservices/ais/vet/goatweb.html](http://www.up.ac.za/asservices/ais/vet/goatweb.html)

### **2. A Small Ruminant Research and Development Network for South Africa (SA SR-NET) and for the SADC Region (SADC SR-NET)**

A Small Ruminant Network has been established for South Africa (SA-SRNET).

The nominated representative for South Africa is Ned Donkin (email: [ndonkin@op.up.ac.za](mailto:ndonkin@op.up.ac.za)).

Alternatively, contact Heleen Els (e-mail: [hels@op.up.ac.za](mailto:hels@op.up.ac.za)) or Gavin MacGregor (e-mail: [hpsagm@mweb.co.za](mailto:hpsagm@mweb.co.za)). The Network is growing, and people are encouraged to join. It is linked to networks in other countries in Southern Africa. News and information are distributed, and the idea is to include as many people as possible in South Africa, from those who are interested in small ruminant production.

### **3. Small Ruminant Conference, October 2002**

A successful Small Ruminant conference was held from 30<sup>th</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October 2002, in co-operation with the Developing Animal Agriculture Interest Group of the South African Society for Animal Science (SASAS-DAAIG), at Jan Kempdorp near Kimberley in the Northern Cape Province.

### **4. The Fifth International Sheep Veterinary Congress, 2001**

This Congress was held at Stellenbosch, South Africa, in January 2001. A wide range of papers was presented encompassing management as well as veterinary aspects of sheep and goat production. The proceedings are available on a CD from Gareth Bath (e-mail: [gfbath@op.up.ac.za](mailto:gfbath@op.up.ac.za)) or Ken Pettey (e-mail: [kpettey@op.up.ac.za](mailto:kpettey@op.up.ac.za)). The website is: <http://www.up.ac.za/academic/lhpg>. This is also linked through the goat webpage.

### **5. The Eighth International Conference on Goats (2004)**

In 2004, the Eighth International Conference on Goats (ICG) will be held in South Africa, and this will be the first time on the African continent. The intention is to make it a unique opportunity for Southern Africa in particular, and not only for South Africa. We are looking for support from all people involved in this field of endeavour, in order to ensure that this Conference is a great success.

Norman Casey of the University of Pretoria is the Chairman of the Organizing Committee (e-mail: [icgsa@icon.co.za](mailto:icgsa@icon.co.za)). The website is at: [www.icgsa.co.za](http://www.icgsa.co.za)

### **6. Other information sources about goats**

- The Angora goat breeders produce four million kg of mohair each year. At present prices are very favourable. There is a wide selection of excellent animals to choose from. For more information about the industry, visit the website: [www.mohair.co.za](http://www.mohair.co.za), or contact Frans Loots at e-mail: [info@mohair.co.za](mailto:info@mohair.co.za)
- Boergoats are in great demand as the best meat producing goat breed. There is a wide selection of breeders to choose from. For more information visit the website: <http://studbook.co.za/boergoat/index.html> or contact the Society at e-mail: [society@studbook.co.za](mailto:society@studbook.co.za)
- For information about other breed societies, go to the Goat Webpage (see above).
- Research on goats is carried out by a wide range of organizations across the country. For a review see: Ramsay & Donkin (2000): *A review of the current status of goat research and development in South Africa*. Go to the Goat Webpage.