

Targhee Talk

*The Newsletter of the United States
Targhee Sheep Association*



June 2015

Inside this edition:

- 2015 Starter Flock Winners
- 2015 Wisconsin Starter Flock Winner
- President's Notes
- National Show & Sale Information
- Consignor List
- Upcoming Calendar of Events

See your sheep in print!

Targhee Talk Submissions for the October Edition are due October 1st.

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

Cover Photo Courtesy of
Janet Deneke
Huron, South Dakota

And the 2015 USTSA Starter Flock **Winners** are . . .

Because of the incredible generosity of the members of the United States Targhee Sheep Association, two Starter Flock Program awards will be presented in 2015 at the National Show and Sale prior to the sale on July 25th. The USTSA is honored to have these incredible candidates and their families join their membership! Each winner will receive 3 ewes donated by members, a \$150 credit towards the National Sale from USTSA and up to \$600 from cash donations and the benefit auction.

Cash donations have already been received from Bob Innes and Bud Beastron (rolling from last year). If you have an item you would like to donate to be auctioned off at the benefit auction, please bring those with you to the Banquet Friday night. If you are unable to attend and would like to help out, contact Mardy or Jeff Nevens.

Dylan Laverell from Big Timber, Montana



From a young age, Dylan, who is now 14 years old, knew he wanted to have sheep of his own. His grandmother raised a commercial Rambouillet flock where he would help out with chores. As his interest grew, he had the opportunity to help out during shearing at a nearby ranch which raised Targhees. There he learned about the dual purpose nature of the breed – a great carcass with fine wool. This has led to 6 years of being involved in the sheep project in his local 4-H chapter, and recently joining FFA.

Dylan has purchased and bred Merino/Columbia crossed ewes, exhibited their offspring, and even bred them to a Suffolk ram in order to raise the Grand Champion Market Lamb. Even though that goal has eluded him, he still has grown and accomplished quite a bit during his show career. This includes Champion White Faced Sheep, Best of Show for one of his fleece entries, and making it to the champion market

lamb drive!

Besides tending to his flock, Dylan is a member of his 4-H livestock judging team which has helped him evaluate his own animals. He also enjoys playing basketball, running, playing in band and jazz band, and being a member of his schools international club. Last fall, Dylan was also confirmed in the Lutheran Church where he is involved in the youth group, helping the youth leader with computer work and other jobs as needed. He also volunteers monthly for local Hospice where he makes pancakes for the men's breakfast.

Dylan's goals for his award project are to expand his flock by raising his ewe lambs, and possibly pursuing a career in the sheep industry. This award will give him a jump start on his future endeavors!

Dylan will be receiving a yearling ewe donated by Bridget Williams/Ben Kukowski of Golden Willow Targhees (Kaycee, WY), a yearling ewe donated by Carolyn & John Green of the Green Ranch (Melville, Montana), and a spring ewe lamb donated by Dean & Charleen Von Krosigk (Riverton, WY).

Zach Moret from Barron, Wisconsin

To say Zach has immersed himself into his sheep project would be an understatement. Now in his 4th year, he is turning his attention to not just showing animals, but actually raising his own for him and his three younger siblings to show. As Zach said in his application, "...there are more important things in life than potato chips and video games."

To help prepare him for when he could have a flock of his own, Zach has done practically everything he could do to get to this point. He has attended show clinics and camps, including the Indianhead Sheep Breeders Clinic where he won an essay about why he wanted to raise sheep. He read his essay in front of about 200 people! Zach, his brother and his sisters all studied up on lambing, bought some lambing pens, and are fortunate to have friends and fellow club members to help them out.

All the work is worth the effort for Zach. Attending various livestock shows and county fairs is serious business, especially showmanship, but there is a lot of fun too. Zach enjoys looking at the other exhibits, taking in the rides, and seeing friends. Zach has not limited himself to just sheep. He maintains a straight A report card, and is currently learning to play the trumpet. Zach also has experience with dairy, beef, pigs, horses, rabbits, dogs, cats and custom dairy replacement heifers. He loves to keep the animals as comfortable and healthy as possible at all times, treating them with kindness and respect. Through his 4-H club, he is a member of a state and nationally ranked dairy judging program. As his judging coach stated, "He is very intuitive and has an excellent grasp of new concepts," traits that should help with learning how to care for and grow a wool-breed flock.

Big plans are in store for this starter flock. Zach intends to show at various fairs and other big shows, grow his flock to be able to introduce others to the breed, and plans on donating animals to others so they can start their own flock. He thinks that more people should be able to interact with and see the real producers of wool and meat.

Zach will be receiving a yearling ewe donated by Bridget Williams/Ben Kukowski of Golden Willow Targhees (Kaycee, WY), an aged breeding ewe donated by Desire Routier [2011 USTSA Starter Flock Winner (Lake Benton, Minnesota)], and a spring ewe lamb donated by the Todd & Lynette Taylor family (Arlington, Wisconsin) and the Leslie & Jeff Nevens family (Lodi, Wisconsin).

Online Resources

Reminder to all our members the American Sheep Industry's (ASI) website is a great resource to utilize. (www.sheepusa.org) Follow the links to Research and Education. There you will find a number of links for managing your flocks. One in particular is the Sheep Safety and Quality Assurance Manual (SSQA). This is a handy guide for all our junior members and available at http://www.sheepusa.org/ResearchEducation_OnlineEducation_Ssqqa.

You can also get signed up for weekly news emails and find links to other industry news to help stay updated.



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**2015 Wisconsin Junior Targhee Sheep Association Starter Flock Winner...
 Katelyn Dunnum - Westby, Wisconsin**

14-year-old Katelyn Dunnum of Westby, Wisconsin, was selected as the 2015 recipient of the WJ TSA Starter Flock Award. Livestock and farming have been constants for Katelyn during her whole life, growing up on a 120 acre 3rd generation dairy farm that her father, Ryan, bought from his grandparents. She started by helping feed their chickens and collecting eggs. But things really expanded after she joined 4-H and FFA, which has included rabbits, purebred show chickens, and eventually sheep.

Katelyn and her mother, Jamie, are very involved in the fiber arts, so their initial small flock consisted of Merino, Corriedale, Border Leicester and Clun Forrest genetics. From there, they expanded into Icelandics, which she showed successfully at local fairs for the past few years. She also exhibited needle-felted creations and hand knit goods she made from homespun fibers. Katelyn also teaches fiber art classes to younger 4-H members.

After seeing Targhees exhibited at fairs she attended, Katelyn liked the size of the breed and the quality along with fineness of the wool. Both she and her mom felt that the breed would be a good fit for both their art and their farm! Now Katelyn and her four siblings (soon to be 5!) are looking forward to raising and exhibiting the newest additions to their farm. She is excited to have the opportunity to show at both open and junior sheep shows at the Wisconsin State Fair this summer, and once her flock has grown, to donate back to the starter flock program!

Katelyn received a yearling ewe (donated by A&J Nevens Livestock, Lodi, Wisconsin) and a fall and winter ewe lamb sponsored by the WJ TSA, made possible with donations from the Forrest, Sue Ann and Michael Krause family (Stoddard, Wisconsin), and Tina & Anna Hinchley (Cambridge, Wisconsin).

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(L to R) Andy Nevens with spring ewe, Riley Dunnum, Ryan Dunnum with fall ewe, and Katelyn Dunnum with yearling ewe.

Update from 2014 Winner - Seth Schoon



My name is Seth Schoon, from White River, South Dakota. I was a Starter Flock recipient last year and acquired my ewes at the Brookings, SD Targhee Show and Sale. At the sale I did purchase one more ewe with the credit money I was awarded. I really enjoyed the show and sale. Everyone is so friendly and helpful.

I liked having a mentor although sometimes it was hard to know what to call and talk about. Mr. Beastrum helped me by providing a quality ram to put with my three yearling ewes. He also let me help the day he ultrasounded his ewes. Mine were included so I had a very good idea when they would lamb. All my ewes lambled and I have three great looking lambs as a result.

My Starter Flock fit right in with our grass only management style. During the growing season they are grazing on quality rangeland. We focus a lot of attention on soil and plant quality management. They also did well on the grass/alfalfa hay fed through the winter.

I tried to promote the Targhee breed wherever I could. I will have a scrapbook at this year's National Show that will show pictures and tell more of this story. I showed my crossbred Targhee ewe and her lamb last year at two fairs. I also used this ewe center arena during three Mutton Bustin events. I held her as a decoy for the other sheep that were ridden by the kids. The announcers helped bring attention to her during the fun. I also gave a presentation two different times where I included my sheep when promoting Rangeland Days camp to our local conservation district and the 4-H club I'm part of. Finally, kids were able to pet my ewe and ewe lamb at a county petting zoo and when the Boys and Girls Club came to our ranch. I wear my Targhee T-shirt and have a small display that helps to show the breed.

This last year I learned a few things by having my Starter Flock Targhees. Compared to my short term ewes, my Targhee raised strong lambs, had plenty of milk and were much easier to handle since they were pretty tame. I knew I liked to work with animals, but I also learned the value of having patience when working with the flock. I hope to expand my flock to 20 by 2017 and have a younger flock. I hope to sell at least two Targhees a year and continue to promote them. I will continue to learn how this moderate framed breed works with our grassland management.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who has helped me and I look forward to seeing everyone in Big Timber, Montana for the National Show and Sale.

Update from 2014 Winner - Haylee Kilber

We had a very successful lambing season! It was an amazing learning experience and I can't wait for this fall to do it all over again!

Out of my starter flock ewes we only got one lamb this spring. The ewe from Elisha Lewis had twin buck lambs, but one died at birth. We are showing the buck lamb that survived. The ewe from the Kuenzi family ultra-sounded with triplets, but aborted. We have bred her to lamb in the fall. The ewe lamb that was a part of the starter flock from the Von Krosigk family was shown at the state fair and we may also show her as a yearling ewe this year. We have also exposed her to lamb in the fall.

In total we had three ewes lamb with five surviving lambs. All the lambs will be shown this summer. In addition to the three ewes we also lambled out two old ewes to get a few bottle lambs, but we didn't have very good luck with that. All three of the lambs died. We also took in twelve bottle lambs from Jon Beastrum. That was a lot of work, especially for Dad! We are using a few of the bottle lambs for show lambs. We have a young girl from Ipswich that is showing a lamb for the first year. It is fun to see her interest and curiosity come alive when walking her lamb or seeing what they eat! It is a lot of fun to be in the teacher role and to help her learn more about the Targhee breed, but also general showing tips. In years to come, hopefully we can have multiple young children showing our lambs.

I would like to say thank you to each and every Targhee family! I have already made so many friends and memories! I am very excited for this year's national show and sale in Montana!



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 |
| 2:00 pm | Wool Show |
| 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 |
| 2:00 pm | Annual Membership Meeting |
| 3:00 pm | 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) |

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

Bedding on Site

All pens will be set up with straw in them and some extra straw onsite if needed.

Phone Bids

We will have a cell phone available for phone bids on the morning of the sale. If you are interested in getting that number, contact Chuck Dallas @ 406-220-3375.

Early Arrival

Pens will be available for early arrival Wednesday, July 22nd. Contact Carolyn Green @ 406-537-4472.

Reminder

Products Labeled for Use on Sheep to Treat External Parasites:

Synergize Delice Ectiban Delice Atroban 11% EC Permethrin CDS

Members bringing sheep to the National Show & Sale are required to treat sheep for external parasites **at least 10** & no more than 30 days prior to the event. Please use products labeled for sheep. Producers can apply the product themselves. Just bring a note with your signature stating the treatment date, product, and dilution rate. Veterinary application is NOT required.

State Animal Health Regulations for Montana

All livestock entering Montana must have an Official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) issued by a licensed and accredited Veterinarian within 30 days of animal entry at the U.S. Targhee National Show & Sale. The physical address for the show is:

Sweet Grass County Fairgrounds
PO Box 640
Big Timber, MT 59011

Photo Contest Reminder

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. 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. Additionally, entries must be emailed to Mardy or a CD with image files.

All entries become 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 23rd through 7:00 p.m. Friday, July 24th. Winners will be announced at the banquet.

Benefit Auction Items

Consignees and members are encouraged to bring an item(s) for the Benefit Auction on Friday evening July 24th. Proceeds from the auction will help to defray the costs of the National Show and Sale, Junior Show, Youth Futurity and Starter Flock program. Members really enjoy the opportunity to bid on things from different parts of the United States. Foodstuffs with local flavor are always a hit. If you would like to bring/donate a door prize item, please bring with you to the banquet. If you are unable to attend but would like to donate an item, contact Mardy to make those arrangements. We will also be posting more pictures of auction items on Facebook as they come available. If you can't attend Nationals but interested in placing a bid, please contact Mardy. Thanks in advance for making the Benefit Auction fun and interesting!

2015 USTSA Annual Members Meeting

The Annual Members meeting will be held Friday, July 24th at 2 pm at the Sweet Grass County Fairgrounds. Russell Allred and Bridget Williams terms expire this year. The Board will be taking nominations up until the Members meeting for the At Large West and West seats. Voting will commence at the meeting.

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 or your regional Board member to have it added to the meeting agenda.

Junior Association Organizational Meeting

The second meeting of the United States Junior Targhee Sheep Association (USJTSA) will take place on Friday, July 24th at 3:00 p.m. at the national show venue. The election of officers will take place and agenda set for the upcoming year. A social event is in the works during Nationals, but nothing to report at this time. Please bring your ideas to help keep Juniors involved in Targhees!

Montana Sheep Family Targeted by Animal Activist Group

The Forest Service grazing permits utilized for over 60 years by the Helle Family in Southwestern Montana have come under attack by the Gallatin Wildlife Association, an activist group located in Bozeman, Mont.

The Gallatin Wildlife Association wants Helle's domestic sheep off of the National Forest and has filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to prohibit domestic sheep grazing on seven allotments in the Gravelly Mountains of southwest Montana. An injunction to prevent, what they say, is "irreparable harm" to the grizzly bears and bighorn sheep, has been filed against the Helle family to immediately stop the grazing on two of the seven allotments. The GWA alleges the Forest Service is violating the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act and the National Forest Management Act. They have recruited Cottonwood Law Firm (current litigants against the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station) in order to take legal action, which cuts off the integrated and shared use of the National Forest. Furthermore, the lawsuit claims that the presence of domestic sheep is preventing the expansion of bighorn sheep.

After coming to an agreement with the Forest Service and Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks, Helle supported the reintroduction of bighorn sheep in the nearby Greenhorn Mountains. The agencies entered into an MOU agreeing on terms for the bighorn sheep reintroduction.

Under this agreement, nearly 8,000 domestic sheep graze in the Gravelly Mountains, set to begin the first part of July. If Gallatin Wildlife Association's filed injunction is granted, thousands of sheep's welfare will be threatened with only days' notice to find alternate food and water. Helle's family has grazed the allotments each summer since the early 1950s.

While Helle expects the U.S. Forest Service to stand firm on their policy, he is concerned about the Judge's decision on the proposed injunction. Helle says it is troubling and burdensome for his family to be threatened by this lawsuit while the operation should be focusing on issues critical to managing their resources in a responsible and sustainable manner. Helle feels confident in their defense, and feels that there is no merit to Gallatin Wildlife Association's argument.

On a more positive note, John Helle was recognized in the July 2015 issue of Reader's Digest Magazine in the article titled "Extraordinary America: 13 Unsung Heroes Who Will Restore Your Faith in Our Country." This article is available at www.rd.com/true-stories/inspiring/extraordinary-america.



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for Targhee Events

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

2015 USTSA National Show Entries

| | NSIP | Yrlg | Fall | Spring | NSIP | Yrlg | Fall | Spring | Pen of 3 | Pen of 3 |
|------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|----------|----------|
| Consignor | Yrlg | Ram | Ram | Ram | Yrlg | Ewe | Ewe | Ewe | Yearling | Ewe |
| | Ram | | Lambs | Lambs | Ewe | | Lambs | Lambs | Ewes | Lambs |
| A & J Nevens Livestock | | 1,2 | | 3,4 | | 5,6 | | 7,8 | | |
| Anna Hinchley | | 9 | | | | | | | | |
| Carl Nielsen | | 10,11 | | | | | | | | |
| Clover Meadows | | 12 | | | | | | | | |
| CJR Farms | 13 | 14 | | | | | | | | |
| Dallas Sheep Outfit | 15 | 16 | | | 17,18 | | | | | |
| Deneke Family Targhees | | | | | | 19 | | 20 | 21abc | 22abc |
| Braedon Hinker | | | | | | 23 | | | | |
| Golden Willow Targhee | 24 | 25 | | | 26 | 27 | | | 28abc | |
| Ben Kukowski | | | | | | 29 | | | | |
| Green Ranch | 30 | | | | 31,32 | | | | 33abc | |
| Jon Beastro & Family | | 34 | 35 | | | 36,37 | 38,39 | 40,41 | 42abc | 43abc |
| Lewis Ranch | | 44,45 | | | | 46 | | | | |
| McRae Brothers Targhees | 47 | | | | 48,49 | | | | | |
| Modoc Targhee/Judy Scanlan | 50 | | | | | | | | | |
| Montana Sheep Company | 51 | | | 52 | 53,54 | | | 55 | | |
| Padula | 56 | | | | | | | | | |
| Plum Creek Targhees/Caleb Pedersen | | 57,58 | | 59 | | 60 | | 61 | | |
| Plum Creek Targhees/Derek Pedersen | | 62 | | | | 63 | | | | |
| Plum Creek Targhees/Lucas Pedersen | | | | | | | | 64 | | |
| Schaefer Targhee | | 65,67 | | | | 68,69 | | | | |
| Seth Schoon | | | | 70 | | | | | | |
| Sieben Livestock | 71 | | | | | | | | | |
| Skull Creek/Kristin Bieber | 72,73 | | | | 74,75 | | | | | |
| Stulken Targhees | | | | 76 | | | | | | |
| Sue Milkin | | | | 77 | | | | 65 | | |
| University of Wisconsin | | 78 | 79 | | | 80 | | 81 | 82abc | |
| Von Krosigk Family | | 83,84 | | | | 85,86 | | 87 | 88abc | |

Update from Russell Allred

Thanks to everyone in my sheep family. It has been a long year for me. As you all probably know the cancer had come back. So I was accepted for a clinical trial in Texas this time to try another transplant. They say that things are looking good as of now. I don't feel like it but it's only been day 6 after the transplant. Thanks to all of you. Your support has meant a lot to me and my family. THANKS EVERYONE.

Russ Allred
Allred Targhees

Upcoming Calendar of Events

| | |
|------------------|--|
| July | |
| 23-25 | USTSA National Show and Sale, Big Timber, MT |
| August | |
| 15-16 | Michigan Fiber Festival (www.michiganfiberfestival.info) |
| September | |
| 18-20 | WyoFiber Live (www.wvomingwomens.org/wvofiber-live) Laramie, Wyoming |
| October | |
| 7-11 | Trailing of the Sheep Festival, Sun Valley, ID (www.trailingofthesheep.org) |
| November | |
| 5-8 | West Central Wool Growers Meeting, Park City, UT |

Sheep Ranching Families Wanted

In 2014, the Idaho based Trailing of the Sheep Festival began a three-year program, "Celebrating Generations." The goal is to listen, learn, share and save the memories of our western sheep ranching families who live and work the land and are the keepers of open space.

The first year was devoted to honoring the visionaries; those first families who found a piece of western land that matched their dreams. They made it home, made it their life's work, cared for it and fed the country from its bounty.

This year the focus will be on today's hardworking second and third generations, the landowners of today who survived depressions, droughts, fires and the pressures of a rapidly developing west. What are their stories of triumphs and loss?

To accomplish this, ranching families are needed so that festival guests can see and feel the power of this important family tradition. Ranchers can help by coming to the festival, being a Lambassador, recording your story and helping trail the sheep.

Full details of the events and performances planned for the Oct. 7-11 festival are available at www.trailingofthesheep.org.

Eastern & Mid-Western State Fairs

Ohio State Fair

Columbus, Ohio
July 29 - August 9, 2015
www.ohiostatefair.com or
888-OHO-EXPO

Wisconsin State Fair

West Allis, Wisconsin
August 6-16, 2015
www.wisstatefair.com or
800-884-FAIR

Nebraska State Fair

Grand Island, Nebraska
August 28- September 7, 2015
www.statefair.org or
308-382-1620

South Dakota State Fair

Huron, South Dakota
September 3-7, 2015
www.sdstatefair.com or
800-529-0900

Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival

Jefferson, Wisconsin
September 11-13, 2015
www.wisconsinssheepandwoolfestival.com or
920-674-7148

Mid-Western & Western Sales

Center of the Nation NSIP Sale

Spencer, Iowa
July 24-25, 2015
www.nsip.org or
wclones@fmctc.com

Choteau Sheep Expo

Choteau, Montana
September 12, 2015
www.choteausheepexpo.com
or 406-859-3890

Wyoming Ram Sale

Douglas, Wyoming
September 15, 2015
dianelc@wyowool.org or
307-265-5250

Montana Ewe & Ram Sale

Miles City, Montana
September 16-17, 2015
www.mtsheep.org or
mwga@mtsheep.org
406-442-1330

Hettinger Ram Sale

Hettinger, North Dakota
September 16, 2015
Lyle Warner 701-255-1183

Newell Ram Sale

Newell, South Dakota
September 17-18, 2015
www.newellramsale.com or
605-490-7413

Utah Ram Sale

Spanish Fork, Utah
TBD October, 2015
www.utahwoolgrowers.com
or 801-960-2610

U.S. Targhee Sheep Association Online Sheep Sale

Members now have another way to advertise their Targhee sheep for sale through Facebook. Only current/active members are allowed to list sheep for sale but everyone can view the online group and postings. Visit Facebook at: www.facebook.com/groups/139764529548606



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