The American Border Leicester Association
Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2013

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Trailing of the Sheep Festival

By Susie Wilson

As sheep producers and direct marketers of lamb and wool in western Oregon, the year is filled with events that my husband (Dan) and I anticipate and enjoy. You’ll find us (SuDan Farm in Canby, OR) at area farmers’ markets, the Black Sheep Gathering, Oregon Flock and Fiber Festival, the county & state fairs, restaurant promotions, fiber events, and much more throughout the year. In 2009, we added the Trailing of the Sheep Festival to the top of our list. We read of this event over the years. It began in 1996 as a way to begin educating the local residents of Ketchum, Hailey, and Sun Valley, Idaho, about the history and importance of sheep ranching to the local economy and to the health of public lands in Idaho. Ketchum was a mining and smelting town with a railroad until the 1890s, when the mining industry vanished and sheep began to arrive. By 1920, Ketchum was the largest sheep-shipping center in the West.

Millions of sheep were trailed through the center of tiny Ketchum as they went north in the spring for summer grazing in the Wood River Valley and south in the fall to the Union Pacific rail yards in Ketchum to be loaded into trains for market. On Christmas Day, 1936, Averill Harriman (President of the UP Railroad) opened his railyards in Ketchum to be loaded into the Wood River Valley and south to their fall/winter destination.

For Dan and me, it began in 2009. We had put this festival on our “attend someday” list. As it happened, we sold a ram that year into Shoshone and decided to deliver him and keep heading north to attend the Festival. This year (2013) marks our 3rd trip back to the Festival, and we can hardly wait for next year! The Festival happens the second weekend in October, a time in this area of Idaho when the nights are cold, and the days are cool, clear, and crisp. Snow and ice are standing by, beginning to make an occasional appearance. The aspens are golden, and you’ll need your Merino wool longjohns and a sweater. THIS is wool weather, Baby! The Festival now encompasses 4 days. Workshops begin on Thursday, and follow into the weekend…felting, soap making, dying, photography, crochet, knitting, cooking lamb, to name but a few. In between attending sheep activities, there is wonderful shopping to be done in the stores in Hailey and Ketchum. Historical sites abound.

John Peavey recently reflected on the humble beginnings of the Festival, “Look at us now! We’re too big to fail!” It’s been voted one of the 10 best fall festivals in the world. The town of Hailey, 11 miles south of Ketchum, now hosts some of the Festival’s events.

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There are plentiful accommodations for campers, RV-ers, and those who prefer hotels. The area holds some wonderful restaurants and talented chefs who showcase lamb dishes on this weekend. Friday night is the “For the Love of Lamb” event in Ketchum. Everyone walks around Ketchum from 5-7pm, stopping at different restaurants that are sampling a local lamb dish and serving area wines, voting for the dishes most enjoyed. This year we sampled lamb sliders, lamb ribs, lamb stew, lamb chili, lamb strudel, lamb prosciutto, and more. Based on the lines we waited in, it was heavily attended. Then it was time for dinner, which meant... more lamb!

Saturday is about driving down to Hailey to Roberta McKercher Gateway Park, the location of the Folk Life Fair from 10-4 pm. This quiet little park, right on the curve of the road through Hailey, comes alive on this day with dozens of vendors selling woolen items, crafts, sheepy things, cheese, and great food. Entertainment takes place all day, thanks to cultural groups with strong ties to Idaho shepherding from Poland, Peru, Scotland, and Basque Spain. “Siumni,” the Polish Highlanders of North America (based in Chicago) have been coming to this Festival for 10 years, often bringing Polish Tatra livestock guard dogs with them, as they sing and dance the traditional songs of the Polish shepherds from the Tatra Mountains. The Boise Highlanders come to play their bagpipes. Peruvians twirl and dance in their beautiful costumes. Boise’s Oinkari Basque Dancers sing and dance the traditional songs of Basque Spain.

Following the sheep was their herder in his pickup with his herding wagon, his supplies and his dogs. The sheep trail south of town and then swing over to follow the old railroad path. Some RV-ers, and those who prefer hotels. The area holds some wonderful restaurants and talented chefs who showcase lamb dishes on this weekend. Friday night is the “For the Love of Lamb” event in Ketchum. Everyone walks around Ketchum from 5-7pm, stopping at different restaurants that are sampling a local lamb dish and serving area wines, voting for the dishes most enjoyed. This year we sampled lamb sliders, lamb ribs, lamb stew, lamb chili, lamb strudel, lamb prosciutto, and more. Based on the lines we waited in, it was heavily attended. Then it was time for dinner, which meant... more lamb!

The street was quickly cleaned by two street sweepers, and many of us headed over to the lamb BBQ happening on Main Street two blocks away. We left Ketchum that afternoon for the 12-hour drive back to our farm, full of wonderful memories and great respect for the ranching families and sheep of the Wood River Valley. We love this event and offer our deepest thanks to the many people involved in making this beautifully organized Festival happen for the past 17 years. You can get the dates for 2014 (October 9-12) and more information at www.trailinofthee sheep.org. See ewe there next year!
President’s Message

Another year seems to have flown by. The leaves are falling and the grains are being harvested. Some of us have already had snow fall in October. This was a wakeup call for those not ready for winter, including myself. Those that are bringing in their spring lambs off their fall pastures are being rewarded with a lamb market in an upswing. Lambs in Wisconsin are bringing $1.30 per pound, with many people looking for lambs to feed the really good corn crop.

Another show season winds down with the NAILE coming soon. The Cadillac of the livestock shows is an excellent time to meet new friends and old acquaintances. The Border Leicesters have done well across the country in supreme drives at the major shows. Our breed has quickly gained new friends with their popularity.

Wool shows have also shown an increase in the amount of Border Leicester fleeces. The prices for the clean fleeces have increased with the Border Leicester popularity. I have received many calls from people looking to add a couple Border Leicester ewes to their flock due to their wool and excellent disposition. What makes me the most happy is the direction of our junior program. Emily Gibson is fundraising to have the Border Leicesters in the 2015 All American Show. It is wonderful to have a junior member showing a great amount of initiative. Good luck Emily and keep us informed on what we can help you make this a reality.

Colin Siegmund is going to coordinate our junior program. I hope our juniors are ready for Colin’s enthusiasm. It would be nice for our juniors to interact with other juniors across the country. A strong program will make for exciting times ahead for the whole breed. I am sure Colin is open to any ideas that you may have.

The demand for Border Leicesters is stronger than ever. As winter approaches there is only one thing on my mind – how many days until spring?

Junior News

Border Leicesters at the 2015 Junior All-American Sheep Show

By Emily Gibson

As a junior Border Leicester breeder I have always wanted to bring my Border Leicesters to the Junior All-American. I attended with a Tunis ewe several years ago and it was then that I learned that the All-American is so much more than your usual sheep show. While investigating the opportunity, I learned that the participation fee required of participating breed associations can run as much as $1,000 or more for a breed with our size membership; that is a big commitment for an association of our size.

I attended the September American Border Leicester Association Board of Directors meeting and asked if they would partner with me to secure the money needed to participate in the 2015 Junior All-American Sheep Show, which will be in West Springfield, Massachusetts. I proposed that if they would commit to $500 over the next two years, I would raise any additional funds required. Well, my suggestion was accepted by the Board and I now have the opportunity to make Border Leicester participation in the 2015 Junior All-American a reality. I know I will need help from Border Leicester youth and adult breeders across the country to make this work.

Over the next year and a half I will be talking to breeders and inviting Border Leicester breeders to support this youth opportunity. A number of excited Border Leicester breeders have suggested raffle baskets, the proceeds from a sale lamb and member solicitations as possible ways to raise the funds needed. I am sure that the fundraising will involve all of this and more. Please don’t be surprised if you receive a request to participate.

I am so looking forward to 2015 when our breed will be represented at the All-American. I hope other juniors will get on board and make plans to participate in this great event. Juniors, or others wishing to help fundraiser, may contact me at www.ekehg@comcast.net.

Don’t Forget The Futurity Program!

Calling all Border Leicester Breeders!
Nominate your ewe lambs or yearling ewes if you sell to a youth buyer.

Border Leicester Youth –
You can nominate your ewe lamb or yearling ewe. The ewe can be home grown or purchased.

Reminder to Youth
Who Purchased Futurity Nominated Ewes –
Turn in your point record form signed by the show secretary.

All funds paid in nominations go into the purse that is divided amongst the participating youth. Information and forms can be found on the ABLA website.

If you have any questions, contact Polly Hopkins, (401) 949-4619, khop4811@aol.com

SHARE YOUR EVENT!
Send information about your upcoming events to newsletter@abl/sheep.org

NEED TO CONTACT ASSOCIATED SHEEP REGISTRIES?
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Milo, IA 50166
Phone: 641/942-6402
Fax: 641/942-6502
Neck of the Woods
What's happening in YOUR neck of the woods?
Here's an update from your Directors...

Hello from the Midwest! Harvest is in full swing and both corn and soybean yields are looking very good. This year’s harvest is such a stark contrast to the 2012 harvest after the drought. It’s a good sign when the combines move slowly through the fields! Hopefully, feed prices will start reflecting the increased supply of commodities.

We have had plenty of late summer/early fall rains so the pastures are green and lush. Again, a stark contrast as compared to last year when we started feeding hay in June! Fall breeding has been going well, but it really is too early to tell. We did not turn in the rams until late September. The good part is the ewes tend to “group up” a little tighter with heat cycles, which usually leads to a smaller lambing window in late February or early March. The downside is if there are breeding issues, late March/early April lambs can impact spring sales. Having been “on the other side of the fence,” it is great to work with a breed that puts little or no pressure on early January and February lambs! With Border Leicesters, by late summer to early fall, the March lambs are usually just as big as the late January/early February lambs!

Based on the positive comments from other Border Leicester breeders and sheep friends of mine that do not raise Border Leicesters; this summer has been very good for the breed with respect to winning show and overall breed exposure. Although the show ring is a marketing tool that has its limitations, it is a great way for us to get our sheep in front of new and prospective sheep people as well as those who have experience with other breeds. I have yet to hear an experienced breeder express regret for adding Border Leicesters as a second breed or a complete breed replacement! They really are just that “user friendly”!

Now its time for the “soap box”... From one breeder to the next, please be very critical with your decisions to carry over ram lambs through the winter for sale as yearlings. My “rule of thumb” is if I would not breed with them, I shouldn’t expect someone else to! Unfortunately, we did see the negative economic effect of too many sale rams at our National Sale and other breed sales this past spring and summer. As breeders, we need to keep a long term and realistic perspective concerning the retention of inferior rams for future sale as breeding stock. With 40 years experience raising sheep, I can honestly tell you I have never seen an average ram lamb grow into a superior yearling!

As you will read in this issue of the ABLA Newsletter, the Association is looking for a new Newsletter Editor. We want to sincerely thank our outgoing editor, Molly Singraber, and let her know we truly appreciate her efforts and wish her great success. If you are interested in the position, please read the enclosed job description and contact an ABLA Board member for additional information. The ABLA Newsletter is a great way to keep up on ABLA activities, as well as a useful and targeted marketing tool!

I hope the fall breeding season has been successful. I know everyone is anxious to see if this fall’s breeding decisions pay off this next lambing season. Based on reports, it sounds like the NAILE Junior Show has several new exhibitors, so I look forward to meeting everyone there!

Best Regards,
Kevin Young

Michigan! One beautiful place anytime of year, but especially in the Fall. Hello everyone, we have had a great summer. Lambs have grown well and the barn is (almost) full of hay. With all the rain, parasites have been more of challenge than normal.

Border Leicesters did great in the shows we attended. At the Michigan Fiber Festival, Jerry and Dena Early took Champion Ewe and Premier Breeder in the colored long wool class with Amber Milikan not far behind. Our white ram lamb was Champion white long wool ram and was judged to have the Supreme Champion Fleece overall. As a budget measure, our former Governor killed the Michigan State Fair in 2009, but a dedicated group of agricultural people and private businesses resurrected it last year. This year Border...
Notes from the Treasurer

As most of you probably know, the Treasurer has historically been an ABLA Board member, resulting in frequent turnover as Board member terms expired. A recent bylaw change allowed for any ABLA member not on the Board to be Treasurer and I was appointed to that position in June, making me the third person to have that job this year. Since then, I have spent a great deal of time with our membership records and have identified two matters that I would like all members to keep in mind.

First, membership renewals, new member applications, dues payments and newsletter advertising payments should be sent to me as Treasurer at the address below. There are old membership forms and Associated Registries forms “out there” that still have Polly Hopkins or Barb Hintzsche names listed. Do not send checks to either of them – it will only delay getting your check forwarded to me so that I can get it deposited. One of my goals as Treasurer is to speed up the time it takes to process the checks you write to ABLA.

Second, it’s October and I am still receiving checks for 2013 membership renewals. One byproduct of the turnover in Treasurers is that we are continuing to send newsletters to members who paid 2012, but not 2013 dues. Associated Registries is also giving member rates for registrations and transfers to 2012 members, as well as 2013 members. This is not fair to people who are current in their dues and it cannot continue. One task the Treasurer has that I had not expected is to maintain the master membership list and to produce newsletter mailing labels from it. Look at your mailing label. If it has a ‘12 beside your name it means that my records do not show you as having paid 2013 dues and this will be your last newsletter. And, as of January 1st, Associated Registries will bill you non-member fees for registrations and transfers. My records are not perfect so if you have paid for 2013, please email me so I can correct things. For 2014, dues are due February 28th. Renewals for 2014 must be received by March 31st to continue receiving the newsletter and member registration fees, and to be listed on the ABLA website and in the membership directory.

Finally, I believe that continuity at the Treasurer’s position is a big plus for the Association. I invite anyone to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

Bill Koeppel
4808 Warren Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Put Gene Check to Work on Your Farm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Type</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scrabie Susceptibility*</td>
<td>$11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spider Gene</td>
<td>$13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ovine Progressive Pneumonia</td>
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<td>Johne’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Porcine Stress Syndrome</td>
<td>$22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dermatosparaxis</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*Subsequent tests on the same sample: Scrabie: $9/Spider $11

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www.ablasheep.org
On May 4, 2013, at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, Maryland, the site of the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival, the Annual Meeting of the Membership of the American Border Leicester Association took place. It was called to order at 6:20 pm by the President, Barb Hintzsche. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Bill Koeppel moved that the reading of the minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting be dispensed with. The motion was seconded by Polly Hopkins and passed without dissent.

Copies of the report of outgoing Treasurer Polly Hopkins covering January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 were distributed to the membership. Irene Nebiker moved that the report be accepted. The motion was seconded by Bill Koeppel and passed without discussion or dissent.

President Hintzsche announced that registration and transfer numbers for the year were not yet available but would appear in the next newsletter.

She announced as well that Colleen Smith of Oregon and Greg Deakin of Illinois were elected Directors of the Association.

Polly Hopkins reported on the numbers people involved in the Futurity Program. Greg Deakin discussed the forthcoming National Sale at Wooster, Ohio, and Marilyn Fogle spoke of the fiber sale as a part of it saying that fleeces could still be entered, and that it was important to know who was planning to come to the dinner.

Polly Hopkins reported on the New England Youth Show set for mid-July and that she anticipated some 280-300 youth and 800 sheep would participate. Greg Deakin discussed the NAILE show in Louisville in November, saying that some 100 Border Leicesters were anticipated and that it would last a week.

At the request of the Board of Directors, members present were asked their views about converting the Newsletter to an electronic format and distribution. Views were expressed that were positive and negative: some members, for whatever reasons, prefer a paper copy, and some do not, feeling that it would be cheaper to use an electronic method. It was suggested that each member should be able to choose how his copy would be received.

The membership were advised that the Directory would be completed by the time of the National Sale at Wooster.

There being no further business, Bill Koeppel moved that the meeting be adjourned, Dave Schiff seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Wigglesworth

The ABLA Newsletter is published quarterly. It is a compilation of submissions from members. We value your contributions.

The submission deadline for the next issue is January 15.
Please send your news to the Newsletter Editor at newsletter@ablasheep.org

GINLIP FARM
BREEDING HIGH QUALITY
BORDER LEICESTERS

Breeders of the
CHAMPION EWE
at the NEW YORK STATE FAIR

1st Place Yearling Ewe sired by Deakin 1358
We showed her, an intermediate ewe lamb and a late ewe lamb all out of “Badger” and won every class at the New York State Fair!

“Badger” sired the $2750 National Champion Ewe for Seldom Seen Farm, RI at the 2012 National Sale

New Home of
“BADGER BEATER” Deakin 1358
Reserve Senior Champion Ram
2009 Wisconsin State Fair

Contact us for all your breeding needs!

Thanks to SASHA DIEDERICH who bought a top ram from us!

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AMERICAN BORDER LEICESTER ASSOCIATION

Standard of Excellence
Guide for Judging Border Leicester Sheep
(Appplies to both White & Natural Colored animals)

HEAD & NECK (10 Points)
Head: High, erect ears
Spots on ears permissible
Roman nose
Black nose and lips (dark mottled with grey acceptable)
No mottling on muzzle
Both sexes polled
Neck: Moderate length, fitting into shoulders gracefully

FOREQUARTER (5 Points)
Shoulders: Well rounded
Legs: Straight, wide apart, no wool below knees

BODY (15 Points)
Chest: Deep and wide, but not fat
Ribs: Well-sprung, long, showing no signs of excess fat
Back: Broad, long and level
Somewhat narrower in front than rear
Hindquarters should be 1/3 or less in proportion
Wool Cover: Belly and armpits well-covered with wool (minimum of skin) and consistent with balance of fleece

HINDQUARTERS (10 Points)
Hips: Level, smooth and wide apart
Thighs: Deep and full
Legs: Straight, wide apart, free of wool below hocks
No evidence of low pasterns
Black hooves
Udder & Scrotum: Ewes - Udder should show evidence of two good teats
Rams - Testicles well-developed and hanging down a distance from the body

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

GENERAL APPEARANCE (10 Points)
Stance: Overall appearance to be regal in structure
Quality: Should be strong boned
Rams to appear masculine
Ewes to appear feminine

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

The fleece weight from mature females ranges from 8 to 12 pounds with a yield of 65 to 80 percent. The staple length of the fleece ranges from five to ten inches with a numeric count of 36 to 48 which is 38.5 to 30.0 microns.

Border Leicesters are typically shown with 3-5 months of wool growth, so that the judge can accurately evaluate the fleece, one of the most important characteristics of the breed. They are relatively easy fit for exhibition. They should appear clean and neat, but never shampooed, as this would remove the natural oil from the wool. A light spritzing with luke warm water can emphasize the natural curl of the fleece, but it needs to be done well before the show so that the dampened locks have time to dry thoroughly. Stray locks may be trimmed, but Border Leicesters should not be combed, carded, or blocked, which would disturb the natural lock formation and detract from the character of the fleece.

A ram at maturity should weigh 175-300 pounds and stand about 32 inches at the shoulder. He should have a wide, level back. Ewes usually weigh 150-225 pounds.
Perspective (the ability to perceive things in their actual interrelations or comparative importance) and time. Both are things in short supply these days. “The harder I work, the more behind I get.” “To have blinders on.” “Can’t see the forest through the trees.” “Time is what we want most, but what we use worst.” These are all old sayings that have been around since the hills and unfortunately, they still apply to us.

Recently, I have read a few interesting books: The Signal and the Noise by Nate Silver and Moneyball by Michael Lewis. Within both books I identified with many of the things they were saying. In The Signal and the Noise, Nate Silver defines the “signal” as the truth and the “noise” is what distracts us from the truth. Within our industry, what is our signal? And what is the noise that keeps us distracted from understanding the signal?

How does this all relate back to making money on wool? Good question. The first three articles in this series focused individually on small changes; tweaks that can be made to what we have been doing in this industry at the farm level and ultimately, all the way through the supply chain. Both books in some way focus on the same type of situations, albeit in two completely different industries, but we can learn from them and gain perspective.

Sheep have been a fixture in the U.S. for a long time. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson had them, and so did James Madison and Woodrow Wilson. The sheep industry became organized in 1865 with the formation of the American Sheep Industry, which is still in operation today. It’s an industry steeped in tradition. Tradition can be a wonderful thing, unless that same tradition is ultimately going to be your undoing. When it comes to wool, in how it is removed, in how it is prepped, sorted and viewed, little has changed since those early times. Change does not have to be monumental, it can be a 10% change.

Lewis said, “If you challenge the conventional wisdom, you will find ways to do things much better than they are currently done” and also, “Hypothesize, test against the evidence and never accept that a question has been answered as well as it ever will be.” This is ultimately what has lead to these articles, the formation of Certified Sorted® Systems and Natural Fiber Producers over the last 7 years. The status quo was not good enough for me as a farmer.

The Effect of Maintaining the Status Quo

For the sake of this example, let us focus on knitting yarns. If you go out into the marketplace, and purchase a variety of knitting yarns made from protein natural fibers, you will see that most are very hairy yarns. If you talk to yarn shop owners, they will make comments along these lines: wool yarns have excellent memory, but can be very itchy, and they are hairy. If you talk to knitters, you will hear very much the same type of comments. If we challenge conventional wisdom and analyze what we have been doing that ultimately makes those hairy yarns and we adjust, change a few things we are doing, we end up with non-hairy yarns, and yarns that actually feel better than before. This is the beginning of the shift away from the perception that merino is soft and wool is scratchy. In the last article, we showed a picture of one fleece that had been sorted to a higher standard that resulted in 9 different grades. The picture below shows the result of making that change.

What we’ve always done: skirt and assess by length and uniformity of crimp style.

Sheep bred for outstanding fleeces, great production, and the classic Border Leicester look.

Owners/Breeders: David and Carol Ray
S1939 County Highway V · Hillsboro, WI 54634
(608) 489-2329 · Email: ingreenpastures@mwi.net
www.thistlewoodborderleicester.com
Our flock is test negative for OPP, SFCP enrolled, and scrapie genotyped

Best Fiber = Best Products = Highest Return
Natural Attributes = High Performance = Sustainability
By Robyn Kuhl, Administrator of Natural Fiber Producers, info@naturalfiberproducers.com

Part 4 of 4 — The first three parts appeared in previous newsletters.

Thistlewood Border Leicesters
Old World Character – New World Fleece Quality

Spring 2013 lambs available, white & natural colored
Mature ram also available (RR)

Colin Siegmund with Spring Creek-Sired Ewe Lamb
— RESERVE CHAMPION WHITE BORDER LEICESTER EWE —
2013 NorthEast Youth Sheep Show

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952.472.4524 LEWMAN@FRONTIER.COM
ucts. By being tougher on that same fleece, results in a higher production yield and non hairy products. A superior product is one benefit to a higher standard, but a higher return is another.

If you had 100 lbs (clean) of a longer staple (3.75 -6 In) grade 3 (23-25 micron) fiber and you sold it as raw fiber you would receive a check for: $351 (Week of 3/8/13 $3.51 for 24 micron (Grade 60-62s))

The alternative option of value adding would be to take that 100 lbs (clean) and combine it with a few others who have the same type of fiber (assume all fleece is sorted to the same strict standards). The best use for that specific fiber would be to make gloves. To take it a step further, combine your 100 lbs (clean) with Alpaca or a small amount of Angora of the same grade and length for an even higher performance. This is an example of “Best Use.”

You would have some production costs: Scouring $300, spinning costs $1100 and knitting costs $1237.50 for a total production cost of $2637.50.

The yield would be 75% (higher uniformity results in higher production yield), resulting in 375 pairs of gloves. This gives you a $7.87/pair cost when you add in shipping. The gloves would wholesale for $16.00/pair for a gross profit of $6000 – production costs of $2637.50 = $3362.50 net profit. So your total return on 100 lbs would be $33.63/ lb. Wouldn’t it be worth the time and effort to go from $3.51/lb to $33.63/lb?

The Effect of Changing the Status Quo
That 10% you reallocated made you more money than the 90% following the tried and true path.

“Evaluating data: Big data will produce progress – eventually. How quickly it does, and whether we regress in the meantime will depend on us.” (Silver)

Maintaining the status quo is the easiest and therefore the most often used method, but it also results in the same level of profit as the past. The truth is we need and want to make a living at farming and ranching. The “noise” that prevents us from doing so is the status quo.

Producing a superior product is our key to sustainability and our place in the industry. A product must perform well. That is the long term effect of a superior product. It is easy to make a profit short term, the key is to do it repeatedly and consistently, which leads to sustainability.

In part three of this four part series, we highlighted the variance in natural fiber attributes within a wool type. One example was the natural attributes of cormo vs. merino when taken into consideration for the effect on the final product - sometimes it is best to use cormo wool because of specific natural attributes it brings to the table.

The status quo for selection of fibers is if you want low cost you use wool, not a breed specific wool, but just wool in general. But does it produce a high performing end product? No, it does not. Again, review the final products out there in the marketplace. Do they represent your product (wool) in its highest form? Understanding and utilizing a breed’s natural attributes and combining with other fibers to enhance the performance is a winning combination that out performs cost in the long run. Recognize and understand what our fiber attributes are and let them shine.

We think we want information when what we really want is knowledge. Information is only beneficial if you use it. “The signal is the truth. The noise is what distracts us from the truth.” (Silver)

What is your truth? And what is the noise that is keeping you from your truth?
2013 Show Results From Around The States

Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival Results
May 4-5, 2013

BORDER LEICESTERS –

YEARLING RAM – 1) & 4) Fogle Farm, Raymond, OH; 2) & 3) Deakin Family Farm, Cuba, IL; 5) Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 6) & 7) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA

SENIOR RAM LAMB – 1) & 2) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA

JUNIOR RAM LAMB – 1) & 3) Deakin Family Farm, Cuba, IL; 2) & 4) Fogle Farm, Raymond, OH; 3) Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 4) Cape House Farm, Ann Arbor, MI; 5) & 7) Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 6) Cape House Farm, Ann Arbor, MI; 8) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA; & 11) Wits End Farm, Amissville, VA; 10) ZNK Border Leicesters, West Liberty, OH

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 2) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA; 3) Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 4) Fogle Farm, Raymond, OH

CHAMPION RAM – Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL (Yearling)

YEARLING EWE – 1) & 2) Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 3) & 4) Deakin Family Farm, Cuba, IL; 5) & 8) Fogle Farm, Raymond, OH; 6) Cape House Farm, Ann Arbor, MI; 7) & 10) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA; 9) & 11) Wits End Farm, Amissville, VA; 12) Nussbaums River Bend Farm, Farmingdale, NY

PAIR OF YEARLING EWS – 1) Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) Deakin Family Farm, Cuba, IL; 3) Fogle Farm, Raymond, OH; 4) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA

JUNIOR EWE LAMB – 1) & 3) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 2) & 5) Fogle Farm, Raymond, OH; 4) & 9) Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 6) & 10) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA

CHAMPION EWE – Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

FLOCK – 1) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 2) Fogle Farm, Raymond, OH; 3) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA; 4) Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI

BEST FLEECE – Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

BLACK BORDER LEICESTER –

YEARLING RAM – 1) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 2) & 3) Some Day Soon Farm, Chepachet, RI; 4) & 5) Cape House Farm, Ann Arbor, MI; 6) ZNK Border Leicesters, West Liberty, OH; 7) & 10) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA; 8) Wits End Farm, Amissville, VA

JUNIOR RAM LAMB – 1) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 2) & 3) Some Day Soon Farm, Chepachet, RI; 4) & 9) ZNK Border Leicesters, West Liberty, OH; 5) & 6) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA; 7) & 9) Cape House Farm, Ann Arbor, MI

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Some Day Soon Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) & 3) ZNK Border Leicesters, West Liberty, OH; 4) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA; 5) Cape House Farm, Ann Arbor, MI; 6) Allen-Dale, Westfield, MD

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) Some Day Soon Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 3) ZNK Border Leicesters, West Liberty, OH; 4) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA; 5) Cape House Farm, Ann Arbor, MI; 6) Allen-Dale, Westfield, MD

JUNIOR EWE LAMB – 1) & 2) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 4) & 5) ZNK Border Leicesters, West Liberty, OH; 3) Some Day Soon Farm, Chepachet, RI; 6) & 8) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA; 7) & 9) Cape House Farm, Ann Arbor, MI

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 2) ZNK Border Leicesters, West Liberty, OH; 3) Some Day Soon Farm, Chepachet, RI; 4) Overlook Manor Farm, Warrenton, VA; 5) Cape House Farm, Ann Arbor, MI

CHAMPION EWE – Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

YEARLING EWE – 1) & 3) Sarah Vezzetti, Perkasie, PA; 2) Han-nah Vezzetti, Perkasie, PA; 3) & 4) Beechtree Farm, Coopersville, MI; 5) & 6) Rock Jim Farm, Stewartstown, PA

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) & 2) Pitchfork Ranch, Swartz Creek, MI; 3) Wits End Farm, Amissville, VA; 4) & 5) Rock Jim Farm, Stewartstown, PA

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Pitchfork Ranch, Swartz Creek, MI; 2) Rock Jim Farm, Stewartstown, PA

CHAMPION EWE – Sarah Vezzetti, Perkasie, PA

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Pitchfork Ranch, Swartz Creek, MI

YEARLING EWE – 1) & 6) Pitchfork Ranch, Swartz Creek, MI; 2) Breezy Meadows Farm, Perkasie, PA; 3) Sarah Vezzetti, Perkasie, PA; 4) Wits End Farm, Amissville, VA; 5) & 6) Beechtree Farm, Coopersville, MI; 7) & 9) Magic Hill Farm, Rockville, MD; 10) Hannah Vezzetti, Perkasie, PA

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) Pitchfork Ranch, Swartz Creek, MI; 2) Beechtree Farm, Coopersville, MI; 3) Magic Hill Farm, Rockville, MD

JUNIOR EWE LAMB – 1) & 2) Pitchfork Ranch, Swartz Creek, MI; 3) Sarah Vezzetti, Perkasie, PA; 4) & 5) Rock Jim Farm, Stewartstown, PA

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Pitchfork Ranch, Swartz Creek, MI; 2) Rock Jim Farm, Stewartstown, PA

CHAMPION EWE – Pitchfork Ranch, Swartz Creek, MI

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Breezy Meadows Farm, Perkasie, PA

FLOCK – 1) Pitchfork Ranch, Swartz Creek, MI

BEST FLEECE – Breezy Meadows Farm, Perkasie, PA

Northeast Youth Sheep Show
July 4-7, 2013

BLACK & WHITE BORDER LEICESTER –

CHAMPION WHITE & OVERALL RAM – William Cousineau, Shoreham, VT (Yearling Ram)

CHAMPION NATURAL COLORED & RESERVE OVERALL RAM – Claudia Cousineau, Shoreham, VT (Ram Lamb)

RESERVE CHAMPION NATURAL COLORED RAM – Lydia Smith, Charlotte, VT (Yearling Ram)

CHAMPION NATURAL COLORED & RESERVE OVERALL EWE – Devon Davis, Groversville, NY (Ewe Lamb)

RESERVE CHAMPION NATURAL COLORED EWE – Claudia Cousineau, Shoreham, VT (Yearling Ewe)

SENOR SHOWMANSHIP – 1) Colin Siegmund, N. Grovendeside, CT; 2) Lynda Smith, Charlotte, VT; 3) Logan Stoltman, Georgetown, NY

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP – 1) Claudia Cousineau, Shoreham, VT; 2) Rosie Stoltman, Georgetown, NY; 3) Terrence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 4) Owen Stoltman, Georgetown, NY; 5) William Cousineau, Shoreham, VT

FIRST YEAR SHOWMANSHIP – 1) Devon Davis, Groversville, NY; 2) Anna Stoltman, Georgetown, NY

WHITE YEARLING RAM – 1) William Cousineau, Shoreham, VT

WHITE RAM LAMB – 1) Sammye Patti, Green, RI; 2) William Cousineau, Shoreham, VT; 3) & 4) Colin Siegmund, N. Grovendeside, CT; 5) Anna Stoltman, Georgetown, NY

WHITE PAIR OF RAMEMBS – Colin Siegmund, N. Grovendeside, CT

WHITE YEARLING EWE – 1) & 2) Colin Siegmund, N. Grovendeside, CT; 3) William Cousineau, Shoreham, VT; 4) Terrence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 5) Sammye Patti, Green, RI

WHITE PAIR OF YEARLING EWS – 1) Colin Siegmund, N. Grovendeside, CT; 2) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA

WHITE SENIOR EWE LAMB – 1) William Cousineau, Shoreham, VT; 3) & 4) Colin Siegmund, N. Grovendeside, CT; 5) Anna Stoltman, Georgetown, NY

WHITE PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Colin Siegmund, N. Grovendeside, CT; 2) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA

WHITE PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Colin Siegmund, N. Grovendeside, CT; 2) Ei Stoltman, Georgetown, NY; 3) Lynda Smith, Char-lotte, VT; 4) Logan Stoltman, Georgetown, NY

WHITE JUNIOR EWE LAMB – 1) & 2) Colin Siegmund, N. Grovendeside, CT; 3) William Cousineau, Shoreham, VT; 4) Mon-tana Airly, Bolton, MA; 5) Lynda Smith, Charlotte, VT

WHITE EXHIBITORS FLOCK – 1) Colin Siegmund, N. Grovendeside, CT; 2) William Cousineau, Shoreham, VT

Claudia Cousineau, VT and Lydia Smith, VT won the Sr. Blocking and Trimming Contest.
2013 Show Results From Around The States

Ohio State Fair
July 24 - August 4, 2013

BORDER LEICESTER – Judge: Ryan Herdrich, Manitowoc, WI

CLASS 1: YEARLING RAM – 1) Marilyn & Carroll Fogle, Raymon, OH; 2) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

CLASS 2: FALL RAM LAMB – 1) Will-O-Wood Sheep Farm, Athens, OH

CLASS 3: EARLY SPRING RAM LAMB – 1) Travis Johnson, Minerva, OH

CLASS 4: LATE SPRING RAM LAMB – 1) Marilyn & Carroll Fogle, Raymond, OH

Wisconsin State Fair Results
August 1-11, 2012

BORDER LEICESTER – Judge: Ryan Hendricks, Cloverdale, IN

YEARLING RAM – 1 & 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 3) Jacob Korf, Delavan, WI; 4) Meikayla Korf, Delavan, WI; 5) Jerry Valenta, Two Rivers, WI

GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM – Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL (January Ram Lamb)

JUNIOR RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

JUNIOR CHAMPION EWES – 1) & 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 3) Tiffany Deakin, Round About Farm

JUNIOR RESERVE CHAMPION EWES – 1) & 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 3) Tiffany Deakin, Round About Farm

PAIR OF YOUNG EWES – 1) & 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 3) Tiffany Deakin, Round About Farm

PAIR OF YOUNG RAMS – 1) & 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

Washington State Fair
September 21-22, 2013
Judge: Amy Wolf, Monroe, WA

BORDER LEICESTER – Judge: Amy Wolf, Monroe, WA

CHAMPION RAM – Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA

CHAMPION EWES – David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA (Yearling Ewe)

JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM – Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA

JUNIOR RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

PAIR OF EWES – 1) & 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

P-AIR EWE LAMBS – 1) & 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

NEW JERSEY STATE FAIR
August 2-11, 2013

BORDER LEICESTER – YEARLING RAM – 1) Devon Schneider, Newton, NJ

CHAMPION RESERVE RAM – 1) Devon Schneider, Newton, NJ

Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival
September 7-8, 2013

BORDER LEICESTER –

CHAMPION RAM – Deakin Family Farms

CHAMPION EWE – Deakin Family Farms

NATURAL COLORED BORDER LEICESTER –

CHAMPION RAM – Tiffany Deakin

CHAMPION EWE – Tiffany Deakin

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – P-W Sheep Farm

Washington State Fair
September 21-22, 2013
Judge: Amy Wolf, Monroe, WA

BLACK BORDER LEICESTER –

CHAMPION RAM – Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA

CHAMPION EWES – David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

FALL RAM LAMB – 1) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

PAIR OF EWES – 1) & 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

P-AIR EWE LAMBS – 1) & 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

LATETO BE SIRE – 1) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

BEST PAIR – 1) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, Fitzgerald Farm, Lake Stevens, WA
2013 Show Results From Around The States

BORDER LEICESTER —

CHAMPION RAM — David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA
RESERVE CHAMPION RAM — Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA (Spring Lamb Ram)

CHAMPION EWE — David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA (Pair of Yearling Ewes)
RESERVE CHAMPION EWE — David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA; 2) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA

YOUNG FLOCK — 1) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA; 2) & 4) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA; 3) & 4) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA

YEARLING RAM — 1) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

YEARLING EWE — 1) & 3) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA; 2) & 3) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 3) & 4) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES — 1) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA; 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 2) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

FALL EWE LAMB — 1) & 2) Don Jonasson, Jonasson Farm, Burlington, WA

Pair of Ram Lambs — 1) & 3) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA

Pair of Ewe Lambs — 1) & 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA; 2) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA (Yearling Ram)

Spring Ewe Lamb — 1) & 3) David and Cathy Fitzgerald, CJ’s Farm, Lake Stevens, WA; 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 2) Heidi Barkley, Manns Choice, PA; 3) & 4) Jake & Kate Bostek, Roclans Farm, Fairfield, PA

Early Spring Ram Lamb — 1) Travis Johnson, Minerva, OH; 2) Callie Taylor, State College, PA; 3) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 4) Heidi Barkley, Manns Choice, PA

Late Spring Ram Lamb — 1) & 2) Callie Taylor, State College, PA; 3) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 4) Travis Johnson, Minerva, OH; 5) John & Kate Bostek, Roclans Farm, Fairfield, PA

Pair of Ram Lambs — 1) Callie Taylor, State College, PA; 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 3) Travis Johnson, Minerva, OH

Reserve Champion Ram — Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

Champion Ram — Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

Reserve Champion Sale Ewe — Callie Taylor, State College, PA

Champion Ewe — Callie Taylor, State College, PA

Premier Breeder — Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

Premier Exhibitors Flock — Callie Taylor, State College, PA; 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 3) Travis Johnson, Minerva, OH; 4) Heidi Barkley, Manns Choice, PA; 5) John & Kate Bostek, Roclans Farm, Fairfield, PA

Fall Ewe Lamb — 1) Travis Johnson, Minerva, OH; 2) Heidi Barkley, Manns Choice, PA; 3) & 5) Stacy Taylor, Jadewood Valley Farm, State College, PA

Sale Ewe (1 Year & Under 2) — 1) Callie Taylor, State College, PA

Sale Ewe Lamb — 1) & 2) Callie Taylor, State College, PA; 3) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 4) Heidi Barkley, Manns Choice, PA; 5) John & Kate Bostek, Roclans Farm, Fairfield, PA

2013 Keystone International Livestock Expo
October 4-6, 2013
Judge: Ryan Hendricks

BORDER LEICESTER —
RAM (1 YEAR & UNDER 2) — 1) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 2) Heidi Barkley, Manns Choice, PA; 3) & 4) Jake & Kate Bostek, Roclans, Fairfield, PA

EARLY SPRING EWE LAMB — 1) Travis Johnson, Minerva, OH; 2) Callie Taylor, State College, PA; 3) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 4) Heidi Barkley, Manns Choice, PA

LAT SPRING RAM LAMB — 1) & 2) Callie Taylor, State College, PA; 3) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 4) Travis Johnson, Minerva, OH; 5) John & Kate Bostek, Roclans Farm, Fairfield, PA

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS — 1) Callie Taylor, State College, PA; 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 3) Travis Johnson, Minerva, OH; 4) John & Kate Bostek, Roclans Farm, Fairfield, PA

CHAMPION RAM — Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

RESERVE CHAMPION SALE EWE — Callie Taylor, State College, PA

CHAMPION EWE — Callie Taylor, State College, PA

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE — Callie Taylor, State College, PA

EXHIBITORS FLOCK — 1) Callie Taylor, State College, PA; 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 3) Travis Johnson, Minerva, OH; 4) Heidi Barkley, Manns Choice, PA; 5) John & Kate Bostek, Roclans Farm, Fairfield, PA

PREMIER EXHIBITOR — Callie Taylor, State College, PA

PREMIER BREEDER — Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

2014 DUES Will Be Due February 28! Watch for your renewal notice in JANUARY

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American Border Leicester Association Newsletter
Fall 2013
2013 National Border Leicester Show
Held at the Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, Massachusetts • September 13-24, 2013

NATIONAL BORDER LEICESTER SHOW –
Judge: Doug Gehring, Columbia, MO

WHITE YEARLING RAMS – 1) 239# & 2) 245# Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

WHITE SENIOR RAM LAMBS – 1) 119# Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI (Junior Lamb); 2) 119# Emily Gibson, Lee, NH (Junior Lamb); 3) 121# Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 4) 120# Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 5) 122# Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Junior Lamb)

WHITE SENIOR CHAMPION RAM – 1) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL (Yearling); 2) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL (Yearling)

WHITE INTERMEDIATE RAM LAMBS – 1) 112# Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) 127# Colin Siegmund, Grosvener, CT; 3) 120# Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL

WHITE JUNIOR RAM LAMBS – 1) 130# Colin Siegmund, Grosvener, CT; 2) 137# Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 3) 99# Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 4) & 5) Irene G Nebiker, N. Smithfield, RI

WHITE PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Colin Siegmund, Grosvener, CT; 2) Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 3) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 4) Irene G Nebiker, N. Smithfield, RI

WHITE JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM – 1) Colin Siegmund, Grosvener, CT (Junior Lamb); 2) Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI (Intermediate Lamb)

WHITE GRAND CHAMPION RAM – 1) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL (Yearling); 2) Colin Siegmund, Grosvener, CT (Junior Lamb)

WHITE BEST HEADED RAM – Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI

WHITE PAIR OF YEARLING EWE S – 1) 215# & 2) 178# & 4) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 3) 160# Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 5) Barbara Thompson, Chepachet, RI

WHITE YEARLING EWE LAMBS – 1) 220# & 2) 245# Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 3) 219# & 4) Deakin Family Farms, Cuba, IL; 5) Barbara Thompson, Chepachet, RI

WHITE BEST HEADED EWE – 1) 231# Barbara Thompson, Chepachet, RI; 2) 180# Emily Gibson, Lee, NH

WHITE PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) 115# Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) 120# & 3) 142# Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 2) 120# & 3) 142# Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 3) 124# Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 4) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 5) Emily Gibson, Lee, NH

WHITE PAIR OF YEARLING EWE LAMBS – 1) 115# Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) 120# & 3) 142# Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 3) 124# Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 4) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 5) Emily Gibson, Lee, NH

WHITE SUMMER EWE LAMBS – 1) 115# Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) 120# & 3) 149# Emily Gibson, Lee, NH

WHITE JUNIOR EWE LAMBS – 1) Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 2) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 3) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Senior Lamb); 2) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Junior Lamb)

WHITE BEST HEADED EWE – 1) 223# Barbara Thompson, Chepachet, RI; 2) 180# Emily Gibson, Lee, NH

WHITE PAIR OF YEARLING EWE LAMBS – 1) 115# Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) 120# & 3) 142# Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 3) 124# Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 4) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 5) Emily Gibson, Lee, NH

WHITE GRAND CHAMPION EWE – 1) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Senior Lamb); 2) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Junior Lamb)

WHITE BEST HEADED EWE – Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

WHITE SUMMER EWE LAMBS CLASS 1 – 1) 115# Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) 120# & 3) 142# Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 3) 124# Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 4) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 5) Emily Gibson, Lee, NH

WHITE JUNIOR EWE LAMBS CLASS 1 – 1) Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 2) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 3) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 4) Emily Gibson, Lee, NH

WHITE JUNIOR EWE LAMBS CLASS 2 – 1) 104# Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 2) 128# Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 3) 82# Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 4) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

WHITE PAIR OF YEARLING EWE LAMBS – 1) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Senior Lamb); 2) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Junior Lamb)

WHITE GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

WHITE BEST HEADED EWE – Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

WHITE SUMMER EWE LAMBS CLASS 1 – 1) 115# Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) 120# & 3) 142# Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 3) 124# Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 4) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 5) Emily Gibson, Lee, NH

WHITE JUNIOR EWE LAMBS CLASS 2 – 1) 104# Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 2) 128# Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 3) 82# Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 4) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

WHITE PAIR OF YEARLING EWE LAMBS – 1) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Senior Lamb); 2) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Junior Lamb)

WHITE GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

WHITE BEST HEADED EWE – Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

WHITE SUMMER EWE LAMBS CLASS 1 – 1) 115# Polly & Kevin Hopkins, Maybe Tomorrow Farm, Chepachet, RI; 2) 120# & 3) 142# Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 3) 124# Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 4) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 5) Emily Gibson, Lee, NH

WHITE JUNIOR EWE LAMBS CLASS 2 – 1) 104# Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH; 2) 128# Sarah Jakeman, Gloversville, NY; 3) 82# Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 4) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

WHITE PAIR OF YEARLING EWE LAMBS – 1) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Senior Lamb); 2) Jerry & Dena Early, West Liberty, OH (Junior Lamb)

WHITE GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

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WHITE GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

WHITE BEST HEADED EWE – Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL
Ethnic Marketing of Lamb and Mutton - An Educational Program for U.S. Sheep Producers

Sheep producers across the country are invited to participate in a four-session webinar series designed to explore the feasibility of marketing lamb and mutton to ethnic consumers.

This educational outreach has been jointly designed by Richard Brzozowski, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Susan Schoenian, University of Maryland Extension, and Roger High, Ohio State University. It is being made available through a grant from the American Sheep Industry Association’s (ASI) Let’s Grow initiative to the state sheep associations of Maine, Maryland, and Ohio. The series is free to anyone who wishes to participate.

The purpose of this multi-state effort is to equip sheep producers with skills and knowledge for effective marketing of sheep/lamb meat to ethnic communities in their respective market areas.

This outreach will be accomplished via a webinar series and will be supplemented by readings, self-driven activities, assignments and group discussions. Producers are encouraged to participate in each of the four sessions for a complete educational experience.

By the end of the series, webinar participants will be expected to:

• Identify lamb consuming ethnic populations in their area by performing a demographic analysis of specific ethnicities using census data and other sources.
• Learn about the ethnic consumers as well as the specific holy days and holidays when lamb is customarily preferred and the demand for lamb/mutton or specific value-added products is typically high.
• Evaluate their production system to determine needed changes in breed(s), carcass size, lambing time and/or management to meet this market if deemed feasible.
• Adapt or create a marketing plan as a part of a business plan for their sheep operation to include an ethnic component (if appropriate).
• Successfully answer an ethnic lamb marketing quiz with a score of at least 80 percent.

Each session will begin at 7 p.m. EST and is scheduled to last 60-90 minutes. The schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, Nov. 19 - Ethnic Market Background
Tuesday, Nov. 26 - Understanding the Ethnic Consumer
Tuesday, Dec. 3 - Understanding and Evaluating Your Market Options
Tuesday, Dec. 10 - Your Marketing Plan

To register for this free series and for more information about specific sessions, instructors and other related information go to http://umaine.edu/livestock/sheep/ethnic-marketing-of-lamb-and-mutton.

Colin Siegmund Accepts Role with Youth Activities

If you want something done, ask a busy person. Well, the ABLA Board of Directors did just that and Colin Siegmund agreed to take on a role in planning Border Leicester youth activities. Colin is a Border Leicester breeder from Connecticut and attends the University of Connecticut. Many of you will recognize Colin from sheep shows in the northeast and NAILE.

Colin’s first activity will be a pizza party for youth at NAILE. If you are attending the Border Leicester Junior Show at NAILE you will want to be a part of the pizza event. In addition, I am sure he will be gathering information and ideas for future youth events. Colin will also be supporting Emily Gibson in her fundraising effort to bring Border Leicesters to the Junior All-American in 2015.

If you have ideas for youth activities for Border Leicester juniors, contact Colin at www.woolyone@charter.net or www.colin.siegmund@uconn.edu.

Marsh Creek Crossing
BORDER LEICESTERS

OPP Negative • SFCP Certified • Foot Rot and CL Free

We’ve reached our goal of 35 GREAT PRODUCING EWES!
Includes genetics from Canada and New Zealand

“You can’t miss with a Miss from Marsh Creek Crossing!”

Ray & Margo Hanson
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www.marshcreekcrossing.com

ABLA BOARD SEeks NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Interested in compiling and mailing the newsletter? The newsletter editor position is open. See the job description on the next page.

Email or send your letter of interest to:
Sally Barney, ABLA Secretary
52 Cartland Road
Lee, NH 03842
Email: woolmark@live.com

Seldom Seen Farm

Barbara Thompson
Border Leicesters

406 Evans Road, Chepachet, RI 02814
401-949-0254
mthompson5@cox.net
ABLA Newsletter Editor Job Description

The editor of the ABLA Newsletter must have the desire and commitment to produce an informational, educational and timely publication helping further enhance the popularity of the Border Leicester breed. Deadlines must be adhered to in order for the membership to share information in a timely fashion.

It will be necessary for the editor to solicit Border Leicester news and articles from the membership and explore venues to glean interesting reading for the Border Leicester membership. The editor should periodically publish articles that help new sheep breeders learn more about raising sheep, give tips on how to feed and manage the flock, and how to care for the fleeces. The editor is encouraged to solicit help from the Board.

The newsletter should also include the following regular features:
1. Names and contact information for each officer and director of ABLA
2. Name and address of the Registry Office and a list of all fees to register and transfer Border Leicester sheep.
3. Deadline and mailing date for upcoming newsletters
4. Advertising rates
5. Calendar of events
6. Board of Directors’ Meeting Report
7. President’s report and statement from the editor
8. Individual director’s reports on events or happenings in their area
9. One membership profile
10. Treasurer’s report
11. Membership form

The newsletter is to be printed in an 8 1/2” x 11” format 4 times each year with issues mailed each seasonal quarter. We encourage the newsletter editor to shop around different printing houses for the best price and quality. In the event the Association chooses to utilize electronic mail for newsletter distribution; the Editor must have the ability to identify and utilize technologies and services that support electronic newsletter distribution to newsletter subscribers. After sending each newsletter by conventional or electronic mail, it is to be forwarded to the ABLA website for posting.

The following deadlines and mailing dates have been established for each newsletter as well as a general guideline for each issue.

WINTER ISSUE
Deadline: January 15
Mailing Date: Postmarked no later than January 30
General information should include: articles geared toward lambing and lambs’ health; news about the Border Leicester Show held at NAILE; statement about the upcoming election for Board of Directors, asking for candidates to submit their name and biography to appear in the Spring issue; other pertinent and timely information needed by the membership to plan ahead.

SPRING ISSUE
Deadline: March 15
Mailing Date: Postmarked by March 31
This issue is to include biographies of candidates running for Board of Directors; a call to attend the Annual Meeting to be held in conjunction with the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival; the agenda for the Annual Meeting; the Budget; news and publicity about the National Border Leicester Sale and Wool; and to include the publication of the Membership Directory. Editor is not responsible for writing up the directory.

SUMMER ISSUE
Deadline: June 15
Mailing Date: Postmarked by June 30
This issue will carry the minutes of the Annual Meeting and results of the election of the new Board of Directors; Border Leicester Show results from the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival; and a sale report and show results from the National Border Leicester Sale and Wool Show at the Great Lakes Show and Sale. Articles should be geared toward summer management of the flock; a call to attend the National Border Leicester Show at The Big E in West Springfield, Massachusetts; and offer a call to attend the National Show to be held at NAILE in Louisville, Kentucky. Each issue following the Spring issue (which published the entire membership) will include the name, address and contact information for each new ABLA member and any who have changed contact information since the last newsletter.

FALL ISSUE
Deadline: October 5
Mailing Date: Postmarked by October 15
This issue will precede the National Show in Louisville, Kentucky. With the October 15 postmark date, it will also precede and offer distribution at the New York Bred Ewe Sale in Rhinebeck, New York. This issue will cover Border Leicester State Fair Show Results from all over the United States, space permitting; reports on summer festivals that included Border Leicester participation; management tips for care of the stud ram and fall breeding practices; and the president’s call to finish the year’s registration and transfer transactions. This issue should also include the name, address and contact information for each new ABLA member and any who have changed contact information since the last newsletter.

ADVERTISING
Breeder and commercial product advertising helps defray the cost of the newsletter and will be solicited by the editor. The editor will be responsible for the billing and collection of advertising fees. Such fees shall then be sent to the treasurer.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR COMPENSATION
The newsletter editor will be paid $400 plus 10% of the annual advertising revenue. All publication expenses for each issue published will be paid by the ABLA. Expenses will include phone calls to solicit and write articles; printing and postage to mail the newsletter; plus any other normal costs incurred.
Reminder: Silent Auction Items Needed for NAILE

Items are still being consigned for the Border Leicester Silent Auction in Louisville and we need your help. The auction will take place beginning Saturday, November 16, 2013 and end at the conclusion of the Border Leicester open show on Monday, November 18th.

The shows at NAILE continue to be a great promotional avenue for our breed and a wonderful way for Border Leicester breeders to showcase their flocks in a nationally competitive venue. Please help support this show by not only entering your animals, but also by donating an item or two to the silent auction. Items such as gift baskets, art, handmade wool items, lambing or show supplies are always well received. Be creative and support the Border Leicester breed and its exhibitors at NAILE.

Please let Stacy Taylor know at stctylr@aol.com if you are willing to donate an item or two so that appropriate space can be reserved for the display of the auction items. If you are planning to visit or exhibit at the North American Livestock Show this year, please stop by and check out the auction items. All proceeds go towards the Premium Fund for the 2013 Open and Junior shows.

Replacement Ewe Lambs

Replacement ewes are a primary part of all lambing operations. In the upper Midwest Corn Belt, for years, older ewes could be reasonably purchased from the sheep flocks. In the west they became too old to perform on the range, yet were good performers for a couple more years in farm flocks. That source continues to shrink and isn’t always available. So, the serious shepherd had to come up with an alternative plan.

That approach would be retaining ewe lambs. This is good for the flock owner and good for the industry as well. There is now an opportunity for the flock owner to control and contribute to the value of his product. The process to be cost effective requires thought, records, soundness and management.

In the upper midwest where the Pipestone management program is often used, lambs never see grass, are creep fed, weaned at approximately eight weeks and full fed to be marketed in 120 to 140 days weighing 120 pounds and up, depending on breed type. If there is extra grass or facilities we run more ewes. So how are we going to make replacement ewes in a cost effective way?

First, ewe lambs are selected from some of the most productive ewes that have been bred to maternal sires. In order to do this, records may be kept NSIP style or they may be barn records held in a notebook. In any event, one needs records, and for the good shepherd they don’t need to be sophisticated.

The next essential is to remove them from full feed by the time they weigh 80 pounds. Excess feeding allows fat to be deposited in the udder, reducing future milk production. They are then of-
Had a Great Day at the National Border Leicester Show!

ZNK 0109
Grand Champion Ram
Best Fleece Winner • 1st Senior Ram Lamb

ZNK 0121
Reserve Grand Champion Ram
1st Junior Ram Lamb

Congratulations Seldom Seen Farm!
Reserve Champion Ewe won on their 1st place late ewe lamb... sired by ZNK 0097, their 1st place yearling ram at the National Show.
ZNK BREEDING WORKS!

WINNERS
OF
8 Classes
2 Second Places
1st Place Flock

Contact Us
For Your
Natural Colored
Border Leicester
Needs!

JERRY & DENA EARLY
1338 State Route 507 • West Liberty, OH 43357
937/465-8124
znkborderleicesters@gmail.com
fered good quality hay and a half to a pound of grain, depending on condition. Ideally they are kept in dry lot till fall. Later, summer pastures can be utilized, but they should still receive grain and feeding. This way opens up to parasitism and is more difficult to manage nutrition. They are now run as a separate unit until they lamb at an age in excess of 12 months the following year. The biggest mistake that a lot of people make is to run them with the ewes. In my flock I have had bad experiences running fall-born ewe lambs with the ewes; they would have had a six month advantage over spring-born.

These ewe lambs, when run in dry lot, won’t require worming until they are vaccinated for Vibrio 30 days prior to breeding.

### Abortion Prevention

This is the time of year when we may not be thinking abortion but should be. Prevention begins now. For those choosing to vaccinate for Enzootic Abortion, Chlamydia, previously non-vaccinated animals need to be vaccinated 60 and 30 days prior to breeding. In subsequent years once thirty days prior to breeding. Another method to prevent Chlamydia abortion is to feed tetracycline antibiotics throughout pregnancy at a 300mg per head per day or pulse feed 800 to 1000 mg for several days every couple weeks. In outbreaks injecting long acting Oxytetracycline, Biomycin every two weeks is helpful. Animals imported from far west seem most susceptible to Chlamydia infection. Eye and joint infections caused by Chlamydia are a different species and are not associated with abortion.

Vibrio, Campylobacter Fetus and Jejuni, along with Toxoplasmosis remain the primary causes of abortion. Protection for Vibrio is provided by vaccination 30 days prior to breeding and another at mid gestation. Subsequent years vaccination at mid gestation is adequate. I prefer the Hygieia product as I believe it is more effective against current Jejuni infections. Unlike Chlamydia abortion only some of the Vibrio organisms are tetracycline sensitive so sulfa is of-ten used in clinical outbreaks such as 2g AS700 at the rate of one pound per five head for ten days. I believe vaccination for Vibrio is a must.

Toxoplasmosis is another story. Prevention can be accomplished by feeding 15 to 30mg of Rumsenin per head per day during pregnancy. Exposed animals have immunity so the disease caused by Toxoplasmosis, coccidiosis of cats, can be controlled by animals being exposed when not pregnant. So feed, contaminated by cat feces particularly kittens, may be a valued asset when fed to non pregnant animals. Decoxx in the salt can also be used as a preventative, 2 pounds of 6% Decoxx may be mixed with loose salt. It is recommended to keep a stable cat population. Depopulation of cats is not the answer.

I have enjoyed good results using AS700 in the presence of Toxoplasma abortion.

Avoid all procedures involving stress within 30 days window of pregnancy, vaccination, worming, sorting and working with dogs.

AS700 has become the treatment of choice in an abortion storm until a diagnosis is made. In the face of abortion it is imperative that fetuses and placenta be submitted to a veterinary diagnostic lab for diagnosis so proper treatment and preventive measures can be taken.

### Pink Eye in Sheep

I am currently getting calls about sheep that have developed pink-eye. Pink-eye in sheep is often more prevalent in the winter months as pink-eye in cattle is more prevalent in the summer. Pink-eye in cattle is generally caused by Moraxella Bovis. The cattle vaccine doesn’t work for sheep. In sheep, it is caused by a Chlamydia species. It is not the same chlamydia that causes abortion or the one associated with arthritis. The organism is susceptible to tetracyclines. Treatment involves subq injection of LA 200 or it’s equivalent. We advise treating only the ones most severely affected. Individual eye treatment with antibiotics and steroids is time consuming and not very rewarding. Seldom, if ever, do sheep go totally blind permanently. They most always recover with time providing they can find feed and water.

Be sure in young lambs and an occasional older sheep you are not dealing with inverted eye lids, see the inverted eye lid post.

It may be advantageous to feed 500mg of Aureomycin crumbles per head or 1# of 2 gm AS 700 per six head for ten days.
Foot Rot in Sheep

My first thought is this is the most dreaded disease in the industry bar none. Whenever I purchase sheep, they have their feet trimmed and bathed in formaldehyde and isolated for 30 days from the rest of flock, feet examined and bathed again before introduction.

The formula for the bath is one part formaldehyde as it comes to 19 parts water and its a bath not a soak.

If a flock is infected, the eradication process is to trim all feet and bathe in formaldehyde and switch lots or pastures and repeat bath in 12 days and switch lots again. At that point, they can go back to the original lot. The disease does not live in the soil for a significant length of time but harbors itself on feet of the animals. Some animals with severe rot may need to be culled.

You can have scald without having foot rot but you can't have foot rot without scald. Antibiotic treatment hastens recovery but does not eradicate the disease. Eradication efforts are best accomplished in dry and cold conditions. Zinc sulfate baths work but not as well and can be used strategically located to control disease until eradication is possible. Sometimes powdered zinc sulfate can be placed around water and feed sources to help minimize effects of disease.

Effective vaccine is no longer available.

Bottle Jaw

By J.D. Bobb

Parasitism in sheep grazing pastures is one of the major economic losses in the industry. In general, young lambs grazing on pasture with their mothers are the most susceptible group to develop acute infections. Morbidity and mortality can be very high in these young lambs if left untreated. Sheep that graze wet pastures in warm regions are far more susceptible than sheep that graze dry arid pastures in the desert regions. Any grass that is wet with morning dew has the highest potential for containing infective larvae, and they are ingested as the flock grazes in the early part of the day.

Timing of treatment prior to going to a clean pasture, will delay the buildup of parasites on a pasture. Many producers use a pasture rotation system to help prevent buildup on pastures. The larvae life cycle outside of the ewe takes about seven to ten days and the larvae prefer temperatures above 50 degrees F, they can withstand moderate freezing and manage to overwinter in most climates. The main worms causing economic damage are referred to as the "HOT" worms. HOT stands for the three main classes of worms Haemonchus, Ostertagia, and Trichostrongylus.

Diagnosis of sheep that are becoming heavily parasitized are diarrhea, weight loss, slow movement, unthrifty, and bottle jaw or death. It is not possible for a standard parasite program that will fit every farm in every region of the country.

Increased Selenium Dosage Boosts Growth and Immunity in Lambs

In a new study published in the Journal of Animal Science, Oregon State University (OSU) researchers show that maximum selenium levels permitted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) may be too low for sheep to reach optimum growth and health.

Selenium is essential for cellular function in animals and aids development. Large selenium doses can be toxic, but too-low levels can impair growth and compromise the immune system.

"When sheep don't grow to their potential or have weak immune systems, it can be a sign of insufficient selenium," said Gerd Bobe, co-author of the study and an OSU professor. "Our research shows higher levels of selenium can result in healthier animals that grow bigger and that can improve returns at the marketplace for farmers and ranchers."

A challenge is that the range between selenium deficiency and selenium toxicity can be narrow; current FDA regulations limit the amount of dietary selenium supplementation for animals grazing on selenium-scarce soils to 0.7 mg per sheep per day or 3 mg per beef cattle per day.

In OSU's experiments, pregnant ewes were given selenium doses up to five-times higher than the FDA's allowed level - an amount of supplementation researchers determined to be not
harmful to sheep. The element is carried into the bodies of offspring, helping young animals during development.

At the highest selenium doses, ewes gave birth to lambs that grew to be 4.3-pounds heavier than average after 60 days. Furthermore, survival was 15-percent higher in lambs receiving the highest amount of organic selenium supplementation. As farmers look to sell sheep at five to six months old, weight and health metrics are keys to profitability.

A new generation of OSU research is attempting to determine how much selenium and in what form is best for optimal growth and health of sheep and cattle.

The full story is online at http://bit.ly/OSU_AgNews1236.

Parasite Management Webinar Available

A New Approach to Parasite Management in Sheep webinar was hosted by Will Getz, Ph.D., professor of animal science and extension specialist, and Thomas Terrill, Ph.D., assistant professor of animal science. They discussed the current state of thinking on best management practices for control of internal parasites in sheep.

The recording of the event has been compiled and is available for viewing at the URL: www.optimalag.com/webinars/2013-08-27_ParasiteManagementinSheep.wmv.

Michigan Fiber Festival Experience

By Dena Early

For the past eight (or maybe more) years in mid-August, I’ve been going to the Michigan Fiber Festival in Allegan, Michigan, for several days of workshops. Each year I come home with a new or renewed passion for a craft. Over the years, I’ve improved my spinning and knitting skills, learned to make baskets, rugs and paint yarns. I especially enjoy the workshops when I come home with a finished project. This year was special.

I signed up for the Continuous Strand Weaving workshop, led by Carol Leigh from the Hillcreek Fiber Studio in Columbia, Missouri. The workshop lasted two days, although it took me three and a half to finish, and I came home with a beautiful shawl. What really made it special is that I used all natural yarns from our Border Leicester fleeces, white and natural colored. I highly recommend the Michigan Fiber Festival - I haven’t been disappointed yet!

Sheep Drench Study Reveals Problems

The first national Australian drench-resistance study in sheep for nearly 20 years has uncovered unexpectedly high levels of resistance to commonly used active ingredients in sheep drenches.

The study used parasitology laboratory data from 390 fecal egg count reduction tests conducted on properties across all Australian states. The results of the study showed a 54-percent prevalence of drench resistance across Australia to moxidectin, a leading sheep drench active ingredient.

There was also a 96-percent prevalence of drench resistance to benzimidazoles and levamisole, the oldest drench classes.

A co-author of the study said the results showed the number of viable drench options sheep producers had available was becoming very limited, very quickly.

Cape House Farm

2013 Champion White Long Wool Ram and Supreme Champion Fleece -- Our Sheep and Fleeces were also Champions at Maryland, Wooster and the Michigan State Fair

Thanks to all our buyers in 2013

Linda and Bill Koeppel
(734)747-8112; koeppels@peoplepc.com
Chunky Lamb and Vegetable Soup

Lamb Cut: Shoulder or Leg
Category: Entree
Servings: 8
Preparation Time: 10 Minutes
Cook Time: 20 Minutes

Ingredients
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 pound American Lamb, boneless shoulder or leg, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
1 tablespoon olive oil
2 cans (15 ounces each) diced tomatoes and juice
2 cans (8 ounces each) tomato sauce
1 large onion, chopped
3 large stalks celery, chopped
1 bay leaf
1 teaspoon dried basil leaves, crushed
2 cups water
1 package (10 ounces) frozen green beans, partially thawed
1 package (10 ounces) frozen sliced carrots, partially thawed
1 package (10 ounces) frozen corn, partially thawed

Directions
In large plastic bag, combine flour, garlic powder, pepper and salt. Add lamb cubes; coat thoroughly with flour mixture. Heat oil in large pan. Add entire contents of bag and brown lamb cubes.

Stir in tomatoes and juice, tomato sauce, onion, celery, bay leaf, basil and water. Cover, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer covered for 1 hour. Add green beans, carrots and corn; cover and cook additional 10 minutes.

Barbecue Pulled American Lamb Shank on Crusty Rolls

Lamb Cut: Shanks
Category: Entree
Servings: 6
Preparation Time: 25 Minutes
Cook Time: 2 Hours

Ingredients
2 tablespoons olive oil
4 American Lamb foreshanks
Salt and pepper to taste
2 yellow onions, sliced into 1/2-inch thick wedges
4 cups fat-free chicken broth
2 teaspoons dried oregano leaves, crushed
3/4 cup prepared barbecue sauce
6 crusty rolls

Directions
In large skillet, heat oil over high heat. Pat shanks dry with paper towel. Season with salt and pepper. Brown shanks on all sides.

Place in a roasting pan. Add onion, chicken broth, and oregano. Roast at 375°F for 2 hours, turning shanks every 30 minutes.

When meat is done, remove from broth and cool. Strain broth, reserving onions. Reserve 1/4 cup of broth. Refrigerate or freeze remaining broth for use in soups or stews.

Remove meat from bones; shred meat removing fat. In pan, combine pulled lamb, barbecue sauce, and 2 teaspoons of 1/4 cup reserved broth if needed. Heat, stirring to combine sauce and lamb.

Split rolls, spoon on meat and enjoy!
USE THIS FORM TO ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO JOIN!

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 Leicester Association, visit our website: www.ablasheep.org.

Name:___________________________________________ Farm/Ranch Name: __________________________________________

Mailing Address: _____________________________________________________________________________________________ 

City/State/Zip:______________________________________________ Phone: ___________________________________________

E-mail:______________________________________________ Web Address: ___________________________________________

What farm products would you like listed in the Directory? ___________________________________________________________

To better serve you, your board would like you to answer these five questions on your renewal form. Thank you!

1) What are your primary interests in raising Border Leicesters? ________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

2) Would you consider yourself:   A) a business operation   B) a hobby farmer   C) Other (please specify) _____________________

3) Would you be interested in receiving your newsletter via the internet instead of in the mail?     Yes ______     No ______

4) Website or Newsletter suggestions:_____________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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5) How would you like your membership fees spent? (1-most important, 5-least important)

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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: ________

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

Bill Koeppel, Treasurer
4808 Warren Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Questions?
Contact Bill
734-747-8112
koeppels@peoplepc.com
The Leading Source of Elite Quality Border Leicester Genetics

Premier White Exhibitor
- Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival
- Wisconsin State Fair
- Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival
- National Border Leicester Show at The Big E
  Premier National Colored Breeder
- Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival
- National Junior Show at The Big E

"Majestic" Deakin 1806 QR
2013 National Grand Champion Ram, The Big E & KILE

Tiffany Deakin 1902
National Grand Champion Ewe, Junior Show at The Big E

2013 Winning Flocks
Stop at the Pens and See Us at NAILE!

1st Place Flock Wisconsin State Fair
with Ed Avelos, Under Secretary of Agriculture.

Deakin 1945
National Reserve Junior Champion Ewe and Best Fleece Winner

Tiffany Deakin 1929
Best Headed Ram
National Border Leicester Show

1806 RR
National Reserve Senior Champion Ram
Thanks to Gerald Hunter of the Hunter Down Flock of Canada on his recent purchase and also Deakin 1446, the sire of "Majestic"

Announcing
Complete Brood Ewe Dispersal
NOVEMBER 30
Bloomington, Illinois
Immediately Following the Illini Bred Ewe Sale
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