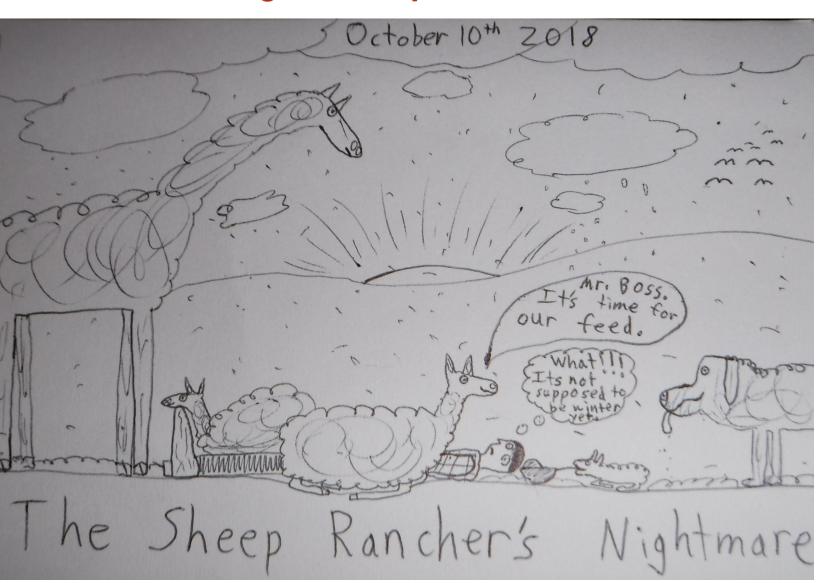
Targhee Talk

The Newsletter of the United States Targhee Sheep Association



October 2018

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See your sheep in print!

Targhee Talk submissions for the January Edition are due December 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 Seth Schoon White River, SD

UNITED STATES TARGHEE SHEEP ASSOCIATION Annual Meeting Minutes

The annual meeting of the U.S. Targhee Sheep Assoc. membership was called to order by President Elisha Otis at 3:30 pm on July 13, 2018, at the Eastern Montana Fairgrounds; Miles City, Montana. All directors were present except Jeff Nevens and Todd Taylor.

Charlene Von Krosigk moved to forego the reading of the 2017 annual member's meetings minutes; Wade Kopren moved to approve the minutes; Bryan Allred seconded; Passed.

The financial reports were presented consisting of a year-end comparison Profit and Loss and 2017 Year-end Balance Sheet. The Association financially is sitting in a very stable position. A registry report was also provided showing 2017 was back in line with average.

Each committee than gave an update.

NSIP Committee- Lisa Surber spoke that the committee had not meet, but did email throughout the year. Hope to have something for next year. She suggested everyone to follow Rusty on facebook as he has been traveling all over taking on more of an extension role to help promote NSIP.

Junior Committee – Haylee Kilber was the previous year president and said the Junior Association was going to be staggering election of officers going forward. They had done a fundraiser this year to get tshirts to all the juniors. Braedon Kopren is the newly elected president.

Youth Futurity Committee – Jon Beastrom reported no changes this year, but next year will be looking at incorporating points system for attending other fairs. Wade Kopren moved to raise the nomination fee from \$15 to \$25 this year; Susie Skinner seconded; passed.

Sifting Committee – Bryan Allred reported as a member of the sifting committee. Biggest problem was belly wool and board had discussed starting an educational serious to be featured in the Targhee Talk.

Show Committee – No updates to be given.

Promotion Committee – No updates to be given.

Randall gave a report on the All American. Well attended this year and great opportunity of kids. Will be in Kansas next year which is probably the furthest west it will get so great chance for other junior to participate.

Sifting Committee – Brian Allred reported they had attempted to sift of the trailer this year. Last year belly wool had not been a concern, this year was back. Nothing however was sifted for it though. Next year would like to have educational program as inspection manual is pretty vague. Board had also discussed this and voted to amend the inspection manual if belly wool is high on the sides, the animal is not registerable. Jon Beastrom added sifting seemed to be easier with the vet there to inspect as came off the trailers. Just needed to tighten window of arrival.

The need to set a floor price for the sale was than discussed. Rachel Pruitt moved to set at \$400; Scott Kilber seconded; Failed. George Mann stressed due to current economics lets be careful trying to sell to commercial buyers. Susie Skinner added there are a lot of sheep to be sold. Wade Kopren moved to set floor at \$250; Mike Hunt seconded; Passed. Members were reminded that they were free to set a higher price floor on their stock as well, just give to the auctioneer prior to entering the sale ring. Commission will still be charged at the top bid if the reserve is not met.

Mardy gave a report on the website and newsletter. New website had been set up and still work in progress. She asked that members submit personal news, pictures, etc so the membership can better keep up with them and make it more personable.

Than discussed the site of the 2019 National Show and Sale. The normal order is to have it held in Wisconsin next. Jeff and Todd were exploring and would get back to membership. Jon Beastrom mentioned in 2020 he had been approached to have a multi breed Nationals. Will see if anything actually happens.

Annual Meeting Minutes, continued

Elections were than held. Randal Von Krosigk and Bryan Allred's terms expired. Bryan Allred was nominated for the West position. Susie Skinner moved to elect Bryan and cast unanimous ballet. Jon Beastrom seconded. Passed. Julie Ward was brought forward from nomination committee for the At Large West position. Randall was no longer eligible for either positions with move to South Dakota. Paula Brakke moved to elect Julie Ward and cast unanimous ballet. Jon Beastrom seconded. Passed

New Business

George Mann asked that the Association address be changed to Mardy's new address in Montana. Wade Kopren moved to change it; Scott Kilber seconded; passed. Mardy asked that mail not be sent certified as that requires a signature. If you are sending something you want tracking on, priority mail offers tracking numbers.

Susie Skinner addressed that the Junior Association would like their own checking account with signature authority to travel each year to the newly elected treasurer. She felt the juniors had a great show and deserved to have that. The Board had discussed this at the board meeting the night before after the juniors made the request. There is confusion that the checking account already in place is for the Junior National Show and per manual limit on how much could be spent from that each year. Julie Ward mentioned from accounting stand point if the junior association wanted to be their own separate entity they would need to form a non-profit corporation as the association has. If the juniors want to fund raise as they had with the tshirts, the checking account will be started for them to be used as the Junior association saw fit. All bills would need to be submitted through association secretary to be paid. Randall Von Krosigk asked if a junior member would like to be part of the Board of Directors if they wanted more say which would probably be the Junior President. Board will check the by laws to see what was written on who could be on the board and if the membership would need to vote on a new position to be created.

Paula Brakke moved that the meeting adjourn; second by Jon Beastrom; passed.

From Secretary's Desk

As was voted on at the annual meeting, the association address is changing again... I would like to say this is my last move, but its not: (But until than, please send all correspondence to:

USTSA PO Box 955 Chinook, MT 59523

If you forget, I will still be getting mail as I have been at the Las Vegas address. Which might be more frequently if I can exit the state for warmer weather this winter if the Farmer's Almanac is right!! On the note of mailing, if you would like to track anything you need to send me, please utilize priority mail in lieu of certified mail. This option costs much less and offers a tracking number. Most importantly it does not require a signature to receive it. I do have a regular full time job so I am not home during delivery hours to be able to sign for a package.

Also discussed at the Nationals was starting educational series to help those newer to the association and those that may just need a refresher in adhering to the bred standards in your flock and in the show ring. I've started this edition with a write up on the history of Targhees.

Lastly, the office will be closed from December 1st-31st. All registration requests, etc received during that time will be processed after the 1st of the year. Registration and other requests that have already been sent in will be processed in the next couple of weeks. Rush requests can be accommodated on a case-by-case scenario. Please be sure to notate as such on the outside of the envelop, email or leave me a message. I will continue to monitor the email and return calls.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and a safe New Year. Looking forward to what 2019 will bring!

President's Notes

I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season! ~ Elisha Otis

2018 Western Regional Ram Sale Results

	Rar	Rambouillet		Columbia		Suffolk		Targhee	
Newell Ram Sale	\$	671.99	\$	533.33	\$	575.96	\$	1137.50	
Montana Ram Sale	\$	721.88			\$	402.50	\$	1213.61	
Wyoming Ram Sale	\$	909.00	\$	800.00	\$	813.00	\$	961.00	

Newell Ram Sale

High Selling Ewes- Jon Beastrom of Pierre SD with his Targhee Yearling Ewe bought by Ray Shepard of Pierre SD for \$700.00 and Joana Frieze of New Salem ND with her Corriedale Ewe Lamb bought by Nicole Marquette of Waverly MN for \$700.00.

High Selling Ram- Chapman Rambouillet of Bison SD with their Rambouillet Yearling Stud Ram bought by Fran Page of Faith for \$2650.00.

High Selling Pen Of Range Rams- Lisa Surber of Newell SD with her pen of 2 Yearling Targhee Range Rams bought by Jamie Spring of Union Center SD for \$3000.00.

Montana Ram Sale

Sheep producers came from near and far to take in the 93rd Annual MT Ram Sale. The average prices for the Targhee, Rambouillet and Rambouillet cross rams were up while the average for the Suffolk and Suffolk/ Hampshire cross rams were slightly down from last year. Overall, the average price per head was higher than the previous year's sale. The top averages for the sale were from younger, newer consignors and we are pleased to see the buyers are really going out of their way to support them at this sale.

93rd Annual Montana Ram Sale

Sale Gross on 259 Range Rams: \$270,800.00 Sale Average on 259 Range Rams: \$647.34

Targhee Ram Average on 191 head: \$1,213.61 (Low \$375, High \$6,750)

Suffolk X Hampshire Ram Average on 13 Head: \$515.38 (Low \$375, High \$750)

Suffolk Ram Average on 20 Head: \$402.50 (Low \$200, High \$1,500) Rambouillet Ram Average on 32 Head: \$721.88 (Low \$475, High \$1,500) Hampshire Ram Average on 3 head: \$383.33 (Low \$350, High \$425)

First-time Montana Ram Sale Consignors, Jeff & Dawnita Sampsel, had the highest selling Targhee ram of the sale. It sold for \$6,750 and was bought by long-time ram sale consignor Sam Ortmann of Wolf Point, MT. Carolyn Green had the high selling Targhee stud ram that went for \$5,500 and was bought by Brad Boner of Wyoming. Twelve year old Aiden Fouhy of Peerless sold his top ram for \$5,200 to fellow consignor Heinrich Ortmann of Wolf Point.

Wyoming Ram Sale



2019 Western Regional Ewe Sale Results

5th Annual Montana Ewe Sale

Sale Gross on 293 Ewes: \$95,400.00

Targhee Ewe Average on 198 head: \$348.49 (Low \$290, High \$500)

Targhee/Rambouillet Ewe Average on 20 head: \$350

Suffolk Ewe Lamb Average on 10 head: \$300.00 (Low \$225, High \$375)

Targhee/Cormo Ewe Lamb Average on 40 head: \$180 Hampshire/Suffolk Ewe Lamb Average on 5 head: \$200

Columbia Ewe Average on 10 head: \$300 Targhee/Cormo Ewe Average on 10 head: \$500

Ewe Sale Highlights

Carolyn Green sold 10 head of Targhee yearling breeding ewes for \$500/head and Wade Kopren of South Dakota was the buyer. Kathy McRae sold 10 Targhee/Cormo yearling breeding ewes for \$500/head and Turner Sheep Company was the buyer on that lot.

Donation Ewes:

1 yearling Targhee ewe donated by Wade Kopren of South Dakota with all proceeds going towards the medical expenses of long-time MT Ram Sale Consignor, Chuck Dallas. Chuck has been undergoing treatment for cancer this past year. The ewe sold 5 times and raised \$6,700 with the final bid going to Boller/Mills (Travis and Traci Mills) of Wyoming. Thank you Randy Tunby, Jack McRae, Henry Hollenbeck (Bluebell Sheep LLC), Larry Prager, Mike and Cheryl Schuldt, and Boller/Mills for donating.

1 yearling Targhee ewe donated by Hughes Newford Company with all proceeds going towards scholarships to send young sheep producers who have moved back to the ranch to the MWGA Convention in December. The ewe sold 7 times and raised \$2,475 with the final bid going to Boller/Mills (Travis and Traci Mills) of Wyoming. Thank you Boller/Mills, Sam Ortmann, Sieben Ranch Co, Henry Hollenbeck (Bluebell Sheep LLC), Lisa Surber, and Duane Talcott for donating.

Sheep Growers Association Holds Successful Premium Ewe Sale

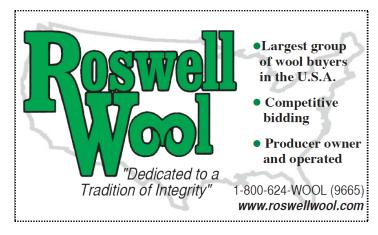
To meet the needs of emerging demand within the sheep industry for superior young ewe genetics available in smaller lot sizes, South Dakota Sheep Growers Association (SDSGA), in cooperation with SDSU Extension, hosted a Premium Ewe Sale and educational programming, July 28, 2018 at Magness Livestock Auction in Huron. Sixty-five sheep producers registered to bid on 20 lots of yearling ewes totaling 353 head.

The sale report is a follows: Gross receipts: \$113,200

Head sold: 353 No sale: 2 lots

Average dollars per head: \$320 Number of consignors: 14 Number of buyers registered: 65

Prior to the sale, educational programming and lunch were held. A total of 95 sheep producers attended the programming and lunch. The outcome of the sale met the objectives of the SDSGA; including: an increase in SDSGA memberships and renewals; increased promotion of the SDSGA organization; increase and expand the number of producers and sheep in South Dakota.



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From left to right: Champion Ram: Sam Tuttle

Reserve Ram: Joe Tuttle

Reserve Ewe: Abby

Stalbaum

Champion Ewe: Andy

Nevens

Andy Nevens won Top Gun Award for Targhee Breed for the second year as well!!



Braedon Hinker won Breeders fleece and Supreme overall fleece at the South Dakota State Fair.

Below is Dylan Laverell with his ewe lamb pair at the Sweet Grass County Fair.

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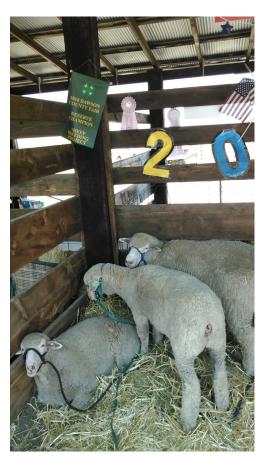
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The Hayes County Fair was held July 30-August 3, 2018 in Hayes Center Nebraska. Keenan received Junior Division Reserve Champion Showman and a blue in the market lamb division with "Lightning". Hayley is in the Clover Kid division and received a participation ribbon with "Daisy".





2018 Starter Flock winner Corinne Canen was spotted showing off her Targhees and promoting the starter flock program at her local county fair!!

Wisconsin State Fair Results

Targhee Premier Exhibitor - A&J Nevens Livestock



- Junior Show Bred & Owned Results
- Champion Junior Targhee Ewe Leah Huchthausen
- Reserve Junior Targhee Ewe Abby Stalbaum

- Champion Targhee Ram University of Wisconsin Madison and went on to win Reserve Supreme Champion Wool Breed Ram
- Reserve Targhee Ram Leah Huchthausen
- Champion Targhee Ewe –A&J Nevens Livestock
- **Reserve Targhee Ewe** A&J Nevens Livestock



Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival



Champion Yearling Ewe/Champion Targhee Ewe/Supreme Champion Wool Breed Ewe



Champion Commercial Class Fleece

State Fair Results

If you missed the October deadline and have other results you would like included, please submit to the USTSA office by December 15th for publication in the next newsletter.

Prelude to the Tremendous Targhee: The history behind the history Dr. J. Bret Taylor - Research Leader, USDA, U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho

It is difficult to find something more American-made than the Targhee sheep breed. This 3/4 fine-wool, 1/4 course-wool composite breed was just what the producer ordered. In 1941, husbandmen Damon A. Spencer and John A. Stoehr published the first description of the Targhee breed, documenting that the USDA began "laying the foundation for the Targhee at the [USDA,] U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho, in the fall of 1926." Early Targhee breed literature, sale catalogs, and records from when the breed was first released (1929-1945) are populated with the names of producers, husbandmen, and scientists such as Henry J. Yoppe, Clair Terrill, Damon Spencer, John Stoehr, Ralph Schott, Elroy Pohle, and Julius Norby. Mr. Jack McRae eloquently captured the unique history of the Targhee breed in an article that is posted on the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association website. I encourage you to read the history and gain an appreciation of how progressive producers and USDA scientists worked together to create this truly tremendous breed.

Though the development of the Targhee breed foundation wasn't initiated until 1926, the roots of the Targhee go back much further. In 1912, the search for the perfect U.S. ewe was in progress using USDA-Bureau of Animal Industry sheep flocks housed at the F. S. King Brothers Company Ranch near Laramie, WY (King Ranch). The exact composite recipe for the Targhee breed had yet to be realized, but USDA husbandmen and visionary producers were hard at work evaluating the benefits of crossbreeding sheep. As recorded by the first USDA-U.S. Sheep Experiment Station (Sheep Station) superintendent, Mr. Virgil McWhorter, "There [at the King Ranch], in cooperation with the

King Brothers, Frank, Joe and Bert, experimental work was being conducted in the breeding of Rambouillets, and in crossing the ewes of this breed with Lincoln, Cotswold, Leicester and Romney bucks. The very sheep resulting from these first crosses later became the foundation stock for the Columbia and Targhee breeds."

I became curious about the Targhee history leading up to 1926. What is the prelude to the Targhee breed? Where did the foundation flocks and rams originate? Who was involved? To satisfy my curiosity and piece together this special American history, I combed through the earliest Sheep Station records (some which were literally crumbling in the file drawers) and Mr. McWhorter's early notes and memoirs, which were eventually published in The Pacific Wool Grower ^{3,4,5} and presented to the Western Oregon Livestock Association in 1952.

Rambouillet: The Foundation Genetics. Much of what the Targhee sheep is today originates from the Rambouillet breed, 5/8 to be exact. However, its origins were not from any generic Rambouillet, but a very specific type that was different from the breed standard of the early 1900's. Mr. E. L. Shaw assembled the foundation



Lincoln ram (circa 1915). USDA flock at the F.S. King Brothers Company Ranch, Laramie, WY. U.S. Sheep Experiment Station archives, Dubois, ID)

USDA Rambouillet flock around 1912 at the King Ranch. Shaw purchased top Rambouillet ewes and rams from ranches throughout the West. Notable "excellent" flocks that were mentioned included the King flock in Laramie, WY; the Butterfield flock in Weiser, ID; the Jackson flock in Dayton, WA; and the Williams-Pauly flock in Deer Lodge, MT. Assembling this USDA flock was not easy and required Shaw to spend many nights on the trial, engage in lengthy negotiations, and stay current with the latest breed and marketing trends. I believe it is appropriate to credit Shaw for completing the first preliminary phase of forming the USDA Rambouillet flock. However, as one would rightly assume, this newly acquired flock still reflected the Rambouillet breed of that time. As I mentioned earlier, husbandmen were seeking a specific type, something different from the norm.

In 1913, Professor Fred R. Marshall took over Shaw's Rambouillet flock. Marshall was Shaw's supervisor and the director of the Sheep Breeding Research Program for the USDA-Bureau of Animal Industry, Animal Husbandry Division out of Washington D.C. This USDA division was the predecessor to the current food-animal national programs housed within the USDA-Agricultural Research Service. McWhorter described Marshall as a "...stickler for exactness and dispatch in all that is done, and no one can work for him and not be honest in what he does."

Moving forward with Shaw's original intent, Marshall set a new standard for the USDA Rambouillet flock, which according to McWhorter called for "...a large muttony type of Rambouillet with a wider spread of rib and deeper heart girth and flesh covering than existed in most flocks of the breed; the body to be free of wrinkles except for a small apron below the neck. The wool to vary in count from 56 to 60 with little or no wool about the eyes, the face to be open." If you are a diehard Targhee-breed fan and familiar with early Targhee history, terms like "muttony", "wider spread," "deeper girth," "free of wrinkles," "no wool about the eyes," and "face to be open" should sound rather familiar. It is evident that Marshall shaped the USDA Rambouillet flock into the foundation on which the Targhee breed was built.

Enter the Corriedale and the U.S. Sheep Experiment **Station.** During the year of 1914, Marshall appointed McWhorter

to manage the USDA flock at the King Ranch and to facilitate the site selection and establishment of the Sheep Station near Dubois, ID. As McWhorter took charge of his new assignments, Frank S. King and Marshall travelled to New Zealand to evaluate some of the first registered releases of the new Corriedale sheep breed. The Corriedale is a half long-wool, half fine-wool composite breed made from crossing the Lincoln and Merino breeds. Liking what they saw, Marshall arranged the importation of the first Corriedale sheep to the U.S. These imports were ultimately needed to add important components to the Targhee breed, specifically wool and frame. Using the Corriedale, husbandmen where able to capture 1/8 fine-wool Merino genetics to combine with the 5/8 fine-wool Rambouillet genetics and satisfy the 3/4 fine-wool goal for the Targhee composite breed

While Marshall continued his cross- and purebred-breeding work with the USDA Rambouillet flock, McWhorter finalized the establishment of the Sheep Station. Once the first buildings were completed in 1916, McWhorter moved the USDA sheep flock from



Corriedale ram (circa 1915). USDA flock at the F.S. King Brothers Company Ranch, Laramie, WY. (U.S. Sheep Experiment Station archives, Dubois, ID)

the King Ranch to the Sheep Station in 1917. The flock inventory consisted of mainly Rambouillet, Corriedale, and Lincoln breeds, various crosses of the breeds, and the early foundation lines of the Columbia breed.

Critical and Expensive Decisions: McWhorter reminisced in his writings that achieving Marshall's standard

for the Rambouillet flock was, at the least, troublesome. Although in 1915 the flock consisted of "fine" sheep, few ewes and almost no rams met Marshall's standard. Obviously, McWhorter was pressed to find a solution. While visiting the Henry Hunt Ranch in Utah, McWhorter found what he called the "right ram," but at a hefty sum of \$500. Using current inflation adjustment calculators, that would be the equivalent of \$10,625. Imagine paying that much for a ram at the next sale you attend. As insane as the price might seem, Marshall agreed to the price, because it was the "right ram." Soon after, the mighty Rambouillet, Prince Parawan, was shipped to his new home at the Sheep Station. Offspring from Prince Parawan did indeed become part of the foundation for the Targhee breed. On top of that, many of his pure-bred offspring rams were readily lapped up by Rambouillet breeders throughout the West. In addition to Prince Parawan, I found records of other key Rambouillet genetics from the Butterfield and Hobbs & Gillette (Castleford, ID) flocks that were incorporated around 1920. Famed Rambouillet rams, Rambouillet ram Prince Parawan (circa 1917).

such as Monarch and Bullard, were noted in the breeding. The Early Visionaries: When the 1920's rolled around, all the pieces were in place at the Sheep Station – Marshall's standard for the Rambouillets was achieved, the Corriedales were showing



USDA flock at the USDA, U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, ID. (U.S. Sheep Experiment Station archives, Dubois, ID)

outstanding promise, and after years of selection, top Lincoln sires were available ⁶. There is no doubt that without McWhorter these "pieces" would have never come together. McWhorter can be further credited with bringing the visionary producers of the day to the table.

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McWhorter documented a visit in 1920 from John Van Deusen of Emmett, ID. Van Deusen suggested that the Sheep Station's development of the Columbia breed wasn't necessary since the Panama breed was already available. Both the Columbia and Panama breeds are half long-wool, half fine-wool composite breeds made from crossing the Lincoln and Rambouillet breeds. He further advised that "the three-fourths fine-wool and one-fourth course wool was the ewe that the range man really wanted." Later that year, Frank G. Hagenbarth, owner of the Wood and Land Livestock Company headquartered in Spencer, ID, stopped by the Sheep Station to provide his input about the "perfect ewe." At that time, Hagenbarth and Marshall were president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of the National Wool Growers Association. Hagenbarth produced a wool sample from his flock, which graded "one-halfblood staple." Holding the sample so that McWhorter and others could see, he declared "Sheep producing wool of that type was best suited to [our] ranges." Reflecting on Van Deusen's and Hagenbarth's input, McWhorter later noted that "...[USDA husbandmen] knew that such a sheep would result from mating the Rambouillet with the Columbia-type ewe... [T]he breeding program [regarding a three-quarter fine-wool, one-quarter long-wool breed] at the Station was talked over each year at shearing time. There was no set number in this group. It was composed of men like John Hill, Dean Coffey, John Spencer, Fred Marshal, Jim Wilson, and other visitors interested in what we were doing." At the next meeting, the group unanimously agreed that the "3/4 fine-wool, 1/4 course-wool breed" suggestion of Van Deusen and Hagenbarth was indeed "what the producer ordered." Therefore, Sheep Station husbandmen put in motion the plan for the Targhee breed around 1920. I checked the Sheep Station records and found that early evaluations of 3/4 fine-wool, 1/4 course-wool crosses of Rambouillet, Corriedale, and Lincoln breeds were indeed being evaluated long before 1926.

This unique historical account demonstrates how visionary producers and USDA husbandmen worked together to develop something special, which ultimately became the all-American tremendous Targhee breed. It was a long methodical venture that required steadfastness, productive input, and cooperation from many people. In conclusion, if you ever find yourself discussing the origins of the Targhee breed, be sure to add E. L. Shaw, Fred R. Marshall, and Virgil McWhorter to the list of early USDA husbandmen scientists and please give full credit to the early Targhee visionary producers John Van Deusen, Frank G. Hagenbarth, and the King brothers, Frank, Joe and Bert.



Mr. Frank G. Hagenbarth. Owner of Wood Land and Livestock Company, Spencer, ID and President of the National Wool Growers Association from 1913 to 1934. Mr. Frank G. Hagenbarth and Mr. John Van Deusen of Emmet, ID are credited as the Targhee sheep breed visionaries. (American Sheep Industry Association archives, Denver, CO)

Acknowledgements: The author sincerely thanks Jennifer Barnett, Dee Taylor, Jaci Taylor, and Taylor Hudson for providing editorial assistance and Zahrah Khan, Rita Samuelson, and the American Sheep Industry Association for providing the information and photograph of Mr. Frank G. Hagenbarth.

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Targhee Talk

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