

Targhee Talk

*The Newsletter of the United States
Targhee Sheep Association*



April 2021

Inside this edition:

- 2021 National Show & Sale
- President's Notes
- Upcoming Calendar of Events
- National Schedule
- Annual Meeting Notice
- Registration Update
- Targhee Standards

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
PO Box 955
Chinook, MT 59523

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 Julie Ward
Sheridan, Montana

2021 National Show & Sale - July 15-17th

The Dakota Area Targhee Sheep Association is honored to be hosting the 2021 USTSA National Show & Sale. It will be held July 15th through July 17th at the Spink County Fair Grounds, in Redfield, South Dakota.

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 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.

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.

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. 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.

Junior Show Requirements

See Entry Brochure for full set of rules. Reminder that all sheep entered need to be registered in exhibitors name or that of a family member. This year juniors are also required to sign a Code of Conduct to be returned to Jesse Taylor at 67-C Osprey Rd Laramie, WY 82070 or email: jamtarghees@gmail.com. These are due prior to Nationals.

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 15-17 National Show & Sale

Online Feature for the 2021 Nationals

We will not be holding an online auction this year in conjunction with the National Sale, but have worked with our website designer to be able to offer an online interactive catalog. We'll have a page dedicated to the National entries in photo album style by lot number. All exhibitors will need to submit a side profile picture of each entry. Potential buyers will be able to click on the lot number to open a page for each entry that will contain detailed information submitted with the entry form. There will also be room for more pictures on this page. The more pictures and details each exhibitor submits, the better this feature will work. A printed catalog will also be designed to be handed out at the National Sale.

President's Notes

Welcome Spring! I hope everyone had a great lambing season! Although some things are getting cancelled for the 2021 summer, the USTSA National Show & Sale is still a go and we hope to see everyone in South Dakota this July. It is almost May so it is time to start making sure that all your paperwork is done and turned in. We are going to try something new this year with putting the lots online for everyone to see. Please bear with us as we give this a first go and then we can update and improve next year. On that same note we are also getting through our first year with the transition to Associated Registry. Anything you like or don't like please contact Jeff at Associated Registry as well as let the Board of Directors know. We know this will be a process and appreciate everyone letting us know how things are going for them.

We hope you have a wonderful spring full of moisture for green grass!

Respectfully,
Elisha Otis

2020-21 Officers & Directors

President & Montana Director - Elisha Lewis Otis; realmtcowgirl@hotmail.com, 406-861-0082

Vice President & Central Plains Director - Leroy Pedersen; leroy@koletzkyimplement.com, 605-660-2981

East Director - Susie Skinner; twins2@hughes.net, 937-375-5671

West Director - Bryan Allred; ballred@cut.net, 435-445-3528

At Large West Director - Julie Ward; clovermeadowsmt@gmail.com, 406-596-0668

At Large East Director - Jeff Nevens; aandjnevenslivestock@frontier.com, 608-592-7842

Upcoming Calendar of Events

May 1 - Beginning Shepherd Program - Pierce County Fairgrounds in Pierce, Neb. - Melissa Nicholson at 308-386-8378 or email ne.sheep.goat@gmail.com

May 1-2 - 48th Annual Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival - West Friendship, Md. - www.sheepandwool.org

May 4-5 - Sheep Ultrasound Certification School - Evant, Texas - agrilifeextension.tamu.edu

May 11 - Sheep Genetics USA: Improving Genetic Tools to Enhance Profitability Webinar - Online - Register at www.register.gotowebinar.com/register/1855429584679709452

May 15 - Small Ruminant Animal Husbandry & Herd Health Class - Claremore, Okla. - www.shepherdscross.com

May 20 - Livestock Guardian Dogs and the Law Webinar - Online - agrilife.zoom.us/j/92152755922

May 22 - Mid-States Hair Sheep Cooperative Small Ruminant Field Day - Bull Tackle Feed Co. in Lexington, Neb. - www.midstatescoop.com

June 4-6 - 71st Annual West Virginia Purebred Sheep and Goat Show and Sale - Tri-County Fairgrounds in Petersburg, W.V. - www.wvsheepandgoatsale.com

July 10-11 - Grazing Hills Fiber Arts Festival - Viola, Idaho - www.ghfiberfest.com

July 15 -17 - U.S. Targhee Sheep Association National Show & Sale - Redfield, S.D. - www.ustargheesheep.org

July 17 - Washington State Sheep Producers Annual Ram & Ewe Sale - Grant County Fairgrounds in Moses Lake, Wash. - www.wssp.org

Texas A&M AgriLife Offers Digital Education

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has launched a new digital education course, Sheep and Goat Ranching 101. The series of 12 videos cost \$25 and allows participants to learn at their own pace.

"This online course is for people new to the sheep and goat industry," said Reid Redden, Ph.D., director of the Texas A&M AgriLife Research. "This course covers the basics of what people need to know, everything from how much animals typically cost to the type of facilities you'll need to have to raise sheep and goats."

This online course is geared toward beginners. Using instructional videos, the experts walk viewers through the first steps to getting an operation started. They also provide viewers with the basic knowledge needed to maintain an operation.

Redden said the course provides essential information for small farms or ranches with less than 100 acres, new landowners or managers, and retirees moving back to the homestead who might be thinking of raising small ruminants.

An Advanced Sheep and Goat Ranching online course is currently being developed and will also be available at the Texas A&M AgriLife Learn website, <https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/>, when completed.

Source: Texas A&M AgriLife

Schedule for 2021 USTSA National Show and Sale

Wednesday, July 14th –

Noon Pens available

Thursday, July 15th –

8:30 a.m. – National Junior Show. Show Order

Yearling Ram

Fall Ram Lamb

Winter Ram Lamb

Spring Ram Lamb

Yearling Ewe

Fall Ewe Lamb

Winter Ewe Lamb

Spring Ewe Lamb

Best Fleece on Live Animal

Junior Showmanship (Pee-wee, Junior, Intermediate, Senior)

12 Noon – Lunch

1 p.m. – Wool and Photo Contest Entries Due

1 p.m. – Junior Activity

2 p.m. – 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 p.m. – Junior Targhee Association Annual Meeting

6 p.m. – Picnic at Spink Co. 4-H Building,

Sheep Dog trial for entertainment

8:30 p.m. – USTSA Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, July 16th

8:30 a.m. Junior Futurity Ewe Show

9:00 a.m. National Open Show: Show Order

NSIP Yearling Ram

Yearling Ram

Fall Ram Lamb

Winter Ram Lamb

Spring Ram Lamb

NSIP Yearling Ewe

Yearling Ewe

Fall Ewe Lamb

January Ewe Lamb

Spring Ewe Lamb

Pair of Yearling Ewes

Pair of Ewe Lambs Fall and Spring

1 p.m. National Wool Show Judging

2 p.m. Targhee Standards Seminar

2:30 p.m. USTSA Annual Association Meeting

6 p.m. Social hour Spink Co. 4-H Building

7 p.m. Awards Banquet

Saturday, July 17th

10 a.m. Presentation of USTSA Starter Flock Awards

10:30 a.m. National Sale (Rams followed by ewes)

2021 USTSA National Show and Sale cont.

Lodging options for 2020 National Targhee Show and Sale

- Super 8 Motel – 605 472-0720
- Edelweiss Inn – Bed n Breakfast, 605 499-8026. They have 5 rooms with a mix of beds each room has its own bathroom. I have reserved all 5 rooms just tell them you are with the Targhee Association and you will get the group rate. \$75 / night plus tax.
- R&L Lodge N Inn – 605 460-2158. This is an apartment style lodge. This would be a good spot for a large group or family.
- Rustic Haven Inn – 605 460-1252, Apartment style 4 bedroom / 2 bath.
- Jim River Ranch – Farm house in the country about 8 miles from town. 605 765-8494.
- Wilson Motor Inn – 605 472-0550. Probably a 1 star facility.
- Camping is also an option. There are camper hookups with electricity and water right at the Spink County Fair Grounds. I know there will be at least 4 or 5 of us camping.

Please give Scott Kilber a call if you are having trouble finding lodging. 605-380-5262.

2021 USTSA Annual Members Meeting

The Annual Members meeting will be held Friday, July 16th at 2:30 pm at the Spink County Fairgrounds. Elisha Otis and Susie Skinner's terms expire this year. The Board will be taking nominations up until the Members meeting for the Montana and East seats as well as finding out if Elisha or Susie wish to seek reelection. Voting will commence at the meeting.

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.

Official agenda will be published in the June Newsletter with forms for proxy voting. Per Roberts Rules of Order, only business that is in the published agenda will be discussed at the annual meeting. Please email Mardy these items prior to May 31st. There will be a zoom link provided to the meeting for those not able to attend, but will be for listening only. It will be too hard to make the online viewers interactive with multiple live participants.

2021 Breeder Directory

At the USTSA semiannual meeting via Zoom in January, the question of printing another directory was raised. The last one was done in 2018 and they have historically been updated every 3 years. Discussion was had about the value of the printed directories and how many actually go into circulation to promote the breed. Some members felt that we need to move to more digital promotion/advertising to keep up with the times. Some members thought we still needed some of both - a few printed directories and an online breeder directory.

As a breeder and member, would you be willing to submit limited amount of information and perhaps a picture to better describe your operation and provide a resource for buyers or other interested persons? This is separate from the online National Sale catalog Mardy has referenced. It could provide a link to your own website possibly also. This online directory may give more exposure to current breeders than the printed version.

Please contact your Board member to offer your opinion. This will be on the agenda for the Annual Meeting.

Subscribe!



THE **SHEPHERD**
a guide for sheep and farm life

12 month subscription - \$30 USD

online at:

www.theshepherdmagazine.com

or mail check to:

The Shepherd

PO Box 168 | Farson | WY 82932

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Breeding & Reproduction • Nutrition
Animal Husbandry • Management
Disease & Parasites • Pasture Management
Marketing • Feeding Strategies • Wool
Research & Development
Lambing/Kidding Cooking • Guardian Animals
Breed Profiles • Industry Resources

Free Advertising Space
for Targhee Events

Do you have a Targhee event you would like to see promoted? Please contact the USTSA office (ustargheesheep@gmail.com).

ALB Announces Story-telling Video Contest

While much has changed about consumers food habits during the past year, what hasn't is their desire to learn where food comes from, and meet the farmers and ranchers behind the American Lamb in supermarkets and restaurants. The American Lamb Board (ALB) is calling on industry members to help share our production story with information-hungry consumers. From April 15 to May 31, the ALB invites you to participate in the Industry Storytelling Video Contest.

The main use for the videos will be ALB's online and social media communications to consumers, such as Youtube, Instagram, Facebook and AmericanLamb.com. You can enter by submitting your contact information along with your 5 to 7 minute video (approximate) targeting one of the following three categories: Animal Care – highlight your practices to care for and protect your sheep. Care of Land – share how you care for the land under your stewardship. Flocks and Family - show off your family and how they contribute to producing American Lamb, such as the importance of each family member and how raising sheep has enriched your lives

The ALB will pick three winners—one in each category—to win a \$500 gift certificate to Premier 1 Supplies. Winners will be promoted through ALB's social media channels as industry Lambassadors.

If you have additional questions, please contact Rae at rae@americanlamb.com.

USTSA Registration Update

Associated Registry (Associated) has been receiving and processing USTSA registration and transfers since the membership decision at the last National Meeting to move the process to Associated. Since October to date, there have been 1033 registrations, 167 transfers, 44 annual membership fees and 4 lifetime memberships completed. Of the registrations submitted, there were 950 ewes and 83 rams. The grace period for late registrations expired on March 31st, but we encourage everyone to continue to catch up on registrations. Thank you to all who have already registered!

With all transitions, there have been some issues. The first was that the transfers from our database where not transferred over to Associated's database, so owner/breeder are not printing correctly. Now that this is a known issue, Jeff Ebert with Associated has been correctly their database as transfers are brought to his attention. The second issue is that breeders names are not listed on 5 generation pedigree, only flock tags. The pedigree is correct, just lacks breeder identifier. Here's Jeff's response to this issue: " Nowhere in this database are we provided what the breeder information is except a flock number. Furthermore, in building the database as you look through it, the flock tag would be where the breeder information would be, but all that is in that column is the tag number. Other associations that we have input have had the flock ID with the tag. Your association has for the most part never used flock prefixes. That is why we require the flock prefix. I tell you this so you know what we are dealing with from your database. A new member has to have a flock prefix. Some associations require them to be unique for each member. The bottom line is we were not provided the data to build the pedigrees how we would have preferred for you. Review any association pedigree (Hampshire, Rambouillet, Katahdin, Tunis, are some examples) they have more than numbers to identify the parentage. How do we move forward. As I told Julie yesterday, we will gladly input flock prefixes in all animals in breeder accounts at our expense, if a member provides us with them. It will take some time, but anyone who knows me, knows that I am someone who is going to work to make things right. Obviously, over time these pedigrees will fill in and the information will make more sense. Please contact me directly at the office 785.456.8500 or on my cell 785.458.9174 to express your concerns. I am willing to work to resolve any issues that you have."

So what can we do to correct this problem? Every breeder needs to choose a flock prefix to be added to their flock tag number. For example, University of Wisconsin has always used "UW" prior to their tag number (UW16-208). So when you see back in the pedigree UW, that is how you will know the breeder for that sheep. It can be a full name, abbreviation, or an acronym. They have been requiring this on registrations Associated as completed, but is missing in anything prior. If everyone breeder could please select a flock prefix, than Jeff can start correcting the historical database to include these prefixes so that pedigrees will be more useful.

Again, transition issues and a learning curve were anticipated with this change, but Jeff Ebert and his team have been willing and able to resolve any issues or questions and have responded in a timely and efficient manor. We just ask everyone to be patient and give the new system time to work as it does for many other breed associations. Jeff has given you his contact information for any concerns. Please double check all registrations you have requested until all problems have been solved.

Roswell Wool

*"Dedicated to a
Tradition of Integrity"*

- **Largest group of wool buyers in the U.S.A.**

- **Competitive bidding**

- **Producer owner and operated**

1-800-624-WOOL (9665)
www.roswellwool.com

A Refresher of Targhee Standards

There has been discussion lately on Targhee standards, both from members and also brought to the attention of the Board. This is the time when many of us will be evaluating our flock for replacements and/or show entries. It seemed timely to write a "refresher" of Targhee Standards for all of us to follow when making these decisions. There are two references for members to look to in this regard. A Targhee Inspection Manual was last published in May 2014 with the help of Jack McRae, Darrell Deneke, and Dr Jeff Held. This manual was originally written in May 1992 with the input of numerous Targhee breeders, inspectors and university personnel nationwide. A good portion of this manual is also reprinted in the National Directory and Standards last printed in 2018. This article will not attempt to address all points in the manual, but a summary thereof. Members are encouraged to review this manual and, if not available, to contact Mardy for a copy. The directory is re-published every 3 years, so is up for renewal this year.

As stated in the inspection manual, the inspection process should include:

Body and conformation- A visual inspection from a distance so that views from front, side and rear may be secured to give an idea of size, balance, width and depth of body, covering of the head, straightness of legs, conformation and breed type. A Targhee ram should weigh between 200-300 pounds; a ewe 140-200 pounds. It is recommended only the top 1/3 of rams be registered unless there are one or more traits superior enough to benefit the breed. It is important to know what the Targhee breed type is because a Targhee does not equal another breed's strong points, eg. a Rambouillet's wool or a Columbia's size. Targhee Standards should be studied so that we do not try to make the Targhee fit another breed's standards.

What faults are not allowed if an animal is to be registered:

Horns- Not allowed but scurs that are not attached and less than one inch are acceptable if they can be easily removed. A polled depression is desirable.

Jaw Irregularities- An underbite or overbite not allowed. The teeth of the lower jaw should meet the upper jaw about the thickness of a quarter behind the upper jaw {1/4 inch}.

Inverted eyelids- Can cause blindness and are highly inheritable.

Wrinkles on body- No wrinkles on body, hind quarters or back. A few wrinkles on the neck are allowed as long as they do not continue above the neck. Wrinkles are highly inheritable also.

Testicle deformities- Testicles on mature rams must be at least 30 cm and of equal size. A split between the testicles of more than 1/3 is not acceptable. They should be free of lumps, hard spots, or epididymis.

Faces should have wool over the poll and down the forehead, not completely bare heads. There should be a channel from the lower eyelid to the muzzle of at least two fingers width to prevent wool blindness.

Wool- The staple length should be a minimum of 3 inches at 12 months of age. Ewes should produce 10 to 12 pounds of grease wool, rams 16 to 22 pounds of grease wool. Desirable micron is 22.05 to 24.94 micron (60's to 62's spinning count). The coarsest acceptable micron on the side is 26.39. Sheep finer than 22.05 are acceptable but only with sufficient staple length. Fleeces should not vary more than 2.8 microns {2 spinning counts} from side to britch. Fleeces should be dense, uniform, and attractive in character. There should be no off-color wool or belly wool above a line from the flank to the pit of the front leg. No black or brown color in the fleece is tolerated. Pigment on the face, ears, feet or lower legs is tolerated but only if no larger than a quarter. There should be no medulated fibers or kemp in the wool.

As per the directory "The Inspection Policy of the Association for registration is that animals must be examined by owners or official inspectors to meet Targhee standards. Many Targhee breeders have their ewes and rams examined by an official inspector in the belief that an unprejudiced opinion is best. It is recommended that new breeders have their flock examined by an official inspector to aid setting type and wool standards in the flock." There is a list of inspectors in the 2018 directory, which needs to be updated. But any experienced Targhee breeder can help with this process, maybe for a tank of gas and a meal. We encourage members to consider this outside opinion before registering animals.

We all believe in the tremendous attributes of our Targhee sheep. It is our responsibility to uphold the standards and integrity of the breed. Sometimes the decisions can be difficult, but they must be made for the good of the breed and the Association.



Targhee Talk
 PO Box 955
 Chinook, MT 59523

Ask Me About ...

sheep!

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

Online at CountrySideNetwork.com or call 970-392-4419

\$24.99/Year or 2 Years, just \$39.00



The Voice of the Independent Flockmaster

Magazine contains informative articles on health, feed and grazing, predator protection and marketing meat and wool products.

**Spotlight your stock for \$40/year
 Set up a Breeders Listing Today!**

For greater promotional exposure consider a display ad for your flock. We will be happy to help you design an eye-catching ad. Call or email Sue @ slapcewich@countrySIDENetwork.com 970-373-7301

The Banner

Sheep Magazine

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

*Promoting The
 Advancement
 of the Entire
 Sheep Industry*

1 Year - \$30

2 Years - \$55

Breeder's

Directory

Listing - \$75



P.O. Box 500 • Cuba, IL 61427
(309) 785-5058 • Fax: (309) 785-5050
ads@bannersheepmagazine.com
www.bannersheepmagazine.com