

The Katahdin Hairald



Quarterly Newsletter of Katahdin Hair Sheep International

www.KHSI.org

Volume 14, Number 3
Summer 2002

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Sharon Schaefer, KHSI President, Saskatchewan

Please make sure you mail in your ballot which is found in this issue and thank you to those members who have let their names stand for possible election to the board of directors. Thanks also to the Nominating Committee-Linda Neunzig, Julie Rosgen, and Donna Watkins for volunteering to take on that job.

Hope everyone's summer season has been profitable-lambs grew well or hay crop was excellent or family reunions were wonderful. If you scored two out of three you're really a winner! I win, I win!!

Continuing the saga of the very cold dry spring: we found two new homes by mid-July for 100 ewes with lambs at foot; commercial and crossbreds went one way, purebreds another. Lots of phone calls in response to an ad offering a lease option so this would be worth trying for anyone needing to move livestock. Our crossbreds went to a farm which already had sheep so

we're taking cash instead of taking lambs back to avoid introducing a new strain of any disease.

Our smaller number of sheep could spend longer in each paddock (and actually get enough to eat) so the other paddocks recovered better. After some timely rain the pastures improved plus we have enough hay put up to feed the remaining sheep this winter. In fact after 11 inches of rain in the first week of August (luckily we have rolling land and bush so this much rain is not a disaster) we may get a second cut on one alfalfa stand-this would be a first time in 20 years. Many parts of the Great Plains in both U.S. and Canada are still in a profound drought (some areas drier than the driest year in the '30's) so we'll continue to pray for those producers.

Plans for the Annual Gathering in Mexico in December are progressing well. Hope to see many of you down there in December!

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2002 KHSI MEMBERSHIP MEETING-TENTATIVE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2002 5:00 PM QUERETARO, MEXICO

Please contact a current KHSI Board Member or the Operations Office (479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net) if you have additional items for the agenda.

- I. Review Agenda
- II. Old Business
 - A. 2001 Meeting Minutes
- III. New Business
 - A. President's Report
 - B. Financial Report
 - C. KHSI Registry Report

- D. KHSI Operations Office Report
- E. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
- F. 2003 Budget
- G. Verification of 2003 Annual Gathering Location-Maine

- I. Report on vote method for 2004, 2005 Annual Gathering Locations
- K. Discussion on closing KHSI books for upgrading
- L. Additional New Business Items

ROLE OF ENVIRONMENT & GENETICS IN SELECTING FOR MULTIPLE BIRTHS

by Jim Morgan, KHSI Operations &
Dr. Charles Parker,
Honorary KHSI Member

Teresa's Note: Over the years the KHSI Operations Office has talked and corresponded with several individuals about selecting for multiple births. We thought that an article covering this subject would be informative for all of us. We also hear lots of discussion about breeders selecting for triplets and some for quadruplets. In response to these questions and discussions, we thought that it would be good to interview a Sheep Geneticist about the inheritance and genetics of multiple births. Luckily, an Honorary KHSI member, Dr. Charles Parker of Columbus, Ohio, agreed to fulfill that role. He answered questions from Jim Morgan, intrepid KHSI Hairald reporter.

As preface to the interview, note that questions about selection and culling rams ewes are based just on their prolificacy and not any other production traits.

KHSI Hairald - Dr. Parker - Sheep genetic texts say that prolificacy is 10% hereditary and 90% environment. What does this mean? Also, what environmental factors affect litter size?

Dr. Parker - True, it is generally recognized that environmental factors have a large influence on prolificacy, which is defined as the number of lambs born in a given litter. Some of the more important environmental factors relate to: ewe nutrition, ewe body condition at breeding, health status, and climatic conditions, especially temperature and season of breeding. Management of those factors that can be

influenced by good shepherding is obviously important.

KHSI Hairald - If prolificacy is only 10% hereditary, why should we bother with selecting on that basis? Or should we just manage for the prolificacy we want?

Dr. Parker - The number of lambs born per ewe directly affects the number raised which is the most important trait affecting profitability for commercial sheep production. Heritability, defined as that portion of the genetic variation that responds to selection, is low on an individual record basis. However as we accumulate multiple records on an individual and their relatives, we soon realize the importance of selection to genetically improve reproductive performance within flocks and breeds of sheep. A favorite Scottish sonnet follows:

"Ewes yearly by twinning, rich masters do make. The lambs of such twinners, for breeders go take"

—Youatt, 1837

The scientific basis for this statement was justified some 100 years later. Now we know that ewes that have three consecutive sets of twins have a heritability for twinning that is three times greater than the traditional 10% stated in the text books.

We can manage for the optimum performance inherent in the flock, but if we want to improve lambing rate over time in flocks and breeds we must select for multiple births.

KHSI Hairald - How important is the ram for genetically improving the reproductive efficiency potential for a flock of sheep?

Dr. Parker - The most important!

KHSI Hairald - For the average flock - what percent of the improvement is due to ram selection and what part to ewe selection?

Dr. Parker - Many believe the ram is half the flock—wrong!! Genetically speaking, rams can be responsible for more than 70-90% of flock improvement from selection. First, during any given breeding season, a fertile mature ram can breed 50-100 ewes, thus genetically affecting as many as 100-200 lambs born per lambing. A given ewe only genetically affects about 10 lambs in her lifetime (assuming 5 breeding years). Secondly, since less than 3 % of the ram lambs need to be saved as breeding replacements, a breeder can select more rigorously on the ram side of the pedigree. With artificial insemination, selection intensity for the ram could be increased even more significantly. However, do remember: for the very best rams, they must have great dams as well as sires.

KHSI Hairald - How would you identify rams for purchase that have the multiple birth rate that you are interested in?

Dr. Parker - From a "technical age approach", I would identify "best rams" before they are born! Use ram and ewe Katahdin EPD information—if available. If records are not available, one will have to resort to the dam's performance, "ewes yearly by twinning" (remember the sonnet?) and pedigree information.

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mation on prospective rams, especially the ram's dam and sibs. Stacking pedigree information on both sire and dam side will greatly increase the effectiveness of selection for a sex limited trait such as multiple birth rate. The question, "Where do I find the "best" rams?" is the most important question for progressive Katahdin breeders. Helpful hint—"let the data do the talking."

KHSI Hairald - If it is mostly environment, should we cull ewes and their offspring that have a 175-185% lamb crop over their 2 - 8 yr of age range? If the answer is to cull - Why? Wouldn't it be just as simple to feed a little more?

Dr. Parker - As stated in an earlier answer, proper nutritional management will help optimize inherent flock performance. If flock genetic potential is 175% lamb crop born, then that will be the average level expected over time. To increase the genetic potential for a lamb crop percentage of 200% or more, improvement will have to come from genetic change through selection and good management to optimize environmental conditions. Ewes in the 2-5 year range that have consecutive singles should be prime prospects for culling.

KHSI Hairald - How does number of lambs/litter rank in traits for selection? Other traits could include 60 day weaning wts, 120 day wts, parasite resistance, number of lambs weaned/ewe/yr and lbs of lamb weaned/ewe/yr.

Dr. Parker - In my opinion, the ewe profitability trait is pounds of lamb weaned per ewe per breeding. This is a biologically complex trait and most likely the best ewe pro-

ductivity index for Katahdin sheep as well as for other maternal meat breeds. What affects this trait? First and most importantly, prolificacy and also maternal ability. Maternal ability includes rearing ability and milk production that directly affects lamb viability, growth and survivability to weaning. Research has shown this to be a heritable trait. Interestingly, rams selected from ewes with high ewe productivity performance are sexually more active and have greater breeding capacity. Other traits noted are important, especially post-weaning evaluation of growth and parasite tolerance. The latter should become a signature trait for Katahdin sheep. Thus we are talking balanced genetics. However it takes prolificacy to make pounds of lamb potential, since it's hard to sell lambs that are never born!

KHSI Hairald - Does the type of birth matter for a ewe lamb? For example, a ewe that has had twins or triplets every year of her life from 1-6 years has a single ewe lamb as a 7 year old. The ewe was bred to the same ram for all 7 years. Two questions:

A) Do you cull that single ewe lamb since she was a single?

Dr. Parker - No not with the performance noted for the dam. This shows the importance of keeping individual records in the flock.

B) Does that single ewe lamb have less genetic merit for prolificacy than her full siblings from previous lambings that were twins or triplets?

Dr. Parker - No more, no less; she should average the same genetic merit as the previously born full sibs.

KHSI Hairald - What about ewe maturity and multiple births? How much increase in percent lamb crop do you expect to see from a 12 month old ewe lamb to a 3 yr old ewe? For example, a ewe who has twins at 12 months - is she likely to triple at 2 or 3 yrs of age?

Dr. Parker - Successful breeding of ewe lambs is a critical management issue, especially as affected by the nutritional management. If ewe lambs at breeding average 70-75% of their mature size potential, they will breed successfully, especially during the months of October and early November. Those having twins at 12-14 months of age generally have a lifetime advantage of producing more lambs. This is partially due to an inherent genetic advantage for lambing rate. Note, if the ewe lambs are not managed properly during lactation and in proper body condition at breeding, their next lamb crop percentage will suffer. This is environment showing its ugly head, but good shepherds won't let that happen, right?! The report of the technical committee of the National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) provided adjustment factors. These adjustment factors give increased weight to the number of lambs for young ewes. I have put the adjustment factors in the table below.

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**SEND ADDRESS & WEB CORRECTIONS TO
KHSINT@EARTHLINK.NET OR P. O. BOX 778,
FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72702**

**AGE OF EWE AT LAMBING
ADJUSTMENT FACTOR**

1	1.45
2	1.15
3	1.05
4	1.00
5-7	0.95
8+	1.00

Note that on average, a breeder can expect a 45% increase in lambing percentage from a yearling to a 4 yr old ewe. If you had 30-40 ewe lambs and kept them until they were four years of age, the average increase in lambing percentage for the whole group would be expected to be 45%.

KHSI Hairald - Several times, we have seen ads in which a person mentions that a ram has sired several sets of triplets. Does the breeding sire have any effect on the number of lambs a ewe has? (Assume that the ram has an adequate live sperm count)

Dr. Parker - Ram effects have been researched. Rams can have an influence on the number of ewes bred and number of lambs born. The adequate live sperm condition makes the question more difficult. Ram effects are generally considered to be caused by environmental influences, such as poor nutrition, heavy intestinal parasite infestation, temperature stress, foot rot infection, etc. There are also dud rams in most sheep populations, that show poor and/or no sexual interest in ewes at breeding time. These ram effects are obviously not heritable and in most cases non-repeatable from one year to the next, except for the dud condition.

KHSI Hairald - In your opinion, what level of prolificacy should the average commercial or registered flock aim for and why? One goal might be a single from a 12 month

old ewe lamb and twins at 2 yrs and older.

Dr. Parker - Commercially, sheep are raised to add value to resources under both extensive and intensive management systems and those in between. Thus one must choose the right genetic mix with production potential that matches those environmental resources such as nutritional, climatic and managerial ability. Since the seedstock segment of the industry is the backbone of the commercial industry, breeders should provide the genetic production potential to create profitability. That said, I believe a genetic lambing rate of 200 % plus for ewes 2yrs and older is needed from Katahdin breeders in general. The recent 2001 NSIP across flock evaluation involving more than 1000 Katahdin ewes from 10 different flocks showed a 220% lambing rate—that is excellent! Remember that, to be profitable, the industry needs lambs born and raised to optimize performance for pounds of lamb marketed. Prolificacy is not only important, it is essential!

KHSI Hairald - Are there environments or economic situations where the commercial breeder should be selecting for singles? Or where the Registered seedstock producer should be selecting for singles? Should commercial breeders and Registered seedstock producers have separate goals?

Dr. Parker - No, no, and no!! If the environment is quite extensive (with limited nutritional resources) and/or has poor climatic conditions, prolificacy will be lowered. Again, the seedstock breeder provides the genetics for commercial flock production. There can't be separate criteria if the customer

base for seedstock breeders is the commercial industry. Also—let's not get the urge to chase purple ribbons!!

KHSI Hairald - Are there environments or economic situations in which the sheep producer should be selecting for triplets or even quadruplets?

Dr. Parker - Mature ewes managed under highly favorable environmental conditions can raise triplets on their own and on forage. However the management must be very high quality and the nutritional input for such systems will be critical. This may be a goal for smaller specialized commercial producers who practice artificial rearing for a portion of their lamb crop. However with known management technologies, I believe most commercial producers will be best suited marketing a 200-225 percent lamb crop per lambing. If Katahdin sheep were to be used in crossbreeding with low prolific breeds, there may be some demand for triplet/quadruplet genetics. However I believe that demand for triplet/quad genetics will be limited in the near future.

KHSI Hairald - We have seen ewes that twin and triplet at 2 to 6 yrs of age. But, they drop to singles after that. In your opinion, how does this affect the selection value for that ewe line if her lambing percentage drops from 200% to 100% when they reach 7 yrs of age or older? Would you cull that ewe line? Would you go back and cull her ewe lambs that are in your flock?

Dr. Parker - Longevity is an important trait. However for the

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ewe scenario described, I would assess her genetic worth in comparison to the other ewes in the flock, especially those younger. If the younger excel, as some should, replacing this ewe would seem to be advisable. If she is an exceptional ewe with none better, she would stay. It is normally expected to see lowered production in ewes after five year of age, but their genetics stay the same as day one normally. From a commercial point of view, the ewe most likely would be culled by seven years of age.

KHSI Hairald - We hear a lot about accelerated lamb using the Cornell Star breeding program (5 crops in 3 years) or 3 lamb crops/2 years.

A) How does lambing 3 times in two years affect prolificacy?

Dr. Parker - The average number of lambs born per lambing is reduced.

B) How do the different seasons in which the ewes are being bred affect prolificacy?

Dr. Parker - Strongly. Generally spring breeding will reduce lambing rate 25 % compared to late autumn breeding.

C) And in conjunction with that question, do you fault ewes or select against ewes that single in the off-seasons and twin in the late winter/spring season?

Dr. Parker - Ewes that have multiples in the off season should be favored.

KHSI Hairald - Certain environments & management systems present challenges for breeding for twin-producing ewes. An example might be a flock in parts of Texas where the best season for grazing is December to April. To maximize

grazing at the end of gestation to 120 day old lambs, one puts the rams in July to lamb in December to January (breeding during 100 degree days with long day length). That means the rams are breeding and the ewes are conceiving in the heat of central Texas in July & August. They may have a lambing average of 150%.

A) Basic question(s) - How should this breeder manage his/her flock for multiple births?

Dr. Parker - Select replacements from ewes yearly by twinning under his lambing management. Purchase and/or keep rams from out of season multiple births

B) Is he/she expecting too much to get a high percentage of twins?

Dr. Parker - No, not if he/she is flushing ewes on good pasture and/or supplemental feeding before and during the early part of breeding season

C) Can they buy the genetics they need and what should they be looking for?

Dr. Parker - Out of season born multiples from consistent multiple lambing ewes.

D) Will a decent EPD for % lamb crop in more moderate and temperate environments work here?

Dr. Parker - Tough question. I would favor selecting from out of season managed flocks on the basis stated above. Out of season breeding performance is a heritable trait.

E) Would you buy twinning genetics from other environments or would you select for them from your flock?

Dr. Parker - Depending on flock size and availability of other flocks under similar out of season management, I would likely use both sources.

F) If you brought a ram with a good twinning background from a flock in which the ewes always twin or triplet lamb on April 1st in Illinois, would you expect his offspring to twin or triplet in Texas when breeding on Aug 1st?

Dr. Parker - For most meat breeds it would be a risk, for Katahdins maybe it would work. Note the ram would only be 4 months old on 8/1 but not directly affected yet by seasonal variation.

KHSI Hairald - Would you cull ewes or ewe lines that quad regularly?

Dr. Parker - Depending on the percentage in the flock: if more than 20%, I would cull those that do a poor job of raising lambs and/or have other productive constraints such as size or parasite infection. It's OK to have some high prolificacy in a flock as a valuable resource for improving reproductive efficiency.

KHSI Hairald - There is a ewe that over the course of six lamb crops has two triplets, two twins and two singles. Her average weaned is a very respectable 2 lambs/litter. What do you do with that ewe and her daughters? Is this variability in litter size due to heredity or to the environment?

Dr. Parker - Variability is due to both environment and genetic factors. Obviously she is not a consistent performer regarding lambing rate. I would favor consistency but not discriminate strongly against her daughters on this trait until their performance could be evaluated in the flock.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – JUNE TO AUGUST 2002

Desmond, Susan, Travis, Preston & Darby Arens	British Columbia
H Ruth Henderson	Arkansas
Robert J & Frances Finley	Idaho
Troy Lohman	Illinois
John & Steve Stromquist	Illinois
Gregory Green	Indiana
Ronald D & Brenda L Hash	Indiana
Ralph Livengood	Indiana
Mike & Karen Morgan	Indiana
Linda Terrel & Blanche Perkins	Indiana
Mike Green	Iowa
Toni Cory	Kentucky
Clarence G Garretson	Kentucky
Garry Huff	Kentucky
Winn Robbins & Charlotte Burley	Maine
Matthew Jason Rales	Maryland
Curtis L Van Leur	Minnesota
Gerald Zeller	Minnesota
Dr Ted Malone	Mississippi
Ray, Vicki, Richard, Leanna & Jeanetta Baumer	Missouri
Bill & Barb Lee	Missouri
Lincoln University, Dept of Animal Science, David Kiesling	Missouri
Ira & Jan Woody	Missouri
Marie A Drew	Ohio
Larry R Noakes	Oregon
Frank S Moore	Pennsylvania
Arthur D Steffee, MD	Pennsylvania
John & Dean Rowe	Tennessee
Casey James, Dawn & Mark Sandlin	Tennessee
Wendell & Suzie Wampler	Texas
Peter D Hall & Stacy Scott	Virginia
Patrick M Snyder	Wisconsin

DR. PARKER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

KHSI Hairald - Katahdin NSIP efforts are moving forward. Some Katahdin breeders will be receiving evaluations of the prolificacy potential of their rams and ewes with statistics to back those values up. They will be receiving EPDs for their ewes and rams that indicate their potential lamb prolificacy compared to the breed average of 2.2 lambs/mature ewe.

A) Suppose one of the NSIP participants has a ewe with a documented EPD (prolificacy potential) of 2.5 lambs/lambing and she has a single lamb. Would you cull that ewe? Is this just a random chance

event to get a single?

Dr. Parker – I would not sell the ewe.

B) Would you cull that ewe with a 2.5 lambs/litter EPD if she had 2 seasons of singles even though her EPD for prolificacy remains above average? (In other words her relatives have high potential for prolificacy).

Dr. Parker - Tougher call. I would consider saving the ewe considering her age when the singles were born.

C) A ewe has several single ewe lambs but they are offspring of a ram with a high EPD for prolifi-

cacy. These single ewe lambs have a decent EPD for prolificacy. Would you cull the offspring even though they have a good EPD for prolificacy? In other words would you make the decision based on the ewe's track record on your farm or based on the EPD for prolificacy?

Dr. Parker - One would like to favor the EPD info. However I think we know at this time because of the amount of information in the breed data base that accuracies of the ram EPD value will be low to moderate. I would hope there are other multiple births in the flock with similar or higher EPDs.

REGIONAL GROUP NEWS

SCKA Website Up and Running

Adapted from article in SCKA newsletter by Mark Dennis, Louisiana

The Southcentral Katahdin Hair Sheep Association (SCKA) website is now online at the location: www.hair-sheep.com. The website allows SCKA members to list sheep for sale at no charge, and anyone can list a free "Katahdins Wanted" ad. For an additional charge, members may have their own web page developed by the SCKA webmaster, or have an existing farm web page linked to the site. If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, please contact Mark at 337-364-0422

or denn907@bellsouth.net.

October PCKHSA Inspector Training & Clinic

Call TODAY to register for the inspector training, clinic and show organized by the Pacific Coast Katahdin Hair Sheep Association. KHSI Inspection Training is scheduled on October 18 at 4 pm at the Spurlock farm in Elk Creek (call 530-968-5131). The clinic and show on October 19 will be held at the Orland Fairgrounds, California (call 916-682-7456). The events includes practical educational presentations and classes, a hair sheep show, private treaty ram sale, and a special ram raffle. The Glenn County Harvest Festival is occurring at the same time, so there will be excellent chances to showcase Katahdins and join in other festivities.

**VISIT US AT
WWW.KHSI.ORG**

KHSI BREED IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REQUESTS INFORMATION ON PARTICIPATION IN PERFORMANCE EVALUATION PROGRAMS

by Jim Morgan, Arkansas

There are several methods for evaluating the genetic merit of livestock. Some of the more successful methods for many livestock species include performance evaluation programs and performance tests.

The performance evaluation programs that are available for Katahdin Breeders include NSIP (National Sheep Improvement Program), OVISSEY, EweByte and FlockMaster and Ontario Sheep Improvement Program. Also, some states provide central ram tests for evaluating growth

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 19-20. Elk Creek and Orland, California. Pacific Coast Katahdin Hair Sheep Association Inspector Training, Clinic, Show, Annual Meeting, Ram Sale. Call 530-968-5131 or 916-682-7456 for details.

November 9-22. NAILE. Kentucky State Fairgrounds, Louisville, Kentucky. One of the premier livestock expos. Katahdins exhibited by Kay Cloyd, Ed Martsolf and other KHSI members 502-595-3166.

December 10-14. Queretaro, Mexico. KHSI Annual Meeting, Ranch Tours, National Hair and Wool Sheep Show. For information call 479-444-6075 or email: khsint@earthlink.net.

Jan 1, 2003: Dues are due for 2003. No later than Jan 31 to keep your KHSI membership in good standing.

October 16-19, 2003. Annual KHSI Meeting in Maine. Watch 2003 newsletters for details.

rate of rams. An example is the Wisconsin Ram Test. All these programs help breeders objectively evaluate animal performance and select their best performing animals.

The KHSI Breed Improvement Committee would like feedback:

1) First we would like to identify all KHSI flocks involved in KHSI performance evaluation and the program you are using.

2) We would also like feedback on how the program works, the pluses and minuses, would you recommend the program to others and if it is a cross-flock or within flock performance evaluation?

3) Are you using ultrasound to measure loin eye area or depth or backfat?

4) Are you using quantitative fecal egg counts to identify resistant parasite resistant lambs, ewes and/or rams?

LET US KNOW.

You can contact any of the following members of the KHSI Breed Improvement Committee.

Laura Fortmeyer
2285 Falcon Rd
Fairview, KS 66425
USA
785-467-8041

jubilee@jbntelco.com

Pam Armitage-Sword
RR 1
Delburne, AB T0M 0V0
Canada
403-749-2434

parmitagesword@hotmail.com

Jim Morgan
18235 Wildlife Rd
Fayetteville, AR 72701
USA
479-444-6075

jlmm@earthlink.net

UPDATE ON KHSI MEETING IN MEXICO DEC, 2002

*By Teresa Maurer and Jim Morgan,
KHSI Operations and Dr. Javier
Lara, KHSI Mexico Representative*

This is the last newsletter you will receive before the annual meeting, so we wanted to give you a final update. We are pleased to report that at least 30 members, friends and family have reported that they are planning to attend the 2002 KHSI Annual Meeting in Queretaro, Mexico. The schedule is reprinted below, followed by urgent steps to take if you have not yet made your arrangements. All members are responsible for their own travel, but Dr. Lara, Jim and Teresa can give you tips if we know you are planning to attend.

Monday, December 9. Arrival at Mexico City Airport and bus trip from airport to Queretaro (\$20 per person for bus to Queretaro, which leaves from airport hourly at 7,8,9 and 10 pm).

Tuesday, December 10. 11 am-3 pm Board of Directors meeting. 5:00-8:00pm Visit to the Fair (optional)

Wednesday, December 11. 10 am-2 pm Conference and Speakers (Speakers will include Ian Clark from Alberta, Tom Settlemire from Maine and Will Getz from Georgia).

5:00-8:00pm Annual KHSI Membership Meeting

9 pm Dinner (\$15 at door)

Thursday, December 12. Visits to sheep ranches (transportation and lunch provided)

Friday, December 13. Sheep Show (wool)

Saturday, December 14. National Katahdin and Dorper Shows. Evening Lamb Barbeque.

Sunday, December 15. Return from Queretaro to Mexico City

Airport via bus (\$20 per person) which leaves at 6 am, 7:30 am, 8:30 am and 9:30 am. Allow 3 hours travel to reach airport and 2 hours to checkin. So, the 6 am shuttle will work if your flight is around noon.

URGENT TIPS: If you have not done so already, please contact Dr. Javier Lara IMMEDIATELY by email, phone or FAX if you are planning to attend and want to be part of the HOTEL group rate in Queretaro. Dr. Lara is negotiating with the Camelinas Hotel and needs to hear from you ASAP so that you can get the best rate. Rooms are filling fast because December is a busy season for Mexico travel, and he can only get a good rate if he has a good count of those who are coming. See contact information below. Also let Dr. Lara know your arrival and departure times in and out of Mexico City.

1. If you have not booked your AIR TRAVEL, do so immediately with your favorite travel agent or Internet source. Ticket prices are rising as the holidays get closer, and with December and January being big travel months in Mexico, availability of economy seats is getting more difficult. If you need help finding a travel agent, contact KHSI Operations.

2. It takes 6-8 weeks to get a US PASSPORT. Start now with your local post office if you do not already have one. For US citizens, we have been advised that international travel to Mexico travel requires a passport OR a notarized birth certificate AND a notarized marriage certificate documenting change of last name. Contact your travel agent or governmental resources if you need further details. KHSI Officers Sharon Schaefer or Pam Sword may be able to help you

with Canadian information on passports.

3. Please let KHSI Operations know that you are planning to attend, as well as Dr. Lara. We have started an email list (Teresa & Jim will FAX or phone you if you don't have email) for those attending so that we can share details as we learn them. Let us know your flight arrival and departure times.

4. Planning for trip expenses: your travel agent, the Internet and your local bookstore or library can be sources of information for planning for your trip and expenses. We understand that you will be able to use a credit card for the hotel. The bus trip from the airport to Queretaro is \$20US per person each way (\$40 total). Annual meeting dinner is \$15/person. Lunch during the field trips and dinner on Saturday will be provided. Local transportation in Queretaro between the hotel and the meeting sites and to the field trips will also be provided. All other meals and costs will be each individual's responsibility.

5. Be prepared to "go with the flow"! During any kind of travel, the best-made plans and preparations change, and when you are experiencing new cultures and places, changes and surprises are even more likely. But that's part of the fun! Our hosts are working very hard to make us feel welcome, and everyone will benefit if we pack patience in our bags.

Contact information regarding KHSI Meeting in Mexico:

Dr. Javier Lara: 011-52-442-214-3727, (fax) 011-52-442-230-0570, email ranchoayj@yahoo.com.mx

KHSI Operations: 479-444-8441 (Jim or Teresa)

khsint@earthlink.net

UPDATE ON KHSI WEBSITE REMODELING

*By Jim Morgan,
KHSI Operations Assistant*

It has been a busy summer and the three new KHSI website developments promised in the last Katahdin Hairald (Spring 2002) have progressed more slowly than we expected.

The downloadable forms that were promised to be available at the KHSI website early in the summer are still in the works. They should be available by the time this newsletter reaches your mailbox. If you need to hand out a a) KHSI Membership Form, b) Breed History, c) Breed Characteristics, d) KHSI Annual Dues/Fees & General Instructions and e) Animal Registration Form - you will be able to print off a high quality form off the KHSI website. This should save KHSI postage money and save time for those that have Internet access. Later in the fall, we will have a Membership Renewal Form available on the website as well.

The searchable KHSI membership list and the Breeder's Page Project are still moving forward - just more slowly than anticipated. Work on other Katahdin projects has interfered. This part of the remodeled KHSI website has two parts. Refer to the last newsletter (Hairald Spring 2002) for more details.

First, we are working on making the KHSI Membership List searchable. You will be able to search the current membership list by KHSI prefix, health program, performance evaluation program, sheep for sale or export. Also, a complete list of KHSI Flock Prefixes will be published on the web. Once, we have it in that format - it will also be available by in paper copy as well for those of you who don't wish to play on the World Wide Web.

Second, we are also continuing to work on a Breeder's Page which has three major goals: Provide more Katahdin pictures and Breeder information at the KHSI website, increase sales of Registered Katahdin sheep and increase the ease with which interested buyers can navigate the internet and find information about individual Katahdin flocks. These Breeder's Pages will have an annual fee for those who choose to participate. On a standardized page, Breeders will be able to post 3-4 digitized pictures, their management goals, sheep for sale, description of farm and operation, a table of weight data and more information about the performance evaluation and health programs they participate in.

Stay tuned for the new developments.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE:

DECEMBER 1,
2002

SUBMIT ADS, ARTICLES, IDEAS
TO KHSI OPERATIONS,
KHSINT@EARTHLINK.NET OR
P. O. BOX 778,
FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72702

OPERATIONS NOTES:

*Teresa Maurer and Jim Morgan,
KHSI Operations: 479-444-8441*

Did you find your ballot? We have 5 candidates for 2 director positions on the KHSI Board. Be sure to look for your KHSI Board of Directors ballot which is in an insert in this newsletter. For your vote to count, make sure it is received at the appropriate address by no later than December 4.

Agenda for Mexico Meeting: Elsewhere in this issue (page 1) we have provided a tentative agenda for the annual meeting. If you have agenda items for the meeting, please be sure to submit them to KHSI Operations by mail or email at khsint@earthlink.net by December 4.

Proposals for 2004 KHSI Meeting Site: Maine will be hosting the 2003 KHSI Annual Meeting in October, 2003. Proposals for the 2004 KHSI annual meeting site are being accepted until Dec. 1. Please contact the KHSI Operations office for further details.

Next newsletter deadline Dec. 1: Due to the annual meeting and the holidays, we are asking for newsletter items and ads to be submitted early. The next newsletter will be mailed out early in 2003 so that we can include a report of the Mexico meeting.

**DON'T FORGET! MAIL BACK YOUR
KHSI DIRECTOR BALLOT!**

**BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
DECEMBER 4.**

PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE FEEDBACK ON ADVERTISING

by Jim Morgan, KHSI Operations member of the Promotion Committee

The Promotions Committee chaired by KHSI Board of Directors member Robert Elliott of Texas would appreciate feedback on KHSI advertising. Besides Robert the committee is composed of Mark Dennis, Louisiana, Sue Ingram, Missouri, Glenn Wiygul, Mississippi and Jim Morgan of the KHSI Operations Office. The committee would also like to thank Dr Charles Parker for his advice and help on several issues over the past year.

KHSI spends a few thousand US dollars each year advertising Katahdins in several sheep magazines and agricultural periodicals. In the ads we give the website, phone number and the postal addresses of the KHSI Operations office and/or the KHSI Canadian Representative so that the Breeders list and Information Brochures can be mailed to those that request them. The periodicals KHSI advertises in the USA include, a) *The Shepherd*, b) *sheep!*, c) *Small Farm Today*, d) ASI's (American Sheep Industry) *Sheep Industry News*, e) *Stockman Grass Farmer* and f) *Goat Rancher*. In Canada, KHSI places ads in g) *Sheep Canada* and h) *The Shepherd's Journal*. On a more limited basis, ads are placed in the i) *Western Producer*, a Canadian publication and in the j) *Livestock Market Digest* in the USA.

Decisions to advertise in a particular periodical are based on their circulation and who reads the periodical. Based on the number of inquiries we receive, the publication that is most effective in terms of the number of inquiries is the *Stockman Grass Farmer*. However, inquiries do not translate directly into sheep sold and many inquiries may be through our website. In the past, we also advertised in the *Small Farm Journal* and in *Sheep News*, an Ontario publication.

The Promotions Committee would like comments from the KHSI members on the following questions by Nov. 15 in order to make decisions on 2003 advertising:

- a) Which agricultural periodicals do you most often read and/or subscribe to?
- b) Are there agricultural publications that you think the KHSI Promotions Committee should investigate for advertising? These should be avenues that will lead to more sales for the KHSI membership and are effective for the amount of money spent.
- c) Are there publications listed above, that you think KHSI should not advertise in?

If you have answers or suggestions on KHSI's advertising by Nov. 15th, please contact:

Robert Elliott (Committee Chair)
101 Presidential Corridor E.
Caldwell, TX 77836-1225
979-567-9895
rancherob@aol.com

Jim Morgan
KHSI Operations Office
PO Box 778
Fayetteville, AR 72702
479-444-8441
khsint@earthlink.net

2003 DUES ARE DUE JAN 1, 2003

TO REMAIN A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING AND KEEP YOUR NAME ON THE BREEDER'S LIST, YOUR DUES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JAN. 31, 2003.

CLASSIFIED ADS

In compliance with the KHSI Board of Directors policy, sheep for sale advertised by members in the Hairald must be Katahdins or Katahdin crosses. Ads for the next issue are due December 1st to Operations: 479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net.

SHEEP FOR SALE

Jaime Tames, Austin, Texas has 23 ram lambs for sale. 512-237-3920.

Ram and ewe lambs: Cream of the Crop - We have been using the Ovissey flock management program since its introduction in 1997 and have selected, for growth and conformation, 18 out of over 100 purebred Katahdin ram lambs born March/April 02. You pick what you want from these. \$160 US with KHSI papers. We may also have some ewe lambs for sale which we are planning to expose in Jan/Feb 2003 for June/July lambing. Randy and Darlene Jordan, Raymore, Saskatchewan, Canada. (306) 746-4361.

Black Katahdins for sale. Harvey Davis, Fairview, Alberta. 780-494-2400.

SHEEP FOR SALE

Katahdin and Katahdin-Dorper cross commercial ewes and ewe lambs. Charlie & Catherine Brown in Alexis, Illinois. 309-342-7428 or bakerbro@galesburg.net

Ewe lambs: 16 commercial Katahdin twin lambs born March 2002 (VSFCP), mostly white, 1 brown & white, 1 black & white. Priced to sell at \$100 each, your choice or \$85 each if you buy all. Richard Raby, Okmulgee, OK. Please call 918-758-0089 after 5 pm. Email: mastersarge1@aol.com.

Ewe lambs and ram lambs: 12 ewes, 4 rams, born February, 2002. All from twins or triplet births. Eric Gavin, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 319-848-4496.

SHEEP FOR SALE

Rams: 24 pre-selected ram lambs that meet all these criteria: born twin or triplet from first lambing, sire's and dam's birth types are 2 or higher, sire and same have A coats (breeder's evaluation), dam tested OPP negative (Nov 2001), sire and dam carry PF (Piel Farm) prefix, no inbreeding. Birth weights, wean weight and post-wean weight available. Flock was closed in Fall, 2001, and sheep are free of foot rot and orf, and enrolled in VSFCP. Carsten and Renate Pank, Sprakers, New York, 518-673-5859.

Ewe lambs and rams: 80 ewe lambs and 5 registered rams, born February and March 2002. 4 rams born in 2001. 10 yearling ewes. Mary Van Anrooy, Clinton Arkansas. 501-893-6158.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

KHSI MEMBER'S GUIDE

2002 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Sharon Schaefer, <s.schaefer@canada.com>, 306-675-4410, Saskatchewan

Vice-President: Linda Neunzig, <ninetyfarms@aol.com>, 360-435-9304, Washington

Treasurer: Robert Elliott, <rancherob@aol.com>, 979-567-9895, Texas

Secretary: Pam Armitage-Sword, <parmitagesword@hotmail.com>, 403-749-2434, Alberta

Director: Ed Martsolf, <ed.martsolf@mev.net>, 501-727-5659, Arkansas

Director: Donna Watkins, <dwatkins11@mindspring.com>, 309-365-5611, Illinois

Director: Sherrie Wiygul, <gswiygul@yahoo.com>, 662-773-2956, Mississippi

Honorary: Charles Brown, Piel Farm, <cwbiib@kynd.com>, 207-876-4430, Maine

Honorary: Donald Williams, (no phone), Pennsylvania

Honorary: Charles Parker, <cfparker@aglaia.net>, 614-459-9270, Ohio

KHSI REGISTRY:

Ed Martsolf; 1039 Winrock Drive; Morrilton, AR 72110

Phone and FAX: 501-727-5659; <ed.martsolf@mev.net>

Contact the Registry for the following:

-All questions about registration, recording, transferring, upgrading procedures

-Send the following to the Registry:

Completed membership and renewal applications, dues

Completed materials having to do with registering, transferring, recording

Katahdins (Animal Registration Forms, transfers, etc)

Office Hours (Central time): Monday through Friday 9 am- 5pm. Answering machine and FAX accessible 24 hours.

CLASSIFIED ADS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

SHEEP FOR SALE

Entire flock dispersal of 45 commercial Katahdin ewes: 35 three and four year olds, and 10 yearlings. Tough breeding stock. Bunk broke. Good feet. \$140/head. Tommy Ghrist, Murray, Iowa 641-763-2358 hillock@grm.net

Reputable Katahdin flock reduction, 200 mature commercial ewes, ready to breed, high quality, low maintenance, worm resistant, yearlings and up. 150 service age rams available. Radakovich Cattle Company, Earlham, IA, 515-834-2359, RCattleco@aol.com

**Your Ad Could
Have Been HERE**

SHEEP FOR SALE

Commercial Katahdin lambs for sale born in April and May of 2002 and a few older ones. Kathleen & Frank Mabry, Valley Falls, Kansas. 785-945-3581 or fmabry@grasshoppernet.com

Selling large commercial ewe flock. 180 mature ewes, yearlings and ewe lambs. Ewes can be sold open or bred for spring. Jim Klier, Wellington, Ohio. 440-647-2405 thekliers@juno.com

Ewes and ewelambs: 27 ewelambs, 18 yearling ewes from registered stock. 12 commercial ewelambs. Dick & Anita Franssen, Nebraska, 402-771-2150 or rfranssen@inebraska.com

SHEEP FOR SALE

Thirty Productive Registered Ewes (2-4 yrs. of age) with good hair coats imported from Canada for sale. Also have Ten Top rams lambs out of Goliath for sale. Rams selected from 110 total rams lambs. Contact Vaughn Johnson, Livingston, MT at pintoranch@mcn.net or 406-333-4555.

MISC. FOR SALE

Border collie puppy. Female, born June 6, 2002, champion lines, parents are working dogs. \$300. Nancy Spurlock. 530-968-5131.

**Next Ad deadline
December 1st**



KHSI
c/o Teresa Maurer & Jim Morgan
P. O. Box 778
Fayetteville, AR 72702-0778
479-444-8441