**2014 USTSA Starter Flock Program**

The U.S. Targhee Sheep Association will again be offering a free registered Targhee Starter flock to a deserving youth at the 2014 USTSA National Show & Sale in Brookings, South Dakota on July 19th. The winner must be present to receive the flock and will be awarded one (1) ewe lamb, one (1) yearling ewe, and one (1) brood ewe donated by members of the USTSA. Each animal will be a USTSA registered animal, and at least QR in Scrapie Codon 171 genotype. The winner will also receive a $150 credit for use toward purchase of additional animals at the National sale courtesy of the USTSA.

Applications, due April 1st, are now available to download at www.ustargheesheep.org or by contacting Mardy Rutledge at the USTSA office (ustargheesheep@gmail.com or 702-292-5715). Any young person, ages 9-17, as of January 1, 2014, may apply. Applicants should possess a keen interest in the U.S. sheep industry, commitment to raising Targhee sheep over time, and a firm belief in the abilities of the breed. Applicants must demonstrate proof of care, facilities, and transportation. Aside from receiving the flock of sheep, the winning youth, will be paired with a Targhee breeder living near them who will act as a mentor.

A lot of inquiries have already been received so the committee is primed for a large set of applications. If this is the case, the committee is working on the possibility of awarding two starter flocks. This, however, is contingent upon receiving enough donations. If you have the means and would like to donate, either a ewe or monetarily, please contact Jeff Nevens at 608-592-7842 or at aandjnevenslive-stock@frontier.com

**President’s Notes**

Greetings young and young at heart. We have a great breed. With great challenges—prices going down, down, down and now going up? Polypay breeders are looking for Targhee rams to get size. Some of us are going through the toughest winter we’ve seen are anticipating a great spring and summer. Hope to see most of you all in July.

Russ Allred it is encouraging to hear that you’ve had your transplant. I did not know what to say, when I wondered if I would see you again, but now I ask those that pray, pray that we might see Russ in July!!

I thank God personally for a great energy, encouragement, and hope for this year and eternity. Planning anytime in God’s word in reading the Proverbs (one a day), Psalms 5 a day, and the New Testament a couple chapters. My relationship with the lover of my soul is growing! Believers try it. Got questions, read Book of John complete. It was written that you might believe.

Something to feed on! An Amish neighborhood showed me how to turn 1 pound of barley into 7 pounds of fodder in 7 days with water. Approximately 10 pound of barley with a little hay (no grain) will feed 50 ewes with lambs. Feed approximately 3% of body weight (no grain), some hay for fiber. Contact Farmtek at www.farmtek.com for more information.

Your President,
Warren Nellis
2014 National Show & Sale

The dates have been set for the 2014 National Show & Sale for Thursday, July 17th through Saturday, July 19th, in Brookings, South Dakota at the Animal Science Arena. This is the same location as the 2011 Nationals. Jon Beastrom and Marcia Stulken are co-chairing the event.

A few changes to the schedule are being made this year in order to better accommodate the ever growing Junior Show and the new Youth Futurity. (See right.) Please contact the USTSA office immediately with any concerns/questions.

ABOUT THE STAUROLITE INN & SUITES - National Headquarters and site of pool party and banquet. A block of rooms are reserved under U.S. Targhee Sheep Assoc. for $70/night.

Hotel Reservations: (605) 692-3111
Toll-Free Number: (800) 362-1516
Mailing Address: 2515 E. 6th Street; Brookings, SD 57006
http://www.stauroliteinn.com/index.html

The Staurolite Inn & Suites opened in 1973 and is constructed with staurolite schist stone native to the Black Hills of South Dakota. Through the years, the Staurolite Inn & Suites has maintained its position as the premier full service hotel in Brookings, South Dakota. The Staurolite Inn & Suites is a recently-remodeled 102-room hotel featuring the Fireside Restaurant & Lounge and Casino 2000. With the indoor swimming pool and spa, the spacious rooms, and exceptional service, the Staurolite is the place to stay in Brookings.

Conveniently located on Exit 132 of Interstate 29, the Staurolite is within walking distance of the new Wal-Mart Supercenter and several restaurants and retail outlets. Just across I-29, the Swiftel Center is the site of many rodeos, trade shows, concerts and special events. Adjacent to the Swiftel Center is the Larson Ice Center where youth and college ice hockey games are played. South Dakota State University and downtown Brookings are just a short drive away.

Other Lodging Options in Brookings:
Fairfield Inn & Suites  605-692-3500
Hampton Inn & Suites  605-697-5232
Quality Inn  605-692-9566
Holiday Inn Express  605-692-9060
Super 8 Motel  605-692-6920
Days Inn  605-692-9471

City Camping:
Sexaur Park - Brookings (westside of town) 18 camper sites (no water or sewer hookups but dumping station on site). Call Brookings City Park & Rec. office 605-692-2708

More information will be published in upcoming issues of Targhee Talk, and on the USTSA website, as they become available regarding Nationals. If you have further questions, please contact the USTSA office, or the show and sale chairpersons, Jon Beastrom and Marcia Stulken.

Deadlines to keep in mind
- **February 20th** is the first day NSIP entries can be sheared.
- **May 1st** is the first day side Micron tests may be taken.
- **May 31st** entry and event forms due. Entry forms and packets will be available in the April newsletter as well as online.
- **June 15th** all registrations and information for catalog due.

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<tr>
<th>USTSA Show &amp; Sale Schedule of Events</th>
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<td><strong>7/16</strong></td>
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Saving Hypothermic Lambs
By Bill Fosher

In winter lambing flocks, hypothermia and starvation of newborn lambs can account for nearly all of the pre-weaning death loss of lambs. It’s a serious problem that can often be minimized through careful management of the ewe flock and its environment.

Even under the best management in the best environment, there will still be some cases of hypothermia and starvation in most winter lambing flocks. With attention to detail, hypothermia and starvation can be reduced to very low rates even in flocks that lamb in the dead of winter in very cold climates. In most sheep production systems, the majority of the cost of producing a lamb is already spent when the lamb is born (in the form of feed and keep for the breeding flock), so saving chilled lambs is an important way to protect your investment. Preventing it from happening in the first place is even more important.

To read the rest of the article visit: http://onpasture.com/2014/01/13/saving-hypothermic-lambs/

Wisconsin Junior Targhee Sheep Association Announces 2014 Starter Flock Giveaway.

The Wisconsin Junior Targhee Sheep Association will be giving away a starter flock of three Targhee ewes in 2014 to a lucky Wisconsin youth. Applicants must be aged 12 to 17 as of January 1, 2014, must be a resident of Wisconsin, and must not currently raise Targhee sheep. The winner must also be eligible and agree to exhibit their animals at both the 2014 Wisconsin State Fair open sheep show and Wisconsin Junior State Fair sheep show. The winner will receive a combination of ewe lambs, yearling ewes and/or brood ewes, and take ownership of the animals before any 2014 State Fair ownership deadlines.

American Lamb Industry Announces Final Roadmap

After over a year of research, analysis and industry input, the American Lamb Board (ALB) announced the release of the final Lamb Industry Roadmap presentation. Created through collaboration and consultation from all sectors of the industry, the roadmap is owned by the entire American lamb industry.

"While serving on the lamb board and as an industry roadmap advisory committee member, I have been inspired by the commitment of all segments of the U.S. lamb industry to come together to work on a plan to strengthen our industry. I am convinced that collaboration is the key to the successful implementation of the roadmap and to the future profitability and competitiveness of the American lamb industry," said Dan Lippert, ALB chairman.

The Lamb Industry Roadmap has been created to address the following key goals:

- Improve the quality and consistency of American lamb,
- Increase demand for American lamb,
- Improve industry productivity to remain competitive and
- Improve industry collaboration - work together as a whole industry.

Intense examination of the American lamb industry has been executed in order to identify these goals and develop strategies and objectives to achieve them.

The release of the final presentation means that the American lamb industry can now begin the process of implementing the strategies outlined in the roadmap. Because of the cooperative nature of the presentation, all sheep industry organizations and all industry sectors will work on the implementation. The roadmap project is a plan and a process (not a report) for initiating actions to address the four key goals. The roadmap will change and evolve over time as new events occur and as the industry learns from the implementation effort.

“Our objective is to implement meaningful strategies that will significantly strengthen the American lamb industry and increase demand for our products,” said Lippert.

The final roadmap presentation is now available on ALB’s website at www.lambcheckoff.com. A written report will also be released in January 2014.
Farm Bill Update - Very Slow and Painful Progress

The remaining stumbling blocks are centered on the commodity title and what most are referring to as “regulatory issues.”

The regulatory issues include an amendment that is intended to stop states from imposing import restrictions on agricultural products based on production methods, country of origin labeling and the EPA and the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters.

The commodity issues are centered in two areas. Eligibility requirements involving payment limits, actively engaged, and agi limits are under intense negotiations.

It is not unusual to have seemingly insurmountable obstacles crystallize in the last moments of conference negotiations. Most veteran Farm Bill observers believe that the conferees will be able to complete the path to final agreement. It does appear that this will occur later than expected, which complicates the expired status of the current Farm Bill.

~ Written by Cornerstone Gov’t Affairs

Junior Spotlight
Jacob and Jonalyn Beastrom

1. Tell us about yourself.
Jonalyn - I’m a 16 yr old Sophomore and love around on
Jacob - I’m a 14 yr old 8th grader in Pierre, SD.

2. When did you acquire your first Targhee sheep? How long have you raised them?
Jonalyn and Jacob - At the 2011 USTSA National’s Sale in Brookings, SD. Since that time we’ve continued to expand our herd.

3. What is your favorite Targhee trait?
Jonalyn - The Targhee sheep have good wool and are very good mothers.
Jacob - They are good mothers.

4. What is your best piece of advice to other 4-H or FFA members raising sheep?
Jonalyn - To just have fun with it and learn a lot. Also try your hardest and make friends.
Jacob - Have fun while working.

5. Is anyone else in your family involved in the sheep industry?
Jonalyn and Jacob - Yes, our whole family. Our grandfather use to be big in Targhees.

6. Other than going to school, do you have another job?
Jonalyn - Working for my dad helping with lambing and helping with the sheep.
Jacob - Feed the pairs in their jugs and soon to lamb ewes.

7. Other than raising sheep, what are some of your hobbies and talents?
Jonalyn - I am on the livestock and livestockology judging teams.
Jacob - I play football, am in 4-H for last 7 yrs and volunteer at our community banquet.

8. What is your favorite book?
Jonalyn - I don’t like to read, so I don’t have one.
Jacob - “How to Raise Sheep”

9. What is your favorite food?
Jonalyn - Beef, I love prime rib.
Jacob - Lamb chops

10. When I am grown, my future occupation might be:
Jonalyn - I have always wanted to be a vet.
Jacob - Sheep herder

11. The one thing people would be surprised to know about me is:
Jonalyn - I have been on the National BB gun Championship twice. We won in 2012 breaking national record
Jacob - I am a 4.0 student.
New Website for Scrapie Flock Certification

In December, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) moved its national scrapie database to a new platform available at https://vsapps.aphis.usda.gov/sfcpHome. Information on participating Scrapie Flock Certification Program (SFCP) flocks by state, breed and status are available on this site.

The SFCP is designed to monitor flocks for scrapie and to certify flocks that have met all requirements of the program as scrapie free. Any sheep or goat owner, or manager, may apply to participate.

Users of this information are reminded that this report may not contain the most recent status of the flocks or herds listed. If purchasing decisions are being made based on the information in this report, please check with the local veterinary services office to verify status and status dates.


Top 10 Sheep Stories of 2013

1. Lamb Prices Recover - Feeders finally returned to profitability in September. Also, prices paid for feeder lambs rose above cost of production for the first time following the volatile markets of 2011 - 2013.
2. ASI Rolls Out Market News App - ASI launched its first mobile application providing lamb and wool market information to anyone with a smartphone or tablet allowing producers to tap into auctions and prices. The app is titled ASI Market News. Download it today from your App Store.
3. $5 Million Lamb Buy - In July, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Agriculture Marketing Service announced a $5 million purchase of lamb products for federal food nutrition assistance programs. ASI requested the lamb meat purchase to prompt stronger prices for lambs at the farm and ranch gate. In the first half of the year, live lamb prices were below the cost of production and producers were facing the highest feed costs in years.
4. Industry Roadmap Final Report Released - The Roadmap Advisory Committee published the final version of the American Lamb Industry Roadmap Report. This collaborative effort provides a strategy for the industry that will strengthen its short- and long-term competitive advantage and return the industry to consistent profitability. The four high-level goals as identified in the roadmap are product characteristics, demand creation, productivity improvement and industry collaboration.
5. Lamb Checkoff Rate Increase - The new lamb checkoff rate went into effect on June 13 increasing the assessment from $.005 to $.007 per pound for live sheep and lambs sold by producers, feeders and seedstock producers. For sheep and lamb purchased for slaughter by first handlers, the rate increased from 30 cents to 42 cents per head. The assessment rate change, which was supported by ASI, will generate about $700,000 additional funds for American Lamb Board (ALB) programs.
6. GISPA Report Published - The investigation by the Packers and Stockyards Program’s found that many market factors interacted to cause the sharp increase and subsequent decrease in lamb prices that occurred during 2010, 2011 and 2012. According to the report, the rising cost of imported lamb was likely the most important factor.
7. Instrument Grading Moves Forward - The last of the cut-out data was captured in November and will be summarized, validated and standardized by USDA for future use in assigning USDA Quality and Yield Grades. The use of instrument grading provides for the opportunity to reduce variability in the subjective application of yield grades to lamb carcasses, improving the predictability of the saleable cuts and the ability to establish value-based returns on quality lambs. ASI initially launched the project that was then co-funded by ALB and the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center to finalize the grading standards and to evaluate the benefits and effectiveness of the system.
8. NLPA Lending Program Includes Funding for Flock Expansion - Up to $2 million of the National Livestock Producers Association’s Sheep (NLPA) and Goat Fund was identified to be used specifically for the purchase of breeding animals (ewes and rams). This new loan program is the result of a joint effort between NLPA and ASI in the spirit of ASI’s Let’s Grow initiative.
9. Revised Scrapie Flock Certification Program - The revised Scrapie Flock Certification Program (SFCP) went into effect on June 3 allowing sheep and goat producers to increase the marketability of their animals by demonstrating a negligible scrapie risk in their flock. The revised SFCP enhances the scrapie surveillance strategy and helps in the final push to eradicate this disease from the United States.
10. COOL Takes Effect - The new Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) rule took effect on Nov. 23. Labels now refer to born, raised and harvested according to applicable country. ASI supports the mandatory labeling of American lamb.
NSIP CORNER

Fellow NSIP members,

Greeting from the National Sheep Improvement Program! Hope that you all had a very Merry Christmas and we wish you a Happy New Year.

I am excited that 2014 is upon us and we have high hopes that this year will be a great year for this program. There was a lot of buzz about NSIP over the last few months created by a lot of work from the NSIP board. If you don’t know who is on the board, I would encourage you to go to the website and refresh your memory. I’d encourage you to contact your breed representative and thank them for their volunteer service to NSIP. Sometimes, we feel like we are only a complaint department! Good news and encouragement are always welcomed.

New this year we have published our official committees and their members on the website. If you have any desire to become more involved in the program, I would encourage you to take part in our annual meeting that will be January 23rd at 3 pm, in conjunction with the national sheep convention. During this meeting, we will elect our board of directors and breed representatives. Work with your current breed representative or contact Rodney Kott to find out more about nominations and responsibility of this position. Additionally, we are creating mentorship positions within each breed. If you are an experienced breeder and want to help others participate in the program, contact your breed representative. We plan to have a mentorship training session this coming spring.

New and Recent Happenings:
The American Lamb Industry Roadmap Project highlighted NSIP as a high priority for the industry.
Flock Enrollment Fees are waived to all New Members (have not participated in 3 years)
Flock Enrollment Fees are waived for three years for Youth Members (22 and under)
Webinar on “How NSIP Can Help the Sheep and Goat industry” available for viewing
We have an active Facebook Page (450 followers): Like Us
Lamb Database fees charged by LAMBPLAN have increased to $2.65 in 2014

Please take the time to fill out the flock enrollment form and send it into our office shortly after the first of the year. This will allow us to process all of our members and make sure there is no delay in processing and returning your data after submission. We do not bill for this but we will be mailing our enrollment forms to all members that are not current for 2014 in February. If you want the office to send you an invoice, please contact Mary Sorensen.

All the best in 2014,

Reid Redden
NSIP Chairman

Lambplan ID #’s can now be on Registration Certificates

After several requests, there is now a place on the registration certificates to include the Lambplan ID’s. Simply provide the information in the last column of the Registration Applications with the Scrapie numbers to get the numbers added.

Free Advertising Space for Targhee Events

Do you have a Targhee event you would like to see promoted? Please contact the USTSA office to list your event for FREE!
USTSA’s Newest Member

Edwin Howard Bieber was born on September 6, 2013 weighing in at 6 lbs. 8 oz. and 20 in. long. Proud grandparents Jack and Kathy McRae, parents Cord and Kristin Bieber and big sister Nikki are starting this future sheep herder off right and had him attend his first Miles City Ram Sale at six days old. No better way than to start them young!!

Congrats Cord and Kristin!

Finding Targhees

Looking for Targhees? Watch the website for a current listing of Fairs and Ram Sales where Targhees will be entered. If you would like to add any to the list, please contact Mardy at 702-292-5715 or ustargheesheep@gmail.com.

Targhee Wearables!!

USTSA’s line of clothing and accessories are available for purchase on USTSA website’s homepage.

If you don’t find the size or color you’re looking for, please contact Mardy for ordering.
### Upcoming Calendar of Events

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<tr>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Michigan Sheep Breeders Association Annual Meeting, Lansing, MI</td>
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<tr>
<td>23-26</td>
<td>2013 ASI Annual Convention, San Antonio, TX</td>
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<td>ASSC National Sheep Shearing Competition at the Convention Center in Rapids City, S.D</td>
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<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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<td>Black Hills Stock Show, National Sheep Shearing Contest and Sheep Dog Trials at James Kjerstad Event Center on the Central State Fairgrounds, Rapid City, South Dakota. Contact Dave Ollila at <a href="mailto:David.Ollila@sdstate.edu">David.Ollila@sdstate.edu</a></td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Arlington Sheep Days: Public Events Facility, UW-Madison Arlington Agricultural Research Station, Arlington, WI. Contact Jill Alf, 608 868-2505, <a href="mailto:wisbc@centurytel.net">wisbc@centurytel.net</a> or <a href="http://www.wisbc.com">www.wisbc.com</a></td>
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<td>22-24 Michigan Fiber Festival (<a href="http://www.michiganfiberfestival.info">www.michiganfiberfestival.info</a>)</td>
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<td>Washington Beginner Shearing School, Moses Lake, WA (Sarah Smith 509-754-2011 or <a href="mailto:smithsm@wsu.edu">smithsm@wsu.edu</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-21</td>
<td>Minnesota Shearing School, Hutchinson, MN (Doug Rathke 320-587-6094 or <a href="mailto:lambshop@hutchtel.net">lambshop@hutchtel.net</a>)</td>
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<td>9th Annual Iowa Sheep &amp; Wool Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>21-23</td>
<td>Midwest Fiber &amp; Folk Art Fair, Grayslake, IL (<a href="http://www.fiberandfolk.com">www.fiberandfolk.com</a>)</td>
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**Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program**

**Lambing Time Short Course**

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the 2014 Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program Lambing Time Short Course and Bus Tour which will be held on January 31st and February 1st in Pipestone.

The purpose of this short course and bus tour is to help producers recognize and effectively deal with common lambing time problems. We are fortunate to have highly qualified sheep veterinarians on the program to share their thought on common lamb and ewe health problems. Touring two top area sheep operations will provide an opportunity for individuals to see firsthand how other sheep producers recognize and deal with lambing time problems. The farm demonstration session will provide an excellent learning opportunity.

For those who are unable to attend our short course and bus tour please consider our web based Lambing Time Management Series which consists of 6 recorded topics that can be view through an Internet connection in the comfort of your home or office.

For more information visit www.pipestone sheepl Wool.com or contact Jodi Christensen, jodi.christensen@mnwest.edu (507) 825-6806.

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