See your sheep in print!

Targhee Talk
Submissions for the October Edition are due October 1st.
Please send your great Targhee stories, pictures, and newsworthy items to ustargheesheep@gmail.com or through the U.S. mail:
Targhee Talk
PO Box 955
Chinook, MT 59523

Benefit Auction Items

Consignees and members are encouraged to bring an item(s) for the Benefit Auction on Friday evening. Proceeds from the auction will help to defray the costs of the National Show and Sale, or support the Junior Show, Youth Futurity, and Starter Flock programs. Members really enjoy the opportunity to bid on things from different parts of the United States. Foodstuffs with local flavor are always a hit. If you would like to bring/donate a door prize item, please bring with you to the banquet. If you are unable to attend but would like to donate an item, contact Mardy to make those arrangements. Thanks in advance for making the Benefit Auction fun and interesting!

Photo Contest

The Photo Contest must involve Targhee sheep. There is no entry fee or limit on number of photos submitted. This contest is open to anyone whose immediate family has a USTSA membership. Entries must be accompanied by an uncut negative or a CD with image files. Each photo should be mounted on stiff backing. Name, address, and phone number should be on the back side of the entry. Entries may be submitted electronically to Mardy at ustargheesheep@gmail.com no later Saturday, June 30th. There is a limit of two electronic entries per voting membership. Electronic entries will be printed on photo paper and posted with regularly submitted photos.

All entries become the property of the USTSA and will NOT be returned. Photos will be judged by popular vote of viewers. Ballots and a ballot box will be placed near the Targhee display area. The voting period will be from 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 18th through 7:00 p.m. Friday, July 19th. Winners will be announced at the banquet.

President’s Notes

Nationals is coming upon us quickly. Hard to believe since in southern Montana the weather has not yet felt like summer. I am excited to see everyone and to welcome the new members that will be attending Nationals in Wisconsin. Please remember when fitting your sheep for Nationals to leave plenty of staple length on the fleece as was discussed in the last Targhee Talk. You do not want to trim the wool too short, especially around the side belly area. Sheep have been sifted for what appears to be belly wool when in actuality it was just clipped too short. Leaving a long enough fleece helps judges, sifting committee, and buyers better evaluate your animal.

I hope everyone gets to take in some sight seeing on their way to or back from Wisconsin, we plan to! Travel safe and let’s strive to make this years Nationals a positive and fun filled experience for everyone. See you there!

Your President,
Elisha Lewis Otis

Cover Photo Courtesy of
Leah Huchthausen
Stoughton, Wisconsin
Things to Note for Upcoming Nationals....

- As is typical in Wisconsin, bedding and hay will not be provided or available for purchase. Please come prepared.
- There will be no concessions on site throughout the entire show and sale. There is a Kwik Trip and Subway fairly close to the grounds and an All Stop with A&W, Cousins Subs and Rocky Rocco’s next to the hotel. Exhibitors are welcome to bring in their own food and drinks, we are just not allowed to have anything for purchase.
- Note check in time for open show is at noon on Thursday. All exhibitors are required to be in the barn at this time for sifting at 1. Early arrivals are not permitted prior to noon on Wednesday.
- Contact Hosting Committee with any other concerns/questions:

  **Jeff & Leslie Nevens**
  608-592-7842
  AandJNevensLive-stock@frontier.com

  **Todd & Lynette Taylor**
  608-332-4914
  toddtaylor@wisc.edu

Reminder

Products Labeled for Use on Sheep to Treat External Parasites:

- Synergize Delice
- Ectiban Delice
- Atroban 11% EC
- Permectrin CDS

Members bringing sheep to the National Show & Sale are required to treat sheep for external parasites at least 10 & no more than 30 days prior to the event. Please use products labeled for sheep. Producers can apply the product themselves. Just bring a note with your signature stating the treatment date, product, and dilution rate. Veterinary application is NOT required.

State Animal Health Regulations

All livestock entering Wisconsin must have an Official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) issued by a licensed and accredited Veterinarian within 30 days of animal entry at the U.S. Targhee National Show & Sale. The physical address for the show is:

Lodi Agricultural Fairgrounds
700 Fair St
Lodi WI 53555
2019 USTSA Starter Flock Winner . . .
Rylee Nelson – Waupaca, Wisconsin
Daughter of Richard & Haley Nelson

When reading a letter of recommendation for an applicant that states she “has a true young heart for all animals”, you know that this person is a worthy recipient! This is the case for 11 year-old Rylee Nelson, of Waupaca, Wisconsin, the 2019 USTSA Starter Flock Award recipient. Rylee has been surrounded by various species on her family farm, including horses, donkeys, cows, pigs, goats, chickens, rabbits, and dogs. This will be her first venture into the sheep business, and she has done her homework in preparing for her award!

Rylee has been a very active member of her local 4-H club, teaching many demonstrations on various subjects, both animal and non-animal. She has shown almost all her animals at her county fair, and her family raises a small herd of Red Angus on their farm. Companion animals include four dogs – two Great Pyrenees, a Dachshund, and a Pomeranian. “I show the Pomeranian. In the summer I practice almost every night with my dog to get him ready for the county fair. I did agility and obedience and I advanced to the Wisconsin State 4-H Dog Show!” She is ready to apply that dedication and time to her new flock of Targhee sheep.

Not only does Rylee have intentions to exhibit her starter flock, she also intends to educate others about the Targhee breed, sell lambs for local consumption, and learn how to process the harvested fiber for personal use and sale. As Rylee explains, “I would shear them so that I could wash and dye the wool, then spin it for knitting or crocheting or use it for felting that I could then enter in the fair.” The hardiness of the breed will be beneficial in the varied climate of central Wisconsin.

Rylee is already planning on a rotational grazing plan with the family Red Angus herd, and is intending to use their Great Pyrenees as guard dogs against possible predators. In addition, she has a local source of help and knowledge. “I also have a friend who has been raising sheep for decades that can provide advice about caring for sheep, if I have any questions.” Rylee has a plan in place, and can see her future with her starter flock, which includes donating back to the program. The USTSA is more than excited about her future!

Rylee will be receiving a ewe lamb donated by Kilber Family Targhees, Scott & Bobbi Kilber, Ipswich, South Dakota, a yearling ewe donated by Hunt Family Ranch, Michael & Rox Hunt, Carthage, South Dakota, and a brood ewe donated by A&J Nevens Livestock, Jeff & Leslie Nevens, Lodi, Wisconsin. She will also be receiving a yearling ram donated by Hunt Family Ranch.

Thank You USTSA Starter Flock Sponsors:

~ Bob Innes
~ USTSA
~ Mid-States Wool Growers
~ Jack McRae

Page 4
“Since I was little I always wanted sheep. I thought they were the best animals on earth.” That is a statement that will catch your eye when you’re reading applications! And so it lead to 16 year-old Andrea Wentworth, Manawa, Wisconsin, becoming the 2019 Wisconsin Junior Targhee Sheep Association Starter Flock Award recipient. Andrea is no stranger to raising and showing animals, which has included dairy cows, horses, pigs, chickens, rabbits, swine and market lambs. But her ultimate goal has been to have a purebred flock of sheep.

Andrea has spent a great deal of time thinking about what she wanted her agricultural focus should be. As her FFA advisor, Sue Johnson, stated, “Recently on the way home from the Wisconsin FFA Leadership Development Event Contest… she shared her dream for the Supervised Agricultural Experience Program: she wanted to raise sheep. And not just for the fair, but to have her own flock.” Her father, Dan, wanted Andrea to be old enough to take care of them all by herself because nobody on their dairy farm had experience raising sheep, so she started her ovine experience with the purchase of two cross-bred market lambs last year. She got so good at training her lambs that she was able to walk her two market hogs at the same time as her two lambs!

The Targhee breed holds a special interest for Andrea, commenting “they are more gentle than most breeds and are also an impressive dual purpose animal for meat and wool.” Her plans include selling the wool and market lambs, working on her showmanship abilities, learning about the industry from a local family who raises sheep, completing her SAE, and eventually exhibiting at Targhee Nationals and donating animals back into the Starter Flock Program. But her goals do not stop there. Her dream it to have her own flock throughout her life as a side business.

Andreas mother, Marcy, assisted her last year with preparations for her market lambs with building of pens and installing waterers. She also has access to rotational pasture using a movable paddock. In addition, she has access to a heated barn for winter lambing. And as her flock grows, she has access to more resources to expand her facilities. Plus her local mentor and FFA advisor has a great deal of experience raising sheep, which will help her considerably with her endeavors. As Sue stated, “Andrea has a smile that can light up a room.” The WJTSA is looking forward to seeing that smile in the show ring!

Andrea received a spring ewe lamb donated by Kuenzi Family Targhees, Drs. Rod & Lana Kuenzi, Waukesha, Wisconsin, and a yearling ewe and winter ewe lamb donated by A&J Nevens Livestock, Jeff & Leslie Nevens, Lodi, Wisconsin. She is planning on exhibiting her animals at many different events this summer!
Back a while ago we were driving the four-wheeler doing a check of the pastures. Then we approached a buckbrush patch. I had to get Dad to turn to avoid some sort of nest amongst the brush! The nest was made out of wool! We had not seen a thing like it until then. The first time we found these nests was last Fall before the freezing snow. When we went out this Spring to get a good picture of them, we found them worn. One nest had fallen out of the brush. The other was needing repair. No doubt the crafty birds will rebuild these nests this Summer. It is truly great to know that sheep ranching is helping the wildlife as well as the native plant life, here on the prairie. So tell all those birds to head down to South Dakota, because we’ll have the woolies out on the pasture again!

Seth T. Schoon
-Bar 5L Schoon Family Ranch

2019 USTSA Annual Members Meeting

The Annual Members meeting will be held Friday, July 19th at 2:30 pm at the Lodi Agricultural Fairgrounds, Lodi, Wisconsin. Jeff Nevens and Leroy Pedersen’s terms expire this year. The Board will be taking nominations up until the Members meeting for the At Large East and Central Plains seats as well as finding out if Jeff or Leroy wish to seek reelection. Voting will commence at the meeting.

Can’t attend Nationals and the Annual Member’s meeting? But have a concern or suggestion to help make the Association run smoother, contact Mardy at 702-292-5715 or ustargheesheep@gmail.com or your regional Director to have it added to the meeting agenda.

Can’t attend Nationals and the Annual Member’s meeting? But have a concern or suggestion to help make the Association run smoother, contact Mardy at 702-292-5715 or ustargheesheep@gmail.com or your regional Director to have it added to the meeting agenda.

From the map below, please be thinking of anyone you might think would be a great edition to the Board for each region up for reelection.
### – Schedule of Events -

**Wednesday, July 17th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Pens Available For Early Arrivals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thursday, July 18th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>National Junior Show.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Open Show Health, Registration, Micron, And EBV Paperwork Due At This Time - FINAL CALL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Wool Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Open Show Entry Sifting Begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Junior Wool Judging Contest/Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>Junior Targhee Association Annual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Picnic at Lodi Agricultural Fairgrounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 PM</td>
<td>USTSA Board of Directors Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Friday, July 19th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Junior Futurity Ewe Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>National Open Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 PM</td>
<td>USTSA Annual Association Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Annual Awards Banquet at Manke Event Barn followed by Benefit Auction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Saturday, July 20th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:45 AM</td>
<td>Presentation of USTSA Starter Flock Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 Noon</td>
<td>National Sale (Rams followed by Ewes)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Special Appearance by...

Soggy Prairie Band! Since their humble beginnings in the Spring of 2002, the band has seen a few lineup changes, but one thing has stayed the same: quality, ear-pleasing Bluegrass music, presented with a familiarity that makes you feel like you’re listening to live music in your own living room. Junior Association is sponsoring the band to play after the picnic on Thursday.
### 2019 USTSA National Show Entries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consignor</th>
<th>NSIP Yrlg Ram</th>
<th>Yrlg Ram Lambs</th>
<th>Fall Ram Ram Lambs</th>
<th>Win Ram Ram Lambs</th>
<th>Spring Ram Ram Lambs</th>
<th>NSIP Yrlg Ewe</th>
<th>Yrlg Ewe Lambs</th>
<th>Fall Ewe Lambs</th>
<th>Win Ewe Lambs</th>
<th>Spring Ewe Lambs</th>
<th>Pair of Yrlg Ewes</th>
<th>Pair of Ewe Lambs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clover Meadows LLC</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Von Krosigk Family Targhees</td>
<td>5,6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7,8</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10,11</td>
<td>22,23, 24,25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kopren Targhees</td>
<td>12,13</td>
<td>14,15,16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18,19</td>
<td>20,21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Surber</td>
<td>26,27</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>22,23, 24,25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circle M Targhees</td>
<td>30,31</td>
<td>32,33</td>
<td>34,35</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td>40,41,42</td>
<td>43</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilber Family</td>
<td>38,39</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>40,41,42</td>
<td>43</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holtz Family Targhees</td>
<td>44,45,46</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>47,48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dylan Laverell</td>
<td>49,50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>51</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logan Johnson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>51</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plum Creek Targhees - Caleb</td>
<td>53,54</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>54</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derek</td>
<td>55,56</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>56</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas</td>
<td>57,58</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leroy</td>
<td>59</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Tuttle</td>
<td>61</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>61</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pruitt Targhees</td>
<td>62</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>62</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis Ranch</td>
<td>63,64</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
<td>66,67</td>
<td></td>
<td>66,67</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beastrom Family</td>
<td>68,69,70,71</td>
<td></td>
<td>72,111</td>
<td>73,74</td>
<td>75,76</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>78,79</td>
<td>80,81</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leah Huchthausen</td>
<td>82</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>82</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie Huchthausen</td>
<td>83</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>83</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abby and Maggie Staulbaum</td>
<td>84</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>84</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A&amp;J Nevens</td>
<td>85,86</td>
<td>87,88</td>
<td>89,90</td>
<td>91,92</td>
<td>93,94, 95,96, 97,98</td>
<td>95,96, 97,98</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U of Wisconsin Madison</td>
<td>99,100</td>
<td>101,102</td>
<td>103,104</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>107,108</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McRae</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>110</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Phone Bids

We will have a cell phone available for phone bids on the morning of the sale. If you are interested in getting that number, contact Todd Taylor @ 608-332-4914 OR Lynnette Taylor @ 608-332-4915.
Directions to the Fairgrounds

From State Road 60/WI-60.
1. Turn right onto Clark St. Clark St is 0.3 miles past Lindsay Rd. If you reach Davis St you’ve gone a little too far. Then 0.04 miles.
2. Take the 1st left onto Millston Ave. If you reach School St you’ve gone a little too far. Then 0.20 miles.
3. Turn right onto Fair St.
4. 700 FAIR ST is on the right. Your destination is just past Elizabeth St.

Show and sale will be located in Cattle and Swine barn.
Upcoming Calendar of Events

June 30 - Sierra Foothills Wool Pool - Auburn, Calif. - [http://ucanr.edu/sfwoolpool](http://ucanr.edu/sfwoolpool)

July 7-10 - NLFA Howard Wyman Sheep Industry Leadership School - Harrisburg, Penn. - [http://www.nlfa-sheep.org/leadership.html](http://www.nlfa-sheep.org/leadership.html)

July 10-13 - Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program's Sheep for Profit School - Pipestone, Minn. - [www.pipestonesheep.com](http://www.pipestonesheep.com)


July 13 - Washington State Ram Sale - Moses Lake, Wash. - [www.wssp.org](http://www.wssp.org)


July 26-27 - Suffolk U's A New Direction in Sheep Breeding - Clay County Fairgrounds in Spencer, Iowa - [www.suffolks.org](http://www.suffolks.org)

July 27 - Center of the Nation NSIP Sale - Spencer, Iowa - [www.nsip.org](http://www.nsip.org)


Aug. 1-2 - CWGA Online All Breeds Sheep Sale - California - [www.californiawoolgrowers.org](http://www.californiawoolgrowers.org)

Aug. 2-3 - Bartlettyarns Annual Open House - Harmony, Maine - [www.bartlettyarns.com](http://www.bartlettyarns.com)

Aug. 10 - Eastern NSIP Sale - Wooster, Ohio - [www.nsip.org](http://www.nsip.org)


Aug. 24 - 44th Annual Virginia Performance Tested Ram Lamb & Ewe Lamb Sale and Sheep Field Day - Raphine, Va. - [http://www.vasheepproducers.com](http://www.vasheepproducers.com)


Aug. 31 - Virginia Tech 20th Annual NSIP Production Sale - Blacksburg, Va. - [https://www.apsc.vt.edu/facilities0/copenhaversheepcenter.html](https://www.apsc.vt.edu/facilities0/copenhaversheepcenter.html)

Aug. 31 - Montana Lamb Jam & 150th Celebration of Sheep - Dillon, Mont. - [www.mtsheep.org/montanalambjam/](http://www.mtsheep.org/montanalambjam/)

Sept. 6-8 - Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival - Jefferson, Wis. - [http://www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com](http://www.wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com)


Sheep Breeding Workshops Focus on Performance and Production – July 26-27

Are you interested in increasing performance and profit in your sheep operation? A New Direction in Sheep Breeding is an educational program that will be held July 26 and 27 at the Clay County Fairgrounds in Spencer, Iowa. The program is funded by ASI Let’s Grow and is being sponsored by the United Suffolk Sheep Association. It is a free program and is open to any producer who is interested in improving performance, increasing profitability, and impacting the value of American lamb.

The program will offer components for both seedstock and commercial producers. The program on July 26 will begin in the afternoon and run through early evening. Dr. Dan Morrical will present on utilizing quantitative genetics, utilizing Estimated Breeding Values, and understanding the needs of the commercial producer. Rusty Burgett will demonstrate how to use the free National Sheep Improvement Program searchable database. Dr. Ron Lewis will explain breed improvement and progress in the industry that has been made by using Estimated Breeding Values. A lamb dinner will be included and will be followed in the evening with hands-on ram evaluation.

The July 27 program will be held in the morning and is designed for commercial producers. Dr. Dan Morrical will present on sire selection for commercial flocks and how to select rams using Estimated Breeding Values to maximize profit. There will be a panel discussion featuring Shawn Capouch, Mark Hoogendoorn, and Mark Van Roekel who are commercial producers that have successfully used Estimated Breeding Values in their flocks.

Participants who attend either of the workshops and complete and evaluation will be entered into a drawing to win $100 in sale credit that can be redeemed at the Center of the Nation Sale that will take place in the afternoon on July 27 at the same location.

For a full listing of the program details go to www.suffolks.org. Preregistration is recommended by July 17. Please contact the Brenda Reau, USSA Director 734-755-8282 or reau@msu.edu.

Best Practices Aim to Increase Productivity for Lamb Producers

Helping each sheep producer find ways to be more efficient plus take more control of flock productivity, both of which protect against price volatility, is the bottom line reason for the Best Practices to Increase Your Lamb Crop fact sheets. The series is a joint effort of the American Lamb Board (ALB) and the American Sheep Industry Association’s Let’s Grow program.

Best practices are a cornerstone of many industries – from computer manufacturing to education – and guide processes to achieve a desired result. For the lamb industry, Productivity Best Practices identify ways to produce more with comparable resources, which is a critical component of profitability. After all, lambs sold per ewe is still the biggest influencer of profitability.

Even though sheep production practices in the U.S. vary widely, there are lamb crop best practices that will benefit every flock. Most sheep producers will be able to identify at least 3 of the 12 best practices that will help them gain efficiency and improve profitability.

Key indicators have also been developed to help identify which lamb crop best practices will be most beneficial for various production styles. For example, a range flock should have no more than seven to 10 percent of dry ewes, whereas a farm flock should have no more than 5 to 7 percent.

The entire set of fact sheets, compiled into one document, can be downloaded at https://lambresourcecenter.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Lamb_Crop_Fact_Sheets_ALL_06_12_171.pdf