

THE KATAHDIN HAIRALD

Volume 9
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Fall 1997

Newsletter of Katahdin
Hair Sheep International

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KHSI REGISTRY TO MOVE IN '98

Sometime in 1998, KHSI will shift registry services from the Piel Farm to another entity. We expect that more will change than just the address for submitting paperwork, but we intend to make it as painless as possible. You will hear more about this in the next newsletter and as the details get worked out.

What will change as of **January 1, 1998** is our fee schedule for registry work. Direct charges for registrations and transfers will be higher with any service provider other than Piel Farm, and there are additional costs to adapt software to our registry needs and transfer the historical flock book records into a new database. Thus, fee increases will take effect before the registry actually moves to help cover these associated costs (see minutes on page 4 for fee changes).

If you want to take advantage of our current fees for registry work, you must submit the work to the KHSI Registry at Piel Farm postmarked before January 1, 1998. Registration forms and certificates for transfer must be complete and accurate or they will be returned for resubmission at the increased 1998 rates.

Also, if you know of any party who would like to make a proposal to KHSI to offer professional registry services, please contact Charles Brown, Laura Fortmeyer, or a Board member soon, as proposals need to be received by December 1.

WHEN REGISTERED (OR RECORDED) ANIMALS ARE SOLD

When a Katahdin sheep is sold as registered or recorded, the seller is obligated to complete:

1. The Animal Registration Form (including signature) if the animal has not yet been submitted to the Registry or
2. The transfer section of the registration (or recordation) certificate including date, buyer name and address, and signature. All ownership transactions must be recorded with the registry as transfers.

The party who sells an animal is strongly encouraged to submit the registration form or certificate for transfer to the Registry, rather than giving them to the buyer to submit. If you have any questions, please contact Charles Brown or Laura Fortmeyer.

INSPECTION POLICIES TO CHANGE

Mandatory inspection will be discontinued for 100% blood Katahdins (offspring of two registered parents) effective for animals born on or after January 1, 1998. Mandatory inspection will be maintained for upgraded animals eligible for registration (7/8 blood or more, offspring of one registered and one recorded parent). No temporary certificates will be issued, thus upgraded animals cannot be submitted for registration until they are inspected as yearlings (or older).

In 1999, there will no longer be a ceiling on the mileage reimbursement (currently \$40 US/\$70 Can) that is paid by the breeder for inspection of upgraded animals.

OF NOTE FOR CANADIAN MEMBERS

1. KHSI members who are also members of CKSA and have different flock prefixes for each registry need to know that, in order for an animal to be legitimately registered and inspected by KHSI, it must have the entire Sheep ID, including KHSI prefix, on the animal. If the animal has a CKSA prefix on it as well, so be it.
2. At this point, animals that are registered solely with CKSA are not recognized by the KHSI Registry. CKSA-registered animals can be incorporated into a breeding program through KHSI upgrading provisions for entry into the KHSI flock book. For example, offspring of a KHSI-registered female and a CKSA-registered male would be recorded as a 50% blood upon submission to the KHSI Registry.

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1998 ANNUAL GATHERING IN ARKANSAS

by Ed Martsof

All Katahdin breeders and enthusiasts are invited to the 1998 KHSI Annual Meeting on Petit Jean Mountain in beautiful central Arkansas. Petit Jean Mountain is considered by thousands of travelers to be the ideal rural getaway unspoiled by commercial influences, yet completely capable of making your visit comfortable and relaxing.

Access is easy by ground, air or water. Little Rock Airport is one and a half hours away and serviced by every major airline. Interstate 40 is only 15 miles to the north and the Arkansas River touches the base of the mountain. For those who have had a really good year, you can land your own plane right on the mountain itself!

Lodging options cover the whole spectrum of taste, adventure and cost, all within easy reach of a central meeting place with no traffic congestion except for deer, wild turkey, and the occasional stray cow. The range includes shaded camping grounds in private areas or the state park to a motel-type lodge or several styles of private cabins. Also included is a regular motel. If you are looking for a really special experience, private homes on the brow are available. You can spend anywhere from \$10 to \$400 U.S. per night.

A wide variety of Katahdin sheep are readily available, and training sessions will be arranged in comfortable, indoor areas.

We look forward to seeing you September 18-19, 1998.

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STUDY COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD

Three issues discussed at the recent Board of Directors meeting warranted appointment of committees to collect information and opinions and make recommendations in the next year.

The Junior Membership Committee will develop ideas related to youth-oriented activities and membership privileges and recommend initial elements of a program for KHSI.

The Upgrading Study Committee will examine the impact of upgrading on the Katahdin breed and KHSI. It will determine what the relevant questions are, what information is needed to address those questions, what upgrading activity Katahdin breeders are currently involved in and what are the results of such upgrading endeavors. The committee will report to the Board the positive and negative effects upgrading has had and will have on the Katahdin breed and make recommendations for changes, if any, to registry policies related to upgraded animals.

The Showing Guidelines Committee will consider various perspectives and approaches to competitive showing of Katahdins, review other breed association policies, assess the potential positive and negative effects on our breed and recommend policies for KHSI that support our long-term interests. The committee will also address the need to educate show managers and judges about KHSI and the Katahdin breed, especially in Canada.

DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

We are asking you to consider what might be appropriate minimum qualifications for eligibility as a Director on the KHSI Board. Please send your ideas via note, postcard, or phone call to Laura Fortmeyer or Donna Watkins. Thanks!

KATAHDINS IN THE PRESS

Brad and Linda Neunzig's Katahdin flock in northwest Washington was featured in the *Capital Press Agricultural Weekly*, May 2, 1997

Jack and John Kyle's flock of Idaho was featured in the *Signal American* September 29, 1997

(Please send copies of articles or promotional pieces published about your Katahdins to Laura Fortmeyer.)

The Katahdin Hairald is the official publication of Katahdin Hair Sheep International whose purposes are to:

- register individual Katahdin sheep and record performance;
- maintain the distinct identity of the Katahdin breed;
- assist in promotion and marketing; and
- encourage research and development related to the breed.

Board of Directors:

Steve Camp, Washington President
Donald Williams, Pennsylvania Vice-President
Donna Watkins, Illinois Secretary-Treasurer
Mark Dennis, Louisiana Director
Ed Martsof, Arkansas Director
Ellen Wise, Alberta Director
Piel Farm, Maine Honorary

KHSI Operations:

- Laura Fortmeyer, PO Box 115, Fairview, KS 66425, 785-467-8041

KHSI Registry:

- Charles Brown, Piel Farm, PO Box 89, Abbot, ME 04406, 207-876-4430

Newsletter edited by:

- Tina Williams, PO Box 318, Fair Play, MO 65649, Phone: 417-276-5597, Fax: -5677, WordsEtc@juno.com

MINUTES KHSI ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING—SEPTEMBER 27, 1997

PRESENT:

Bernard & Bonnie Barrett, Alberta
Ray Brignac, Louisiana
Charles Brown, Piel Farm, Maine
Steve Camp, Washington
Art & Nancy Case, Missouri
Connie & Glen Coppersmith, Washington
Mark & Sara Dennis, Louisiana
Gerald & Tracy Finnman, Alberta
Laura Fortmeyer, Kansas
Jean Hamm, Alberta
Don & Roine Klassen, South Dakota
Margaret Kos, Alberta
Frank & Lynette Kreddig, Alberta
Ken & Shirley Lindahl, Alberta
Jim & Kay Lovelace, Missouri
Ed Martsolf, Arkansas
Brad & Linda Neunzig, Washington
Julie Rosgen & Bruce Thompson, Alberta
Pat & Ted Sienkiewicz, Virginia
Dexter & Kay Walter, Oregon
Bill & Donna Watkins, Illinois
Larry & Lisa Weeks, Virginia
Donald Williams, Pennsylvania
Art & Ellen Wise, Alberta

Roger Dehnkoop

*Jacque Kinley
John Kelle*

Marlene Reid

advertising in the Hairald.

Laura then presented an update on some options for computerized performance evaluation programs available in Canada and the U.S. She reported that Virginia Tech University is looking for a large grant for hair sheep research that, if acquired, would subsidize enrollment in the National Sheep Improvement Program for 25 Katahdin breeders for three years.

D. Canadian Katahdin Sheep Association

Lynette Kreddig and Ellen Wise offered their perspectives on the history and objectives of the Canadian Katahdin Sheep Association. Discussion which followed included clarification of the CKSA imported animal regulations, concern about CKSA not including "Hair Sheep" when referring to the name of the breed, and the question of whether CKSA-registered animals will be accepted into the KHSI registry.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Board of Directors Report

Don Williams offered a report of discussions and decisions from the Board of Directors meeting held previously.

1. Membership Policies

- a) The Board discussed the status of KHSI members who were also members of CKSA, as it has been questioned whether one could be a member in good standing of both organizations due to differences in registration guidelines. Based on a review of each organizations' bylaws (especially Article IV of the KHSI Bylaws) and the KHSI Statement of Ethics, the Board found no conflict with KHSI members being members of other breed organizations, such as CKSA, as long as our standards are upheld and requirements followed for animals registered with KHSI.
- b) Junior membership programs of other sheep organizations were discussed, and the Board decided to appoint a committee to develop ideas related to a KHSI junior program. The committee will submit their recommendations by next year's annual meeting.

2. Registration Policies

- a) The Board decided to require sellers of registered/recorded animals to complete the date, buyer information, and signature on certificates at the time of sale (rather than just signing the certificate). They reaffirmed that all ownership transfers, even if brief, must be recorded with the registry. Also, they determined that it will be KHSI policy to encourage sellers of stock to submit transfers and registration forms rather than leaving it up to the buyer.

There was a good deal of discussion on the last policy with many present relating personal experiences that led to their own preferences

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 am by Don Williams, President, and he offered an invocation. All present introduced themselves. Don reviewed topics of the Board of Directors meeting held the previous two days, then asked for adjustments to the agenda of this membership meeting. A motion by Larry Weeks to accept the agenda as distributed was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A. 1996 Minutes

Ray Brignac moved acceptance of the 1996 Annual Meeting minutes as provided in the Winter '96/'97 newsletter issue mailed to all members. The motion was approved.

B. Treasurer's Report

Steve Camp presented the Treasurer's report as follows:

January 1, 1997 balance	\$12267.33
Revenues to September 1	15545.36
Expenses to September 1	12912.20
September 1, 1997 balance	\$14900.49

A motion by Ray Brignac to accept the Treasurer's report was approved.

C. Committee Reports

Laura Fortmeyer reported that the Promotion and Performance Evaluation Committees have not been active in the past two or three years. The Promotion Committee will be resurrected with Nancy Case as chairperson and will address multiple items such as: KHSI's advertising strategy, articles and news releases, cooperative sales of breeding stock, marketing Katahdin lambs as meat, and

MINUTES KHSI ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING—SEPTEMBER 27, 1997

about submitting registry work for animals sold. Ellen Wise asked for a sample bill of sale that members could use to clarify the terms of a sale with a customer.

Ray Brignac made a motion "to require the seller (rather than the buyer) to submit the original certificate or registration form to the registry." Don Klassen then moved an amendment that "KHSI use a carbonless duplicate for all certificates." The amendment was voted on and defeated. Then the original motion was defeated.

- b) Breeders who are registering sheep with CKSA as well as KHSI need to be aware that, in order for an animal to be legitimately registered and inspected by KHSI, it must have its KHSI prefix (as part of the Sheep ID) on the animal. Additional identifications for CKSA are acceptable.
- c) A proposal to phase out upgrading in the registry and close the flock book over a ten-year period was received from Martha Wieggers and Tina Williams. Pros and cons of upgrading provisions were discussed by the Board, but it was felt that there were questions to be determined and answered before a good judgement could be made. A committee will be appointed to study the issues of upgrading and closing the flock book with a report to be made to the Board by April 1, 1998.

Some members present expressed that they had opinions on these issues that they would like to share with the committee.

3. Inspection Policies

The Board once again reviewed our policy of mandatory inspection of registerable animals, discussion benefits, problems, and whether inspection is still necessary to protect the interests of the breed. The Board decided to discontinue the mandatory inspection requirement for 100% blood animals effective for animals born on or after January 1, 1998. The inspection requirement will be maintained for upgraded animals (7/8 blood or higher) eligible for registration but no temporary certificate will be issued; thus upgraded animals cannot be submitted for registration until they are inspected as yearlings (or older). The breeder reimbursement ceiling of \$40 US/\$70 Can will be discontinued in 1999 for inspections of upgraded animals.

Ellen Wise suggested that "optional inspection" be offered by KHSI, perhaps providing a list of certified inspectors to breeders. Ed Martsolf asked that a temporary certificate or recordation paper be available for 7/8+ blood animals that are eligible for registration but not yet inspected. Ted Sienkiewicz suggested contacting past KHSI members who have not renewed recently to let them know of the change in inspection requirements.

4. Registry Services

Piel Farm is ready to turn over operation of the KHSI registry to another party, as the volume has become more than they can reasonably handle. After significant study, the Board decided to pursue a working agreement with the National Sheep Genetics Registry (housed at the National Suffolk Association in Missouri) to contract for registry services, to begin as soon as practical in 1998 (probably in late spring).

Though the increases in registry activity are very good news for KHSI, the Piel Farm has been subsidizing operation of the registry at their site, and so we have not been paying all the costs ourselves. There will be higher costs associated with purchasing services from any other registry operator, and so the following fee changes were approved by the Board to take effect January 1, 1998:

Description	US funds	Canadian funds
Registrations and recordations	\$5.00	\$7.00
Transfers within 60 days of sale	3.00	4.50
Transfers after 60 days from sale	5.00	7.00
Five generation pedigrees	10.00	14.00
Rush fees (per animal)	5.00	7.00

Ed Martsolf felt that other parties who would be interested in making a proposal to KHSI for registry services might have been overlooked. He moved "to table the Board decision to December 1 in order to explore fully options for registry operation." The motion was approved. Lynette Kreddig suggested when registry operations are shifted we expand pedigree information on the certificate (i.e. registration numbers of all ancestors).

5. Showing

The Board feels that it is time to develop some policy guidelines for the breed related to competitive showing. A committee will be appointed to develop and recommend policies as well as to address the need for sponsors of Canadian shows to be educated about the existence of KHSI so that KHSI-registered animals will not be excluded.

Lynette Kreddig expressed that showing policy questions include whether tails should be docked and at what blood percent upgraded animals should be eligible for showing.

6. 1998 Budget

The proposed budget was distributed and reviewed by Steve Camp. Larry Weeks asked some questions about specific expense categories. Ted Sienkiewicz moved that the budget be approved, it was seconded by Larry Weeks and the motion passed.

B. World Sheep & Wool Congress

The World Sheep and Wool Congress is scheduled for July 15-19, 1998 in Pomona, California, and KHSI will participate with a high-quality exhibit. Not much information is available yet, but the event was described briefly.

MINUTES KHSI ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING—SEPTEMBER 27, 1997, CONTINUED

Steve Camp and Donna Watkins have offered to lead the effort and asked for interest, suggestions, and volunteers.

C. 1998 Annual Gathering

Two appealing offers to host the 1998 meeting were described by written and oral presentations from Ed Martsolf of central Arkansas and Jim Lovelace of north-east Missouri (and the Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association). After questions and discussion Don Klassen moved that "KHSI hold the 1998 Annual Gathering in Arkansas." The motion was approved. The dates will be September 18 and 19, 1998.

D. Setting the Number of Directors

Don Williams reported that the Board recommends to the membership that the number of Directors remain at six. Larry Weeks moved that "the number of Directors be set at six for the next year." The motion was approved.

E. Election of Directors

1. Nominations to fill the four-year term vacated by Mike Bondy were: Ed Martsolf, Lynette Kreddig, Nancy Case, and Ellen Wise. A motion that nominations be closed was approved. The nominees offered comments concerning their candidacy. Ellen Wise was elected by written ballot.
2. Nominations for a five-year term previously served by Piel Farm were: Ed Martsolf, Nancy Case, and Larry Weeks. A motion that nominations be closed was approved. Nominees again had an opportunity for comments. Ed Martsolf was elected by written ballot.
3. There was a round of applause offered for Piel Farm's service on the Board, which has been continuous since KHSI incorporated in 1985.

D. Election of Officers

1. Nominations for President were: Donna Watkins, Ed Martsolf, Mark Dennis, and Steve Camp. Steve Camp was elected by written ballot.
2. Nominations for Vice-President were: Don Williams. A motion that nominations be closed was approved, and Don Williams was elected by acclamation.
3. Nominations for Secretary-Treasurer were: Donna Watkins and Ed Martsolf. A motion that nominations be closed was approved, and Donna Watkins was elected by written ballot.

E. Other Business

1. Mark Dennis moved that "the Piel Farm be named Honorary Lifetime Advisory Director with no obligation

for annual dues and the title be added to our letterhead stationery. Also that we present to the Piel Farm a plaque at the next Annual Meeting with a special invitation to attend." The motion was approved.

2. Donna Watkins shared information on a large order for Katahdin breeding stock from the Philippines and requested that any breeder who has-registered animals available should contact her as soon as possible.

Submitted by Laura Fortmeyer, November 3, 1997



KHSI FINANCIAL REPORT				
AS PRESENTED AT THE 1997 ANNUAL MEETING				
	1997 Budget	9/1/97 Actual	1997 Pro- jected	1998 Proposed Budget
January 1, 1997 Cash Balance			\$12267	
REVENUES				
Dues	\$4800	.. \$4747	.. \$6200	.. \$6500
Registrations/recordations/transfers ..	12000	.. 10218	.. 16000	.. 23000
Reimbursements & refunds	1000	.... 365	.... 1000	.... 1200
Materials sold	1000	.... 215	.... 1200	.... 2000
Totals	\$18800	.. \$15545	.. \$24400	.. \$32700
EXPENSES				
Contract Personnel				
Registry—Piel Farm	\$3000	.. \$1333	.. \$3500	.. \$850
Operations	5000	.... 2500	.... 5000	.... 6500
Registry Services .....	—	..... —	..... —	.... 10000
Advertising	2500	.... 2071	.... 2450	.... 2500
Bank Charges and Returned Checks .....	—	.... 123	.... 150	.... 100
Insurance .....	—	..... —	.... 400	.... 400
Materials for Sale	600	.... 1387	.... 1600	.... 1000
Office Supplies and Services	300	.... 265	.... 500	.... 300
Fax Machine .....	—	.... 212 — —
Postage	1200 — — —
Newsletter .....	—	.... 429	.... 600	.... 700
Promotional Items .....	—	..... —	..... —	.... 500
Other .....	—	.... 703	.... 1400	.... 1000
Printing/Copy Services	1300 — — —
Newsletter .....	—	.... 396	.... 600	.... 600
Other .....	—	.... 1072	.... 1500	.... 1100
Services	500	.... 211	.... 400	.... 350
Subscription, Dues and Fees	100	..... 0	.... 100	.... 100
Supplies and Materials	100	.... 19	.... 50	.... 100
Telephone	1200	.... 1061	.... 1600	.... 1600
Travel	3000 — — —
Inspector Reimbursement .....	—	.... 634	.... 2250	.... 2400
Other .....	—	.... 496	.... 750	.... 800
World Sheep and Wool Congress .....	—	..... —	..... —	.... 1000
Totals	\$18800	.. \$12912	.. \$22850	.. \$31900
September 1, 1997 Cash Balance			\$14900	

ALBERTA KATAHDIN SHEEP ASSOCIATION SUMMER SEMINAR & NEWS

by Lynette Kreddig, Secretary/Treasurer

On August 16, approximately 60 members and visitors turned out for our Show & Sell with speakers and a Bar-B-Q that night. It was a great success with a turnout of 33 Katahdin breeders displaying our finest sheep. Colleen Sawyer (Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board) was our main speaker and showed us very clearly the meat conformation to breed for as well as basics of maintaining health. She was impressed with our meat breed and felt we definitely had the necessary ingredients to achieve this market. Of much interest were her talks on marketing and general care of sheep.

Steve Camp took interested breeders, new and old, through an inspector training and certification clinic. Many said they understood the system much better due to Steve's easily understood presentation. After the test, it was found that Alberta now has a lot more inspectors. Thanks, Steve, for taking time off your busy schedule to help us.

The rest of the day was spent in a silent auction which was very successful in raising funds for the Association, visiting and listening to a presentation of "Ovissey" (performance

evaluation program for sheep). Time was taken out for a delicious lunch of Jean's Beans & Hamm Lamb Smokies with the ending Bar-B-Q of roast lamb being consumed with equal enthusiasm.

On November 1 several breeders attended a show at Northlands in Edmonton thanks to excellent traveling weather. With very qualified sheep judge Peggy Newman, who judged on the meat qualities of the sheep, the day was very educational. Peggy said that, in general, the Katahdin is not considered a prime contender in the meat market and seeing sheep of this calibre was extremely important to get the word out that they can and do make meat. For this reason, she encouraged us to attend shows. We all made lots of contacts and spoke ourselves hoarse talking "Katahdin" all weekend, but it is this promotion that has helped get the breed known and accepted.

We will have our Annual Meeting Dec 6, 1:00 pm, at the Red Deer Museum and would enjoy seeing any new Katahdin owners (as well as old) come along.

"OVISSEY"—NEW FLOCK MANAGEMENT AND EVALUATION PROGRAM

Press Release

Production efficiency has become an increasingly important part of business success in all industries. The sheep industry is no exception. Both domestic competition from other meat products and competition from offshore lamb have put pressure on Canadian producers to market more lamb at a competitive cost year-round. In turn, this has put pressure on managers to make the right production decisions. OVISSEY gives you the tools to make these decisions.

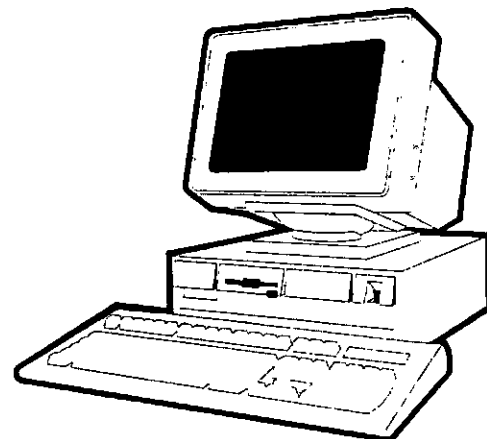
The Canadian Sheep Federation brought together a team of sheep producers to develop program specifications; software development consultants to design and program the software; geneticists to develop new genetic analysis modules and agrologists to produce printed materials. The result is OVISSEY, a program that you—the producers—can use regardless of whether or not you have a computer of your own.

Recognizing that good management of a sheep flock is a complex business, the developers of OVISSEY have included modules that assist with planning of flock activities, genetic improvement, recording and monitoring of flock health issues and many other general flock management features. Many of these features have never before been included in programs anywhere, let alone in those that are available for on-farm use! Make no mistake, this program is a world leader in providing producers with powerful tools to help in key management decisions.

In addition, the way in which the program is being made available to producers is flexible, ensuring that any producer can make use of the program at remarkably low cost. An annual fee makes all the features of OVISSEY available to any producers, large or small, intensive or extensive, purebred or commercial.

For further information or to enroll in the program, contact:

Canadian Sheep Federation
Building 54, Maple Drive
Central Experimental Farm
attn: Tig Shafto
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0C6
Phone: 613-233-9543 or 888-684-7739
Fax: 613-233-1791



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Sandra Baker Anderson Alberta
 Frances Breslin Alberta
 Carol Cire Alberta
 Rose & Jay Lewis Alberta
 Jody Seely Alberta
 Terry & Jennifer Semenoff Alberta
 Irene LaBrie-Trost &
 Gordon Trost Alberta
 Dave & Peri Ziprick Family ... Alberta
 J.B. Bock Arkansas
 Mylon E. Filkins California
 Jerry & Danelle Griffin Georgia
 Jack & Karyn Kyle Idaho
 John E. & Esther C. Kyle Idaho
 Bryan & Crissy LaFollette Indiana
 Steven & Wilma Hemphill Iowa

Allan & Diane Seltzer Kansas
 Martin Petitjean III Family .. Louisiana
 Lyle & Sandy Fisher Manitoba
 Bill & Rosemarie Gross Michigan
 Norman D. Woodley Michigan
 David K. Wallace Missouri
 Eldon & Beatrice Drost Newfoundland
 Gerald R. Martin Nova Scotia
 Robert & Sharon Miller Ohio
 Denvil E. Brown Ontario
 Alice Cockburn Ontario
 William & Kathleen Owens ... Ontario
 Don & Karen Campbell Saskatchewan
 Bryan Elaschuk Saskatchewan
 Melissa Jackson &
 Gordon Gray Family . Saskatchewan

Edward & Gail Hickey Family
 Saskatchewan
 Brian Litzenberger Saskatchewan
 Guy & Gaylene McGillicky
 Saskatchewan
 Colin Neufeld Saskatchewan
 Terence & Norma Normberg
 Saskatchewan
 Randy & Kim Tetzlaff . Saskatchewan
 J. David & Kay S. Morrissey ... South
 Carolina
 Glen L. Coppersmith Washington
 Geraldine A. Wilson Washington
 Gene Schlag Wisconsin

SHEEPBUD/SDSHEEP SOFTWARE

Press Release

A new software program can help sheep producers analyze flock profitability and production performance. The program was developed cooperatively by North Dakota State University and South Dakota State University to help producers quickly capitalize on strengths and correct weaknesses in their flock.

Sheepbud, the financial analysis portion of the software, looks at the sheep operation as part of the whole farm.

"Sheepbud financial analysis is done on a production year rather than a calendar or tax year," said Dan Nudell, research specialist at NDSU's Hettinger Research Extension Center. "This lets a producer make business decisions about the sheep enterprise with information that accurately represents its contribution to the farm's total profitability."

SDSsheep analyzes the production performance of the flock. After entering information about individual animals, the program completes calculations and provides easy-to-read performance reports.

In addition to the software itself, the Sheepbud/SDSsheep package includes three years of year-end summary reporting.

"All producers in the program can send in their summary reports, and, by compiling their data into the Shepherd database, we'll be able to provide custom reports," Nudell said. "These reports will show how your flock compares to others, plus the graphics will make it even easier to assess your own flock performance."

The Sheepbud/SDSsheep package includes DOS disks and can be run through Windows. It requires a 386 processor and 640K base memory plus a hard drive with 4 megabytes of free space. The program supports both dot matrix and laser printers.

A demonstration version of the software is on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/hettinge/shepbud/>
 To order, send \$80 (includes sales tax, shipping, and handling) to Distribution Center, Box 5655, Morrill 10, NDSU, Fargo, ND 58105-5655, fax 701-231-7044, voice 701-231-7882, e-mail dctr@ndsuext.nodak.edu

For questions about the program itself, call Nudell at 701-567-4323 or e-mail dnudell@ndsuext.nodak.edu

MKHSA INFORMATIONAL BOOKLETS FOR SALE

The Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association has available for sale a 20 page booklet including Katahdin History, Breed Characteristics and Standard, KHSA Membership and Registration Requirements, General Sheep Management and Resources. These booklets are excellent for prospective buyers, to give to each person who buys sheep from you, or for your own reference. Use the order form below to get your copies today!

PRICING (IN U.S. FUNDS)

MKHSA members—65 cents U.S. each plus postage

Non-MKHSA members—\$1 U.S. each plus postage (bulk rates available)

Postage (3rd class to U.S. locations, will bill for Canada delivery) and handling will be:

1-3 booklets—\$1; 4-10 booklets—\$2; 11-25 booklets—\$3

Send this order form and check or money order in U.S. funds made out to Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association to:
 Tina Williams; PO Box 318; Fair Play, MO 65649

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 Zip: _____ # Copies: _____
 Amount Enclosed: _____

USSSA—THE FIRST SIX MONTHS

Charles Parker, Executive Director

Since incorporation, February 28, 1997, and even before, a group of dedicated sheep breeders created the foundation of the United States Sheep Seedstock Alliance (USSSA). During this period, many have dedicated time and resources to develop the first organization for the seedstock sector of the U.S. sheep industry.

Many breeders have become members of the USSSA. However, the survival of this organization will depend on additional membership and dedicated involvement. Most potential members ask, "What do I get for my \$100?"

The following is a chronology of what has happened during the first six months of the USSSA:

USSSA provided oral and written testimony at each of the three National Sheep Industry Center Hearings. Seedstock industry needs were highlighted and sheep industry unity supported.

USSSA staff has organized and worked cooperatively with the National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) and breed associations to sponsor three national workshops on understanding and use of Across Flock Evaluations and EPDs for the genetic improvement of sheep.

USSSA was officially accepted into the U.S. Livestock Genetics Export (USLGE) in May and is now eligible for Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) funding and responsible for developing international marketing activities for U.S. sheep genetics. We have organized and conducted international marketing activities with the following countries during the past four months: Mexico, Brazil, Ecuador, China, Indonesia, and Mongolia. These activities include trade missions, workshops, market assessment, reprinting promotional materials, and coordinating international inquiries.

Several breed associations have supported USSSA membership, published news releases, and requested staff input on educational and promotional programs. This represents the type of interaction that needs to be fostered among all sheep industry organizations.

USSSA has assisted in the program planning for the World Sheep and Wool Congress to be held at the Fairplex in Pomona, California, July 15-19, 1998.

USSSA staff has actively participated on the evaluation and review of U.S. sheep research and education priorities. This effort includes recent involvement with the program review of the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station at Dubois, Idaho.

USSSA participated along with thirteen other industry organizations on the Sheep Industry Long Range Planning Force. The objectives of this group were to delineate important industry issues and recommend action plans to strengthen the infrastructure of the U.S. sheep industry.

Hopefully, some of the Alliance activities have had a positive effect, either direct or indirect, on your operation. We trust you will strongly consider a USSSA membership at this time and become involved with the organization that was created to help the U.S. sheep seedstock industry to grow and prosper in the 21st century.

Invest in Tomorrow's Seedstock Industry—Join USSSA Today!

United States Sheep Seedstock Alliance
4719 Reed Road, Suite 201
Columbus, Ohio 43220
Phone: 614-442-5991; Fax: 614-442-6517
email: usssa@seedstock.org; <http://www.seedstock.org>

KHSI

c/o Laura Fortmeyer
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