



## American Goat Industry News



### Greetings from AGF!

It's been a while since our last regular newsletter and a lot has been happening this summer and Fall. We are preparing for the annual meeting in January and anyone who wishes to, is welcome to attend. Information about meeting details will be shared on the website and facebook page as it's gathered.

THANKS to all members who have renewed their 2018 memberships and a very special thanks those who renewed their affiliate memberships! AGF is pleased to welcome new Individual Members: Jenny Britton, Jona Fletcher, Randy Dusek, Tyler Roper, David Parrott, William Becknal, Nicole Beauregard, Gary Norfolk, Brandon Manning, Joe Huff, and George Crowder. AGF is also pleased to welcome new Affiliate Members: Paul Brown, Independence Wool and Mohair; Kelly Holder, Ward-Holder Ranches; Raphael Holder, Ward-Holder Ranches.

Thanks to our new Industry Partners for their contributions: New Sustaining Partner is ALLFLEX USA and new Contributing Partner is Columbus Serum. Help us show appreciation by using these companies products when you can.

If you would like to join the federation, and/or renew your membership and take advantage of the discounts you can contact the office or select: [JOIN AGF](#)

*Memberships renewed after October 31, 2018 will be good through February 29, 2020.*

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#### 2019 AGF Annual Meeting

The 2019 Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday Jan 22, at the New Orleans Marriott.

Business Meeting: 8:00 am - 12 Noon

Education Sessions: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Possible optional information session may follow meeting. [More Information](#)

~~~ 2019 GOAT STUDY ~~~



VFD Audits

2019 AGF Annual Meeting

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2018 National FFA Convention Report

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**Eat Healthy - Visit the Meat & Dairy Goat Products Page**  
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### **For Farmers By Farmers**

Farmers.com is a new and innovative website and authenticated portal being built by USDA around the needs of America's farmers, ranchers and other producers. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

### **ATTENTION AGF MEMBERS**

**Watch your email or mail for the proposed revisions to the AGF By-Laws that will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on January 22.**

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### **NEWS OF NOTE**

This is a national study conducted every 10 years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS). About 4,700 goat producers (with 5 or more goats) in 25 of the major goat-producing states will be asked to participate.

### **Participants in the 2019 Goat Study will receive:**

- Parasite fecal egg count reduction test results
- Scrapie resistant genotype test results
- Culture results for presence of selected ecal bacteria and antimicrobial susceptibility. *To learn more, visit NAHMS*

### **2018 Scrapie & Q Fever Scholarship Recipients**

Each of the following young adults received a \$1,000 scholarship, funded through a grant from USDA/APHIS, to use toward their educational pursuits. **CLICK ON THE PICTURE TO VIEW THE RECIPIENT'S PROJECT.**



Courtney Newman, from Fort Collins, Colorado, is a freshman at University of Wyoming studying Agricultural Economics and Animal Science. She graduated from high school last May with a high school diploma in addition to Associate degrees in Agriculture Business and Animal Science from Aims Community College. Courtney raises LaMancha dairy goats and has shown dairy goats competitively across the country. She has been heavily involved in 4-H and was named an All-American at the 2017 National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest.

Courtney did a tri-fold poster presentation on both scrapie and Q Fever.  
[View Courtney's project](#)



Leigha Whitaker, from Dyer, Tennessee, is a freshman at the 2 year Dyersburg State Community College. She plans to continue her education after that at the University of Tennessee to pursue a degree in Animal Science. Leigha is a member of the American Boer Goat Association and has her own herd of 86 registered Boer Goats, all of which were purchased using her winnings from her fair and show money, savings and profits from selling offspring from her goat herd.

Leigha wrote an eight page paper with references on scrapie for her project.  
[View Leigha's Project](#)



Kyler Mason, from Bedford, Indiana, graduated from Bedford North Lawrence High School this past May and will be attending Vincennes University for two years before transferring to Purdue University to pursue a degree in Ag Education. Kyler has been an integral part of his family's K2M Farms since 2009 when they purchased their first Boer goats. Kyler is an FFA member and was a 10 year member of 4-H and has shown both at 4-H and open shows. He has helped with the



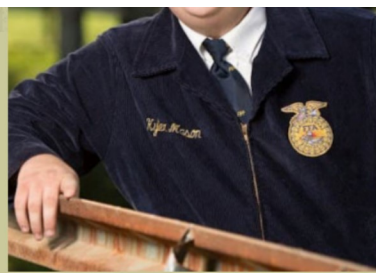
**A Johne's diagnostic kit** that identifies the specific disease-causing bacteria could dramatically shorten the time taken to diagnose Johne's-positive calves. Scientists were able to identify a Johne's-positive calf at 1 day old.

[Full Text](#)

**Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine** in Pullman has begun construction on a \$62 million facility to be occupied by the college's Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. [Full Text](#)

**Wisconsin State Ag Secretary, Sheila Harsdorf** received strong support for her resolutions for labeling imitation milk and meat at the National Assoc of State Departments of Agriculture Conference. *by Larry Lee, Brownfield Ag News 9/25*

**Acting EPA Administrator, Andrew Wheeler**, has indicated that they intend to have the Waters of the U.S. proposed regulation by the end of November. "Our goal is to allow the property owner to be able to stand on his or her property and determine for themselves whether or not their property falls under the federal definition," he said. Wheeler also said that the new rule would put an end to the court cases keeping WOTUS alive in some states. *by*



of his family's K2M Farms since 2009 when they purchased their first Boer goats. Kyler is an FFA member and was a 10 year member of 4-H and has shown both at 4-H and open shows. He has helped with the 4-H Goat Club teaching others about the goat industry and in addition to teaching, he would like to become an FFA Advisor.

Kyler did a tri-fold poster presentation on scrapie and Q Fever. [View Kyler's Project](#)



Jona Fletcher, from Martinsville, Indiana, is a junior at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Jona is a pre-vet major pursuing a Bachelor's degree in biology and plans to attend Purdue University Veterinary School. She was a 10 year member of 4-H and has owned goats her entire life. She is a certified member of the Morgantown Technical Large Animal Rescue Team (TLEAR) and has volunteered at Allen Farms since 2017 to rehabilitate orphaned white tail deer.

Jona did a power point presentation on Scrapie in the United States. [View Jona's Project](#)

## 2019 YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

### \$1,000 Scholarships Available for ages 17-21

Applicant must be 17 or under the age of 22 as of October 1, 2018

### \$500 Scholarships Available for ages 12-16

Applicant must be 12 or under the age of 17 as of October 1, 2018

Scholarship Application accompanied by a short biography must be received in the AGF office and postmarked or emailed by June 1, 2019.

Project must be received at the AGF office and postmarked or emailed by August 1, 2019.

#### PURPOSE:

To encourage education and development of youth involved in the goat industry and who hold a current membership, or whose parents or guardians are members in The American Goat Federation or any of its member organizations. [MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS: Alabama Meat Goat & Sheep Producers, American Boer Goat Association, American Dairy Goat Association, Cashmere Goat Association, North American Savannah Association, Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Association]

Scholarships may be used for any educational activity including attending seminars and the National FFA Convention as well as post high school education.

[Requirements & Applications](#)

*[Scholarship Funds Provided by a Grant from USDA/APHIS]*

## 2019 Scrapie Eradication and Q Fever Education Program

Sub-grant applications for 2019 education programs will be accepted beginning February 28, 2019. Announcement of availability will be made following the Annual Meeting in January.



### Pirbright Institute

**scientists** have used a ground-breaking approach to show how a virus that causes disease in small ruminants, known as ruminant morbillivirus (close relative to the human measles virus) could, through minor changes in a particular protein, overcome barriers that currently prevent it from entering human cells.

[Full Text](#)

**Oregon officials** are proposing a new framework for managing wolves that prey on livestock. [Full Text](#)

**A new study by scientists at the USDA Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS)** has shown that two organic dusts are extremely effective in battling lone star ticks.

[Full Text](#)

**A Kentucky company and veterinarian** working for the company have been charged with allegedly moving more than 60,000 cattle across state lines without proper veterinary inspection.

[Full Text](#)

### ~~~ NOTICE ~~~

**There is often increased activist activity around Thanksgiving. USDA encourages farmers, ranchers and others involved in the live-stock industry to be on the lookout for suspicious behavior.**

## 2018 National Goat Conference

The National Goat Conference was organized by the National Goat Consortium and presented by a committee made up of consortium individuals, including representatives from the American Goat Federation and others. It was hosted by Tuskegee University in Alabama and offered 3 days of information useful to all goat producers. The National Goat Consortium is an initiative of the 1890 land grant system.



Mary Lou Abney giving welcome speech at banquet.



Sam Abney, Dr. Nar Gurung with Tuskegee University and a member of the AGF Advisory Council, Olga Bolden-Tiller with Tuskegee University, and Tom Boyer.



Tom Boyer's Keynote Address focused on the challenges that goat producers face in regards to the Scrapie Eradication Program and its requirements. He also talked about Q Fever and how it appears to be becoming more prevalent.



Dr. Katherine Marshall with USDA/APHIS V&A, and also a member of the AGF Advisory Council.



## 2018 National FFA Convention



## The American Boer Goat Association

broke ground earlier this Fall on their new office building being built in San Angelo. According to most recent reports the building frame is up and the project is proceeding as planned.

## VFD Audits: What to Expect

When state or federal authorities conduct an audit for compliance with VFD rules, they begin at the feed distributor, working back as needed to the veterinarians who filed VFD orders and the producers who purchased the medicated feed. Comply with the rules, keep complete records and a VFD audit shouldn't be a worry. by John Maday, Drovers.com.

[Read More](#)

### Board of Directors

### Advisory Council

### AGF Members

AGF is a member of the following associations:

- >National Institute for Animal Agriculture (NIAA)
- >The United States Animal Health Assoc (USAHA)
- >The International Goat Association (IGA)

The American Goat Federation is a 501(c)(5) nonprofit organization.



Anita Dahnke, Executive Director, manned the AGF exhibit at the National FFA Convention from October 23 through October 26, and spoke with over 500 attendees, mainly FFA Teachers and Advisors. Each visitor to the booth received handouts and posters they requested along with a flash drive with information to use in their classrooms and with their groups. In addition, 164 youth and adults signed up to receive this newsletter.

## Happenings

- November 13-15, 2018: NIAA's Annual Antibiotic Symposium [New Science & Technology Tools for Antibiotic Stewardship], to be held in Overland Park, Kansas. [Read More](#)
- December 2-5, 2018: 7th National Grazing Lands Conference to be held in Reno, Nevada. [Read More](#)
- January 22, 2019: AGF Annual Meeting will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana. [Read More](#)
- April 8-11, 2019: 2019 NIAA Annual Conference will be held in Des Moines, Iowa. [More Info to Follow](#)
- May 8-9, 2019: 2019 Agriculture Animal Alliance Stakeholders Summit - 'A Seat at the Table' will be held in Kansas City, Missouri. [More Info to Follow](#).

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## **INDUSTRY NEWS**

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