

## THE SMELL OF FALL...

### BUCK HOUSING AND MANAGEMENT

By Suzanne W. Gasparotto  
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Onion Creech Ranch  
Tennesseeatgoat.com

Male goats have one purpose in life -- breeding. The instinct to reproduce is stronger than anything else -- even eating; bucks will often go off-feed when in rut. Producers should give much thought and preparation into buck housing, pasturing, and overall management. A primary consideration is good fencing. Good fences make good neighbors -- and prevent unplanned pregnancies -- by keeping does and bucks apart.

Do not pen or pasture bucks across a common fence from breeding-age does. Typical goat (or \*field\*) fencing will not prevent through-the-fence breeding. Don't depend upon gate chains or latches to keep does and bucks apart; wire gates shut and check them regularly. Rutting bucks and flagging does have been known to literally lift gates off hinges and "make a party." Does who get bred under such circumstances are known at Onion Creek Ranch as "party girls." Despite all our efforts, one or two does a year manages this feat.

The solution at Onion Creek Ranch has been to create a center alley 25 feet wide, with large paddocks to the left and right of it. Bucks are pastured on one side of the alley; does, on the other side. This of course means that bucks are up against other bucks during rutting season, so pasture fencing has been paneled over with 20 ft long by 4 ft high six-gauge "cattle panels" of 4" x 4" squares -- and they still beat up the fencing, but it contains them.

Polled (born without horns) bucks are pastured separately from horned bucks. When rutting season arrives in Texas' hot climate, bucks in a given pasture will select a buck to chase, harass, mount, and generally treat as if he is a desired mate as they practice breeding techniques. If polled bucks are penned with horned bucks, that sought-after male is usually the less aggressive polled buck. Horns serve as radiators for removing heat from the goat's body. Polled bucks by definition have no radiators. This writer has lost two terrific polled bucks to death from heat stroke thanks to sexual harassment by multiple horned males.

At Onion Creek Ranch, there are three buck pastures. The old bucks (over eight years of age) are pastured together. Bucks 18-24 months old to eight years of age occupy another paddock. Males under 18 months of age live in a third pasture. Since separate space for polled bucks usually isn't available, they are pastured with the youngest group of bucks over whom they can exert dominance.

When moving bucks into buck paddocks, the producer should be prepared for male-on-male activity to establish the new members' places in the pecking order. Goats are serious herd animals and have a fairly rigid pecking order within each herd. Minimize the problems that these actions will cause by (1) never introducing a single buck into a new herd; (2) taking climate/weather into consideration and moving them during the most favorable time of the day (coolest in hot climates and warmest in very cold climates, never during rain or snowstorms, etc.); and (3) penning bucks with other males of similar size and age. Example: Remove bucks from breeding pens and house two or more together for at least a week so that they can form their own mini-herd before moving them to the larger buck pasture. Think like a goat; both you and your goats will be less stressed.

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In this issue, you will find the Purebred Oberhasli Breeders List compiled by Diane Giliberti of Pipers Ridge Farm. There are a number of folks that are interested in continuing the purebred line of Oberhasli, and they find it increasingly hard to find purebred genetics. The purpose of this list is to help advertise those breeders who offer purebred Oberhasli kids for sale.

To be added to this referral list, please contact Diane at [pipersridge@yahoo.com](mailto:pipersridge@yahoo.com)

### FROM THE MEMBERS...

*By Erin Cooper*

So, you're thinning your herd and as you watch the new owners drive away, you wonder... "Do they understand what a treasure they have in their new Oberhasli?"

This is where I found myself this Spring. I was glad to have buyers for the kids and milkers, but what I really wanted was new "converts" to the love of the Oberhasli. How could I do that? What could I do to help these folks appreciate more the beautiful animal they just purchased?

After a lot of thought I believed that I needed to get them connected with other breeders and lovers of the breed. I wasn't sure how to do that since I couldn't afford to give them all a paid membership to the OGC. I contacted our Club's President to see what options I might have and discovered she was completely in favor of this kind of promotional. After kicking around a few ideas, it was decided that OGC would send my buyers one free Club newsletter and invites to join the Club.

I am very happy that my buyers will get the extra benefit of a Club newsletter and "my" goats will get the benefit of new owners who are networked with others who love this special breed. Call or email Elise today to get your new owners this special benefit!

# PUREBRED BREEDERS

## Florida

Rachelsie Farm, Inc.  
Elise Shope Anderson  
1035 Bardin Road  
Palatka, FL 32177  
rachelsie@yahoo.com  
http://rachelsie.250x.com  
Purebred & Purebred Polled Oberhasli  
LA / DHIA /Buck Service / Semen / Kids

## Iowa

Kleckners  
Sharen Kleckner  
2079 Hwy. 59  
Denison, Iowa 51442  
sharenhide@yahoo.com  
http://klecknerdairygoats.tripod.com  
LA

## Kansas

Meadowsong  
Jim Flak  
12710 Hanson Road  
Saint George, KS 66535  
785-494-8055  
jim\_the\_goatman@yahoo.com

## Michigan

Firstfruits Farm  
Bob & Diane Taylor  
1517 Camp 5 Road  
Crystal Falls, Michigan 49920  
906-542-3616  
www.firstfruitsoberhasli.net  
LA / Stud Service

## Missouri

Shamrock Farm  
Barbara Stewart  
13749 Farm Road 1055  
Cassville, MO 65625  
417-652-7400  
stewartfarms@mo-net.com  
www.shamrockdairygoatfarm.com

## New York

Red Doe Farm  
Candace Pantane  
4194 Davis Corners Road  
Morrisville, NY 13408  
315-761-2994  
cpantane@m-ecs.org  
LA, Stud Service, CAE Neg. Does

## Ohio

Lindisfarme Herd  
Linda M. Oliver  
1618 Lewisburg Western Road  
Lewisburg, OH 45338

## Pennsylvania

Swiss Dreams  
Elizabeth A. Schnebel  
2501 Scott Wallace Road  
Enon Valley, PA 16120  
207-290-1238  
Eschnebel@aol.com  
Buck Service

## Tennessee

Trinity Rose  
Arden Ward  
Murfreesboro, TN 37128  
info@trinityrosetn.com  
http://www.trinityrosetn.com/  
Participation in LA, DHIR -- Linear Appraisal  
Stud Service

## Texas

Rivard Farm  
Rick & Laura Rivard  
Riesel, TX 76682  
254-715-3605  
ltrivard@valornet.com

## Virginia

Cherokee Tears & Liddle Tears  
Molly Crum & Sandy Crum  
Nokesville, VA  
703-791-3130  
cherokeetears@comcast.net  
http://www.angelfire.com/mo2/morningstar

Pipers Ridge Farm  
Diane & Darryl Giliberti  
1310 Mill Creek Road  
Meherrin, VA 23954  
434-223-2792  
pipersridge@yahoo.com  
www.pipersridgefarm.com

Windkist Acres  
Rosemarie & Kyle Goad  
548 Buffalo Vista Lane  
Willis, VA 24383  
540-931-6491  
www.windkistacres.net

## Wisconsin

BluMoon Oberhasli  
Cindy Kettunen  
P4208 Pine View Road  
Birnamwood, WI 54415  
715-449-2285  
blumoonobers@gmail.com

## Washington

Edelweiss Acres  
Donna Semasko  
Olympia, WA 98516  
360-742-8310  
edelweissacres@comcast.net  
http://home.comcast.net/~edelweissacres/  
Stud Service

# SEMEN BANK

BUCK	PB/AM	ADGA #	Straws Available
Aplenglow Mr Sinbad	AM	AB0991988	7
Cardinal-Lanes Prophecy	PB	B1214875	20
Cardinal-Lanes Valiant Patrick	PB	B1001107	10
GCH SV Nostalgic Loverboy Supreme	AM	AB0764517	2
Gretchenhof Crimson Tyde	PB	B1214699	30
Gretchenhof L. Tristan (polled)	BP	B1115205P	50
Highwater Alchemist	AM	AB0829523	65
Highwater Hal	AM	AB1085431	4
Highwater Hellzapoppin	AM	AB1100817	20
Highwater Sasha	AM	AB0802404	40
Highwater Troubadour	AM	AB1183109	10
Hyonahill Anything Goes	AM	AB0916338	10
Lyme Kiln O A Steppenwulf	PB	B0694939	5
Meadowsong Ace Remus	PB	B0958132	29
Meadowsong Alec Levi	PB	B0963102	10
Meadowsong Cody's Manfred	AM	AB1068004	9
Meadowsong D. Xergio	PB	B1076964	35
Meadowsong Levi Amos	PB	B1014128	20
Meadowsong Owen Asset	PB	B1135851	13
Meadowsong Rewind Dmitri	PB	B1068017	10
Meadowsong Rewind Yuri	PB	B1067992	10
Meadowsong WD Aristocrat	PB	B1076955	10
Meadowsong Winner's Rupers (polled)	PB	B1014126P	5
Mornim's Firefox	AM	AB1035000	9
Prancing Conan The Barbarian	PB	B0931580	18
Prancing Geronimo	PB	B1082676	25
Prancing Hedrick's Hey Joe	PB	B0102510	10
Prancing Lasher of Aplenglow	PB	B0991500	37
Prancing Neanderthal Man	PB	B0897611	8
Seekhaven-Farm Ezekiel	AM	AB1077842	18
Seneca Valley's Felix	AM	AB0643945	30
SG Clovertop's Salvadore	AM	AB0839930	20
SG Windrace Farm Saturn N Zeus	AM	AB1001913	10
The LLL Apollo Thirteen	AM	AB1088916	20
Tonka-Tails Hawkeye N The Wild	AM	AB0966749	10
Tonka-Tails Sir Chesterfield	PB	B0832753	20
Windrace Farm Bo Aztec	AM	Ab1033724	18
Windrace Farm Jester	AM	AB1085439	80

# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE OR TRADE

Foundation pure Zebu calves, excellent pets, companions, breeding stock. For hay, dairy goats, equipment. Ask we might!  
Mullins Croft Farm  
(813)653-3441  
mullinsmules@aol.com

Handmade Cold Process Goats Milk Soap - made with all natural products - essential oils and herbs.  
Fastrack@Distributor - First in direct fed microbials.  
Michelle Kuettner  
(229) 686-6863  
kickinksoapcompany.com

Luv Your Mug!™  
Shaving Soap With Slip!  
Got Sensitive Skin?  
I Luv Your Mug!™, You should too.  
Please visit our website for a full list of products and herd information.  
Wild Branch Naturals  
(715) 696-3286  
www.yahswildbranch.com

Animals, hay, equipment, for sale or trade. Contact Rachel Anderson @ chaoskos@gmail.com or P.O. Box 898  
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043

The first 25 words are free for members with .10 per word after. Non members are .10 per word. Please include contact information when sending in classifieds

Submissions to the newsletter can be sent either by mail:  
P.O. Box 898 Green Cove Springs, FL 32043  
or email: chaoskos@gmail.com

## Issue

First Quarter: Jan. Feb. Mar.  
Second Quarter: Apr., May., Jun.  
Third Quarter: Jul., Aug., Sept.  
Fourth Quarter: Oct., Nov., Dec.

## Deadline

December 20  
March 20  
June 20  
September 20

## Ad sizes and rates:

1 1/2" x 3" \$10.00/issue \$35.00/year  
3" x 6" \$25.00/issue \$85.00/year  
4 1/2" x 3" \$35.00/issue \$120.00/year  
4 1/2" x 9" \$50.00/issue \$350.00/year

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