



His owners claim that "Lancelot" is actually a legendary unicorn, and that they have three others just like him.

IS IT A TRUE UNICORN? A HOAX? OR JUST A FLUKE OF NATURE?

One-Horned "Goat" Sparks Controversy

A controversy of sorts is raging in California as to whether or not Lancelot, a rare one-horned "goat", on exhibit at a large entertainment park near San Francisco, is the legendary unicorn, just a freak of nature, or something it's owners created surgically.

Whatever it is, Lancelot is attracting great crowds at Marine World at Redwood City, a Disneyland type of park with marine life and a zoo. He's owned by Calpella, Calif., naturalists Otter and Morning Glory G'zelle.

According to Marine World publicity manager Mary O'Herron, who sent FARM SHOW the photo of Lancelot, his owners, the G'zelles, are "two eccentric individuals who are highly intelligent and well educated, and who are convinced they have stumbled across the secret of the legend of the unicorn. They changed their names — we accept such un-

usual names more readily out here in California."

After repeated calls, FARM SHOW was unable to reach the G'zelles for direct comment. They do not have a listed telephone at their farm, and refused to return calls made for them to Marine World.

Sightseers crowd around Lancelot's pen to look, snap pictures and touch the horn, according to O'Herron. The solitary horn is about 10 in. long and still growing. The animal, an offspring of Angora goat parents, appears normal, vigorous and healthy in all other ways. It does threaten with the horn but knows it's there," says O'Herron. It was produced from Angora goats.

The legendary unicorn was part horse, part stag and part lion, and its horn was considered to have magical powers as an antidote to poison. According to O'Herron, Lancelot is a



Because the rider pushes back into the seat with his hips, the Avatar 2000 is said to be more power efficient than conventional bicycles.

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The first major change in the conventional bicycle in many decades has produced a vehicle that's reportedly safer, more efficient, and easier on the human body.

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The Avatar 2000 is the final result of thousands of miles of testing in all kinds of terrain and weather over a 10-year period... Key features of the new-style bike include:

- More efficient power delivery to the pedals because the rider pushes back into the seat with his hips. This takes strain off the back and arms.

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The Avatar has 21 speeds and caliper brakes. It has a 63 in. wheel base and weighs 29 lbs.

At present, it's being hand crafted because, the manufacturer says, "that's the only way we know to consistently deliver what we claim. As a result, initial production capacity will be limited to about 1,000 units per year."

The hand-crafted units have a price tag of \$1,988 F.O.B. Massachusetts. A customer puts down 40% when he places his order and is guaranteed delivery in 6-9 months.

Interested readers can obtain a \$2 informational package with details on the Avatar 2000 recumbent bicycle. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Fomac, 40 Oakdale Rd., Wilmington, Mass. 01887 (ph 617 658-2478).

medieval unicorn, originating from the Angora goat, "the classic white buck goat with cloven hooves. The G'zelle's theory is that ancient tribesmen created unicorns from all species of animals with horns. The unicorn that was a horse is not the true unicorn," she explains.

Lancelot is quite valuable, according to O'Herron, who compares its worth "to the endangered cheetah which sells for \$5,000".

The G'zelle's reportedly have three other baby unicorns, with horns about 2 in. long. "The fact that they've produced more than one proves they're not a freak of nature," O'Herron maintains.

University of California (Davis) animal scientist and reproductive physiologist Perry Cupps isn't so sure. He told FARM SHOW that he first thought the alleged unicorn was a congenital anomaly, similar to the legendary one-eyed cyclops giant.

"The eyes start out in the embryo as one item, then separate in the development of the animal," he notes. "If something interferes with normal development, the eye can stay as one, in the middle of the forehead. I suspect that horns develop in the same way, starting out as one."

After seeing the baby unicorns on television recently, Cupps now sus-

pects the G'zelles may have developed a surgical process for fusing the two horn buds in the Angora goats' foreheads shortly after birth before the horns begin to grow. "Someone in Maine did it in the '20s with cattle," he explains. "The horn buds were transferred to the center of the forehead and fused, or the two buds were pulled together by cutting out the skin and pulling the buds together so the two horns grow close together.

"It's my best guess that that's what's being done to produce the one-horn goats out here in California," Cupps told FARM SHOW.

Since making public comments about the possible origin of Lancelot's single horn, Cupps has received a number of calls, one person calling him a "myth destroyer."

Cupps, on the other hand, is anxious for the matter "to die a natural death."

The G'zelles have said they will soon release, to the scientific world, their secret process of creating unicorns.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Marine World, Mary O'Herron, publicity manager, 101 Marine World Parkway, Redwood City, Calif. 94065 (ph 415 591-7676).