

Targhee Talk

The Newsletter of the United States



January 2020

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See your sheep in print!

Targhee Talk
submissions for the
April Edition
are due March 15th.

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

or through the U.S. mail:

Targhee Talk
PO Box 955
Chinook MT 59523

Cover Photo Courtesy of
Leah Huchthausen
Stoughton, Wisconsin

Changes to Registration Process

At the 2019 National Targhee Show & Sale it was brought up at the annual meeting to move the US National Targhee Registry to a national registry group. Associated Registry is the name of the group. You can check out their homepage, www.asociatedregistry.com, and the breeds they represent. There is a one time fee to convert our registration to theirs. This should be around \$1500 depending on the complexity. The Montana Targhee Association has offered to pay this fee if it passes. This is an idea that has been discussed at annual meetings a couple times before, but at that time was voted down by the membership. The Board of Directors has decided to move forward with this idea to get a vote before the 2020 National Show & Sale on how the membership wants to proceed. Voting members can email or mail in their responses for or against moving to a national registry with a \$1.00 increase per registration to the US National Targhee Secretary.

Let's start with some numbers. It costs around \$6800 per year to run the basics of the association. If you take the 22 yr average for registrations and add in the annual fees, the income per year under national registry with the \$1 increase would be around \$3600. This means the other \$3200 would have to be made up from the national sale commission along with paying the national show and sale expenses.

Pros: Fast turn around time for correct registrations and extended pedigrees. Lighten work load of the current secretary.

Cons: Late fees could no longer be waived for those catching up on registrations. If the association has some bad sales we run the risk of not being able to pay for our secretary. If we lose our secretary we lose our association identity. The secretary plays an important role by answering phone calls and emails throughout the year promoting Targhees and sending them to current breeders. The secretary puts out newsletters, website maintenance, handles mailings for committees like the starter flock with applications, and keeps track of the records at the National Show & Sale and puts out the catalog.

Please send in your response by February 15th for or against this change with the \$1 increase in registration fees. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about anything you have read here.

Votes will be tallied after the deadline and email will be sent out to membership announcing the results. If approved the Board will begin working on the conversion.

Respectfully,

Elisha Otis
President USTSA

Why Should We Register Our Animals?

This is a very profound and pertinent question, and many breeders from all species are asking themselves that very question. So if I am a Targhee breeder, why should I register them? It's a lot of work and expense, so what makes it worth that time and expense?

The American Kennel Club states on their website that they "are a registry body, responsible for tracking the lineage of dogs of a variety of breeds." The Pinerywoods Cattle Registry and Breeders Association states that its mission is "To operate a registry for maintaining accurate herd records." And in general, that is the goal of registries, to record and maintain breeding and ownership records of the animals that are submitted to that registry.

The International Dairy Cattle Registry probably best summarizes the reasons why animals should be registered. Their seven reasons are 1) Conservation and Preservation, 2) Breeding Ancestry, 3) Value Added of Knowing That Ancestry, 4) Diversity, 5) Marketing, 6) Proof of Ownership, and 7) Security of Breeding Records. And all of these directly apply to the sheep industry and to the USTSA. Breed registries are all closed (unless there are special circumstances), meaning that only progeny of registered animals may then be registered. That history is then preserved and can be used appropriately. Think of the spider-gene scare from a decade ago. It was because of a precisely kept registry that the initial affected animal could be determined. We use that historical data every breeding season when pairs are selected or AI is performed. It helps all of us market our animals to potential buyers, it can clearly prove or disprove ownership issues, and it is a safeguard for our breeding records. It is also a secondary source of validation of our own records. It happens to everyone – we incorrectly document a breeding record, and if the registry is doing its job correctly, like the USTSA does, it catches those errors and can facilitate its resolution. In addition, a registry's integrity is only as valid as the data that is being submitted to it. The process helps to identify those who may not be as scrupulous as others.

Please keep these in mind when you thinking of registering or not registering your animals. There is value-added when you register, and if you don't register, eventually the registry and the breed will die. All of us have put in too much effort into the Targhee breed to let that happen!

Registration Report

year	ewes	rams	total
1997	1466	224	1690
1998	1291	274	1565
1999	1014	184	1198
2000	1357	210	1567
2001	788	169	957
2002	831	157	988
2003	1107	148	1255
2004	800	122	922
2005	1430	176	1606
2006	1306	134	1440
2007	913	159	1072
2008	906	162	1068
2009	833	170	1003
2010	961	119	1080
2011	921	152	1073
2012	851	197	1048
2013	851	181	1032
2014	1059	204	1263
2015	699	168	867
2016	811	140	951
2017	902	224	1126
2018	789	127	916

U.S. Targhee Sheep Association Ballot

Membership Name _____

For national registry with \$1 increase in registration fees _____

I am against a national registry _____

Return by February 15, 2020 to:

USTSA/Mardy Rutledge
PO Box 955
Chinook, MT 59523
ustargheesheep@gmail.com

USTSA Finance Report

	Jan - Dec 18	Jan - Dec 17
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Interest Earned	\$ 32.81	\$ 45.26
2018 USTSA Directory & Standard	\$ (956.41)	\$ 75.00
National Show & Sale		
Total Benefit Auction Proceeds	\$ 489.00	\$ -
Total Auction Sale	\$ 7,462.00	\$ 7,295.00
Total Show and Sale Entry Fees	\$ 3,125.00	\$ 3,890.00
Total National Show & Sale	\$ 11,076.00	\$ 11,185.00
Total Registrations & Fees	\$ 5,913.88	\$ 7,644.86
USTSA Lifetime Membership	\$ 130.00	\$ 312.00
Total Income	\$ 16,196.28	\$ 19,262.12
Gross Profit	\$ 16,196.28	\$ 19,262.12
Expense		
USJTSA	\$ 850.00	\$ 1,350.00
Total Newsletter	\$ 580.35	\$ 297.26
IRS	\$ 600.00	\$ -
Total Show & Sale Expenses	\$ 5,869.34	\$ 8,159.88
Advertisements	\$ 200.00	\$ 370.00
Contract Payment	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 5,400.00
Total Office	\$ 870.71	\$ 2,288.00
Printing		\$ 689.61
Postage	\$ 168.59	\$ 236.80
Website	\$ 1,536.99	\$ 200.00
Total Expense	\$ 16,075.98	\$ 18,991.55
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 120.30	\$ 270.57

**June 30,
2019**

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Checking at Garfield County Ba	4,024.21
Youth Futurity Acct	698.00
Promotion Savings Acct	1,215.03
Junior Show Savings	2,668.54
General Savings Acct	25,781.66
National Sale Checking	500.00
Total Checking/Savings	<u>34,887.44</u>

News From the Juniors

Happy New Year from the USJTSA! We are wanting to try something new this year to help us keep better track of our Junior membership! Below this is our new Junior Membership Registration Form. We are asking that all juniors fill this out and return it to our advisor, Jessie, no later than Jan 31st. It can be sent to her by email at taylor.jessie94@yahoo.com or through the mail to her home address, 67-C Osprey Rd Laramie WY 82070. We also wanted to remind all junior families that our next conference call will be Sunday, January 26th at 7:00pm cst and our T-shirt design contest deadline is February 29th.

U.S. Junior Targhee Sheep Association

Junior Membership Registration

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Parents/
Gaurdians _____

Return by January 31, 2020 to:
Jessie Taylor
67 Osprey Rd Unit C
Laramie, WY 82070
taylor.jessie94@yahoo.com

2020 National Show and Sale

Deadlines to keep in mind

May 31st - Entry and event forms due. Entry forms and packets will be available in the April newsletter as well as online.

June 15th - All registrations and information for catalog due.

**ATTENTION USTSA
COMMITTEES**

Reminder any changes you would like made for the 2020 Nationals need to be submitted to the Board by April 1st for approval to be included in all National publications going out the end of April.

All Committees are open to volunteers. There is still time to join if you would like to, contact Mardy.

Current committees are:
Show and Sale
NSIP
Junior Show
Youth Futurity
Starter Flock
Hall of Fame

Starter Flock Program Update

When the USTSA Starter Flock Program was conceived, almost 12 years ago now, the goal was to bring a greater number of youth and their families into the Targhee breed. We think the association accomplished that task and has done it well. It is something that we all should be very proud of!! The Board of Directors had a conference a few months ago, and a respected association member brought up some concerns within the breed that play into things we have been seeing and hearing. And those concerns have come into play into our decision making process.


One of the original selling points we could make to youth and their families was that the Targhee breed wasn't your typical breed. We were really focused on production of a true dual-purpose animal, and that the animals were judged and evaluated on those premise. And this worked!! As the program succeeded, the breed grew and drew in other non-starter flock members. Then we started hearing from judges and members concerned with the integrity of the breed, and that they were seeing problems. And one nationally known breeder stated, "Don't let what happened to my breed happen to yours." Judges and others outside of the USTSA started seeing signs of crossbreeding, wool not typical of the Targhee bred, extreme fitting, lack of breed character... These concerns have kept growing, and cumulated this summer with judges being very blunt with us, saying they "don't recognize" the breed anymore, or they now know what other breed they are being crossed with because those breed characteristics are showing. Also, some very poor behaviors within the general membership are appearing, including judges letting us know that some people are class switching. As one judge stated, "there are spring lambs that saw Christmas." It is all very discouraging. And it must be stated very clearly – these problems do not stem from the junior membership. It starts with the general membership.

So it is with great disappointment that we announce that we will no longer chair the Starter Flock Program. We would reconsider this decision if these concerns are addressed and rectified within the breed. But these things have affected some prior award winners, and that is one reason why they are no longer active. And we feel it's not fair or appropriate to bring any more youth into the breed where they feel they must follow these practices in order to compete. It's a shame it has come to this... As of time of publication, there are no other volunteer chairpersons, and the program will go into dormancy unless others would like to join the starter flock committee and chair the program.

We want to thank every person or organization that have donated animals or money to this amazing program, to all those who bought and designated auction items for the program, and to those who bid and purchased those items to support the program. It was an amazing run, and has brought some amazing people into this organization!!

Leslie & Jeff Nevens

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- We need a volunteer to continue as the Chairperson of this committee. Please ●
- contact Mardy as soon as possible if you are interested as the applications usual- ●
- ly are posted in January with April 1st deadline. Also if you are interested in join- ●
- ing the committee, there is still time for that as well. Contact Mardy or any of the ●
- Board of Directors with questions. ●

Board of Directors

President

Montana:

Elisha Lewis Otis
342 Svenson Road
Reed Point, MT 59069
406-861-0082
realmtcow-
girl@hotmail.com,
Term expires: 2020

Vice President

Central Plains:

Leroy Pedersen
42929 SD Hwy 46
Lesterville, SD 57040
605-660-2981
leroy@koletzkymplement.
com
Term expires: 2022

Directors

At Large West:

Julie Ward
PO Box 762
Sheridan, MT 59749
406-596-0668
clovermeadowsmt@gmail.
com
Term expires: 2021

West:

Bryan Allred
PO Box 116
Fountain Green, UT 81632
ballred@cut.net
435-445-3528
Term expires: 2021

East:

Todd Taylor
W4857 Meek Rd
Arlington, WI 53911
608-332-4914
toddtaylor@wisc.edu
Term expires: 2020

At-Large-East:

Jeff Nevens
N 1225 Hillestad Road
Lodi, WI 53555
608-592-7842
AandJNevensLive-
stock@frontier.com
Term expires: 2022

Targhee Tails & Trails



The SDSGA would like to welcome Lealand Schoon from White River, SD, as the new District 6 board member. District 5 covers a large area that includes Haskon, Stanley, Jackson, Jones, Lyman, Mellette, Ben- nertt, Todd, Tripp, and Gregory counties. Lealand will serve a 4 year term. Here is some background and goals Leadand has for his directorship.

Lealand grew up northeast of Lemmon, SD, helping to run a crossbed flock of Suffolk/Hampshire flock of sheep; with a herd of cows. He and his family acquired 150 head of Rambouillet Cross wool ewes in 2011 from the Orwick Ranch. Maintain an average of 150 head of Targhee/Rambouillet ewes; grown on native rangeland forages. They operate as a family ranch with wife Jennifer and 5 children. Seth got his first Starter Flock Targhee ewes in 2014. Adrik bought his first Targhee ewe in 2014. They each bought a ewe, two different years with the Newell Ram Show Youth Credit. Jesse bought his first Targhee ewe in 2016. They do raise some registered Targhee rams and ewes for sale. Lealand shears the family flock, paying attention to sorting wool and packaging it well for the industry. He use livestock guardian dogs and llamas to reduce predator impact.



Seth Schoon and end of grazing sea-
son, Mellette Co, South Dakota.



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Forces That Will Shape US Rural Economy in 2020

The U.S. rural economy will continue to face headwinds in 2020 and is expected to underperform relative to the economy of urban America according to CoBank's forecast for next year. Since 2014, GDP growth in rural counties has averaged almost 1% less than in urban counties. That trend is likely to continue without a significant upswing in agricultural commodity prices, energy exploration, rural manufacturing and other industries upon which rural economic growth depend.

"Most current signals indicate the overall domestic economy is on firm footing, thanks almost exclusively to the consumer," said Dan Kowalski, vice president of CoBank's Knowledge Exchange division. "However, without a meaningful U.S.-China trade deal, the U.S. agricultural economy will continue to struggle with uncertainty in 2020.

Agricultural policy at the federal level has been wrought with uncertainty and volatility. The trade environment for 2020 remains hazy as well. Beyond a possible U.S.-China phase one deal, more progress with China will be a challenge. As a result, it is difficult to see trade as a bright spot in 2020. The atmosphere in Washington today has given way to progress on agricultural labor legislation and the USMCA. But a protracted partisan fight over impeachment is on tap in the Senate. This rancor makes it difficult to advance legislation that helps agriculture, which would give either side a win for the hotly contested 2020 election. Market Facilitation Program payments to farmers helped make up for persistently low commodity prices in the last year.

Challenges for the grain sector will persist in 2020, fueled by commodity price pressure, policy uncertainty and export weakness amid growing global supply abundance, especially for corn and soybeans. U.S. wheat producers and exporters, though, may benefit from an improved export pace in 2020 with the Russian wheat crop struggling. Biofuels also face challenges in 2020. U.S. ethanol production, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, is expected to fall by 1.9% in 2019 to 15.8 billion gallons and remain flat in 2020. The outlook for farm supply companies is mixed and continues to be heavily influenced by weather. To improve its value proposition, this sector is actively pursuing vertical and horizontal consolidation.

With dairy and animal protein production looking toward another year of increased production in 2020, a rebound in exports will be critical to profitability in both sectors. Per capita consumption of animal protein in the U.S. will likely set a new record in 2019. Overall dairy consumption in the U.S. will remain strong in 2020 as Americans continue eating more cheese and butter, but fluid milk will likely continue its long-term decline. Strong demand and rising exports, though, will not erase financial stress at the farm level. Producers of beef, pork, poultry, and dairy will likely experience stress from higher feed costs due to lower crop yields this fall.

Despite that bearish prognosis, there is room for optimism, as the report says the U.S. farm economy has demonstrated its resiliency in the face of these trade wars, extreme weather and other disruptive events. While the downside impact of trade disputes and tariffs will remain severe for many, some agriculture sectors will see stronger exports and higher prices.

Posted By: Colter Brown December 20, 2019 @ 4:23 pm Ag News Stories, News

NSIP Webinar Series continues in February

Our next NSIP webinar will take place in February 13, 2020 as we have Dr. Tom Murphy, geneticist from the USDA ARS Meat Animal Research Center talking to us about contemporary group structure and how it impacts the genetic evaluation.

This webinar is open to all NSIP members. We will have 25-30 minutes of instruction, then hear from various experienced NSIP members on how they structure their breeding groups followed by ample time for Q&A.

Registration is required for this webinar and registration information can be found here: [Webinar Registration](#). A reminder email will be sent out as we approach the webinar date.

Feel free to share this information with anyone you think may be interested in joining use. If you have suggestions for future topics or items you wish to discuss, please contact Rusty Burgett at info@nsip.org or 515-708-8850.

I apologize for postponing the December webinar, however, it was necessary for speaker availability. As speaker availability is confirmed for future webinars, we will announce a final schedule for the entire 2020 year.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Jan. 16-18, 2020 - Utah State University Shearing School - USU Animal Science Farm in Wellsville, Utah - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/usu-sheep-shearing-school-2020-registration-59342509042>

Jan. 22-25, 2020 - ASI Annual Convention - Scottsdale, Ariz. - www.sheepusa.org

Feb. 6, 2020 - Black Hills Stock Show and Rodeo All-American Sheep Day - Rapid City, S.D. - blackhillsstockshow.com/events/2020/all-american-sheep-day

Feb. 8, 2020 - Lambing Q&A - Bellingham, Wash. - lydiasflock@gmail.com or 320-733-4127

Feb. 29, 2020 - Washington State Sheep Producers Lambing School - Martinez Lambing Barn in Mabton, Wash. - www.wssp.org

March 4-5, 2020 - Missouri Shearing School - Lincoln University's Carver Farm in Jefferson City, Mo. - Erin Brindisi at brindisie@lincolnu.edu or call 573-681-5859

March 7, 2020 - Indiana Sheep Association Shearing School - Purdue University - indianasheep.com.

March 13-14, 2020 - Maryland Shearing School - Fairplay, Md. - Aaron Geiman at adgeiman75@gmail.com or visit marylandsheepbreeders.org.

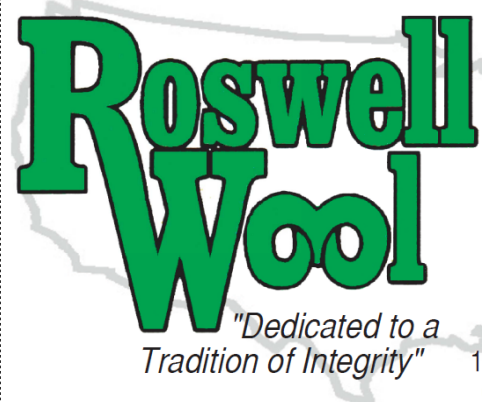
March 14-15, 2020 - Northeast Shearing School - Stone and Thistle Farm in Meredith, N.Y. - Call Doug Rathke at 320-587-6094.

March 20-22, 2020 - Moffat County Shearing School - Moffat County Fairgrounds in Craig, Colo. - www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-moffat-county-sheep-shearing-school-tickets-77017061103?aff=ebdsbdestsearch

March 21, 2020 - Washington State Sheep Producers Lambing School - Feustel Farms in Lamont, Wash. - www.wssp.org

April 4, 2020 - Washington State Sheep Producers Lambing School - Feustel Farms in Lamont, Wash. - www.wssp.org

April 6-10, 2020 - Washington State Shearing School - Grant County Fairgrounds in Moses Lake, Wash. - smithsm@wsu.edu or visit extension.wsu.edu/grant/livestockanimal-science/washington-state-shearing-school/



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