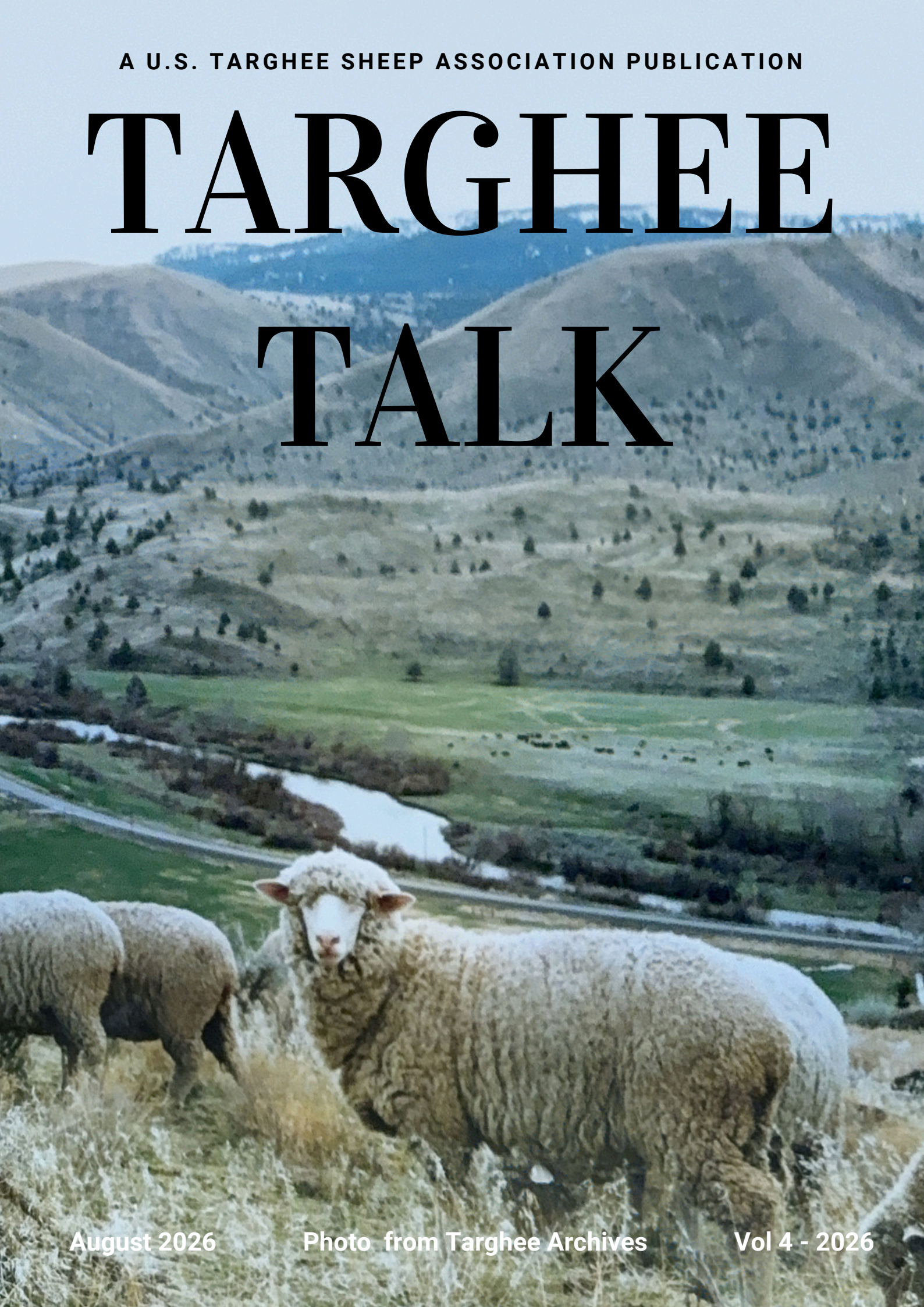


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TARGHEE TALK



August 2026

Photo from Targhee Archives

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New Additions to Our Flock

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From My Flock to Yours

A letter from the USTSA President

Hello everyone –

If you did not get to the Targhee Anniversary Party this summer, you missed a great event. The new building at the fairgrounds in Huron is a wonderful place to hold a livestock show. We had the most sheep entered we have had in years. There was some worry that there were too many entered and that the sale would hurt but the market stayed steady. What was really exciting to see was that a large number of the sheep were purchased by present and former Starter Flock winners, and other young Targhee producers.

Next year's show and sale will be in Utah. This is the farthest west that the National has been held and will be a chance for our western members to participate without travelling for several days to attend.

Here on the ranch, we are busy working this year's lambs, getting them weighed and decisions made as to whether they stay or go to market. At the same time, we are in the final month before the Montana Ram & Ewe Sale and deadlines have to be met for that event. It lends a certainty to life—I go to bed every night knowing that tomorrow we will be doing some more sheep work.

Sincerely,

Jack McRae

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Mark Your Calendars for 2027 Nationals!

The 2027 U.S. Targhee Sheep Association National Show and Sale will be held in Manti, Utah July 15-17! Planning is underway and further details will be shared as soon as they are finalized.

We look forward to seeing everyone in Utah!

September 15th, 2026 - Wyoming Ram Sale in Douglas, WY

September 16th -17th, 2026 - Annual Montana Ram & Ewe Sale in Miles City, MT

September 17th-18th, 2026 - Newell Ram Show & Sale in Newell, SD

September 24th -26th, 2026 - South Dakota Sheep Growers Convention in Brookings, SD

October 2nd - 3rd, 2026 - National Ram Sale in Heber City, Utah

October 2nd - 3rd, 2026 - North Dakota Lamb & Wool Producers Convention in Bottineau, ND

November 5th -7th, 2026 - Wyoming Wool Growers State Convention in Cody, WY

December 4th - 6th, 2026 - Montana Wool Growers State Convention in Billings, MT

Attention Ram Sale Consigners!

Want to get your registered Targhees in front of more buyers this Ram Sale season? We're on a mission to spotlight our members, but we can't feature what we don't see!

Help us advertise your flock—send your updates, photos, and announcements directly to Jackie or Taylor McMartin, and we'll turn them into a featured Facebook post.

What to send our way:

- **Ram Sale Catalogs & Consignment Highlights:** Tag numbers, lot details, and sire information.

National Show Results

Class	Total Price	Total Head	Average
Yearling Rams	\$43,450.00	17	\$2,555.88
Ram Lambs	\$14,400.00	14	\$1,028.57
Yearling Ewes	\$35,550.00	27	\$1,316.67
Ewe Lambs	\$37,050.00	44	\$842.04
Overall Totals	\$130,450.00	102	\$1,278.92

High Selling Ram - \$11,000.00 Lot 2 Beastrom Family Targhees - Grand Champion Yearling Ram

High Selling Ewe - \$2,500.00 Lot 112 Von Krosigk Family Targhees - Pen of Yearling Ewes

Lot 105 Von Krosigk Family Targhees - Reserve Champion Yearling Ram \$6,500.00

Lot 125 Trevor Halverson - Grand Champion NSIP Ram \$1,300.00

Lot 25 Clover Meadows LLC. - Reserve Champion NSIP Ram \$1,500.00

Lot 30 Clay & Mary Dietz - Grand Champion Yearling Ewe \$2,250.00

Lot 122 Wooden Nickel Targhees - Reserve Champion Fall Ewe \$1,250.00

Lot 75 McRae Brothers Targhees - Grand NSIP Yearling Ewe \$2,250.00

Lot 29 Coyote Creek Targhees - Reserve NSIP Yearling Ewe \$1,750.00

Lot 93 Sims Sheep Company - Grand Champion Pen of Yearling Ewes \$1,700.00

Lot 94 Sims Sheep Company - Grand Champion Pen of Yearling Ewes \$1,700.00

Lot 11F Beastrom Family Targhees - Reserve Champion Pen of Ewe Lambs \$1,500.00

Lot 12F Beastrom Family Targhees - Reserve Champion Pen of Ewe Lambs \$1,500.00

Junior Show Results



Grand Champion Ram
Kathryn Kilber
January Ram



Reserve Champion Ram
Josie Feldhaus
January Ram



Grand Champion Ewe
Trevor Halverson
Futurity Yearling Ewe



Reserve Champion Ewe
Annabel Coudron
January Ewe



Junior Premier Exhibitor
Annabel Coudron

Junior Show Results cont.

Showmanship Results

Senior Champion Showman: Annabel Coudron

Intermediate Champion Showman: Josie Feldhaus

Junior Champion Showman: Emry Ewing

Pee-wee Champion Showman: Amelia Pierson

Master Showmanship: 1st - Annabel Coudron

2nd - Kathryn Kilber

Team Showmanship: August Coudron and Andrew Ewing

Adult Showmanship: Scott Kilber

Fleece on a Live Animal

Junior Best Fleece Champion: Trevor Halverson

Junior Reserve Best Fleece: Alicia Holtz

Costume Contest

1st Place Champion: Raisler Family

2nd Place Reserve: Cortlynn Kessler

Fururity Results

1st-Andrew Coudron

2nd- Carissa Scheel

3rd- Trevor Halverson

4th-Alicia Holtz

5th- Annabel Coudron

6th- Amelia Pierson

7th- Charles Pierson

8th- Addison Hellwinkel

9th- Charlee Kessler

10th- Jace Hellwinkel

11th- Cortlynn Kessler

12th- Lilly Lamont

Open Show Results



Grand Champion Ram
Beastrom Family Targhees
Lot 2 Yearling Ram



Reserve Champion Ram
Vonkrosigk Family Targhees
Lot 125 Yearling Ram



Grand Champion Ewe
Clay and Mary Dietz
Lot 30 Yearling Ewe



Reserve Champion Ewe
Wooden Nickel Targhee
Lot 122 Fall Ewe



Grand Champion Pen
Sims Sheep Company
Lot 93 & 94 Yearling Ewes



Reserve Champion Pen
Beastrom Family Targhees
Lot 11 & 12 Fall Ewe Lambs

Open Show Results cont.



Grand Champion NSIP Ram
Trevor Halverson
Lot 125 - NSIP Yearling Ram



Reserve Champion NSIP Ram
Clover Meadows LLC.
Lot 25 - NSIP Yearling Ram



Grand Champion NSIP Ewe
McRae Brothers Targhee
Lot 75 - NSIP Yearling Ewe



Reserve Champion NSIP Ewe
Coyote Creek Targhee
Lot 29 - NSIP Yearling Ewe



Premier Exhibitor
Beastrom Family Targhees



Grand & Reserve Champion Wool
Von Krosigk Family Targhees

Hall of Fame Inductees



Clover Meadows: Cal & Julie Ward

Julie grew up on a cattle ranch in Gardnerville, Nevada, where she was actively involved in 4-H, showing cattle and sheep alongside her brother and sister. She excelled at livestock judging and traveled all over for competitions. After high school, Julie attended college to become a certified public accountant and financial planner. For many years, she worked and developed her own CPA firm where she had a long and highly successful career while raising a family in Sheridan, Montana, all the while maintaining a passion for the agricultural industry.

Cal grew up in Malta, Idaho on the family ranch. Raising cattle and sheep was a long standing family tradition, as his grandfather had owned multiple large bands of sheep in Idaho and parts of Utah. The Ospital name was synonymous with quality and premium market stock. Eager to travel the world, Cal joined the Marine Corp soon after high school. After his service, with unmatched work ethic, Cal returned to his roots and began managing beef cattle operations in Montana.

In 2006, Julie and Cal Ward, purchased a historic property in the heart of the Ruby Valley just outside of Sheridan, Montana. They re-established the original homestead name, Clover Meadows Ranch. In 2012, their journey with the Targhee breed began alongside Julie's sister, Nancy Benson, laying the groundwork for what would become a reputable name in the purebred sheep industry. Since then, Cal and Julie have continued to grow Clover Meadows Targhees into a trusted producer of NSIP breeding stock.

Cal and Julie show passion for the industry's future, which shines brightest close to home. Sponsoring several youth starter flocks, encouraging the younger generations with a passion for agriculture and sheep production, hosting local FFA chapter breeding projects, and previously serving on the National board. In their own family, they have passed down their love for raising sheep to the next generation, inspiring their grandchildren, Addison and Jace Hellwinkel, to establish and raise their very own flocks.

Hall of Fame Inductees



Todd & Lynnette Taylor

Growing up in the Rockies, Todd and Lynnette have been involved in the livestock industry from the start. Lynnette grew up on cattle ranches in Wyoming and Colorado working alongside her father as the oldest of 3 girls. Todd grew up in Laramie, Wyoming where his dad managed the sheep program for the University of Wyoming. They met while at junior college at NJC in Sterling, Colorado. They were married in July of 1993. Since then they have had 4 kids who have since all grown up in the sheep industry and have all taken jobs that keep them working in the agriculture industry and still have their own breeds of sheep.

Todd took the job working at UW-Madison in 2001 and moved the family from Texas to Wisconsin. They have been bringing sheep to the Targhee National since 2003, showing and selling sheep with their 4 little kids in tow. Raising kids in the show ring has been something that Todd and Lynnette are very proud to have had the opportunity to do. They spent their summers traveling the country as a family to various national shows, showing, selling and promoting sheep. Todd has been on many national breed association boards, including the Targhee board and the NSIP board. He has been active with ASI through his position at UW-Madison going to conventions and taking his kids with him to get them involved in a broader aspect of the sheep industry. He helped with the starter flocks when that program got started and has been a mentor to several starter flock winners and their families. He also had a hand in starting the futurity program and getting that off the ground and running for the juniors. Investing in the future of the sheep industry and its youth members is something both Todd and Lynnette are passionate about.

They began raising Targhees in their personal flock after dispersing their oldest daughter Jessica's flock of Columbia sheep. At the time, their nieces, Abby & Maggie Stalbaum, still wanted to raise show a wool breed for their 4-H Projects, but wanted something more moderately framed and liked that the Targhees hold more true to traditional range sheep. They were able to get some ewes from a couple of starter flock winners who were looking to disperse and wanted their flocks to go to other Juniors that would continue their genetics. JAM Targhees has since grown to include and then was transferred to Jessica after Abby and Maggie aged out of 4-H and FFA. All of their kids are still active in the sheep industry in one way or another, Jessica and her Fiance, Chase, live in the Arlington, Wisconsin area where she raises Targhees, she was involved in the Albany County 4-H & FFA sheep projects while she was in Laramie and is on the board of directors for the WI Sheep Breeders Coop. Hannah and her husband Matthew live in Kansas City and put on sheep specific skillathons for the All American Junior Show and Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival. Justin lives in Arlington, Wisconsin and raises Lincolns and Polypays and sells some high dollar polypay genetics, he is also heavily involved with the ASI Young & Emerging Entrepreneurs program. Hayden raises Hamps, Southdowns and Club Lambs and is working for a club lamb breeder in Indiana. Todd and Lynnette have always and will continue to support their kids in their various endeavors and continue to support the future generations of the sheep industry and the continued education, research and improvement of sheep in the nation's agriculture industry.

Hall of Fame Inductees

Robert “Steve” Thompson

In this, the 100 th anniversary of the Targhee breed’s initial crosses at the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho, and the 75 th anniversary of the formation of the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association, we recognize the contributions of a founding member of this association.

Robert “Steve” Thompson was born in 1910, in Heppner, Oregon. His parents owned a livestock ranch near Heppner, where Steve grew up. He graduated from Oregon State University in 1933, and married Gwendolyn Evans that same fall. Steve and Gwendolyn had three children: Terry, Judith, and Janet.

He was employed by the Farm Security Administration until 1941, when his father died, and Steve returned to manage the family ranch. In 1945 he purchased Targhee sheep from the Sheep Experiment Station at Dubois, Idaho. When the Targhee Association was formed, Steve was assigned membership number 14.

The first meeting of Targhee breeders took place at Dubois, Idaho, on May 16-17, 1951. Although Steve did not attend this meeting, he was appointed to a committee of six to study other breed associations and to research how other breeds such as Columbias had handled forming a registry from scratch. This committee developed the framework, the first by-laws of the Association, and many of the steps needed to develop a breed registry from inspected commercial western white-face sheep.

The first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Targhee Association was held September 27, 1951, in conjunction with the annual sheep sale at the Sheep Experiment Station. Directors were Curtis Hughes, Henry Hibbard, Henry Yoppe, Leo Pfister, and Julius Nordby, who was the Director of the Experiment Station at Dubois. Before the next board meeting, in December 1951, Nordby informed the association that he could not be listed as a director but could act in an advisory capacity. Steve Thompson was then elected as one of the original five directors.

Steve served one three-year term on the board, then in 1954 moved with his family to Pendleton, Oregon, where he was employed by the Northwest Livestock Production Credit Association as a field man for the eastern Oregon region. Even though living in Pendleton, Steve continued to ranch at Heppner. In 1978 Steve and Gwendolyn moved to Wilsonville, Oregon, where Steve died in 1989.

With Steve’s induction in the Hall of Fame, all of the Association’s original board members have been so honored.

New Additions to our Flock



Kessler Family Targhee has big news! Collin and Megan got married on July 3rd , 2026! Many of you saw them at Nationals in Huron with their 2 children, Amelia and Charles, on their “honeymoon”. Collin was excited when the opportunity was presented to add a Targhee flock to his cattle operation in 2020. There were many people that helped him in this new adventure, Kilber Family, Clover Meadows, and Jon Beastrum to name a few. He met Megan in the summer of 2023 and she like most others fell in love. With the animals mostly, but Collin too. Collin expressed his interest in becoming a breeder and working toward the perfect Targhee. As some of you may know, if you tell Megan a dream, she immediately runs with it to make it a reality. As a family they started showing Targhee’s in Redfield 2024, then Miles City 2025, and now Huron 2026. They have grown so much in just a few short years and are looking forward to the years to come as they grow as a family with this amazing breed!



U.S. Targhee Sheep Association

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