

# The Katahdin Hairald



Quarterly Newsletter of Katahdin Hair Sheep International

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Winter 2000

## President's Corner

*Mark C. Dennis, Louisiana*

### Dear Katahdin Enthusiasts:

I trust your holiday season was joyful, healthy and rewarding. On behalf of Sara and myself, KHSI Operations and Registry, and KHSI Board of Directors, we want to wish each of you a Happy and Profitable 2000. And, may your next lambing be the best ever!

The market for good registered Katahdins is exploding, in my opinion. Keep weights and permanent records for your flock. This is not only useful for flock management, but can be a very valuable marketing tool as well—good records can sometimes give you the edge with a buyer debating among several choices. A reminder: lambs born after January 1, 1998 from 100% Registered Katahdin sire and dam can be registered with a permanent KHSI white Certificate of Registration. A second reminder: if your ewes are not registered you can still breed up, utilizing a 100% Registered Katahdin Ram and recording each generation with the KHSI Registry.

ber that registered sheep don't eat any more or cost you more to maintain than unregistered. Yes, there is a registration fee or transfer fee per head, but that small investment may mean that you may be able to demand 100%-400% more for good registered Katahdin Hair Sheep when you sell. Every buyer is looking for growthy, muscled, well cared for animals.

During my recent visits to Katahdin breeders in Canada and Mexico, I find they are producing very impressive Katahdin meat sheep. The gene pool is available, so use it to your advantage. My visit (at no cost to KHSI) to the National Mexican Katahdin competition in Queretaro, Mexico, December 10, 1999, was very wonderful and rewarding. I visited and communicated with KHSI members and made new friends. I saw a lot of real good Katahdin and Katahdin cross sheep. I learned that 8-10 hair sheep shows take place every year throughout Mexico. Thank you, Mexico, for your great hospitality, and I'm looking forward to another visit. KHSI is here to assist you and the new members you bring in, in whatever way we can.

I want to discuss **service**. Everyone wants and needs great **service**, but I am sad to report that not every Katahdin breeder/seller is giving good **service** to his customers. All breeders/sellers should have in mind, **service** to the buyer, as part of the business. Some examples of **service** in a good Katahdin breeders program follow:

- 1) informing the buyer of changes that may have taken place since the last time the buyer may have purchased Katahdins
- 2) providing an informative booklet such as "The Shearless Choice" available from the Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association
- 3) giving a copy of the health record for that animal

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Become completely familiar with breed standards specified by KHSI, with registration and inspection procedures, bylaws and other information so that you will have fewer disappointments in your program. A few current breeders as well as future breeders have come to realize that neither their sheep nor their program was in the best shape to move forward in export or local sales. Remem-

*continued on page 3*

## FYI from Operations

Teresa Maurer, Arkansas

### Membership List

The membership list codes are back! Members expressed a desire to keep a symbol on the membership list that would show which breeders definitely have sheep for sale. We added symbols to as many breeders as we knew had sheep for sale based on their 1999 renewal forms or other communications. New members should contact the Operations office by phone, fax, mail or e-mail when they are ready to sell sheep. At **any** time, breeders may use the enclosed insert which offers the chance to update the following optional information, which gives KHSI a chance to provide more information to potential buyers:

EXP—you are interested or experienced in exporting animals

SCR—your flock is enrolled in the voluntary scrapie program

Above codes will be added to the next breeders' list which will be assembled in April. There is also space to include optional information on your flock size, and anything else you might like a potential buyer to know about your flock. The optional information will be used by Operations during the referral process for buyers. For space and cost reasons we can't include all that in the breeder's list itself, but we can do a more effective referral for serious buyers if we know more about your flock.

**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
- Encourage research and development related to the breed

#### Board of Directors—

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#### KHSI Operations—

- Teresa Maurer; PO Box 778; Fayetteville, AR 72702-0778;  
Phone and Fax: 501-444-8441; <khsint@earthlink.net>

#### KHSI Registry—

- Ed Martsolf; 1039 Winrock Drive; Morrilton, AR 72110;  
Phone and Fax: 501-727-5659; <ed.martsolf@mev.net>

#### KHSI Canada Representative—

- Mike Bondy, PO Box 999, RR 3, Picton, Ontario, Canada K0K 2T0,  
Phone: 613-476-6782, Fax: -4391, <mbondy@kos.net>

#### KHSI Web Home Page—

- <<http://www.KHSI.org>>

#### KHSI E-mail Chat Group—

- Go to <<http://www.onelist.com>> and follow directions to subscribe to KatChat

#### Newsletter formatted by—

- Tina Williams; PO Box 318; Fair Play, MO 65649;  
Phone: 417-276-5597; Fax: -5677; <wordsetc@u-n-i.net>

### Research Animals Needed

Research animals still needed for several Katahdin research projects. Please contact operations immediately if you have groups of 5-20 animals with good records that you might be willing to sell or otherwise get involved for research projects. We'll provide you details of what these researchers need and how to contact them.

### Brochures

New supply of brochures in with the new addresses printed on them! As a member you can request 20 brochure per year free.

### Dues are Due!

We don't want to lose you from the newsletter and the KHSI network—please send in your dues now. The insert reflects the new rates that went into effect on January 1.

## From the Registry

Ed Martsolf, Arkansas

Seeds planted in Canada begin to sprout!

One result of the 1999 KHSI Annual meeting in Alberta was the resolution to research how to issue KHSI registration papers on sheep that only had CKSA papers at this time.

This proposal came in response to the market demand for Canadian-stock in the US and/or Mexico. It has become clear that the overall market appetite for Katahdin is moving to larger numbers, exceeding most individual and sometimes even regional ability to supply the request. For many years, Katahdin sheep sales were primarily from the US to Canada. Now, there is the very real possibility for that to reverse itself. At least one such transaction is underway already. The Registry has received some of the first requests for KHSI papers on CKSA sheep. We have been able to trace animals on the pedigrees to animals that are enrolled in the KHSI flock book. The proposal looks promising. One reason for our optimism is that the new computer program is set up in such a way that each animal is automatically "connected" to its parents and offspring.

Incidentally we are very glad to report that, on Monday morning, January 3, everything in the computer system was happily perking along in the year 2000!

## President's Corner, continued

- 4) adding a KHSI membership form to the purchase papers if the buyer is not yet a member. Help that new breeder get started.

**Service** and a happy new owner pay big dividends. Your reputation and your sheep are your best advertisement. Live the KHSI Statement of Ethics (reprinted on page 6).

It is the sellers' duty to not only sign the Certificate of Registration, but also to send the Certificate to the KHSI Registry for transfer. Putting the burden on the buyer can be unfair when the busy buyer forgets or misunderstands. If the buyer does not get the paperwork submitted properly, down the road it may result in unhappiness for the owners, the sellers and/or KHSI.

Buyers, know your breeders, visit their operation, ask to see their records, ask for copies of information related to the sheep you are buying. Sometimes unbelievably good deals are not so good later. **Know your breeder.** KHSI has a statement of ethics—make it your business as a buyer to look for these standards in the breeders you deal with, and make it your own standard as you become a seller yourself.

Join a Katahdin Hair Sheep regional group—the Operations office maintains a list of these groups in both the U.S. and Canada. This will get you involved with other friends and breeders at the grassroots. If there is no regional group in your area, consider forming one—it works!

*Another reminder—I asked every member to bring in at least one (1) new member to our family of Katahdin Hair Sheep owners. I successfully had four new members join this past three months, including one who was a former member and joined back up again. I am sure you can do better than that!*

Also remember that your news items and input are very welcome for the newsletter at any time. Thank you to the **many** of you who renewed before December 31. To you others, 2000 dues are due—please send them in soon!

## Extended Winter Office Hours

Beginning Monday January 31, KHSI Operations office hours will be Monday, Wednesday and Sunday evenings from 6-9 pm and Friday mornings from 8-10 am (Central time). E-mail, fax and answering machine for Operations are accessible 24 hours per day.

## Katahdins Get Great Reception at North American International Livestock Exposition

*Ed Martsolf, Arkansas*

For fourteen days in November, Katahdin Hair Sheep were on display at the NAILE (North American International Livestock Exposition) in Louisville, Kentucky. This is where hundreds of thousands of people attend one of the largest gatherings of sheep farmers and related interests anywhere in the US. It has been nearly 10 years since Katahdins were on display at the NAILE. At that time, we were seen as more or less an exotic fad.

This time though, we received an altogether different kind of reception. Wool sheep raisers are beginning to realize that we are here to stay and it really might make more sense to raise hair sheep. Little by little it seems to be becoming conventional wisdom that hair sheep is not merely another neat and novel idea but does represent a major shift in the sheep industry.

Our Gateway Farm made the initial reservation for space and three other breeders joined us in sharing the work and the cost. It worked out very well for all of us and there's no doubt that we will do it again next year. Kay Cloyd, Donna Watkins, and David Maddox were the other participants and each of us ended up with a good list of customer prospects for our efforts.

At this point, I would personally offer to work with any other small group of breeders that would like to establish a presence at a major livestock exposition in their area. I am interested in the East and Southeast but my offer is not limited to those areas. Now that the Registry is running along quite smoothly (thanks to Mary!), I would also offer to provide whatever added assistance is needed to get prospective buyers and sellers together. Call 501-727-5659 (phone and FAX) or e-mail <ed.martsolf@mev.net>.

## First Annual Meeting for SE-KHSA Held

*David Sweeney, North Carolina*

The Southeast Katahdin Hair Sheep Association held its first Annual Meeting in conjunction with the VA/NC Shepherd's Symposium on January 8, 2000 in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Over 25 members and interested persons were in attendance at the SE-KHSA meeting, including all SE-KHSA directors and officers. After a review of the organization's progress since forming last year, a full slate of officers and directors was affirmed by those present.

Officers are David Sweeney-President (NC), Patricia Sienkiewicz-Vice President (VA), and Sandra Garner-Secretary/Treasurer (NC). The Board of Directors consists of Billy Dail (NC), David Maddox (GA), Carol Postley (FL), Susan Schoenian (MD), Clarence Smart (SC), and Tom Washburne (VA). Much excitement was generated about plans for the coming year, which include a field day, development of a Web site and exhibiting at various agricultural events including the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival. David Maddox will head up the Exhibits committee; Susan Schoenian the Marketing committee; and Billy Dail the Nominations committee. Dr. David Notter of Virginia Tech spoke of his planned research using Katahdins and his desire to work with SE-KHSA to locate representative breeding stock from farmers in the region.

The group agreed to hold its next annual meeting in conjunction with the KHSI Annual Gathering in Virginia. KHSI members in the southeast region wishing to join SE-KHSA should contact David Sweeney, President of SE-KHSA.

# Johne's Disease

submitted by Nancy Case, Missouri

Many KHSI members have expressed questions and concerns about Johne's disease. It is hoped that the following will help further understanding of the disease and its implications for your flock.

## What is Johne's disease and what kind of animals get Johne's disease?

Johne's (pronounced "Yo-nees") disease is a contagious bacterial disease of the intestinal tract. A German veterinarian first described the disease in a dairy cow in 1895; his name is used as the common name for the disease. The disease is also called paratuberculosis. Johne's disease occurs in a wide variety of animals, but most often in ruminants. Ruminants are hoofed mammals that chew their cud and have a 3-4 chambered stomach. Some of the more common ruminants are: cattle, sheep, goats, deer, antelope, and llamas. Johne's disease has been reported in all of these animals but is most commonly seen in dairy cattle.

## What causes Johne's disease?

The bacterium that causes Johne's disease is named *Mycobacterium paratuberculosis*: often the name is abbreviated *M. paratuberculosis*. It is a relative of the bacterium that causes tuberculosis in humans and animals. *M. paratuberculosis* only grows in animals: it can not grow and multiply in nature. However, if soil or water is contaminated with this bacterium, it can survive over a year because of its resistance to heat, cold and drying.

## What are the signs of Johne's disease and how can I tell if my herd has Johne's disease?

Animals infected with *M. paratuberculosis* usually develop diarrhea and rapidly lose weight. However, in some animals, like sheep, goats and deer, diarrhea is less common. In general, Johne's disease is a wasting disease although infected animals continue to eat well. Infected animals appear unthrifty, are often weak, but they do not generally have a fever. The signs of Johne's disease can be confused with the signs with several other diseases. Because of the slowly progressive nature of the infection, signs of Johne's disease are usually not seen until animals are adults. In infected dairy cattle, signs of Johne's disease commonly start within a few weeks after calving in the cow. In heavily infected herds, however, signs of Johne's disease can occur in heifers prior to calving.

Dairy herds with Johne's disease may have an occasional animal with diarrhea or weight loss, but a common complaint is that the herd production is going down or not as high as it should be. Herd nutritionists sometimes notice the problem when herd production is less than expected, given the quality of the feed and cows. As part of a plan to determine the cause of low herd production, tests for Johne's disease on several of the poor-doing animals should be considered.

## How common is Johne's disease?

In the U.S. a national survey estimated that 1.4% of the nation's beef cattle and 2.6% of the country's dairy cattle are infected with *M. paratuberculosis*. Some areas of the country report much higher infections rates, however. In northern dairy states like Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York, it is estimated that roughly 10% of dairy cattle are infected with *M. paratuberculosis*. In a blood test survey done in Wisconsin, one-third of herds tested positive: had one or more test-positive animals. Infection rates in beef cattle, sheep and goats are thought to be lower, but the disease is still commonly seen in these animals. Exotic ruminants kept in zoos, like antelope from Africa, have also gotten Johne's disease.

## What causes the signs of Johne's disease?

*M. paratuberculosis* infects part of the small intestine called the ileum. There it causes a certain kind of inflammation called granulomatous inflammation. This inflammation thickens the intestinal wall, preventing it from functioning normally. This leads to diarrhea and poor absorption of nutrients. As a result, even though animals will seem to be feeling and eating well, they will rapidly lose weight.

## How do animals get Johne's disease?

Johne's disease typically enters a herd of animals when an infected, but healthy-looking, animal is bought. The infection then spreads to other animals without the owner's knowledge. Eventually, often after several years, the owner recognizes signs of the disease in a number of animals. Individual animals get infected by close contact with other infected animals. Most often, the infection is acquired by eating material contaminated with *M. paratuberculosis* when animals are very young. Young animals are far more susceptible to infection than are adults. Ingestion of the bacterium occurs when the newborn's environment is contaminated with manure from an infected animal, or by drinking milk from an infected animal. The bacterium passes out of infected animals primarily in the feces, but in the later stages of the infection it is also found in the milk of dairy cattle and presumably the milk of other animals too. After infection, many months or years go by until the infected animals shows signs of Johne's disease.

## How can you prevent your animals from getting Johne's disease?

The best way to avoid this chronic infectious disease is to be as certain as possible that animals brought into the herd are not infected with *M. paratuberculosis*. This is not always easy. Laboratory tests for cattle are more widely available than for sheep, goats or zoo animals. Still, some type of test is available for every animal. When using laboratory tests for pre-purchase screening of animals, it is important to understand that tests done on individual animals are not 100% sensitive, meaning they can't detect 100% of all infected animals. A way to get around this problem is to rely on tests done on the herd of animals from which you want to buy. If a whole herd test is 100% negative, then the probability the herd is free of *M. paratuberculosis* infection is very high. Johne's disease test-negative herds are the best sources of animals for purchase.

## Johne's Disease, continued

### How do you test animals for Johne's disease?

There are three common ways to test animals for Johne's disease: culture of fecal samples, DNA probe on fecal samples, and blood tests for antibodies to *M. paratuberculosis*.

#### Culture of the *M. paratuberculosis* from fecal samples

All animals can be tested for Johne's disease by doing a bacterial culture of a fecal (manure) sample. Your veterinarian can help collect and submit samples for a Johne's fecal culture. This test takes up to 16 weeks because of the extremely slow growth rate of *M. paratuberculosis* and typically costs \$10 to \$20 per sample.

#### DNA probe on fecal samples

*M. paratuberculosis* bacteria can be detected in fecal samples by use of sophisticated DNA probe tests. DNA probes are much faster than culturing the organism and can be done within three days. Unfortunately, the commercial kit for doing the DNA probe is only able to detect infected animals when their infection has progressed to the stage where large numbers of *M. paratuberculosis* are being excreted in the feces. Therefore, animals in early stages of the infection are not detected. The other disadvantage of the DNA probe for Johne's disease is that it is expensive to run, costing roughly \$25 per sample (although the price charged may be lower in states that subsidize testing through their veterinary diagnostic laboratory).

#### Blood tests for antibodies to *M. paratuberculosis*

There are several blood tests for Johne's disease. The ELISA is the one considered most accurate and best standardized. This test is licensed for detection of *M. paratuberculosis*-infected cattle by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. The ELISA is fast, simple, inexpensive (about \$5.00 per animal) and able to detect animals that are infected before they show signs of Johne's disease. Many veterinary diagnostic laboratories offer the ELISA for Johne's disease.

### How do you control Johne's disease in a herd?

Methods for control of Johne's disease in animal herds or flocks depends on the type of husbandry. In principle, two strategies must be employed at the same time; 1) newborn animals must be protected from infection by being born and raised in a clean environment and fed milk absolutely free of *M. paratuberculosis*, and 2) adult animals carrying the *M. paratuberculosis* infection must be identified by laboratory tests and removed from the herd. For dairy cattle this

means calving on clean pastures or in clean and disinfected maternity pens, using colostrum only from Johne's test-negative cows, and feeding artificial milk replacer to calves until weaning since the bacterium can be found in milk. Infected dairy herds should be tested for Johne's disease once a year and test-positive cows should be culled at the end of their lactation.

#### More Test Recommendations:

Standard bacterial culture has been used for almost 100 years. Many laboratories around the world can perform this test. The standard culture method for *M. paratuberculosis* requires little equipment and is technically simple to perform. It does, however, require experienced technologists who are able to identify the growth (bacterial colonies) seen on the culture medium. This test is moderately expensive, costing roughly \$12.00/test, and takes at least 16 weeks to complete because of the extremely slow growth rate of *M. paratuberculosis*. A problem with this test is that strains of *M. paratuberculosis* from sheep frequently fail to grow on standard culture media.

#### Tests for antibodies to *M. paratuberculosis* in serum (blood tests)

Detection of antibodies to *M. paratuberculosis* in serum is strong evidence the animal is infected. There are three techniques for detection of serum antibodies in common use today:

- Complement fixation (CF)
- Agar-gel immunodiffusion (AGID)
- Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)

All three tests are fundamentally measuring the same thing, antibodies to *M. paratuberculosis*, but use different types of technology and reagents.

#### Testing recommendations—Choosing the right test for the right purpose:

1. Confirmation of a clinical diagnosis of Johne's disease:  
The most rapid, accurate and least costly test to confirm a diagnosis of Johne's disease in cattle is the ELISA. Over 85% of *M. paratuberculosis*-infected cattle with diarrhea and weight loss will test ELISA-positive, and false-positive results are rare. Given that about 15% of infected animals may not be antibody positive, even in late-stage infections, it is prudent to submit a fecal sample for culture on the ELISA-negative but clinically affected animals. Also, if Johne's disease has not been confirmed by culture in the herd previously, a fecal culture should be performed.
2. The AGID test is available as a USDA-licensed kit for confirmation of Johne's disease in cattle with compatible clinical signs. It is 100% specific (a positive test is always right) but less sensitive than the ELISA (is positive on roughly half the Johne's cases that the ELISA finds as positive).
3. Estimation of the infection rate in a herd or flock  
The fastest and easiest way to measure the *M. paratuberculosis* infection rate (prevalence) in a herd is by doing an ELISA on all animals two years and older in a herd. Results are most reliable for herds already confirmed to be infected by isolation of *M. paratuberculosis* from at least one animal. The percentage of a herd that is ELISA-positive (apparent prevalence) should be doubled to get a rough estimate of the real prevalence of paratuberculosis (given a test sensitivity of roughly 50%, only half of infected animals will test positive at a single point in time).

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## KHSI Ethics Commitment:

As a member of KHSI I will:

- In all activities as a member demonstrate a high standard of integrity
- Extend to all sheep under my care the benefit of a high standard of animal husbandry
- Maintain orderly and clear sheep identifications and birth records that insure confidence in the pedigree of animals submitted for registration and recordation
- Offer for registration only animals of good quality meeting the standards specified by the association bylaws and rules
- Deal in all transactions regarding Katahdin sheep—with members of the association and, more particularly, with breeding stock customers—with fairness and consideration, including a willingness and commitment to make restitution as agreed to between buyer and seller for any animal that fails to perform as specified in sale negotiations or for which permanent registration, as a condition of such sale, is rejected
- As a representative of KHSI, educate breeding stock customers about the characteristics of Katahdin sheep and the policies and services offered by the association
- Be prompt in registering, recording, and transferring all animals sold
- Make decisions which support the long-term viability of the Katahdin breed, its producers, and their customers
- Promote Katahdins in ways that strengthen the credibility of the breed and its breeders
- Support and uphold the bylaws and standards of Katahdin Hair Sheep International.

## Marketing Committee Report

*Donna Watkins, Illinois*

The marketing committee consists of David Maddox and myself. I attended a seminar on selling lamb to the ethnic market in Ohio. This appears to be a strong market in many areas. One abattoir in Ohio is currently buying 10-20 animals a week and plans to buy around 200 a week by this time next year. I talked to one in Illinois, and he's looking for up to 500 sheep and goats a week. This market is very good for excess rams/wethers. One thing to remember when selling to this market, always start with your prices higher than you really want to receive.

Anyone interested in serving on this committee, please contact me. If anyone has any ideas, please let me know.

## American Sheep Industry (ASI) Press Release

*January 19, 2000*

### ASI to USDA: Size doesn't matter

For more information: contact Peter Orwick, Executive Director, 303-771-3500 x 35 Cathy Cummins, Communications, 303-771-3500 x 35, <ccummins@sheepusa.org> Laura Gerhard, Communications, 303-771-3500 x 30 DENVER, Colo. - ASI's Board of Directors wants the USDA to know that size doesn't matter when it comes to helping the entire American sheep industry increase its competitiveness.

The USDA last week announced details of a \$100 million industry assistance package that was part of President Clinton's decision last summer to help the U.S. lamb industry recover from a devastating surge of cheap lamb meat imports from Australia and New Zealand.

The USDA's press release of Jan. 13, 2000, indicated that part of the package, \$30 million in direct producer assistance payments for productivity improvements, was targeted at "small- and medium-sized producers." "This industry needs every single producer - small, medium and large - that it can get. This much needed industry assistance package is designed - by presidential order - to help the entire American lamb industry regain its competitiveness in the face of foreign competition. No producer should be discriminated against in this assistance program because of size," said David Greene, a Maryland sheep producer with about 100 commercial ewes who represents the eastern United States on the ASI Executive Board. The payments as announced by Secretary Glickman are to encourage productivity and are not income support payments. With this in mind, ASI's Board of Directors was unanimous in the view that the size restriction is a discrimination against the larger operations in the industry. The directors unanimously passed a resolution urging the size restriction be dropped from the package.

The resolution regarding the 201 package read as follows:

"Whereas the emphasis of the federal 201 adjustment should be on how individual projects will improve the competitiveness of the American sheep industry as a whole, and Whereas individual farm and ranch competitiveness is obviously important, and Whereas the 201 funds must contribute to overall sustainable industry competitiveness and involve all operations, Be it resolved that ASI should encourage the elimination of any reference to size of farming and ranching operation in the dispensing of grants, loans, and/or payments as part of the 201 assistance package." Dr. Enrique Figueroa, USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Agriculture's Marketing & Regulatory Programs, discussed the highly anticipated trade adjustment package at ASI's recent annual convention. Dr. Figueroa said the direct payment portion of the program would require a public rulemaking effort.

USDA has not provided most of the details about the package, but will be following up with ASI. It is unknown when the proposed rule on the payments will be released for industry comment. A final rule is issued after the comments are reviewed. It is unknown what producers must do to become eligible for the direct payments for productivity. Also unknown is what the application requirements, guidelines, rate or time frame of the payments will be.

The three-year assistance package included four main areas: \$30 million for direct producer assistance payments, \$15 million for animal health, \$15 million for government purchases of lamb meat and \$5 million for marketing and promotion. Also included were \$25 million in loans for processors and \$10 million in additional loan opportunities for producers.

## Welcome New Members

Charles Adams	Alabama
Tom Holgate	Alberta
Craig, Barb, Roger & Lois Larson	Alberta
Audrey & Bill Rehaume	Alberta
Kenneth & Pamela Ferrill	Arizona
Robert & Karen Haralson	Arkansas
Michael & Dr Beverly McClintock	Arkansas
Tim & Kathy Caron	Illinois
Laura Tomaszewski	Illinois
Scott & Darcy Woodburn	Illinois
Cynthia Maier	Kansas
Richard Stewart & Rosalie Behnke	Kansas
Ferdinand & Goldie Breaux	Louisiana
Randall & Charlotte Boutte	Louisiana
Ronald Leger	Louisiana
Marcel & Lillian Charriere	Manitoba
Shawn Larocque	Manitoba
*Tim Neufeld	Manitoba
*Juan & Elizabeth Aranguren	Mexico
*Alberto & Emiliano Banuet	Mexico
Roman Azueta Contreras	Mexico
Alejandro Gerez V	Mexico
Silverio Gonzalez Juarez	Mexico
John & Maggie Gingras	Michigan
Leonard & Diane Rizer	Michigan
John & Diane Bender	Missouri
John & Julie Kirchhoff	Missouri
Michael & Cherië Siepel	Missouri
John & Chyrl Jarrel	Nevada
Henry Pfister	Nevada
Clarence & Carol Klabo	North Dakota
Jill Deck	Oklahoma
Gale Thaete	Oklahoma
Larry & Carol Bieman	Ontario
Ayatbint Daowud Hakimah	Oregon
Napolyon & Anahit Isikbay	Oregon
Ron & Bev Reeser	Oregon
Ronald, Rose & Robbin Schulson	Oregon
Maurice & Gaston Brisson	Quebec
Eugene & Brenda Hrycuik	Saskatchewan
Frank Commiato	Texas
Bob & Lyndel Foshee	Texas
Bert R Martineau	Washington
Ed & Toni Tanis	Washington

\*These members joined in 1st quarter of 1999 but were left out of spring newsletter welcome due to computer error—apologies from Teresa!

**Next newsletter deadline is April 7.**

**Send us your ads, news,  
thoughts, musings!**

## Calendar

**August 25**—Missouri State Fair Katahdin show  
**September 2**—MKHSA Annual Meeting, Bethel, Missouri  
**September 3**—Katahdin Breeding Stock Sale, Bethel, Missouri  
**September 28-October 1**—KHSI Annual Gathering, Virginia  
**October 6-8**—Ozark Fall FarmFest, Springfield, Missouri  
**November 3-4**—Small Farm Today Conference, Columbia, Missouri

## Classified Ads

### For Sale—

Tina Williams (MO) is selling her entire flock, 417-276-5597, <wordsetc@u-n-i.net>, <<http://www.angelfire.com/mo/twindex/Katahdin.html>>

Victor & Cheryl Shelton (IN) will have lambs this spring; some will be solid black, 812-254-9207, <vshelton@dmrct.net>, <<http://dmrct.net/~vshelton/sheep.html>>

Lynn & Donna Fahrmeier (MO) have 8 yearling rams, 816 934 8651, <lfahrmeier@msn.com>

Brad & Linda Neunzig (WA) have two yearling Katahdin rams imported from Canada. They are nice big rams with great new bloodlines, 360-435-9304, <ninetyfarms@mcworld.com>

Derryl & Irene McLean (ONT) have 3 yearling Katahdin rams with duel registry available, 613-984-2593, <derryl@cnwl.igs.net>

Donna Watkins (IL) has '99 born rams and one '95 ram, 309-365-5611, <dwatkins@davesworld.net>

Ed Hart (IL) has 8 ewes, 217-272-4322, <cattails@npwt.net>

Bryan LaFollette (IN) has 8 ewes and 1 ram, 812-254-1937, <blafoll@dmrct.net>

David Coplen (MO) has 15 ewes, 5 crossbred ewes, 5 rams, 573-642-7746, <copled@mail.oa.state.mo.us>

Stan Neuenschwander (OH) has ewes, 330-427-1002

### Want to Buy—

Eduardo Callejas (Nicaragua but lives in Miami), 305-388-7497, <guallo@aol.com>

Weldon Dean (VA) 100 commercial ewe lambs in the next 6 months, 540-234-6234

"Cuttin' Joe" (PA) from breeders near or willing to ship, 570-457-6026

Pamela Post & Jeff White (VT) want (preferably) white ram, 802-295-3211, <postwhit@sover.net>

Willie Lacy (MO) wants a horned ram, 417-637-2984, <willielacy@hotmail.com>

## USDA Wants Input on Sheep Health Issues

The National Animal Health Monitoring System within U.S. Department of Agriculture is conducting a Sheep 2001 Study. They are asking sheep owners to help them identify critical information gaps facing the sheep industry and have established an 800 number and Internet access to gather ideas. To give input, call 800-545-8732 or log onto <<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/sheep2000>> between February 15-March 31, 2000.

You can find out about the results of a similar study done in 1996 from the same website, or request a copy by calling 970-490-8000.

## Flushing and Lambing Hints

Sharon Schaefer, Saskatchewan

- Keeping ewe lambs on a steady plane of good nutrition from weaning through breeding and pregnancy until last few weeks leads to higher percentage of strong singles. Flushing them for breeding leads to more twins which are harder for the still growing mother to nourish.
- Condition score ewes before flushing. If they are already fat (3.5 to 5) flushing has no advantage. Since Katahdins put on internal fat before external fat a 3.0 Katahdin ewe is possibly in this category as well.
- In lambing barn, putting a few pens (one/10 ewes) with a 24 inch opening and 10-12 inch board across bottom (newborns can't cross it) against walls in far corners (i.e. not near feeders or human activity) will allow many ewes to lamb and mother up alone. Note where most of your ewes lambed last year and put them there.
- On pasture or with smaller flocks in larger barns, just giving them enough space has a similar effect.
- Best and simplest 'kick-start' for a tired or reluctant mother is birth fluids smeared on her mouth/nose. It's easy to do this with your hand as soon as lamb delivered. Also birth fluids are not ewe or lamb specific and may be frozen to use later (fostering, etc.)

Sharon serves on the Breeder Education Committee. Contact her if you would like to learn more about the committee.

## Missouri Association "MoKats" Forming

Nancy Case, Missouri

There are now over thirty purebred and commercial Katahdin breeders in Missouri. What started out as an informal group in the last several years is now taking official form. We thought we could help the Midwest Association "divide and conquer" by taking on the financial obligations of promotional activities in Missouri, thus enabling the Midwest to spend more time, effort and funds farther east, especially at NAILE. Our other activities will be cooperative efforts at sales, especially of slaughter lambs. We will continue to work together with the Midwest Association as co-exhibitors (many of us will remain Midwest members). For further information, contact Nancy Case at 573-657-9297, 573-657-1384 (message), or <agworld@socketis.net>.

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Katahdin Hairald

Winter 2000



KHSI

c/o Teresa Maurer  
PO Box 778  
Fayetteville, AR 72702-0778



REASON CHECKED

Unclaimed ☐ Refused ☐  
Attempted Not known ☐  
Insufficient Address ☐  
No such street number ☐  
No such office in state ☐  
Do not remail in this envelope ☐

Box Closed - No Order

Ayatbint Daowud Hakimah  
Box 518  
Bly, OR 97521  
USA

