

Targhee Talk

*The Newsletter of the United States
Targhee Sheep Association*



May 2018

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See your sheep in print!

Targhee Talk Submissions for the June Edition are due May 26th.

Please send your great Targhee stories, pictures, and newsworthy items to ustargheesheep@gmail.com

or through the U.S. mail:

Targhee Talk
8912 Saddle Red Ave.
Las Vegas, Nevada
89143

Can't attend Nationals and the Annual Member's meeting?

But have a concern or suggestion to help make the Association run smoother, contact Mardy at 702-292-5715 or ustargheesheep@gmail.com to have it added to the meeting agenda.

Cover Photo Courtesy of Jennifer Vannest Gladwin, Michigan

2018 National Show & Sale - July 12-14th

The Montana Targhee Association is excited to be hosting the 2018 USTSA National Show and Sale July 12-14th in Miles City, Montana. Jack McRae and Kristin Bieber are the hosting committee chairmen. The Show and Sale will be taking place at Miles City Fairgrounds. For those familiar with the Montana Ram Sale, Nationals will be held in the same facilities.

Entry Forms and the Entry Brochure Booklet are now available for download on the USTSA website (www.ustargheesheep.org). Please review the booklet as it details all of the information, rules, and testing details consignors will need for a successful show and sale. Entry forms are due to Mardy by May 31st. Event forms are still awaiting details to be finalized on the meals and will go out with the June Newsletter to RSVP to Elisha Lewis.

To receive copies of the Event and Entry Forms, along with the Entry Brochure booklet, through the U.S. mail, contact Mardy at 702-292-5715 or ustargheesheep@gmail.com.

****New Open Show Requirements :** Exhibitors will be allowed to enter one ram with no ewe requirements. However, for each additional ram entry, TWO ewes must be entered. The sale committee reserves the right to limit numbers once entries are in to keep class sizes reasonable.

Junior Show

Yearling Ram
Fall Ram Lamb
Spring Ram Lamb

Yearling Ewe
Fall Ewe Lamb
Spring Ewe Lamb

Best Fleece On Animal
Market Lamb
Futurity Show

Senior Showmanship
Junior Showmanship
Intermediate Showmanship
Pee-Wee Showmanship

Open Show

NSIP Yearling Ram
Yearling Ram
Fall Ram Lamb
January Ram Lamb
Spring Ram Lamb

NSIP Yearling Ewe
Yearling Ewe
Fall Ewe Lamb
January Spring Lamb
Spring Ewe Lamb

Pair of Yearling Ewes
Pair of Fall Ewe Lambs
Pair of Spring Ewe Lambs

Pair of January Ewe Lambs

Wool Show

Classes:

Ewe fleece 62 & finer
Ram fleece 62 & finer

Ewe fleece 58 & 60
Ram fleece 58 & 60

Wool entry is \$5 per fleece, with a two fleece limit per class. Class winners will receive placing ribbons. There is no need to tie your fleeces. Prepare the fleeces as normal, roll and place in clear plastic bags. Entries can be mailed if you are not able to attend the event but would like to enter the wool show. Arrangements can be made to send entries back.

Deadlines to Remember for Nationals

May 1 First day side microns can be taken
31 Entry and Event Forms are due

June 1 Data run due for NSIP
10 Registrations and complete Catalog information due

July 12-14 National Show & Sale

Accommodations at Nationals

A block of rooms have been reserved at Miles City Hotel & Suites. Amenities include:

- Newly Enhanced Complimentary Breakfast: 6-9 AM
- Free Local Calls
- Newly Upgraded Hi-Speed Wifi
- Microwaves In Every Room
- Refrigerators in Every Room
- Coffee Makers In Every Room (let us know if you need more fixin's)
- Cable TV
- Indoor Heated Swimming Pool
- Spa
- 24-Hour Coffee Service (we keep it fresh & hot at the front desk)
- Hair Dryers
- Irons And Ironing Boards
- Alarm Clocks
- Fax Machine
- Safety Deposit Boxes at Front Desk
- Telephone Message Service
- Complimentary toiletries: razor/shaving cream, comb, toothpaste or brush
- Large, well-lighted parking. Buses, semi rigs & RVs easily accommodated

For more information or to book, visit:

Miles City Hotel & Suites
miles-city-hotels.com
1720 S Haynes Ave, Miles City, MT 59301
(406) 234-1000
\$93.00 per night if you mention US Targhee Sheep Assoc.

Schedule for 2018 USTSA National Show and Sale

July 11th Wednesday

Pens Available For Early Arrivals

July 12th Thursday

8:30 AM – Junior Show (includes new Market Lamb Show & Wool on a Live Animal Class) Followed by:

- Junior Showmanship (all age divisions)
- Junior & Adult Pairing Showmanship

1:00 PM - Wool And Photo Contest Entries Due

1:00 PM – Junior Sheep Fitting Contest

2:00 PM - Open Show Entry Sifting Begins—Deadline for Open Show sheep to be In the barn. Health, Registration, Micron, And EBV Paperwork due at this time

4:00 PM -- Junior Targhee Association Meeting

6:00 PM – Picnic

July 13th Friday

8:30 AM – Junior Futurity Ewe Show

- USTSA National Show
- Adult Jackpot Showmanship

1:00 PM – National Wool Show judging

Discussion of Wool Placings (Wool Judge)

2:00 PM - Wool Seminar

3:00 PM – USTSA Annual Association Meeting

6:00 PM - Social

7:00 PM – Awards Banquet - followed by the Benefit Auction

July 14th Saturday

12:00 Noon – National Sale

Scholarships in Memory of Bud Beastrom and Jim Elphick

Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded to a Junior member at Nationals. More information will be available in the next newsletter. Last year essays were requested to apply and reviewed by a committee to select a winner.

President's Notes

As I look out at the sun shining I quickly forget about the miserable winter we have endured. Lambing on our place is quickly coming to an end. For those of you who are done lambing and those who have yet to start I hope you have a successful lambing season and may the lambs grow quickly.

Respectfully,
Elisha Lewis Otis



Fitting contest

This year we will be having a Fitting contest on Thursday July 12th for the junior members. The contest will be set up with the following rules:

Entrants will be split into 2 groups, the older half and the younger half.

Teams will be drawn to have 1 older member and 1 younger member.

Teams will have an hour to fit their ewe lamb

Prizes will be awarded

Adult Advisors will be present to help with wild sheep, equipment problems etc.

We plan to have a group of untouched ewe lambs to use for the contest. This activity was very fun to watch and participate in last year. We hope all the kids will be excited to try it again this year. Everyone could always use more practice at fitting and trimming their sheep for the show. It is also a good opportunity to win some very nice fitting equipment. This will be a good opportunity for our youth to learn from each other as well as the advisors on how to fit a Targhee ewe lamb. This should be a fun and educational activity for all participants.

Please be sure to include on junior entry form if you would like to participate this year so we can arrange to have enough untouched ewes available.



By Seth Schoon

2018 USTSA Starter Flock Committee Report

When this edition of Targhee Talk comes out, the starter flock committee will already be evaluating applications for the 10-year anniversary awards of the program. Per the rules of the program, the committee will be selecting their top 5 choices by May 1st for submission to our returning judge, Reid Redden, for his final selections.

The exciting news coming from the hosting Montana association is that there are now enough animal donations to confirm that 3 starter flocks will be awarded this summer!! What a way to celebrate this milestone of the program. Hunt Family Targhees has also made a generous donation – 2 yearling rams for the program winners this year!! This is an amazing offer, and the starter flock committee, on behalf of the USTSA, would like to thank them for their generosity.

Because of this unprecedented generosity coming from all over the association, there are two remaining needs to complete the three awards: 1) the donation of one more yearling ram, or older ram lamb, and 2) additional monetary donations to the USTSA Starter Flock Program so that each of the 3 awards winners will have a full \$750 buyers credit at the national sale to purchase additional animals. If you know of anyone who is interested, please have them contact Mardy Rutledge or any member of the USTSA Starter Flock Committee.

The generosity of this association is second to none, and it's the reason that we're celebrating a decade of giving with the largest award program that we ever have had. Thank you!!

~ Jeff & Leslie Nevens - USTSA Starter Flock Chairpersons

Wool Standards

Important Addition To Breed Standards

Recognizing the importance of quality wool to our breed, and addressing concerns of the membership regarding the presentation of that fleece at competitions throughout the country, the USTSA board of directors recently voted to approve an additional breed standard. It reads:

"Any artificial coloring of the fleece is strictly prohibited, and will result in immediate disqualification in any competition."

We hope this preserves and emphasizes the importance of wool to our breed in any and all competitions.

President Signs Fiscal Year 2018 Spending Bill

The Omnibus appropriations bill for the current fiscal year was signed by President Trump on March 23. While the President made it clear he opposed the increased spending in the bill, it contained a number of priorities for the U.S. sheep industry.

Important highlights for sheep industry include retention of the language directing the Dept of the Interior and the U.S. Forest Service to rely on the U.S. Dept of Agriculture's Ag Research Service for the best scientific information on pathogen transmission and risk of contact before making management decisions that impact domestic sheep permittees.

The bill also states that Congress doesn't accept the termination or closure of research stations proposed by the administration, which includes the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station in Dubois, Idaho. In fact, appropriations are increased for rangeland research, which is a primary focus for the station.

Additionally, Wildlife Services operations have been increased for FY18, as is the Small Ruminant line item of the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, which is critical for the Scrapie Eradication Program. Producers will recall that ASI has had to fight to keep any ID tags available at no charge to producers this year, due to administration claims of budget shortages.

Key new provisions in appropriations include a permanent fix exempting farms and ranches from the provisions of superfund reporting mandates for air emissions from animal waste. Abbreviated as CERCLA in ASI correspondence, the association thanks Congress for taking action that will exempt thousands of livestock producers from this costly and unintended reporting requirement.

Another provision will give livestock haulers relief from the Electronic Logging Mandate. Additional time is required to ensure there is no interruption of service while the industry and the department continue to work to ensure definitions provide livestock haulers the necessary exemptions passed by Congress to provide for animal welfare and safety.

2018 National Targhee Show and Sale T-Shirt Order Form

*Forms are due by May 31st, 2018

**Mail with your registration forms



For the 2017-2018 National Show and Sale the Juniors have decided to sell t-shirts for a fundraiser, showcase sponsors, and also provide new shirts each year with the respective location and dates along with a submitted design. **The shirts are \$12 and all proceeds will go to the Junior Association to help with costs of the Junior show and awards.**

____ Kids X-small

____ Adult Small

____ Kids Small

____ Adult Medium

____ Kids Medium

____ Adult Large

____ Kids Large

____ Adult X-large

____ Kids X-large

____ Adult 2X-large

____ Adult 3X-large

Total: _____

***Make checks payable to USTSA and make SEPARATE from other fees!**

All American Junior Show

The USTSA is again sponsoring Targhees for the 25th anniversary All American Junior Show. Visit www.allamericanjuniorshow.com for details and registration forms. ENTRIES ARE DUE MAY 25th! The juniors that attended last year were very happy with the experience and great to share Targhees with other junior sheep exhibitors.

Pipestone Lamb and Wool Facility Tour June 4th, 2018

The Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program, dedicated to changing sheep production to make it more profitable for producers, is excited to offer an idea filled sheep facility tour. The Pipestone Lamb and Wool program offers this tour every other year and this will be the sixth tour offered. The purpose of the tour is to give producers an opportunity to see various types of sheep facilities, including the latest innovations in sheep buildings, handling systems, feeding systems and facility layout.

The tour will be a full day, visiting four Lamb and Wool producers with new and remodeled facilities. All of these operations have devised their buildings and feeding systems to reduce labor and enable them to run larger numbers of ewes with the same labor. Tour participants will see lambing barns, hoop barns, remodeled buildings along with various feeding systems designed to reduce labor and minimize feed waste. In addition, this will be an opportunity to hear the philosophy of sheep production from successful sheep producers.

Visit www.pipestonesheep.com for registration information and to view pictures of tour locations. Registration forms and additional information about our facility tour are available on our web page or individuals can contact the Pipestone Lamb and Wool Management Program, Minnesota West Community and Technical College, P.O. Box 250; Pipestone, MN 56164, (800) 658-2330, philip.berg@mnwest.edu or laurie.johnson@mnwest.edu

The 25th Annual

All-American Junior Show



Border Leicester
Cheviot
Columbia

Corriedale
Dorper
Polled Dorset
Horned Dorset
Dorset Advantage

Hampshire
Katahdin
Lincoln
Merino

Montadale
Natural Colored
Oxford
Rambouillet
Romney

Shetland
Shropshire
Targhee



National Junior Southdown Show and National Junior Tunis Show



Indiana State Fairground - Indianapolis, Indiana
Thursday, July 5th - Sunday, July 8th



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NSIP Insights with Dr. Lisa Surber (Targhee Breed Representative on the NSIP BOD)

For some of us, lambing is in full swing and some that I've seen on Facebook are done! Cold and snow has been a challenge for lambing, to say the least. It was a record year in 2017 for NSIP and 2018 is on track to be even better in terms of enrollment. In Figure 1, NSIP progression is represented. In the three years since Rusty Burgett was hired as the full-time Program Director, NSIP enrollment has almost doubled. That is something we as members of this organization can be proud of!

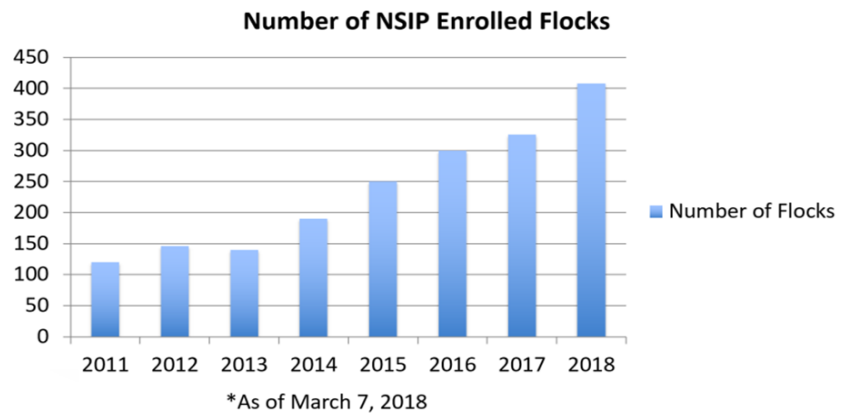


Figure 1. NSIP Progression

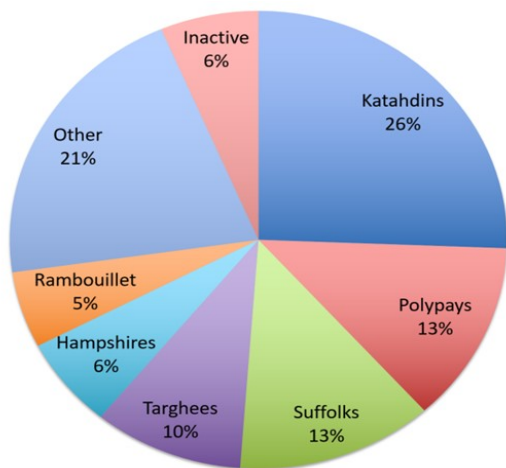


Figure 2. Enrollment by Breed, % of Total Number of Flocks

Targhee breed, currently, has 37 flocks enrolled and represents about 10% of the total number of flocks within NSIP (see Figure 2). There were 7 news flocks in 2017! Welcome new members!

Continued NSIP Insights with Dr. Lisa Surber

I also thought it might be interesting to look at the genetic progress made in some the economically important traits for the Targhee breed. Figure 3 represents the change over time for reproduction, growth, wool and US Range Index.

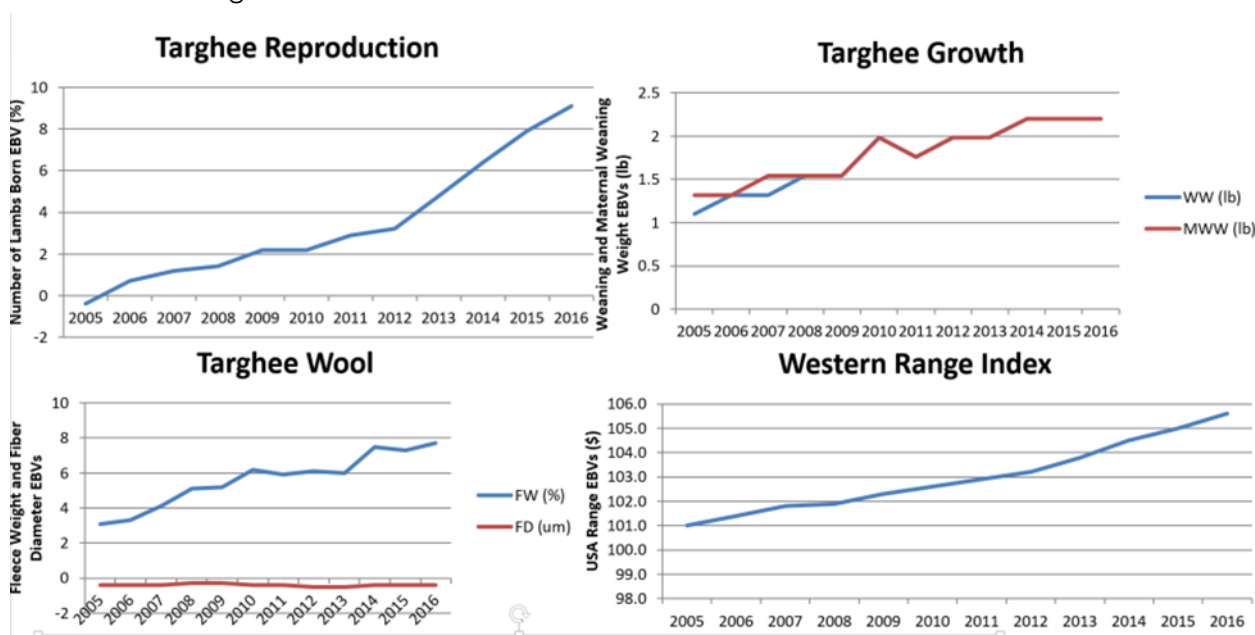


Figure 3. Genetic progress

You can see 2012 was a turning point for most these traits. I think one of the primary reasons was the US range index implementation really was taking hold about then and it was being used as sorting/selection tool by NSIP producers. With this selection tool, we have been able to improve reproduction, growth, and fleece weights while holding fiber diameter steady. While, not reported, we have indirectly improved staple length as well. Love it or hate it, it helps sorts the top rams to the top and the bottom rams to the bottom. However, I am firm believer that we need to reexamine the traits that have a major influence. BUT, we can't just simply decrease one traits influence without looking at the bigger picture and how interrelated these traits are. Even minor changes in the index value of one trait can have a drastic effect on what the index is actually measuring. Bottom line, the US Range Index has been a useful tool for purebred and commercial producers alike.

New and old members, don't forget that NSIP has a YouTube channel. There are many helpful tutorials from setup of Pedigree Master to Exporting Data to Excel. Make sure you subscribe to the channel and get notifications when new material is added.

As a reminder, NSIP launched an online searchable database in the fall of 2017. You can access the tool at <http://nsipsearch.nsip.org>. Have you used it yet? You can search by 16 digit ID number or indicate the search parameters you are looking for. Once you run a query, you can click on "view details" and find tons of information on each animal and trace an animal's pedigree. It will likely replace some of our reports.

Please let me know how I can help.

Warm Regards, Lisa

Application Available for Sheep Heritage Scholarship

Through the American Sheep Industry Association, the Sheep Heritage Foundation Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000 is being made available for sheep-related graduate studies. The scholarship is for the advancement of the sheep industry through financial support of a graduate-level (M.S. or Ph.D.) student who is attending a school in the United States.

Requirements for applying include being a graduate student involved in sheep and/or wool research in such areas as animal science, agriculture economics or veterinary medicine with proof of graduate school acceptance.

The application can be downloaded at http://www.sheepusa.org/researcheducation_scholarship or obtained by contacting ASI, Attn: Memorial Scholarship, 9785 Maroon Circle, Suite 360, Englewood, CO 80112-2692, by calling 303-771-3500 ext. 107, or by emailing angela@sheepusa.org.

Applications must be received by May 31 and the scholarship recipient will be announced in June or July.

Update from past Starter Flock Winner Joe Tuttle

It has been a year and a half since I was winner of a 2016 Targhee Starter Flock. Here's a brief update of my Targhee experiences so far.

After the 2016 Targhee National Show I got home and had a great summer and fall. In the following winter, I had a rough lambing season and a huge learning curve that goes along with that. Through that experience I learned a lot about flock health and wellbeing. After I got over that hurdle, I attended the All American Junior Show in Madison, Wisconsin. I also showed at my local Bayfield County Fair and had tons of fun and success at both of those shows.

I've had a great 2018! I had an amazing lambing season and doubled my flock size with five new ram lambs and two ewe lambs. I plan to go to the All American Junior Show again in Indianapolis, Indiana, as well as a few other local shows. My brother, Sam, has caught the Targhee bug and is showing at the All American Junior show with me. Three of our new lambs are his as well.

A big thank you to Todd Taylor and Jeff & Leslie Nevens for helping me through these first steps!



2018 USTSA Annual Members Meeting

The Annual Members meeting will be held Friday, July 13th at 3 pm at the Miles City Fairgrounds. Bryan Allred and Randall Von Krosigk's terms expire this year. The Board will be taking nominations up until the Members meeting for the West and At Large West seats as well as finding out if Bryan or Randall wish to seek reelection. Voting will commence at the meeting.

If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, please complete the absentee ballot below and return to Mardy at 8912 Saddle Red Ave; Las Vegas, NV 89143 by June 15th.

If you have any other concerns or suggestions to help make the Association run smoother, contact Mardy at 702-292-5715 or ustargheesheep@gmail.com or your region's Board Member to have it added to the meeting agenda.

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Upcoming Calendar of Events

- May 4-5** - Maryland Sheep Festival All-Breeds Sale - Frederick, Md. - <http://sheepandwool.org/festival/ewe-show-sale/>
- May 5-6** - 45th Annual Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival - West Friendship, Md. - www.sheepandwool.org
- May 7** - National Sheep Improvement Program Workshop - Randolph Center, Vt. - <http://vtsheepandgoat.org/national-sheep-improvement-program-free-workshop/>
- May 8-12** - University of California Cooperative Extension Shearing School - Ukiah, Calif. - John Harper at jmharper@ucanr.edu or [707-463-4495](tel:707-463-4495)
- May 10-12** - Big Ohio Sale Weekend - Eaton, Ohio - <http://www.bannersheepmagazine.com>
- May 12-13** - New Hampshire Sheep and Wool Festival - Deerfield (N.H.) Fairgrounds - <https://nhswga.org/nh-sheep-wool-festival>
- May 19** - Woody Lane Sheep Grazing Seminar - Ellensburg, Wash. - <http://www.wssp.org>
- May 19-20** - Western States Dorper Association Show & Sale - Modesto, Calif. - http://www.wsdorpers.com/2018_wsda_show_sale
- May 25-26** - Great Lakes All-Breeds Sheep Show & Sale - Wooster, Ohio - <http://www.bannersheepmagazine.com>
- May 26-27** - 44th Annual Massachusetts Sheep and Woolcraft Fair - Cummington (Mass.) Fairgrounds - <http://www.masheepwool.org>
- June 1-2** - 68th Annual West Virginia Sheep and Goat Show and Sale - Petersburg, W.V. - <http://wvsheepandgoatsale.com/>
- June 1-3** - ASI Wool Classing Course - Randolph Center, Vt. - <http://vtsheepandgoat.org/event/register-asi-wool-classing-course/>
- June 9** - South Central Katahdin Sheep Association Education and Business Meeting - Vicksburg, Miss. - www.hair-sheep.com
- June 11-12** - NSIP Carcass Ultrasound Certification School - Arlington, Wis. - toddtaylor@wisc.edu, Christopher.schauer@ndsu.edu, [701-567-4323](tel:701-567-4323) or visit <http://www.nsip.org>
- June 15** - ASI Wool Handling School - Ames, Iowa - Regina Frahm at info@iowasheep.com
- July 11-12** - Colorado Wool Growers Association Convention - Montrose, Colo. - www.coloradosheep.org
- July 12-14** - U.S. Targhee Sheep Association National Show and Sale - Miles City, Mont. - <http://www.ustargheesheep.org/>
- July 13-14** - Crossroads of the West All-Breeds Sheep Sale - Location TBA - <http://www.bannersheepmagazine.com>
- July 20-21** - National Katahdin Sale - Fishersville, Va. - <https://www.katahdins.org/calendar/>
- July 30-Aug. 1** - NSIP Carcass Ultrasound Certification School - Moscow, Idaho - mjcolle@uidaho.edu, Christopher.schauer@ndsu.edu, [701-567-4323](tel:701-567-4323) or visit <http://www.nsip.org>
- Sept. 29-30** - 30th Annual Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival - Tunbridge, Vt. - <http://www.vtsheepandwoolfest.org>

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