Presidents Message

What a great time to be involved in the Border Leicester business! Several recent events involving Border Leicesters saw outstanding participation and attendance and enthusiasm for the breed is soaring to new heights.

West Coast breeders were excited about the participation and number of spectators who showed up to see the Border Leicesters at the Black Sheep Gathering and the Long Wool Sheep Show at the Oregon State Fair in August.

Record numbers of Border Leicesters were exhibited at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, Massachusetts in September. Record numbers of Border Leicesters were exhibited at the New York Bred Ewe Sale in Rhinebeck, New York in October, and record numbers – 91 head, of both White and Natural Colored Border Leicesters are entered in the National Show in Louisville, Kentucky in November.

At the New York Bred Ewe Sale, Border Leicesters were the featured breed and they came through with a high-sale topping average of $541 on 11 head. A dozen other breeds also sold in that sale.

With the greater exposure our breed is now offering, new breeders are being attracted.

Stud Ram Selection
By Bill Koeppel

The late Glenn Eidman was a respected sheep judge from Kansas. We showed under him at Maryland, NAILE, the Michigan State Fair and the old Michigan Fiber Fest and we greatly enjoyed and learned from the comments he made about our sheep. He would usually judge the flock class with the ram pulled out behind the four ewes. His reasoning was that “the ram is half your flock”. While we accept that as a given in some respects – half of the genetics of our lambs obviously comes from our rams – we do not believe that half of our results come from our rams’ genetics.

First, genetics are only one of three key factors that determine the outcomes we achieve with our sheep. The best genetics in the world will produce poor results if the flock is poorly fed and poorly managed. Feeding involves not only the amount of food, but its quality and timing relative to the annual breeding-gestation-lactation-weaning-maintenance-flushing-breeding cycle of the ewe flock. Management involves clean, dry, well ventilated, and uncrowded housing; adequate feeder space; clean water and regular attention to foot trimming, parasite control, vaccinations, etc. Average sheep in a good environment will out produce champion sheep with untrimmed feet standing in a damp, muddy, crowded barn with water that was last changed two weeks ago. I hope to provide articles for future newsletters dealing with our thoughts on these subjects. Here, however, I will deal with

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into the fold. Several of the recent events I mentioned were followed with Border Leicester socials which were very popular. At the Eastern States Exposition 50 Border Leicester and Tunis breeders all went to a friendly dinner after the show.

Over 30 Border Leicester breeders gathered for an informal meeting and social after the show at the New York Sheep and Wool Festival. At Louisville an informal social has been planned following the show on Wednesday afternoon November 15.

Camaraderie and friendships made during these events are an integral part of the success of our breed. We all like to breed the best Border Leicesters we can but when the show is over it is the friendships made which are the most lasting.

Other sheep breeders are noticing what is happening in our breed and they are impressed. They keep hearing how good Border Leicesters are and now many established flocks are strongly considering adding Border Leicesters to their programs. Border Leicesters are family friendly, easy to raise, and a breed I believe when you begin raising them you are “Starting at the Top”.

Your board is working hard to develop a new promotional program and print new promotional material for use beginning in 2007. Our desire is for every new Border Leicester member to receive a packet welcoming them to our breed. The packet will contain the breed’s history, by-laws, breed standards, and current membership list of the American Border Leicester Association.

Good things are happening in our breed and now is the perfect time to share that news with your friends.

Greg Deakin
President, ABLA

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Letter from the Editor

Welcome Sarah Hopkins! Sarah is going to take on the job of newsletter editor. She comes with lots of sheep experience and enthusiasm. I think everyone will enjoy the direction that Sarah takes the newsletter. She is open and welcomes articles and ideas from everyone. If you have newsworthy items to share with the members, be sure to send them to Sarah.

One of the articles that members have asked to be included in the newsletter is an article on pastures and rotational grazing. Last summer I asked a Grazing Specialist in our local Soil and Water Conservation District to write an article on this subject. She was excited and willing to do so, except that I had asked for the article during her busiest time of the year. She recently took the time to write the article for our newsletter. This is a little late, but since this is my last newsletter I have included it.

We have just returned from show and sale at the Dutchess County Sheep and Wool Festival. Border Leicesters were the featured breed and a Border Leicester Show was held. It was a national caliber show, with exhibitors from 6 states and ABLA members from 2 countries in attendance. There were 80 Border Leicesters entered in the show. Joanne Tuncy chaired the show, and hosted an evening get together for ABLA Members. JoAnne did a wonderful job hosting the show and get together. Nancy Smith, former Newsletter Editor was a vendor in attendance at the wool festival. I hope all of the ABLA
(Continued from page 1)

thoughts on selection, focusing on the ram.

In making replacement or purchase decisions we recommend the following process:
1. Start with a clear understanding of what you want to accomplish. This may sound obvious, but it's not. We meet people in the sheep business who have vastly different objectives: some want show ring success, others disdain it; some are interested exclusively in hand spinning fleeces with no interest in breed character or structural correctness; some raise sheep for enjoyment, others as a commercial venture; etc, etc.
2. Assess how well your present flock meets your objectives. What are its strengths? What are its weaknesses? Selecting replacement rams or ewes should attempt to address the weaknesses without diluting the strengths.
3. Understand that there is no such thing as a “perfect” sheep. Every replacement candidate will have strengths and weaknesses. Your job is to visualize how those will fit with and react with the strengths and weaknesses of your present flock.
4. Don’t be in a rush to buy the show ring champion unless show ring performance is your prime objective. Reasons abound:
   a. Judges place animals by how they fit with others in the show ring that day, not by how they fit with your breeding flock in your barn; only you can do that (see above).
   b. Characteristics critical to you are not evident to a judge and cannot be evaluated in the show ring (longevity, ease of lambing, mothering instincts, temperament, fleece quality with age, etc).
   c. Judges usually know sheep better than they know Border Leicester sheep. Consequently they tend to place what they consider the “best” sheep first, which may not be the “best” Border Leicester sheep. We value judges’ opinions because they will point out things we haven’t seen, or have seen, but subconsciously chosen to overlook. Ultimately, however, we rely on our own

members in attendance had a chance to stop and meet Nancy and daughter Katie our webmaster.

Bill Koeppel has included an article on ram selection. Thank you Bill for sharing your years of experience with the membership. Bill Koeppel and his wife Linda have raised Border Leicesters on their small farm near Ann Arbor, Michigan since 1990. Their long-standing objective is to raise the best Black Border Leicesters possible.

I have enjoyed meeting the ABLA members as the newsletter editor, thanks everyone for all of your support.

Noreen Atkins

(Continued on page 4)
several years after selling them in an effort to refresh genetics that had been diluted with time. A similar approach that returns some of our historical genetics mixed with new is to keep in touch with people who have bought exceptional rams or ewes and consider their offspring. We have used ram lambs on occasion. Some people shy away from ram lambs because, as you often hear in the show ring, “you don’t know yet what you have”. For ram lambs we have bred, we know the characteristics of the sire and dam and have had acceptable results. Our results with ram lambs we’ve purchased have been inconsistent. Our overall conclusion is that the older the ram, the less the risk, but as noted above, there is risk in even the most considered and researched ram decisions.

Certain characteristics are more heritable that others. Ewe mothering behavior seems to be one that is passed from a dam through her ram son to her ewe grand daughters. This is a factor more easily evaluated in your own rams than in rams you may buy. Other criteria to consider in evaluating stud rams were laid out by Dr. Gary Ricketts of Illinois, an educator, extension agent, and very good sheep judge at a 1991 Michigan Fiber Fest seminar. They are worth considering as an aid in evaluating your own rams as a prelude to considering a new one.

1. Percent of ewes settled on the first heat cycle – want 90% or greater.
2. Lambing problems of ewes bred (ease of delivery; vitality at birth).
3. Lamb mortality from birth to weaning (vitality at birth).
4. Lambing percent from ewes exposed.
5. Weaning weights of lambs.
6. Post-weaning growth rate of lambs.
7. Carcass weight of lambs.
8. Wool quality and quantity.
9. Percent of ewe lambs cycling by eight months of age (even if ewe lambs are not bred).
10. Testicle size of sons at six months of age.

An ambitious list. It is worth taking the time to observe and record this information for each of the rams you use. Interesting patterns develop that will help give you an objective basis to evaluate your rams.

Two final thoughts. 1. When do you start looking for a new ram? – The day you bring your new ram home! 2. Always remember, you are not buying a ram for what he is, but for what his offspring will be. Performance, not appearance is your goal!

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**Black Sheep Gathering**
**June 23-25, 2006  Eugene, Oregon**

**Glen Eidman Memorial Trophy for the Best Sheep of Show:**
Di Waibel -Mist O Morn Farm, Canby, Oregon

**White Registered Border Leicester:**
Champion Ram: Di Waibel Mist O Morn Farm, Canby, Ore.
Reserve Champion Ram: Don & Barbara Fox-Foxy Farm Critters, Springfield, Or
Champion Ewe: Di Waibel- Mist O Morn Farm, Canby, Ore.
Reserve Champion Ewe: Dan and Susie Wilson- SuDan Farm, Canby Ore.
Young Flock – Di Waibel-Mist O Morn Farm, Canby, Ore.

**Natural Colored Wool Breeds from Non-NCWGA Flocks:**
Champion Ram - The Pines Farm, Maple Valley, Wash.
Reserve Champion Ram – Don & Barbara Fox-Foxy Farm Critters, Springfield, Ore. Champion Ewe – Dan & Susie Wilson- SuDan Farm, Canby, Ore.
Reserve Champion Ewe - The Pines Farm, Maple Valley, Wash.
Young Flock – Sherry Stahl Wellborn- Dancing Sheep Farm, Eugene, Ore.

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Reprinted from “Two Hundred Years of British Farm Livestock” by Stephen J.G Hall & Juliet Clutton-Brock

1869 Sir Walter 3 Shear Ram

**Congratulations to Di Waibel with her Supreme Champion Sheep of the show!**
**ABLA MONTHLY TREASURER REPORT**

Balance as of 8/29/06 $3,124.03

Income:
- Dues, registrations & transfers $1,054.00
- Ads (from last newsletter) $50.00
- Big E meal money $1,317.00
- Big E show donations $280.00

+$2,701.00

Expenses:
- Bank fees (Aug. & Sept.) $10.60
- Big E trophies & mementos $270.00
- Newsletter Editor (balance due) $147.93
- Storrowton Town (Big E dinner) $1,083.75
- Big E Leadline - Jr. Division $35.00
- Siteman $89.03
- Associated Registries (Aug & Sept) $775.30

-$2,411.61

Balance as of 10-10-06 $3,413.42

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**F.Y.I.:**

Big E trophies & momentos breakdown:
- Breeders committed to $325.00
- Received $280.00
- Cost $270.00

Big E Storrowton Tavern dinner

- Income: 50 meals x $25 $1,250.00
- ABLA donated $100.00
- Tunis breeders $112.00

$1,452.00

Cost of meals: $1,383.75

Left over funds: $68.25

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**Border Leicester Sheep!**

In 2006, for the 6th Consecutive Year Premier Breeder
With our Black Border Leicesters at both Maryland and The Michigan State Fair

We expect to have outstanding Black Yearling Rams and Ewes available in May at Maryland and we look for a quality lamb crop, colored and white

Call us Early to Discuss Your Needs!

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Jennifer Bierhuizen was recently elected as Junior Coordinator for ABLA. She wants to develop programs and activities for our junior members. If you have any ideas or thoughts on the subject, please contact her. She is very excited and looks forward to expanding the junior program within ABLA. You can contact Jennifer at (540) 829-0806

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Need to Contact Associated Sheep Registry?
Telephone (641)942-6402
Fax: (641) 942-6502
Email: kclaghorn@earthlink.net

Karey Claghorn
Associated Sheep Registry
15603 173rd Avenue
Milo, IA 50166

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Linda and Bill Koeppel
(734) 747-81112
koeppels@peoplepc.com
HEAD & NECK (10 Points)
   NECK:              Moderate length, fitting into shoulder gracefully.

FOREQUARTERS (5 Points)
   SHOULDERS: Well rounded.
   LEGS:     Straight, wide apart, no wool below knees. No rust colored hair. Black hooves.

BODY (15 Points)
   CHEST:             Deep & wide but not fat
   RIBS:              Well sprung, long showing no signs of excess fat.
   BACK:              Broad, long & level. Somewhat narrower in front then rear. Hindquarters should be 1/3 or less in proportion.
   WOOL:              Belly & armpits well covered with wool (minimum of skin) & consistent with balance of fleece.

HINQUARTERS (10 Points)
   HIPS:              Level, smooth & wide apart
   THIGHs:            Deep & full

CONDITION (10 Points)
   Animals should be in working condition, well muscled & not overly fat or thin.

GENERAL APPERANCE (10 Points)
   STANCE:            Overall appearance to be regal in stature.

WOOL (40 Points)
1. Locks with purled tips ending in a curl.
2. High luster.
3. Minimum of kemp hair.
4. Uniform fleece & belly wool.
5. No black spots in white, no white spots in black wool.
Hi Border Leicester Breeders and Friends,

My name is Sarah Hopkins. I grew up on a small farm in a small town called Chepachet, in northwestern Rhode Island. Currently, I am attending the College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York earning my Bachelor’s Degree in Childhood Education and Special Education. I have been “involved” in sheep since, well, since I was born. I am a fourth generation shepherd so I guess you can say it’s in my blood. I started showing sheep when I was three years old with a Hampshire bottle lamb named “Annie Freckles”. My mom raised Southdowns and my grandparents raised Hampshires, so for the next few years I showed a few lambs from each of those breeds.

In 1988, I convinced my Mom & Dad to buy my first Cheviot ewe lambs, “Emma Sue” and “Rose”. My Cheviot flock increased and we show them throughout southern New England and in Louisville (three times). They were my one and only favorite breed, until Mom purchased her first Border Leicester, “Elise Fanny” a bred ewe from Don Grant. She was great: easy to shear, no head and leg wool – like the Cheviot, but very friendly and calm - not like Cheviots. Now I have two favorites: Cheviots and Border Leicesters. Mom purchased more and more Border Leicesters and that was “the beginning”. We have about 60 sheep on our farm now, most of them are Border Leicesters, along with ten Natural Coloreds (medium wool), a few Cheviots, Southdowns and Hampshires, and our newly started breed = Natural Colored Lincolns! But, I will say the Border Leicesters definitely the favorites on the farm!

I was a 4-H member of the Aries 4-H Club for twelve years and I am still involved as an Assistant Leader of that same club. Last year, after running the Natural Colored part of the show, I volunteered to be a Co-Chairperson for the North East Youth Sheep Show held in July at the Big E Fairgrounds in West Springfield, Massachusetts. I was one of the exhibitors at the very first show and continued to show there until I was 21, and now I had a leadership role in running it. I found that to be fun! When the chance to be Editor of the ABLA Newsletter came along, I thought it would be fun too. I had watched Mom write a much smaller type newsletter for the Rhode Island Sheep Cooperative, and thought I could that too! I look forward to working with the Border Leicester breeders on this newsletter, and welcome any articles or ideas you may have! Please feel free to contact me with questions, ideas or just to “talk sheep” in Cheviot99@cox.net.

Sarah Hopkins
NORTH EAST YOUTH SHEEP SHOW- A SUCCESS!

The 22nd Annual North East Youth Sheep show was held on July 13-16, 2006 at the Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds in West Springfield, Massachusetts. This show is one of the largest youth shows in the northeast with 169 youth exhibitors showing a total of almost 600 head of sheep, representing thirteen breeds as well as All Other Breed classes for Meat and Wool Divisions. It was great seeing all the kids working on their animals for the show, and seeing kids from different parts of the country working and showing together.

The exhibitors arrived Thursday, and the events started with a small but very entertaining Quiz Bowl with everyone winning a prize. Early Friday morning, the exhibitors checked in, and participating in the following events offered throughout the day: Annual Skillaton Contest, Dorset Breed Standard Clinic, Jozie’s Showmanship Clinic, Orientation Meeting (where everyone received a “raspberry” Youth Show T-shirt), and then the judging of the Market Lamb Classes and the choosing of the Supreme Market Lamb. The four top winners won blankets donated by Barbara Peace of Pennsylvania, with the Grand Champion Market Lamb winner also received a banner handmade and donated by Claudette Choma given in Memory of Ed Peckham (a member of the original show committee) and a cash award sponsored by Westbank of Springfield, Massachusetts. After a delicious Lamb Barbeque, there was the selection of the Supreme Ewe and Ram selection in the New England Sale following by their Ice Cream Social, and the 2nd Annual Adult Showmanship Fundraiser (with a very entertaining Betty Boop character entry)! The temperature reached the high 90’s all weekend, and thanks to Andy Hukowicz and his pickup truck (and a very large blue tarp) there was a small “pool” available to cool off in all weekend. Of course, the “pool” was open to all…some went in by choice and others were helped in.

Following the New England Sale on Saturday was a lengthy (but great) Used Equipment Auction, with plenty of youth exhibitors helping to run the many items to the auction ring. This is a major fundraiser for the Youth Show and many thanks go out to Billy MacCauley for auctioneering and to Becky Peterson and her Sale Committee for organizing the event.

The judges for the entire weekend were Joe Haddock, Dick Kuzemchak, and Matt Trostle. At the conclusion of the Used Equipment Auction, the Fitting and Showmanship classes were held in three rings, by age and by breed. It was really something to see Joe Haddock on his knees talking with the Novice showman explaining his reasons and giving show ring tips. Because of the heat and typical showmanship stress, we had many tears entering the ring, but everyone left with a smile on their face, thanks to Joe! At the completion of the judging of each category, the Supreme and Reserve Supreme Showmen in each age group were chosen. After that intense competition, the Hampshire, Shropshire and Lincoln breeds were shown.

Sunday morning started at 8:00 a.m. with the continued judging of the breed classes. The entire day was filled with high quality contests and the three judges did a terrific job of evaluating the tough classes in the extreme heat (no, they never went in the “pool”). The show ended Sunday afternoon with the selection the Supreme Ram and Supreme Ewe of the show, winning banners made and donated by Claudette Choma. These banners are given in memory Ernest & Phyllis Flebotte, two of the original show committee. The supreme winners also won a cash award donated by Westbank.

The show is made possible each year by the generous donations of many organizations and breeders. All funds raised go directly into the show, to pay the judges and the premiums for the youth exhibitors. Individual donations for show blankets, trophies and various prizes for the breed champions and other awards are made by many supportive people and the various New England breed associations. We wish to thank all who supported the show this year, and look forward to your continued support in the future.

Champion Border Leicester Ram
Grace Smith

Champion Border Leicester Ewe
Christopher Hopkins
Junior News
NEYSS Results

White & Black Border Leicester

Junior Showmanship
1 - Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT
2 - Beverly Mason, Chepachet, RI

Yearling Ram
1 - Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT
2 - Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI

Ram Lamb
1 - Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT
2 - Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI
3 - Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI

Pair of Ram Lambs
1 - Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI

Champion Ram
Ram Lamb, Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT

Reserve Champion Ram
Yearling Ram, Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT

Yearling Ewe
1 - Christopher Hopkins, Chepachet, RI
2 - Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT
3 - Beverly Mason, Chepachet, RI
4 - Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI
5 - Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT
6 - Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI

Pair of Yearling Ewes
1 - Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT
2 - Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI

Ewe Lamb
1 - Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI
2 - Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT
3 - Emily Mombourquette, Harmony, RI
4 - Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT
5 - Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI

Reserve Champion Ewe
2nd Yearling Ewe, Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT

Exhibitors Flock
1 - Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT
2 - Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI

Best Fleece
1 - Grace Smith, Charlotte, VT

WE HAD A GREAT DAY AT THE BIG E!

FIRST PLACE & PREMIER EXHIBITOR
Our winning flock included our 1st Place Pair of Yearling Ewes & Ewe Lambs, Reserve Champion Ram & Reserve Champion Ewe.

1st Place Early Ram Lamb & Reserve Grand Champion Ram.

Thanks to all our buyers at the farm in 2006!
Look for us at the 2007 National Sale!

2nd Place Yearling Ewe & Reserve Grand Champion Ewe.

Special Thanks to Emily, Jasmine, Devan, Aubrey, Jack and Colin for all their help at the show.

MAYBE TOMORROW FARM
Kevin, Polly, Sarah & Christopher Hopkins
494 Evans Road • Chepachet, RI 02814 • 401/949-4619 • khop4811@aol.com
BORDER LEICESTER
Featured Breed at the
New York State
Sheep & Wool Festival

By JoAnne Tuncy

Every year the New York State Sheep and Wool Festival in Rhinebeck, NY has a featured breed as part of their festival weekend. This year the featured breed was the Border Leicester. We had a very impressive show on Friday, October 20. We had breeders showing from six different states with a total of 56 white leicesters shown and 16 natural colored leicesters shown. Friday night there was a wine and cheese reception for the Border Leicester Exhibitors and friends. Thirty-three attended, including our Canadian members, Don and Mary Grant. The New York Bred Ewe & Ewe Lamb Sale also takes place at this festival on Saturday. Twelve Border Leicesters went through this sale. JoAnne Tuncy of Twin Birches had the Champion Border Leicester Ewe of the sale with Reserve Champion Sale Ewe going to Deakin Family Farms.

Tom Brown of Troy, OH was the judge for the weekend. On Sunday of the festival there is the Northeast Natural Colored Sheep Show and the White Wool Sheep Show. The Border Leicesters showed in the long wool division of these shows and took top honors. Champion Yearling Ram was presented to JoAnne Tuncy of Twin Birches with Reserve going to Polly Hopkins of Maybe Tomorrow Farm. Polly also took Champion and Reserve Champion Ewe in the White Wool Show. The Border Leicesters were showing against Romneys, Lincoln, Karakuls, and Cotswold sheep. There is a Supreme Ram and Ewe awarded for these two shows. A Border Leicester takes one of these awards. JoAnne Tuncy’s yearling ram took Supreme Champion Ram of the White Wool show!

Thank you to all who helped make our show at the New York State Sheep & Wool Festival such a great success. The Border Leicesters definitely made a statement.
Internal Parasite Control
by Susan Schoenian

The primary causes of internal parasitism in sheep and lambs are overstocking of pastures and insufficient pasture rest periods.

Photo: British Virgin Islands

In most sheep-raising areas, internal parasites (i.e. worms) are usually the primary disease affecting sheep and lambs. Sheep are more susceptible to internal parasites than most other types of farm livestock. Their small fecal pellets disintegrate very easily thus releasing the worm larvae onto pastures. They graze close to the soil surface and to their feces. They are slow to acquire immunity. It takes 10 to 12 months for most lambs to develop immunity to parasites. Sheep also suffer a loss of immunity at the time of lambing, which does not restore itself until approximately four weeks after lambing. Heavy stocking rates and insufficient pasture rest periods further contribute to the incidence of parasitic disease in sheep and lambs. Internal parasites tend to be much less of a problem under range-type conditions where sheep do not graze the same pasture twice in the same grazing season. They are also less of a problem in arid regions, because parasites require moisture for their development.

In the past, sheep producers relied heavily on anti-parasitic drugs, called "anthelmintics" to control internal parasites in their flocks. But the long-time use and in some cases misuse of these drugs has resulted in parasites that have become increasingly resistant to anthelmintics. Drug resistance has been documented in all three drug families and is most commonly reported with ivermectin and the benzimidazoles. In the U.S., few anthelmintics are FDA-approved for use in sheep and lambs, and no new drugs are likely to be developed. As a result, producers must develop more integrated programs for controlling parasites, which do not rely exclusively on drug therapy.

The Parasites
Gastro-Intestinal Worms (roundworms, nematodes, stomach worms)

In warm, moist climates, the parasite that causes the most problems to sheep and lambs is usually *Haemonchus Contortis*, better known as the "barber pole" or wire worm. The barber pole worm is a blood-sucking parasite that pierces the lining of the abomasum (the sheep's fourth or "true" stomach), causing blood plasma and protein loss to the sheep. Females are identified as barber pole worms because their white ovaries are wound around their red blood-filled intestine. Male worms are red. The barber pole worm is the largest and most deadly stomach worm. The symptom most commonly associated with barber pole worm infection is anemia, characterized by pale mucous membranes, especially in the lower eye lid; and "bottle jaw," an accumulation (or swelling) of fluid under the jaw. Infections with barber pole worm rarely result in diarrhea (scours). The other worm species are more likely to cause diarrhea. The barber pole worm is difficult to control because it has a short, direct life cycle and is a prolific egg producer. A female barber pole worm can produce 5,000 to 10,000 eggs per day. The barber pole worm is also capable of going into a "hypobiotic" or arrested state when environmental conditions are not conducive to its development and resuming its life cycle once environmental conditions improve. Some worm larvae are able to survive on pastures over the winter.

The stomach worms usually of secondary importance are *Trichostrongylus* spp. and *Ostertagia* spp. Their importance is usually as an additive effect in mixed infections with *haemonchus*. However, in warmer subtropical areas, *Trichostrongylus* spp. are important pathogens in grazing ruminants. *Ostertagia* appears to be much less important in the United States than in cooler parts of the world such as Northern Europe and the British Isles. In the southern United States, *Ostertagia circumcincta* is of no real significance in small ruminants because the hot and often dry summers are hostile to the survival of its pre-parasitic stages. In the western U.S. particularly the cooler, wetter, coastal areas of Washington, Oregon and Northern California, *Ostertagia circumcincta* is the dominant nematode of
sheep (and goats). *Nematodirus* is not usually a primary pathogen in ruminants in North America. However, *Nematodirus battus* does cause significant disease in lambs in Britain because of its unusual hatching requirements. *Cooperia* infections are usually secondary contributors to parasitic disease.

**Tapeworms** (*Moniezia* spp.)
Because tapeworm segments can be seen in sheep feces, they often cause alarm to producers. Experts disagree about the importance of effects of the parasite. Although dramatically large numbers of tapeworms may occupy the small intestine, damage to sheep is generally much less than that done by the gastrointestinal nematodes such as *Haemonchus* and *Ostertagia*. In extreme cases, tapeworms may cause intestinal blockages. There is some evidence that lamb growth rates may be affected when large numbers of tapeworms are present. Tapeworms have an indirect life cycle. They require pasture mites to complete their life cycle. Only certain anthelmintics (benzimidazoles) are effective against tapeworms.

**Lungworms** (*Dictyocaulus filaria, Muellerius capillaris*)
Wet, low-lying pastures and cool, damp weather favor the development of lungworm disease in sheep. Lungworm eggs are passed in the feces. After the eggs hatch and are ingested by the sheep, they travel through the sheep's tissues to the lungs (trachea and bronchi). Only in severe infestations do lungworms produce clinical disease, causing fever, coughing, nasal discharge, rapid breathing, and poor performance. Secondary infection by bacteria may cause death.

**Liver Flukes** (*Fasciola hepatica*)
Liver flukes can cause death in sheep and lambs or liver damage in subacute cases. In the U.S., they are primarily a concern in California, the Gulf States and Pacific Northwest. Liver flukes require snails as an intermediate host. Two drugs are available in the United States for the treatment of liver flukes: Clorsulon and Albendazole.

**Meningeal Worm** (*Paralaphostrongylus tenius*)
The meningeal (deer or brain) worm is an internal parasite of white tailed deer. The life cycle of the meningeal worm requires terrestrial snails or slugs as intermediate hosts. Sheep are unnatural, dead-end hosts for the parasite. When sheep ingest snails containing infective larvae, the parasite moves into the brain and/or spinal cord causing often fatal neurological disease. The neurological signs observed in infected sheep depend upon the number of larvae present in the nervous tissue and the portion of the rain or spinal cord that has been affected. A mild infection may produce a slight limp or weakness in one or more legs, while a more severe infection may cause an animal to be partially or completely paralyzed. Meningeal worm infection cannot be diagnosed in the live animal. Treatment usually involves high, repetitive doses of anthelmintics, along with steroids and other supportive therapies. Preventative measures include fencing off areas which receive high deer utilization and removing sheep from pastures before weather turns cool and wet. Fencing sheep away from likely snail and slug habitats (e.g. ponds, swamps, wetlands, low lying and poorly drained fields, and woodlands) may also help to prevent the problem. In high risk areas, monthly deworming has been advocated.

**Coccidia** (*Eimeria* spp.)
Coccidia are single-cell protozoa that damage the lining of the small intestine. They are host-specific, meaning the species that affects cattle, swine, and poultry does not affect sheep and vice versa. Coccidiosis is very common in sheep, especially young, growing lambs. Older sheep serves as sources of infection for young sheep. Lambs in lambing pens, intensive grazing areas, and feedlots are at greatest risk. Transmission of coccidiosis to lambs favors warm, wet environmental conditions. Stress often induces outbreaks of coccidiosis. Coccidiosis often follows weaning or shipping stresses. Clinical signs include diarrhea (sometimes containing blood or mucous), dehydration, fever, weight loss, loss of appetite, anemia, and death. The coccidia organism does not respond to the standard deworming products. Medications used to treat clinical coccidiosis differ from medications use to prevent it. Outbreaks of coccidiosis are usually treated with sulfa drugs and amprolium (Corid). These drugs must be prescribed by a veterinarian. Feed additives for the prevention of coccidiosis in lambs are currently in use by the sheep industry. They include two FDA-approved products, lasalocid (Bovatec®) and decoquinate (Decoq®, and one non-approved product, monensin (Rumensin®). Monensin requires a veterinary prescription. Preventive medications such as monensin, lasalocid, and decoquinate, are collectively referred to as coccidiostats, meaning that they slow down the shedding of coccidia into the environment. They are only effective in preventing disease if they are added to the feed before lambs become exposed. On the other hand, treatment medications such as sulfa compounds and amprolium are coccidiacidal, meaning that they actually kill the coccidia organisms in the intestine of the treated animal. Rumensin® is very toxic to horses. Bovatec® and Decoq® should not be fed to horses or other equines.

**Integrated Parasite Management (IPM)**
**Good Management and Common Sense**
Internal parasite control starts with good management and common
sense. Sheep should not be fed on the ground. Feeders which cannot easily be contaminated with feces should be utilized for grain, hay, and minerals. Water should be clean and free from fecal matter. Pastures and pens should not be overstocked. When new sheep are acquired they should be isolated from the rest of the flock for 30 days and aggressively dewormed to prevent the introduction of drug-resistant worms.

Use of Clean or Safe Pastures
Clean or safe pastures are pastures which are not contaminated with the worm larvae that affect sheep. Examples of clean pastures include pastures that have not been grazed by sheep or goats for the past 6 to 12 months; pastures which have been grazed by horses or cattle; pasture fields in which a hay or silage crop has been removed; pasture fields which have been rotated with field crops; and pastures than have been recently established or renovated by tillage. While burning a pasture will remove worm larvae, there are no pasture treatments that will effectively eliminate or reduce worm larvae.

Pasture Rest and Rotation
It is a common misconception that rotational grazing helps to control internal parasites in sheep. Intensive rotational grazing may actually contribute to parasitic problems. This is because rotating large groups of ewes and lambs through small paddocks concentrates livestock and infective parasite larvae onto the same small area. Researchers in the Netherlands found that it takes three months of rest for an infected pasture to return to a low level of infectivity. Researchers at Langston University (Oklahoma) determined that a 65-day rest period was sufficient for goats. Rotational grazing is an effective management tool for managing parasites, but only if pasture rest periods are long enough (i.e. 60 days or more). On the other hand, better nutrition provided by rotational grazing may offset the effects of higher parasite loads on the pasture.

Grazing Strategies
Approximately 80 percent of the worm larvae can be found in the first two inches of grass. Therefore, sheep grazing taller forages will have fewer parasite problems. Sheep should not be allowed to graze forages shorter than 2 inches in height. Sheep that browse also have fewer parasite problems. Another grazing strategy is to wait until the dew has lifted from the grass or grass has dried after a rain. Dry conditions force parasites to stay at the base of the plants where they are less likely to be consumed by the livestock.

Multi-species Grazing
Sheep (and goats) are generally not affected by the same internal parasites as cattle and horses. Consequently, pastures grazed by cattle and horses are safe(r) for sheep (and goats) and conversely. Sheep can be co-grazed with cattle and/or horses. A leader-follower system can be utilized or pastures can be alternated between sheep and cattle and/or horses. There are numerous other benefits to multi-species grazing. Each species has different grazing behavior that complements one another. For example, sheep prefer to eat weeds and short, tender grasses and clover, while cattle prefer to eat taller grasses. Cattle may offer some protection from predators.

Alternative Forages
Some pasture plants have anthelmintic properties, such as those containing condensed tannins. Research has shown that sheep grazing tannin-rich forages have lower fecal egg counts than animals grazing traditional grass pastures. The tannins may also decrease the hatch rate of worm eggs and larval development in feces. Forage species which contain high levels of condensed tannins include sericea lespedeza, birdsfoot trefoil, and chicory. Sericea lespedeza is a warm, season legume. Birdsfoot trefoil is a long-lived perennial legume. Chicory is a low-growing, leafy perennial. Generally speaking, trees and shrubs contain higher levels of tannins than pasture grasses, and tropical legumes contain more condensed tannins than temperate legumes.

Healthy Soil
Earthworms have been shown to ingest worm eggs and larvae, either killing them or carrying them below the soil surface. Certain types of fungi will trap and kill parasitic larvae. Dung beetles ingest and disperse manure, thus keeping eggs and larvae from developing. Anything that is done to maintain soil health and promote these types of organisms will aid in parasite control. Scientists are examining the possibility of feeding nematophagous fungi to livestock to kill larvae in manure piles.

Nutritional Management
Supplemental feeding should not be overlooked as a means to control parasites. Sheep and lambs on a higher plane of nutrition mount a better immune response to internal parasites than animals whose nutritional status is compromised. Animals on low protein diets are more susceptible to infection because they produce less IgA (immunoglobulin). Higher levels of protein have been shown to improve the pregnant ewe's immune response to parasites after lambing. Lambs receiving protein supplementation have reduced fecal egg counts.

Zero Grazing
Keeping sheep and/or lambs in confinement (i.e. "zero grazing") is a means of reducing parasitism and preventing reinfection. Under a zero grazing situation, sheep and/or lambs do not have access to any vegetation for grazing. They are housed in a bedded barn, dirt lot, or facility with slotted floors. Feed should be fed off the ground in feeders. Watering containers should be kept free from fecal matter. Slotted floors offer the best protection against internal parasites because sheep generally do not come
into contact with their feces.

**Genetics**
Genetics is probably the best long term weapon against internal parasites in sheep. Some sheep breeds are more resistant and resilient to internal parasites. They include the Florida (or Gulf Coast) Native and the hair sheep breeds: St. Croix, Barbados Blackbelly (and its derivatives), and Katahdin. Grazing resistant breeds of sheep with susceptible breeds, may act to “sweep” pastures and reduce contamination to susceptible animals.

Regardless of the breed raised, producers can also breed sheep which are less resistant to parasites by culling ewes that are persistently affected by parasites and favoring parasite resistant ewes and rams in their selection programs. Both fecal egg counts and FAMACHA© scores can be used to identify sheep with resistant and susceptible genetics. In New Zealand, it is possible to select rams that shed 60 to 70 percent fewer parasite eggs than historical averages. Scientists are currently looking for genetic markers for worm resistance so that a DNA test could be used to show producers which of their animals are resistant to internal parasites.

**Proper Anthelmintic Use**
Anthelmintics are still an important part of parasite control. However, they must be used properly to ensure effectiveness of treatment and slow down the rate by which worms develop drug resistance. To start with, the weights of sheep and lambs must be known or approximated accurately in order to calculate the proper dosage of medicine. Underdosing results in the survival of worms which are resistant to the anthelmintic used. Flocks should be divided into groups for deworming or drenching equipment should be calibrated for the heaviest animals in the group. Oral drenching is the recommended method of treatment for sheep. Oral medications should be delivered over the tongue. If the medicine is deposited into the mouth to stimulate the closure of the esophageal groove and bypass the rumen.

If an anthelmintic is more slowly absorbed in the gut, drug levels are prolonged and the treatment may be more effective. Thus, fasting sheep for up to 24 hours may improve efficacy of dewormers, especially when using benzimidazoles and ivermectin. However, water should not be restricted.

Using the same anthelmintic or drugs from the same chemical family will increase the rate at which worms become resistant to the drugs. To lessen the effect, anthelmintics (or drug groups) should be rotated on an annual basis. On the other hand, anthelmintics should not be rotated after each use; otherwise, worms will develop resistance to each drug simultaneously.

If you do not deworm your animals much (e.g. < 3 times per year), you might not have much of a drug resistant problem. But if you introduce new animals to your flock, you could introduce drug-resistant worms. This is especially true if you purchase animals from a farm that deworms frequently. To prevent the introduction of drug-resistant worms, you should deworm newly purchased animals with drugs from at least two of the three anthelmintic families. Moxidectin should be favored over ivermectin due to its superior potency. Levamisole should probably be the other choice, since widespread resistance is believed to exist in the benzimidazole group of dewormers. After deworming, the animal(s) should be released onto a wormy pasture to help dilute any "super-resistant" worms that may remain in his system.

**Alternative Dewormers**
Currently, there is a lot of interest in using "natural" products as an alternative to chemical control of parasites. Such products include herbal dewormers and diatomaceous earth. Unfortunately, there is no research to indicate that any of these products have a substantial effect on internal parasites in sheep, only testimonials. However, this is an area of increasing research interest and hopefully recommendations will be forthcoming in the years ahead.

Copper oxide particles (administered as a bolus) have been shown to reduce barber pole worm infections in sheep. They have been used with mixed results in goats. Copper oxide is available for cattle as a supplement to alleviate copper deficiency and has been used in sheep for the same purpose. Scientists are currently evaluating different dosage rates to avoid copper toxicity in sheep.

**Refugia**
Worms in "refugia" are those which have not been exposed to drug treatment. They include free-living stages on pasture and worms in untreated animals. Refugia are being viewed as an important tool to slow down anthelmintic resistance. To increase refugia, it is suggested that a portion of the flock not be dewormed. Fecal egg counts and FAMACHA© scores can be used to identify which animals do not require deworming. Another strategy for increasing refugia is to return treated animals to a wormy pasture. The reason for this recommendation is because if treated animals are moved to a "clean" pasture, the only worms that will be on that pasture will be resistant to anthelmintic treatment.

**Fecal Egg Analysis**
Fecal egg analysis is an important part of an internal parasite control program. Primarily, a fecal analysis tells you how contaminated your pastures are. Fecal analysis can also be used to make selection and culling decisions by identifying animals with both high and low egg counts. Probably the most valuable use of fecal analysis is determining drug resistance. The test to determine
drug resistance is called the fecal egg count reduction test (FECRT). To conduct a FECRT, animal are weighed and dewormed with the anthelmintic you wish to test. Fecal samples are collected twice: first at the time of deworming and second, 7 to 10 days later. Six or more (ideally 10) animals should be tested for each anthelmintic. Fecal samples should also be collected and analyzed for a similar group of untreated animals. For an anthelmintic to be considered effective it should reduce fecal egg counts by 90 percent (ideally 95%). There is severe drug resistance if treatment fails to reduce egg counts by more than 60 percent.

To do your own fecal analysis, you need a microscope, flotation solution, mixing vials, strainer, stirring rod, slides, and cover slips. You do not need an elaborate microscope. 100X power is sufficient. You can purchase flotation solution from veterinary supply companies or make your own by mixing a saturated salt or sugar solution. Your mixing vials can be jars, pill bottles, film canisters, test tubes, or something similar. You can use a tea strainer or cheese cloth to strain the feces. The stirring rod can be a pencil or popsicle stick. If you want to count eggs, you want to get a McMaster Egg Counting slide available HERE. The McMaster slide has chambers that making egg counting easier. The Paracount-EPG™ Fecal Analysis Kit with McMaster-Type Counting Slides is available for $40 from the Chalex Corporation.

Identifying Worm Eggs. "Strongyle-type" eggs (Haemonchus, Ostertagia and Trichostrongylus) are elliptical or oval, with smooth, thin shells. Nematodirus eggs are the largest strongyle-type eggs, but eggs of the species in the group cannot usually be identified precisely. Worming recommendations can be based on the quantity of strongyle eggs. Since fecal counts only estimate the parasite load, there is no clear cut level at which worming is indicated. As a general guide, a level of about 500 eggs per gram of feces would indicate that worming is needed for sheep. A more effective way of deciding when to treat would be to monitor fecals every 4-8 weeks and deworm when there is a dramatic rise in egg counts.

Tapeworm eggs are square or triangular. Tapeworm (Moniezia sp.) eggs may be seen in fecal examination but they are in no way indicative of the level of infection. Since lungworm eggs hatch before being passed in the feces the eggs generally are not seen by the flotation method. Nematode larvae, when present in the feces, are indicative of lungworm. Fluke eggs are oval and have a smooth shell with a cap or operculum at one end. Liver flukes are prolific egg producers, but egg counts are not necessarily a good indication of infection levels. Coccidia eggs are very small, about a tenth the size of a Strongyle egg. Coccidia oocysts are passed in the feces of most livestock. Oocysts are only a moderate indicator of level of infection. FAMACHA©

The FAMACHA© system was developed in South Africa due to the emergence of drug-resistant worms. The system utilizes an eye anemia guide to evaluate the eyelid color of a sheep (or goat) to determine the severity of parasite infection (as evidenced by anemia) and the need for deworming. A bright red color indicates that the animal has few or no worms or that the sheep has the capacity to tolerate its worms. An almost white eyelid color a warning sign of very bad anemia; the worms present in the sheep’s gut are in such numbers they are draining the animal of blood. If left untreated, such an animal will soon die.

The FAMACHA© chart contains five eye scores (1-5), which have been correlated with packed cell volumes (percentage of blood made up of red blood cells, also called haematocrit). Animals in categories 1 or 2 (red or red-pink) do not require treatment whereas animals in categories 4 and 5 (pink-white and white) do. Animals in category 3 may or may not require treatment depending upon other factors. Mature sheep in category 3 (pink color) probably do not requiring treatment, whereas lambs or other susceptible animals should be treated if they are in category 3. The frequency of examination depends upon the season and weather pattern, with more frequent examination usually necessary in July, August, and September, the peak worm season.

The FAMACHA© system results in fewer animals being treated, which slows down drug resistance. It identifies wormy animals that require treatment. Persistently wormy animals should be marked for culling. The process of inspecting the eyes is quick and can be incorporated with other management practices. The FAMACHA© system is only effective for the barber pole worm. It should not be used in a vacuum, but rather it should be incorporated into an integrated worm control program that includes other management practices, such as pasture rest, good nutrition, multi-species grazing, alternative forages, zero grazing, and strategic deworming. FAMACHA© should only be used by properly
trained individuals.  
FAMACHA© by the University of Georgia.

To learn more about internal parasites, visit the Southern Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control.

Remember: Membership renewals are due in January of each year. Renewing your membership early in the year allows the ABLA Board of Directors to budget, fund activities for the membership, and promote the growth of the breed.

ABLA T-Shirts and Patches

Patches $2.00 each  
T-Shirts:

Style A: $14.00 American Border Leicester Association On the front left & Large ABLA Logo on the back

Style B: $12.00 ABLA Logo on the front left.

Sizes: Youth Med, Adult Med, Large, & X-Large  
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Judge: Julian Moore
Exhibitors:
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Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Polly Hopkins, Chepachet, RI
Emma Morton, Chepachet, RI
Irene Nebiker, North Smithfield, RI
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Joanne Tuncy, Millerton, NY

White Yearling Ram: 1) Joanne Tuncy 2) & 3) Maybe Tomorrow Farm 4) Deakin Family Farm 5) Barb Thompson 6) Irene Nebiker

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White Grand Champion Ram: Joanne Tuncy- Yearling Ram

White Reserve Champion Ram: Maybe Tomorrow Farm – Sr. Ram Lamb

Natural Colored Ram Lamb: 1) Emma Morton 2) Tiffany Deakin

Natural Colored Champion Ram: Emma Morton – Ram Lamb

Reserve Champion Ram: Tiffany Deakin – Ram Lamb

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White Pair of Yearling Ewes: 1) Maybe Tomorrow Farm 2) Deakin Family Farm 3) Joanne Tuncy 4) Barbara Thompson 5) Sally Barney 6) Irene Nebiker

Natural Colored Yearling Ewe: 1) & 2) Tiffany Deakin 3) & 4) Emma Morton

Natural Colored Pair of Yearling Ewes 1) Tiffany Deakin 2) Emma Morton

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Pair of Natural Colored Ewe Lambs: 1) Emma Morton 2) Tiffany Deakin

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Best Border Leicester Fleece of Show – Deakin Family

Tips Corner

Fall Pasture Hints
Grazing the pasture down to a height of 2 inches for over-wintering allows for earlier spring growth. This short height allows the soil to warm faster than it would have with the taller plants forming an insulating thatch. Winterkill maybe a possibility in some areas, depending on the winter, but for many early growth outweighs this risk.

Winter sacrifice areas are paddocks or fields which animals occupy during the non-grazing season. Vegetation is often damaged and the soil can become punched up with holes. Choose fields for sacrifice areas that will be plowed and planted in the spring. If this is not possible, allow the winter area to rest in the spring and do not put it into the grazing rotation until it is recovered.

Totellini and Lamb Country Soup

Total Time: 30 minutes or less
Lamb Cuts: Leg (bone-in, boneless) Lamb Cubes (stew meat), Shoulder
Category: Soups and Stews
Servings: 8
Preparation Time: 5
Cook Time: 25

Ingredients:
- 2 stalks celery, thinly sliced
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 pound of American Lamb boneless leg or shoulder, cut into 1/2 inch cubes
- 8 cups fat-free chicken broth
- 1 package (9 oz.) refrigerated cheese tortellini
- 1 can (15 oz) chopped tomatoes
- 1 package (1 pound) frozen mixed vegetables
- 2 teaspoons Italian seasoning
- Grated Parmesan cheese, optional

Directions:
Spray a large pot with nonstick cooking spray. Add celery and onion and cook over medium-high heat for 2 minutes. Add lamb, cooking until brown. Mix in broth, tortellini, vegetables, garlic salt and Italian seasoning. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes. Serve in soup bowls and sprinkle with cheese if desired.

White ram lamb (B) for sale, $275; gentle proven white ram (B) $300.

Also White Roving, $20 per lb. plus postage.

Contact Susan Shink at 734-663-0225 or seshink@aol.com
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<td>Brock Farm 1010 Maurice Street Twin Falls, ID</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jana Groefsema (B)</td>
<td>Wool Run Ranch 3840 Patricia Lane Boise, ID</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VaNaer Archer (B)</td>
<td>Archer Acres 141 East 350 North Blackfoot,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Impersonaeger@hotmail.com">Impersonaeger@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Reg. Border Leicester and Border Leicester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Products:  breeding stock, show</td>
<td>cross lambs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Winterpast Farm</td>
<td>225 Allen Road Solon, ME 04928</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Products: breeding stock</td>
<td>207-966-3521 Wool for sale</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bill &amp; Janet Seavey (B)</td>
<td>Judas Meadow Farm 2121 Greeley Road Windsor,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Products: Blankets made from our</td>
<td>MD 21420</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>own wool, meat, fleeces, breeding</td>
<td>207-549-3455</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>stock</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mainesheep.com">www.mainesheep.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.mainesheep.com">www.mainesheep.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cassandra L. Webster (B)</td>
<td>51 9th Street Auburn, ME 04210</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>As Ewe Promise Reg. Breeding</td>
<td>207-713-2351</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>stock</td>
<td>6570 S. Vandecar Road</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Betty Levin (B)</td>
<td>1010 Maurice Street Solon, ME 04928</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Products:  breeding stock, show</td>
<td>207-549-3455</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Winterpast Farm</td>
<td>225 Allen Road Solon, ME 04928</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Products: breeding stock</td>
<td>207-966-3521 Wool for sale</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bill &amp; Linda Koeppe (B)</td>
<td>Judas Meadow Farm 2121 Greeley Road Windsor,</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cape House Farm</td>
<td>MD 21420</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Products: breeding stock, fleece,</td>
<td>207-549-3455</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>roving, pelts, spinning wheels &amp; equipment, freezer lamb. We specialize in outstanding fleeces for handspinners.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jerry L. &amp; Peggy Pickler</td>
<td>16 Old Winter Street Lincoln, MA 01773</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Products:  breeding stock, fleece,</td>
<td>781-259-8799</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>branding stock</td>
<td>Products: wool &amp; breeding stock</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Garden Harvest Inc.</td>
<td>14045 Montauk Mill Rd. Glynod, MD 21071</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Products: Organic farm, alpine goats, Rhode Island Red chickens</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ingrid Hiltz &amp; Susan Wit 06</td>
<td>1253 Hoodsmill Road Woodbine, MD 21797</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph Hiltz (Jr) 06</td>
<td>1253 Hoodsmill Road Woodbine, MD 21797</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Katrina Benjamin</td>
<td>129 East Grand River Road Ososso, MI 48867</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ewe Sew Special</td>
<td>989-723-2404</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steven &amp; Laura Jacobson-Pentces</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sherman Sheep Company</td>
<td>15526-20 Mile Road Tustin, MI 49688</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph Hiltz (Jr) 06</td>
<td>1253 Hoodsmill Road Woodbine, MD 21797</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lauren Hiltz (Jr) 06</td>
<td>1253 Hoodsmill Road Woodbine, MD 21797</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Betty Levin (B)</td>
<td>16 Old Winter Street Lincoln, MA 01773</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Products:  breeding stock, fleece,</td>
<td>781-259-8799</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Notes:**
- Virginia Lewis specializes in breeding stock and natural dyed roving.
- Carole & Yancey Juergenson offers natural and dyed roving.
- Terriane Warner provides locker lambs and wool grass-fed sheep.
- Cassandra L. Webster specializes in breeding stock for handspinners.
- Betty Levin offers products for handspinners.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Products</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Darlene Megli (B)</td>
<td>Megli Farm 275 SW 30th Road Lamar, MO 64759</td>
<td>417-682-5931 <a href="mailto:ldmegli@tiadon.com">ldmegli@tiadon.com</a> <a href="http://www.meglifarm.com">www.meglifarm.com</a></td>
<td>Products: breeding stock, freezer lamb, wool &amp; pelts. We feed biodynamically and organically grown feed and we use synthetic chemical wormers only very rarely.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James &amp; Bonnie Willcock</td>
<td>Green Acres Farm 529 State Highway M94 West Skandia, MI 49885</td>
<td>906-942-7088 <a href="mailto:greenacressheep@tds.net">greenacressheep@tds.net</a></td>
<td>Products: Breeding stock, fleece, spinning &amp; weaving tools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nancy Barnett (B)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.barakelfarm.netfirms.com">www.barakelfarm.netfirms.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jnl850@rivi.com">jnl850@rivi.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>Cynthia Coe (B)</td>
<td>Don a Si Farm 6726 Highway 312 Billings, MT 59105</td>
<td>406-373-6542 <a href="mailto:dunasi@montanasheep.com">dunasi@montanasheep.com</a> <a href="http://www.montanasheep.com">www.montanasheep.com</a></td>
<td>Montana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John &amp; Judy Lewman (LT)</td>
<td>Spring Creek Farm 6250 Game Farm Road Minnetrista, MN 55362</td>
<td>952-472-4524 <a href="mailto:johnlews@vista.com">johnlews@vista.com</a></td>
<td>Products: Breeding stock, fleece, roving in white and color</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tim Reese</td>
<td>Three Rivers Park District 7210 County Road 110 West Minnetrista, MN 55364</td>
<td>952-472-9203 <a href="mailto:treese@threerifersparkdistrict.org">treese@threerifersparkdistrict.org</a> <a href="http://www.galewoodsffarm.org">www.galewoodsffarm.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>William &amp; Nancy Barnett (B)</td>
<td>Barakel Farm Route 2, Box 2360 Alton, MO 65066</td>
<td>573-238-5961 nancybarnett <a href="mailto:98@yahoo.com">98@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://www.barakelfarm.netfirms.com">www.barakelfarm.netfirms.com</a></td>
<td>Products: Fleece, roving, breeding stock, both colored &amp; white and angora/wool socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jason Frieden</td>
<td>80 SW 30th Road Lamar, MO 64759</td>
<td>417-682-6413 <a href="mailto:jasonfrieden@tiadon.com">jasonfrieden@tiadon.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>Don Hazen</td>
<td>Old Fort Sheep Company P. O. Box 187 Fort Benton, MT 59442</td>
<td>406-622-5182 <a href="mailto:adhazen@ttc-cmc.net">adhazen@ttc-cmc.net</a> <a href="http://www.montanasheep.com">www.montanasheep.com</a></td>
<td>Montana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>Don Hazen</td>
<td>Old Fort Sheep Company P. O. Box 187 Fort Benton, MT 59442</td>
<td>406-622-5182 <a href="mailto:adhazen@ttc-cmc.net">adhazen@ttc-cmc.net</a> <a href="http://www.montanasheep.com">www.montanasheep.com</a></td>
<td>Montana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joshua Edwards</td>
<td>Wheat Creek Farm 1050 Ponder Rd. Mill Spring, NC 28756</td>
<td>828-683-1850 <a href="mailto:jedwards@alltel.net">jedwards@alltel.net</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maureen Robinson (B)</td>
<td>Summit View Farm 200 Smyre Road Zirciona, NC 28791</td>
<td>828-697-2604 <a href="mailto:dogworks@sellsouth.net">dogworks@sellsouth.net</a> <a href="http://www.dogsgility.com">www.dogsgility.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tami Russell (B)</td>
<td>Triple “R” Farms 550 Miracle Drive Rutherford, NC 28139-9104</td>
<td>828-863-4908 <a href="mailto:trilfarms13@yahoo.com">trilfarms13@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://www.breedingstock.com">www.breedingstock.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>Jim Gall</td>
<td>2828 West Overland Scottsbluff, NE 69361</td>
<td>308-632-5909 <a href="mailto:kcdodee@hotmail.com">kcdodee@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Products: Fleece, handspun yarn, wool hats, scarves, etc. Meat sheep and market lambs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lucien Hamernik</td>
<td>55444 836th Road Norfolk, NE 68701</td>
<td>402-379-1551 <a href="mailto:appraise@telebeep.com">appraise@telebeep.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dennis Lenhart</td>
<td>480 Arapahoe Street Lamar, NE 69023</td>
<td>308-882-2229 <a href="mailto:dlenhart@chase3000.com">dlenhart@chase3000.com</a> <a href="http://www.montanasheep.com">www.montanasheep.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mina McKinney</td>
<td>580 Sioux Street Lamar, NE 69023</td>
<td>308-882-3949 <a href="mailto:lamarleicester@chase3000.com">lamarleicester@chase3000.com</a> <a href="http://www.montanasheep.com">www.montanasheep.com</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Archie Murray</td>
<td>580 Sioux Street Lamar, NE 69023</td>
<td>308-882-3949 <a href="mailto:lamarleicester@chase3000.com">lamarleicester@chase3000.com</a> <a href="http://www.montanasheep.com">www.montanasheep.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John and Rene Nestlebush</td>
<td>74471 318 Avenue Lamar, NE 69023</td>
<td>308-882-5769 Rene’<a href="mailto:roost@yahoo.com">roost@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jon and Christie Tecker</td>
<td>Tecker Ranch, Inc. P. O. Box 548 Parks, NE 69041</td>
<td>308-423-2995 <a href="mailto:jtecker@bwtelecom.net">jtecker@bwtelecom.net</a> <a href="http://www.rivervalleyalpacas.com">www.rivervalleyalpacas.com</a></td>
<td>Products: Breeding stock, wool and alpacas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>Mary Anne Mitchell &amp; R. John Olson</td>
<td>Phantasy Farm P. O. Box 1266 Edgewood, New Mexico 87015</td>
<td>505-281-3431 <a href="mailto:NCSheep@aol.com">NCSheep@aol.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barney, Sally</td>
<td>Woolmark Farm 52 Cartland Road Lee, New Hampshire 03824</td>
<td>603-659-5857 <a href="mailto:sally-barnes@comcast.net">sally-barnes@comcast.net</a> <a href="http://www.montanasheep.com">www.montanasheep.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephanie Larochelle</td>
<td>Sweet Meadow 457 Battle Street Webster, NH 03303</td>
<td>603-746-3712 <a href="mailto:slaro@casd.k12.nh.us">slaro@casd.k12.nh.us</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brian &amp; Lorna McMaster</td>
<td>309 Westmoreland Road Spofford, NH 03462</td>
<td>603-365-9391</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>Wayne and Edie Van Valkenburg (B)</td>
<td>Joy Farm 87 East Lake Rd. Pilesgrove, NJ 08098</td>
<td>856-769-6526 <a href="mailto:joyew@mindspring.com">joyew@mindspring.com</a></td>
<td>Products: Fleece, breeding stock and market lambs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joy Farm</td>
<td>107 Mill Point Lane Amsterdam, NY 12010</td>
<td>518-922-6167 <a href="mailto:jchamplin@localnet.com">jchamplin@localnet.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amanda Darling</td>
<td>1300 Spring St. Ext. Groton, NY 13073</td>
<td>607-898-4814 <a href="mailto:ginlifarm@yahoo.com">ginlifarm@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Noreen B. Atkins</td>
<td>GirLip Farm 1327 Spring Street Ext. Groton, NY 13073</td>
<td>607-898-4814 <a href="mailto:ginlifarm@yahoo.com">ginlifarm@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joel, Linda, Ben &amp; Ian Chapin</td>
<td>107 Mill Point Lane Amsterdam, NY 12010</td>
<td>518-922-6167 <a href="mailto:jchamplin@localnet.com">jchamplin@localnet.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amanda Darling</td>
<td>1300 Spring St. Ext. Groton, NY 13073</td>
<td>607-898-4814 <a href="mailto:ginlifarm@yahoo.com">ginlifarm@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ohio

Frank & Pat Bradish
Twin Hickory Farm
2522 Adams Road
Kingston, OH 44048
440-577-9701
thaseapat@aol.com

Ray & Sharyn Vandersall (B)
Greystone Farm
1128 C. R. 139
Van Buren, OH 45889
419-257-3470

John Moran
5480 Bear Hollow Road
Newark, OH 43056
740-763-4905

Don Bischof
16300 S. W. 192nd Avenue
Sherwood, OR 97140

Fred Dickhouse
Prairie Rose Farms
31655 Fayetteville Drive
Shedd, OR 97737
541-491-3777

Jacob Dickhouse Jr.
Prairie Rose Farms
31655 Fayetteville Drive
Shedd, OR 97737
541-491-3777

Don & Barbara Fox (B)
Foxy Farm Critters
38061 M. J. Chase Road
Springfield, OR 97478
541-747-5618

Donald & Linda Hansen
Dayspring Farm
29632 Beaver Creek Road
Corvallis, OR 97333
541-929-3129
dayspring@casco.net

John & Kris Savage (LT)
Sheepstone Natural Fibers
1039 State Route 169
Darlington, PA 16115
724-891-1440

Jonna Logue
Ramsden Farm
Roy & Susan Higginson
Birdsboro, PA 19508
610-582-6861

Sherry Stahl Wellborn (B)
Dancing Sheep Farm
82787 Marlow Road
Eugene, OR 97405
541-484-1440
sherry@dancingsheepfarm.com

Zella Jewett (B) (Jr)
P. O. Box 1271
Merlin, OR 97532
541-476-0603

Brin McAtee (B) 06
Farmer Girl’s Friends
411 NE McKay Drive
Prineville, OR 97754
541-416-2491
duster@primetime.net

Jane Furman (B)
Cricket Thicket
5958 Old Route 17
DeWittville, NY 14728
617-753-3813
jsfurman@adelphia.net

Karen and Richard Zlattner
Wampecack Creek Farm
618 County Route 74
Johnsonville, New York 12094
518-677-8017
gofarmerguy@earthlink.net

Products: grass seed, wool and lamb

John & Kate Bostek
Roclan Farm
2633 Tract Road
Fairfield, PA 17320
717-642-9444
roclans@adelphia.net

Jane Furman (B)
Cricket Thicket
5958 Old Route 17
DeWittville, NY 14728
617-753-3813
jsfurman@adelphia.net

Karen and Richard Zlattner
Wampecack Creek Farm
618 County Route 74
Johnsonville, New York 12094
518-677-8017
gofarmerguy@earthlink.net

Products: lambs and fleeces

Bobbi J. Meritt
Meritt Acres
6209 NW 10th Street
Terrebonne, OR 97760
541-504-4123
bmeritt@apothacare.com

Glen and Coleen Smith (B)
Blessed Creations
24256 Butterville Road, NE
Aurora, OR 97002
503-780-9801
dairyhepends@hotmail.com

Jessie Lynn Thompson
9838 S. Gribble Road
Canby, OR 97013
541-651-3806

Diana Waibel
Mist O Morn Farm
9838 S. Gribble Road
Canby, OR 97013
503-266-7156

Richard & Mary Ann Noone (B)
Dexter, OR 97431
83576 Rattlesnake Road
Kylie Zettle
83576 Rattlesnake Road
Dexter, OR 97431
Telephone: 541-726-6505

Jane Furman (B)
Cricket Thicket
5958 Old Route 17
DeWittville, NY 14728
617-753-3813
jsfurman@adelphia.net

Jane Furman (B)
Cricket Thicket
5958 Old Route 17
DeWittville, NY 14728
617-753-3813
jsfurman@adelphia.net

Products: roving & fleeces

Products: breeding stock and market lambs and wool. New Zealand LAI blood stock available.

John & Kris Savage (LT)
Sheepstone Natural Fibers
1039 State Route 169
Darlington, PA 16115
724-891-1440
ksavage@timesnet.net

Products: wool blankets, yarn, sheepskins, lamb, felt, breeding stock

Tom Mitch (B)
199 Tobias Road
Bernville, PA 19506
610-488-7884
thistlehill03@aol.com

Products: breeding stock and fleeces

John and Kate Bostek
Roclan Farm
2633 Tract Road
Fairfield, PA 17320
717-642-9444
roclans@adelphia.net

Jane Furman (B)
Cricket Thicket
5958 Old Route 17
DeWittville, NY 14728
617-753-3813
jsfurman@adelphia.net

Products: roving & fleeces

Kent Knappenger Family
7093 Fish Rd.
Westfield, NY 14787
716-326-6258

Jane Furman (B)
Cricket Thicket
5958 Old Route 17
DeWittville, NY 14728
617-753-3813
jsfurman@adelphia.net

Products: roving & fleeces

Kent Knappenger Family
7093 Fish Rd.
Westfield, NY 14787
716-326-6258

The Mitchell Family (B)
Stonewall Ridge Farm
47454 Dimgman Point Rd.
Alexandria Bay, NY 13607
315-482-9287
tomitch@verizon.net

Products: yarn, hats & mittens, fleece and socks

Joanne L. Tuncy
Twin Birches
692 Smithfield Road
Millerton, NY 12546
518-789-6113
ewebe.53@yahoo.com

Products: Quality breeding stock, fleeces and roving

Karen and Richard Zlattner
Wampecack Creek Farm
618 County Route 74
Johnsonville, New York 12094
518-677-8017
gofarmerguy@earthlink.net

Products: lambs and fleeces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Farm Name</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Products</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>Turkle Trak Farm</td>
<td>Sue Platts (B)</td>
<td>540-459-3414</td>
<td>White River, SD 57579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>Ronald and Janet Krogman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>Ashley Jones (B)</td>
<td>Blackberry Farm</td>
<td>502 Little Pumpkin Valley Road</td>
<td>605-259-3453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>S. E. Marley (B)</td>
<td>Orange Gate Farms</td>
<td>406 Evans Rd.</td>
<td>401-949-0264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>Fazal Ahmad</td>
<td>Spirit Hill Farm</td>
<td>255 Loop Hollow Road</td>
<td>540-425-0586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>Susan Johnson (B)</td>
<td>Meadowlawn Farm</td>
<td>255 Loop Hollow Road</td>
<td>540-425-0586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>Svea Miller (B)</td>
<td>Miller Black Sheep Farm</td>
<td>502 Little Pumpkin Valley Road</td>
<td>51939 County Highway V</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>Brian Seefeld (B)</td>
<td>Spirit Hill Farm</td>
<td>17292 Kibler Road</td>
<td>540-829-0806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>Sara Beamer</td>
<td>Sheeps and Peeps Farm</td>
<td>17292 Kibler Road</td>
<td>540-829-0806</td>
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<td>Washington</td>
<td>Brian Seefeld (B)</td>
<td>Spirit Hill Farm</td>
<td>502 Little Pumpkin Valley Road</td>
<td>540-829-0806</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Don &amp; Linda Jonasson (B)</td>
<td>Jonasson Farm</td>
<td>1725 Overlook Trail</td>
<td>540-829-0806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Gwendolyn M. Martens</td>
<td>Smith Family Farm</td>
<td>3070 Spear Street</td>
<td>540-829-0806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Tom &amp; Nancy Smith</td>
<td>Smith Family Farm</td>
<td>3070 Spear Street</td>
<td>540-829-0806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>David &amp; Carol Ray</td>
<td>Green Pastures Farm</td>
<td>540-829-0806</td>
<td>540-829-0806</td>
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</tbody>
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(Continued on page 25)
Introduction to Rotational Grazing Management
By Jean Foley, Cortland County NY Soil and Water Conservation District

Why Rotational Grazing
Rotational grazing is a common type of Prescribed Grazing Management (PGM). PGM is defined by Darrell Emmick, NRCS NYS Grazing Land Management Specialist, as “the controlled harvest of vegetation with grazing or browsing animals managed with the intent to achieve a specified objective”. Rotational grazing provides economic, environmental and social benefits for the farmer and the community. It lowers feed, fuel, equipment and veterinary costs for the farmer. Rotated pastures protect soil from erosion and increase soil health. Pollutants from manure and chemicals are filtered from precipitation runoff and kept from entering streams and water bodies. The idyllic scenes of grazing animals increase appreciation of agriculture by the non-farming community.

In rotational grazing the objective is to provide ample forage in the most nutritious vegetative state for the number and type of animals while safeguarding the pasture from overgrazing. Overgrazing can indicate that the pasture is too small or too large for the number of animals. While it is apparent that a pasture that is too small might become overgrazed, why would a large pasture become overgrazed? It is because the animals cannot graze the entire pasture evenly and some areas become overgrown and unpalatable, this then concentrates the grazing to areas previously grazed which can become overgrazed. The important components of a successful grazing system that both prevents overgrazing and provides the flock with ample nutritious forage, are: proper paddock sizing, correct residency period, pasture height management and infrastructure such as a water system, fencing and stream crossings.

Paddock Sizing
Large pastures should be broken up in a number of smaller grazing paddocks with temporary fencing. The flock can be moved from paddock to paddock allowing a sufficient rest and re-growth period for each paddock in turn. Temporary fencing allows the farmer to adjust paddock size throughout the growing season as animal numbers or the grass growth rate varies. Temporary fencing also allows for removal of fencing making clipping and haying more efficient.

Determining the correct paddock size is both an art and a science. Paddock size can be calculated by determining the daily forage requirement of the flock and dividing that number by the forage produced and available for grazing. The daily forage requirement of the flock is determined by multiplying the average weight of the individual animals in lbs. by either 0.03 for lactating and growing stock or 0.025 for all others, then multiplying that number by the number of animals in the flock. Determining the pounds of forage available for grazing is a bit more involved. If the tons of hay produced from the field is known a table can be used to convert tons of hay to pasture forage available per grazing rotation. If the hay tonnage is unknown production can be estimated by determining the soil types in the field and using another table to determine the estimated production capacity of the soil type. Your local Soil and Water Conservation District or Natural Resources Conservation Service can help in determining potential available forage.

Residency Period
Another factor, in determining paddock size, is the length of time your flock will remain in the same paddock, called the residency period. The shorter the residency period the smaller the paddock and the more efficient the grazing will be. Longer residency periods will result in more forage waste by trampling and manure build up, in addition to selective overgrazing of preferred plants while less preferred plants become overmature. The recommended residency period for ewe/lambs and growing stock is 3 to 4 days. Adult non-lactating animals may have a residency period of 4 to 7 days. If you choose a 3 to 4 day residency you will need 9 to 11 smaller paddocks. If you choose a 7 day residency period you will need 5 larger paddocks. This paddock number allows you to use about 50% of the pasture for grazing during the spring and early summer. First cutting hay may be harvested from the remaining 50%, with those paddocks put into use for grazing as grass growth declines in mid to late summer. While the system is planned for a certain number of days and certain size paddocks, the art of management comes into play as these variables are adjusted to keep the grass in the most nutritious and palatable state.

Pasture Height Management
The most important key to having a successful grazing system, beyond correctly sized paddocks, is managing the grass/legume height.
The pasture should be grazed when it is between 8 inches tall and 2 ½ inches tall. Grazing pastures lower than 2 inches can damage plant productivity, especially during hot, dry weather. On the other hand, allowing pasture grasses to get more than 10 to 12 inches tall reduces the nutritive value of the forage and causes waste when animals refuse to eat it or consume only some plant parts. Stiff stems become a problem as they poke the tender muzzles of grazing animals and cause them to eat only the upper parts of the plants and waste much of the pasture crop.

**Clipping**

Pastures should be mowed or, clipped when the plants are 10 inches tall or more. Clipping removes seed heads, mature stiff stems and resets the plant’s growth point. The plant is encouraged to re-grow protein rich leaves and the stiff stems are removed, no longer preventing animals from grazing evenly.

**Infrastructure to Support Grazing**

**Water**

Fresh clean water is important. Two common ways to supply water to animals in a grazing system are a pipeline system or a water wagon. When winter water is not needed in the pasture, above ground plastic pipe with multiple connection points along its length allow for water troughs in each paddock. This is the least labor intensive method and requires a well or spring for a water source. Electricity is needed to pump water through the pipeline or, if the water source is at a higher elevation, gravity feeding may be possible. A water wagon or truck is essentially a water tank on wheels that can be moved from paddock to paddock. This may be a lower cost alternative, but is more labor intensive as the tank must be re-filled periodically. A well, or spring development, is the best source for clean water. Ponds, streams or other surface water sources are susceptible to contamination and should be completely fenced off to exclude any animal access. Water would then be pumped or gravity fed to the grazing system from a surface water source.

**Stream Crossings**

Livestock should never be allowed to linger in streams or ponds. Manure is a significant source of phosphorus and nitrogen pollution that can damage or destroy aquatic ecosystems. Microorganisms from manure can cause serious illnesses. Damage to stream bank vegetation can result in soil particles washing into streams making the water muddy and smothering fish eggs. For these reasons, livestock should be restricted to fenced laneways dedicated for crossing streams. These may be culvert crossings in which the stream goes under the laneway in a culvert or ford-type crossings, in which the stream banks and streambed are protected from damage with stone, gravel, geoweb or concrete. Animals should be driven through the crossing and then fenced out once they have passed through.

**Fencing**

There are many types of fencing available, with electric fencing being the most common. Most grazing systems use permanent perimeter fencing to contain animals on the property and temporary fencing for the paddocks, so that adjustments in size can be easily made. Visit farms in your area and check with farm stores and supply catalogs for examples of types in use.

Don’t be shy to ask for help. Your local Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, or Cooperative Extension can help in planning and managing your grazing system and may be able to find cost-share assistance for fencing, water systems and stream crossings.

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1902 Border Leicester Ram Reprinted from “Two Hundred Years of British Farm Livestock” by Stephen J.G. Hall & Juliet Clutton-Brock
American Border Leicester Association

Membership Application

The American Border Leicester Association was founded in 1973 to promote and register Border Leicester sheep in the United States and Canada. Both white and natural colored Border Leicesters are eligible for registry with the ABLA. Our association is experiencing some exciting growth, both in membership and numbers of sheep registered. We invite you to join us!

We provide the opportunity for our members to promote themselves and their farm products through our Member Directory. Please provide the information that you’d like included with your listing. Our membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st.

For more information about Border Leicesters and the American Border Leices-

Name: ____________________________

Farm/Ranch Name: ____________________________

Street Address: ____________________________

City/State/Zip: ____________________________

Phone: ____________________________ E-mail: ____________________________

Web Address: ____________________________

What farm products would you like listed in the directory? ____________________________

Any other comments about your operation or specialty? ____________________________

In addition to Border Leicesters, what other breeds of sheep or animals do you raise? ____________________________

Do you run a commercial operation using Border Leicester sires? ____________________________

Helpful information, but not included in the directory:

Total flock size: ________________

Number of white Border Leicesters.........Ewes: _________ Rams: _________

Number of colored Border Leicesters ......Ewes: _________ Rams: _________

Any articles you’d like to see in the newsletter or any issues you’d like the Board to address? ____________________________

Please send this form, along with your check made out to “ABLA”, to:

Polly Hopkins, ABLA Treasurer
494 Evans Road
Chepachet, RI 02814

Questions? 401-949-4619
American Border Leicester Association
Newsletter Editor
1327 Spring Street Ext.
Groton, NY 13073

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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**Upcoming Events**

11/4- 11/16 NAILE - Junior Border Leicester Show
11/12 Open Border Leicester Show
11/15

11/17 Idaho Wool Growers Association Annual Convention

11/18 Gulf Coast Sheep and Cattle Annual Sale

12/1 & 12/2 Montana Wool Growers Annual Meeting

12/2 Missouri Livestock Symposium

12/2 & 12/3 Mt. Bruce Stations Christmas Weekend

1/24-1/27 ASI Annual Convention, San Antonio Texas