

Targhee Talk

*The Newsletter of the United States
Targhee Sheep Association*



April 2015

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- 2015 Rules Changes
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- Upcoming Calendar of Events

See your sheep in print!

Targhee Talk Submissions for the July 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

2015 National Show & Sale - July 23th-25h

Event and Entry Forms are now available for download on the USTSA website (www.ustargheesheep.org). Event and Entry Forms are due back to Carolyn Green and Mardy, respectively, by **May 31st**. For those entering the 2015 National Show and Sale, please download the Entry Brochure Booklet available online. This booklet details all of the information, rules, and testing details consignor will need for a successful show and sale. 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.

Open Show Classes

The following classes will be offered at Nationals this year. For the Pen of 3 ewes, the winning bidder has the choice.

Ram Classes

Ewe Classes

Yearling Ram	Yearling Ewe	Pen of 3 Yearling Ewes
NSIP Yearling Ram	NSIP Yearling Ewe	Pen of 3 Ewe Lambs - Fall or Spring
Fall Ram Lamb	Fall Ewe Lamb	
Spring Ram Lamb	Spring Ewe Lamb	

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
- May 31** Entry and Event Forms are due to Mardy and Carolyn
- June 1** Data run due for NSIP
- June 15** Registrations and complete Catalog information due
- July 23-25** National Show & Sale

Hello Targhee Members –

On behalf of the Montana Targhee Sheep Association, I would like to invite all of you to come to Montana and join us for the USTSA National Show and Sale this July 23-25. The events will be held at the Sweet Grass County Fairgrounds in Big Timber, Montana. This is a smaller venue than we have had in the past, but we feel it will accommodate us nicely. There are 3 motels in Big Timber, they all are aware that you are coming – so be sure to let them know you are with the Targhee Sheep Association, and make your reservations soon. I apologize to the families that are looking forward to a motel with a pool.... there are none in Big Timber. We are, however, hoping to plan some other family fun – and it may also include water. Stay tuned for more information.....

You can learn more about our community, and what is available by checking the Chamber of Commerce website: www.bigtimber.com or, simply Google Big Timber or Sweet Grass County, MT.

We are looking forward to a great show and sale, make your plans to attend!

Carolyn Green, Sale Manager

2015 USTSA Motels - All prices do not include tax (7%)

Lazy J Motel 406-932-5533	River Valley Inn 1-877-899-1397	22 rooms 406-932-4943	Super 8 406-932-8888	41 rooms																								
<table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Priced per Room</td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Person- Bed</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">1- 1 Bed</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">\$68</td> <td style="width: 25%;">1 Queen</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">\$88</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2- 1 Bed</td> <td style="text-align: center;">72</td> <td>2 Queens</td> <td style="text-align: center;">98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2- 2 Bed</td> <td style="text-align: center;">75</td> <td>3 Queens</td> <td style="text-align: center;">140</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3- 2 Bed</td> <td style="text-align: center;">78</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Breakfast cereals, toast incl.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4- 2 Bed</td> <td style="text-align: center;">80</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">w/rollaway</td> </tr> </table>						Priced per Room		Person- Bed	1- 1 Bed	\$68	1 Queen	\$88	2- 1 Bed	72	2 Queens	98	2- 2 Bed	75	3 Queens	140	3- 2 Bed	78	Breakfast cereals, toast incl.		4- 2 Bed	80	w/rollaway	
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4- 2 Bed	80	w/rollaway																										

Continental Breakfast incl.

Photo Contest

Whether photography is your passion, hobby, or just an occasional pastime, we invite you to participate in our National Photo Contest. The photo must involve Targhee sheep exhibiting visible breed characteristics and can be in black and white or colored. There is no entry fee or limit on number of photos submitted. This contest is open to anyone as long as a Targhee is featured in the photo. Entries must be emailed to Mardy or a CD with image files. Each photo should be 8x10 and mounted on stiff backing. Name, address, phone number, and caption should be on the back side of the entry. Entries may be submitted electronically to Mardy at ustargheesheep@gmail.com no later than June 30th. There is a limit of two electronic entries. Electronic entries will be printed on photo paper and posted with regularly submitted photos.

All entries become the property of the USTSA to be used in USTSA publications with credit given to photographer listed on entry. Photos will be judged by popular vote of viewers. Ballots and a ballot box will be placed near the Targhee display area. The voting period will be from 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 23th through 7:00 p.m. Friday, July 24th. Winners will be announced at the banquet.

USTSA Show & Sale Schedule of Events

7/22	Wednesday
12:00 pm	Pens available for early arrivals
7/23	Thursday
10:00 am	Sifting begins - deadline for sheep to be in the barn
	Health, registration, micron, & EBV paperwork to be turned in at this time
12:00 pm	Wool & Photo Contest entries due
3:00 pm	National Junior Show, immediately followed by the Youth Futurity
5:30 pm	Adult Jackpot
6:00 pm	Dinner
8:30 pm	USTSA Board of Directors Mtg
7/24	Friday
10:00 am	Open Show
12:00 pm	Wool Show
2:00 pm	Annual Membership Meeting
	Junior Assoc. Annual Meeting
6:30 pm	USTSA Social
7:00 pm	Banquet followed by Benefit Auction
7/25	Saturday
12:00 pm	National Sale (Rams followed by Ewes)

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Committee Reports

Junior Committee

Exciting things are in the works for our junior members at the national show! Two new classes have been added to the junior show; supreme champion showman and best fleece on a junior animal. "Best Fleece on a Live Animal" is a class in which any junior who is entered in the junior show and wants to participate can bring their best fleeced sheep into the ring and it will be judged on it's FLEECE ONLY. It does have to be owned by the junior, thus one entry per junior is allowed in this class. It can be a ewe or ram, lamb or yearling. They are all judged in the same class. Be sure to see the show and sale catalogue for more information about these classes.

Haylee Kilbur and the social committee are busy planning social events. If you have ideas that you would like to share, I'm sure Haylee would like to hear them! Desire Routier, our junior historian, has created a targhee facebook group for juniors. Check it out on facebook at U.S. Junior Targhee Sheep Association. This is a closed group, so you will need to send a friend request to Desire or Leslie Nevens, group administrator. This will be a great way to communicate with friends as the national show draws near.

In other junior news, the Junior Show Changes Committee has reviewed and discussed the suggested changes to the junior show that USJTSA members brought forth at the annual meeting in Brookings last year. This committee will be recommending to the national board of directors that professional fitting not be allowed on sheep entered in the junior show. Only USTSA members, their parents or grandparents are allowed to fit any junior sheep. Please see the National Show and Sale Rules for more information on this change and other changes to the junior show.

The USTSA Junior Committee has developed a Targhee Junior Ambassador Program and has proposed it to the board of directors. While it may be too late to implement the program for the 2015 show season, it should be well worth the wait! More information on the purpose and status of this program will be offered at the national show and sale and in future Targhee Talk newsletters.

If you have any questions or comments about any of the items above, you can contact USJTSA president Braedon Hincker at BH3363@k12.sd.us or Leslie Nevens USJTSA advisor at lambchop65@frontier.com. Looking forward to seeing you in Big Timber in July! A meeting for the Junior Association will be held again during the Annual Members Meeting on Friday.

NSIP Committee

The committee has been discussing what to help make participation stronger, how to better organize the show etc. There will be a meeting of all NSIP participants Thursday evening to discuss these ideas. One proposed changed is using the USA index. See below new scale:

◆ The placings for the Champion NSIP Yearling Ram and Champion NSIP Yearling Ewe are based upon the following data:

- 50% Live judge's placing
- 50% NSIP Data – broken down as follows:
 - 25% USA Range Index
 - 25% The following traits: MMWT, WWT, YWT, YFD, YGFW, YSL, NLB *

* Every trait will be given equal rating and all animals ranked according to their EBV numbers with the "top" for each trait getting a 1 and the bottom getting the highest number. The individual rankings are tallied and the lowest overall score is given a 1, second a 2 and so on. If there is a tie, both animals will receive the lower number.

Youth Futurity Committee

No updates have been given.

Show and Sale Committee

No updates have been given. A meeting will be held Thursday afternoon.

2015 Show and Sale Rules

NO ARTIFICIAL COLOR IN WOOL

In the world of Targhee sheep, we work to raise some of the most beautiful and desired wool in the country. We are proud of that! The wool is a significant part of our income. We have a lot of respect for our wool, and care is given to packaging it and getting it to the mill in the best possible condition.

It has become apparent that in the world of sheep shows, spraying the fitted sheep with paint has become accepted practice. No matter how small this amount of contaminated wool is, in the bigger picture, it is very detrimental to the wool clip. With this in mind, we sought statements from leaders in our wool industry.....

"The use of regular house paint or automotive paint to "brand" sheep erases any chance to market that respective lot..... even one grower's issue is magnified as the delivery gets mixed and blended with other lots in processing, causing financial loss for everyone. Whenever any substance is applied to wool, a statement should appear on the label that documents the product is "Approved for use on sheep." Even approved sheep paint must be handled correctly and applied carefully to minimize the risk of scouring problems."
Larry Prager, General Manager, Center of the Nation Wool, Inc.

"Quality, micron, length, uniformity, vegetable matter and past processing performance of a wool clip makes an enormous difference in the price of a wool clip in a given market. Contamination such as paint, poly, colored fibers and hair, will diminish the value of wool. Any amount of unscourable paint may contaminate the entire scouring lot (40,000 pounds and over). This can result in a claim (refund on price) being made on the supplier, adds to the processing costs and greatly damages the reputation of the entire American clip."
Ron Cole, ASI Wool Education Consultant
Rita Kourlis Samuelson, Wool Marketing Director, American Wool Council

The Board of Directors of the USTSA has returned to the Show and Sale Manual a statement that bans the use of all artificial coloring of the wool for the National Show and Sale and the National Junior Show. Please review the 2015 Entry Brochure for a full set of rules.

2015 USTSA Starter Flock Donations Needed

Greetings from the USTSA Starter Flock Committee -

By the time this edition of Targhee Talk reaches you, the starter flock committee will be busy reviewing the numerous applications that Mardy has received from another great group of youths wanting to become part of the USTSA. The judging process is never easy, and determining which five applicants will be sent for final selection can be a daunting task. We want to thank the starter flock committee, consisting of Mardy Rutledge, Charleen Von Krosigk, Darrell Deneke, Elisha Lewis, Tracie Roeder, Gordon Sammons, and Todd & Lynette Taylor, for all the hard work they have done over these past 6 years to make this program work. It wouldn't without them!

Year 7 brings continued opportunities for multiple awards. We are in great shape for providing one award in Big Timber, both in donated animals and funds for buyers credit at the national sale. And we have received some interest from members about expanding the donations to again be able to give two awards this summer!! Just amazing!! We are not there yet, so if you have thought about donating an animal, we could use your help. Please contact anybody on the starter flock committee if would like to make that donation!

It's because of the generosity of the USTSA membership that this has all happened. We want to thank you for your big hearts, and the selfless giving that you all have done! It is really remarkable...

~ Jeff & Leslie Nevens - USTSA Starter Flock Chairpersons

Sheep For Profit School July 15-18, 2015

The Pipestone Lamb and Wool program is excited to offer a Sheep for Profit School July 15-18, 2015 in Pipestone, Minnesota. This will be the 8th course offering with 127 past participants from 23 different states completing the course.

The Sheep for Profit School is a professional management and business school for the sheep industry. The purpose of the school is to help producers improve their sheep management skills; increase the profitability of their sheep operation and form business relationships. The school will be intense and combine lecture, group discussion and visit two outstanding Pipestone area sheep operations. Expert instructors with diverse and practical sheep experience will help you define your vision and build a practical plan to achieve your goals. This is a three and a half day investment that will change your sheep operation and how you view the sheep industry.

Enrollment in the school is limited to create an ideal learning environment and allow for one-on-one advising. Visit our website www.pipestonesheep.com for registration information and a course schedule. For more information, contact the Pipestone Lamb and Wool Management Program, Minnesota West Community and Technical College, PO Box 250, Pipestone, MN 56164, 1-800-658-2330 or e-mail: jodi.christensen@mnwest.edu

2015 Directory Fee Schedule

1/4 Page Ad

\$25.00

3"W x 1 7/8"H

Design Fee \$15.00

1/2 Page Ad

\$40.00

3"W x 3 7/8"H

Design Fee \$20.00

Full Page Ad

\$70.00

3"W x 7 7/8"H

Design Fee \$30.00

Centerfold

\$150.00

6.5"W x 7 7/8"H

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2015 Directory & Standards

There's still time to get in your advertising for the next directory. As it seems the norm anymore, we're all running a little behind and I'm still working on getting the directory together. Please, act quickly and contact Mardy Rutledge (ustargheesheep@gmail.com or 702-292-5715) to reserve a spot in the 2015 Directory and to update your contact information. There is no additional charge for being listed in the Breeder's Directory. However, if you would like to place an ad in the National Directory, cost for ads and design layout appear to the right. Members are welcome to create their own ads and submit them in pdfs. Members choosing to have the USTSA office design their ad will be charged a design fee. USTSA members wishing to update their previous ads will not be charged design fees.

Furthermore, if you know if any business that would interested or would benefit from advertising in the directory and/or newsletter, please let me know so we can share the details with them.

President's Notes

To quote Charles Dickens from Great Expectations, "It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade." Spring is that time of contrast, when we're shedding the winter in hope of what the new season may bring.

Hopefully you have heard about some of the awards and expanding programs that ASI presented in Reno. First and foremost, congratulations to Dr. Rodney Kott in receiving the American Wool Council's Wool Excellence Award – very well deserved honor! The Sheep Heritage Foundation Memorial Scholarship has been increased to \$2,500, which is available for sheep-related graduate studies. And the "Let's Grow Campaign" has hired a coordinator, Alan Culham, from Michigan State University. At the 2015 Wisconsin Sheep Breeders Cooperative annual meeting, Alan presented a synopsis of what the program would like to accomplish, which includes \$500,000 in grant funding. I would encourage any producer wishing to expand to look into this program, and apply for a grant. In turn, if you have an idea that would be appropriate for the USTSA as a whole, please contact your board member about it. Opportunities like this usually don't last for long; so if you have an idea, please let us know!

I hope that when the winter coats come off your flock, hope will spring eternal! And with that hope, excitement for the future of the sheep industry will follow!

Respectfully,
Jeff Nevens

From the Secretary's Desk

A much needed upgrade was made this winter to the registration software and process. It has now been made much more streamlined and eliminated the double manual entry that had been needed, especially for individual certificates. Some work is left to finish cleaning up the database to have a smooth operating system, but definitely far better than what we had. For those of you who currently are using the spreadsheets to submit your registration requests, I will be able to automatically upload those into the database. If you would like a copy of the spreadsheet, or more information on how to use it, please contact me.

Due to the database being unavailable temporarily, I am working diligently to complete those sent in during that time. Going forward it will be much easier to maintain acceptable turntimes with our increased registration requests with fewer errors. Thank you all for your patience during these growing pains.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

April	
6-10	Washington Beginner Shearing School, Moses Lake, WA (Sarah Smith 509-754-2011 or smithsm@wsu.edu)
16-19	Annual Shephard's Extravaganza, Puyallop, WA (www.shepherds-extravaganza.com)
May	
2-3	Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival, Fredrick, MD (www.sheepandwool.org)
9-10	New Hampshire Sheep & Wool Festival, Deerfield, NH (www.nhswga.org)
11-12	California Wool Handling School, Auburn, California (Jill Hackett at 707-845-0752 or jill@ferndalefarms.com)
June	
4	Roswell Wool Sale, Roswell, NM (Mike Corn 575-622-3360 or mikecorn@roswellwool.com)
13-14	Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival (www.iowasheepandwoolfestival.com)
21-23	Midwest Fiber & Folk Art Fair, Grayslake, IL (www.fiberandfolk.com)
21-24	National Lamb Feeders Association's (NLFA) 28th Annual Howard Wyman Sheep Industry Leadership School, Dixon, CA (www.nlfa-sheep.org/leadership.html)
July	
23-25	USTSA National Show and Sale, Big Timber, MT

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