



# Targhee Talk

The Newsletter of the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association  
July - 2011

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## And the USTSA Starter Flock Winner is . . . Desire Routier - Lake Benton, Minnesota

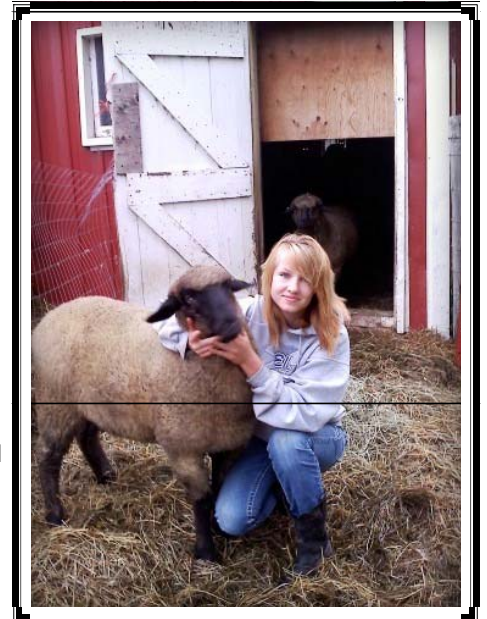
My interest in the Targhee breed comes from wanting some white face sheep that can withstand Minnesota winters and that are able to raise many lambs. I want to raise a sheep that is a good wool breed and that can be considered a meat type also. They would be a good addition to a flock and they would be able to put up with Hampshire sheep. I found out about the program and this breed in my 4-H newsletter and was interested in taking an opportunity to learn about another sheep breed.

I have experience with sheep from two years ago with the "Adopt a Lamb" program in my 4-H Golden Pheasants club through Rodger Olivier. I "adopted" two commercial type Rambouillet lambs, a whether and a ewe. I showed them as markets in 4-H and won a trip to the South Dakota State Fair. I was very happy to be awarded with a plaque for Reserve Champion Rate of Gain with my whether and to see that my ewe had gotten seventeenth place also. After state fair when I had to say good-bye to Rocky and Adrian I cried from Huron to Brookings because I didn't want to say good-bye. Then I decided I was going to have my own breeding sheep so I wouldn't have to get rid of them and they would always be at the barn waiting to see me. I decided to get Hampshire sheep and did so with help from Randy Dombeck. I bought two aged ewes from him. One was bred and I ultra sounded her to learn she had twins. February 15th came and I went to check in the early morning hours and found the ewe with three lambs in the nursery. I was so happy to see they were all fine and find out that she had two rams and a ewe. Two days later, at 2:00 am when I got up to go check on them and to bottle feed the smaller ram I found the mother died. The vet had been over earlier to try and make her better, but when we told them of my sad news I talked with them. The vet said with her symptoms and signs that she most likely had a perforated uterus. Those three lambs then became my bottle babies and I saw them grow up before my eyes in no time at all. After a few months I again "adopted" two white face lambs from Rodger to show as markets along with my three lambs for breeding. I went to the South Dakota State Fair with all five. I showed my breeding sheep in the 4-H show, open class, and the junior show for Hampshires. This previous fall I went down to Rochester and was able to buy two yearling ewes for lambing. My aged ewe had a single and one of the yearlings had a single, too.

The facility I have for my sheep is a big red barn with a hay loft, two inside pens that can go outside, and a lean-to part that I have my horses in. The bigger inside pen has an automatic waterer that I keep clean. I put a hay bunk in there, too, and it has a door that goes into the outside pen. The smaller inside pen also has access to a hay feeder and has a water tub that I bucket water into and clean. Each pen has a feed bunk that is up, off the ground that I made to put grain in and I also had help with making little feeders

*continued P. 2.*

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USTSA  
National Show & Sale  
Schedule of Events  
*SDSU Animal Science  
Arena*

*Desire Routier continued . . .*

for loose salt and mineral. The outside pen is split in half so both inside pens have their own outside pen. My dad and I had built a fence last year to separate my ram lambs from my ewe lamb and market lambs.

The intentions I have for the Targhee sheep breed are to continue learning about this breed, and while doing so, promote it as well. I am looking forward to learning how to fit the breed for showing and also learning how to take care of the wool. If I am able to get the Starter Flock I plan on keeping a purebred flock and buying a nice Targhee ram to breed them to. There will absolutely not be any cross breeding with any sheep that I have. They will all be purebred sheep. I'm really hopeful to be able to take them with me wherever I go to show sheep. And, I hope, if I get the flock, to hear their "baas" when I walk into the barn (along with my Hampshires) to do chores in the evening or when I just go over during the day to hang out and relax with my sheep. When I go to shows, I will be promoting the Targhee sheep to other sheep breeders. And, when I establish a flock I look forward to giving back a sheep or two now and then for this program so other people can make good memories with sheep. **Congratulations Desire! We hope you will learn more about the sheep industry and make many, many good memories along the way.**

USTSA Show & Sale News

Good news! Mark your calendar to attend July 14th -16th! The 2011 National Show & Sale promises to be a great Targhee event! Consignors represent longtime Targhee breeders and a whole new group of young producers. Fifty sheep have been consigned. Be sure to go on-line and see the 2011 Sale Catalog ([www.targheesh sheep.org](http://www.targheesh sheep.org)). Many outstanding bloodlines are being offered for sale. Take time to study the information about the entries as members have worked hard to provide top quality stock. Printed copies of the sale catalog are available through the U.S. mail upon request.

**7/13 Wednesday**

5:00 pm Pens available for early arrivals

**7/14 Thursday**

8:00 am Official arrival & welcome of members

2:00 pm Educational Program - NSIP & LambPlan

3:00 pm Sifting begins - deadline for sheep to be in the barn

Health, registration, micron, & EBV paperwork to be turned in by this time

Wool & Photo Contest entries due

7:00 pm Picnic at Hillcrest Park Shelter A

8:30 pm USTSA Board of Directors Meeting

**7/15 Friday**

9:00 am National Junior Show

Wool Judging

1:00 pm Open Show

Adult Jackpot

3:00 pm Annual Membership Meeting

7:00 pm Banquet followed by Benefit Auction - Days Inn

Jr. Members' Pizza & Pool Party

**7/16 Saturday**

11:00 am National Sale (Rams followed by Ewes)

Consignor	NSIP Yearling Ram	Yearling Ram	Ram Lambs	NSIP Yearling Ewes	Yearling Ewes	Pen of 2 Yearling Ewes	Ewe Lambs	Pen of 2 Ewe Lambs
Russell Allred Family		1						
Darrell Deneke		1	1		1		1	1
Deneke Family Targhee					1			
Braedon Hinker					1			
Elisha Lewis		2			1			
Rory Lewis		1			1			
Lewis Ranch		1						
McRae Brothers		1			2			
Kristin McRae Bieber					1			
Warren Nellis - CJR Farm		1			1			
A & J Nevens Livestock	1			3			3	1
Caleb Pedersen			1					
Jamie Skinner			1					
Stulken Targhees					1		1	
UW-Madison		1			2		1	1
Alexia Vannest				1				
Dillon Vannest		1			1			
Emma Vannest		1			1			
Von Krosigk Family		1			2	1	1	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>

## President's Notes

It's getting closer to the National Targhee Show and Sale in Brookings, South Dakota. Hopefully the weather cooperates, as it's been a tough spring for a lot of folks. It looks like there will be a good lineup of sheep that would be a nice addition to anyone's flock. Also the National Show, Wool Show, and Junior Show are great opportunities to see what other Targhee enthusiasts from across the country are doing.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new association secretary on board, as we get a chance to meet Mardy Rutledge at the Show and Sale. Also, I would like to extend a special thank you to Tracie Roeder for her years of dedicated service to the USTSA during her time as our association secretary and wish her and her family the very best in their endeavors.

We will be holding our association annual membership meeting following the National Show on Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at about 3:00 pm. This will be my final "Presidents Notes" for your newsletter as my term as your President expires with this meeting. I have enjoyed serving the association in this capacity and working with a great board and secretary. SEE YOU IN BROOKINGS!

*Darrell Deneke - President, USTSA*

## Thank You 2011 National Show & Sale Consignors!

### DATA - Sydell Raffle

The Dakota Area Targhee Sheep Association (DATA) is holding a raffle to help defray some of the cost of the 2011 National Show & Sale. A Sydell Clutch Winchstyle Fitting Stand with Side Rails will be awarded to the lucky winner at the completion of the National Sale. The winner is responsible for shipping costs. Tickets have already been mailed out to USTSA members. However, if you have not received tickets or would like more to sell, please contact Marcia Stulken (605-852-2348) or Darrell Deneke (605-696-0167). The cost of the tickets is \$10.00 for one ticket or three for \$20.00. Thanks for helping to support the 2011 National Show & Sale!

**SALE PHONE BIDS:** Looking to buy Targhee sheep, but concerned about travel and high gas prices? Consider a phone bid on sale day. We have members coming from as far east as Ohio and as far west as Montana who could meet you on the return trip with your new sheep. Contact Darrell Deneke 605-690-7271.

### Benefit Auction Items

Consignees and members are encouraged to bring an item(s) for the Benefit Auction on Friday evening July 15<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds from the auction will help to defray the costs of the 2011 National Show and Sale. 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, those will be given out during the Friday evening banquet. Thanks in

### Brookings - Lodging Options

Show and Sale headquarters will be at the Days Inn, 2500 E. 6th St., Brookings, SD. A block of rooms is reserved under the National Targhee Show and Sale at a special rate of \$72 + 8% sales tax. Rooms will be available at this rate until July 1, 2011. The phone number for the Days Inn is 1-877-831-1562 or 1-605-692-9471 or e-mail at info@brookingsdays.com

#### Additional hotels and motels in Brookings:

Comfort Inn	605-692-8566
Holiday Inn Express	605-602-9060
Super 8 Motel	605-692-6920
Fairfield Inn & Suites	605-692-3500
Staurolite Inn & Suites	605-692-3111
Hampton Inn & Suites	605-697-5232

#### City Camping:

Sexauer Park – Brookings, SD  
18 camper sites  
(no water or sewer hookups,  
but dumping station on site)  
\$15 per night  
Reservations secured with a  
Visa or Mastercard 605-692-2708

### Photo Contest Pictures Needed

Mardy has yet to receive many photos for the USTSA Photo contest. Please submit your great Targhee pictures at: [ustarghesheep@gmail.com](mailto:ustarghesheep@gmail.com) Photos will be judged by popular vote of viewers. Winners will be announced at the banquet. Cash prizes will be awarded as follows: \$20 – 1<sup>st</sup> place; \$10 – 2<sup>nd</sup> place; and \$5 – 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Greetings from  
Jamie Skinner - 2010  
Starter Flock Winner

Hello, how are you doing? We are doing fine down here in Southern Ohio. I just wanted to drop you a note that states my Targhees are doing great. They don't like the heat but, really like all the shade trees in the pasture. The weather down here went from the mid-60's one day to mid-90's the next. It always seems we only have two or three days of spring and then we jump right into the summer.

Last night Glenn and Joan High came down to inspect the lambs. While they were here they tagged, tattooed, and checked the lambs wool.

The little lambs are learning how to get under the fences and just eat wherever they want. They are growing very fast, the last one was born on March 20<sup>th</sup>, and is as big as my FFA market lambs that were born on February 18<sup>th</sup>.

I'm looking forward to seeing all you in South Dakota in July.

*Jamie Skinner  
2010 Starter Flock Winner*

### Brookings Area Sites of Interest

South Dakota State  
Agricultural Heritage  
Museum (Medary Ave  
and 11<sup>th</sup> St.)

The South Dakota State Agricultural Heritage Museum is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of objects related to the states agricultural history and rural heritage from 1860 to the present. The museum is concerned not only with crops, livestock and related technologies but also with human experiences that were shaped by South Dakota's diverse environment. Hours are Monday-Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (free).

South Dakota  
Art Museum  
(Medary Ave., and  
Harvey Dunn St.)

As the state's only American Association of Museums accredited art museum, the South Dakota Art Museum is committed to exhibiting and preserving the art treasures of South Dakota. The Museum holds painting collections by Harvey Dunn, Oscar Howe, and Paul Goble. Exquisitely embroidered Marghab Linens, a comprehensive Native American Tribal Art collection, and a collection of works from South Dakota artists complete the permanent holdings of the Museum. Hours are Monday-Friday: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. (free).

## Travis Hoffman - National Open Show Judge

Travis Hoffman was born and raised on a diversified sheep, cattle, and grain operation in Northeastern South Dakota. His passion for livestock production runs deep as a 5th generation agriculturalist. His father and grandfather operate the family ranch with commercial cattle and registered Corriedale sheep that have won numerous national honors.

Travis received his bachelor's degree from South Dakota State University in Animal Science in 2003; a master's degree in Meat Sciences from Colorado State University in 2008; and is presently pursuing his doctorate at CSU.

Hoffman is currently employed as the Colorado Beef Quality Assurance Coordinator. This unique position allows him to interact with producers of all facets of the cattle and beef industry on pertinent and emerging issues pertaining to animal health and well-being, food safety, beef quality, consumer perception, and profitability. Travis' enthusiasm for inspiring other young agriculturalists is exemplified through coaching the CSU Wool Judging Team (2005-2011); claiming the 2010 National Champion Team with victories at the National Western and Houston Livestock Show, overseeing the Meat Animal Evaluation Team and providing guest lectures in numerous CSU Animal Science courses. Travis has judged sheep and cattle in 22 states and many major shows from coast to coast.



We are blessed and fortunate to have three terrific young people involved with the 2011 USTSA National Show & Sale as judges. One of the reasons these folks have become so accomplished is because mentors invested their time, talent, and finances to see them succeed. Please donate to the USTSA Starter Flock today! See your investment in a young person grow with interest!

## Ann Kolthoff - National Junior Show Judge



Ann Kolthoff grew up on a grain and cattle operation south of a small Northeast Iowa town, New Hampton. While growing up she was extremely active in 4-H and FFA showing cattle, hogs, and sheep at the county and state level. A 2007 graduate of New Hampton High School, she continued her education at South Dakota State University in Brookings, South Dakota. While in college, Ann, was employed at the Sheep Research Unit and Ruminant Metabolism lab, was a member of Block and Bridle, Sigma Alpha Women's Sorority, Post Secondary Ag Students, 2011 Academic Quadrathlon Team, and Little International where she won champion fitting and was 3rd in showmanship in 2011.

Ann was also a member of the 2008 Wool Judging Team where she was 2nd High Individual in placings at the National Western Stock Show, a member of the 2010 Livestock Judging Team, and a member of the 2011 Meat Animal Evaluation Team where as a team they were 1st overall at the North Central Meat Animal Evaluation Contest. Individually, Ann, was 5th High Individual in sheep and as a team they were 4th overall, and 2nd in the Meat Animal Division at the National Meat Animal Evaluation Contest. Upon completion of her bachelor's degree in Animal Science in May, 2011, Ann plans on continuing her education to obtain her master's degree with the hopes of working in the Agricultural Extension Service.

## Lacie Hoffman - National Wool Judge



Lacie Hoffman, originally from Rockham, South Dakota, is attending South Dakota State University while pursuing a Master's Degree in Meat Science. She grew up on a diversified sheep, cattle, and crop farm, but her main passion was their registered Corriedale sheep. Lacie's family has been involved in the Corriedale breed since 1958, and has been extremely successful with numerous national championships. Lacie is the sister to Travis Hoffman, the National Open Show Judge.

Lacie was a member of the National Champion Colorado State University Wool Judging Team in 2010. She was also honored as the 2008 CSU Outstanding Meat Judger, and the 2008 First Team All-American, presented to only four judges in America. Additionally, she won both the 2010 Wisconsin Invitational Meat Animal Evaluation Contest and the 2010 National Meat Animal Evaluation Contest. Lacie is the current coach of the South Dakota

State University Wool Judging Team that was only two points away from winning the National Western Wool Judging Contest this past January.

# Targhee Tails & Trails

## Where is Boddington, Western Australia?

by Tracie Roeder

An odd thing happened on Monday, June 27th at approximately 2:00 pm near the small, and recently flooded town of Fort Shaw, Montana. The postmaster called and informed us an Australian sheep producer and his family were vacationing in the area and wanted to see some U.S. sheep. Mary, recalled all of the Targhee mailings over the years, and wondered if we would be game for some company. I said, "Sure, send them up." And, so began an amazing day of sheep stories . . .

Gary and Kaye Batt own Westover Station approximately 20 miles from Boddington, and 100 miles from Perth, Western Australia. Boddington boasts a population of 926 souls. The district is known for its sheep industry and aluminum mining. The annual precipitation around Boddington is 28 inches. Since they received only 9 inches of rain this past year, Gary and Kaye sold down sheep numbers and decided to go on vacation. They thought it is an excellent way to deal with a major drought and this year Montana has more than enough water for them to enjoy!

Gary wanted to walk our pastures and compare notes on grazing management and forage species. I explained our pasture rotation, noting different warm and cool season grasses. We also visited extensively about our irrigation system. I learned three rather unique features of Gary's grazing management system. No nitrogen is applied to his fields because of the use of the legume, lupine, as an annual crop to naturally fix nitrogen. Lupine is grown to maturity producing seeds the size of small field peas. The lupine seeds are 28% protein, and provide the basis for protein supplementation. Sheep are turned in to graze lupine fields eating the seeds, the entire plant, and at times grubbing the plant out of the soil, like turnips!

To preserve the quality of the lupine crop without having to hay it, they "hay freeze" the field. Gary asked me if we "hay freeze". I snickered and responded that "our hay freezes every time it gets to 30 below along with everything else around here". Gary laughed and explained hay freezing. In Australia when a forage crop is close to maturity, producers apply a dilute application of Roundup to "freeze" the crop to retain protein quality. They then turn the sheep in to graze. Once the crop is harvested, the animals are moved to a different pasture, and the crop grows back. Gary says the Roundup just makes the plants "sick", but does not kill them. By the time the lupine is consumed, and the sheep are removed, the plants have recovered enough to keep growing.

Although no nitrogen is applied to Gary's fields, he does apply 100 pounds of phosphate per acre! Sheep are supplied with a mineral package at certain times of the year including selenium, but not with salt which is readily available in the soil and forage.

*(continued P. 6)*

### Brookings Area Sites of Interest *Continued*

#### McCrorry Gardens

McCrorry Gardens, a campus and community focal point is managed by the SDSU Department of Horticulture, Forestry, Landscape and Parks. The garden serves as an outdoor teaching and research lab for undergraduate and graduate students at SDSU.

#### SDSU Coughlin Companile (SDSU Campus)

Since its construction in 1929, the Coughlin Companile has been the predominant symbol of South Dakota State University and one of the most outstanding man-made landmarks in the state. Funds for the 165-foot chimes tower were donated by Charles L. Coughlin, a 1909 electrical engineering graduate. Following a campaign to raise \$560,000 which was given by 3,500 alumni and friends, the Campanile was rededicated on September 22, 2001.

#### SDSU Dairy Bar

A stop at the SDSU Dairy Bar, located in the Dairy Micro Building, is a must for campus visitors. The SDSU Dairy Plant processes about 10,000 pounds of milk a week. Products manufactured on campus include cheese, butter and more than 100 flavors of State's world-famous ice cream. Oreo ice cream was developed at the SDSU Dairy Plant. Hours are Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

## Eastern & Mid-Western State Fairs

### Wisconsin State Fair

West Allis, Wisconsin  
August 4-14, 2011  
www.wisstatefair.com or  
800-884-FAIR

### Ohio State Fair

Columbus, Ohio  
July 27-August 7, 2011  
www.ohiostatefair.com or  
888-OHO-EXPO

### Nebraska State Fair

Grand Island, Nebraska  
August 26-September 5, 2011  
www.statefair.org or  
308-382-1620

### South Dakota State Fair

Huron, South Dakota  
September 1-5, 2011  
sdstatefair.com or  
800-529-0900

### Mid-Western & Western Sales

#### Center of the Nation NSIP Sale

Spencer, Iowa  
July 29-30, 2011  
www.nsip.org or  
parkwoodhillfarm@gmail.com

#### Choteau Sheep Expo

Choteau, Montana  
September 10, 2011  
www.choteausheepexpo.com  
or 406-859-3890

#### Wyoming Ram Sale

Douglas, Wyoming  
September 13, 2011  
dianelc@wyowool.org or  
307-265-5250

#### Montana Ram Sale

Miles City, Montana  
September 15, 2011  
www.mtsheep.org or  
406-442-1330

#### Hettinger Ram Sale

Hettinger, North Dakota  
September 14, 2011  
Wyman Scheetz 701-794-8743

#### Newell Ram Sale

Newell, South Dakota  
September 16-17, 2011  
605-456-1010

## Boddington, Western Australia continued . . .

While I assured Gary, our soil was of rather poor quality, Gary thought it excellent in comparison to theirs. He noted the large volume and variety of rocks. I pointed to the mountains and reminded him we were standing just east of the Rockies.

To begin discussing the finer points of our operations, we went inside and had lemonade and cookies. Gary runs 15,000 head of sheep. He informed me that he buys one ram per year and pays \$15,000 to \$20,000 for the privilege of owning him. Being a smart American sheep producer, I looked him straight in the eye, and said, "How does that work?" (Secretly, I am thinking Brent and I need to investigate the merits of a stud ram with a 1:15,000 breeding ratio - impressive!) My hopes were dashed, however, when Gary informed me his ram battery is larger than our entire flock. Gary uses this one premier stud on a nucleus flock of 250 - 300 ewes to grow out his own rams. He will use the premier stud for 1-3 seasons and turns over his home-grown rams within 1-2 years. Many of Gary's premier studs are purchased at the Perth Royal Stud Ram Sale.

Westover wool is 17 to 18 microns with a 80 mm staple length. Gary just sold his wool clip for \$13.00 a kilogram or \$5.90 a pound. To sell wool or sheep in Australia, one contacts an agent who secures a buyer. An agent's commission is 5%. Typically an Australian producer does not know and rarely meets the buyer of his wool or sheep. There is no such thing as hauling wool or sheep to the wool warehouse or sale yard for either the large or small producer. Semis are sent to pick up the commodities at Gary's station.

Westover has been running at an 82% drop the last 10 years. Sheep are extensively managed and brought in 4 to 5 times per year. A combination of helicopters, motor bikes, and horses are used to gather sheep. To keep them quiet, horses are used once sheep are moved closer in.

Wild dogs and dingos are a problem for Australian producers. We compared notes on predation. I explained our situation with grizzly bears, wolves, and coyotes. He was intrigued with our practice of bringing sheep in off the fields to corrals at night to prevent nighttime marauding. (Gary doesn't have a fixed set of corrals. All of his are mobile.) I told him that since our wool clip just pays the property taxes, our money is in the lamb we produce. A drop 2.2 times greater, shed lambing, and an intensive operation means every lamb is precious. Gary does not mind losing lambs. In contrast, I told him we get pretty excited about it.

Conversation moved to politics, and economics. Gary asked if I had voted for Barak Obama. I said, "No". He said "How did he get elected? I keep asking everyone I meet if they voted for him, and I have only found 3 people who did." I said, "Beats me."

We discussed gun ownership and gun control. Gary informed me, he is annually licensed to own and shoot firearms. On his license every gun he owns is listed. They are to be kept under lock and key. Police come to Westover to check on the guns listed on the license. They do not need a warrant to enter Gary and Kaye's home. Police request and must be granted access to the gun case. If gun license owners refuse, they may be fined. Kaye, Gary's wife, does not have a firearm license. If Kaye, were to be home alone in the house with the gun case unlocked, they would be fined. And, if Kaye uses a gun and police were to discover this, she would be fined for lack of a license. Without a license Kaye is unable to purchase ammunition for Gary. The shock on my face was apparent. Gary said "You Americans are born with a gun in your hand, and it is a good thing. It is good for you and us."

Health care was another hot topic. I asked Gary about universal health care, as Australia has it. He said 3.5% of their income goes to universal coverage. In addition they pay another \$3,500 for a premium plan which grants them quicker access to medical care. Gary said in rural areas the doctors are the same. So, you don't get access to better doctors, you are just assured quicker access. Over all he said, medical care was good.

When sheep shearers come to shear, Gary pays a standard salary. On top of this he pays a 9% tax to the Australian general coffers, 6.5% to workman's compensation, and then 7% to a retirement account for the shearer. So, for \$100 worth of shearing, Gary pays an additional \$22.50 in taxes. The taxes are not taken out of the shearer's pay. The shearer is responsible for paying his health care at 3.5% and must let Gary know to which fund his retirement money should be sent.

Gary was extremely impressed with the cost of food, fuel and cigarettes in the United States. Since the Australian dollar is worth \$.9487 in U.S. funds, the comparison is pretty close. Australian food costs are double ours. As a consequence they eat 25 lambs per year. (We eat six.) Australian fuel is running \$6.50 per gallon. And, Australian cigarettes are \$27.00 for a pack of 40.

Our final topic of conversation centered around snakes and crocodiles. Gary informed me most of their snakes stay away from people. However, the crocs are a different story entirely. Recently, just north of them they have had a problem with crocodiles (*continued P. 7*)

attacking vehicles. These would be 20 foot crocs laying in wait 50 feet off the roadway to attack on-coming cars. Attacked motorists are supposed to call the local game warden so the crocs can be relocated. I told him that this sounded similar to our grizzly bear policy. He said, "Yes, except we have just been shooting them lately and the wardens don't seem to mind." I told Gary and Kaye this was ironically similar to what was happening with our bears since there were too many. Kaye said, "You don't tell anyone, do you?" I said, "Well that depends. However, many use the 3 S policy of Shoot, Shovel, and Shut up." They thought this was a good perspective.

After many hours of visiting it was time for them to be on their way. Gary and Kaye were traveling via motor home to Alaska. No, unfortunately, they would not be here again, but would we consider visiting them in Australia? Absolutely! I did not have the presence of mind to snap a photo, but they did. The picture they took wasn't of us or our sheep. It was of the license plate on our car "US Wool".



## Welcome Nikki Elaine Bieber!

Born March 10, 2011, a daughter to Kristin and Cord Bieber of Brockway, Montana, and the first grandchild born to Jack and Kathy McRae of Jordan, Montana. Nikki weighed in at 6 lbs 8 oz, and was 19 and 3/4" long. Kristin reports that Nikki is "growing like a weed and likes her bum lambs even if they nibble on her toes". Congratulations to the Biebers and McRaes and a hearty welcome to our newest Targhee producer.

## Targhee Talk is Going Digital

Something new is afoot with the USTSA Newsletter. It is going digital. Those members having e-mail addresses listed with the USTSA will receive their newsletter via e-mail. Those without e-mail or who request a hard copy will continue to receive the standard printed newsletter by U.S. mail. Why the change? As with everything else, printing and postal costs continue to rise. In an effort to use your Targhee dollars to the best advantage, we are going to try this new approach. Please continue to support the Targhee Talk by submitting your newsworthy items to Tracie Roeder at roeder@3rivers.net or 950 County Line Road; Fort Shaw, Montana 59443.

## Corn Could Rise Above \$9 a Bushel

While meat and poultry companies continue wringing their hands in worry over how increasing use of corn for ethanol might impact their animal feed prices, along comes another situation that could make their headaches much worse. Simply put, the corn outlook is the worst in decades, according to the Edmonton Journal.

As a result of wet weather delaying corn planting in the United States this year, global inventories may end at their lowest in 37 years, which will mean higher costs for both consumers and livestock producers.

Due to excessive rain, more than one-third of U.S. Midwest fields were planted after the mid-May target for optimal growth. As of June 5, Ohio farmers were the furthest they've been behind since 1989 with 58% sowed, according to government data.

Goldman Sachs said on June 6 the disruptions increase the "potential for a short-fall". In the past year, corn futures more than doubled to \$7.365 a bushel in Chicago and may increase above \$9 should conditions get even worse, Morgan Stanley warned. This rally is hiking costs for both meat producers and ethanol makers. All of this bad news has led, in part, to global food inflation accelerating in nine of the past eleven months, according to the United Nations' monitoring mechanism. *Reprinted from meatpoultry.com*

*An e-mail from Charles Dwight - 5-26-2011 confirms the above article:*

*"I have lost track of how much (rain) we have had. It has rained for 30 of the last 35 days. It is the second wettest month on record. We should have 95% of planting done by now, but none of it is done. "*

### East & Montana Director Positions Open

The terms of office expire for Warren Nellis (East) and Ralph Lewis (Montana). We are thankful for the time Warren and Ralph have served with the USTSA. Live in either district? Consider running for office. This is a terrific opportunity to affect change in the USTSA. A term of office is 3 years. If you have any questions about the responsibilities of a Director, please contact Mardy or visit with board members.

#### Reminder:

#### The USTSA Office has moved

#### Mardy's Contact Information

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#### Enjoy your sheep in print!

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are due September 31st.

Good Luck and safe  
travels to everyone  
attending the 2011 USTSA  
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