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Summer 2017

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 2



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Advertising

Display Ad Rates★: Contact Operations for current rates and spec sheet. 479-444-8441, info@katahdins.org

Classifieds - Classified sale ads for Katahdin or Katahdin-cross sheep are free to all KHSI members in the Katahdin Hairald and at the KHSI website. For the Hairald, limit length to 40 words.

Ad commitment for Fall 2017 Hairald due August 2, 2017.

*rates for display advertising are subject to change upon approval of the Board of Directors.

Ad design available from:

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Lynn Fahrmeier, KHSI President

The year is flying by and by the time you get this issue it will be past the summer solstice and the daylight hours will be getting shorter. The KHSI office and board are gearing up for a great Expo and Sale in Greenfield, Indiana on July 27-29. Check the back cover for the schedule of great educational speakers. There is also a lot of time for visiting with old friends and making new friends as we "talk sheep."

In late April, KHSI participated in the 1st International Congress of Katahdins, held in Mexico. Eight KHSI members from the U.S. were in attendance and we were officially represented by Dr. Jim Morgan from the KHSI Operations office. Everyone said the hospitality of the host was above and beyond what was expected. The food was wonderful, the seminars were educational and the sheep show was outstanding.

Since then, several people have inquired about importing Katahdin genetics from Mexico into the U.S. The KHSI Board of Directors has adopted the position that any animals, embryos, or semen imported from Mexico or any other country where the foundation registered animals can be traced

back to KHSI registered animals will be recognized by our registry as 100% Katahdin, provided it is a legal import. It is currently illegal to import any sheep genetics from Mexico and KHSI will not recognize any genetics that come into the U.S. illegally. Dr. Morgan and I have been talking with representatives from USDA-APHIS and ASI for over a year to work on getting USDA to negotiate an import protocol with Mexico. The worst thing that could happen at this point in time is for someone to get caught importing semen or embryos illegally. It would destroy any goodwill and trust that is being created between KHSI, the American Sheep Industry and USDA.

On page 6 of this issue I have addressed some of the different management practices that exist between our two countries. I was able to export animals to Mexico before the border closed in the early 2000's. Through social media it has been wonderful to see how the Mexican producers developed the breed in Mexico. I would argue that we need to adapt some of the more progressive practices of the Mexican producers while we wait for the politicians and the USDA Veterinarians in the Import/Export offices and their counterparts in Mexico to negotiate legal trade between the two countries.

Several months ago I announced that the KHSI Board of Directors was publishing a Request for Proposals for our registry services. In the last four

years there have been a lot of changes in technology and in the services that can be provided to our members. The Board of Directors felt it was time to renegotiate our contract with our registry provider and that it was in the best interest of our members to open the process up to any company that wanted to solicit our business. I am happy to report that four very qualified businesses made proposals. All the proposals were very professional and thorough in detail. By the time you read this, the Board should be close to making a decision and then we will start negotiating the details of the contract. I hope to make a formal announcement at the KHSI Expo but there are no guarantees. In the meantime, continue sending in your registrations to AccuRegister in Pennsylvania as you have for the last four years. If a change takes place, it will be January 1st, 2018. All of our data will transfer to the new registry if a change takes place.

Thanks to you, our members, for continuing to promote the Katahdin breed. It is you, the members, which keep this organization growing. Please continue to send in your registration papers on any animals you sell. All first time owners are sent a packet of information and many of them join KHSI.

Good luck at the summer fairs, shows and with your on-farm sales. I look forward to meeting many of you at our annual Expo in Greenfield, Indiana.

2017 Katahdin Hairald Display Ad Prices & Publication Schedule

	Member Sheep Ads	Commercial Advertisers	
Ad Size	Cost-Color Ad	Cost-Color Ad	
full page	\$220	\$290	
1/2 page	\$115	\$155	
1/4 page	\$60	\$85	
1/8 page (business card)			
2017 Hairald Publication Schedule			

2017 Hairaid Publication Schedule

	Fall	Winter
Article Deadline/Display Ad		
commitment deadline (inc. ad size)	Aug 2	Nov 1
Display Ad content due to Xpressions	Aug 16	Nov 8
Classified Ads due to Operations	Aug 16	Nov 8
Mailing date (Bulk Mail)	Sep 8	Dec 7
commitment deadline (inc. ad size) Display Ad content due to Xpressions Classified Ads due to Operations	Aug 16 Aug 16	Nov 8 Nov 8

- Advertisers who agree to advertise in 4 consecutive issues receive a 10% discount on each ad.
- The prices listed in the table above are for finished ad copy. It is the responsibility of each advertiser to either produce the final copy themselves or contract for that.
- These prices are effective 2017. The KHSI publications committee and KHSI board will evaluate prices for 2018.

Guide to Katahdin Hair Sheep available.

Download from website or send \$3 to

KHSI Operations, PO Box 778,

Fayetteville, AR 72702



WHAT A MARKING HARNESS CAN TELL YOU

Jim Morgan, PhD, Arkansas Katahdin Breeder

Many flocks use marking harnesses on their breeding rams to help manage their lambing ewes. While the most common use is to predict within a few days when a ewe will lamb, there is other information that can be discerned from using a harness. They are not a hundred percent in catching

all matings, but in our flock, about 90% of the time the marks do catch the mating that leads to settling of the ewe. Typically, a shepherd will do the first cycle using a light color and then near the start of the second cycle change to a different color. In our flock, the color of the crayon is changed on day 14 or day 15. In our system, about one out of 20-30 ewes doesn't mark, but she goes ahead and lambs.

Prior to the start of lambing, based on the markings, it is possible to make a chart of the predicted order of ewe lambing. In our system the vast majority of ewes lamb at 147 days +/- 2 days. When walking through the ewe flock, it saves us time to only closely look at the ewes that are predicted to be close. We find it useful. With larger flocks, paint branding the ewes with the ear tag number makes it much easier to record which ewes have marked.

But what else can a marking harness tell you?

Ram fertility. One year every ewe in one breeding group marked in the first 15 days. Then for the first ten days of the second cycle, every ewe marked again. You can track this by changing

the color of the marking crayon (suggest day 14). It told us that the ram wasn't very fertile. If only one or two ewes had a marked with a different color and the majority of ewes did not remark, the ram is working well. Thus, a marking harness can alert a shepherd to a ram with fertility issues and it is much better to know 3 weeks into the breeding season rather than when there are no or very few lambs.



Managing a prolapsing ewe. Ewes rarely prolapse in our system, about 1 out of 80 lambings. Knowing when the ewe is predicted to lamb helps determine how to manage that prolapsing ewe. If there is only a week before the expected lambing date, we would use a harness. If 3-4 weeks, we would probably resort to suturing.

Late gestation nutrition - Earlier in our shepherding careers, we noticed that the average gestation length increased from our 147 day average to 150 days. Our lambs were born about 1.5 lbs light on average (several 6 to 7 lb lambs). The observations of birth weight and gestation length

were quantifiable. Additionally, we observed that it took 2 days after birth before any of the lambs were hopping and jumping around. The vast majority of lambs were pretty lethargic (an unquantifiable observation unless you have a stop watch and live out there with the lambs). But the behavioral observation fit with the other data. Conclusion: Our flock had some nutritional event during late gestation. We

had held off feeding hay until a week before lambing with a mild winter and lots of grass.

Ewe switching breeding groups and thus exposed to a ram not in the mating book. That year, we were using a green crayon in the first cycle for one ram and yellow for another ram in his first cycle of the breeding group. After the third cycle, I noticed a yellow marked butt in the green group. After checking eartags, sure enough, we had a ewe that went over or through two 32 inch electrified cross-fences and

around some electro-net. Never would I have considered that a ewe would do that, since we rarely have ewes that get out. I now use different colored crayons for the rams in their separate breeding pastures. This is important for maintaining accurate sire records for registering lambs.

Switching between rams or putting in the clean-up ram. For registered lambs: when switching between rams, it is important to know the sire. Safe waiting periods are ten days or maybe even two weeks. When using

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4





harnesses you can shorten the break between taking one ram out and putting in another to 4 days. Rarely have I seen a ewe breed for longer than 36 hours. You can be certain that a ewe that didn't mark with the previously harnessed ram and then marked 4 days later with the new ram was bred by the 2nd ram. But only if the shepherd goes out every day and carefully looks at each ewe for marks. It is important to watch lambing dates. If the gestation length for a ewe doesn't make sense so that you can be certain who the sire is, then it is best not to register the lambs.

Open Ewes - Rarely, we have ewes that don't lamb. Marking records can help decide whether the ewe should be culled. If the rest of the ewes in the same breeding group lamb, then we look back at the marking harness records. We have had a couple of open ewes that marked each of three successive cycles. This indicates she was cycling but not settling and is a good candidate for culling. The 1 out of 20-30 ewes that does not mark, usually goes ahead and lambs. But if they do not mark and do not lamb, it is good evidence that they were not cycling and are candidates for culling.

Making Culling Decisions. Occasionally, a flock will run short on winter feed. In the midst of winter, trying to decide which ewes to cull can be difficult. Marking harness records could tell you which ewes did not mark or which ewes marked multiple times. These ewes have a lower probability of lambing and may be better candidates to cull. A ewe that always takes 3 cycles to settle makes management harder.

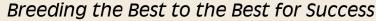
Selecting aseasonal lambing ewes. This task is a little tougher, since there are more variables including ewes that cycle (and are marked) and do not settle, or rams that mark several ewes but have low semen counts or are sterile. But that said, marking records provide the shepherd with more information about his/her ewes and their cycling in the spring. If some ewes mark, then you know that the ram is detecting estrous. The marking harness provides information about what percentage of the ewes are cycling. Also, if a ram marked most of the ewes but no ewes lambed, it would indicate that many of the ewes were aseasonal but that the ram had fertility issues.

Catching the ram. We often remove rams from the breeding pen without taking all the ewes back to the sorting pens. The sheep could be in a distant part of the rotation or across the highway from the sorting pens. By dropping a little grain or alfalfa hay on the ground, the harness straps make it handy for us to catch and control the ram as we get it out of the pen or into a cage on the trailer or back of the truck.

Problems with harnesses. Harnesses are not always the perfect tool and they do not work for everyone. First concern is that rams can be hurt with harnesses. If the pastures or pens have brush or junk that can catch a harness, a ram could get caught or become entangled, and maybe even be severely injured. Also not all harness styles are equal. Some brands and styles can cause significant chafing,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5







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Join us on Facebook. bleeding or limping of the ram if the harness doesn't fit the ram or is not kept properly tightened.

Second concern is keeping a working crayon on the ram. Crayons can be purchased for three sets of temperatures (hot, warm, cold). The wax of the crayon needs to melt at current average temperatures in order to mark the ewe. A hot crayon will not melt if the temperature is 30 degrees F. A cold crayon will melt all over the ram if the ambient temperatures are in the

70s or 80s, thus requiring replacement. If temperatures change dramatically, the shepherd needs to catch the ram immediately and change the crayons to keep the harnesses working.

Some folks say the harnesses are only 25-50% successful in helping to identify ewes that are marked and when they will lamb. Harnesses are less useful for those with jobs off the farm that do not allow them to see the ewes in the daylight every day to check for marks. Some rams have

a light touch or maybe a cooler chest and are less likely to leave marks. When ambient temperature is really cold, a ewe with a thick coated butt is also less likely to mark. Those of us who use harnesses have preferred brands for those that stay on better and need adjusting less often.

In summary, marking harnesses are a useful management tool. They provide much more information for managing your flock than just telling you when a ewe is likely to lamb.







Leslie Raber Sabattus, Maine SalmonRunFarms@gmail.com NEW- salmonrunfarms.com

Join us on Facebook: Salmon-Run-Farms

Baguette, 2017 ewe lamb, sired by EHJ 618



Welcome Centralia!



Reserve Champion Ewe 2017 Northeast Livestock Expo

Shown by Aurora Raber and sold to Pearl Benjamin. Watch for the super team of Pearl and Baquette at the youth shows this year.

We believe Centralia has been instrumental in the development of the the modern Katahdin and look forward to adding his genetics to our flock. Look for some awesome lambs beginning in 2018. Thank you Ed and Helen for this opportunity.

Member:

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NSIP

MSBA

If You Want What They Have, Are You Willing To Do What They Have Done?

Lynn Fahrmeier, Missouri

In late April, a group of eight KHSI members traveled to Mexico to attend the 1st Congress of Katahdin Sheep Producers. From all the reports and pictures I think it is safe to say that the Katahdin Sheep in Mexico are impressive, in size and visual muscling. This raised a lot of questions about the differences in the selection of breeding stock in Mexico compared to the United States. Before I address those differences, I would like to share some history.

The border between Mexico and the US was open for trade in the late 1990's and early 2000's. After a trip to Mexico in 1992 by Dr Charles Parker, (honorary KHSI Member) and Mark Dennis, interest in Katahdins being imported into Mexico began. In 1996, the first Katahdins moved into Mexico. Dr Javier Lara among others was traveling to the Midwest, buying breeding stock of other breeds when they were introduced to the Katahdin

Breed. Dr. Lara saw great potential for the breed in Mexico and started buying directly from farms and from the Stud Ram Sale in Sedalia Missouri the first two years that Katahdins were sold there. There was also extensive travel to Canada and many Katahdins from Canada were also imported by Mexico. With the outbreak of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis), USDA quickly moved to minimize TSEs such as BSÉ and scrapie in US livestock. This led to the closing of borders to both Canada and Mexico, because of concern about scrapie transmission and, many believe, due partially to politics.

Our Mexican friends bought what they considered to be the best genetics that were available in the Midwest and Canada at the time. I have watched from afar with awe as they have developed the breed in Mexico. I believe there are management differences between the two countries that have allowed them to be so successful.

The Mexican Katahdin Breeders

tend to be larger producers than the average US producer. This allows them to place more selection pressure on their replacements, especially ram lambs. They are saving only the very top percentage of animals in each flock.

All the Mexican breeders are using Estimated Breeding Values for those traits that can be measured objectively and visual selection for conformation traits. This is in stark contrast to the US breeders that resist the use of NSIP data. The Mexican breeders are implementing genomic parentage testing on all purebred stock to assure that the sire and dam are correct for the EBV calculations.

The Mexican breeders also make extensive use of Artificial Insemination (AI) and Embryo Transfer (ET). Here in the US there are only a handful of breeders using these technologies. I know of four Katahdin breeders working to develop a vaginal AI protocol

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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Today's News: The 2013 Midwest Stud Ram Sale **Grand Champion Ram**



Doubloon: The 2011 Midwest Stud Ram Sale Grand Midwest Stud Ram Sale Grand Champion Ram



News Flash: The 2014 **Champion Ram**



Payzley: The 2015 Midwest Stud Ram Sale Reserve **Champion Ewe**



Reba: The 2017 Big Ohio Sale Grand Champion Ewe



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to help the growth of sheep AI here in the states. I am aware of only two Katahdin breeders doing ET work. The Mexicans do have an advantage with ET procedures because they have access to newer more effective drugs than US producers and veterinary costs are significantly lower. There should be no difference in the AI success.

The Mexican breeders are producing lambs for a single market compared to the US producers that are selling to both the ethnic light lamb market and the traditional heavy lamb market. I have always said that one of the strengths of the Katahdin breed is its genetic diversity. Here in the US we can raise Katahdins on the grass covered hills of the Southeast or in the Corn Belt feedlots or in the mountains of the west. But that diversity also hinders us from having a singleness of focus.

So, back to the question in the title of this article. If we want what they have, are we willing to do what they have done? Are you willing to sell as breeding stock, only the best out of your flock? A goal would be to sell only the top 15% of ram lambs from any flock. Are you willing to actually measure performance with a scale? Are you buying replacement stock and asking to see their EBVs? If semen was available from some of the top ranked rams in the US, would you buy the semen and pay to have your ewes inseminated? Are you focused on producing the most pounds of lambs weaned per ewe possible? It is important to match ewe size to your environment. Your largest ewes may not be your most profitable but do you know which ewes are your most profitable? Whether you are raising Katahdins on grass or in a feedlot the measure of Pounds of Lamb Weaned per Ewe Exposed is the most accurate predictor of Profit in a sheep operation because it combines the results of maternal traits and growth traits. We should always be striving to increase that measure of performance for ourselves and our commercial customers.

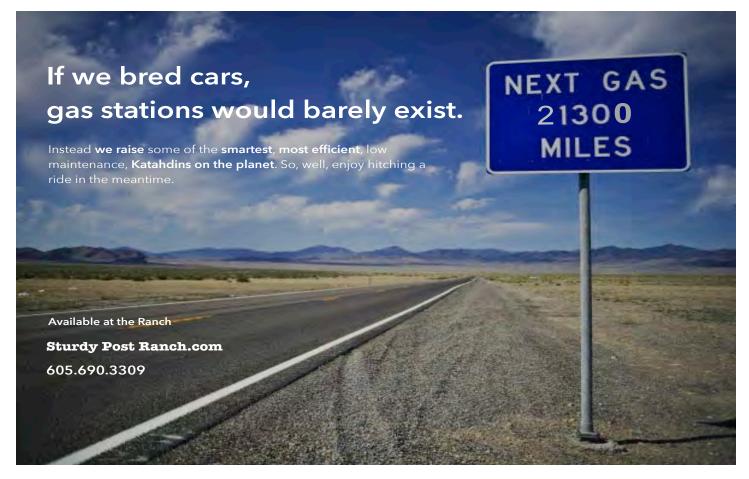
After the organization of the Katahdin breed in Mexico it only took

nine years for Katahdins to become the number one breed in Mexico. Katahdins are now the number one breed in the US and if we follow the example set by our Mexican friends, I am confident that we will continue to outpace the competition here in the U.S.

Big E Hosts NE Regional Open & Junior Katahdin Shows Sept 22, 2017

Katahdins have been at the Big E in Springfield Massachusetts for a couple of years. This year the shows are now the NE Regional Shows for both Open and Junior competitors. There will be added premiums to mark the regional status of the shows. Consignments are due 8/15 and sheep check in on 9/21, show 9/22 and can leave on 9/27.

More information at http://www.thebige.com/p/competitions/473.



PRELIMINARY BIG OHIO SALE RESULTS - EATON, OHIO MAY 12-13, 2017

The second year for Katahdins at the Big Ohio Sale is in the books. Preliminary results were available. For final prices, check back at http://www.bannersheepmagazine.com/saleaverages.html

Big Ohio Sale Preliminary Results		
Champion Ram	Henry & Becky Shultz, Prairie Lane Farm, Centralia, MO	
Reserve Champion Ram	Mike & Leslie Nelsh, Riviera, Cable, OH	
Champion Ewe	Mike & Leslie Nelsh, Riviera, Cable, OH	
Reserve Champion Ewe	Henry & Becky Shultz, Prairie Lane Farm, Centralia, MO	
Top Selling Price	\$1800 sold by Riviera Farm	
26 Head Averaged	\$596	

PRELIMINARY INDIANA PREMIER KATAHDIN EWE SALE, GREENFIELD, INDIANA APRIL 22, 2017

Katahdin breeders joined forces with the Indiana Shropshire Association for the 4^{th} year to sell ewe lambs at Hancock County Fairgrounds in Greenfield, Indiana on April 22. The goals of the sale are to provide a limited number of premier yearling ewes and ewe lambs in the spring. For the last few years, a few rams have been consigned as well.

Preliminary Results: Indiana Premier Katahdin Ewe Sale Summary		
Top Selling Yearling Ewe	\$550	Jeff & Jan Poynter, Poynter Sheep Farm, Paris, IL
Top Selling Fall Ewe Lamb	\$2100	John, Judy & Scott Dyer, Dyer Family Katahdins, Chrisney IL
Top Selling Spring Ewe Lamb	\$625	David & Jane Smith, D & J Smith Katahdins, Earl Park, IN
3 Rams Averaged	\$567	
13 Ewes Averaged	\$815	

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Outstanding Educational Opportunities at 13th Annual Expo July 27-29 Shepherd 101 & 201 Presentations Coupled with the National Katahdin Sale

By Expo Program Committee: Robert Walker, Lynn Fahrmeier, Steve Bull, Jay Greenstone & Carl Ginapp

Excellent sheep! Several flocks have contacted our office and plan on bringing superior rams and ewes to this event. Consigned Katahdins need to arrive by noon on Thursday July 27th at the Hancock Country Fairgrounds in Greenfield, Indiana.

The viewing of the sale sheep and discussions with other breeders are considered by many Expo attendees as one of the many Expo learning experiences. Join us for an Ice Cream Social at the Sale Barn on Friday night.

Excellent & Exciting Education and Some Quality Hanging Out Time! The speakers are an exciting line up. Here is the latest information. We have speakers from Purdue University Extension that are helping with the program.

For those not helping with the Expo Sale Animal consignment, Thursday afternoon is a time to be friendly to our members that are cooking lamb. New this year: we plan to have several Katahdin breeders grilling and cooking lamb to sample. In jest, we can say there are several saying they have the best.

Also on Thursday afternoon, there will be a demonstration of electronic ID tags, coupled with weighing and bluetooth data collection. This is a chance to evaluate advances that can facilitate weighing and management. It is amazing what these programs can do and the time they can save.

The Thursday evening and Friday 101 and 201 sessions promise to be a great learning experience. There will be topics appealing to all.

We have several new speakers this year that will help all of us be better and more knowledgeable shepherds.

Dr Stacy Zuelly has recently joined the Purdue University Animal Science Department. Her area of interest is meat science. She plans to talk about Quality Assurance in Meat Production on Thursday and Direct Marketing Lamb on Friday. We also will have a panel of producers who direct market lamb talking about their operations and answering questions from the audience.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11





Samuel Fahrmeier clipping a patch of hair so we can ultrasound measure the true muscle thickness of our lambs.

NSIP can calculate an EBV for Loineye Muscle Thickness.

Measured Performance

Fahrmeier Katahdins

At Fahrmeier Katahdins we combine visual appraisal with the power of multigenerational EBVs to select the best replacement lambs for our flock. Why use only one selection method when you could be using both?



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Lynn & Donna Fahrmeier 13305 Flournoy School Road Wellington, MO 64097 816-517-5049 • Ifahrmeier@msn.com Dr David Redwine from Virginia is scheduled to talk on Breeding Stock Selection to improve the commercial meat industry. David Redwine has been raising Katahdins for over 18 years and can help us focus on the important traits.

There are many parts of USDA that we as producers rarely come in contact with. One of the agencies that can help sheep producers with predation is USDA Wildlife Services. Lee Umberger from the Indiana office will speak about the resources Wildlife

Services can provide. They help with wildlife damage including predation of lambs and sheep and bird damage to row crops and fish farms. Learning about these services could pay for your whole trip.

Best management practices for parasite control continue to improve in the USA, especially since 2000. Susan Schoenian is part of the team at the American Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control. One of the new recommendations by the Consortium is to use "Combina-

tion Anthelmintics" and Susan will be telling us about the latest recommenda-

tions. Susan will also discuss the factors involved in determining the "Best Time to Wean" for your flocks since it varies according to management.

All indications are that Animal

Welfare will become more important for livestock production. Granted, most of us pride ourselves on being good shepherds. However, more restaurants are requiring that the meat they buy be raised humanely and require official auditing groups to verify. There are always ways to improve animal welfare. Dr Joan Burke and Erin Smith Woods have taken a lead among USDA Agriculture Research Service locations with Animal Welfare. They will be talking to us about their programs and help us with improving ours.

There will also be a session on the National Sheep Improvement Program on Thursday evening. There will be two beginning presentations. One about whether NSIP and the EBVs (estimated breeding values) are for you. Also, there will be a demonstration on entering the data you collect into the NSIP software. A final session called NSIP 201, will still be very informative for BOTH beginning and more advanced flocks.

Victor Shelton is the USDA NRCS

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12





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2017 LAMBS READY IN JUNE - JULY



Grazing Specialist for the state of Indiana. He has also been a KHSI member for over 20 years. Victor has a lot to offer on getting the most out of your forages, whether you are 100% grass or only graze your ewes after weaning. More effective use of your forage will always save money in purchased grain and/or hay.

Finally, we will have two presenta-

tions by Dr Michael Neary on sheep nutrition. Nutrition mistakes or not enough knowledge about nutrition slows many of our programs down. Dr Neary is the Sheep Extension Specialist for Purdue University.

With this strong educational program, the KHSI Expo Committee feels that it will be a great learning situation for all who attend.

TOP OF YOUR DO LIST: Make sure that you reserve a hotel room now. See article below about hotels. There is a huge conference in town which will snap up any rooms that have not been reserved by late June. So make your reservations today and if your plans change, just cancel.

See you there for an Expo not to

2017 Expo Hotels for Greenfield Indiana Reserve Now – DO NOT WAIT

By the time you get this issue, the KHSI Expo will just be weeks away. All hotel options this year are located close

together. There is a big conference of 30,000 or so in Indianapolis at the same time. So reserve now, as most rooms in our blocks will be released by the end of June.

If you mention sheep expo or Robert Walker that should help the hotel staff find our block of rooms. The hotels include the following:

Quality Inn & Suites, **317-462-7112**, 19 single king, \$99.99 and 22 double bed, \$109.99

Country Inn & Suites, **317-467-0999**, 25 double queens, 10 single king, \$91.00

Comfort Inn, **317-467-9999**, 20 double beds, 10 single kings, \$99.

Super 8, **317-462-8899**, 20 rooms, \$107.10/double bed, \$98.10/single bed





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Focus on Ewe-th: Katahdin Hair Sheep International Youth Member Wins Larry Harper Young Writers Contest

Editor's note: Congratulations to Aly for winning the Larry Harper Young Writers Contest, sponsored by Missouri Ruralist. Her winning essay is reprinted below. Aly is a member of the Paris, Missouri FFA Chater.

FAIR-TIME CONVERSATIONS BRIDGE COMMUNICATION GAP WITH CONSUMERS

Aly Francis, Paris, MO

My family participates in the Missouri State Fair every August. The fair represents the opportunity to exhibit our Katahdin sheep after a yearlong livestock preparation effort. Most importantly, the fair offers our family an opportunity to connect with fairgoers in the aisles at the sheep barn. For 10 days each year, over 1,000 4-H and FFA members have the opportunity to explain production agriculture to Missouri's consumers.

With less than 2% of our nation's population involved in production agriculture, consumers need knowledge about where and how their food is produced. As the next generation of producers, we must connect rural and urban sectors for an understanding of the food and fiber industries and their impact on life. According to Dr. Christine Daugherty, "Trust, transparency and communication are key for the agriculture industry to show consumers that their food is safe and healthy."

As members of the two premier youth leadership programs in the Missouri; 4-H and FFA, we know the

importance of communication; we're schooled on how to connect with people. The public has widespread awareness of 4-H and FFA programs and the values they possess in the development of young people. As a result, there is a connection in place that opens the door for more in-depth communication, the development of trust surrounding the production of food, along with transparency in how it's carried out daily on the farm.

According to Kate Lambert, a social media blogger and farm wife from Brookfield, "Today's agricultural youth are extremely engaged in having these crucial conversations. As an industry, we need to harness that excitement and equip young people with the tools they need to be effective advocates for today's farm families." For fellow youth exhibitors and me, initiating dialogue with fairgoers is as easy as a quick self-introduction and a short question asking consumers what they would like to know about our project.

Creating an atmosphere of listening to consumers helps me make a positive impression on those with whom I am connecting. Those informal meetings lead directly to the development of trust and cooperation, both important values to 4-H and FFA members. "To narrow divides between producers and consumers, it's critical to communicate shared values," according to Susie Oberdahlhoff, a Pike County farm wife and agricultural humorist. "As the next generation of producers,

if we can help a consumer understand that we are all on the same path desiring safe food for ourselves and their family, then we have made a huge stride in developing an understanding of each other's wants and needs," states Oberdahlhoff.

Creating this atmosphere of trust, while conversing with my fair friends, allows me to share transparently about the production methods I utilize to place food on their plate. Just as honesty is defined in the FFA creed by "playing square with others whose happiness depends upon me," honesty with consumers is the best practice to relieve their suspicions surrounding agriculture.

Consumers don't understand the daily tasks of production agriculturalists. Thus we need to be initiating conversations, developing trust and sharing information transparently with millions of people each day. The industry is increasingly focused on this task and realizes the importance of bridging the gap between agriculture and consumers. As members of Missouri's 4-H and FFA programs, we are in a unique position each August when the Missouri State Fair rolls around to step forward, make the connection, develop bonds of trust and share our story of production as transparently as it can be relayed. We have a great story to tell and the future of agriculture is depending on

Focus on Eweth continued on page 14

us to do just that ... one conversation

at a time!

June 30, 2017. Deadline for Youth Scholarship--don't delay, send in today! Application available at www.katahdins.org/khsi-forms/. KHSI Operations, 479-444-8441 or info@katahdins.org for more information

June 29-July 2, 2017. 24th Annual All-American Junior Show. Alliant Energy Center, Madison, Wisconsin. www.countrylovin.com/AAJSS/

July 13-16, 2017. 33rd North East Youth Sheep Show. Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, MA. Kim Syme, 860-202-7004, scotchlanefarm@cox.net

July 28-29, 2017. KHSI Expo Youth Program. Hancock County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, IN. Youth who attend and participate in the youth program on the 28th will be entered in a door prize drawing for a \$450 voucher to use to bid on a sheep in the Katahdin Expo sale the next day.

September 22, 2017. NE Regional Katahdin Show at The Big E. Eastern States Expo in West Springfield MA. For complete schedule and entry details: http://www.thebige.com/p/competitions/473

November 11, 2017. Kennedy Family National Katahdin Junior Show. Louisville, KY. NAILE. Part of the Junior Breeding Sheep Show starts at 8 am. Entries are due September 30. Check http://www.livestockexpo.org/entryInformation.html for latest deadline information. Look for full show schedule at: http://www.livestockexpo.org/showScheduleLivestock.html

Katahdin National Sale at Expo = Your Opportunity to Build the Future

The National Katahdin Sale at the Expo is an outstanding opportunity to view sheep from many production systems and from around the country. There are sheep from grass based, from intensive feeding operations, with EBVs, selected for parasite resistance, selected for extensive management and sheep from flocks that show. We are expecting the Expo to be another outstanding sale for our members and our buyers.

It is also a chance to meet, visit, share experiences, figure out a few options for buying sheep next year or the year after.

If you cannot attend, there are several options. First obtain a catalog from the KHSI website,

www.katahdins.org. It will post by July 1. You can bid online (see page 16). Or you can arrange to bid by phone or submit a mail bid. Many of the consignors are willing to transport sheep on their way home or a keep a purchased sheep for a few days till the buyer can come and pick them up.

If you have questions or need to arrange a phone bid, contact Jim Morgan at KHSI Operations in Fayetteville, AR

at 470-444-8441 or info@katahdins.org. You can also contact Jane Smith of Indiana who is the Expo Sale Committee chair at 219-474-3216.

Focus on Ewe-th: KHSI Expo Youth Door Prize

Attending the KHSI Expo Youth Program on the afternoon of July 28th enters all youth attending into a door prize drawing for a \$450 voucher good for bidding on a sheep in the Katahdin Expo Sale the next day. Contact Henry (573-682-7127) or Becky Shultz (573-239-7553; beckyshultz@msn.com) for more information.

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Did you forget to donate to KHSI Youth?
Send donations for Youth Scholarships or
Premiums. Can write donations off as Farm/
Ranch Expense



We will be taking 2 March ram lambs and 2 March ewe lambs all sired by "Pistol" to the KHSI Expo.

50 years in Sheep Industry

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Quality Seed Stock

We had Champion Ewe and Reserve Champion Ram at the Ohio sale.

Thank you to all Buyers and Bidders at the sales and all inquiries and purchases at the farm!

If you want bone, thickness, and pattern, come take a look!

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our January lambs are coming on strong and will be ready to go soon. The next group of ewes are set to start lambing in April.

Those lambs will be available this Fall.



EBVs

WWT 4.22 PWWT 7.34 MWWT 0.16 NLB 0.08 NLW 0.08 Hair Index: 104.3

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You Can Buy & Bid Online at the 2017 KHSI Expo Sale July 29, 2017

The 2017 National Sale at the Expo on July 29th in Greenfield Indiana will have online bidding opportunities through Willoughby Livestock. Buyers will be responsible for procuring their transportation and removal of stock from the Hancock County fairgrounds by the morning after the sale at 9 AM on Sunday, July 30th.

Online options with Willoughby Livestock provide a third option for bidding or buying a sheep at the National Sale. Purchasers can attend in person, OR arrange for a person to bid for you either ahead of time or talk to them live with a cell phone, OR submit a mail bid on a lot. Now a buyer will be able to watch the sale online live and bid with pre-approval of your credit card (3% charge) or with ACH (Echecks).

The following link will be live in July so that those interested can sign up to watch the sale. https://wlivestock.com/Willoughby/Login?ReturnUrl=%2FWilloughby%2FAdmin%2FConsigners%2Fkatahdinhairsheep

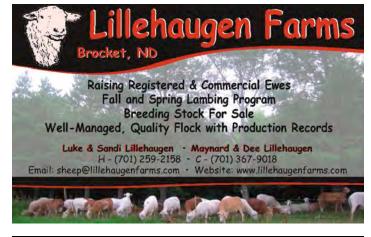
The catalog will be posted at the KHSI website (www.katahdins.org) on July 1. In addition to the lots of Katahdins for sale, it will include a list of consignors who are willing to haul purchased sheep. (contact KHSI Operations with questions, info@katahdins.org or 479-444-8441).

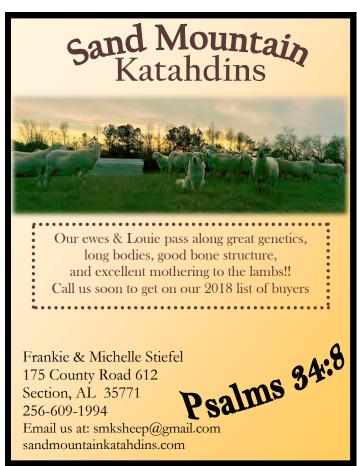


Use KHSI's Facebook Page to Keep Up with the Expo and with Summer Events

Keep up with the latest Katahdin activities for Summer 2017. Join the KHSI Facebook page and receive notices about the Expo, MidwestStud Ram Sale, consignment deadlines and various educational and sheep related events brough to our attention

Joining the KHSI Facebook page, you will receive notices when the page updates. You don't have to visit the site every few days to check on changes. The link is at www.facebook.com/KatahdinsIntl/. You can also link to it by going to our website at www.katahdins.org







ADVANTAGES OF ROTATIONAL GRAZING

Jim Morgan, PhD, Arkansas Katahdin Producer

Rotational grazing is the practice of moving grazing livestock between pastures (often called paddocks) as needed or on a regular basis. There are many approaches and types of grazing that fall under the broad umbrella of rotational grazing. The simplest is moving livestock between paddocks every set number of days: two days, one week, one month. Intensively managed rotational grazing means that the operator evaluates the nutritional and forage needs of the animals, assesses forage quality and quantity, regulates the acreage of access and controls which parts of the pasture/range that the animals have

Many graziers use temporary electric fence systems to manage the size of the paddock. This allows the manager to control grazing and control access to forage to fit the nutritional needs of the class of livestock (e.g. lactating ewes versus dry ewes). One of the more common approaches/

paradigms is termed "Management intensive Grazing" (MiG). MiG was coined by Jim Gerrish, a well-respected grazing consultant for livestock. Others use the term "controlled grazing" to refer to fact that the livestock's access to forage is controlled by the shepherd.

In the rest of this article, I briefly describe some advantages of rotational grazing approaches similar to MIG in contrast with "continuous grazing" which is the practice of turning livestock out on a piece of pasture for the whole grazing season.

Increased forage production. The general rule of thumb is that a well managed controlled grazing program can increase quality forage production by 30-70% each year. Much of this increase in forage is accomplished by minimizing overgrazing of some plants in the pasture.

A grass or clover plant that is nibbled on every few days has little time to recover from the injury insult of grazing before being injured (grazed) again. It loses root mass and energy

> reserves and has greatly reduced forage production over the grazing season. Ă plant that is able to recover from a single grazing incident for three weeks or more before being injured by grazing again has more resources to put into growth and can produce 30-70% more forage.

> A grass leaf that is one half inch long has a very small "solar panel". A grass leaf that is two inches long has a much larger area for photosynthesis and can grow much faster, recover from grazing much faster and produce much more for-

age over the course of the season. The rule of thumb for most plants is to not graze below a minimum of two inches (though this can vary, as bermuda grass can be grazed much lower to the ground than orchard grass or big bluestem).

A well managed grazing program on average should allow 30-70% more stock on the same acreage or a significant reduction in purchased hay for

winter feeding or droughts.

Increased soil fertility. Controlled grazing does several things to improve pasture soil fertility and organic matter. Two specific things include: a) Spreading manure around the whole pasture since grazing sheep and cattle typically return to the water tanks or a single favorite shade tree. This results in the mining of minerals, nutrients and soil organic matter from the far parts of the pasture and depositing them at the water tanks or shade trees. b) Plants that are over-grazed or less healthy from being grazed every few days have smaller root mass which leads to less soil organic matter. Increased organic matter and soil fertility will reduce needs for purchased fertilizers, and result in increased forage production.

Increased resistance to drought. Increased soil organic matter and better forage cover due to better grazing management will slow water movement during hard rains and increase absorption and water retention by the soil. Decreased water run off and increased soil organic matter keep pastures more resistant to impacts of drought, increase forage production and maintain forage growth longer into periods of droughts.

Less wasting of forage. A flock of ewes or herd of cattle that are given access to 20 times as much forage as they can eat in a day or two will walk a lot of forage into the ground, defecate and spoil forage as they walk to and from the best forage spots over the 3 weeks or more that they are on the pasture. By only providing a few days or a single day's worth of forage, there are many fewer opportunities to walk on plants and excrete on forage making it less palatable.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Soil compaction. While less of an issue with sheep than cattle (150 lb ewe versus 1000 lb cow), walking longer distances over the same paths increases soil compaction, which decreases soil fertility, water absorption and ability of forage plant roots to penetrate the soil. Fewer days on the same paddock per year will result in less soil compaction.

Control less desirable plants. This can be done in several ways with controlled grazing. Our pastures have a couple areas of cheat grass which has a short window of decent grazing followed by many months of being dry and unpalatable with sharp pointed seeds. In many years, we are able to put the sheep on the cheat grass areas in early spring and graze them hard. Over the years, the amount of cheat grass has decreased. The ability to control paddock size can strongly encourage your sheep (or cattle) to eat the less desirable plants at the times you need them to.

Extending the grazing season by limit feeding dry ewes or early gestation ewes. Dry ewes will eat much more forage than they need to maintain body condition or to get back into breeding condition. If you give your flock of ewes a big pasture, it is like giving a child with no self-control a large bag of candy and saying you can eat one or two pieces/day. My ewes don't listen to me when I tell them this pasture has to last you two weeks. They will eat it all in few days, even at times of the year when they don't need as much nutrition. Controlling paddock size will decrease the amount of hay you buy or allow you to reserve more forage for the weaned lambs that are growing to market size and need much more nutrition.

Saving the best forage for the class of sheep that needs it the most. The more control a manager has over paddock size, the more he/she can put dry ewes on poorer quality forage and save the best forage for the growing lambs or the lactating ewes. This grazing approach is termed "leader - follower". Newly weaned lambs could be put on the best forage. This allows lambs to "cherry-pick" the highest quality forage and then you can move them on to the next high forage quality paddocks. A few weeks later, dry ewes can be grazed on the same grass that has had the best forage removed by the growing lambs.

Seasonal paddocks. Certain paddocks/pastures can be seeded or developed for seasonal grazing. Many forages are cool season or warm season. Some plants tolerate freezing and other plants have little grazing value after frosts in the fall. With controlled grazing, paddocks can be developed for seasonal grazing, whereas this is much harder with a single larger pasture.

Grazing animals can be used

to help prep areas **for reseeding**. Certain types of grass and clover seeds can be successfully broadcast on top of the ground without tilling the seeds into the soil. A grass manager can use a group of sheep to slightly overgraze an area to expose a little soil and cut down on the grass cover. Then more of the broadcast seeds fall on bare soil and are more likely to germinate. If the sheep are kept on the area with the broadcast for a day or two, their hooves can be used to help press the seed into contact with the soil. This is best done just prior to a rain.

Limit feeding during times of drought. During a drought, a livestock manager can control the amount of grazing and prevent a flock from eating all of the forage up, before the rains come. With adequate fencing and the ability to manipulate size of paddock with portable electric fencing, a shepherd can postpone buying hay for a few days or weeks and save funds. Of course, certain animals such as late gestation ewes or newly weaned lambs probably will need that extra forage and cannot be limit fed.

Improved animal management. Sheep and cattle that are regularly rotated to new pastures every few days in low stress procedures are much easier to manage. Open a gate and call is often all that you need to do to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19



Purchased from Ed and Helen Julian of Julian & Moore Sheep Co. He is a son of Centralia (SHU 3320)

• We have 50 lambs out of Pipestone Katahdins ram
• Lambs from Louie are expected late April to mid-May

Shauck Livestock Farm, Eldon, MO

Bob Shauck • 417-207-5649 lostdog1946@gmail.com

Vickie Thomas 816-560-0166



get the sheep or cattle to follow you to the next pasture or to the working corrals. They associate the humans with better food. If every time you show up only to put them in work pens to stick them with needles or stick drench guns down their throat or castrate them, the sheep or cattle are much less likely to trust you. Stress results in weight losses and increased disease susceptibility.

Allowing certain species of plants to go to seed. Certain annual plants that reseed usually need a few weeks to develop a seed head and then time for seeds to scatter without grazing animals present. A couple of examples are annual rye grass and hairy vetch. With constant grazing, these plants never have a chance to go to seed. Our sheep eat the annual rye grass seed heads as well as the grass blades. Removing sheep from rye grass pastures in late spring/early summer will allow them to go to seed.

Keep stands of favorite forage species. Sheep and cattle will continually graze preferred and tasty plants every few days, for example, legumes (grazing alfalfas or clovers) and favorite grasses. With continuous grazing and over a few years the favorite species die out and the less tasty species increase. Putting a mob of sheep into a smaller paddock for a day or two, with a limited amount of forage, encourages the sheep to graze both the plants they love as well as the ones they do not like as well. When the flock is moved to the next paddock, the favorite clover plants are allowed to grow and not be grazed to death every few days.

Late winter/early spring grazing. Just a little bit of controlled grazing

can have a significant impact on the amount of hay fed in the winter. In late winter, a grazing mentor of mine would start saying "It is time to shut the gates. Shut the gates!" If your sheep have access to whole pasture all winter, every time there is a little green, they will bite off that leaf. That little bit of grass does help the sheep and decreases hay consumption. On the other hand, if you pen the sheep up right at the end of winter, in two weeks you can quit feeding hay. Do the math: a month of feeding a little less hay (let's say 80% of peak winter hay) or two weeks of feeding slightly more hay (100% of peak winter hay levels) while they are in the pen. A 2 inch blade of grass can grow an extra two inches of blade length in one-half to one fourth of the time it takes a 1/2inch blade of grass to grow 2 extra inches when there is enough moisture and sunlight.

Animal assessment. Moving the sheep every day or even every week to a new pasture allows the shepherd to assess animal health. Lagging animals are noticed when they all surge past the gate where the shepherd is standing. In parasite season here in the Southeast, the slow moving lambs are candidates for being anemic and worm ridden. If a shepherd feeds some grain every day and calls the lambs or ewes in from pasture, the same ability to assess animal health as they move can be achieved.

Trade-offs and costs of Rotational Grazing. The manager has to consider the expenses of rotational grazing including more fencing costs, more labor, and usually a more expensive water system. One also needs to have

portable mineral tubs and guardian animals that move with the sheep. The sheep may not have access to shelter and a shepherd might have to hurry home from other work during a November day with an early blizzard to get the sheep off the exposed hill paddock. By contrast, in a continuous grazing system the sheep would likely have moved to the sheltered part of the pasture on their own.

In summary, controlled rotational grazing has many advantages. A shepherd has to determine whether it works for their system. Two key advantages in our farm's system are the 30-70% increase in forage production and the ability to control and limit feed dry ewes and early gestation ewes. The ability to limit graze the classes of sheep that don't need unlimited access to forage and would eat more than they need, greatly decreases the amount of hay we feed and purchase. We also appreciate that the sheep handle much easier, reducing stress on the people and the flock.

Resources for Managed Grazing include:

www.ncat.attra.org – Several publications on fencing and grazing. Print from the website or call 800-346-9140 for free publications with information on sustainable sheep raising, managed grazing and sheep fencing for managed grazing.

http://www.stockmangrassfarmer.com/sgf - Stockman Grass Farmer . A monthly publication. 800-748-9808 or sgfsample@aol.com for a sample copy or a subscription

Management-intensive Grazing: The Grassroots of Grass Farming. 2004. Jim Gerrish. Green Park Press. An excellent book for either beginning or experienced graziers covering soils, management, forages, etc. Order from Jim Gerrish directly at www.americangrazinglands.com or from the SGF website, www.stockmangrassfarmer.com (look for the link to Bookshelf) or call 800-748-9808.

Local County Extension and USDA-NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) offices. Each state has experts on grazing and forages. Some staff can provide good small ruminant advice, or if not, get them to talk beef cattle -- you can then make the small conversions needed to make the beef advice work for sheep.

Grazing groups. While often dominated by beef producers, these local groups have practical experience, pasture walk demonstrations and offer a good commingling of extension experts and real livestock producers.



Katahdin Keys: Dea

Important Dates

January 31, 2017. Dues were due. Send dues to KHSI, PO Box 778, Fayetteville, AR

July 21, 2017. KHSI Board of Director mail ballots due at KHSI Operations (PO Box 778, Fayetteville, AR 72702). Ballots can also be handed in during the KHSI Annual Meeting on July 28, 2017.

July 28, 2017. 2017 KHSI Annual Membership Meeting.Hancock County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, IN. Meeting starts at 5 PM.

January 31, 2018. Dues are due. Put Jan 2 in your cell phone reminders today. Save \$15 late fee. Watch for Renewal Form in December 2017.

**Youth Calendar. Listed on pg 13 as part of the Focus on Eweth.

Consignment D

**August 15, 2017. NE Katahdin Shows at th http://www.thebige.com

September 22, 2017. Mic lem, IN. Washington https://www.wcsheep.c

Open Katahdin Show. http://www.livestockexp

September 30, 2017. NAILE Kenndy Family Junior Kat http://www.livestockexp

Consignment deadlines for a published in the Fall issue



**July 27-29, 2017. 13th KHSI Annual ty Fairgrounds, Greenfield, IN. infowww.katahdins.org

July 28-29, 2017. Center of the Nation Kata IA. Workshops evening before and mor for more information info@nsip.org or

August 11-12, 2017. Eastern NSIP Sale, evening before and morning after. Continfo@nsip.org or 515-708-8850, www.

September 22, 2017. 6th Annual Virgi based Ram Test Sale & Field Day. 276) 944-2200 or Irite@vt.edu or E sgreiner@vt.edu). Education progr www.apsc.vt.edu/extension/sheep/sw

September 26, 2017. Rocky Mountain & Centennial Livestock Auctions. Inaugura 384-4000, babfief@yahoo.com.

January 31-February 3, 2018. American Sl Antonio, TX. www.sheepusa.org

**- Indicates there is an article with more information

See Table of Contents (page 1)

Hairald Calendar

- **July 27-29, 2017. 13th Annual KHSI Expo and National Sale. Hancock County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, IN. more information in 2017 and at www.katahdins.org, 479-444-8441 or info@katahdins.org
- **November 1, 2017. KHSI Photo Contest Closes. Submit your pictures at KHSI website, www.katahdins.org/photos/khsi-photo-contest/
- November 11, 2017. Kennedy Family National Katahdin Junior Show. NAILE, Louisville, KY. Shows will stream live. Check http://www.livestockexpo.org/showScheduleLivestock.html for schedule and live streaming.
- November 13, 2017. National Katahdin Open Show. NAILE, Louisville, KY. Shows will stream live. Check http://www.livestockexpo.org/showScheduleLivestock.html for schedule and streaming.
- NOTE: Not seeing a sale or educational event in this calendar? Check those calendars in this centerfold. Updates will also post to the calendar page of the www.katahdins.org and the KHSI Faceook page www.facebook.com/KatahdinsIntl/
- **- Indicates there is an article with more information in this issue of the Hairald. This calendar contains events not listed in others.

eadlines for 2017

Regional Open & Junior ne Big E. Springfield, MA. m/p/competitions/473

dwest Hair Sheep Sale, Sa-County Sheep Association.

, Louisville, KY. National

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, Louisville, KY.

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shows later in the year will be s of the Katahdin Hairald.



ents Calendar

Expo and Expo Sale. Hancock Coun-@katahdins.org, 479-444-8441 or

ahdin NSIP Sale. Fairgrounds, Spencer, ning of the sale. Contact Rusty Burgett 515-708-8850

Wooster OH Fairgrounds. Workshops act Rusty Burgett for more information nsip.org

Glade Spring, VA. (Lee Wright @ Or Scott Greiner @ 540 231-9159 or am will be posted in September.at varec-ram-program/

Katahdin Association. Ft. Collins, CO. al Meeting of RMKA. Babette Fief, 719-

neep Industry Annual Convention. San

on in this issue of the Hairald.

for articles on Coming Events

Katahdin Sale Roundup

July 15, 2017. Washington State Sheep Producers' Ram and Ewe Sale, Moses Lake, WA. 2nd year for Katahdins. Last year in Katahdins 'inaugural year of participation, they netted some of the highest prices of the sale! Opportunity for West Coast breeders to buy and sell breeding stock and promote. Questions? Call WSSP office: 360-999-8118 or Jerry Kjack, Ram Sale Committee Chair, 509-200-2112. Entry forms and rules at https://www.wssp.org

**July 29, 2017. 11:30 AM. 13th Annual KHSI Expo Sale. Hancock County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, IN. www.katahdins.org for more info. Also, info@katahdin.org or 479-444-8441. This is the Annual Katahdin National Sale. Katahdin raisers will be able to bid online at Willoughby Auctions. https://wlivestock.com/Willoughby/Login?ReturnUrl=%2FWilloughby%2FAdmin%2FConsigners%2Fkatahdinhairsheep

July 29, 2017. 12th Annual Center of the National NSIP Sale. Spencer IA Fairgrounds, www.nsip.org or www.conoverauction.com/ Contact Rusty Burgett for more information info@nsip.org or 515-708-8850

August 12, 2017. Eastern NSIP Sale, Wooster OH Fairgrounds. Rusty Burgett for more information **info@nsip.org** or 515-708-8850, **www.nsip.org**

September 22, 2017. 6th Annual Virginia Tech Southwest AREC Forage-based Ram Test Sale. Glade Spring, VA. (Lee Wright @ 276) 944-2200 or Irite@vt.edu or Dr Scott Greiner @ 540) 231-9159 or sgreiner@vt.edu). Sale catalog will be posted in September.at www.apsc.vt.edu/extension/sheep/swarec-ram-program/

September 26, 2017. Rocky Mountain Katahdin Association. Ft Collins, CO. Centennial Livestock Auctions. Hair sheep sale. Babette Fief, 719-384-4000, babfief@yahoo.com

October 7, 2017. Midwest Hair Sheep Sale. Washington County Fairgrounds, Salem IN. More information posted mid-late summer at www.wcsheep.org/home_

**- Indicates there is an article with more information in this issue of the Hairald.

KHSI posts information on sheep sales and events as a service. Posting sale and event information does not imply endorsement or verification of the claims of any sale or event. KHSI encourages the use of performance records and production data as the primary means of selecting and ranking sheep. Sales and events posted are not sanctioned by KHSI unless otherwise noted.

Contact the KHSI Operations Office to ask for your sale or event to be posted. 479-444-8441 or info@katahdins.org

Check for updates on the KHSI Facebook page and the calendar page of www.katahdins.org

View of the Fireworks over the Tepatitlán Plaza, Tepatitlán de Morenos, Jalisco, Mexico

Importing Ovine Genetics into the USA

Jim Morgan, PhD, KHSI Operations

Live animal, embryos and semen imports are controlled by USDA APHIS NIES. (US Dept of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, office of National Import Export Services). Around the world, the major countries require that an "import protocol" be developed for each live animal species for each country and for each product. Recently, imports of cooked chicken from China and export of beef from the USA to China made the news after meetings between the Presidents of China and USA. These meat products will still require an import protocol and agreement but it will be easier than developing live animal or semen import procedures.

Included in the development of an import protocol is an evaluation of disease risk which then directs the requirements. For example: What diseases are present in the country of origin that are of risk to the country receiving the genetics?

In the past, USA and Mexico have attempted to develop "import protocols" to bring ovine semen into the USA. Though attempted a few times, the process has never been completed even though it was finalized and ready for signing. In all of these cases, it was for the import of frozen semen. Whether it is to import semen from Europe, Australia or New Zealand, an "import protocol" needs to be developed and put in place.

Diseases of concern in Mexico mentioned by NIES staff include Brucellosis, Tuberculosis, and Bluetongue. In the process, they would also document how agricultural practices (e.g. regulation of feeding of ruminant byproducts) affect risk of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (scrapie or BSE). Also, flocks that import semen, would surely be required to be in the Export Monitored category of the Scrapie Flock Certification Program.

Disease risks can change quickly. In the last few years, Europe has had outbreaks of Schmallenberg virus. This stopped import of semen from the EU to the USA. With this European outbreak, movement of bovine and ovine genetics between Mexico, USA and Canada are affected. In developing an import protocol, each of the three countries will want to know what the other countries are doing to minimize Schmallenberg risks from EU genetics.

One of the first steps is that producers in Mexico need to ask their government to work with USDA APHIS NIES to develop an import protocol. And USA sheep producers can do the same with NIES. KHSI was advised to start with semen since it is easiest. There will need to be a semen collection facility that tests animals in residence for specific diseases for several months before collection of semen. The development of a semen collection facility with the requisite testing, would enable Mexico to also

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



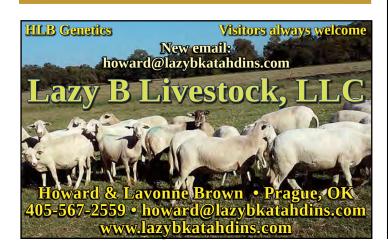
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OVINE GENETICS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

negotiate export protocols to other countries besides the USA.

Many countries have semen collection facilities. The National Import Export Services office told us that Spain just built a facility that meets US standards. Over the years, when countries ask for Katahdin semen, KHSI has been told of a semen collection facility in Texas that meets or can meet the requirements for many nations.

Registering
Sheep
Send to
Darlington PA.
Do not send to
KHSI Operations
in Fayetteville AR

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website at
www.katahdins.org
for past issues of
the Hairald and more
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2017 KHSI Annual Photo Contest Open as of June 1!

KHSI Promotion Committee

Attention all Photographers:

The 2017 KHSI Annual Photo Contest opened June 1 for its 12th year. All shutterbugs are welcome to enter. Photographers are not required to be KHSI members to enter. Quality photographs are needed to promote Katahdin Sheep in national magazines, promotional activities and in the Katahdin Hairald. Don't miss out on the opportunity to get your photographs recognized and published.

Entries must be received by November 1, 2017 and should be submitted online at www.katahdins.org/khsi-photo-contest/. Do Not Email photos (if you need help with online submission contact us). Entries will be judged on composition, creativity, quality (exposure, focus) and relevance, with the goal of promoting Katahdin sheep. Prizes are awarded in "KHSI dollars" and can be used to pay for Registry services (registering, recording or transferring sheep), annual membership, or promotional items (t-shirts, hats, vests, signs) and

shipping.

First Place: \$50 of KHSI services or promotional items.

Second Place: \$25 of KHSI services or promotional items.

Third Place: \$10 of KHSI services or promotional items.

If your photograph submitted in the 2017 KHSI Photo Contest is selected to be used in any of the following: 1) an ad in a magazine (not the Hairald), 2) KHSI brochure cover, 3) KHSI Flock Book or in the 4) KHSI Display, you will receive an additional \$250 cash prize or \$450 of KHSI services or promotional items.

Hints: If you want your picture to make the cover of the Hairald, turn your camera 90 degrees so that the long axis is vertical. Cell phone photos don't usually enough resolution for cover photos and for magazine ads. Cover photos usually are seasonal (spring lambs, fall colors winter flocks). Outstanding photos that are more likely to qualify for the additional \$250 cash prize will showcase production qualities of Katahdins for the commercial sheep industry. Pho-

tos used in the Hairald can be more fun, seasonal and occasionally cute. Good composition and titles help.

Each photographer can enter up to 2 photographs per category (don't be one of those who try to sneak in 3 or 4 photos):

- Best Promotion Katahdin Ewes

 Photographs that show one or more of the qualities promoted for Katahdin ewes such as: efficient grazers, superb mothers, low maintenance, easy lambing, adaptable, shedding, etc.
- 2. **Best Promotion Katahdin Rams** "Appropriate" photographs that show a picture of a Katahdin ram (s) or ram lamb(s) that can be used to promote Katahdins.
- 3. Action/working/sheep chores
 Photographs of activities such as moving/trailing sheep, lambing, tagging, exhibiting, grazing, feeding, etc. (Note that all pictures featuring youth ages 18 and younger should be entered in the "Kids and Sheep" category.)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

KRK KATAHDINS

"Production sheep that show well"

Won the Puyallup Cup for Young Flock 2016 Washington State Fair

We won the Puyallup Cup at the Washington State Fair, which is the highest award given to sheep in Washington. Pretty exciting for Katahdins to win in a major show! My yearling ram also won Supreme over all breeds in Oregon for the second year in a row.

Winning at shows is fun, but we like to make the biggest goal to be production at home in the pasture. We focus on EBVs as well as solid meat conformation and easy care.

Some people think "we do lambs on grass" doesn't work due to parasite issues, but we breed for parasite resistance.





- 4. **Katahdin Meat -** Specifically looking for photos that promote Katahdins as a meat breed. Ideas for photos include: hanging carcass(es) that demonstrate muscle and quality finish, hanging carcass(es) split to show ribeye, photos of cuts to show good meat quality. Pictures of appetizing lamb meat or a lamb dish are also acceptable. Not required, but helpful if photos in this category include age, sex, hanging % and hanging carcass wt of lamb.
- 5. **Scenic** Photographs of sheep in the landscape. May include other species of livestock or livestock guardians. Photographs in this category should NOT include people.
- 6. **Kids and Sheep** Photographs containing pictures of youth less than 18 years of age and sheep.
- 7. **Open Category** Photographs that do not fall into the above-listed categories.
- 8. **Just for Youth -** Photographers submitting photos for this category

must be 18 yrs of age or younger. Youth may submit photos in the other categories as well. The picture topic can be any of the above categories.

OTHER CONTEST RULES:

- Photos being submitted must have
 - 1) been taken within the last 3 years and,
 - 2) never been previously published.
- All entries become the property of KHSI to be used or reproduced at the discretion of KHSI. Owners of the photographed sheep may continue to use the photos.
 - Youth featured in photos must have the permission of parents prior to publishing
- All entries must be submitted electronically, with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. This is a very important rule! Check the settings on your camera. Many great photos can not be published due to poor resolution. Please be

- SURE the setting is at 300 dpi or higher.
- Entries are limited to two photographs per person per category.

To submit your photograph, go to the KHSI website or click on the following link and enter the information in the required fields. www.katahdins.org/khsi-photo-contest/. Site is now open for submissions from June 1 to November 1. You can find the contest rules under the Photo tab at www.katahdins.org.

Questions or difficulty with submitting? Please call or email KHSI Operations at info@katahdins.org or 479-444-8441.

KHSI Recommends that sellers send papers and payment for registrations and transfers to the KHSI Registry, as a courtesy to their buyers.



1st March Ram Lamb 2016 N.A.I.L.E Heading to the KHSI Expo



See you at the Expo!



Champion Ram 2017 Big Ohio Sale

Thanks to Holden Lovelace, TN for purchasing this ram.

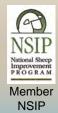
We also want to thank Katlyn Stiplin for purchasing the Reserve Champion Fall Ewe and the First Place Yearling Ewe at the 2017 Big Ohio Sale

Give us a call for all your Katahdin breeding needs.

Henry Shultz & Family

6219 Audrain Road 125 • Centralia, MO 65240 • 573-682-7127

beckyshultz@msn.com • www.prairielanefarm.net or contact Sarah 573-819-0806 • sb.gehring@gmail.com



SHEPHERD RESOURCES: VIDEOS AND FACT SHEETS

1) New Sheep Videos Online

KHSI Operations recently viewed the How to Handle Sheep video series released by the American Sheep Industry Association, in collaboration with Temple Grandin, Ph.D., the Livestock Marketing Association and Colorado State University. The three-part video details the process of handling sheep through the entire life span of the animal. The training tool is available in both English and Spanish. From producers and auction-facility workers to the transportation industry and harvesting personnel, everyone can follow Dr. Grandin as she discusses the best practices to use in handling sheep. Better sheep handling can reduce stress for both sheep and shepherd, which helps keep pounds on your sheep and profits in your pocket.

To find these online videos, go to: https://www.sheepusa.org/NewsMedia_Video

2) A new online resource named The Lamb Resource Center features information from the major sheep industry groups, including the American Lamb Board, American Sheep Industry Association, National Sheep Improvement Program, National Lamb Feeders Association and the USDA's National Sheep Industry Improvement Center. One of the newer sections, Productivity Best Practices, was introduced at the 2016 Sheep Industry Convention. The resources in this section include short fact sheets (1-4 pages) designed to help lamb producers increase productivity while reducing costs. Titles include: Reduce Lamb Loss, Disease Prevention and Treatment, Matching Reproduction to Management, Optimal Nutrition, and more.

There is also a Best Practices Resource Database in this section which is a searchable listing of many other resources on important topics, such as animal handling, environmental stewardship, meat quality, genetics and selection and more. http://lambresourcecenter.com/production-resources/best-practice-resources/

It is worth exploring the other parts of the Lamb Resource Center website, which also has sections on Market News (such as quarterly market reports), Marketing Resources (such as a price calculator) and more. Remember, if you do not have internet access, a public library or ag extension office can help you get access to these materials.



Our Stud Rams in their working clothes

All sheep look great in a show picture.



DOC P297

DOC P297, "First Ever", Champion Ram at Louisville 2012, a May 25th yearling whose twin sister was second to champion ewe in class.



SHU 3616

Shultz ram was the top selling ram lamb at the Expo. A number of ewes have been bred to him.

Thanks to All our Buyers Nationwide

We're looking forward to the upcoming sale and show season.



DOC P186

DOC P186, "Second Coming" second place as fall and yearling NAILE, maternal halfbrother to "First Ever".



SCD 3333

SCD 333 Extreme Stud Ram, second place yearling ram, NAILE. Purchased as a ram lamb from Jane Smith.



EHJ 658

EHJ 658, March Ram lamb we purchased from Ed Julian at 2016 NAILE. This is our latest Stud prospect and he is growing out well. I suspect he will visit NAILE again.



ADS 0105

Our choice of the ram lambs at the 2011 Expo held in Pipestone.



SHU 3581

SHU 3581 is the other Shultz ram purchased at the Midwest sale as a lamb. His lambs are doing very well.

Reducing flock to 100 ewes, but all available females have been spoken for.

Good selection of rams available at the farm

All 2017 ewe lambs available are sold.

Looking forward to Louisville

We will continue to consign top end yearling ewes to North Star Sale

Pipestone Katahdins

G.F. & Deb Kennedy, and Gary Gorter Pipestone, MN • 507-215-0487 gkennedy@pipevet.com

Tennessee Katahdin Association Hosts Event in **Mohawk Tennessee**

First, we owe lots of thanks to Sherri Brown of Triple B Katahdins and her husband Michael for hosting all of us on their working farm. The facilities were great, the food exceptional and

Dr Katy Bailey explaining health requirements to attendees

we had some great presentations.

The day started out with a Hair Coat Inspection Training with 20 folks taking the class. We can personally tell you that the sheep handlers were

very happy that the sheep had been kept inside overnight. During the night, it rained---catching, holding and handling wet sheep is not on the favorite list of many shepherds. So, thank you Sherri and Michael for your new hoop houses.

Dr Katy Bailey, DVM gave a presentation and discussed requirements for identification and health certificates required for interstate transport of sheep. This was followed by a presentation by Virginia KHSI Member, Dr David Redwine, DVM, on Sheep Conformation 101. It was enjoyed by all. After a lunch of smoked lamb, turkey and pork with several sides, many of the attendees went to Snapps Ferry



Dr David Redwine giving his talk on Conformation.

Packing Plant to view the facilities of this family owned processing plant and meat shop.







Try Using the Katahdin Guide to Improve Service to Your Buyers

KHSI's Guide to Katahdin Sheep has been so popular that we had to order another printing run! If you've been a KHSI member for awhile, we hope you have taken a look at the guide that we sent to all members in 2016.

If you are a newer member of KHSI, you received a copy of the Guide with your new member packet, as a handy reference for registering, management and other frequently asked questions about the breed. If you don't quite remember what the Guide is, you can take a look at it online here:

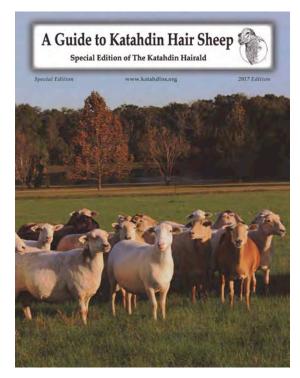
http://www.katahdins.org/about-the-breed/

If you don't have computer access, or have misplaced or given away your copy of the Guide, you can mail \$3 to KHSI, PO Box 778, Fayetteville, AR 72702 and get another one.

Some KHSI members actually provide this 48 page Katahdin Guide to all

the customers who buy sheep from them. This is a great idea – the customer will have handy printed info to refer to after they get their Katahdins home. The guide can help remind new owners about key information you may have shared in conversations during the selling process. If you make labels or attach your business card to the guide, it can remind the customer who provided the information and may help that customer return to YOU for repeat business.

A \$3 investment (cost of a full color sturdy copy of the printed guide) makes a good addition to what you provide to all your sheep customers and could make your sale and service memorable.



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BAG 2695 RR

See our sheep at the AREC Ram Test in Glade Spring, VA Sept. 22nd.

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~ Raised with Cattle

Accelerated Lambing ~ Ewes are Lambing every 8 months

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SHEEP FOR SALE AT THE FARM EWES AND RAMS

2017 Published Research on Katahdins Documents Better Parasite Management & Selection for Resistance

Jim Morgan, PhD, Arkansas Katahdin Producer

Summary. These published papers empower Katahdin producers to select for genetic resistance to parasitic gastrointestinal worms at a faster rate by combining fecal egg count measures in the lamb and early lactating ewe with FAMACHA scores. The research also corroborates observations that yearling ewes with lambs, older ewes with triplets and twins and lighter lambs are at more risk for parasites. The ability to identify genetic components of parasite resistance are vastly improved if used in a quantitative genetic program such as the National Sheep Improvement Program.

Sheep Improvement Program.

Introduction. All the important traits for commercial production in livestock are controlled by multiple genes. Making progress on traits controlled by multiple genes, such as parasite resistance, results in incrememental improvement. There are no silver bullets.

However, two research papers

published on Katahdins in 2017¹ take Katahdins and the sheep industry several steps forward. The selection of more resistant Katahdins by the flocks applying this research will improve the breed. This will increase the value of Katahdins in the commercial industry for purebred meat lamb production and more importantly in systems where terminal sires are used with Katahdin ewes. The resistance of the Katahdin ewes will protect the more susceptible lambs with the terminal sire genetics.

sire genetics.

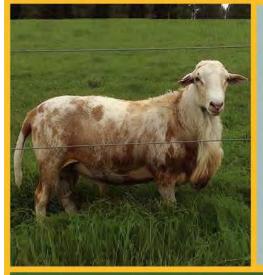
1st Paper: Factors affecting fecal egg counts in periparturient Katahdin ewes and their lambs, Very few studies have investigated the genetics of resistance to parasitic gastrointestinal worms (GIN) in the lactating ewe. With this published research, Katahdin producers have a defined protocol to select ewes that are parasite resistant at lambing. Why is this important? The late gestation and early lactating ewes (periparturient) in the spring are the major source of

worms that load the pasture for the spring and summer. This pasture contamination leads to lamb death and/ or decreased weight gain for the whole grazing season. The newly published research identifies the best selection window (fecal egg counts from ewes 7 days prior to lambing to 21 days after). The second important result corroborates earlier research in Merinos that genetics for decreased periparturient rise and increased resistance to parasites in the young lamb are correlated. Selection at either time period will improve genetic resistance as a lamb and as a lactating ewe. Another result documents observations that the most susceptible periparturient ewes are the yearling ewe and ewes nursing twins and triplets. Thus these classes of lactating ewes may require different management or at least more observation to minimize problems.

2nd Paper: Association between FAMACHA scores and fecal egg

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33

Hound River Farm



Need Parasite Resistance?

Purchase Genetics, not Dewormers!

Parasite resistance is hereditary. Our herd sires have the genetic ability to pass this trait on to their offspring. Fecal Egg Counts and Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) available on all lambs.

Hound River Farm will be consigning high quality, parasite resistant ram lambs to the Virginia Tech Forage-based Ram Test (Glade Spring, VA) and the Eastern NSIP sale (Wooster, OH).

Our sheep are pasture-raised and exposed to parasites year-round. Contact us to reserve your next herd sire. www.houndriverfarm.com Roxanne & Milledge Newton, Hahira, Georgia. (229)-794-3456



counts in Katahdin lambs. Many flocks are using FAMACHA to manage deworming and to help with culling and/or selecting sheep. FAMACHA refers to a card and technique in which shepherds compare the color of the lower eye lid to a chart with 5 shades of red to cream to determine which sheep need deworming. FAMACHA is a measure of anemia, primarily resulting from the major species of worm (barber pole) that affects sheep production in the USA.

It is an effective tool for maintaining flock health, flock productivity and decreasing the rate at which worms develop resistance to dewormers.

It is important to understand the differences in using FAMACHA and fecal egg count to select for sheep resistance to parasitic worms. FAMACHA measures resilience (ability to tolerate higher levels of worms) while fecal egg counts are a measure of resistance. The good news is that in Katahdins, selection on FAMACHA does

improve genetic resistance to gastrointestinal nematode parasites, but to a lesser extent than selecting on fecal egg counts. The research also found that lighter lambs in a contemporary group are less resilient and may need more management.

Future. At least four research pa-

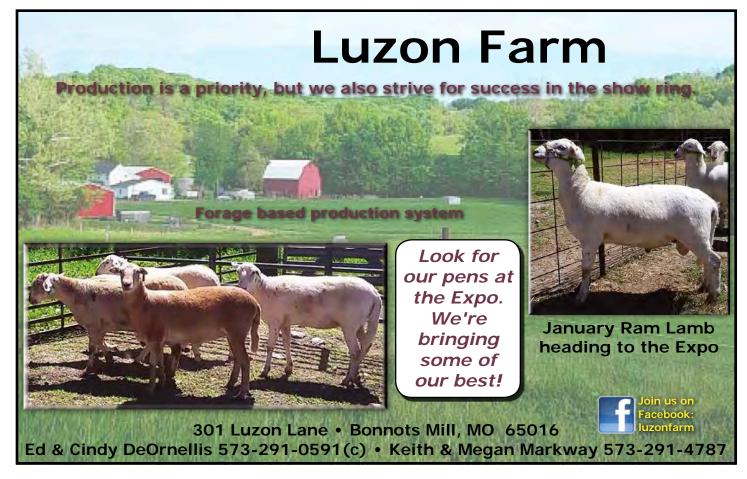
pers are currently being written by Dr Joan Burke and her collaborators. Dr Burke and Dr Ron Lewis and a new set of collaborators have started a new grant that will correlate genomic (DNA) test with parasite resistance, growth and maternal productivity and further enhance selection.

Footnotes & Comments: Authors of the papers thank all producers who collected data for this project including 11 farms in Arkansas, Georgia, Maine, New York, Ohio and the USDA-ARS DBSFRC in Booneville, AR and Heifer International farm in Perryville, AR. Research was supported by USDA grants from Southern Region SARE and USDA NIFA Organic Research and Education Initiative.

¹ Notter, DR., JM Burke, JE Miller, and JLM Morgan. 2017. Factors affecting fecal egg counts in periparturient Katahdin ewes and their lambs. J Anim Sci 95:103-112

Notter, DR., JM Burke, JE Miller, and JLM Morgan. 2017. Association between FAMACHA scores and fecal egg counts in Katahdin lambs. **J Anim Sci 95:**1118–1123





Matching Weight of the Dam to Target Market Weight Universal Rule of Thumb

By Jim Morgan, PhD Arkansas Katahdin Producer

Finish refers to the amount of fat on the carcass. A market lamb, steer or hog is considered "finished" when it has the preferred/right ratio of bone, fat and muscle. During early growth, muscle mass is added at a faster rate than fat. As the young lamb or steer matures, a higher percentage of weight gain is laid down as fat. Eating quality improves as the animal finishes when the ratio of fat/muscle growth increases and more fat is added to the carcass. The goal is to harvest the lamb or steer at the preferred ratio of muscle to fat rather than too lean or too fat (over finished).

Processing a lamb at the correct/ preferred finish results in more optimal feed efficiency and more satisfied customers.

There are rules of thumb for the "finished" weight of a lamb, hog or steer. It is not an exact prediction, but provides an excellent rule of thumb to estimate the finishing weight. In general a market animal is finished when it weighs two-thirds of the weight of the average of the mature weight of the dam and mature weight of the sire's dam. The range is 60-70% for

livestock and research at U California Davis found 64% for lambs:

http://openprairie.sdstate.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1006&context=sd_sheepday_1999.

Therefore, if the genetics of a ewe flock averages 160 pounds and the sire is from similar genetics, the finished weight of lambs is predicted to be 102 pounds (64%x160). A 1500 pound beef cow flock will have market calves that finish at 1000 pounds if the bull is from similar genetics.

A Katahdin producer can modify this by using a "terminal" sire breed on their moderate sized ewes or by selecting for larger ewes. For example, if the sire used to produce market lambs is from a flock or breed in which the mature size of the ewes is 200 pounds and the ewe flock is 160 pounds, the predicted finishing weight of the lambs is 0.64 times 180 (average of 160 and 200) which is 115 pounds.

The goal for efficient meat production is to keep the ewe size moderate and obtain larger finishing weights by

using larger terminal sire breeds. This also enables the producer to select ewes with great maternal ability (twins, milk, good mothering) with less emphases on growth.

In general a 180 pound ewe requires 50% more feed (forage and grain) than a 120 pound ewe and still only produces two lambs. If all lambs are being sold at 80 lbs, the 120 pound ewe is more efficient. Check out the table below. Most flocks in the eastern USA are marketing their meat lambs at 60-80 pounds. A 130 pound ewe flock is a very efficient size for that production system. Note that in the table, the impact of heterosis (hybrid vigor) is not calculated. If the sire is a different breed than the ewe flock, lambs will be heavier at their finished weight. The amount of heterosis varies based on the breeds involved.

Variability in finished weight is also affected by sex, castration and composition of the diet (protein, energy, roughage)

Larger ewes are less efficient in the vast majority of systems.

Impact of Sire & Dam Breeds on Weight of Finished Lamb*

Ewe size of flock (lb)	Ewe size of sire breed (lb)	Finished wt of lamb (lb)
130	130	83
130	165	94
130	200	106
155	155	99
155	175	106
155	200	114
180	180	115
180	190	118
180	200	122

^{*-} lambs finish wt is 64% of average ewe wt of dam and sire breeds





Katahdin Recipe Forum Part 1 of 2

Edited by Maria Dosch, Jim Morgan & Teresa Maurer

Perfect Rack of Lamb on the Grill

Courtesy of Sheridan Forrest, Dark Horse Farm, Kentucky

Ingredients:

Marinade

1/2 teaspoon. salt

1 teaspoon ground pepper

2 teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary

2 tablespoons dijon mustard

4 tablespoons olive oil

1/4 cup fresh lemon juice

Paste

1/2 teaspoon. salt

1 teaspoon. ground pepper

2 teaspoon chopped fresh rosemary

2 tablespoons dijon mustard

1 tablespoon olive oil

1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice



and 2 Racks of Lamb

Special Equipment:

Grill Meat Thermometer Squirt Bottle Small Cooler Gallon Ziplock Bags Tin Foil

Preparation:

- 1. Place racks in ziplock bag.
- 2. Prepare marinade and pour in to ziplock bag with the racks in.
- 3. Remove all air from bag and seal it.
- 4. Place this in the fridge and marinate for a couple hours.
- 5. Prepare glazing paste, place in fridge until ready to use.
- 6. Take out marinating meat (still in bag) and allow to warm to room temperature.
- 7. Prep cooler by filling with near boiling water, then let it sit open until desired temperature is achieved (135F rare, 145F med-rare, 160F med, 170F well done)
- 8. Place racks in the cooler for about an hour checking the temperature from time to time.
- 9. Prepare the grill for medium heat
- 10. Take the racks from their bags and rub on the glazing paste, heavier on the meat side, lighter on the bone.
- 11. Place the racks on the grill cooking for about a minute on each side or until nicely brown and crunchy. Keep squirt bottle handy lamb fat is highly flammable!
- 12. When done, let stand for 5 minutes under foil then ready for serving.

Bon Appetite!

If you have a recipe that you and your family like, send it to KHSI Operations at **info@katahdins.org** or PO Box 778, Fayetteville, AR 72702. We look forward to your recipes. If your recipe is based on (or copied from) a published recipe, please provide the proper credit.

Explore New Lamb Recipes! If you have access to the Internet, it is worth revisiting the American Lamb Board website from time to time. Newer features of the website include groupings of recipes by category such as "Quick and Easy" "Lean and Light" "Holidays" and "Top Chef Recipes". Or you can search for recipes using specific cuts or ingredients. There are tempting pictures with most of the recipes--they WILL make you hungry, and maybe willing to try something new. A wonderful section of the website allows you to watch short videos on cooking and grilling lamb. The menu in the top right corner will also take you to Lamb 101, The Cutting Board (picture of cuts and what to do with them), and more. https://www.americanlamb.com/consumer/

1ST INTERNATIONAL KATAHDIN CONGRESS: A SUCCESS

by Jim Morgan, PhD, KHSI Operations

The 1st International Katahdin Congress opened on Friday April 28th with representatives of Mexico, USA, Venezuela, Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico cutting the ceremonial ribbon. By that time, we already had a day and a half of incredible hospitality, food and fellowship.

Let's back up a step to provide some background. The 1st International Katahdin Congress was held in Tepatitlán de Morenos in the state of Jalisco in Mexico April 26-30. Our hosts were members of the Katahdin breed association in Mexico which is called CriKaMex (www.crikamex.com). Their generosity is beyond compare and we were treated to an excellent time, good food and the making of many new friends and for some of us, time with friends we have known for many years. Weather in Tepatitlán was very pleasant with daytime temperatures in the 80s and low humidity. Tepatitlán sits at 5898 ft of elevation which is just a little higher than Denver Colorado so we were treated to great sleeping weather as temperatures cooled quickly after sundown. While sleeping temperatures were great, sleeping could and was interrupted as our hotel near the City Plaza in Tepatitlán which was the center of a week of evening and night time celebrations. The event was complete with family fun, lots of fireworks (9 PM, 11 PM, 1 AM, 5

ment in fun for much of the night. The key parts of the Congress were presentations on Friday April 28th, the National Katahdin Show for Crikamex on Saturday April 29th and a Sale that evening. Festivities included trips to local farms and on Thursday the 27th a trip to two tequila distilleries. The talks were presented by Katahdin producers or association representatives from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic as well as the USA. Attendees also included Katahdin breeders from Venezuela and we participants from the USA learned a lot. KHSI attendees included: Mark Dennis (LA), Kenneth and Connie Jessee (VA), Bob Shauk (MO), Brandon Tavalin (TN), Ely and Elvia Valdez importance of Katahdins

AM, 6 AM) and then serious invest-

(TX), Ricardo Zapater (Puerto Rico) and myself, Jim Morgan (AR).

Topics and presenters included: a) Dr Javier Lara (MX) speaking on "Innovation and Technology Transfer",

- b) Dr Felipe Rodriguez (MX) speaking on Advances in Genetics,
- c) Dr Juan de Dios Artega (MX), who works with the National Registry of Mexico presented registration successes of the Katahdins and other sheep breeds.
- d) Dr Jim Morgan (USA), KHSI Operations Office, spoke about the success of Katahdins in the USA and also gave a brief history of the development and success of the Katahdin breed,
- e) Fernando Hued (Dominican Republic) spoke about recent work to maintain Katahdin genetics in the country, climate and land considerations and the work to provide locally produced lamb meat to the large tourist trade and
- f) Ricardo Zapater (Puerto Rico) talked about sheep production in this territory and the role of Katahdins.



Dr Javier Lara presenting at the 1st International Katahdin Congress. Dr Lara was one of the key and first breeders in Mexico to realize the

There are all sorts of take-home thoughts. The success of the Katahdin in the warm humid climates of the southeastern USA was confirmed over and over by the testimonies of the Katahdin producers present. If the ewes from the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico were brought to any part of the USA, they would think that the air conditioning was on. Katahdins have been exported to many countries in the Americas by development groups and government agencies (e.g. Cuba, Bermuda, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Costa Rico, Chile, Nicaragua). In most cases, the Katahdin genetics have been dispersed into the local breeds. Only when Katahdin breeders have invested in the genetics, developed a registry and membership association have they been able to maintain viable purebred populations.

In the USA, it took 51 years from the time that Katahdins were called Katahdins to become the number one breed in registrations in the USA. In Mexico, it took only 9 years from the first imports in 1996 to become the leading breed or as our hosts would say "La Raza Suprema" (raza = breed). Hair sheep were already present in Mexico, but did not have the size and conformation of the Katahdins. Some of this immediate success of the

Katahdin is surely due to combination of adequate parasite resistance and the climate favoring Katahdins over other introduced breeds. Other factors surely include value of wool and size at which lambs are marketed in Mexico (85-95 lbs). We also need to recognize the foresight, investment and enthusiasm of our friends and fellow breeders in Mexico. New Katahdin breeders quickly become experts in structural correctness and superior conformation with a strong educational focus.

Besides the success in the tropics and subtropics, we also have to mention the sheep in the 2017 National Katahdin Show in Mexico. By visual conformation, the breeders in Mexico have definitely helped Michael Piel in his goal of improving size and muscling of Katahdins. The sheep are surely larger, more heavily muscled than many if not all in the USA. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE 37

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Ricardo Zapeter, KHSI member and Katahdin producer in Puerto Rico being given a certificate of appreciation by the CriKaMex (Mexico Katahdin Association), President Jesus Hernandez Ibarra.

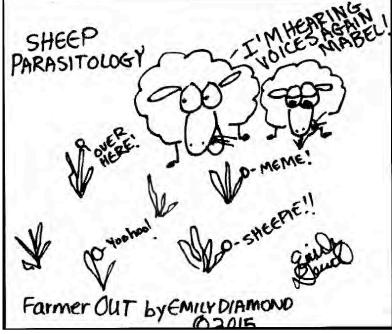
sheep had an emphasis on capacity and girth and less emphasis on the longer frame that is often more popular for many sheep breeders in the USA. All sheep in the show were weighed and had several measurements (e.g. weight, girth, scrotal circumference, height at shoulders) which helped with our evaluation. Breeders have more access to and financially less expensive reproductive technologies including artificial insemination and embryo transfer. Some of these sheep also have Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs). All of this combined has had an impact on Katahdin selection in Mexico.

To finish these thoughts, I must state that every other sentence in this article should have included thank you's to all who helped us non-Spanish speaking folks have a great time. But a big thanks to Jesus Hernandez Ibarra the host and main organizer of the 1st International Katahdin Congress. Every-

one stepped forward and helped us get to airports, to and from hotels, and ordering food.

Many of us are looking forward to the next opportunity to spend time with our new and old friends from Mexico, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Venezuela.





Drawn by KHSI Member, Emily Diamond of Kentucky as part of her "Farmer Out Cartoon" series



Grand & Reserve Grand Champion Ewe.- 2017 National Katahdin Show in Mexico

Katahdin Recipe Forum

Part 2 of 2

Edited by Maria Dosch, Jim Morgan & Teresa Maurer

Misty Lane Farm Lamb Zinger Wraps

Courtesy of Teresa Miller, Michigan

You will love these easy-to-make wraps. The sweet cinnamon and sour lemon make a savory satisfying lunch.

Ingredients:

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

2 tablespoons brown sugar

1/4 cup slivered almonds

1 large onion, diced

1 lemon, juiced

1 lb ground lamb

What You'll Need to Assemble the Sandwich:

Flour tortillas or Syrian bread

Hummus

Lettuce

Sliced Tomato

Directions:

In a non-stick pan, heat oil. Add onion, cook until translucent. Add cinnamon, cook until fragrant. Add lemon juice and brown sugar, mix well. Add ground lamb, cook through. Add almonds, cook until meat is browned. Turn off heat and let stand for a few minutes.

On a tortilla or Syrian bread, spread two tablespoons of humus. Add meat, lettuce and tomato. Roll wrap and enjoy.

SENDING IN REGISTRY WORK?

REGISTRY WORK INCLUDES REGISTRATIONS, TRANSFERS, WORK ORDERS, RECLASSIFICATIONS AND REQUESTS FOR REISSUES.

SEND REGISTRY WORK TO REGISTRY ADDRESS IN PENNSYLVANIA AND NOT TO MILO, IA OR FAYETTEVILLE, AR

SEND MEMBERSHIP FORMS, DUES AND CLASSIFIED ADS TO KHSI OPERATIONS, FAYETTEVILLE, AR.



KHSI Member's Guide

06/17

The Katahdin Hairald is the official publication of Katahdin Hair Sheep International, which provides education about:

- registering individual Katahdin sheep and recording performance
- maintaining the distinct identity of the Katahdin breed
- approaches to promotion and marketing
- summaries of research and development related to the breed

2016-2017 Board of Directors

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KHSI Operations:

Jim Morgan and Teresa Maurer; PO Box 778; Fayetteville, AR 72702-0778

Phone: 479-444-8441; info@katahdins.org

- Send the following to KHSI Operations (Arkansas)-Completed membership and renewal forms and \$45 for calendar year dues (renewals due by January 31 each year) Note: new memberships and renewals can be paid online by Paypal at website.
- Contact Operations for the following:
 - Request coat inspections before May 15
 - Address changes or other corrections for print or web
 - Copies of histories, breed standards, etc
 - BLANK work orders and registration applications.
 Note: forms and materials are printable from website www.katahdins.org
 - Brochures (20 free per member per year; additional at
- cost) & promotional items
- Information on members with sheep for sale, anyone wanting to buy sheep
- Articles, ads, and comments to be published in the Katahdin Hairald
- Volunteer for KHSI Committees
- Annual meeting information
- Office Hours (Central time): Monday, Wednesday, Friday (10 am 3 pm). Calls at other times including evenings and weekends will be answered personally whenever possible.
- Answering machine and email: available for messages 24 hours per day.

KHSI Registry:

• John Savage, 1039 State Route 168, Darlington, PA 16115

Phone – 724-843-2084; after hours, call 724-513-7516; Email – registry@katahdins.org

- Contact the Registry with questions about registration and transfer procedures.
- Send the following to the Registry:
 - Completed forms for registering, recording, transferring and naming Katahdins
- Office Hours (Eastern time): Monday to Friday 8 am- 4pm.

KHSI Committees: (Call 479-444-8441 to volunteer; Committee Chairs listed with committee)

Promotion: Roxanne Newton - 229-794-3456 **Registry Liaison:** Michelle Canfield – 360-770-0615

 Youth:
 Henry Shultz – 573-682-7127

 Expo Sale:
 Lee Wright – 276-698-6079
 Website:
 Michelle Canfield – 360-770-0615

 NSIP:
 Lynn Fahrmeier – 816-517-5049
 Roxanne Newton – 229-794-3456

Publishing/Hairald: Roxanne Newton – 229-794-3456

Classified Ads

Classified sale ads for Katahdin or Katahdin-cross sheep are free to all KHSI members in the Katahdin Hairald and at the KHSI website. For the Hairald, please limit length to 40 words. Sheep Wanted Ads can be placed for free for non-KHSI members. Classified Ad Content due August 16, 2017 to KHSI Operations Office for the Fall 2017 Hairald. Contact KHSI Operations, 479-444-8441 or *info@katahdins.org*.

SHEEP WANTED

KANSAS

Red Muscular Ram. Looking for superb muscling & excellent conformation. Good depth of shoulder, width of shoulder & shank diameter. Needs to be heavily muscled at front & rear ends. Send pictures via phone text or email. Willing to travel. Harlan Huey. Kansas. 316-641-4457, harlan.huey@yahoo.com

MISSOURI

Central MO. Registered RR Ewe **Lambs.** 3-3 registered ewe lamb(s), 6-12 month old, in superior health as assured by seller. Not seeking inferior culls. Must be Pure white with no blemishes or discolorations. Must have solid black hooves, sound feet. Prefer breeder who maintains shot, worming and treatment records. Tall and long body profile. Seller must be able to send email photo of Registration papers for review. Additionally, photo(s) of ewe. Prefer Mid-Missouri breeder. Thank you. Mary Lee Sanders, Buhok-Tupa Farm, Richland, 417-286-4656, BuhokTupa.Farm@gmail.com

SHEEP FOR SALE

CALIFORNIA

Northern CA. Registered Flock Dispersal. Entire flock must go. Registered rams, ewes, spring lambs. Almost all ewes twinned this year. Discounts for multiples. Lambs to 4 yr olds. \$450 each. Call or email to inquire. Jessica Warm, Warm Ranch, Laytonville, CA. 661-607-8070. warmranch@gmail.com

IDAHO

NW ID. Registered Ewe Lambs. 5 ewe lambs born April. Out of KRK stock. Can deliver within 100 miles. Parents tested for CAE/OPP negative. \$250. ea. I want my lambs to go to good home only!! Virginia Hirsch, Alpha Omega Katahdins. Rathdrum, ID. 208-659-4639 or picassopaints1@jrcda.com

SHEEP FOR SALE

INDIANA

SW IN. Registered Proven RR Yearling Ram. Born March 2016. Good size and conformation, long body, white. \$400.Daniel Kolb, St Meinrad, IN. 812-357-7914 or **dckolb@psci.net**

KENUTCKY

Commercial Ewe Lambs. 25 ewe lambs, mid January, grass & creep; Willy Byler, Country Road Katahdins. Munfordville, KY. 270-537-1896.

MARYLAND

Central MD. Registered & Recorded Rams & Ewes. Lambs/Yearlings. \$250-\$350. 4 Rams and 9 Ewes. All have been shown in Md Fairs. Eric & Katherine Neilson, Justifiable Acres. 301-676-2179 (cell) or 410-489-5123 (office). Woodbine, MD. pneilson2012@gmail.com

MONTANA

NW MT. Commercial Ewes with Lambs. Purebred commercial ewes with Mar born lambs at side. Ewes \$175 ea. Each lamb \$50 at the end of April. Sired by registered ram. Text/call for info 406-941-0828.. Christy Kemp, River Breaks Ranch, Glendive, MT **crwkemp@yahoo.com.** Contact us about our registered ewe lambs.

NEW JERSEY

NW NJ. Registered Ewe Lambs. Born mid-March. All are twins or triplets. Flock has been selected for parasite resistance, maternal traits, and growth on pasture. Sire is 8 year old QR ram that has never needed a foot trim and has only been dewormed once. Flock is closed; all animals are OPP negative. Transportation can be arranged if needed. Jane Farrell, Black Brook Farm Layton, NJ 973-670-6077, valleybrookvet@gmail.com

www.katahdins.org

SHEEP FOR SALE

PENNSYLVANIA

Central PA. Registered & Ram & Ewe Lambs. 29 March born grass fed ewe and ram lambs. All sired by RR ram. Very nice looking, healthy lamb crop. Please contact me with any questions you may have. Caroline McMillen, Old McMillen Homestead, Loysville, PA. 717-582-6942 or cmcmillen@embarqmail.com

TEXAS

NE TX. Commercial Ewe Lambs. 47 ewe lambs & ready in mid-July, when weaned, \$200 each, for the group. Vet inspection certificate available for an additional fee from my vet or yours. About an hour NE of Dallas. Grass-fed, low input operation. Prefer emails. magedson@yahoo.com Paul Magedson, Good Earth Organic Farm, Celeste, TX

VIRGINIA

Commercial Ewe Lambs. 250 commercial ewe lambs born Mar/Apr. Available in June. \$250 each. Discounts for groups and sorting. \$225 for groups of 50 or more gate cup. \$210 for gate cut groups of 75 or more. Dan & Dulinda Bender. Bender Farms, Floyd VA 540-745-3055.

Eastern VA. 5 Registered Rams. (1) 5 year old. Currently siring a herd of 40. Gentle disposition. \$350. 4 born Feb/March. (2) white (2) Brown spots. \$225. Tim and Brenda Kettlewell. Mad-Kettle Farm. 540-869-6008 / 540-533-8025. Stephens City,VA. madkettlefarm@yahoo.com

WISCONSIN

Central WI Registered & Commercial Ewes. 6 100% reg. ewe lambs \$125 each. 5 75% recorded ewe lambs \$100 each. 1 50% recorded ewe lamb \$90. Various colors. Born Mar/April. Weaned & ready to go July. Good bloodlines; ram is RR. Most are twins. Holly Hilke, Berlin, WI. 920-361-4887

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Arise and Shine Farm, Bill & Peggy Gray, Arkansas	33
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Finder's Katahdins & Maremmas, Warren & Pam Finder, Kansas	
Goldstrike Mountain Farms, Curtis & Teresa Elliott, Ohio	
Hancock Katahdins, Ray & Pam Hancock, Illinois	
Hillcrest Katahdins, Dr David & Jodi Redwine, Virginia	
Hound River Farm, Milledge & Roxanne Newton, Georgia	
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Julian & Moore Sheep Company, Ed Julian, Ohio	
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LC Ranch, Leon & Christine Gehman, Pennsylvania	ک
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Luzon Fam, Ed & Cindy DeOrnellis, Missouri	
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Nashville Sheep Farm, Caleb & Ashley Roth, Tennessee	
Pipestone Katahdins, Dr G.F. & Deb Kennedy, Minnesota	
Pipestone Veterinary Clinic, Dr G.F. Kennedy, Minnesota	
Platinum Farms, Dennis & Melanie McLendon, Georgia	
Prairie Lane Farm, Henry & Becky Shultz, Missouri	
Rack of Lamb Corral, Todd & Renee Bauer, Kansas	
Ricochet Farms, Joey & Rhonda Kelmer, Alabama	
Riviera, Mike & Leslie Nelsh, Ohio	
Round Mountain Farm, Jim Morgan & Teresa Maurer, Arkansas	
Salmon Run Farms, Leslie Raber, Maine	
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Tavalin Tails, Brandon & Amy Tavalin, Tennessee	
Thousand Oaks Ranch, Kevin & Toni Beatty, Missouri	
Warm Springs Katahdins, David Maddox, Georgia	
West Fork Farms, Robert Walker, Tennessee	
Xpressions, Gail Hardy, Arkansas	



13th Annual Katahdin Hair Sheep International Expo & Sale July 27-29, 2017 <u>Preliminary</u> Program

Hancock County Fairgrounds, 620 N Apple Street, Greenfield, IN 46140

Thursday, July 27, 2017 12:00 noon Consigned Expo Sheep due 2:00 - 4:30Cooked Katahdin Lamb Samples provided by KHSI Members 2:30 Demonstration of electronic ID, weighing & Bluetooth data collection 5:30 - 8:15 PM Shepherd 101 Part One Selecting Katahdins to Improve Value to the Commercial Industry – David Redwine, 5:30 Virginia DVM 6:15 Getting the Basics of Sheep Nutrition Right – Dr Mike Neary, Purdue University 7:00 Quality Assurance in Meat Production, Dr Stacy Zuelly, Purdue University 7:45 Social Time for Katahdin Breeders 5:30 - 8:15 PM NSIP 101 Workshop NSIP Welcome - Carl Ginapp & Michelle Canfield 5:30 5:45 Is NSIP for your flock? & What data & equipment are needed? 6:15 Walk-through of Entering Data NSIP 202 – Understanding how EBVs work – Michelle Canfield 7:00 Friday, July 28, 2017 7:15 AM Registration 8:00 - 12:00 Shepherd 201 Welcome from Purdue University Extension and KHSI 8:00 Developing Weaning Programs for your Flock – Susan Schoenian, U of MD Extension 8:15 9:00 Common Mistakes in Feeding Sheep – Dr Mike Neary, Purdue University 9:45 Using USDA Wildlife Services - Lee Umberger, Indiana USDA 10:15 Pasture Systems that Work - Victor Shelton, USDA-NRCS Indiana 11:00 12:00 1:30 – 4:45 PM Katahdin Youth Program 1:30 - 4:45 PM Shepherd 201 Part 2 1:30 Direct Marketing Lamb - Dr Stacy Zuelly, Purdue University Direct Lamb Meat Marketing Panel of Sheep Producers 2:15 2:45 Break Welfare Regulations and Meat Production are coming: Start Preparing - Dr Joan Burke & 3:00 Erin Smith, USDA Booneville, AR Combination Anthelmintics (Dewormers): High Time to Implement – Susan Schoenian, U 4:00 Maryland Extension 5:00 Break 5:15 2017 KHSI Annual Membership Meeting 6:15 Ice Cream Social at Sale Barn, Pre-signup for Buyer's Numbers 7:30 Saturday, July 29, 2017 Hancock County Fairgrounds - (620 N Apple Street, Greenfield, IN 46140) Sale Animal Display and Viewing 8:30

13th Annual KHSI National Katahdin Sale

11:30