# The Katahdin Hairald

Quarterly Newsletter of Katahdin Hair Sheep International

Volume 13
Number 2
Spring 2001

Next Newsletter deadline: July 1!

## Director's Corner

***Sharon Schaefer, KHSI President, Saskatchewan***

Good news - at the time of writing foot & mouth disease has not been reported in North America! Use this as a reminder that any time we visit another farm or allow visitors on our land there is a potential for cross-contamination. The parasites or diseases my sheep (and other animals) carry and are untroubled by may not be the same ones as your sheep. Simple steps such as wearing a different pair of shoes or washable shoes (which are laundered with detergent and bleach), standing boots in a 10% bleach solution for 10 minutes, or keeping extra rubber boots for guests will all be a benefit.

Many thanks to the Bylaws Review Committee - Pam Armitage-Sword, Robert Elliott, David Maddox, Brad Neunzig, and Tina Williams - who presented their recommendations to the board in early April. The amount of thought, time, and effort these people devoted for KHSI is greatly appreciated. **Amendments to the Bylaws will be forwarded to all members for voting around the time of the next newsletter.**

The past few months have seen some changes to our board as we regretfully accepted a letter of resignation from Dave Sweeney at the end of March. Changes to the business climate required Dave to focus more time and energy in other directions. Dave has done a wonderful job as secretary-treasurer since he joined the board and was very active on the Breed Improvement Committee, creating the Publications Review among other accomplishments. The board has selected Robert Elliott to complete this year as a director. Robert will fill the position of treasurer while Pam Armitage-Sword is now the secretary. Pam has also accepted appointment to the Breed Improvement Committee. Many thanks to Robert and Pam

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## Inside



www.KHSI.org

## Operations Notes

***Teresa Maurer and Jim Morgan, Arkansas***

A big thank you: to all the members who contributed information for this issue! Your efforts make our newsletter more valuable to our membership! Keep it coming! We decided to keep these notes short because of the volume of material.

Membership survey results: We have tabulated the winter membership survey results and present them to you on page 11. KHSI Board members are reviewing the comments.

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## From the Registry

***Ed Martsolf, Arkansas***

The Registry Report for this issue of the Hairald is short and easy. Normal operations have smoothed out quite nicely, with almost no backlog of "problem" orders. Work continues with the Board of Directors in making improvements to the ANIMAL REGISTRATION FORM so that it is easier to understand and use. If you have suggestions for the form, please send them to KHSI President Sharon Schaefer, who has been working with us on this. We have been encouraged by the increased number of sheep that currently have only CKSA registration papers and are being submitted to also receive KHSI papers. A strong majority of these pedigrees have 100% animals all the way back through five generations.

# KHSI Member's Guide

***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:**

**President**: Sharon Schaefer, <s.schaefer@canada.com>, 306-675-4410, Saskatachewan
**Vice-President**: Linda Neunzig, <ninetyfarms@aol.com>, 360-435-9304, Washington
**Secretary**: Pam Armitage-Sword, <parmitagesword@hotmail.com>, 403 –749-2434, Alberta
**Treasurer**: Robert Elliott, <rancherob@aol.com>, 979-567-9895, Texas
**Director**: Mark Dennis, <CountryOakRanch@juno.com>, 337-364-0422, Louisiana
**Director**: Ed Martsolf, <ed.martsolf@mev.net>, 501-727-5659, Arkansas
**Director**: Donna Watkins, <dwatkins@davesworld.net>, 309-365-5611, Illinois
**Honorary**: Charles Brown, Piel Farm, <cwbiii@kynd.com>, 207-876-4430, Maine
**Honorary**: Donald Williams, 724-667-8461, Pennsylvania
**Honorary**: Charles Parker, <seedstock@iname.com>, 614-442-5991, Ohio

**KHSI Operations:**

- Teresa Maurer and Jim Morgan; PO Box 778; Fayetteville, AR 72702-0778
  Phone and FAX: 501-444-8441;<khsint@earthlink.net>
- Contact Operations for the following:
  -Inspection requests
  -Information packets sent to public
  -Forms for: breed history, breed standards, membership, renewal, BLANK animal registration forms and instructions, other KHSI information
  -Address changes or other corrections on printed list or Web
  -Brochures (20 free per member per year; additional at cost) & promotional items
  -Information on members with sheep for sale, anyone wanting to buy sheep
  -Material to be published in the Katahdin Hairald
  -Volunteer for KHSI Committees
  -Annual meeting information
- Office Hours (Central time): Monday mornings 8-11 am, and Monday and Tuesday evenings 7-10 pm. Calls on other evenings after sunset or anytime on the weekends will be answered personally whenever possible. Answering machine, FAX and email: available for messages 24 hours per day.

**KHSI Registry:**

- Ed Martsolf; 1039 Winrock Drive; Morrilton, AR 72110
  Phone and FAX: 501-727-5659; <ed.martsolf@mev.net>
- Contact the Registry for the following:
  -All questions about registration, recording, transfering, upgrading procedures
  -Send the following to the Registry:
  Completed membership and renewal applications, dues
  Completed materials having to do with registering, transferring, recording Katahdins (Animal Registration Forms, transfers, etc)
- Office Hours (Central time): Monday through Friday 9 am- 5pm. Answering machine and FAX accessible 24 hours.

**KHSI Committees: (Call Operations to volunteer!):** Breed Improvement, Breeder Education, Promotions, Show
**KHSI Hairald:** Send articles, ads, comments to Teresa Maurer at Operations. Next deadline July 1.
**KHSI Website:** www.KHSI.org Send web corrections to Operations.
**KHSI Canada Representative:**
Pam Armitage-Sword, RR1, Delburne, AB T0M 0V0, <parmitagesword@hotmail.com>, 403-749-2434, FAX: 403-749-2484
**KHSI Mexico Representative:**
Dr. Javier Lara, Nispero 6, Arboledas, Queretaro, QRO 76140 <ranchoayj@yahoo.com.mx>, 52-42-14-3727
**KHSI Regional Groups:**
**Alberta Katahdin Sheep Association**: Dianne Campbell, Box 12, Bindloss, AB T0J 0H0, 403-379-2155, <bdc@telusplanet.net>, <http://www.aksa.ab.ca>
**Great Lakes Katahdin Hair Sheep Association**: Naomi and Dean Hawkins, GLKHSA, 2397 SR 503, Lewisburg, OH 45338, 937-839-1280 <glkhsa@hotmail.com>, <www.glkhsa.org>
**Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association**: Donna Watkins, Rt 2 Box 148, Lexington, IL 61753, 309-365-5611,

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<dwatkins@davesworld.net>, <www.KHSI.org/MKHSA.home.html>
**Missouri Katahdin Breeders Association:** Nancy Case, PO Box 87, Hartsburg, MO 65039, 573-657-1384, <http://www.KHSI.org/MKBA.html>
**Pacific Coast Katahdin Hair Sheep Association:** Ray & Marcia Schulz, 10376 Spiva Rd, Sacramento, CA 95829, 916-682-7456, <http://PacCoastKat.homestead.com>
**Southcentral Katahdin Hair Sheep Association:** Sherrie Wiygul, 304 Giffin Road, Louisville, MS 39339-8124, 662-773-2956, <http://www.welcome.to/SKHSA>
**Southeastern Katahdin Hair Sheep Assocation:** David Sweeney, 609 Merwin Rd, Raleigh, NC 27606, 919-851-2174, <SCKatahdin@aol.com> <www.katahdinsheep.org>
**Western Katahdin Sheep Co-operative Ltd. Inc.:** Sharon Schaefer, Box 568, Ituna SK S0A 1N0, 306-675-4410, <s.schaefer@canada.com> <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Ranch/7026/index.html>

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for their willingness to tackle these duties.

Following a recommendation from the Show Committee with input from the Breed Improvement Committee, the board has approved a change in the weight range for adult ewes only. This range changes from 120-160 pounds to 125 – 185 pounds. We recognize that there are individual Katahdins and entire productive flocks falling both below and above this range. Hopefully this better reflects the reality and new producers will be encouraged to ask more questions in this area. Over the next period of time, we will be working to change this listed ewe weight range in the materials we distribute to the public and our members.

Spring appears to have finally arrived in this part of the prairie. We have close to an inch of green grass (early varieties) and the trees are threatening to change colour too! Hope everyone's lambing has been or is productive.

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Thank you for a very high response rate of 137 members.

Inspections: Please remember to request ALL inspections through the KHSI Operations office. A few inspectors have been contacted by the breeder rather than by Operations, which is not the normal procedure. If you're an inspector and this happened to you, please remind the breeder that requests need to go through Operations and report all your inspections to Operations whether you claimed mileage or not (email, mailed note or phone message is fine). These steps allow us to track inspections that are being done, to verify that the inspector is currently certified, and to provide invoicing services when mileage is being charged. Key points for the breeder to remember include having your animals continuously tagged, your animal registration forms ready, and your animals penned up beforehand. If you need updated inspection information, please contact Operations.

Membership list, brochures, promotional items: see the special insert order form. We have added a shipping and handling charge because of increases in the costs of packaging and mailing.

Check out the KHSI website!
www.KHSI.org

## Bylaws Committee

***Pam Armitage-Sword, KHSI Secretary, Alberta***

I would like to thank those members that worked with me on the bylaws committee. These members were Robert Elliott, Tina Williams, David Maddox, and Brad Neunzig. A great deal of time and effort was put forth by each member and e-mails frequently flew back and forth. We hope the proposed changes will better serve the present state of our organization, as we have certainly grown in the past few years, and changes were needed in our bylaws to reflect that growth. Once again, thank you all for your input and dedication to our organization.

## Breeder Education Committee

***Sharon Schaefer, KHSI President, Saskatchewan***

Some improvements to the training procedure for KHSI coat inspectors have now been recommended to the KHSI board. The main change suggested is that members attending an inspector training clinic would be required to correctly fill in an Animal Registration Form as part of the training process. The board has indicated general agreement with the proposals. It will take some time yet to produce an appropriate training package.

The Board feels strongly that inspectors are visible, special ambassadors for the breed and for KHSI. The suggested improvements can help equip inspectors with additional information that they need to perform their ambassador role effectively.

# KHSI ANNUAL MEETING IN SEPTEMBER

Mark your calendars! The Midwest regional group (MKHSA) members are working on the annual meeting events (see page 16 for proposed schedule).

The 2001 KHSI Annual Meeting will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 21-22 in Troy, Missouri, fifty miles north of St. Louis. The KHSI Board will meet on Thursday, September 20. On Friday there will be lectures, demonstrations, and a barbeque. Planned topics include: performance evaluation, carcass evaluation, marketing, and putting on a good exhibit. On Saturday morning there will be additional demonstrations, followed after lunch by KHSI's annual business meeting, and we will conclude with a banquet that evening. An inspector training workshop is also planned for Saturday.

The closest airport is Lambert Field in St. Louis, Missouri. The most economical and convenient motel is the Oak Grove Inn: 636-528-8128. Room prices including all taxes are $37.67US for one and $50.04US for two people. Another local and more modern motel is the Holiday Inn Express, with $64US for one or two people: 636-462-9999.

If you have suggestions for the annual meeting, you are welcome to email <jameslovelace@hotmail.com> or call: 573-384-5398. We will need lots of help to make the meeting run well, and appreciate any offers. If you are not able to reach me, please call Teresa or Jim at KHSI Operations: 501-444-8441 or email them at <khsint@earthlink.net>

# SOUTHCENTRAL K.S.A.: JUNE 16TH MEETING AND SALE TO BE HELD IN TEXAS

***Robert V. Elliott, KHSI Treasurer, Texas***

The Southcentral Katahdin Sheep Association will hold its first semi-annual meeting for 2001 on Saturday, June 16, at Rojo Ranch in Caldwell, Texas. KHSI members and interested buyers are urged to **call Robert Elliott as soon as possible at 979-567-9895 or e-mail at rancherob@aol.com** so that we can plan our food accordingly. If you plan to bring a dessert or other dish, please let us know. Our agenda includes: 1.) Inspector training; 2.) A presentation by Dr. Svetlik of APHIS; 3.) Election of officers; 4.) Lunch; and 5.) Sheep sale. The meeting will begin by 9:30 a.m. (at the latest) so that we can accomplish most of our tasks before the heat of the day.

In regard to the sheep sale, please let us know if you plan to bring sheep to this meeting. Persons bringing sheep need also to bring their own pens and buckets. Because of the concern over F and M, we plan to provide attendees with plastic booties and chemical wash to walk through in hopes of minimizing any contamination of sheep by humans and other animals. Rams need to be tested for Brucellosis ovis and have papers certifying that. Ewes need to have papers from the flock veterinarian certifying that the flock is asymptomaptic for any disease. If possible, flock should be enrolled in VSFCP for 12 months. Note that Texas requires that animals passing into or through Texas be in the VSFCP (Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program.)

Caldwell, Texas, is located at the junction of highways 21 and 36 (21 runs E to W; 36: S to N.) It is approximately two hours NW of Houston; one and a half hour east of Austin; and three plus hours south of Dallas. From Bryan/College Station, Caldwell is west, 25 miles. From the light at 21 and 36 go west to the next light at Main and Hwy 21 (you will see a Shell Zip-in station and a chiropractor's office.) It is 4.8 miles to the front door of Rojo Ranch from this point. After you leave the city of Caldwell (the hospital is the last business—on left) going west, you go over a hill. On the south (left) side as you descend the hill, you will see Key Energy, an oil service company---it has white buildings with orange trim and lots of work over trucks. Immediately past it is county road 108. It only goes south; turn left. If you pass a Texaco station on 908 and Hwy. 21, turn around. Go back,; turn right past the brick house onto 108. You will drive past a red barn bldg., a yellowish house trailer. Turn left at the gate to Rojo Ranch, diagonal parking will be next to the drive as you go up the hill. We hope to have banners on Hwy 21 announcing the meeting.

There are three motels in Caldwell. The Surrey Inn, 401 Hwy 21E, 979 567 3221 charges $45 + tax for a room, single or double. It has a 48 hour cancellation policy and wants immediate reservations. Sunset Inn on Hwy 36 –just north of 21;next to Wal-mart----979 567 4661 charges $45+tax for a single and $55+tax fro a double. It has a ten day!?!?cancellation requirement. Caldwell Motel, 1819 Hwy21 W, 979 567 4000, (next to the hospital) charges $43.95 with tax for a single; $49.50 with tax for a double; plus it gives a 10% AARP discount. It requires 72 hours for cancellation. Because Caldwell has a lot of work crews out-stationed here, it is advisable to make your reservation ASAP.

We hope to see you here Jun 16th. Again, if you plan to attend with or without sheep, please let me know soon. E-mail is a great way to get me: rancherob@aol.com.

## 2002 Meeting in Mexico: Need Feedback on Timing

Save your pennies and pesos, sell those sheep and get ready to go to Mexico in 2002! Our meeting host and Mexico representative, Dr, Javier Lara, and Mark Dennis, KHSI Board member, are planning a wonderful meeting that will be as affordable as possible! Right now they need member feedback on the month for the meeting. There are possible dates during September through December. Some members find it hard to make meetings in September or October and would like to consider November or December and make a short vacation out of it. Please call or write Mark with your opinion ASAP, as the decision by the board will be made very soon: 337-364-0422 or email: CountryOakRanch@juno.com. You may also call or email Teresa or Jim at KHSI Operations 501-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net.

## Pacific Group Plans September Show, Sale

The PCKHSA annual meeting will be September 8th in White City, OR. There will be informative lectures, a Katahdin show, followed by a registered Katahdin ram sale. Interested parties may contact Linda Neunzig 360-435-9304 or Dexter Walter at 503-678-3077.

## July Katahdin Sale and Meeting-Southeast KHSA

The Southeast Katahdin Hair Sheep Association (SE-KHSA) will hold its Annual Meeting and First Annual Katahdin Sale on Saturday, July 21, near Hillsborough, NC at the Central Carolina Holstein Barn in the community of Orange Grove. Following is the schedule of events:

- Friday, July 20:
  - Setup and check-in of consigned animals (by 5:00 p.m.)
  - Evening social event (7:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, July 21:
  - Business meeting (8:00 – 9:00 a.m.)
  - Presentations (9:30 – 11:30 a.m.)
  - Lunch (11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)
  - Katahdin sale (1:00 – 2:00 p.m.)

The Katahdin sale will consist of commercial (at least 50% Katahdin) and registered Katahdin ewe lambs and yearlings. Ram lambs may also be consigned. All consigned animals will be screened for quality and health status.

Registration for the business meeting and presentations is $5 per person. For additional information about this event, or to inquire about consigning animals, contact Barbara Pugh at Cedarbreakes Farm, 5332 NC 87 North, Pittsboro, NC 27312; phone: (919) 542-4164 or email: bpugh1601@earthlink.net.

Affiliated with Katahdin Hair Sheep International, the Southeast Katahdin Hair Sheep Association was formed in 1999 to help promote the Katahdin breed of sheep among producers and meat buyers in the southeast. The association has members in all of the southeastern states, from Maryland to Florida. For additional information about the Southeast Katahdin Hair Sheep Association, contact David Sweeney, president, at 919-851-2174 or SCKatahdin@aol.com, or visit the association web site at www.katahdinsheep.org.

## Katahdins in 5th Place in Numbers of Sheep Registered in 2000

The Banner Magazine each year publishes the number of sheep registered in several breeds of sheep. Charles Parker relayed to the KHSI Operations Office that our organization was 5th in terms of numbers of sheep registered during 2000. Dr. Parker thought that this was an important milestone.

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|---|---|
| United Suffolk (including both Missouri & Utah) | 18,293 |
| Continental Dorsets | 11,636 |
| American Hampshires | 10,018 |
| American Southdowns | 5,497 |
| Katahdin Hair Sheep Int'l | 5,166 |
| American Rambouillets | 5,062 |
| Columbias | 4,117 |

# BIOGRAPHY OF CHARLES PARKER, PHD
## KHSI HONORARY MEMBER, COLUMBUS, OHIO

*Editor's Note: From time to time we will feature information about key people who have played a role in development of the Katahdin breed and of KHSI. We feel that Charles Parker's encouragement, technical contributions and promotion of Katahdins led directly to increased research and interest within the scientific community. We'd like you to know more about Dr. Parker, whom we honored at the 2000 KHSI Annual Meeting in Virginia, and he gave us permission to print his biographical sketch.*

I was born and reared on a farm located in the western foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. My Parker ancestors settled in Guernsey County, Ohio in 1818. Sheep raising began with my great-great grandfather and continued as a primary source of income until my father sold the farm to the State of Ohio to become part of the Salt Fork State Park near Cambridge, Ohio.

As a 12 year old, I purchased my first registered sheep , raised and marketed breeding stock and once owned the International Grand Champion Corriedale ram. I received two degrees from the Ohio State University; BS in Agriculture and MS in Animal Science. After raising sheep for eleven years, I sold the breeding flock to help finance ar advanced education. I continued graduate studies at Texas A&M University, received a half time faculty appointment, taught sheep production and coached the college wool judging team while completing a PhD degree in Animal Genetics.

I returned to the Ohio State University as Assistant Professor in the Department of Animal Science. There I helped develop the first computerized performance recording program for sheep. After four years I transferred to the Ohio Agriculture Research and Development Center, (OARDC), at Wooster, as head of their sheep research and beef cattle breeding programs. I initiated studies with hair sheep at OARDC in 1976. Many wondered why-- now they know! Oh how easy it is to forget how good things happen. I visited the Piel Farms in 1980 and learned about Katahdin Hair Sheep from Mrs. Piel and Charles Brown. I encouraged Katahdin breed enthusiasts to organize a breed registry association. Few were interested--they didn't see the need.

The United States Department of Agriculture-Agriculture Research Service,(USDA_ARS), hired me as Director of the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho; home of the Columbia, Targhee and Polypay breeds. In 1985 I invited Laura Callan (Fortmeyer), Charles Brown, (Piel Farms), Ed Martsolf and Don Williams to Idaho Falls, Idaho to meet and discuss organizing a breed registry association for Katahdin Hair Sheep. At the time, Laura and Ed were employees of Heifer Project International. This group founded the development of the breed registry association: Katahdin Hair Sheep International.

I returned to the Ohio State University in 1987 as Chairman of the Animal Science Department and continued my interest in the potential economic importance of hair sheep to the U. S. sheep industry. I presented and published a summary of the Ohio Hair Sheep Research Program, which was initiated in 1975 and continued through 1983, at the First Hair Sheep Research Symposium, St. Croix, Virgin Islands in July 1991.

After retiring from the Ohio State University in 1991, I accepted the position of Director of Research and Education at the American Sheep Industry Association, (ASI), Denver, Colorado. Through the ASI Seedstock Committee, I initiated the international marketing program for promotion and sale of U.S. sheep genetics and conducted marketing activities in several countries including Mexico, where Katahdins were still an unknown in 1993. Loss of legislative support for the Wool Act of 1954, forced ASI to down-size their programs. The Research and Education Council programs were reduced and the seedstock committee activities eliminated.

Sheep breeders immediately responded and formed the U. S. Sheep Seedstock Alliance, (USSSA). I was named Executive Director of the USSSA in 1996. This organization was the producer organization first to provide a voice and specific activities/programs to benefit the seedstock sector of the U. S. sheep industry. International marketing activities financial support was provided by USDA, Foreign Agriculture Service, (FAS), through the cooperative membership with U. S. Livestock Genetics Export, (USLGE). After four years of financial struggle, the Alliance membership voted to join the Seedstock Forum of the newly formed National Sheep Association, (NSA), in February, 2000.

USSSA played an active role in developing the program for the World Sheep and Wool Congress at Pomona, California in 1998. I was selected as President for the next, 6th World Sheep and Wool Congress to be held in Christchurch, New Zealand, November 11-15, 2001. My formal involvement with the seedstock industry will end at that time.

I have enjoyed being a part of the "golden years" of agriculture during the last half of the 20th Century. It has been wonderful doing what I like best--working with sheep and associated with many good people raising sheep for whatever reasons. I have traveled to 20 countries, made many new acquaintances and observed how sheep are raised under many different environments and economic conditions. I have also shared management systems and technologies that we use and have recommended to sheep producers in the United States. It has been enjoyable meeting

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## CANADIAN SHEEP HEALTH PROGRAM INFO NEEDED

KHSI Operations is seeking information from members who have had experience with Canadian sheep health programs. We printed a lot in the newsletter about the US scrapie program, and we'd like to balance that with information about any provincial programs that our members have found to be especially good in Canada. Canadian members have expressed a wish to note their enrollment in these programs on the membership list, similar to the way US members now list their enrollment in VSFCP. Therefore we would like to get a more complete listing of such Canadian programs. Below is a brief summary of what some KHSI members have sent us about Canadian programs.

The Alberta Flock Quality Health Assurance Program is a very credible, documented, etc. process which some feel is more comprehensive than VSFCP. Our understanding is that a breeder could enroll in the Alberta program from out-of-province if a vet is willing to take the training which involves time, travel, & program costs. Or, a breeder would probably have to pay mileage fees to have the nearest trained vet out twice a year which could be prohibitive in some locations. Saskatchewan does not have any set program.

PLEASE help us by sending additional information on Canadian health programs to Teresa or Jim at KHSI Operations. If you are enrolled in the Alberta Flock Quality Health Assurance Program, please send Operations a note and date of enrollment, and we will list that on a future update of the membership list.

## New Weeks News!

You may remember from the 2000 annual meeting in Virginia that Lisa Weeks was expecting. Some of you have inquired how she's doing, and the good news is that Laryn Olivia Weeks arrived on February 24 at 3:36 am, 8 lbs, 10 oz and 20.5 inches. Laryn was ahead of schedule, and must have thought she needed to come with the rest of Larry and Lisa's little lambs! Lisa says the first 2 weeks of Laryn's life were a blur to Larry, but they did get 51 four-legged lambs on the ground.

*(Continued from page 6 - Charles Parker Bio.)*

international sheep breeders/customers and to promote U. S. sheep genetics. Fortunately we have some of the best sheep genetics for meat and fiber production in the world--also one of the "best kept secrets".

Yes , it's been like "what goes around comes around". I left the farm, but it never left me. I was quite fortunate to have been taught during my first eighteen years by a great sheep man --my father. He attended sheep days and extension meetings to learn new ways to become a more successful sheep producer. I experienced the importance of science and technology and dedicated my professional life in the further discovery, development and dissemination of knowledge for the people who make a living producing food and fiber from raising sheep. The recognition I have received from sheep raisers -- the Pipestone Sheep Hall of Fame, KHSI and others have been among my most cherished rewards--they came from people who shared the same roots from which I came and from those I choose to serve.

## John & Ruth Getz's Legacy Continues

*Ed Martsolf, Arkansas*

The Katahdin Breed of sheep was privileged to have a well-seasoned, highly respected, career shepherd among its ranks for many years. Many of us remember the delightful couple that appeared regularly at sheep events, especially the North American Livestock Exposition at Louisville.

John was always a pleasure to be around and very few people will ever know more about raising good sheep. Over the years, John and Ruth developed one of the best flocks of approximately 100 Katahdin ewes near Springfield, Ohio. After cancer claimed John a couple years ago, Ruth continued the operation with the very able assistance of her neighbor and her daughters. In April of this year, however, it became time to disperse the flock. John and Ruth's part of the story has come to an end...

BUT...the good news is that the sheep will continue on and the genetic material will not be lost to the Katahdin Breed. Two KHSI members purchased the flock with approximately half of the ewe flock going to Richard Gilbert in Athens, Ohio and the other half going to Ed Martsolf in Arkansas.

**Check out the KHSI website: www.KHSI.org**

## Response to John Kirchhoff's Article - "Are Larger Katahdins Better? A View From A Missouri Breeder"

*Laura Fortmeyer - Kansas*

I appreciated John Kirchhoff's article in the last Hairald, as it provoked some further thinking about profitability and optimal ewe size for our own Katahdin flock. His calculations for relative efficiencies of 145 lb and 180 lb ewes are useful. I agree that we in North America are probably too focused on individual animals and should spend more time examining the real factors that make for profit and sustainability of our operations. Since profitability of our flock is not simply based on pounds of meat produced per acre, it might be useful to offer my thoughts on some of the points John presents. It is my opinion as a grazing manager that determining optimal ewe size for an operation should be based on several factors, only one of which is individual efficiency of converting forage to meat. And, the implications of mature size of our ewes are not as important to efficiency as are maternal performance and hardiness traits. (*Editor's note to the reader - you may want to reread John's article from the Winter 2001 issue before reading further*).

1st point - The Katahdins are still very much a medium-sized sheep (as are other maternal breeds) whether they are 140 pounds or 180 lbs. Although a 180 lb. ewe is larger than average for our breed at this point, it is still considered medium-sized in the sheep world and is going to exhibit the essential forage conversion efficiencies and other benefits of a medium sized sheep.

2nd point. Optimal versus practical harvesting of forages by grazing. As John pointed out, a smaller ewe can be more efficient at maintaining herself or converting a given amount of forage to meat than a larger ewe. This assumes some limit on available forage so that the manager is striving for optimal utilization and production per acre. But, while in theory John's analogy with a corn field relates to harvesting of forage by livestock, in practice there is a major difference. With a corn field, it is possible to approach "optimal harvesting". The modern mechanical combines can do a very thorough job of harvesting virtually all the corn ears and kernels from the field. With livestock grazing, rarely are we able to manage our flock so that the available forage is so efficiently harvested throughout the year. It is quite a challenge to have a perfect stocking rate and timing. In the spring/early summer forage is abundant and pastures are usually somewhat understocked so the conversion efficiency of the individual grazing sheep is less important. The difference in efficiency of potential meat production by a 140 lb ewe and a 180 lb ewe on grass is overshadowed by our ability to optimally graze (harvest) the forage produced on our land. The numbers of lambs being raised per ewe and management of forage quality/utilization seem to me to be more important factors than ewe size in converting an acre of forage to meat.

If forage quantity or quality is limited, as it is likely to be at other seasons of the year, ewe maintenance requirements become a more important consideration in return from an acre of land. During such times in our own situation, we can expand our grazing areas for dry ewes to include marginal areas on neighboring farms, wooded areas, and areas that need "vegetation control". I am in agreement with John, all things being equal, it will be cheaper to feed a smaller ewe over the winter than a larger ewe. However, the efficiency of conversion of forage to meat may be better improved by selecting for adaptation traits and increased milk production by a ewe.

3rd point – Marketing: John mentions that a producer must recognize their markets, and I would put a higher priority on this consideration in targeting size of breeding ewes and rams. In my experience, commercial lamb producers selling in conventional markets in the midwestern/western U.S. need to market lambs at a minimum of 115 lbs. and up to 140 lbs. with a decent fat cover to avoid significant price discounts, especially in the late summer/fall, when grass-raised lambs tend to be marketed. Lamb feeders are quick to assess the frame size of a lamb and its potential to meet these criteria and so also pay accordingly. Meat packers often prefer a larger lamb because it is more efficient for them to process a larger lamb. These kinds of lambs do not come from small to medium-framed parents. (I recognize that Eastern and ethnic markets offer more variety in desirable weights and levels of finish.)

If a lamb producer breeds a 140 lb. medium-frame Katahdin ewe to a large terminal sire breed ram, he/she can produce a very acceptable lamb that can be marketed at 110-140 lbs depending on finish and timing desired. However, if that ewe is bred to a Katahdin ram (or other small/medium frame ram), the resulting wethers will most likely be ready for market at 90-110 lbs. This type of lamb can work very well in a grazing operation, but is more appropriate for ethnic and holiday markets. In conventional markets the price discounts on smaller-frame lambs are likely to erode any potential for increased profit or efficiency from a 140-pound ewe as compared to a 180 lb'er. To reach the 115 to 125 pound market condition on forage in 7 months or less, our experience is that we need at least a 165 lb ewe bred to a 250-lb. ram. (We also do not castrate lambs so they grow faster and stay leaner, but we do not necessarily recommend this to others.) Grain supplementation would shift the

*(Continued on page 9)*

*(Continued from page 8 - Response to Kirchhoff opinion)*
balance some or at least reduce time to reach market weight. And again, if one has access to markets that prefer 60-100 lb. lambs, the small-medium sized Katahdins can be more efficient producers.

I suspect that most readers of this article are not selling the majority of their lambs into conventional lamb markets. However, I believe that as breeders of Katahdin sheep, we must strive to satisfy the needs of the commercial sheep production sector that is/will be our market for breeding stock. There is a great deal of diversity in the resource and market opportunities that commercial sheep producers take advantage of and thus a diversity of production objectives. However, we need to learn about and understand that diversity so we can select breeding animals accordingly.

Last comment on markets: While the medium size of Katahdins seems to appeal to most breeders, it is clear from our experience that when buying breeding stock they choose medium-large Katahdin ewes and rams rather than small-medium. They are seeking to increase frame size, growth rates, and uniformity of their lamb crops somewhat. If one is selling registered breeding stock, this might be an important market factor.

4th point -- Growth rates and time to market- Lambs from our smaller-framed ewes are likely to grow slower on average and reach 100 lbs later than those from our larger-framed ewes. This means there is more of the former still hanging around in mid- to late fall when the forage quality has declined and the lambs have plateaued out on their growth curve. They become the most expensive animals to keep from here on and thus profitability is eroded. Although we will move them on as quickly as we can, it takes more effort for us to market 85-95 lb male lambs at a decent value than any other group of lambs.

5th point - Feed conversion efficiency and size. John argues that smaller animals are more efficient at converting forage to meat, which I do not completely agree with. Comparing efficiency between species (ie, cattle and sheep) is well documented. However, there is good research evidence that large-frame lambs not only grow faster but are generally more efficient at converting concentrate feeds to meat than are the smaller breeds, including hair sheep. We are not aware of conclusions of research looking at size or breed as it relates to conversion of forage to growth in lambs or milk production in ewes. And, within the species and within the breed, individual variation can be more important.

6th point - marbling and finish on grass in lambs. John commented that smaller animals finish and marble more easily on grass than larger animals. This comment is well supported in the beef industry. On average, genetically smaller market steers (850-950 lb) finish better on grass than the larger breeds (1250-1400). These smaller steers are younger, tastier and more tender than their larger brothers. However, I don't see that marbling is an issue for Katahdin lambs that finish on grass. In fact, for the freezer lambs we sell direct to consumers, we prefer the larger, faster-growing lambs than slower-growing ones because they are ready for slaughter at a younger age and thus have a little better meat quality.

7th point - In response to John's observation that his 140 pound ewes shed better and are more prolific than his larger ewes: my guess is that this reflects the particular genetics of his flock and the relatively smaller ewes he describes are showing more influence of the Caribbean hair sheep background of the Katahdin which is incidental to size.

I am a proponent of genetic diversity even within breed populations and, although we Katahdin breeders should beware the simple attitude that "bigger is better", I think the breed would benefit from moving the average Katahdin ewe weight up to 150-170 lbs and reducing the number of 100-130 lb ewes in the population in order to be more viable in North American management environments and markets. Ewes that range 130-150 lbs. are especially appropriate for grazing systems with a lower-quality forage base and commercial lamb producers who will benefit from crossbreeding with a terminal sire breed ram. Where one can produce and harvest high-quality forages, as on our farm, or are using grain supplements and the market demand is for a 110+ lb. wether, I believe a 170-180 lb ewe is more appropriate.

Thanks, John, Jim and Sharon for helping us do some thinking!

*Editor's Note: The editor appreciates Laura Fortmeyer's response to John Kirchhoff and encourages John Kirchhoff and other members to respond. Laura Fortmeyer communicated that she especially appreciated Jim Morgan's thoughts and comments as she wrote this article.*

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Dear Editor:

I enjoyed the Winter 2001 edition of the *Katahdin Hairald* very much. The articles discussing size and cross breeding were particularly interesting. I think the points discussed in the article "Are Larger Katahdins Better?" are valid and have been learned by many in the cattle industry. A diverse gene pool allows one to find the type of Katahdin that is best suited to an individual operation. The "Dorpers x Katahdins" article warrants one disagreement on my part. The advantages of heterosis are widely used in cattle breeding. In a terminal production operation (all lambs/calves go to market), cross breeding is very valuable. Oftentimes a 3-way cross is used: F-1 females (used for their tendency for greater reproductive performance) crossed to a third breed male for market offspring offers the highest potential for heterosis-induced performance increases. This system still requires purebred seedstock producers for the basis of the program. Cross breeding is not limited to poultry and hogs as the article suggests. I thank both authors for their interesting and timely articles.

Rosalie Behnke, DVM, Valley Falls, KS

*(Continued on page 10)*

*(Continued from page 9 - Readers' Responses)*
*Editor's note: Dr. Behnke and another couple of members indicated that they did not understand or agree with Carsten Pank when he mentioned in his Winter 2001 article that the prolificacy rate of sheep and cattle are "too low for economical use use of heterois in sheep production for the for the slaughter market (with the exception of terminal mating)". We contacted Carsten Pank and asked him to explain his point. Carsten said that he meant his statement to mean that it was too costly to do F1 x F1 and F2 x F2 crosses of sheep in a "breeding stock program". With chickens that can have 100 offspring, the F1 x F1 mating can still produce 5-10 offspring with useful combinations of traits. This low percentage of useful offspring in a breeding stock program would never pay with sheep or cattle. Carsten said (as did Rosalie Behnke above) that the use of heterosis in a terminal sire situation is very important for producing market animals.*

## Member Farm Reports

*Dane & Evelyn Dougan, Indiana*

We have 15 ewes that lambed this year : 7 with our "Larry" ram from Triple L Farm and 8 with our "John" ram. We have 3 singles, 2 twins, 5 triplets, 5 quads for a total of 42 lambs from 15 ewes. We only lost 2 lambs at birth, and we had 24 ewe lambs and 18 ram lambs. The 42 lambs averaged 8.2 lbs per lamb. The largest set of triplets weighed 32 lbs and the largest quads weighed 30 lbs. We are proud to say these are all registered sheep! If you want to learn more about our sheep or our farm, please call us at 812-536-2452.

*Pam Armitage-Sword, Alberta*

I thought you might be interested in my last 100 day weights from my December 2000 lambs:
Single ram lamb: 110 lbs. ROG (rate of gain) last 50 days(after weaning at 60 days) 1.15 lb/day
Twin ram lamb: 102 lb. ROG last 50 days 1.0 lb/day
Triplet ram lamb: 100 lb. ROG .94
Triplet ram's sisters: 84lbs and 74 lbs
Single ewe lamb(mother gave me triplets 9 1/2 months ago): 103.5 lb.

## Breeder Finds Ram Test Helpful

*Christine Abel, Wisconsin*

In Wisconsin we are lucky enough to have a performance ram test. This is something that, as breeders, we should utilize. Check your state university to see if your state has a program. Our test is generally held for 3 groups. Lambs born in January, February and March are eligible, and the cost is $105 per lamb. They are fed a pelleted grower ration, NOT a hot show ration. All lambs are weighed at the beginning of the test and every 2 weeks during the 42 day test run. You are also asked information such as birth date, type birth, sire, dam, dam's age, # of lambs and # of lambing from dam.

At the end of the test, you will get information on rate of gain and your lamb(s) will be ultra sounded for backfat, loin eyearm and depth. As you can see from the test sheet (copy available from me or KHSI Operations), many other breeds are represented and it is easy to compare the Katahdin with other breeds. This is really handy to show to prospective buyers when asked about meat and rate of gain. If you take any sheep to a fair, you can post this information by your pens. It can be a real eye opener for other breeders.

We have tested for several years and are getting better loin eyes as we go along. This past year (2000) one ram lamb we sent looked really good, on test he did well with rate of gain, but disappointed us on loin eye. Hopefully we will have several lambs from our flock to send again this year. From the data we are hoping to get a consistent loin eye of at least 3" or better. In our flock, when lambs are butchered at our farm, we also get loin eye measurements. Nasco Catalog has a loin eye measuring grid. This is also invaluable in keeping our meat breeding program on track.

After all, the Katahdin is a meat breed and we need to have the paperwork to show that this is so. It is fun to show your test results to Suffolk and other meat breeders and watch their faces when you show them that the Katahdin can compete very well in the marketplace. To learn more about the Wisonsin ram test, contact Randy G. Gottfredson, Research Program Manager, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 260 Animal Sciences Building, Madison, WI 53706-1284. Phone 608-265-2499 , FAX 608-262-5157, or email: rggottfr@facstaff.wisc.edu

# KHSI Performance Review

A survey was sent in January, 2001 to all KHSI members who renewed or joined in 2000, and returned surveys have arrived during the last 4 months. We're very pleased that 137 members took the time to rate different services that KHSI provides. The responses that were more easily quantified are listed in the table below. Written comments are being reviewed by the Board of Directors and the Operations Office to improve service.

What did we learn? In general, we learned that most survey responders approved of the job that the KHSI Registry, KHSI Operations Office, KHSI Website and KHSI Newsletter Editor are doing. We also learned from those who were unhappy, since they provided written comments that helped identify specific problems and suggestions. We learned that the responsibilities and roles of certain parts of our organization are not known to all members. Many do not understand the role or services that the Canadian Representative, the Board of Directors and the KHSI Operations Office provide. In future newsletters we will work on improving communications from these areas to help the membership understand the roles of the offices and officers. As always with a survey, we learned that certain questions can be better designed to obtain more useful responses.

A few notes to help you understand the following table - 1) When a survey respondent did not mark a category, it was tabulated as "No Response". 2) * - A few individuals would circle two categories so the response was marked as a half point in each category. 3) $^{+}$ - Percentage values were calculated to the nearest tenth of a percent.

| **LENGTH OF MEMBERSHIP** (in years) | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 0-2 | 2-5 | 5-9 | 10+ | | No Response | Total |
| number | 47 | 51 | 24 | 8 | | 7 | 137 |
| % responding | 36.2$^{+}$ | 39.2 | 18.5 | 6.2 | | | |
| **A. REGISTRY** | | | | | | | |
| 1. SPEED | Exc. | Good | Fair | Poor | No Opinion | No Response | Total |
| number | 40 | 53.5* | 21.5 | 10 | 4 | 8 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 32.0 | 42.8 | 17.2 | 8.0 | | | |
| 2. ACCURACY | | | | | | | |
| number | 59 | 51 | 10 | 2 | 4 | 11 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 48.4 | 41.8 | 8.2 | 1.6 | | | |
| 3. OVERALL | | | | | | | |
| number | 46 | 60 | 12 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 38.0 | 49.6 | 9.9 | 2.5 | | | |
| **B. OPERATIONS** | | | | | | | |
| 1. SPEED | Exc | Good | Fair | Poor | No Opinion | No Response | Total |
| number | 33 | 40 | 5 | 0 | 10 | 49 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 42.3 | 51.3 | 6.4 | 0.0 | | | |
| 2. ACCURACY | | | | | | | |
| number | 38.5 | 31.5 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 51 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 51.3 | 42.0 | 5.3 | 1.3 | | | |
| 3. OVERALL | | | | | | | |
| number | 34 | 42 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 50 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 44.2 | 54.5 | 1.3 | 0.0 | | | |
| **C. NEWSLETTER** | | | | | | | |
| 1. SPEED | Exc | Good | Fair | Poor | No Opinion | No Response | Total |
| number | 41 | 58.5 | 4.5 | 0 | 7 | 26 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 39.4 | 56.3 | 4.3 | 0.0 | | | |
| 2. ACCURACY | | | | | | | |
| number | 47 | 49.5 | 2.5 | 0 | 9 | 29 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 47.5 | 50.0 | 2.5 | 0.0 | | | |
| 3. OVERALL | | | | | | | |
| number | 47 | 52.5 | 4.5 | 1 | 4 | 28 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 44.8 | 50.0 | 4.3 | 1.0 | | | |
| 4. LENGTH | Too Long | | Just Right | | Too Short | No Response | Total |
| number | 0 | | 97 | | 19 | 21 | 137 |
| % that responded | 0.0 | | 83.6 | | 16.4 | | |

*Continued from page 12 – KHSI Performance Review*

**D. WEBSITE**

| 1. SPEED | Exc | Good | Fair | Poor | No Opinion | No Response | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| number | 18 | 22 | 3 | 0 | 20 | 74 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 41.9 | 51.2 | 7.0 | 0.0 | | | |
| 2. ACCURACY | | | | | | | |
| number | 20 | 24 | 1 | 0 | 19 | 73 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 44.4 | 53.3 | 2.2 | 0.0 | | | |
| 3. OVERALL | | | | | | | |
| number | 19.5 | 23.5 | 0.5 | 2.5 | 19 | 72 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 42.4 | 51.1 | 1.1 | 5.4 | | | |

**E. CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE** - all categories same values (SPEED, ACCURACY, OVERALL)

| | Exc | Good | Fair | Poor | No Opinion | No Response | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| number | 5 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 20 | 105 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 41.7 | 50.0 | 0.0 | 8.3 | | | |

**F. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

| 1. SPEED | Exc | Good | Fair | Poor | No Opinion | No Response | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| number | 6 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 25 | 88 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 25.0 | 50.0 | 12.5 | 12.5 | | | |
| 2. ACCURACY | | | | | | | |
| number | 5 | 13 | 4 | 1 | 26 | 88 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 21.7 | 56.5 | 17.4 | 4.3 | | | |
| 3. OVERALL | | | | | | | |
| number | 6 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 25 | 88 | 137 |
| % with opinion | 25.0 | 50.0 | 20.8 | 4.2 | | | |

*(Continued from page 13 - VSU Abstract)*

and weaning weight were larger following July (6.48 and 24.5 kg) than November (4.37 and 15.4 kg) and March breeding (5.27 and 20.3 kg). Litter weight weaned as percent ewe body was not affected by mating season (range: 35-40%). Lamb survival to weaning ranged from 84% (March) to 92% (November). Reduced litter size and weights for November breeding in this preliminary study may have been associated with a younger ewe age at this mating. In a preliminary feeding trial using young hair sheep and meat goat males, Katahdin lambs had a higher daily gain (129 g/d) than either of the other hair sheep breeds or goats. Katahdin also had a higher dressing percentage and internal fat than the other hair sheep breeds (St. Croix and Barbados Blackbelly).

*(Continued from page 13 - USDA et. al. Abstract)*

mated to Rambouillet, Dorset, Dorper, and Katahdin rams each of three years (2000, 2001, and 2002). Half of the ewes will be exposed during October and half during December. Breed associations will be contacted to request information relevant to the experiment and to seek advice on sources of seedstock. A minimum of 18 rams, all by different sires, will be sampled from each breed over three years. Six rams of each breed will be used in both breeding seasons of a single year.

The goal is to produce about 150 crossbred ewes of each type for each production system, a total of roughly 1200 ewes over the three-year period. Ewes conceived in October will go into an intensive production system, whereas ewes conceived in December will go into an easy-care (pasture) production system. Ewes of each type will be multi-sire mated to rams of a terminal-sire breed. In the intensive system, ewes will be limited to rearing two lambs with additional lambs artificially reared. Ewes in the easy-care production system will be completely responsible for rearing of all lambs. The four types of crossbred ewes will be evaluated over three parities with each ewe remaining in a single production system.

# ABSTRACTS OF RESEARCH AT VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY IN PETERSBURG, VIRGINIA AND THE USDA MEAT ANIMAL RESEARCH CENTER IN CLAY CENTER, NEBRASKA

*Editor's note - Two KHSI members are collecting abstracts about Katahdin research projects from scientists at Universities and USDA Agricultural Research Stations and from farmer/researchers who have received USDA grants from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Grant program. The two abstracts in this article are the first in a series that will be published in future issues of the Katahdin Hairald. To promote Katahdins, the abstracts will be collected and submitted for publication in The Shepherd, a nationally recognized magazine for sheep owners and shepherds published in the USA. We thank Naomi Hawkins of Ohio and Jim Morgan of Arkansas for their efforts. We would also like to thank the researchers for their efforts in writing abstracts and doing the research.*

## Katahdin Research at Virginia State University

*Stephen Wildeus, PhD*

The Small Ruminant Program at Virginia State University maintains a Katahdin flock of 26 purebred, but not registered, ewes. These ewes are currently maintained as one flock with two other hair sheep breeds (Barbados Blackbelly and St. Croix), as well as three goat meat breed types (Spanish, Myotonic and Boer x Spanish ), under a forage-based system. The flock is managed under an accelerated, 8-months mating system, with 30-day breeding seasons in November, July and March. Ewes are bred to same breed males in single sire mating groups and lamb on pasture. Lambs are weaned at 9 weeks of age and assigned to various experiments. The following data are being collected on this breeding herd: fecal egg counts every two weeks, mating dates, pregnancy rates and fetal numbers (two exams at day 1 and 30 post breeding), ewe breeding and weaning body weights, litter size at birth and weaning, lamb birth and weaning weight. These data are used to calculate relative efficiency and off-take for between species and between breed within species comparison. The third of six matings has just been completed. This experiment will be completed in November 2003, and should provide valuable information on the relative efficiency of these breeds under forage-base management. Other current experiments involving Katahdin at VSU include an evaluation of the parasite resistance, carcass evaluation, pen and pasture-based feeding trials and measurements of female and male reproductive performance.

Some earlier findings from a preliminary accelerated breeding study indicate that conception rates were similar for all breeding seasons (November, July, and March; mean 88%), however, lambing rate was significantly lower for July breeding (65%), suggesting some early fetal losses due to heat stress. Time to mating from onset of breeding was also later for July (25.3 days), than for November and March breeding. Litter size was larger following July (1.67) than November (1.27) breeding, with March intermediate (1.53). Litter birth

*(Continued on page 12)*

## Evaluation of Wool and Hair Breeds under Intensive and Extensive Production Systems

USDA, ARS, U S. Meat Animal Research Center Clay Center, Nebraska

*Kreg Leymaster, PhD & Project Leader*

The sheep industry needs to improve reproductive efficiency and to reduce labor requirements so that large commercial flocks are both practical and profitable. Traits contributing to reproductive efficiency include seasonality, fertility, prolificacy, maternal ability, and lamb vigor. Easy-care traits that affect labor requirements include adaptation, hardiness, internal and external parasite tolerance, and shedding of hair and wool to avoid shearing. Hair breeds of sheep evolved under extensive production systems and may have the potential to decrease labor requirements and to contribute to easy-care production systems.

The experimental objective is to evaluate production efficiency under both intensive and easy-care production systems of four types of crossbred ewes. Varying levels of reproductive efficiency and easy-care attributes will be created by mating Romanov ewes to Rambouillet, Dorset, Dorper, and Katahdin rams. Purebred and crossbred Romanov ewes excel in all aspects of reproduction and therefore will make up one-half of each crossbred. Wool (Rambouillet and Dorset) and hair (Dorper and Katahdin) breeds are included for comparative purposes as the long-term value of wool is unknown. Rambouillet and Dorper provide a wool-hair comparison for breeds developed under extensive, arid conditions, while Dorset and Katahdin offer a similar contrast for breeds adapted to more favorable production conditions.

About 360 Romanov ewes will be single-sire

*(Continued on page 12)*

## Welcome New Members !

(mid-January – April, 2001 )

| | |
|---|---|
| Harris Dalsgaard-Nielsen | Alberta |
| Robert & June Gillespie | Alberta |
| Kevin & Kristina Hinz | Alberta |
| George & Dianne Lee | Alberta |
| Craig & Gwen Sukeroff | Alberta |
| Corrie & Chrisy Wilson | Alberta |
| Thomas Drasdauskis | British Columbia |
| Ron & Wendi Morrison | British Columbia |
| Gaeton Charette & Jacqueline Rodrigue | Quebec |
| Dave & Janet Foth | Saskatchewan |
| Jim & Kathy Moncrief | Saskatchewan |
| Ing Guillermo Vera Andrade | Mexico |
| Carmen Barbot | California |
| Jose Luis & Doris Bonilla | California |
| Ed Winters | Georgia |
| Shay & Betsy Fanase | Indiana |
| Terry & Patricia Huey | Indiana |
| Randi Elyse Potts | Indiana |
| Carl Nichols | Kansas |
| Marvin & Nettie Olson | Kansas |
| Douglas, Michael & Cathy Boardman | Kentucky |
| Robert G McCrory, DVM | Kentucky |
| Juan Diliberto | Louisiana |
| Raphael Duhon | Louisiana |
| Mark Hulin | Louisiana |
| Suzanne White & Courtland Bennett | Maine |
| Shirley Biere | Missouri |
| Bill Byram & Victoria Emery | Missouri |
| Barbara Hurst | Missouri |
| Melissa Morris | Missouri |
| Sam & Linda Truesdell | Missouri |
| Kevin & Mary Beth Coombs | North Dakota |
| Mark Dobbs | Ohio |
| Samuel M Yoder | Ohio |
| Maureen, David, Ryan & Kyle Cuitti | Oregon |
| Walter & Delores Focht | Oregon |
| Donald Nelson | Oregon |
| Donna & Doug Stoneback | Pennsylvania |
| Bob Bulsza | South Carolina |
| John K, Kim & Melody Hanson | South Dakota |
| John E. Radke | Tennessee |
| Howard Covington | Texas |
| Janet Johnson | Texas |
| Allen Mills | Texas |
| Kenyon Hill Farm | Vermont |
| Todd & Amy Pendleton | Virginia |
| Shari Bunting | Washington |
| Philip Johnson | Washington |
| Stanley D. & Diana J. Jones | Washington |
| Tammy Knight | Washington |
| Arthur Lange | Washington |
| Barb Wales | West Virginia |
| Maralyn C Fowler | Wisconsin |
| Tom Rauch | Wisconsin |

## Next Newsletter Deadline: July 1, 2001

Please send items and ads for the newsletter to: Teresa Maurer, KHSI Operations, PO Box 778, Fayetteville, AR 72702 or email them to: khsint@earthlink.net

As a member, you, too, can place a sheep ad in the Katahdin Hairald for free! Characteristics that will help you sell sheep when you list them in your ad include: rate of gain, characteristics of dam and sire, weight of mature ewes and rams, and other performance evaluation info.

# Cla$$ified Ad$

Wanted to Buy -

~ Mark Dennis (New Iberia, Louisiana) wants 4 red or brown ram lambs that reach 90-100 lbs in 100 days. Delivery date of June 1. Call 337-364-0422 or email: CountryOakRanch@juno.com

~ Bill Byram (Moscow Mills, Missouri) wants 10 or more ewes or ewe lambs 636-366-4797.

~ Commercial Katahdin ewes. Prefers sheep located in OH, KY, IN, PA, MI. Jim Kleir, 18456 Pitts Rd, Wellington OH 44090. 440-647-2405. thekleirs@juno.com

~ John Hodge (Lometa,Texas) wants 10-20 registered ewes, 1 registered ram, 50-100 commercial ewes. Will travel to Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma,Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas. 512-752-3579 or email: hodgerch@dashlink.com

~ Margaret Sharp (Havelock, Ontario) wants to buy KHSI registered large-framed, heavy, polled white ram. Would prefer nearby Ohio or New York. Call her at (705) 778-2774, or e-mail frosthill@hotmail.com

~ México buyer looking for 100 registered ewes, 3 registered rams all at least 6 months old. Buyer lives in northeast Mexico near the Texas border. Arturo Herrera Perez
Phone: 01152 131 61993 Fax: 01152 131 62675 or email: mercadotecnia_scv@hotmail.com

~ Fred Wheat (Parsons, Kansas) wants 100-200 commercial Katahdin or Katahdin crosses. 316-421-0691

For $ale -

~ Ewe lambs,ram lambs, wethers: 8 registered ewe lambs; Feb 2001 registered reddish-brown ram lamb 62 lbs at 61 days (9 lbs at birth; mother 165 lbs; father 187 lbs at 13 mos), 10 wethers from 32-62 lbs. Kim Carter (Casa, Arkansas) at 501-233-6058 or email: klkfarm@arkwest.com

~ Ewes and rams, young and mature, registered and purebred recordable. Leann Biehl (Dickson, Tennessee) 615-441-3739 or LeannBiehl@aol.com

~ Ewe: a 2000 white ewe, lambed once, also 1 proven 2000 brown and white ram, 3 March 2001 ewe lambs (registerable), 1 March 2001 ram lamb, 2000 wether. Shari Bunting (Camano Island, Washington) 360-387-3487 or <sdbunt@yahoo.com>.

~ Ewes for sale (reducing size of ewe flock), also ewe lambs & select ram lambs for sale in fall, 2001. Vaughn & Naomi Johnson, 406-333-4555, 30 Pinto Ranch, Livingston, MT 59047 or email pintoranch@mcn.net

~ Ewes,rams: Mary Van Anrooy (Clinton, Arkansas) has 25 ewe lambs (2001) available now, 58 ewe lambs (2001) available in June, 9 mature ewes (2 years +), rams and mature rams. 501-893-6158 phone/FAX.

~ Lambs: Dane & Evelyn Dougan (Huntingburgh, Indiana) registered lambs (see article in this issue). 812-536-2452

~ Ewes, rams: Stan and Janice Neuenschwander (Leetonia,Ohio) March/April lambs: 15 ewes, 2 rams. 330-427-1002.

~ Ewe and ram lambs available year round: Bill and Dianne Campbell (Bindloss, Alberta). 403-379-2155 or bdc@telusplanet.net

~ Lambs: Tim Caron (Versailles, Illinois) Call 217-327-4290 or email: BVFARMER1@webtv.net

~ Rams: Elaine Mayes & Michael Chapman (Roby, Missouri) have 3 yr old proven stud ram ($300) selling to diversify bloodline, 2 Jan 2001 ram lambs (1 from triplets – very large at birth, 1 from twins – very large at birth), $125 without papers, $225 with papers; 1 February 2001 (from twins) same prices. Scrapie enrolled flock, will deliver for 30 cents per mile one way, if desired. Pine Cabin Farm (417) 458-3135, or Pinecbnfrm@aol.com

~ Ram lambs: Bruce Hoffman (Batesville, Arkansas) 8 weeks old, all registered. Call all day at (870) 698-5297 or (870) 793-2199 BEFORE 6 pm, or email: svcplus@cei.net

~ Rams: 1 born 2-19-00, red and white with horns, 1 born 12-27-00 blond white, 1 born 1-13-01 red. Diane Bender (Hillsboro, Missouri) 636-479-5227 or email: Benderfarm@aol.com

~ Rams: 5 registered, born in 2000. Roy Smith, 4291 Black Rd, Kelowna, BC VIX 7V8 or call 250-765-6274.

~ Rams: Marjorie Van Noy (Sacramento, California) 916-682-5097, 2 already-registered twin ram lambs (2001)

~ Rams: 3 by Bill Tatham (Broadway, Virginia) 540-896-2912 or beefbill@gte.xxx

~ Melissa Morris (Gatewood, Missouri ) has a registered, triplet, white ram lamb from a good milking ewe for sale. Asking $150 for him. Yearling Suffolk ram for $80. Also has wethers and older ewes. 573-255-3253 or email: mel_j_morris@hotmail.com

~ Rams: 3 registered February 2001 ram lambs (all twin births). Chris or Frank Lavendar (Jonesborough, Tennessee) 423-753-7496 or email: crisinc@preferred.com.

~ Terry & Patricia Huey (Stendal, Indiana) – 3 large, meaty yearling rams that are twins out of a triplet ram. Also has five March 2001 ram lambs for sale. 812-536-3015.

Equipment for $ale:

~ New sheep squeeze with tilt table weighs 120 lbs-1 person can handle; also good female guard llama. Sold all my sheep—thank you KHSI. Tina Woodworth (Chinook, Washington) call (360-777-8888) mornings best (Pacific time) or email: cvfarm@willapabay.org.

# KHSI ANNUAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 21-22 – Troy, Missouri

Mark your calendars and keep your eagle eye out for pre-registration info in the next *Hairald*! The Midwest regional group (MKHSA) members are working on details for the annual meeting events. The 2001 KHSI Annual Meeting will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 21-22 in Troy, Missouri, which is 50 miles north of St. Louis. Registration materials will be available in the next newsletter.

KATAHDIN HAIR SHEEP INTERNATIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, Sept. 20, 2001
- Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, Sept. 21, 2001
- Lectures from 8:00 AM to 12 Noon at Millwood Knights of Columbus Hall
  - Kurt Olsen - International Marketing
  - Helen Schwartz - Flock Improvements through selective breeding
  - Flock Master - Demonstration on sheep management program
- Lunch at K.C. Hall from 12:30 PM to 1:30
- Farm Demonstrations 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM
  - Lamb Carcass inspection, build creep panel feeders, drenching
- Social and BBQ 4:30 PM to 10:00 PM

Saturday, Sept. 22, 2001
- 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon
  - Finish Lamb Carcass Inspection
  - Inspector Training
  - Pasture Management Demonstration
- 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM Business Meeting at Chum' s Restaurant, Troy, MO
- 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM Banquet Dinner ($5.00 for Saturday lunch and $15 for banquet.)

The closest airport is Lambert Field in St. Louis, Missouri. The most economical and convenient motel is the Oak Grove Inn: 636-528-8128. Room prices including all taxes are $37.67US for one person and $50.04US for two people. Another local and more modern motel is the Holiday Inn Express, with $64US for one or two people: 636-462-9999. If you have questions, please call Teresa or Jim at KHSI Operations: 501-444-8441 or e-mail <kshint@earthlink.net>.

KHSI
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