



TARGHEE TALK

U.S. Targhee Sheep Association Newsletter November 2007
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Happy Thanksgiving

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President's Notes – Bob Padula

The 2007 National Targhee Show and Sale in Springfield, IL was a great event with plenty of time for every Targhee producer to get to know each other. I want to thank all of the Targhee producers that participated and commend them for the quality of sheep brought to the National Show and Sale.

It was interesting to see the other breeds, how they run their shows and what their associations do (and don't) for their members. My college advisor, Dr. Bill Boylan (first Secretary of the US Targhee Sheep Association), used to tell me I had to be more open-minded about different breeds of sheep. Over the years I've tried to do that and discover the purpose for some of these other breeds. The attraction for some must be ornamental or show ring appeal with products exclusively for niche markets. I agreed to haul home a ram lamb of a different breed for another MN producer. At first my children didn't believe me when I told them it was a sheep, they thought it was an alpaca – rabbit cross. Sometimes the apple doesn't fall too far from the tree.

We all know that different breeds of sheep have different purposes and it is recognized that the Targhee is a maternal breed of sheep that grows apparel quality wool. Because the sheep and wool industries have changed since the Targhee breed was first developed – it may be necessary for the producers and association to review breeding objectives or breed standards for the breed to continue its acceptance in the commercial sheep industry.

One area of concern to me is the general lack of emphasis on wool quality. World-wide there are many new and exciting developments taking place in the wool industry. However without some emphasis towards improvement in wool quality, our ability to meet these new consumer demands will be lost. Wool traits are some of the most highly heritable traits – a double edge sword. Progress can be made or lost quickly regarding wool. And it is much easier to lose wool quality as emphasis is made for other important production traits that make the Targhee a maternal breed of sheep.

Over the years, the show ring has been blamed for ruining many breeds of sheep; however, my concern for the Targhee breed is the use of "science" or "research fads" that can result in the loss of fitness or acceptance of our breed in a commercial setting.

If we only take a pure economic approach, we can lose sight of consumer demand trends that are emerging in both the lamb and wool industries. We can not rely solely on current market prices and today's management practices. Sure there may be some immediate financial gain, but are we throwing the baby out with the bath water?

Items Worth Noting Bob Padula

Association Registration Ear Tags

President

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At the 2006 National Show and Sale, the Board of Directors was approached by several members regarding the requirement to tag sheep with the metal association ear tags. The members expressed their problems with a high rate of ear infections and asked for consideration to not require insertion of tags. The board decided to gather more input before making a decision.

Discussions with members across the country revealed that the metal association ear tags do contribute to ear infections and this is not a geographical or localized issue. To decrease the rate of ear infections, some growers do not insert the metal ear tags into sheep they are retaining in their flocks, only the sheep being sold and where it is required by the association.

The board of directors revisited the issue in 2007 and presented the following to the membership at the annual meeting which was agreeable to the members present.

Registered Targhee sheep are required to have an association registration number as both a permanent ear tattoo and metal association registration ear tag. However, insertion of the tag will be optional at the grower's discretion. Registration ear tags must accompany the sale of sheep and it is the responsibility of the seller to ensure that tags are transferred to the new owner.

Note – this recommendation does not change registration requirements. You will still receive an association metal ear tag for each sheep registered. If you wish to use/insert the metal ear tags you may still do so as you have in the past.

Ear Tattooing

With the association no longer requiring the insertion of the metal association registration ear tags, permanent identification by ear tattoo with the 5-digit registration number becomes more important. One area of concern is legibility of ear tattoos. As the age of the tattoo increases, in some cases the ability to read the tattoo decreases. Some tattoo colors fade more rapidly over time and some inks seem to perform better than others.

The following tattooing technique was advised by a USDA field veterinarian for participation in the Voluntary Scrapie Free Certification Program.

1. Clean ear with warm soap and water and allow ear to air dry or dry it with a dry towel.
2. Apply rubbing alcohol to inside of ear to help dry the ear surface.
3. Check number to be tattooed on sheet of paper.
4. Puncture skin of ear with tattoo pliers – it is not necessary to puncture ear tissue to the point of bleeding. In fact, bleeding can be detrimental as blood flowing from the ear can push ink out of skin tissue.
5. Apply a liberal amount of tattoo paste (not ink from a roller applicator) with a tooth brush. In sheep with white ears/pink skin, black paste seems to retain legibility better than other colors.
6. Rub tattoo paste with tooth brush into the holes in the skin for at least 30 seconds.



Contact the USTSA Office for additional copies of the Directory for your Targhee events!

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Financial Summary

Checking: \$1,948.76

General Savings: \$4,486.21

Promotional Savings: \$175.22

Jr. Show Savings: \$702.62

Total \$7,312.81

Sheep registered to date: 909

Registrations pending: 122

#

Split Decision?

Recently, the issue of split scrotums on rams has come up as a topic of discussion. Some have opined that rams possessing split scrotums are less reproductively sound than rams possessing scrotums where the two testicles appear to be "whole" inside of one sack. Casual observation, along with some anecdotal evidence indicates there are two sides to the issue at this time.

In the show ring, many judges will comment about split scrotums and discount rams for exhibiting them. However, the show ring has routinely been filled with cosmetic attributes that have little bearing on sheep productivity. Tails or lack of them is one such cosmetic issue which recently received an enormous amount of research attention and press.

The board of directors has decided to look into the issue and to find out what research is available on split scrotums in rams and the effect on reproductive performance or if the issue is one of cosmetics. Several board members have agreed to collect information on this issue and will report back at the next annual meeting.

National Directory and Standards

After many months and revisions, the new Directory will be going to press the week of November 17th. It will take approximately two weeks for the Directory to be printed, and then it will be mailed to Association members. The USTSA has ordered 350 copies of the directory to be distributed to members and the public. If you wish additional copies, please contact the association office. On a personal note, I would like to thank Christina Kamps of Main Street Office and Jack McRae for helping edit the Directory. Christina, in particular, did an outstanding job with revisions. Please consider Main Street Office for your printing needs. While every effort was made to ensure each listing was accurate, if members should find an error or omission, please bring this to our attention. We would like to correct the error and update our various printed and website publications.

New Feature Articles

We are starting two new feature articles in Targhee Talk. They are interviews with or articles by our Directors and Targhee members. This publication includes an interview with Charles Dwight, the USTSA Director representing the Eastern District, and an article from Mary Rose Kuenzi the Junior Premier Exhibitor at the 2007 National Show and Sale. We hope you enjoy these features. Don't be surprised if your phone rings in the future. We will be on the lookout for stories to share.

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Meet Your USTSA Directors



Charles Dwight



**Dog Patch 101 Farm
Clyde, Ohio**



Where were you born and raised? Is this where you currently live?
CD: Bellevue, Ohio. This is where I now live.

When did you become acquainted with Targhee sheep?
CD: I became acquainted with Targhee sheep in 1991. I have raised them for 16 years.

What is your favorite Targhee trait?
CD: My favorite traits are their temperament and wool quality. I have never had a mean Targhee ram.

What is the greatest issue facing the sheep industry and/or American agriculture?
CD: The greatest issues facing the industry are PETA, and here in the East show lambs versus market lambs.

Are you married? Do you have children? How many? Is anyone else in your family involved in the sheep industry?
CD: Yes. I am married and we have five children, 10 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren. At this time no one else in my family is involved in the industry.

Do you have an occupation other than farming or ranching?
CD: I recently retired from 50+ years in the steel fabrication industry.

Other than raising sheep, what are some of your hobbies and talents? Do you volunteer your time for any religious or civic organizations?
CD: I like to hunt, fish, and work with young people. I have spent 48 years as a 4-H advisor. I also like to talk with local groups about sheep and products from sheep and wool.

What is your favorite book?
CD: My favorite publications are "The Shepherd" and "Banner".

What is your favorite food?
CD: Leg of Lamb!

The one thing people would be surprised to know about me is;
CD: I raise, show, and judge fancy show pigeons all over the U.S.



We are thankful for the blessing of two new babies to our association members.

Introducing:

Kate Lauren Wagner

3/20/2007
8 lbs 4 oz
20 inches

Daughter of Mark & Allison Wagner
Ceylon, MN



Cy Vincent Sammons

10/30/2007
7 lbs 9 oz
19 inches

Son of Gordon & Anne Sammons
Geneseo, IL

2007 National Junior Show Results

Yearling Ram
Garrett
Von Krosigk

Ram Lamb
Robert Clements

Yearling Ewe
Garrett
Von Krosigk

Ewe Lamb
Mary Rose Kuenzi

Champion Ram
Garrett
Von Krosigk

Reserve Champion Ram
Reagan
Von Krosigk

Champion Ewe
Garrett
Von Krosigk

Reserve Champion Ewe
Mary Rose Kuenzi

Junior Showmanship
Taylor High

Senior Showmanship
Mary Rose Kuenzi

Premier Junior Exhibitor
Mary Rose Kuenzi

Mary Rose Kuenzi



My name is Mary Kuenzi. I'm 17, a Senior at Waukesha West High School, and I live on a sheep farm. I got my first sheep, which was a Targhee, when I was 4. I am very active in 4-H. I've always loved Targhees and the coolest thing about Targhees is they become just as attached to you as you do to them. I spend time with my sheep so they know me and will behave when I need them to. In my spare time I love to draw and write comic books and some day hope to be a professional sequential artist. That's just a fancy word for comic artist. I have been accepted to several colleges and will probably attend Carol College next year. I know my 4-H experience has helped me accomplish a lot in my life - especially the sheep project.

2007 Show & Sale Highlights

Thanks to the tremendous efforts of Todd & Lynnette Taylor, USTSA members enjoyed an outstanding event in Springfield, Illinois – June 20-23. It was apparent the Illinois State Fairgrounds was designed specifically for the showing and sale of livestock. From the beautiful architecture of the buildings both historic and new, to an open, airy design for the pens and sale arenas, it was a very comfortable, upbeat and encouraging place to be.

The week's events started with the National Junior Show. Truly, this was the success story of this year's National Show & Sale. Thirteen young people competed aggressively for top honors. They were extraordinarily professional in handling their sheep. Their parents and our association can be quite proud. Junior member participants included: Brandon and Robert Clements of Durand, Michigan; Jacob Durda of Brecksville, Ohio; Taylor High of Lexington, Ohio; Braedon and Dustin Hinker of Huron, South Dakota; Mary Rose Kuenzi of Waukesha, Wisconsin; Rory Lewis of Reed Point, Montana; Andy and Joelle Nevens of Lodi, Wisconsin; Jessica Taylor of Arlington, Wisconsin; and Garrett and Reagan Von Krosigk of Riverton, Wyoming. The event was judged by Dr. Bert Moore of North Dakota State University. Thank you Dr. Moore for sharing your time and talent with our junior members.

Tom Clayman, a Montadale breeder, from Hutchinson, Kansas judged the Wool Show. From Arlington, Wisconsin, UW-Madison's 62's and finer Ram Fleece was the National Champion. The Reserve Champion fleece went to PPP Inc., of Montevideo, Minnesota.

The Open Show was judged on June 22nd by Vince Pardus of Austin, Texas. The National Champion Ram was exhibited by Von Krosigk Family Targhees of Riverton, Wyoming with Reserve Champion going to UW-Madison of Arlington, Wisconsin. Von Krosigk Family Targhees closed out the ewe divisions with top honors going to them for National and Reserve Champion ewes. The National Champion Targhee NSIP ram was shown by PPP Inc. of Montevideo, Minnesota.

Later that evening, association members and guests attended a joint banquet with the American Polypay Sheep Association at Neilson Center in Lincoln Park. Targhee members enjoyed the opportunity to visit with Polypay breeders and to have a birdseye view of how another association operates. We also appreciated having the opportunity to share banquet costs. Premier Exhibitor was awarded to UW-Madison with Junior Premier Exhibitor going to Mary Rose Kuenzi.

2007 National Sale Summary

8 rams grossed \$4,725.00 and averaged \$590.63

25 ewes grossed \$6,900.00 and averaged \$276.00

Gross sales were \$11, 625.00

Thank you to Volume Buyers:

Warren & Judy Nellis

Shadow Sheep Farm

Leaf Livestock Targhee

Premier Exhibitor:

UW – Madison

2007 Show & Sale Highlights continued . . .

Dr. David Thomas of the University of Wisconsin was inducted into the Targhee Hall of Fame. A live auction with Duane Deneke of Huron, South Dakota as auctioneer raised \$715.00 for the association.

In conjunction with the sales of seven other breeds of sheep (Shropshire, Polypay, Lincoln, Border Leicester, Romney, Tunis, Montadale, and Oxford) buyers had the opportunity to purchase an outstanding set of Targhee rams and ewes. The National Champion Ram consigned by Von Krosigk Family Targhees sold for \$1,200.00 to UW-Madison. The high selling ram, at \$1,500.00, was also consigned by Von Krosigk Family Targhees and purchased by Darrell Deneke of Brookings, South Dakota. The National Champion Ewe was consigned by UW-Madison and purchased for \$375.00 by Leaf Livestock of Geneseo, Illinois. The high selling ewe was consigned by Von Krosigk Family Targhees and purchased by Warren and Judy Nellis of Coleman, Michigan for \$475.00. A total of 33 sheep were sold. Rams averaged \$590.63 per head. Ewes averaged \$276.00.

2007 USTSA National Show & Sale Results

Targhee Yearling Rams

<i>Consignor</i>	<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
Von Krosigk Family Targhees	UW- Madison – Arlington, WI	\$1,200.00
Von Krosigk Family Targhees	Darrell Deneke – Brookings, SD	\$1,500.00
Lewis Family Ranch	Ramblin' Vewe Farm – Gilford, NH	\$600.00
Lewis Family Ranch	Scheibe's Targhees – Jeromesville, OH	\$350.00
Average on 4 Yearling Rams		\$912.50

Targhee Yearling Rams - NSIP

<i>Consignor</i>	<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
PPP Inc., F. Padula & Sons	Ramblin' Vewe Farm – Gilford, NH	\$475.00
Average on 1 Yearling Ram		\$475.00

Targhee Spring Ram Lambs

<i>Consignor</i>	<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
U-W Madison	Leaf Livestock Targhee – Geneseo, IL	\$150.00
Deneke Family Targhees	Warren & Judy Nellis – Coleman, MI	\$300.00
A & J Nevens Livestock	McRae Brothers – Jordan, MT	\$150.00
Average on 3 Ram Lambs		\$200.00

Targhee Yearling Ewes

<i>Consignor</i>	<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
Von Krosigk Family Targhees	Darrell Deneke – Brookings, SD	\$350.00
High Farms	A & J Nevens Livestock – Lodi, WI	\$275.00
UW-Madison	Warren & Judy Nellis – Coleman, MI	\$300.00
Von Krosigk Family Targhees	Warren & Judy Nellis – Coleman, MI	\$475.00
Kuenzi Family Targhees	Deneke Family Targhees – Huron, Sd	\$275.00
Kuenzi Family Targhees	Shadow Sheep Farm – Kirkland, IL	\$200.00
Average on 6 Yearling Ewes		\$312.50

Targhee Yearling Ewes – Pen of Two

<i>Consignor</i>	<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
Von Krosigk Family Targhees	A & J Nevens Livestock – Lodi, WI	\$450.00
Von Krosigk Family Targhees	A & J Nevens Livestock – Lodi, WI	\$450.00
Average on 2 Yearling Ewes		\$450.00

Targhee Fall Ewe Lambs

<i>Consignor</i>	<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
UW-Madison	Leaf Livestock Targhee – Geneseo, IL	\$375.00
Leaf Livestock Targhee	Warren & Judy Nellis – Coleman, MI	\$275.00
UW-Madison	Shadow Sheep Farm – Kirkland, IL	\$200.00
Average on 2 Yearling Ewes		\$283.33



**2008
Targhee
National
Show and
Sale**

**Brookings,
South
Dakota**

**July 17-19,
2008**



**Thank you Todd
& Lynnette
Taylor for
making the
2007 USTSA
National Show
& Sale a
success!
We appreciate
your hard work
and all you do
for our
association.**

**2007 National Show & Sale
Results Continued . . .**

Targhee Spring Ewe Lambs

	<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
UW-Madison	Leaf Livestock Targhee– Geneseo, IL	\$250.00
High Farms	Warren & Judy Nellis – Coleman, MI	\$300.00
Deneke Family Targhees	Von Krosigk Targhees – Riverton, WY	\$300.00
Clements Family Targhees	Leaf Livestock Targhee – Geneseo, IL	\$300.00
Kuenzi Family Targhees	Shadow Sheep Farm – Kirkland, IL	\$150.00
High Farms	Shadow Sheep Farm – Kirkland, IL	\$150.00
Lewis Family Ranch	Warren & Judy Nellis – Coleman, MI	\$325.00
Clements Family Targhees	Shadow Sheep Farm – Kirkland, IL	\$150.00
A & J Nevens Livestock	McRae Brothers – Jordan, MT	\$175.00
Lewis Family Ranch	Charles Dwight & Family – Clyde, OH	\$250.00
Lewis Family Ranch	Charles Dwight & Family – Clyde, OH	\$175.00
Average on 11 Ewe Lambs		\$229.55

**Targhee Ewe Lambs –
Pen of Two**

<i>Consignor</i>	<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
UW-Madison	Warren & Judy Nellis – Coleman, MI	\$225.00
UW-Madison	Warren & Judy Nellis – Coleman, MI	\$225.00
Kuenzi Family Targhees	Shadow Sheep Farm – Kirkland, IL	\$150.00
Kuenzi Family Targhees	Shadow Sheep Farm – Kirkland, IL	\$150.00
Average on 4 Ewe Lambs		\$187.50

**U.S. Targhee Sheep Association National Sale Statistics
by Year**

Sale Year	Lots Sold	Sale Total	Average Sale	Location
2007	34	\$11,625.00	\$341.91	Springfield, IL
2006	52	\$19,355.00	\$372.21	Brookings, SD
2005	48	\$16,175.00	\$336.98	Hamilton, MT
2004	66	\$21,455.00	\$325.08	Belvidere, IL

2007 Annual Meeting Minutes

President Bob Padula, opened the annual membership meeting of the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association at 9:00 am on June 22, 2007 at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield, Illinois.

Charlene Von Krosigk made a motion to approve the minutes from the 2006 annual membership meeting as presented. George Mann seconded the motion. The motion carried. Secretary, Tracie Roeder, gave the Financial Report. A current balance of \$4,453.10 is in the General Savings account; \$217.16 in Promotion Savings, \$685.92 in Junior Show Savings and \$2,458.45 in checking. A motion to approve the Financial Report was made by George Mann and Judy Nellis seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Secretary Roeder continued with the Registration Report. As of June 2007, 448 sheep have been registered with another 223 registrations pending. We are about where we were last year in terms of number of sheep registered. The software and computer are working well, but the age of both was noted. These will be priority items in the next three years. Tracie is confident in the registry and most of the prior errors have been identified and corrected. Barring complications the turn around time for registration applications is 7 to 10 days.

Secretary Roeder, informed the membership of several promotional items for sale including sweatshirts, t-shirts, caps, aprons, canvas bags, and other novelty products. The membership previewed new and free give away items, including Targhee pens, lambing records books, and a new publication called "Targhee Quick Facts". The give away items are available to the membership to use at local industry functions to promote the Targhee breed.

Targeted Grazing Handbook

This is a new handbook created by Karen Launchbaugh, a range scientist, at the University of Idaho with the assistance of John Walker, a range scientist, at Texas A&M for the American Sheep Industry with additional financial support from the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center.

The book is designed to help sheep producers use tested grazing and livestock management techniques to manipulate vegetation to their greatest economic advantage. It is designed for both the novice and experienced land manager.

Topics covered include: animal husbandry, plant response to grazing, monitoring plant landscapes, multi-species grazing and applications of prescribed grazing on grasses, weeds, forests, orchards and in agronomic situations. Other contents include prescriptions for specific plants, business plans, labor requirements and guidelines for developing and carrying out contracts.

The handbook is available for the low cost of \$25 and includes the material in both printed form and on a CD. Copies can be ordered by calling ASI at 303-771-350 or by email at info@sheepusa.org.

2007 Annual Meeting Minutes continued . . .

Secretary Roeder expressed frustration with a lack of items provided to junior members. It was agreed a junior membership certificate along with a free t-shirt be made available to all junior members. The Montana Targhee Sheep Association offered to provide t-shirts for all new junior members dating back to January 1, 2005. Secretary Roeder will review the records and send a letter to all junior members offering them the t-shirts. (See notice in this newsletter as well.)

Todd Taylor gave a report on the 2007 Junior Show. It went well, with the strongest showing of junior members in several years. Thirteen young people participated in the event. Todd and Lynnette felt the judge, Dr. Bert Moore, of North Dakota State University, did an excellent job working with the children. Elisha Lewis recommended for the next Junior Show we introduce junior members to the association before the show begins. Todd Taylor also wanted USTSA members to know a free sheep evaluation seminar will be held today at 3:00 pm for anyone interested in attending.

Jack McRae gave a Sifting Committee Report. He was happy to announce no unsound sheep were presented for inspection. There was concern with how well five sheep met USTSA Breed Standards. As the Sifting Committee did not feel they should interpret Targhee Standards, they relied on Directors present to decide which animals should be sifted. Three of the five were allowed to remain. However, the two sheep sifted had obvious faults failing to meet Targhee Standards. One ram had belly wool; another ram had scurs. Jack commented on the quality of the Sifting Committee members and remarked the general decrease in color spots on faces of Targhee sheep presented at the National Show and Sale was positive. One item of concern Jack raised was an increase in the number of rams throughout the breed with split scrotums. He said this was noted in rams at Springfield and was a greater problem in Montana. He wanted members to be made aware of the problem. Further discussion was tabled until later in the meeting.

Banner Sale Management was handling the 2007 Show and Sale well. The on-line catalog was nice. Members expressed an interest in being able to have an on-line PDF form to fill out entries. Secretary Roeder informed members it was a policy of Banner Sale Management not to do on-line entries. All entries had to be sent in via US mail. The check-in process was discussed. Folks felt it was not as timely and organized as it should have been. Todd Taylor mentioned the Banner staff was short handed and everyone agreed it was the first year working with Banner and we were all learning a new system. All present liked the layout of the Illinois State Fairgrounds and felt it was clean and spacious. Members were reminded floor bids needed to be given to Greg Deakin as sheep enter the sale ring. If we continue to hold future shows with Banner Sale Management the USTSA will need to provide pen cards.

President Bob Padula proceeded with a report on Publicity. The website was reviewed. All USTSA members were asked to visit the website (ustargheesheep.org) if they have not already done so. It is very user friendly. The website is continually being updated. If members have ideas for website updates, they should contact the Secretary. The Breeder's Directory will be listed on the website as an Excel file unlike the printed version. The reason cited was ease of printing for people downloading the file. Secretary Roeder noted as of January 1, 2008, members will be billed \$10.00 annually to have their names listed on the website. The invoices will be sent January 1st and monies due within one month. USTSA members will have the option of opting out of the service. However, all members will still be listed in the printed version of the Directory. This fee will provide for maintenance of the website and advertising in printed publications. All members having their own websites will be linked to the Targhee website. Members were advised to send any other good industry links to the USTSA office.

Proofs of the Directory and Standards were presented to the membership. Bob Padula acknowledged making the decision not to print the Directory prior to the 2007 National Show and Sale. Aside from changes in executive positions due to elections, Bob noted challenges facing the USTSA in getting enough advertising to pay for the Directory. Additional items like the Targhee History are being added to the proof to round it out. Members were offered an additional opportunity until July 1st to purchase ad space. Secretary Roeder noted she was willing to create ads for

You know the sheep are winning when

• • •

1. they spend more time at the neighbor's new alfalfa seeding than home.
2. your nearly grown bum lambs offer themselves as a sacrifice to the lightening gods.
3. you get a call from the school nurse wondering what the special perfume is your children wear.
4. the coyotes eat the replacement ewes instead of the culls.
5. your 20 year old windbreak is still only 2 feet high.
6. you accidentally pour milk replacer in your coffee instead of cream.
7. your spouse sleeps on the porch with the bum lambs.

2007 Annual Meeting Minutes continued . . .

the Directory if members provided the necessary information and if possible photos.

The Targhee Inspection Manual was discussed. The USTSA Board of Directors will be reviewing the original manual created by Jack McRae, and revising it this year. Members are asked to visit with Directors about any changes or concerns. If members do not have a copy of the Targhee Inspection Manual, the association office will be happy to mail them one. When the Inspection Manual is revised, both downloadable and printed versions will be made available. Photographs of physical defects (or faults) will be added in the new manual to help members evaluate sheep.

Following a discussion noting a strengthening of ties with the Targhee National Sheep Improvement Program, a motion was made by Linda Clement to include Targhee NSIP items on the USTSA website. Judy Nellis seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously by the membership.

Directors to the USTSA Board were then elected. Three positions were effectively open due to an error in the 2006 election of Directors. A lack of understanding of geographic boundaries of the East-At-Large and West-At Large districts contributed to the problem. Darrell Deneke was mistakenly elected into the wrong district in 2006. This election cycle sought to correct the error.

Bob Padula was nominated by Linda Clements to serve as Director for the Central Plains district. Todd Taylor seconded the nomination and moved to cast a unanimous ballot. The motion passed.

Jack McRae nominated and moved to pass a unanimous ballot to elect Darrell Deneke as East-At-Large Director. Charles Dwight seconded the motion. The motion carried. His term will be from 2007-2010.

Linda Clements nominated Dean Von Krosigk to serve as Director of the West district for a two year term to keep the director rotation correct as Darrell Deneke served one year out of sequence. Dean respectfully declined and suggested his grandson Randall Von Krosigk be nominated. Dean acknowledged should his grandson decline the position he would fill the seat. Jack McRae nominated Randall Von Krosigk and Linda Clements seconded the nomination. George Mann moved to cast a unanimous ballot. Judy Nellis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Sites for the 2008 National Show and Sale were discussed. Brookings, South Dakota; Greeley, Colorado; Norfolk, Nebraska; and the Kansas State University campus were all listed as possible locations. The USTSA board of directors will take all of these places into consideration and announce a date and location in the future.

Association metal ear tags were the next item of discussion. The issue was raised in 2006 by Bob Padula. He received complaints by the membership concerning infection caused due to the tags. The USTSA directors reviewed the item during the first 2007 Board of Directors meeting, and made the following recommendation to the membership: **Registration tag insertion is optional. The tattoo is still required. At all sales tags must be transferred with the animal.** Elisha Lewis moved to accept the recommendation. Todd Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed with one dissenting vote by Duane Scheibe. A clear set of tattoo instructions will be presented to the membership in print and on the website.

President Padula, made other comments of interest to the membership. The World Sheep Congress will be held in Mexico, August of 2007. He has arranged for Targhee material to be made available. The USTSA is applying to become a certified national organization to make nominations to the American Lamb Board. Additionally, the USTSA will apply for all boards to which we qualify. However, American Sheep Industry (ASI) Seedstock Council nominations must come from an individual's home state of residence. National breed associations can not nominate members for Seedstock Council positions. A Targhee presence would be nice on this council, but nominees will have to look to their home state sheep industry organizations for support in obtaining those seats. The USTSA can and will write letters of support for those nominees.

Split ram scrotums were discussed. The question has been raised as to whether these rams were less fertile. Board members were unsure of the answer. A committee of Jeff Nevens, Leslie Nevens, and Janet Deneke was appointed to check current research and report back at the 2008 annual membership meeting.

Charles Dwight mentioned setting a floor price for the sale. Discussion ensued. Due to the nature of this sale, Todd Taylor told members they are to set their own base price. Bob will check with Banner sale management to confirm this. On no

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2007 Annual Meeting Minutes continued . . .

sale sheep the commission will still be collected. Elisha Lewis moved to set a floor price of \$150.00. Charles Dwight seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Charlene Von Krosigk requested the minutes reflect a formal thank you to Todd and Lynnette Taylor for hosting the 2007 National Show and Sale. We all appreciated their hard work.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 am.

**These minutes are unofficial until approved at the 2008 Membership Meeting.*



Jack McRae, UTSA Director, presents Dr. David Thomas with Hall of Fame Plaque.



**Dr. David Thomas
2007 Hall of Fame Inductee**

The U.S. Targhee Sheep Association is pleased to announce the 2007 Targhee Hall of Fame Inductee. Continuing a tradition started in 1983, the newest Hall of Fame Inductee represents tremendous vision, with regard to innovation, research, and promotion of the Targhee breed. This year's distinguished recipient is Dr. David L. Thomas of Madison, Wisconsin. Dr. Thomas was awarded a plaque designating the honor at the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association National Show and Sale in Springfield, Illinois, June 22nd.

Dr. Thomas is a Professor and Extension Sheep Specialist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where his combined duties include research, teaching, and extension outreach. Dr. Thomas has been at UW since 1991. A native of Wisconsin, Dr. Thomas received his B.S. in Meat and Animal Science in 1971 from UW. He continued on with an M.S. and Ph.D. from Oklahoma State University in 1975 and 1977. He has enjoyed an expansive career working as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in Kenya, Africa serving as the personal assistant to the Head of the Animal Production Division for the Ministry of Agriculture in Nairobi and as the Principal Animal Production Officer for Rift Valley Province, Nakuru. Stateside, Dr. Thomas has been on the faculties of Oklahoma State University, Oregon State University, the University of Illinois, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. Thomas' principal fields of research have been in sheep genetics, breeding, and management. While at the University of Illinois, his research team was the first to show the severe skeletal deformity of Suffolk sheep, known as Spider Syndrome, is due to a recessive autosomal allele. Perhaps even more critically important, however, is Dr. Thomas' work with the development of the National Sheep Improvement Program. He, along with other American animal geneticists, is directly responsible for the development of sheep expected progeny differences (EPDs). Because of his dedication and incite, the foundation for a modern genetic evaluation program for several United States breeds of sheep was laid. Those breeds most influenced by Dr. Thomas's genetic evaluation work include Targhee, Polypay, Columbia, and Suffolk. Dr. Thomas has a tremendous reputation as an advisor to all breeds of sheep, working for their improvement and the betterment of the American Sheep Industry.



Free T-Shirts For Junior Members!

The Montana Targhee Sheep Association has kindly donated the purchase cost of t-shirts for all Junior Members who have joined the USTSA since January 1, 2005.

Several junior members received their t-shirts at the 2007 National Show & Sale. If you would like a t-shirt and have not received one, please clip this section and mail it to the office. Circle color and size preference below. Include your name and address.

Youth Size
XS, S, M, L, XL

Adult
S, M, L, XL

Blue

Red

Green

Yellow

Purple

Gray

Pink

Aqua

A word of thanks from Dr. Thomas . . .

The USTSA received a wonderful letter from Dr. Thomas upon receipt of his award. What follows below are excerpts from this letter. We are very happy to share these with you.

"I wish to express my sincere thanks to you and other members of the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association for the great honor given to me at the Targhee banquet in Springfield, Illinois on June 22 when I was made a member of the Targhee Hall of Fame. I was completely surprised and very humbled to receive this recognition.

"The Targhee breed has made an important contribution to the efficient production of lamb and wool in the U.S.; primarily in the northern range states but also in farm flocks throughout the U.S. The breed is positioning itself for the future through active involvement in the National Sheep Improvement Program, and a core group of breeders have dedicated themselves to selection of a better Targhee using the best available technology – EPDs. The Targhee breed is to be commended for taking a leadership role among all breeds of sheep in genetic improvement for economically important traits."

2008 National Show & Sale – Brookings, South Dakota

The 2008 USTSA National Show & Sale will be held in Brookings, South Dakota - July 17-19th. This has been a terrific venue for the USTSA, and we are thankful Darrell Deneke has again agreed to chair the event. Darrell relates he has reserved the SDSU Animal Science Arena. The sale headquarters will be at the Days Inn (formerly the Brookings Inn). Darrell has also reserved a block of rooms with a special rate of \$69 + 8% tax. They will be available at this rate until July 1, 2008. The phone number for the Days Inn is 1-877-831-1562.

As always we strive to make our National Shows & Sales the premier event for the USTSA each year. Darrell, the USTSA Directors, and the association office would like to have your input to do the best job we can for you. Please don't hesitate to contact Darrell (605-696-0167), the Directors, or the association office (406-467-2462) with your suggestions. Of course, we are always looking for volunteers to help with the event. Thanks in advance for your consideration, and we look forward to seeing you in Brookings!

Welcome New Members!

Benjamin Purucker

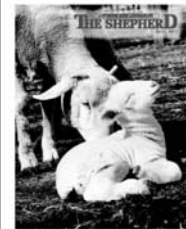
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Eastern & Midwestern Show Results

For complete results, please visit the websites listed below.

2nd Annual Center of the Nation NSIP Sale Results August 4, 2007 Spencer, Iowa

This sale is a new venue for producers looking to buy Targhee sheep in the mid-west with EPDs (Expected Progeny Differences). In 2007 two Targhee rams were consigned to this event. The sale results are listed below. For more sale results please visit the USTSA website at ustargheesheep.org

Consignor
P.P.P., Inc.

Buyer
Vernon & Juanita
Bundt
High Point Targhees
Glidden, Iowa

Purchase Price:
\$550.00

Consignor
UW-Madison

Buyer
Tim Meyer
Clear Lake, Iowa

Purchase Price:
\$400.00

Next year's sale will again be held in Spencer, Iowa - August 2, 2008. For more information please contact:

**Kathy Krafka
Harkema**
CNSIP Sale Marketing
Manager
641-623-7200
www.krafkasuffolks.com

Ohio State Fair

August 1-12, 2007
Columbus, Ohio
www.ohiostatefair.com

Champion Ram
Reserve Champion Ram
Champion Ewe
Reserve Champion Ewe

Glenn High – Lexington, OH
Duane Scheibe – Jeromesville, OH
Charles Dwight – Clyde, OH
Duane Scheibe – Jeromesville, OH

Michigan State Fair

August 22-September 3, 2007
Detroit, Michigan
www.michigan.gov/mistatefair

Champion Ram
Reserve Champion Ram
Champion Ewe
Reserve Champion Ewe

Duane Scheibe – Jeromesville, OH
Duane Scheibe – Jeromesville, OH
Charles Dwight – Clyde, OH
Duane Scheibe – Jeromesville, OH

Nebraska State Fair

August 24-September 3, 2007
Lincoln, Nebraska
FFA Results
www.statefair.org

Yearling Ram
Ram Lamb
Yearling Ewe
Ewe Lamb

Benjamin Purucker – Pender, NE
Benjamin Purucker – Pender, NE
Benjamin Purucker – Pender, NE
Benjamin Purucker – Pender, NE

South Dakota State Fair

August 30, 2007
Huron, South Dakota
www.sdstatefair.com

Yearling Ram
Yearling Ewe
Young Flock
Get of Sire
Breeders Flock
Best Fleece on A Live Animal
Targhee Breeders Wool Exhibit

Duane Denke Family – Huron, SD
Duane Denke Family – Huron, SD
Darrell Deneke – Brookings, SD
Duane Deneke Family – Huron, SD
Duane Deneke Family – Huron, SD
Marcia Stulken – Highmore, SD
Braedon Hinker – Huron, SD

Wisconsin State Fair

August 2-12, 2007
West Allis, Wisconsin
www.wistatefair.com

Champion Ram
Reserve Champion Ram
Champion Ewe
Reserve Champion Ewe
Exhibitors Flock

UW Madison – Arlington, WI
A.J., Mary, Rod Kuenzi – Waukesha, WI
A.J., Mary, Rod Kuenzi – Waukesha, WI
UW Madison – Arlington, WI
UW Madison – Arlington, WI

Western Regional Sale Results

Choteau Sheep Expo ~ Choteau, Montana September 8, 2007

The 23rd Annual Choteau Sheep Expo was held at the Weatherbeater Arena September 8, 2007. A total of 35 sheep were sold. It is Montana's only all-breed, private-treaty, ram and ewe sale.

The high selling ram was a Suffolk yearling owned by McKay Suffolks of Ulm, Montana. The purchase price was \$475.00 for new owner Dawn Hauptman of Hall, Montana.

On 7 head of Targhee sheep the average purchase price was \$276.43

For complete sale results contact:

Mike Hoggan
406-278-7892

Breed	Number of Rams Sold	Average Price
Columbia Ram Lambs	3	\$193.00
Columbia Yearling Rams	4	\$363.00
Columbia Ewe Lambs	2	\$155.00
Hampshire Ram Lambs	3	\$163.00
Hampshire Yearling Ram	1	\$260.00
Hampshire Aged Ram	1	\$200.00
Hampshire Ewe Lamb	1	\$250.00
Suffolk Ram Lambs	5	\$300.00
Suffolk Yearling Rams	4	\$425.00
Suffolk Ewe Lambs	3	\$165.00
Targhee Yearling Rams	7	\$276.00
Targhee Ewe Lamb	1	\$150.00
Sale Total	35	\$241.66

Targhee Consignor	Average Sale
Elisha Lewis – Reed Point, MT	\$278.00
King/Nollmeyer – Augusta/Bozeman, MT	\$275.00

Wyoming State Ram Sale ~ Douglas, Wyoming

September 11, 2007

Sponsored by Wyoming Wool Growers Association

Wyoming Wool Growers sponsored their 79th annual ram sale on September 10, 2007. A total of 273 rams were consigned for sale.

The high selling ram was a Rambouillet at \$3,700.00 consigned by Hageman Sisters of Douglas, Wyoming.

On 20 head of Targhee sheep the average purchase price was \$497.50.

For complete sale results contact Diane Carpenter at the Wyoming Wool Growers office:

307-265-5250 or
dianelc@wyowool.org

Breed	Number of Rams Sold	Average Price
Rambouillet Yearling Rams, Certified	2	\$1,600.00
Rambouillet Yearling Rams	182	\$525.00
Targhee Yearling Rams	20	\$497.50
Columbia Yearling Rams	4	\$500.00
Suffolk Yearling Rams	35	\$514.29
Suffolk Ram Lambs	17	\$391.18
WWGA/MSLC/ UW Ram Test Ram Lambs	13	\$423.08
Sale Total	273	\$579.12

Targhee Consignor	Average Sale
Ivy Latham – Clearmont, WY	\$300.00
Von Krosigk Family Targhee - Riverton, WY	\$546.88

The 58th Montana Ram Sale in Miles City, Montana was September 13, 2007. A total of 265 rams, consigned by 28 producers sold.

The high selling ram – a Targhee - was consigned by Carolyn Green. Sims Sheep Company of Evanston, Wyoming purchased the ram for \$4,000.00.

Thanks to members of the Montana Sheep Institute, a new feature of this year's ram sale was a catalog with information on every ram consigned. Organizers hope to publish the catalog on-line in the future. For complete sale results contact Aeric Riley at the Montana Wool Growers office: 406-442-1330 or www.mtsheep.org

The U.S. Sheep Experiment Station in conjunction with the University of Idaho held it's 69th Annual Sheep Sale on September 20, 2007 in Dubois at the Livestock Barn.

Fifty-six buyers attended from Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, and Washington. A total of 317 sheep were offered for sale including: 48 ewe lambs, 193 ewes, and 76 rams. Average price for all breeds of ewe lambs was \$80.42, ewes averaged \$123.86, and rams averaged \$246.97. Targhee ewe lambs and ewes commanded the top sale prices in their class at \$110.00 and \$200.00 respectively. The top selling ram was a Polypay at \$600.00. For complete sale results contact: Annette Eddins 208-374-5364

Montana Ram Sale ~ Miles City, Montana September 13, 2007 Sponsored by the Montana Wool Growers Association

Breed	Number of Rams Sold	Average Price
Columbia Stud	1	\$900.00
Columbia Test	1	\$400.00
Columbia Range	10	\$427.50
Columbia Total	12	\$464.58
Targhee Studs	2	\$3,300.00
Targhee Test	1	\$1,100.00
Targhee Range	184	\$623.10
Targhee Total	187	\$654.28
Rambouillet Stud	1	\$350.00
Rambouillet Test	27	\$1,100.00
Rambouillet Total	28	\$403.57
Suffolk Range	30	\$511.67
Suffolk x Hampshire Range	8	\$543.75
Sale Total	265	\$599.72

Targhee Consignor	Average Sale
Dallas Sheep Outfit – Wilsall, MT	\$400.00
Paugh Inc. – Bozeman, MT	\$403.12
Tunby Targhee – Baker, MT	\$483.93
Heinrich Ortmann – Wolf Point, MT	\$495.00
Sam & Nancy Ortmann – Wolf Point, Mt	\$550.00
McRae Brothers – Jordan, MT	\$552.78
Carolyn I. Green – Melville, MT	\$633.33
Sieben Live Stock Company – Helena, MT	\$659.46
Hughes Newford Company – Stanford, MT	\$664.58
Tim & Neena Steadman – Miles City, MT	\$714.28
Richard Everett – Stevensville, MT	\$725.00
Montana State University – Bozeman, MT	\$725.00
Mike & Thelma Green – Cohagen, MT	\$730.00
Kristin McRae – Jordan MT	\$1,387.50

U.S. Sheep Experiment Station ~ Dubois, Idaho September 20, 2007 Sponsored by the U.S.S.E.S. & the University of Idaho

Registered Targhee Yearling Rams

Buyer	Pricing
Bill Brewer – Kamiah, ID	\$200.00
Russell Allred – Fountain Green, UT	\$325.00

Commercial Targhee Yearling Rams

Buyer	Pricing
Joe Axtell – Bozeman, MT	\$200.00
Jacobs Ranches – Baker, OR	\$300.00
Kevin Small – Dubois, ID	\$175.00
Jacobs Ranches – Baker, OR	\$200.00
Pete Stamatakis – Price, UT	\$125.00
Hanson Livestock – Dillon, MT	\$275.00
Pete Stamatakis – Price, UT	\$125.00
Jacobs Ranches – Price, UT	\$150.00
Joe Axtell – Bozeman, MT	\$125.00

U.S. Sheep Experiment Station Sale Results continued . . .

**Registered Targhee Yearling Ewes
*2 head/lot**

<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
Dick Everett – Stevensville, MT	\$200.00/hd
Russell Allred – Fountain Green, UT	\$200.00/hd

**Commercial Targhee Yearling Ewes
*3 head/lot**

<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
Pete Stamatakis – Price, UT	\$140.00/hd

**Commercial Targhee Ewe Lambs
*4 head/lot**

<i>Buyer</i>	<i>Pricing</i>
David Dalling – Hamer, ID	\$110.00/hd
Bill Brewer – Kamiah, ID	\$110.00/hd

Sale Total - 26 Head Average \$165.38



Introduction of Targhee Sheep to Wisconsin

In 1954, the Targhee breed was introduced in Wisconsin with the arrival of two Targhee rams purchased by the Spooner Station. The rams were shipped by rail from Montana in individual crates. Carl Rydberg, Shepherd at the Spooner Station, and I picked them up at the Spooner depot and hauled them in the station van to a pasture north of the building sites. The rams were freshly shorn, yet they still stood 12 inches taller than the Shrops.

Targhees were developed in the 1920s at the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station in Dubois, Idaho in response to the demand by Western sheep producers for a breed that was thick in natural fleshing, produced high quality apparel-type wool and adapted to rugged range land conditions.

Deriving their name from the Targhee National Forest, where the Dubois flock grazed during the summer months, the foundation sheep of the Targhee breed were the result of crosses made using Rambouillet, Lincoln, and Corriedale sheep.

Four years after the two rams arrived, Targhee ewes were added to the Spooner flock as part of a regional project with Ohio and Illinois. Excess ewes from Spooner were later taken to the Arlington Agricultural Research Station, where Jim Elphick (a former Shepherd on campus and then at the Agricultural Research Station) developed the UW-Madison Targhee flock.

In 1960, 48 Targhee, 48 Shropshire, and 48 Suffolk ewes at the Spooner Station were compared in a study. The Suffolks were reported as the best sire breed, the Targhees were reported as the best maternal breed, and the F1 crossbreds were the best quality market lambs. As a result of the performance by the Targhee sheep at Spooner and Arlington, many Wisconsin Shepherds began raising Targhees.

I will always remember Carl Rydberg's story about the time that he had left the big wing doors on the new sheep barn open and 12 inches of snow fell during the night. When he went to do chores in the morning, the Shrops and Suffolks were in the barn. The Targhees, however, were still outside. When he opened the gate, the Targhees got up, shook the snow off and marched to the feeders waiting to be fed.

Along with being hardy, Targhees are fairly long-lived sheep. After my wife and I bought our farm, I bought a small flock of commercial ewes in the spring of 1964 as a birthday present for my wife, Martha. And in that flock there were the two Targhee rams that I had helped unload 10 year earlier at the Spooner depot. We used "Pat" in our flock until he was 13 years old and "Mike" lived to be 15.

Excerpt from an article written by Rudy Erickson: Erickson, R. 2002. Early history of the Spooner Station and the roll of the Station in introduction of the Targhee breed in Wisconsin. Proc. 50th Annual Spooner Sheep Day, Dept. of Animal Science, UW-Madison. pp 7-10. Thanks Dr. Thomas for sharing this with us.



**January 1,
2008**

USTSA members will be receiving notices in the mail to be included in the on-line breeder's directory. The cost is \$10.00 annually for the world to see you raise Targhee sheep. Please respond within 30 days or your name will be removed from the website. All money will go toward maintaining the website and purchasing other advertising in printed media. You do have the right to opt out of this payment. But, we hope you will kindly consider it.

Thank you!

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a tremendous success are:**

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Joe Axtell ~ Bozeman, MT

Bill Brewer ~ Kamiah, ID

Scott Clark ~ Malad, ID

David Dalling ~ Hamer, ID

Dick Everett ~ Stevensville, MT

Hanson Livestock ~ Dillon, MT

Jacobs Ranches ~ Baker, OR

Kevin Small ~ Dubois, ID

Pete Stamatakis ~ Price, UT

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*contact Bob to place your ad in
the Targhee Focus edition.*



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