FETA CHEESE (for 2 gals milk)

- 1. With milk at 90 degrees, add 1/8 tsp mesophilic culture and a *scant* 1/8 tsp lipase powder mixed thoroughly into 1/4 cup of the warm milk.
- 2. Stir well, cover and let ripen in a warm, draft-free place for 1 hour.
- 3. Mix 1 teaspoon rennet into 1/4 cup water. Stir. Start bottom-stirring milk, add rennet mix, stir for 15 seconds then stop the "current" in the milk.
- 4. Let sit undisturbed in a warm, draft-free place until a firm curd has formed, about 45-60 minutes.
- 5. Cut curd into ½ inch cubes and let sit undisturbed for 10 minutes.
- 6. Stir curd very gently for 15 minutes. Let rest for 15 minutes. Cut curd will sink to bottom.
- 7. Remove as much whey as possible, saving the whey to make the brine if you wish.
- 8. Line mold(s) with fine cheesecloth and place on rack over a pan. Scoop curd into mold(s). Let sit for 30 minutes and refill mold.
- 9. Fold cheesecloth over the top and place a follower on top with weights (optional).
- 10. Allow to drain for 12-24 hours, turning occasionally.
- 11. Remove cheese from cheesecloth and cut into pieces. At this point you can either brine or dry-salt your Feta.
- 12. To dry-salt: Salt pieces on all sides and let sit in colander to drain overnight. Package and refrigerate.
- 13. To brine: Make a brine by dissolving 1/3 cup Kosher or pickling salt to each ½ gallon of water or whey (using whey will produce a stronger flavored cheese). Place feta in brine with a weight on top to keep it submerged. Cover and refrigerate.

For: Caprine Outing Cheese Workshop

September 2000

Prepared by: Anne Bossi Sunset Acres Farm 769 Bagaduce Road Brooksville, Maine 04617 207-32226-4741 sunsetacres@acadia.net