

ANZCVS Small Ruminant President's Report for 2024/25

2025 was the year for examinations for our chapter and we have 2 sheep candidates. Unfortunately we did not have any goat candidates as the 1 vet that had been mentored for a year changed positions and then pulled out. I want to also acknowledge the sterling work of Michael Chambers and Kim Kelly as the examination team especially as they were a new examiners team. One of the 3 students was successful and we welcome Amy Masters as a new member.

Some executive members have done the ANZCVS exam writing training and have been working on a bank of multiple choice questions as well.

The president held her Centre for Veterinary Education, University of Sydney "Time on Line" goats course in May and posted daily case studies to help those vets that registered. I have been running this course every year for a while now but numbers were lower than previous years unfortunately. Hopefully some of these vets will go on to do their exams in 2 years' time.

In an attempt to encourage more small animal vets to get involved with treating goats in their communities, the president will be speaking at the AVA conference and her Zoom recorded lecture on disbudding, castration and pain relief will then go onto the AVA website for the next year. She will also be speaking on "Goats 101" for a long session at the International Sheep Veterinary Conference to be held in Wollongong in October.

Our main fund-raising activity is selling FAMACHA® cards to sheep, camelid and goat owners after reaching an agreement with the South African copyright owners for Australia New Zealand and the Pacific. Another shipment of 100 cards was received in late 2024 so that we can continue providing these cards to livestock owners. This was timely as a veterinarian in Western Australia has started running courses on barbers pole worm control & how to use FAMACHA® cards. This is in addition to Kylie Greentree, a members who runs courses via the NSW Local Land Services network. We also sell batches to vet schools.

The chapter did not have the volunteers to run a program for Science week in 2025. The President did find the time to do the following webinars:

- Polioencephalomalacia, coccidiosis and goitre for Agrifures via neXtgen Agri and the Goat Fibre Network (<https://gateway.goatfibre.com/>) which is now on their YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAbMjZafK_U
- Stocksense by the Victorian Farmers Federation which is now on their YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPuKIhnYOM4&t=229s>
- Urinary calculi in goats
- She also did a podcast for the Goat Fibre Network that can be listened to here <https://gateway.goatfibre.com/c/animal-management/dr-sandra-baxendell-the-oz-goat-vet>
- The president also took part in a workshop in November on "Minor Production Species And Pain Management Workshop" speaking about pain relief options such as Buccalgesic gel and Meloxicam injections. She gave a presentation on how she uses NSAIDs in goats.