

# BRITISH GOAT SOCIETY

## FILE OF MILKING COMPETITION RESULTS

The DOWNLOADED FILE contains a single file spreadsheet called **show##** (where ## is the year and was 09 for 2009).

The data is in spreadsheet format (show09.xls)

There are 14 data columns in the spreadsheet.

SHOW,CLASS,NAME,DB,REG,YLD,AMF,PMF,AMP,PMP,M,PTS,AWD,DATE

(xls files can easily be opened using other spreadsheets such as MS Works and QuattroPro or imported into a database).

Once you have opened the file it is suggested you make a CD copy of it as an archive BEFORE you start sorting the data..

### CUSTOMISING THE DATA

Next stage is to customise and become more inventive.

The adding of extra fields in the data, whether as a spreadsheet or a database, or both, is a matter of personal choice and your purpose. The following suggestions are made, as an indication of the type of data you may wish to have available.

ID BR TF TP CC CR IP BC BR NA TA

ID is a unique number given to each performance i.e. 1, 2, 3. on the BGS xls file. This was found to be useful in restoring the order of data to the original order after extensive querying and sorting.

BR=breed, TF=total fat %, TP=total protein %.

The fields were useful when working out averages for different breeds. IR, FB and HB were all classed as AOV in the BR section, but you may not wish to do that. You may prefer truncating to the first two symbols of the registration number.

CC is shown as Y(es) or F(ail) or N(ot awarded)

CR (reserve) is shown as Y or F or N

IP has a number to indicate position

BC is shown as Y or F or N

BR (reserve) is shown as Y or F or N

NA (not awarded) is show as Y when neither the BC nor BR was awarded. It is attributed when goats of a particular breed were present, and is allocated to the highest placed goat on milking competition.

TA is the code for the testing agency (useful for looking at "inconsistencies"). As a first step looking up differences of greater than 0.5% in a.m. and p.m. protein results can be linked to testing agency, and then looking at all of the goats so identified at all of their shows.

None of the data relating to inspection awards are on the disk, which is a pity, so they have to be added manually by going through the published show results.

"Search and replace" is useful in shortening some of the CLASS data. 1K could replace First Kidders, for example. SHOW data could be replaced by your own code. Aberdeen and Angus could become A&A and so on. Try pencilling these in on the list given at the end of the BGS published show results to avoid duplication. Make sure your replacements are "exact" and "whole word" replacements.

The sort and various filters in Excel are probably enough for most people. As an end point, however, using MS Access has much to commend it, giving much more flexibility and use year after year.