



Newsletter of the San Clemente Island Goat Breeders Association

NOTES FROM THE PASTURE

Words from the SCIGBA President

Happy Spring, Herd!

Leafing trees, greening pastures, wildflowers blooming, and kids hitting the ground are all signs that Spring is here and the cold, dreary winter is gone. As most of us enter our busiest season of the year, so is the San Clemente Island Goat Breeders Association. Board of Directors Elections. Annual Meeting. Start of 4H projects. New Committee Chairs with numerous goals. A plethora of projects. All of it to benefit the breed, community, and our membership.

I want to take this opportunity to announce two exciting new projects on the horizon:

- Creation of an accessible online registry database. Members can track progeny, locate compatible goats, track inbreeding coefficients, and run trial matings.
- Creation of a strategic plan for genetic conservation within the breed in partnership with an industry expert small ruminant reproduction firm. This will include starting a genetic bank for storing semen, oocytes, and tissue samples.

These two projects represent groundbreaking strides for the community as we continue to work towards a sustainable San Clemente Island Goat population in perpetuity. The SCIGBA continues to work to give our breeders the tools needed for better, more profitable management of their herds. I challenge you with three **calls to action** to further the breed.

- **Join / Renew your membership in the SCIGBA. If you do not have goats, consider becoming a "Friend of the Herd" by donating towards our work.**
- **Volunteer with the association to help us complete projects.**
- **Register your herds and new kids with the SCIGBA Registry. We are close to moving San Clemente Island Goats from the critical to the threatened list but need consistent registration numbers.**

The SCIGBA is here to help. Please contact us if you have questions, need assistance, or have ideas.

Onward & Upward, President Sarah

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First Annual SCIGBA Photo Contest

Calling all photographers! Come participate in SCIGBA's first photo contest during International Heritage Breeds Week from May 15-19. Winners will be announced at the annual meeting on May 20 at 5 pm Eastern. Winning photos will appear in the association's 2024 calendar.

Rules

- Participants may enter one photo per category.
- Participants will be judged in the following age groups:
 - Adult (18 and older)
 - Teen (13-18)
 - Youth (12 and under)
- Winners will be determined by three judges (2 individuals & the public).
- All photographs must be of purebred San Clemente Island Goats unless specified.
- Daily social media posts will be made on the SCIGBA's feeds with the contest category for the day. Post your entry in the comment section. Entries may also be submitted via email to scigbassoc@gmail.com Please use the contest category as your subject. Please include a caption, herd name, location, photographer's name, and age group with all entries.
- **By submitting photos, you are acknowledging your permission for the San Clemente Island Goat Breeders Association to use the photograph in future promotions and marketing.**

BE IN THE KNOW

LATEST NEWS FROM THE SCIGBA

Community Directory - Do we have your contact information?

Annually, the SCIGBA updates its directory to help us network, build community, and track the progress of the overall SCI Goat population. Please help us by updating your information &/or adding yourself. [Follow this link](#) to complete the five-minute survey.

SCI Genetic Lines - Thanks to the help of Dr. Sponenberg, we have updated our lines page on the website.

T "The definition of "bloodline" is tricky, but the key is that a bloodline is usually somewhat separated out by some level of genetic isolation. With the SCIGs, many of the older divisions are now gone as intact distinct entities, although they have persisted as part of other herds or groups." We are now calling them Primary Lines and Blended Lines, all of which are important to preserve diversity for the breed.

****Follow our social media for the latest updates****

Contest Categories:

- Monday - SCIs in Winter
 - Show us your goats in snow, pulling sleds, dressed for the holidays (Yule goat), or any other photo that speaks to the season.
- Tuesday - Spring kids
 - Show us your bouncing, adorable, cuddly spring babies
- Wednesday - SCIs the All-American Goat
 - San Clementes are an American breed. Show us your photos that epitomize the American Farm or Patriotism.
- Thursday - SCI Leading Couples
 - Show us your breeding pairs
- Friday - SCIs celebrating International Heritage Breeds Week
 - This week is International Heritage Breeds Week. Many raise not just SCIs but a variety of heritage breeds. Show us your goats with other breeds on your farm.

2023 ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS

The San Clemente Island Goat Breeders Association (SCIGBA) Board of Directors welcomes all members and friends of the SCIGBA to join us at our Annual Meeting on May 20, 2023, at 5:00 pm ET. This is an excellent opportunity to meet the Board and help plan the future of our San Clemente Island Goats.

Online voting for the three Board openings will be conducted via an electronic ballot from May 15 to May 19, 2023. All eligible voters will receive ballot information on May 15 via email. Results will be announced at the Annual meeting held on May 20th.

Connection details:

Dial-in number: (425) 436-6317

Access code: 4241749

Video and Screen Sharing:

Online meeting ID: scigbassoc

Online meeting link:

<https://join.freeconferencecall.com/scigbassoc>



Looking for SCIs? Check out our [classifieds](#)!

SCI HAPPY HOUR - MONTHLY ROUNDTABLES

Join us on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 7 pm Eastern for an informal get-together. Come discuss, question, collaborate, and network.

May's topic - 4-H

Bring your questions, ideas, example rules, and potential frustrations. Let's figure out how to get SCIs known in the 4H world.

Connection details can be found on our [event page](#).

Looking for info on past Happy Hours? Check out our [Happy Hour page](#) where recordings are posted.

CALENDAR

scigba.org/calendar

- May 15-19 Photo Contest & Elections
- May 20 Annual Meeting
- May 24 SCI Happy Hour
- June 8 SCIGBA Board Meeting
- June 28 SCI Happy Hour
- July 26 SCI Happy Hour
- Aug 23 SCI Happy Hour
- Sept 14 SCIGBA Board Meeting
- Sept 27 SCI Happy Hour
- October - Goatober
- Oct 7 Goat-Palooza

SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND GOAT COLOR DEFINITIONS

Credits: This document relies heavily on the work of and consultation with Dr. Phil Sponenberg and his understanding of goat color genetics. It was influenced by Cris Waller's paper on Nigerian Dwarf color genetics and brought to life by Laurel Sherrie's artwork. Many thanks to the San Clemente Island Goat breeders who provided pictures and pedigrees.

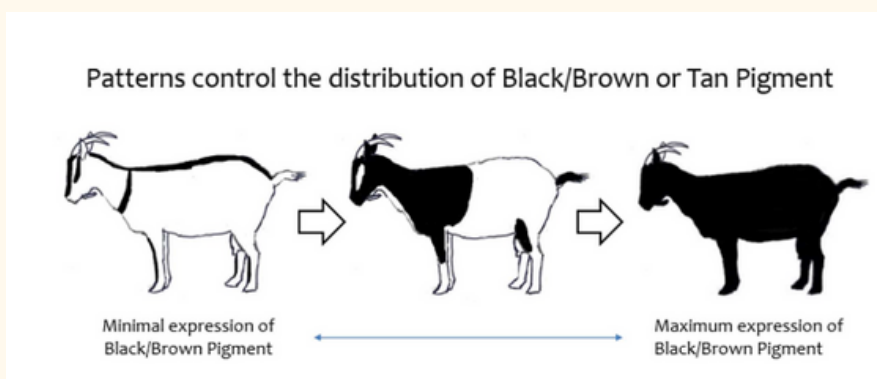
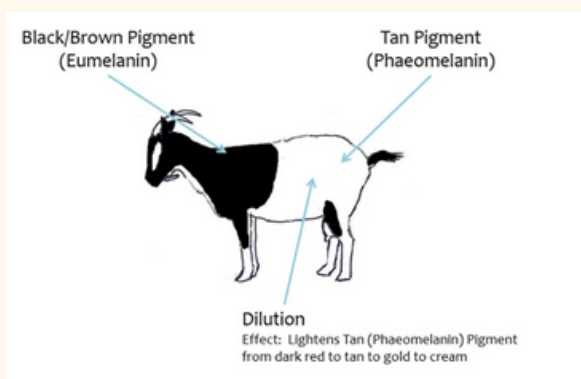
INTRODUCTION

SCIGBA Board members wrote this SCI goat color white paper to provide a foundation to more accurately describe our beloved goats. The SCIGBA Board is extremely grateful to Dr. Phil Sponenberg for sharing his expertise and time helping us understand the science and translate it to a description that all breeders can understand and embrace. The goal is for our SCI community to gather data that advances our understanding of goat color genetics. The information in this document is subject to change based on new findings and information. Stay tuned and feel free to contribute your findings to the SCIGBA.

WHAT FACTORS MAKE UP A GOAT'S "COLOR"?

Color in goats is expressed in their hair by a combination of **Black/Brown (Eumelanin)** and **Tan (Pheomelanin)** Pigments, affected by certain degrees of **Dilution**, arranged in one or more **Patterns** and overlaid with white **Spotting**.

In San Clemente Island Goats the Black/Brown (Eumelanin), Tan (Pheomelanin) Pigments, and the effect of Dilution are typically visible in the areas shown in the picture below.



The full white paper can be read at [this link](#).

The next steps will be continued documentation, including pedigrees and breeding trials. Keep a watch for requests from the Breed Description Committee come fall.

For a copy of the SCIGBA Quick Shades & Patterns Reference, visit the [Coloring](#) page on the website.

SCIGBA REGISTRY UPDATE

New and unproven can cause some to pause. Let us earn your confidence with member-approved rules and professional customer service.

For the 1st Quarter, we registered 33 new goats, transferred 6, and processed 33 requests for duplicate certificates. More are already in the pipeline

Have questions? Need help? The Registry Committee is here to help. Email us at scigbassoc@gmail.com



BUYER/SELLER CHECKLIST

Buying and selling San Clementes can be a daunting process. Especially when most sales are not to the person down the road but over hundreds of miles and without in-person contact until the day of the transaction. At January's SCI Happy Hour, we collaborated on the creation of [this checklist](#) to help both buyers and sellers ensure a smooth transaction and avoid buyer's remorse. This checklist also represents the type of information serious buyers in the goat community in general ask for and can help you transition selling to a larger market.

As a seller, do you already provide all of this information? What can you do to improve upon your current customer service?

As a buyer, would you know to ask for this type of information? Would having this information help you to make an informed decision?

What have we forgotten to add?

BY THE BREEDERS. FOR THE BREEDERS. FOR OUR GOATS



DID YOU KNOW ALL SCI GOATS & CROSSES CAN BE REGISTERED?

We have 3 Herdbooks (for full description of each one, go to <https://scigba.org/rules>).

Main Herdbook – For proven Purebred SCI goats.

Recovered Herdbook – For suspected Purebred SCIs that don't meet any of the Main Herdbook requirements.

Crossbred Herdbook - Goats who are a cross between a SCI and another breed of goat. We believe it is important to keep track of them, which also ensures they won't be mistaken as purebred.



DID YOU KNOW BREEDERS COLLABORATION HAS COMPILED LINEAGES ON OVER 1600 SCI GOATS?

Lineage information has been freely shared within the SCI breeder community for years.

The free exchange of information benefits not only the breeders but, ultimately the breed.



DID YOU KNOW THE SCIGBA REGISTRY INCLUDES IMPORTANT HISTORICAL DATA?

The SCIGBA Registry includes information that has been shared, gathered, and passed down among the breeders since the removal of the goats from the island in the 1980s.

Together as a breeder community, we can continue to share, build, and strengthen the breeder community and ultimately the breed.





USDA REGISTRY TATTOO APPROVAL

As of May 1, 2023, the SCIGBA Registry has obtained USDA recognition meaning SCIGBA registered goats can use tattoos as an official form of identification.

To be used as a form of official ID when transporting a goat, please adhere to the following guidelines (quoted directly from the USDA):

- A copy of the registration certificate or temporary registration certificate before its expiration date, and, if not in the name of the current owner, a copy of the completed application for transfer of ownership in the name of the current owner where the sale occurred within 60 days (or an extension thereof approved by the registry) where each document lists the tattoo number on the goat, or
- For animals under 60 days of age, a copy of a completed application for registration listing the tattoo number on the goat, or
- An interstate certificate of veterinary inspection that lists the flocks of origin and birth, the registry, and the registry tattoo.

If you have questions, please contact the SCIGBA Registry Committee at scigbassoc@gmail.com

Thank you to our Registration Committee (Laurel, Lisa, & Erin) for making this happen!

THE COMPLETE CAPRA: TIP TO TAIL

This year, the San Clemente Island Goat Breeders Association has been focusing on a campaign to increase interest, appreciation, and utilization of SCI Goats to expand potential market use for our current stewards and also to attract new ones. **"The Complete Capra: Tip to Tail"** focuses on a different use for SCIs each month through interviews and partnerships with other organizations

To contribute to the success of the campaign, we ask each of you to contribute to the online discussion and share the material to help bring awareness to San Clemente Island Goats. While not every use or topic may be right for your herd, you will be amazed at everything SCI goats can do for you!

- January - Helping Goats
- February - Art
- March - Conservation Breeding / Genetic Diversity Preservation
- April - Milk/Dairy
- May - Conservation Grazing & Land Reclamation
- June - Agritourism / Education / Outreach
- July - Draft/Pack Animals
- August - Fiber
- September - 4H & FFA (Youth Month)
- October - Goat Meat
- November - Hides, Bones, & Other Value Adds
- December - The Gift of Giving

Learn more by following our social media feeds or visiting the [T2T page](#) on our website.

WELCOME TO THE HERD!

...our new technical advisor, D Phillip Sponenberg, DVM, PhD

Dr. Sponenberg is a professor of Pathology & Genetics at Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Tech.

He has researched for over 50 years the conservation and history of domesticated animal genetic resources. Conservation of uniquely North American livestock genetic resources has been a topic of special emphasis. He also serves as the technical advisor to The Livestock Conservancy. Check out Dr. Sponenberg's full bio on our [website](#).



Dr. Sponenberg with a Dražnica goat in Slovenia



WDR Lili & Isla. Liz's foundation does.

...New Genetics Committee Chair, Liz Shires

Elizabeth (Liz) Shires lives in Olathe, Colorado where she and her husband own Ironstone Shire, a small farm home to San Clemente Island goats and Nigerian Dwarf dairy goats. Liz has years of small business, conservation and non-profit experience and looks forward to combining her skills with her goat passion. Liz is excited to work with the SCIGBA community to help maintain the maximum genetic diversity of San Clemente Island goats through SCIGBA's outreach and programs.

...New Membership Committee Chair & "The Island Goat" editor, Jennifer Lopez

...New SCIGBA members

- Elizabeth Graser-Lindsey of Lindsey Farm
- Russell & Marguerite Strand
- Victoria Olson
- George Sawyer of Wild Haven Farm
- Perri Adams of Ammann East Hill Farm
- Rosamond Gifford Zoo in Syracuse, NY



Bella Vita Fiorello. Jennifer's first buckling.

CONTACT US

San Clemente Island Goat Breeders Association

- SCIGBA.org
- SCIGBAassoc@gmail.com
- Find us on Facebook, Instagram, & YouTube

Board of Directors

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OUR MISSION

The mission of the SCIGBA is to promote the San Clemente Island Goat as a viable multipurpose goat while preserving the historical traits of the island goat and the unique genetic diversity. This includes but is not limited to:

- Guarding the purity of the San Clemente Goat breed
- Retaining pedigree records of all animals that qualify as San Clemente Island Goats under the Association's set of guidelines
- Providing technical support and opportunity for collaboration to San Clemente Island Goat growers and breeders to further the breed's purity, conservation, and attract new breeders
- Exhibiting livestock and educating the public in order to promote interest in the San Clemente Island Goat

"THE ISLAND GOAT"

Starting next episode -Jennifer Lopez, Editor
flowerdancerfarms@gmail.com

"The Island Goat" is the official quarterly newsletter of the SCIGBA. Articles, photographs, and business cards that relate to San Clemente Island Goats are welcome. Submit your contributions to SCIGBAassoc@gmail.com Attn: Newsletter. Publication of articles or advertisements does not necessarily constitute an endorsement by SCIGBA.

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