

Targhee Talk

*The Newsletter of the United States
Targhee Sheep Association*



November 2021

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See your sheep in print!

Targhee Talk submissions for the January Edition are due December 15th.

Please send your great Targhee stories, pictures, and newsworthy items to

ustargheesheep@gmail.com

or through the U.S. mail:

Targhee Talk
PO Box 955
Chinook, MT 59523

Cover Photo Courtesy of
Julie Ward
Sheridan, Montana

2022 National Show and Sale

Montana Targhee Association has reserved the Big Timber Fairgrounds July 18-20th. This is a Sunday through Wednesday, but will be following the same schedule of events. These were the only dates Fairgrounds were available and no early arrivals will be allowed as there is a wedding booked for Saturday. Rooms have been reserved at the Super 8, Lazy J and River Valley Inn. Further details will be given in upcoming Targhee Talks.

2022 Directory

Greetings!. I am writing to invite you to secure your advertising placement in the 2022 National Directory & Standards and to update your contact information in the Breeder's Directory. There is no additional charge for being listed online 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 below. Members are welcome to create their own ads and submit them in pdfs. Please follow the sizing requirements. When using photographs, remember to use high quality images. Members choosing to have the USTSA office design their ad will be charged a design fee. Ad placement will be offered to those in the prior directory first and than on a first come first serve basis. USTSA members wishing to update their previous ads will not be charged design fees. A print directory of 150 copies will also be made

For the new "Online Directory"- We are in the process of developing an online directory for current/active members (those that have registered an animal(s) within the past two years as of January 1, 2022. If you wish more information to be included on the website, please provide Mardy with one picture and a brief description of your business as well as a link to your website if applicable.

The printed directory will be used for 1-2 years, while the online directory will be able to updated as needed.

<p>1/4 Page Ad \$25.00 3"W x 1 7/8"H Design Fee \$15.00</p>	<p>Full Page Ad \$70.00 3"W x 7 7/8"H Design Fee \$30.00</p>	<p>Inside Back Cover \$100.00 3"W x 7 7/8"H Design Fee \$30.00</p>
<p>1/2 Page Ad \$40.00 3"W x 3 7/8"H Design Fee \$20.00</p>	<p>Centerfold \$150.00 6.5"W x 7 7/8"H Design Fee \$50.00</p>	<p>Outside Back Cover \$125.00 3"W x 7 7/8"H Design Fee \$30.00</p>

This is open to businesses as well for an advertising opportunity. In addition to above pricing for the directory, for an additional \$50 they would be published in all newsletters and posted on our website, at whatever ad size they choose. They would have the opportunity to update their ad at anytime. So if you know if any business that would be interested in this opportunity, please send their information to Mardy.

Looking for the perfect Christmas Gift?

USTSA offers a wide line of Targhee Wearable in a variety of sizes for adult and youth. Pictures of some of the products are on the website. Contact Mardy Rutledge for a full list of products and sizes and to place orders.

Adult T-Shirts	\$10.00
Adult Hoodies	\$20.00
Youth T-Shirts	\$10.00
Ball Caps	\$15.00



SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The Semi-Annual Meeting will be held January 23, 2022 at 6:00 PM MST via zoom.

This serves as a 30 day notice but an advance email will also be sent out with the agenda for the meeting and call in details. If you have items you wish to be discussed, please submit these to Mardy by December 15th.

Registration Reminders

When you sell an animal to be registered or that has been registered, it is your responsibility to complete the registration and transfer process with Associated Registry. You submit the registration to them, provide the transfer information and pay the fees. The breeder/owner is always the registering name and the transfer on the back reflects the buyer information. After Associated records this information, they will either send the completed certificate to you to forward to the buyer, or if you request they can send it directly to the buyer. The only exception to this is at the USTSA National Sale when ALL registrations for animals sold must be turned in to the Secretary at check-in and these are then forwarded to Associated as a group once the sale is complete and all buyers/transfers are known. If a "no sale" is taken at the sale, the registration certificate for that animal will be returned to you. All others will be mailed to the new owner by Associated. If you have any questions about this, contact Mardy or Associated.

President's Notes

Welcome to Fall! I hope everyone is well and getting some needed precipitation. Thankfully lamb prices have been strong.

A quick update from the Board: We have moved to Quarterly Meetings. We hope this gets ideas, issues worked out in a more timely manner. We also will be having a Semi-annual member meeting over Zoom coming up January 23rd at 7pm Central. We will have the updated Show and Sale Manual ready soon. 2022 Show will be in Big Timber Montana July 17th thru the 20th. So mark your calendars and start planning.

I pray everyone will have a Blessed Thanksgiving and that you could all be with your loved ones.

God Bless the USA and the USTSA,
~ Leroy Pedersen

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2021 Western Regional Ram Sale Results

	Rambouillet	Columbia	Suffolk	Targhee
Newell Ram Sale	\$ 758.14	\$ 475	\$ 828.57	\$ 960
Montana Ram Sale	\$ 2032		\$ 1489	\$ 1859
Wyoming Ram Sale	\$ 1327	\$ 1233	\$ 1669	\$ 1572

Montana Ram Sale

96th Annual Montana Ram Sale

Targhee Ram Average on 209 head: \$1859 (Low \$500, High \$12,000)

Rambouillet Ram Average on 41 Head: \$2032 (Low \$1000, High \$3100)

Rambouillet Cross Ram Average on 10 Head: \$2450 (Low \$1700, High \$3,500)

Suffolk X Hampshire Ram Average on 16 Head: \$1363 (Low \$1000, High \$1700)

Suffolk Ram Average on 16 Head: \$1489 (Low \$1100, High \$2000)

Hampshire Ram Average on 3 head: \$583 (Low \$350, High \$900)

Sale Highlights

A donation ram offered by the Ortmann Family in memory of the late Heinrich Ortmann, who consigned rams to the MT Ram Sale for 48 years. The Targhee buck was auctioned off with contributors giving nearly \$4000 in his memory. The funds will be used to support the building of a new Montana Wool Lab at Montana State University. High selling ram was consigned by Skull Creek Targhees for \$12,000 to Turner Livestock of Wyoming.

9th Annual Montana Ewe Sale

Cal and Julie Ward of Sheridan, MT, topped the sale this year, selling 10 head for \$600/each to Chip Dye of Alzada, MT. Bill Schaeffer of Hoven, SD was the volume buyer on-site, buying 49 head. Casey Earl of Lewiston, ID was the volume off-site buyer, taking home 300 head.

Sale Gross on 883 Ewes: \$331,550

868 head of white faced yearling ewes averaged \$376/hd

15 head of black faced ewe lambs averaged \$367/hd

Pens of 10 averaged \$387, Pens of 20 averaged \$363

Off-site Ewes averaged \$375/hd

Wyoming Ram Sale

230 hd sold for a total sale gross of \$336,550 and an average of \$1463.

Top Selling Targhee Lot 65 from Boner Targhees purchased by Nine Mile Sheep Co. sold for \$2,500. Overall, 37 lots sold averaging \$1572.

Newell Ram Sale

170 head of ewes and rams sold for a total sale gross of \$125,900 and an average of \$740.59. 5 hd of Targhee Rams were offered averaging \$960/hd

South Dakota Premium Yearling Ewe Sale

4th Annual ewe sale sold 450 head averaging \$439. Consignors provided excellent selection of high quality registerable and commercial ewes. Lot were purchased by buyers from 5 different states.

Get to Know Your Newest Board Member Dylan Laverell of Big Timber, MT

Where were you born and raised?

I grew up in Big Timber, Montana.
I am currently attending school at the University of Wyoming where I study Animal Science.

When did you become acquainted with Targhee Sheep? How long have you raised them?

I first was acquainted with Targhee Sheep when I was around nine-years-old when I went to Carolyn Green's shearing. She gave me a lock of wool from one of her ewes and a lock of wool from a Suffolk ram. That is where my passion for wool evaluation started. It was a couple years later when Carolyn suggested that I apply for the starter flock. I ended up receiving that award in 2015 when National's was in Big Timber and have been raising Targhees ever since.

Favorite Targhee trait

I think the overall duality of the breed is my favorite trait. Being able to select on wool, NSIP data and eye appeal is no doubt challenging – but it's also what makes it fun.



2021 Election of Officers & Directors

President & Central Plains Director - Leroy Pedersen; leroy@koletzkyimplement.com, 605-660-2981

Vice President & East Director– Susie Skinner; twins2@hughes.net, 937-375-5671

Montana Director - Dylan Laverell; laverell.dylan@gmail.com, 406-930-0216

West Director - Bryan Allred; ballred@cut.net, 435-445-3528

At Large West Director - Julie Ward; clovermeadowsmt@gmail.com, 406-596-0668

At Large East Director- Jeff Nevens; aandjnevenslivestock@frontier.com, 608-592-7842

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Targhee Tails & Trails



My daughter Mary, invited her boy friend over for his first sheep handling experience. He got treated to a full day of hoof trimming, deworming, and shearing. Also, an adventurous run down the road when the ewes broke the twines on one of the holding pens.

Welcome to sheep farming James! ~ Rodney S. Kuenzi, BS, DVM

Wisconsin State Fair

Targhee Premier Exhibitor - A&J Nevens Livestock

- **Champion Targhee Ram** – A&J Nevens Livestock and went on to win **Supreme Champion Wool Breed Ram**



Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival

Wool Champion Ram - Lincoln, Sophie Larson

Wool Reserve Champion Ram - Border Leicester, Kevin Kitchen

Wool Champion Ewe - Romney, Ainsley Porter

Wool Reserve Champion Ewe - Targhee, Abby Stalbaum

Welcome New USTSA Members!

Collin Kessler
Wetonga, SD

Todd Martin
Stacy, MN

Dustin & Mandi Elkins
Richardton, ND

Scheel Family Livestock
Alpena, SD

Wooden Nickel Targhees
Hot Springs, SD

Coy Peterson
Baldwin, IA

Flying V Livestock
Victoria Carroll
Cedar City, UT

Clay & Mary Dietz
Powell, WY

- **Reserve Targhee Ram** – Abby Stalbaum
- **Champion Targhee Ewe** – A&J Nevens Livestock
- **Reserve Targhee Ewe** – A&J Nevens Livestock
- **Best 6 Head - Bred and Owned** – A&J Nevens Livestock



Blast from the Past!

TARGHEE NEWS

Edited by Arvid Larsen, Secretary
U. S. Targhee Sheep Association
Big Timber, Montana

Did you ever stop to think about the decline in sheep numbers? During this same period Targhee sheep numbers have made their expansion. Why? There must be a reason. One Successful sheepman seems to have the answer. People who make their living running sheep want production. They watched Targhees at the neighbors and then decided they wanted more production too. Those characters that make a difference are open face, no horns, more staple, more lambs weaned and a product in demand by the market.

What do you have to sell?

Selling lambs and wool is a problem some years. Other years the buyers call on the phone when demand is good. Remember one thing when selling Targhees--you are selling a "trade mark". It is up to you to stress "Targhee". In some areas of the west Targhees bring a premium. This is true for wool, feeder lambs, and breeding ewes because commercial producers know the specifications of their product. Such a reputation takes time and emphasis on the name of Targhee. Have you made such a reputation for Targhees in your area? The other day a speaker at a national agricultural meeting said, "If you are using the old breeds of chickens, you are old fashioned. The new breeds from a crossbred background are much more productive. They produce more weight per pound of feed, have greater live-ability and disease resistance." Don't forget Targhees have this background. That is why they are more productive. Don't be fooled--biological change takes time and Targhees have 30 years of this background.

* * * * *

The Targhee Association Secretary, Arvid Larsen, has recently purchased a ranch between Big Timber and Harlowton, Montana. Mr. Larsen was raised on a ranch and since then has purchased several ranches which he has sold after building them up. Arvid thinks he has the one he wants this time for sure. Besides running a few cattle, he is going to develop a flock of Targhee sheep. Arvid says he is a better rancher than a "secretary" but he has held our Association together in the absence of Bill Boylan. Arvid says he can't wait for the day to see Bill back. Every member should keep in mind when doing business with the Association that Mr. Larsen is a busy man on a new ranch.

--G. Curtis Hughes, President

* * * * *

Former Secretary, Bill Boylan: Writes from Korea that he is receiving a real education in how the other half lives. We in America can't realize the hard to mouth existence of millions of people over there. After seeing these people it is hard to believe that surpluses of food exist in our world. The odor of a sheep barn will be as welcome as roses after leaving their country, Bill says. Bill is looking forward to returning home this fall and getting back to his flock of Targhees. Bill kept a nucleus of his highest producing sheep so he would be making progress and have a base from which to start. Take ten minutes and write Bill a letter telling him what you are doing and how you like Targhees. His address is: Pvt. William J. Boylan, RA 19502652, Hdq. Btry 10th AAA Group, APO 970, San Francisco, California. Don't put it off, write now.

Research News: If you wonder what your feed bill should cost for wintering ewes, find out now. You may be putting out enough feed to winter two ewes. The boys at Montana State College are doing a real job on feed costs and lamb production. For detailed information, write Leroy Van Horn, Montana Agricultural Experiment Station, Bozeman, Montana.

* * * * *

What the Breeders are doing: Henry Yoppe of Livingston, Montana, the first breeder of Targhees, is back in the business again with a new flock.

Howard Nye, a very successful commercial operator in the Flathead Valley and Blackfoot Reservation, is now operating a smaller unit at Joliet, Montana. Besides his Targhees, he has a top flock of Suffolks.

The University of Illinois is very well pleased with their flock of Targhees. A real sheep for the Corn Belt.

The Southwestern Sheep Breeding Laboratory at Fort Wingate, New Mexico, on the Navajo Indian Reservation, is giving Targhees a real test for range adaptability.

Remember you are always welcome to visit the Targhee flock at the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho. Julius E. Nordby, Director, is a great host and will enjoy discussing the industry problems with you.

Ohio breeders think the Targhee is the answer to many of their problems.

Leo Pfister of Whitney Nebraska, one of the Association Directors, surprised everyone at the ram sale last fall by bringing a Mrs. Congratulations and much happiness.

* * * * *

Wool Shows: Have you noticed that Targhee fleeces have made a real showing at the National Wool Shows? Keep up the good work.

* * * * *

What is a Great Stud Ram Sale? The answer is easy. Last year at the Association sponsored National Targhee Sale in Billings, Montana, the answer was revealed. The top ram sold for \$390.00 to Arnold Breck of Big Timber, Montana. The ram he purchased two years previously was a great individual and producer of lambs. His first offspring were sold before the end of the first breeding season.

The sale average for all stud rams last year was the highest in the nation. Look to the 1956 sale for better stud rams. The Association has something to be proud of in making this small beginning so successful. The range ram sale was the best in the west.

* * * * *

Be sure and give those 4-H and F. F. A. kids a boost with their projects.

* * * * *

We wish it were possible to print Targhee News every month. You can help by sending in news items.

* * * * *

The association office wants sheep pictures for a new pictorial. We need pictures of fat and feeder lambs in particular.

DO YOU KNOW

1. One of the most reliable loans made in agricultural financing is to the small sheep operator.
2. In what other business can a young man make more profit for the investment than with a bunch of sheep?
3. The phenomenal production record of some crossbred sheep started 30 years ago turned out to be the Targhee breed?
4. Targhee fleeces are in great apparel demand because of grade and length?
5. Targhees raise more twin lambs because they have production background?
6. Targhee lamb carcasses on the hook have been thought to be from a mutton breed?
7. The Association office has requests for Targhees from all areas of the United States?
8. The Targhee Association is one of the few organizations in the world that recognizes the principle of "Group Genetics" with its flock registration. Commercial operators like it. Look forward to hearing more about it in the animal world.

* * * * *

Market News: The recent strengthening of the lamb and wool market has created a noticeable interest and greater demand for breeding ewes. The first wool incentive payment this spring will probably give the demand for sheep an extra shot in the arm. The gradual expansion of Targhee sheep should play a leading role in any future increase in the sheep population.

We notice quite often in the U. S. D. A. market reports, special mention of "Targhee" lambs. This reference is to thrifty, uniform feeder lambs or the conformation and finish on fat lambs. This is an asset to the small flock owner to have his lambs on the market bring special mention because of their breeding. You are the one to sell the use of the name "Targhee".

Have any old pictures, articles, or tidbits regarding the history of Targhees and its members? Would you like to see "Blast from the Past" as a regular feature in upcoming Newsletters. Please submit to Mardy prior to submission deadlines.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

- Nov. 12-14 - Virginia Shearing School - Shenandoah Valley AREC in Raphine, Va. - Tom Stanley at stanleyt@vt.edu
- Nov. 19-20 - Dorper Days and Production Sale - Ollie Liner Center in Plainview, Texas - www.defaidlivestock.com/dorper-days
- Nov. 20 - Missouri Sheep Producers Convention - Lincoln University's George Washington Carver Farm in Jefferson City, Mo. - www.missourisheep.com
- Nov. 20 - Idaho Wool Growers Association Annual Meeting - Twin Falls, Idaho - www.idahowoolgrowers.org
- Nov. 20-22 - North Dakota Sheep Shearing School - Hettinger Fairgrounds in Hettinger, N.D. - Christopher Schauer at 701-567-4323 or christopher.schauer@ndsu.edu
- Nov. 20-22 - North Dakota Certified Wool Classing School - Hettinger Armory in Hettinger, N.D. - Christopher Schauer at 701-567-4323 or christopher.schauer@ndsu.edu
- Dec. 3-4 - Ohio Sheep Improvement Association's Buckeye Shepherd's Symposium - TBA - www.ohiosheep.org
- Dec. 3-5 - Montana Wool Growers Association Convention - Billings, Mont. - www.mtsheep.org
- Dec. 4 - Tennessee Sheep Producers Association Annual Meeting - Lebanon, Tenn. - www.tennesseesheep.org
- Dec. 10-11 - North Dakota Lamb and Wool Producers/Minnesota Lamb and Wool Producers Joint Convention - Fargo, N.D. - www.ndsheep.com or www.mlwp.org
- Dec. 11-13 - South Dakota State University Sheep Shearing School - SDSU Sheep Research and Testing Unit in Brookings, S.D. - Extension.sdstate.edu/event/sdsu-sheep-shearing-school
- Jan. 4-7, 2022 - Texas A&M Sheep Shearing School - San Angelo, Texas - Jordan Moody at Jordan.Moody@ag.tamu.edu
- Jan. 7-9, 2022 - Michigan Sheep Producers Association Annual Shepherd's Weekend - Lansing, Mich. - www.misheep.org
- Jan. 19-22, 2022 - American Sheep Industry Annual Convention - San Diego, Calif. - www.sheepusa.org
- Jan. 20-22, 2022 - Utah State University Shearing School - USU Animal Science Farm in Wellsville, Utah - www.eventbrite.com/e/usu-sheep-shearing-school-2022-registration-168355254097

ALB Producing Lamb Quality Video Series

The American Lamb Board and Premier 1 Supplies are co-sponsoring a new American Lamb Quality Video Series. The North Dakota State University Extension Service is producing the five-part series.

Using the theme of Beginning with the End in Mind, the series' purpose is to help the American lamb industry provide a consistently high-quality product to consumers, taking into account the wide variety of production systems.

NDSU and University of Minnesota Extension Sheep Specialist Travis Hoffman, Ph.D., is spearheading the project. The first video, Lamb Carcass Characteristics is now available at the lambresourcecenter.com and www.lambsummit.com. The next videos, USDA Yield Grades and USDA Quality Grades, Live Animal Evaluation, and Retail Meat Yield and Value will be announced in the coming months.

"Using lamb carcasses to demonstrate quality attributes and techniques used for standardized analysis make the videos very relevant and useful for today's U.S. sheep producers," said ALB Chair Gwen Ktizan from Newell, S.D.

Source: ALB



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