Welcome New Members
October 2006 through January 15, 2007

Juvencio & Octavio Contreras...........................................Aguascalientes, Mexico
Gerda Jacobsen ............................................................Alberta
Greg & Michele Shockley ............................................Arkansas
David E Davis ..............................................................Florida
Chuck & Lynn Pugh ......................................................Georgia
Jeff & Jan Poynter .........................................................Illinois
Pete Rehnberg ..............................................................Illinois
Nancy & Brad Dornbusch ..............................................Indiana
Kelly E Leedy ..............................................................Indiana
Karen Alnutt-Steelman & Al Steelman .........................Iowa
Brian & Amy Furnish .....................................................Kentucky
Marlene Marshall ..........................................................Kentucky
John & Doreen Simmons ..............................................Maine
Ernest & Nancy Barker .................................................Maine
Ginger Myers ..............................................................Maryland
Ronald & Star Schweiger .............................................Maryland
Janet & John Frey .........................................................Missouri
Lamar Zimmerman ........................................................Missouri
Aileen Scott .................................................................Montana
Brian & Jill Munger .......................................................Nebraska
Morgen S Magnuson .....................................................Nevada
Robert Carmany & Katherine Clark .............................New Hampshire
Jay & Kati Hennig ........................................................New York
Randy & Beth Sears ......................................................Ohio
Danny J & Raelena L Luquette .........................................Oklahoma
Gary Williams .............................................................Oklahoma
Maggie Chambers & Jim Strohecker .............................Pennsylvania
Caroline McMillen ........................................................Pennsylvania
Jimmy A Eubanks ........................................................Texas
Jerry Taylor & Eddie V Hodges .........................................Texas
Guy Kaipo Goodness ....................................................Washington
Valentine, Leon, Svetlana & Michael Yashchuk ...............Washington
Steve & Ruth Martin ....................................................West Virginia
Chris & Kathleen Tice ....................................................Wisconsin

Flora Receives McClure Silver Ram Award at 2007 ASI Convention

Editor's note. Guy Flora, editor of The Shepherd magazine and past-President of the American Sheep Industry (ASI) association has been a supporter and friend of Katahdin breeders. In recent years, he has published several informative articles by KHSI members in The Shepherd magazine, the leading sheep magazine in the USA. The following is an excerpt from the ASI convention program, provided by Barbara Pugh of North Carolina.

Guy Flora of Cardington, Ohio received the McClure Silver Ram Award. Guy Flora has been a tireless contributor to the Ohio and U.S. sheep industry for many years. His leadership is portrayed at both the local and state levels, including involvement on the Ohio Sheep Improvement Association Board of Directors and the Ohio Sheep and Wool Program Board. On a national level, Flora has served as secretary/treasurer, vice president and president of ASI. Flora continues to be an outstanding educator, mentor and shepherd in the American sheep industry, which has earned him numerous awards. In addition, his publication, The Shepherd Magazine, has been a respected source of industry-related information and source of sponsorship for various events for over 20 years. Flora contributes to not only the sheep industry but has also been influential in his community, teaching high school English for 30 years prior to his retirement and coaching track and field and cross country.
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Cover: “Rosita in Snow” photographed by Cathy Stahman of Iowa, awarded First Place - Open in the KHSI 2006 Photo Contest; Pictured Above: “Lamb Lamb Goes to School” photographed by Karen Kenagy of Oregon, awarded Second Place - Kids & Sheep in the 2006 KHSI Photo Contest
By David Coplen, KHSI Board President

I hope that all of you are having, or preparing to have, a successful lambing. I’m writing this having just come in from the barn where two more ewes have twinned. Those two ewes will set the stage for this meditation on the tremendous year that KHSI has just completed. One of the ewes, a coming two year old, is a pureblooded Katahdin who traces directly back to the Heifer Project. The other, a coming six year old, is a Texel upgrade.

During calendar year 2006, KHSI registered almost 5,000 sheep (4,935) and recorded more than 1,000 (1,052). It speaks to the ongoing vitality of our breed that almost eighteen percent of the total sheep registered and recorded were not pureblooded Katahdins. This ability and willingness to reach out and grab worthwhile genetics from other breeds is one of the Katahdin’s greatest strengths.

Another strength is the membership who are registering and recording sheep. Unlike some other breeds, where a handful of large breeders dominate the registration numbers, Katahdins have a large number of flocks contributing to our genetic diversity. I’d like to publicly recognize those breeders who registered or recorded the most sheep during 2006 and reflect on what those numbers mean.

RoJo Ranch, the Elliott’s operation in Texas, registered 212 Katahdins last year; as our largest registrant, RoJo accounted for only four percent of all the registrations. Cloud Farm Katahdins, the Cloud’s operation in Missouri, and Mt. View Farm, the Cheatham/Dalton operation in Tennessee, registered 119 and 118 sheep respectively. These two next largest registrants each accounted for only two percent of all the registrations.

In other words, ninety-two percent of all the registrations done last year were not done by the three largest registrants. I want to thank the Elliotts, the Clouds, and the Cheatham/Daltons but I really want to thank the membership for an impressive display of registrations from large flocks as well as small. When that many flocks are producing that many sheep worthy of registration it is a comment on the quality throughout the breed.

Recordations tell a similar story. Our leading recorder was the McClintock flock in Arkansas. Their 153 recordations accounted for more than 14 percent of the total. The next largest number was recorded by Choctaw Valley Ranch, the Morgan/Wright flock in Oklahoma, with 51, or almost five percent. The other eighty percent of recordations are scattered throughout other KHSI flocks. Good luck to all of you who are trying to capture good genetics. The breed will benefit from your efforts.

Speaking of good genetics, be sure to read John Bare’s article in this issue. John has a very interesting take on single trait selection pressure and what it can do to quality.

I hope that many of you have already made plans to come to North Dakota State for the 22nd annual meeting in September. If you don’t think that you can make it, read the wonderful program that Wes Limesand has put together for us and change your mind. There is so much to do and see that we have had to expand the meeting. Instead of just meeting on Friday, we will be meeting on Thursday and Friday, with the sale on Saturday morning. Don’t miss this one if you can help it.

Here is to the start of another great year for KHSI. May all your births be multiples, healthy and unassisted.
Historic EPD for Parasite Resistance Developed for Katahdins

By David Notter*, James Morgan† and Bindu Vanimisetti*, †Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences at Virginia Tech University, †-Katahdin Hair Sheep International

Editor’s Note – A similar version of this article was published in the February, 2007 issue of "The Shepherd" Magazine.

The ability of sheep to resist parasites is highly heritable, and rapid improvement is now possible with a new EPD developed by scientists with the help of Katahdin breeders. The new Fecal Egg Count EPD will help participating Katahdin flocks enrolled in the National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) to select for more resistant sheep and to sell breeding stock—especially rams—that will pass on parasite resistance efficiently to other flocks.

From 2003–2005, the breeders submitted fecal samples for laboratory analysis of parasite egg counts from more than 850 lambs, which were sired by a total of 26 different rams. Differences among the Katahdin sires in breeding value for fecal egg count (FEC) were clearly expressed in their lambs. Rams with greater resistance to parasites passed along greater resistance to their offspring.

“This is another first for the Katahdin breed—and for the sheep industry,” said Jim Morgan, data coordinator for the Katahdin NSIP flocks. “Parasites cause shepherds heavy losses and lowered production, especially among lambs. The new EPD will enable us to make rapid genetic progress in enhancing our breed’s economic value and easy care status.”

In addition, the study showed that heritability of FEC in Katahdins is at least equal to, and may be considerably larger, than that reported in other breeds. Katahdin sheep are superior already to most wool sheep in resistance to internal parasites such as the barberpole worm, Haemonchus contortus, and this resistance is one of the reasons for the increasing popularity of the breed.

Past research at Virginia Tech has shown that Katahdin lambs are superior to both Dorset and Dorper crossbred lambs but inferior to St. Croix x Barbados Blackbelly hair sheep lambs in parasite resistance, a result that is consistent with Katahdins’ origin from crosses of U.S. wool and Caribbean hair types.

Selective breeding for parasite resistance in Merino sheep in Australia and Romney sheep in New Zealand has shown that resistance to internal parasites is under genetic control and led to development of highly resistant strains of these breeds.

However, Australian scientists estimate that a decade or more of selection in a susceptible breed is required before parasite resistance can be increased enough to allow a measurable reduction in frequency of deworming.

The initial high levels of parasite resistance in Katahdins, and the potential to further increase resistance, are thus significant assets for the breed. In particular, use of parasite-resistant Katahdin sheep in holistic parasite management programs involving FAMACHA scoring, strategic deworming, and novel anthelmintics such as copper filings and tannin-rich forages has potential to aid in control of internal parasites.

Fecal egg counts measure the numbers of worm eggs in fecal samples and provide an indication of the numbers of worms in the gut. Fecal egg counts are accepted worldwide as an indicator of parasite resistance, and the expanding participation of Katahdin flocks in the NSIP has provided opportunity to collect and process FEC data in an efficient manner.

Six NSIP Katahdin breeders began measuring fecal egg counts on lambs in 2003 in order to develop a FEC EPD. Participating flocks produced lambs from at least two sires in each year and were asked to monitor FEC on at least 10 lambs per sire. A few breeders also collected two fecal samples from each lamb in late summer, one week apart, to assess consistency in fecal egg counts from the same animal in the same infection cycle. By 2005, data were available on over 850 Katahdin lambs.

Fecal egg counts were measured at two different times:

- early in life, at approximately 8 weeks of age, before (or at the time of) first deworming. This measurement was designed to assess the extent of innate genetic differences in resistance.
- late in the grazing season, generally in late summer when lambs were at least 17 weeks of age and the risk of infection was often high. At this age, lambs have normally been exposed to parasites for several months and the immune system has had time to develop capacity to respond to infection.

Most previous studies of parasite resistance in sheep have used measurements taken at or after 17 weeks of age and have yielded unequivocal evidence for genetic differences in FEC. In the Katahdin study, deworming of lambs was required before the late-season measurement, in order to standardize parasite loads among lambs, with fecal samples collected four to six weeks after deworming. The average age at measurement was approximately 22 weeks.

Strong evidence for genetic control of FEC was obtained at both eight and 22 weeks, with large and significant sire effects observed at both times. Sire differences were generally consistent across years, flocks, and measurement times. For example, Figure 1 shows progeny mean [average] FEC at 22 weeks for a pair of rams compared to one another in two different flocks. Performance was quite CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
consistent, with higher progeny FEC for sire 2 in both flocks.

At 22 weeks of age, two measures of FEC, taken approximately one week apart, were available for 110 lambs from three flocks. The correlation between the two measures was 0.68, demonstrating good agreement between repeated measures of FEC taken at a similar age and in the same infection cycle. This association is adequate for genetic evaluation, especially if records on related animals are included in the evaluation, as they are in NSIP. In such a situation, records on relatives, rather than additional measurements on the same animal, are used to improve the accuracy of evaluation.

Another important issue is the consistency of FECs taken at eight weeks, when animals may have had limited prior exposure to worms, and at 22 weeks, when the immune system has had more time to develop. In this study, 109 lambs from two flocks had FEC measurements at both ages. All lambs were dewormed and reinfected between the eight- and 22-week measurements. The correlation between FEC at these two ages was 0.43, lower than that between measurements taken at a similar age and in the same infection cycle, but still positive, substantial, and significant.

These results suggest that eight- and 22-week FECs provide generally consistent information and that selection to change one should result in corresponding changes in the other. Sire means for rams with progeny measured at both times were quite consistent (Figure 2).

Sire 1 in flock 1 had the highest FEC at both ages and in both years. In 2004, sire means for eight- and 22-week FEC in flock 1 were remarkably consistent; the four sires had exactly the same ranking at both ages. In flock 2, the two rams evaluated in 2003 were not particularly consistent across ages, but in 2004, Sire 7 consistently had the highest progeny mean FEC. These results suggest that, at the levels of infection observed in this study, eight-week FEC was a consistent predictor of

is important because it provides information about the number of measurements needed to accurately assess the “true” parasite resistance of an individual lamb.

If the correlation is very high (for example, greater than 0.8), then repeated measures of FEC are expected to be relatively consistent, and there is limited value in taking more measurements. If the correlation is low (for example, less than 0.5), it means that a single measure of FEC is liable to random measurement error and that the accuracy of evaluation can be improved by taking more samples.

Most studies have shown that two or three FEC determinations on the same lamb would provide a very accurate assessment of resistance. Australia’s program for on-farm recording of FEC requires only a single measurement.

Our results support the Australian model and indicate that a single measurement of FEC on each lamb infection cycle, but still positive, substantial, and significant.

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future resistance.

FEC EPDs at 22 weeks of age are shown in Figure 3 for the 26 sires evaluated in the study. Heritability estimates for FEC were 0.48 at 8 weeks at 0.54 at 22 weeks. These values were reduced to 0.45 at both times in the final analysis to be more consistent with previously reported values.

These heritabilities for FEC in Katahdin sheep were considerably higher than the common literature estimates of 0.2 to 0.3 in wool breeds and are nearly three times larger than the heritability of weaning weight. The genetic correlation between measurements of FEC taken at eight and 22 weeks was 0.50, indicating a positive genetic association between them. Thus rapid improvement in FEC appears possible.

Sire EPDs in Figure 3 are adjusted to a mean flock FEC of 2,000 eggs per gram (epg) and are ordered from left to right by increasing EPD. The range in 22-week FEC EPD is approximately 3,000 epg, suggesting that at a mean FEC of 2,000 epg, the best sire would have progeny with an average of approximately 500 epg (i.e., an FEC EPD of -1,500). The poorest sire would have progeny with an average FEC of approximately 3,500 epg (a FEC EPD of +1,500).

Even if the one ram in Figure 3 with a very high FEC EPD is removed, the remaining rams still have FEC EPDs that range over ±500 epg. At lower levels of infection and lower flock mean FEC, predicted progeny differences would be smaller, but relative differences among sire are expected to still be expressed.

Collecting more than one fecal sample per lamb would allow some improvement in accuracy, but a single FEC measurement is adequate to calculate EPDs, especially in a system like NSIP.

Because sire effects on

**Figure 3. FEC EPDs for 26 Katahdin sires at 22 weeks of age. EPDs are ranked from lowest to highest.**
HISTORIC EPD DEVELOPED, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

this study.

In conclusion, the study clearly shows that genetic improvement in parasite resistance can be achieved in Katahdin sheep and that a single FEC determination at a point in time when lambs have relatively high mean FEC (≥ 1,000 eggs/gram by the McMaster test) can be used to derive EPDs for sires, dams, and lambs.

Development of a Katahdin FEC EPD is still a work in progress and will require some modification as more data accumulate, but results of this study provide strong evidence for the value of FEC EPDs.

By Leroy H. Boyd

Observation on 4-H Lamb Projects from a Judge’s Perspective

Editor’s Note- John Stromquist, KHSI Board Member recommended this article for our membership.

To my knowledge there is no clear record of when and where the first 4-H sheep show was held. We can be more certain about why such an event was planned and supported. The original primary objective of youth sheep shows was to encourage farm youth to produce better sheep and to reward those who did. The secondary objective was to develop these youth into future agriculture leaders. Efficiency in production agriculture was responsible for the reversal of the priorities in youth sheep shows. Decades ago exhibiting the county Grand Champion was the ultimate achievement. Sheep shows are now and should never be designed to make sheep herders of everyone who participates. Yes, the sheep industry has a continuing need for capable, qualified, motivated, and committed leaders but so does every other viable industry. Now the development of the youth as an individual is considered more important than the Grand Champion ribbon, banner or trophy. However, competition remains keen and there is no record of anyone declining to accept the high award.

Youth sheep shows are but one of many worthwhile programs designed to develop children into disciplined, positive, motivated, and competitive young adults who can make decisions, turn failure into success, and understand achievement comes in many forms. They learn how to function in our world. While many youth show sheep they also participate in other youth development programs such as scouting, athletics, choir, piano, dancing, and band. Do parents support their children in these non-sheep programs so they can turn a profit on the money spent? No. They invest in their children’s development. Youth sheep shows just don’t happen and participation is voluntary. Many dedicated people become involved before the show is a success. The Judge is just one.

My initial sheep show judging assignment came in 1956 at the Garfield County Fair at Enid, OK. The 400 sheep were shown in 4-H or FFA and then in Open. We were two university seniors on our first assignment. Our financial reward was $30.00 each. Tuition was $88.00 per semester. After graduation, my judging partner became a career Air Force Officer. Today, I am here to present a judge’s views of 4-H sheep projects. To share my views, it is necessary to share other judging experiences.

In over four decades, invitations to judge have been received and accepted from shows in twenty-seven states. These judging invitations have been for youth and open sheep shows at all levels of competition. The smallest number of entries was three and the most was a thousand and sixty-six. Judging these shows has been an enjoyable yet serious responsibility. Each judge has a style, procedure and philosophy.

PRESENTED DECEMBER 1-2, 1989, HOOSIER SHEEP INDUSTRY SYMPOSIUM, INDIANAPOLIS

EDITED 10-04-06 LHB

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My working dictionary definition of a judge is, “One who has knowledge sufficient to decide on the merits of a question.” There must be a legitimate reason for making a decision. My invitations have never been to judge people. Once a man approached me after the champions were selected and told me the boy showing the champion was undeserving because of some undesirable things his father had done. My philosophy was shared with this man. Children have no choice as to who their parents are and sheep have no choice as to their owner. I just evaluate the sheep and place them according to their merits. Age and sex of exhibitor and color of lamb is not considered when selecting an overall champion. A judge can only evaluate those animals which are shown. What we are looking for may not be present.

Judging youth sheep shows has taught me several things.

1. You can have a lot of fun with the junior exhibitors but when they have questions you must be serious and straight. They know the difference. These moments are educational opportunities. Don’t waste them.

2. Kids can be crafty. You must have self confidence but do not brag on your ability as a judge. Several years ago two young men stopped me at a
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Git-Her-Dun • 140 lbs. 174 days

Block-Bust-R • 144 lbs. 174 days

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Registered Katahdin sheep

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Youth are our national treasure. They are our future. Enjoy them. Educate them.  

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9
Judge’s Perspective, continued from page 8

Love them. Challenge them. Reward them. Discipline them. Let them set goals. Help them attain their goals. Let them fall. Catch them on first bounce. Let them soar. Let them be them. It is my belief we are committed to spending a certain amount of time with our children. Insure this time is enjoyable and productive. Let it be a sheep show. You will not have control on your children until you can turn them loose. Take your children seriously. Two personal examples comes to mind. En route to our sale of champions one year Susanne told us she had dreamed the Governor was going to purchase her lamb. He did. A few years later on a hot and humid afternoon, Diane had been out working with her lambs. After getting cleaned up and refreshed she said, “If we get those two lambs ready, they could be awesome at the state fair.” They were Grand and Reserve Champion market lambs. We can do much to insure that our children have a positive attitude. The objective is not to beat a certain person or family but to do the best with what they have. The 4-H motto is something about making the best better.

14. While a lamb is an instrument used to develop our youth, we should always strive to objectively improve the genetic qualities of our national flock. Encouraging the development and then adopting new technology does enable us to be more objective in evaluating sheep. These efforts should be sustained.

15. Our sheep shows are imperfect. We live in an imperfect world. Rules are made for people by people. Sheep do not break rules. Be responsible. Strive to make improvement. Our children are worth the investment.

16. There is uniformity in the judging of breeding classes. The national and perennial question is, “Would the champion breeding stock produce the champion market lamb?” More recently the question is, “do we have breeds or just types?” Unlike other nations, we market considerable quantities of grain through our livestock. Not all sheep have to make a living from forage. If our sheep had to make a living from the forage they consumed, we would have a significant reduction in numbers of sheep shows and sheep shown. Under these circumstances, the champion breeding stock would produce the champion market lamb. There would still be large, medium and small sized sheep. The climate and quantity and quality of forage produced in a region would dictate growth rate and mature size. Often the lambs in the younger age classes are the largest in size. If you computed weight per day of age on these lambs, the computer would blow a fuse. Lambs should be born on their birthday.

17. There is more variation in the market lamb shows. Some shows are considered very objective. There are terminal shows in which carcass data is available on all lambs. While we congratulate the shows where carcass data is obtained, we should not condemn others. If the facilities were accessible, there would be more carcass data available on lambs shown. Do not put all your faith in a carcass show. We could not profitably mass produce the lambs which win some carcass contests. Most carcass shows favor a lamb which weighs 100-105 pounds, is short but deep in the loin and short and thick in the rump. Associating loin eye area (LEA) to live weight is perhaps our best live show measurement. There are limitations. The relationship of loin eye area to body weight is not a straight line. It is easier to get a 2.5 LEA on a 100 pound lamb than to get a 3.0 LEA on a 125 pound lamb. Lambs are genetically programmed to mature at different rates and weights. We can enhance or delay this process some with regulation of nutrient intake. If the feed intake is limited on show sheep, we call the practice holding. If the practice is done on the farm, ranch, or in the feedlot, we have a planned marketing program. Packers do not desire to purchase or slaughter drawn out stale show lambs. Try eating one and the answer will be perfectly clear. A major packer once told me he could not use the lamb which placed first in the 125 pound class. The lamb was drawn and stale. He asked, “Why did you put the lamb up?” He did not like any of the other lambs in the class and he said so. He did agree that he could use a train load of lambs like the first placed animal if they were marketed when they were fresh. Show dates are set without consideration of the genetic code of the lamb. Select the show you most desire to win and get the lamb ready for that day. Removing the upper weight limit has helped remove many of the skeletons and stale lambs from the show. The competitive weights for market lambs are from 110 to 130 pounds.

18. Chemical interference in market lambs is an open invitation to litigation for cruelty to animals and violation of the wholesome meat act. Some states and shows have placed major emphasis on testing to remove contaminated animals and those people responsible for such practices. More power to them. Extreme forced exercise of lambs should be voided. Judges must be responsible for selecting lambs which have a natural feel when handled.

19. Showmanship should be specifically designed for 8-10 year old children. We are guilty of being an adult while attempting to teach the youngsters how to show their lamb. There should at least be a special class for the youngest age group allowed to show. These youngsters should be able to compete effectively in the show ring. When participation is sufficient, it is great to see a showmanship class for 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 year-old and older children. Once it was necessary to stop the judging of showmanship so a mother could present the birth certificate for her twelve year old son. He had a full beard. If there is a separate judge, showmanship can be conducted while live animal evaluation is taking place. Continued on page 11
White Post Farm
A Significant Difference

Winter in Northern Illinois and it’s snowing. The temperature is 15° and it was -5° last night.

Our Katahdins are tough -- the cold of winter or the heat of summer
We expect wonders from them
And They Deliver

Our ewes are bred by Stretch, Top Choice SWP 06-135, and Money Maker SWP 06-188

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✓ out our EPDs

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Please visit our new website www.stromquist-katahdins.com

member NSIP & Volunteer Scrapie Program
If the exhibitors are released immediately after they finish showing, then have showmanship first. Otherwise showmanship could follow live animal evaluation. Some shows have and enforce a strict dress code. The degree to which exhibitors follow the dress code must be considered when judging showmanship. The greatest applause I ever received was at a show which enforced their coat and tie rule. In my discussion, I informed all present not even a tenth of a point had been deducted for the way all the exhibitors were dressed. They were immaculate. The temperature was +114 F. In my opinion, all exhibitors should stay on the left side of the sheep at all times. Jumping back and forth in front of their sheep is a very poor form of exercise and control of animals. If the exhibitors need exercise, have them walk around the house between telephone calls. There are separate contests for gymnastics. Ninety percent of our population is right handed and staying on the left side is a natural for them. We lefties become ambidextrous. Judges and ring stewards are responsible for turning the class correctly. My toes have been stepped on enough times to make me aware of the need to improve the way sheep are shown. I would be the first to say that some showing procedures have no positive end results. For me a lamb handles best when the head is held up and slightly back of center yet in a straight line with the body. The lamb should be stretched only slightly. To accomplish this, the left arm is placed under the head by short exhibitors and the hand over the head and back under the jaw by taller exhibitors. Place your right hand on the lamb’s brisket and lift slightly and push back. When bracing with the right arm, you can rest on and receive assistance from the right knee. To stay balanced, the exhibitor stands on the balls of their feet. There is a most desirable width for the back legs and it will be necessary for someone to handle the braced lamb to determine the best position. The youngster will have to work with the lamb to get them to brace. Stand up, hold the head in your left hand and face the lamb when setting the feet, if possible leave the right rear alone for it is hard to reach. If the right rear has to be moved, reach over the top and grasp in the rear flank. Set the left rear foot next. Reach over and place the right front, lean against the lamb to make them put weight on the foot. Change hands on the head and place the left front leg with your left hand. You can pull the lamb to you to get them to stand square and can keep the lamb from going forward. If the lamb attempts to jump, just push the head back. Sheep should be shown with all four feet on the ground. Show kangaroos if you insist on showing an animal with their front feet off the ground. With the feet set, face the lamb and hold with your left hand. Exhibitors should sit down on the side view. On the side view, the front legs of the lamb should be in line with the middle of the exhibitor’s body. On the side view, the youngster can take their thumb and push straight up just behind the sternum. By pushing straight up, the top and rump will level out. This system was developed and shared with others when Susanne was nine and in her first year of showing sheep. Competition is keen in every state and your showmanship will make a difference. However, a judge must work through all the variation in showmanship when evaluating the sheep.

There is ample evidence when there is an opportunity we incorporate new technology so more objective measures can be made when selecting breeding stock or slaughter lambs. There will be a continuous need for visual appraisal and common sense. Sheep are malleable and possess the genetic capability for change when selection pressure is applied. We must apply the correct pressure. There is a need for more technology. Those who seek additional education must be informed. People will remain a challenge. There is a tremendous resource pool of youth who have or are now showing sheep. Some of them have special personal challenges and limitations of which you may not be aware. They do not expect special favors and ask only for a sincere opportunity. These youth and their very supportive parents are an inspiration to me and to many others. What great display of love can there be than when in the center of the show ring, the mother, father, and child are standing embraced and shedding tears of joy over the Grand Champion. This was the first Grand Champion shown by their young adult who was competing in their very last show. For another youth, a third place in class and showmanship and two engraved ball point pens marked the turning point in life. A book could be written about our sheep showing youth and their many achievements and contributions. As a judge, I am interested in the development of the youth, performance of the breeding champions, and cut ability of market lambs. As a judge, I must be responsible and prepared to judge the show. Participation in a youth project is very similar to using a computer. If we, judges, exhibitors, parents, guardians, and show management, decide to put trash in, we get trash out. The decision is ours.
KHSI 2007 SANCTIONED SALE REQUIREMENTS
September 22, 2007 Fargo, North Dakota

Requirements to enter the 2007 KHSI Sanctioned Sale are listed below. Animals will sell on September 22nd. More information on the sale will be provided in the Spring Hairald to be published in May. The consignment forms will be available at the KHSI website, www.khsi.org or from KHSI Operations in late June. If you have any questions, contact Jim Morgan in the KHSI Operations Office, 479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net

- KHSI registered Katahdins are eligible. Members can also consign 87.5% ewe lambs.
- Sale animals must not be docked or clipped.
- Accurate recording of date of birth, type of birth (1–2–3–4), and type of rearing (0–1–2–3–4 measured at 30 days of age), must be provided for each animal.
- Dam production records are required (number lambs born/reared each year of production).
- 60–day weights are required (taken on or around 60 days of age; 45–90 days of age, but prior to weaning). The date at which this weighing is done needs to be recorded.
- Birth weights and 120 day weights are optional, but are highly recommended.
- Consignment Fee of $20. Maximum of 2 animals/class. Classes include: Rams & Ewes for the following ages. Yearlings (9/1/05–8/31/06), Fall (9/1/06 – 12/31/06), Jan 1–Feb 15 born, Feb 15–Mar 31 born, April 1 and after
- Interstate Health Certificates (B. ovis tests for rams) and Mandatory or Scrapie Flock Certification Program Tags are required.

KHSI Operation knows of two trailers that will be transporting sheep to and from Fargo. Breeders and buyers can arrange to connect with these trailers and move their sheep. We will keep KHSI members apprised of more transportation options. Contact Ron Young (419–495–2993) for transportation from Ohio or Wes Limesand (701–356–3295) who will be coordinating transportation from Missouri. If other sellers or buyers would like to share costs or provide transportation, contact Jim Morgan (479–444–8441) or Wes Limesand (701–356–3295).

Brokaw Farms strives to produce quality, good milking ewes and superior rams built up to our finest breeding specifications.

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Lee Brokaw
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Lambs available from several genetic lines
Winter 2007 Hairald Calendar

KHSI periodically posts information on sheep sales and sheep events as a public 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 sheep instead of using visual appraisal typical of most shows, sales, and auctions. Sales and events posted are not sanctioned by KHSI unless otherwise noted. Contact the KHSI Operations Office to ask for your event or sale to be posted. 479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net

January 2007. KHSI Membership Dues are due at the KHSI Registry. 777 Winrock Drive, Morrilton, AR 72110. If you haven’t renewed, please do so to remain on our membership list. KHSI Operations will be updating the online membership list in early March.

May 15, 2007. KHSI hair coat inspection request deadline. If you have animals that need a hair coat inspection, contact KHSI Operations by May 15th date for guaranteed 2007 inspection. 479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net. Requests received after 5/15 can usually be accommodated.


June 1-2, 2007**. South Central Katahdin Association Annual Meeting in Scott, Louisiana (near Lafayette) at Gabrielle and Tommy Bodin’s farm.

June 26, 2007. Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association Annual Meeting. Sedalia, Missouri (more details to follow in the Spring Hairald). Tentative schedule. Dinner will be at 6 PM with meeting to follow.


August 8, 2007. Center Of The Nation NSIP Sale. 1:00 pm Sat at Clay City Fairgrounds, Spencer, Iowa. Sale includes Katahdins and other breeds that receive EPDs (expected progeny differences) from the National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP). More information available at www.nsip.org or by calling Jim Morgan at 479-444-6075. The morning will start with educational workshops organized by Dennis Dewitt of Iowa State University.

September 20-22, 2007**. KHSI Annual Expo. Event held in Fargo, North Dakota and hosted by North Dakota State University. Facilities and educational events are excellent.

September 22, 2007**. KHSI Annual Expo Sale. Fargo, ND. Sale is sanctioned by KHSI. Catalog available in mid-August. Performance Information required for sale animals.

October 13, 2007. Sheep and Goat Field Day. USDA-ARS Small Farm Research Center in Booneville, Arkansas is hosting. Dr Joan Burke uses Katahdins in her research projects.

November 25-December 2, 2007**. South Central Katahdin Association 2007 Western Caribbean Cruise & Vacation. See article in this issue of the Hairald or chat with Mark Dennis, 337-364-0422

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

Come to the 8th World Sheep and Wool Congress in Queretaro, Mexico

By Javier Lara, DVM – KHSI Member

Editor’s Notes: Several KHSI members are planning to attend, including John & Marian Stromquist, Mark & Sara Dennis, David & Nancy Maddox and Jim Morgan. Hotel, registration information and schedule are available at www.worldsheep.com. We recommend making your plane reservations early.

On behalf of the Committee for the 8th Sheep and Wool Congress, we invite all the Katahdin breeders from the KHSI to attend our activities during this world class event the last week of July (23rd to 29th). The Congress will include two days of conferences with speakers from the US, Mexico, Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Spain speaking on topics that include genetics, nutrition, wool production and dairy sheep production. The associated trade show will have the full range of sheep equipment and sheep-associated enterprises including but not limited to handling facilities, supplies, veterinary laboratories and products, export enterprises, wool products and meat processing equipment and companies. The conference is an excellent opportunity to share with shepherds from around the world. You can be sure that there is much that we can learn from them as well as what KHSI members have to offer. Many countries will also be interested in Katahdin sheep as well. This is a unique opportunity to be able to view sheep equipment and talk to shepherds from around the world. There will be a sheep show with hair, meat and wool sheep. Come and enjoy the Mexican hospitality in one of the most beautiful colonial cities in Mexico, QUERETARO.
Photos Needed!

By Ron Young,
Katahdin Evaluation Guidelines Committee

Editor’s Note – Both the Breed Improvement Committee (see Fall 2006 Hairald) and the Katahdin Evaluation Guidelines Committee need photos to help educate breeders on structurally sound sheep. We look forward to your help.

The Katahdin Evaluation Guidelines Committee is preparing to update the Breed Standard. The committee is looking for photographs of Katahdins, rams or ewes, in the following categories: full side view, full front view, full rear view and head views. They could also use some photos of animals with minor or major faults and or abnormalities.

The owners of the photos will not be identified, nor will submissions be returned. Photos will be used at the discretion of the committee. Email your digital photos to buckeyea@metalink.net or mail a hard copy to Ron Young, Buckeye Acres Genetics, 12282 Harrison-Willshire Rd., Van Wert, OH 45891.

Coordinating Movement of Sheep to/from the KHSI Expo Sale in Fargo, North Dakota

Selling and buying sheep at the September KHSI Expo sale is an excellent means of promoting your flock, receiving national exposure or buying your next stud ram or superior ewes. KHSI Operations knows of two trailers that will be transporting sheep to and from Fargo. Breeders and buyers can arrange to connect with these trailers and move their sheep. We will keep KHSI members apprised of more transportation options. Contact Ron Young (419-495-2993) for transportation from Ohio or Wes Limesand (701-356-3295) who will be coordinating transportation from Missouri. If other sellers or buyers would like to share costs or provide transportation, contact Jim Morgan (479-444-8441) or Wes Limesand.

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DOSCH KATAHDINS
These graduates are ready to leave home. Some will go to college, but most are ready to find jobs and go to work for you.

**Lambs sired by Sampson, New Design, Payday, and Stacked.**

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**NDSU Animal Science Department**

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Wes Limesand, Flock Manager · Sheep barn (701) 356-3295
sheepbrn@ndsuext.nodak.edu
Bert Moore · Office (701) 231-7651
“Does Q stand for Quality?”

By John Bare, DVM Missouri

As a Veterinary Medical Officer with the USDA, one of the most challenging and least desirable parts of my job is removing scrapie susceptible sheep (usually QQ sheep) from scrapie infected flocks. Although it is incredible that we are able to remove scrapie from a flock in as little as two or three weeks while leaving the majority of sheep (QR and RR sheep) in place, it can be an especially stressful situation for the owners.

More than once, when going over the genotype results for their flock, infected flock owners have lamented that some of their best sheep came up QQ. While good ewes are certainly present in the RR and QR genotypes owners will retain, it is easy to focus on the QQ ewes that are potentially infected. Although the genetic based scrapie flock plans are a far better alternative to the old days (before my time) when entire flocks were removed, having to part with scrapie infected or potentially infected susceptible sheep is a situation I would never wish on anyone.

Even though the USDA pays compensation quite well for scrapie exposed QQ sheep (far better than most QQ breeding stock currently sells for), to lose such a chunk of valuable genetic potential in one fell swoop is mind boggling, but what is more mind boggling are the people who are wasting the exact same genetic potential not because they have to, but because they choose to.

While removing susceptible sheep from scrapie infected flocks may not be an enjoyable part of my USDA job, as a four plus generation sheep producer (my other job) getting out and just “talking sheep” with other producers is by far the best part. Many of my visits involve tracing scrapie exposed sheep and generally end well, with the traced animal found not to be a scrapie transmission risk to the producers flock. In fact nothing warms my heart more than finding out the sheep in question is resistant to the scrapie type being traced, as it makes everything much more pleasant for everyone.

Unfortunately during these visits and others, I have started to notice something that does anything but warm my heart. With the availability of private genotyping of sheep, many producers have implemented their own Q gene extermination plans. As a result, I have been seeing a number of RR sheep being retained that are not as high quality as the QQ and even QR sheep being culled. Many of these RR sheep are excellent, but more are just “OK” and a few look like an orangutan swam a couple laps in their gene pool. At the same time, some producers are noticing remaining QQ and QR sheep are beginning to appear superior to RR sheep. Does Q stand for quality? What the heck is going on here?

What’s “going on here” is an observable decrease in the quality of overall characteristics due to incredibly intensive selection for a single characteristic. Other species and breeds have fallen into this trap many times before. Perhaps the best example can be found in many of the dairy cattle breeds. Prior to widespread use of artificial insemination, cow improvement occurred relatively slowly creating an animal that was more balanced regarding other important characteristics such as conformation, reproduction, and longevity.

When AI became available, rather than use a wide base of balanced bulls producers used a small handful of bulls selected almost exclusively for pounds of milk produced per cow. The result was a near disaster; as the gene pool dramatically shrank milk production did increase, but it became contingent on if her legs didn’t go out, if you could get her bred and rebred, and if you could keep her alive. In a couple of breeds, rare life-threatening genetic disorders even became common.

Things have changed since then and broader selection criteria are used, but a great deal of damage has been done to the point where some crossbreeding plans are being used in many herds, and some breeds have even opened their herd books to crossbreds. The blind pursuit of one characteristic led to the near complete loss of other characteristics vital to the end goal.

It doesn’t matter if your goals are selecting your sheep for milk, meat, wool, hair coat, hoof color, coat color, eye color, or singing voice; over selection for one characteristic, such as scrapie resistance, will at best delay your other goals and at worst make them unachievable.

This brings us back to the title of the article, “Does Q stand for Quality?” Thus far I have not seen any compelling research that would indicate sheep being QR or QQ at codon 171 have any advantage or disadvantage regarding productivity. It appears to only be involved with scrapie resistance.

So why does it seem like many QQ and QR sheep are superior to RR sheep? It is because QQ and QR sheep are being selected by a stricter set of criteria than RR sheep. For an example, say a producer decides to make their flock resistant to scrapie, so they start genotyping. They find their ewe flock and lamb crop are about 25% RR, 50% QR, and 25% QQ. Some producers at this point may sell all their QQ sheep and a few might even sell all their QR sheep. If they sell all their QQ sheep they would eliminate 25% of their genetic base and if they sell their QR sheep they would eliminate 75%.

Talk about a shrinking gene pool! Since they need to replace the culled QQ and QR sheep, nearly all RR sheep are retained regardless of quality. Naturally they want

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17
to use an RR ram so they go to a flock that has done the same thing and pick up a ram that is also potentially of decreased quality. As a result the average quality of the flock is significantly decreased in just one year.

Expand this trend to the entire breed and we are quickly heading down the path of dairy cattle. Now not everyone would be so drastic, but would still move in the same direction. Many instead would retain most of their RR sheep including some sheep they normally may have culled, and retain QR and QQ sheep of the highest quality, culling some sheep they normally would have kept. Thus you can see how QR and QQ sheep would start to appear as superior in such a flock (or breed) since only the very best of their kind are being retained. The Q becomes an inadvertent marker of increased quality even though it directly causes no benefit.

The key to avoiding the over selection trap is to go slowly and select your sheep on a set of balanced criteria of which scrapie resistance is one. I AM IN NO WAY SUGGESTING PRODUCERS BREED FOR QQ SHEEP! The exact same over selection problem will happen if one breeds for QQ, except the flock will be more susceptible to scrapie. (Nor am I suggesting that producers who believe their flock may be infected with or at high risk for scrapie shouldn’t move toward a QR and RR flock.)

A better strategy is to minimize the number of scrapie susceptible sheep in your flock with careful breeding to keep your QQ percentage below 25%. A person can think of many ways to accomplish this. Have some great QQ ewes? Don’t cull them just breed them to the best RR ram you can find. Have a lot of RR ewes? Breed them to an exceptional (and probably very affordable) QQ ram.

Both of these scenarios will result in 100% QR offspring so you don’t have to shell out one dime in genotyping money. Using a QR ram on RR and QR ewes will produce a majority of RR and QR offspring with a smaller number of QQ sheep. This will keep your scrapie susceptibility low, but you may need to do some genotyping. When selecting from your lamb crop, select the sheep you intend to keep or sell as breeding stock, then genotype only those individuals to determine how they need to be mated to minimize scrapie susceptibility. The un-genotyped animals can be sent to slaughter. (No matter what anyone tells you, not all of the sheep produced in your flock will be breeding stock quality, regardless of genotype.)

This does carry the risk that if scrapie is traced into or out of your flock you may have to cull your QQ sheep to be clear of infection, but it gives you years to spread...
their other valuable genetic material across the flock through QR offspring which will stay. Don’t forget that culling QQ and QR sheep is what a lot of people have been doing already, even though they don’t have to. It is a bit like peeling off your skin to eliminate the risk of skin cancer; it will work, but there are a couple complications with the strategy.

Producers also need to keep in mind that the Scrapie Eradication program is working and each year fewer new scrapie infected flocks are found. About 40% fewer infected flocks were found in 2006 than in 2005, and this trend is expected to continue until scrapie is eradicated from the US. This means that with each passing year, the risk of your flock contracting scrapie is less and one day, when scrapie is eradicated, genotyping will be irrelevant. When that day comes will we long for some of the sheep culled in the past because they were QQ?

Every year since about 8,000 BC when it is believed sheep were domesticated, shepherds have worked tirelessly to improve the productivity of their flocks many times at risk of life and limb. Under conditions we can hardly imagine in modern times, they developed the art of selective breeding. We have inherited the fruits of these countless labors and now, as stewards of the flock, we also inherit the associated responsibility.

As we pursue a temporary genotype premium of a few hundred dollars per head, are we inadvertently throwing away something priceless? The science of genetic testing and selection is possibly the most powerful tool ever handed to humanity. Are we using our science as wisely as our ancestors used their art?
Laissez les bons temps rouler (let the good times roll)!!
South Central Katahdin Association Annual Meeting 6/1-6/2/07
By Gabrielle Bodin, Louisiana

Hello fellow SCKA and KHSI members! I hope you are all having a good fall! My husband, Tommy, and I are enjoying it as we look forward to begin our biggest lambing season yet at the end of January. The other big event we are looking forward to is when we welcome all of you to the 2007 SCKA Annual Meeting to be held at our farm, Isle Navarre Farms, June 1 – 2 in Scott, Louisiana.

Join us for some authentic Cajun hospitality and Katahdin fellowship in this suburb of Lafayette, the heart of Cajun country! We will get together Friday evening to reconnect while enjoying some local fare. Saturday’s program will include the annual meeting as well as speakers on topics to benefit your operation, including a presentation on federal programs available to sheep breeders. We will include a tour of our farm and show you how it has benefited from one of those programs. Not to worry, though...we will leave plenty of time for sheep talk and for attendees to view sheep on display and to conduct private treaty sales. We are also planning to set up our scale for anyone wanting to weigh his or her animals. We encourage everyone to bring their animals, but please bring your own pens if you do.

Our new Web site, www.louisianasheep.com, should be up soon! We will post meeting details as they develop including directions, maps, hotels, and the meeting schedule. This information will also be included in the next SCKA newsletter.

We invite you to come and experience some Cajun ambiance while taking advantage of this excellent networking opportunity with your fellow Katahdin breeders! And like they say down in south Louisiana...Laissez les bons temps rouler (let the good times roll)!! Happy Lambing!

SCKA’s Caribbean Cruise Vacation & YOU

KHSI Members and Friends: Come join in all the fun, party, eat, party, sun. Good Katahdin Fellowship Guaranteed. Make your arrangements soon for the “Fantastic Cruise”. Sail on November 25, 2007 on board the “Carnival Conquest” from Galveston, TX. Itinerary includes seven days of “Cruising the Western Caribbean”. Stops include New Orleans, Ocho Rios Jamaica, Grand Cayman and Cozumel Mexico. Prices are at a discounted rate starting at $486.00 per person for one week. Call Cheryl Whiting at The Cruise Shoppe 1-800-392-3639. Tell Cheryl you want the Cruise with the Katahdin Breeders and Friends. Note: this would be a Great (early) Christmas Gift. If you need more info., call Mark Dennis at 337-364-0422 or denn907@bellsouth.net. Note: No Katahdins will be on board.

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“Green Grass” is always available to COR Katahdins, 12 months 24/7. Lambing on pasture will commence Feb. 1, 2007. Call to make arrangements to Put these Genetics In your flock this year.

Make plans to attend these Special Events
Country Oak Ranch will have Katahdins on Display/Sale

Sunbelt Agricultural Expo, Oct. 16-18, 2007, Moultrie, GA

delivery arrangements can be made at these events for a small fuel charge
Minutes of KHSI Board of Directors Conference Call
January 9, 2007 8pm EST

Participants: David Coplen, President, Richard Gilbert, Vice President, Naomi Hawkins, Secretary, Kay Cloyd, Treasurer, Michael Seipel, John Stromquist, Ron Young, Barbara Pugh, Immediate Past President, joined conference later, Carrie Scott, Registry, Jim Morgan and Teresa Maurer, Operations.

The President called the meeting to order at 8:05pm.

Old Business
1. Naomi made a motion to accept as written the October 15, 2006 Board Conference Call Minutes. Kay seconded. Motion carried.
2. Registry - Carrie stated the 2006 registrations were 4935 and the recordations were 1052. This represents the most registrations and recordations for a year in KHSI’s history. David has received a complete backup copy of the flock book as planned.
3. Financial Report - David stated that we started 2006 with approximately $20,000 in the bank account and we are starting 2007 with $32,000 in the account. Jim concurred with figures. The BOD had received a copy of the check register and updated income and expense 2006 from Operations. Kay made a motion to accept both documents as written. Naomi seconded. Motion carried.
4. Promotions - Jim and Kay described the newly purchased display stand as light, sturdy and easy to ship to events. Jim related we would be a Sponsor at the January ASI Convention. The Promotion committee will forward a more in depth report of advertising coverage in the 2007 promotions plan. Jim also described changes made to the Membership Renewal form in the survey section.
5. Showing Guidelines - Ron - No report.
6. 2007 Expo and Sale - John presented the proposed schedule from Wes Limesand, site host, for Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 20-22, 2007. A request was made to hold the BOD Annual Meeting the day before the Expo. After discussion the BOD agreed to hold their meeting at 5pm on Wednesday, September 19th at 5pm at the Sleep Inn.
7. “The Katahdin Hairald” - Richard and Jim reviewed the cost versus the options available for future issues of the magazine. After discussion, non-member advertising rates were left to their discretion and industry research. A motion was made by Richard to accept the color and black & white advertising rates for display ads as presented. The motion was seconded by Kay and carried. Richard introduced a second motion to give a 10% discount to any advertiser who commits to run a display ad in four consecutive issues of “The Katahdin Hairald.” Seconded by Michael and carried. David thanked Richard and Jim for a quality product and their efforts.

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New Business
1. Kay brought up Dr. Boyd’s correspondence to the BOD. Discussion followed. Naomi’s draft return letter was approved.
2. Committee assignments – Naomi presented an idea for an advisory/vision committee. Discussion followed. David assigned Michael and Naomi to explore the possibilities and present an overview to the BOD.
3. World Sheep and Wool Conference - July 23-29, 2007 in Mexico. John proposed that KHSI have a booth at the event. Cost for a booth and manning a booth will be researched.
4. Registry Question – Ron asked the procedure for registering animals that come from Mexican breeding stock. Jim will research the question with the Registry and report to David.

David announced the next conference call at 8pm EST, 7pm CT on Monday, March 5, 2007. All agreed.

Ron made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Kay seconded. The motion carried. The President adjourned the meeting at 10:33pm EST.
Editor’s note. In the Fall 2006 Hairald, summaries of presentations at Lincoln University by Dr. Larry Kuehn, Dr. Kreg Leymaster, Dr. Charles Parker and John Bare, DVM, were published. In this issue of the Hairald, summaries of two presentations by Susan Schoenian, one by Dr. Helen Swartz, and one by Jim Morgan complete the series.

ECONOMICAL SHEEP NUTRITION – USING PASTURE AND SUPPLEMENTS
By Susan Schoenian, University of Maryland Cooperative Extension

Susan gave two presentations at the KHSI meeting: Economical Sheep Nutrition and Integrated Parasite Management (IPM). In her first talk, Susan emphasized the importance of maximizing the use of pasture in a sheep enterprise. She said that the amount of pasture you need to raise sheep depends upon many factors including geographic region, season, rainfall, forage species, and grazing management.

She explained that one of the greatest challenges to managing the pasture resource is balancing seasonal forage growth with the nutritional needs of the sheep flock. This can be done by matching the production system with seasonal growth or by planting alternative forages when there is a gap in forage production. Susan also described situations where producers may wish to supplement grazing animals with grain: flushing, late gestation, early lactation, to enhance growth of lambs, and during a drought. She suggested that grazing livestock always have access to free choice minerals.

IPM - INTEGRATIVE PARASITE MANAGEMENT
By Susan Schoenian, University of Maryland Cooperative Extension

Susan’s presentation on integrated parasite management served as a prelude to her hands-on FAMACHA© training, held at David Coplen’s farm on the next day. FAMACHA© is a novel system for measuring anemia (barber pole worm infection) in sheep and goats. It reduces the use of anthelmintics by identifying animals that need treatment, as well as those that don’t require deworming. While FAMACHA© is an excellent tool, it should be part of a totally integrated program that includes other parasite control methods, such as pasture rest-rotation, mixed species grazing, and genetic selection.

Susan is a Sheep & Goat Specialist with Maryland Cooperative Extension. She is also a fellow Katahdin breeder. Susan’s web site, www.sheepandgoat.com, serves as an information portal for sheep and goat producers.

HERBAL DEWORMING RESEARCH AT LINCOLN UNIVERSITY
By Helen A. Swartz, Ph.D., Professor, State Sheep, Goat & Small Livestock Specialist

Resistance to commercial dewormers in the hot summer months to the barberpole blood-sucking stomach worm (Haemonchus contortus) led to our three-year research project at Lincoln University Carver Farm in Jefferson City, MO. Some southern states were reporting resistance to all commercial dewormers.

The alternative dewormers selected were herbal dewormers containing 40.5% wormwood (Artemisia sp.) selected due to the success found in Africa showing a positive outcome in the Nubian dairy goats. The research at Lincoln University is being conducted on Katahdin hair sheep, Dorset wool sheep and Boer and Boer/cross meat goats. The results have shown positive results throughout the summer on the Katahdin hair sheep and Boer goats and in all months but August on the Dorset sheep using fecal egg counts (FEC) and hematocrits to monitor potential worm burden and anemia.

In 2006, we added the FAMACHA© cards to compare with our hematocrits (packed cell volume). Katahdin hair sheep had the lowest FEC and Dorsets the highest
percentage of red blood cell counts. Data has shown that the same results were found using the FAMACHA®
card, a subjective measurement for determining the red blood cell count as the subjective measurement of using
hematocrits to determine the percentage of red blood cells in the three groups of animals.

A study was conducted in the winter of 2006 increasing the herbal composition in the feed six times the rec-
ommended dosage fed over a 12 week period. Measurement was made on blood drawn from the jugular vein
to determine liver and kidney activity and all results were found to be in the normal range throughout the trial.
The tests were run at the University of Missouri veterinary laboratory.

It was determined that increasing the herbal dewormer did not result in toxic effects but further studies need
to be done to make sure the herbal dewormer is safe over time in sheep and goats and will not have any nega-
tive effects when fed at a high level. More studies are being conducted in 2007 to expand our knowledge in
deworming feeding herbs to sheep and goats to reduce the worm burden. Many flock owners of sheep and herd
owners of goats are reporting negative results from deworming with the commercial dewormers approved that
are being sold on the market today.

**SMALL SCALE DIRECT MARKETING:ECONOMICS FOR FARMS MARKETING LESS THAN 200 LAMBS/YEAR**

By Jim Morgan, Fayetteville Arkansas

Many of us have heard that the only way to obtain a good price from meat animals is to direct market your
meat by the cut. This presentation provided an overview of the major regulations governing marketing meat by
the cut, personal experiences, and some guidelines. Morgan also suggested that a lot of thought go into a busi-
ness plan before embarking on direct marketing since it requires significant labor and expense to move smaller
volumes of meat.

Direct marketing in most situations requires labor/time for transportation and sales time. To make a profit
from direct marketing, the producer needs to include this extra labor in the price of the product. Unless a pro-
ducer is truly doing wholesale by the cut, (20-40 lambs minimum to processor at a time, marketing $1000-$2000
of meat per 10-15 minute phone call), all sales need to be considered retail marketing

and be priced as retail.

Continued on page 25
The Katahdin Hairald is the official publication of Katahdin Hair Sheep International, whose purposes are to:

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

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**KHSI Registry:**

- Carrie Scott, 777 Winrock Drive; Morrilton, AR 72110
  Phone: 501-652-0470; FAX: 501-727-6347; khsiregistry@yahoo.com

**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
  > Renewal and new membership dues
  > Completed forms for registering, transferring, recording Katahdins
- Address changes or other corrections on printed list or Web
- Brochures (20 free per member per year; additional at cost) & promotional items
- Information on members with sheep for sale, anyone wanting to buy sheep
- Articles, ads, and comments to be published in the Katahdin Hairald
- Volunteer for KHSI Committees
- Annual meeting information

**KHSI Operations:**

- Jim Morgan and Teresa Maurer; PO Box 778; Fayetteville, AR 72702-0778
  Phone and FAX: 479-444-8441; khsint@earthlink.net

**Contact Operations for the following:**

- Request inspections before May 15
- Information packets sent to public
- Address changes or other corrections on printed list or Web
- Office Hours (Central time): Monday mornings 11 am-2 pm, and Monday and Tuesday evenings 7-10 pm. Calls on other evenings after sunset or anytime on the weekends will be answered personally whenever possible.
- Answering machine, FAX and email: available for messages 24 hours per day.

**KHSI Committees:** (Call 479-444-8441 to volunteer!)

- Shepherd Education - Richard Gilbert
- Promotions - Barbara Pugh
- Katahdin Evaluation Guidelines - Ron Young
- Breed Improvement - Richard Gilbert
- Nominations - Kay Cloyd
- Sale Committee - John Stromquist
- Administrative - David Coplen
- Youth - Wendy Reinemann
Katahdin Booklet to be Revised

By Joyce Geiler, Illinois

Editor’s note. This is an excellent booklet that can be purchased and handed to customers or potential customers. The third edition is scheduled to be finished by June. Typically the booklet remains in print for 5 years and purchased ads continue to promote for the life of the booklet. Depending on the number of purchased ads, the costs of the booklets will be less than $1.00 and hopefully remain at $0.50. Well worth the cost for handing to your next buyer.

Katahdin Hair Sheep: The Shearless Choice is a 5.5 x 8.5 glossy booklet that provides information with photographs important to prospective Katahdin breeders as well as new owners. Topics covered include: history of Katahdin Hair Sheep, breed characteristics, breed standards, general sheep management, and KHSI membership and registration information. The advertising pages can include your photographs and graphics.

These booklets are distributed at Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association (MKHSA) exhibits, given to all MKHSA members to use in promoting Katahdins, and utilized by the international office, KHSI. MKHSA is taking requests for black and white ad space. The costs of camera ready ads on paper or computer graphic file are: $100, full page; $50, half page; and $25, quarter page. If you need layout done, there is an additional charge of $50, full page; $40, half page; and $30, quarter page. Please contact Joyce Geiler for information or to place your ad; 618-669-2440 or jgeiler@hotmail.com

Expo Sale Animals
Note that if you plan to consign stock in the KHSI Expo Sale, they need 60 day weights. Birth and 120 day weights are highly recommended. See article in this Hairald.

Buy Your Next Breeding Ram at KHSI Expo

Lambrecht Lamb & Land
Registered Katahdins
RR Ram Lambs for Sale
Sired by “MOSES” son of “SAMPSON”

Ewe Lambs available summer ‘07
Dave, Kim, Anne & Adlen Lambrecht • Belgrade, MT
(406) 579-0599 • lambrecht@theglobal.net
Recognizing Flocks and Breeders that Helped Move KHSI Forward in 2006

In 2006, KHSI registered, recorded and transferred more sheep than in any previous year in the history of our association. 4,935 sheep were registered, 1,052 sheep were recorded and 2,844 sheep were transferred. This cannot be done without the help of all our members who used KHSI Registry services in 2006. Part of our growth in 2006 can be attributed to having an outstanding breed, but is also helped by the monies contributed by our members who pay dues and use our Registry.

In particular, KHSI is recognizing the top five breeders that led the breed in three categories (registrations, recordations and transfers) for their role in helping KHSI reach these milestones.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registrations</th>
<th># of Registrations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Robert, Johanna &amp; Richard Elliott; RoJo Ranch, Texas</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Brent &amp; Lisa Cloud; Cloud Farm Katahdins, Missouri</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Eric &amp; Dwight Dalton, Francis Cheatham; Mountain View Farm, Tennessee</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Ron &amp; Carla Young; Buckeye Acres Genetics, Ohio</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Mark &amp; Sara Dennis; Country Oak Ranch, Louisiana</td>
<td>89</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recordations</th>
<th># of Recordations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Michael &amp; Dr. Beverly McClintock; Arkansas</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Teresa Wright &amp; Larry Morgan; Choctaw Valley Ranch, Oklahoma</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Howard Lee Brown; Lazy B Livestock, Oklahoma</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Robert, Johanna &amp; Richard Elliott; RoJo Ranch, Texas</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Richard Gilbert; Mossy Dell Katahdins, Ohio</td>
<td>37</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transfers</th>
<th># of Transfers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Steve Bull; Red Barn Katahdins, Iowa</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Mark &amp; Sara Dennis; Country Oak Ranch, Louisiana</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Terry &amp; Pat Huey; Windstream, Indiana</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. John &amp; Steve Stromquist; White Post Farm, Illinois</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Mary Van Anrooy; MV Acres, Inc., Arkansas</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other important considerations for direct marketing success are that the direct marketer needs to have access to communities of 100,000 to 500,000 people to have enough of a population that can afford the higher costs of the high labor portion of direct marketed meat.

Morgan provided a table to help with pricing lamb. Driving 60 miles to a processor, paying $65 per lamb for processing, marketing in a town 15 miles from the farm, selling at a local farmer’s market with a 8 hour investment most Saturdays requires an average price of around $300 per Katahdin lamb.

Prices for cuts range from $5.00/lb for ground lamb and $12-$15 for high end cuts such as rack of lamb and loin chops. Most producers may be handicapped by being too far from processors or not near enough to a large city with individuals willing to pay a premium price for quality meat.
LOUISIANA

Butcher Lambs. Meat Lambs. 50-100 lbs. Nabill Kased has opened a cafe along with his ethnic grocery store in the suburbs of New Orleans. He needs meat for both and has asked me to contact Katahdin breeders. He wants to feature Katahdin lambs at both places. He is working toward farm fresh semi-organic eatery. Please call him if you can deliver lambs. 504-400-2191. Posted by Les Jordan, KHSI member from Mississippi.

TENNESSEE

Registered Katahdin Ram. White, Polled, QR or RR, A/AA coat, Prefer records, Black Hooves, Enrolled in SFCP and NSIP, in Top 5% for growth at 60 & 120 days(min.90 lbs) and prolificacy. Need to add height and size to my flock. Mature enough to cover 40 ewes by June ‘07. Mike Cherry cherrym@realtracs.com or call 931-527-0225.

ALABAMA

Registered & Commercial Ram & Ewe Lambs. Born 11/06 - all out of a great registered white triplet ram. Flock is Certified Scrapie Free (SFCP). Nice lambs - will be ready to go in Jan 07; white, brown & spotted. Contact Roger Comstock. 256-495-2307 evenings or 256-495-2407 daytime. rccom@bellsouth.net or rogercomstock@bellsouth.net

ARKANSAS

Commercial Bred Ewes & Ewe Lambs. 10 Bred for May 1-May 15 lambing by top Registered Katahdin Rams out of sires with high lamb survival and Lbs Lamb Weaned/Ewe EPD. $200/ewe. Flock in NSIP& SFCP (certified scrapie free) Fayetteville Arkansas; 479-444-6075 or jlmm@earthlink.net

CALIFORNIA

Registered Proven QR Ram & RR Ram Lambs. Three born 2/06 and are RR at codon 171 for scrapie resistance. One mature, proven QR Spring 03 ram. Flock is certified scrapie free in the USDA-APHIS program. $300.00 each, or less if you take all four. 530-347-1923 or dvs@shasta.com. Located in Northern California

Registered Rams and Ewe Lambs. Packages available: unrelated ram and ewes. Contact Hal Higgins, Oroville, CA 530-679-2128. HigginsHairSheep@yahoo.com Sheep for sale year around

INDIANA

Bred Registered Mature Ewes. Down sizing a flock of 4 to 5 year old registered ewe. All have thrown twins. Black, white and brown available. Bred to a registered ram and they will lamb the end of February. Asking $250.00 each. SE Indiana. Lori Howard 812-839-3639 HAW@seidata.com

KENTUCKY

Bred Registrable Ewe Lambs. Choice of 10 Feb/Mar 06 ewe lambs bred to Coplen/Birch Cove Farm Ram. Ewe lambs out of different & good maternal lines. Forage-based flock selected for parasite-resistance and mothering. Twin-born. $175 each or

$150 each if purchased in groups of 3 or more. Sharon Wolfe Tep-sick at 606-725-4480 (message) or Wildheart Farm, PO Box 141, Ezel, KY 41425.

MISSOURI

Registered and Commercial Ewes. 8 registered 3 year old ewes, bred to QR ram for Feb-March lambing. $300.00 each. 10 commercial 2006 ewes recordable at 50% bred to Birch Cove RR ram. $150.00 each. Three 9/06 registered ewe lambs. $200.00 each. SFCP. Ozark Country Katahdins, Gordon Scott, Cabool, MO 417-962-3054 or cell 417-217-0682.

MONTANA

Six Registered RR April 06 Ram Lambs. Super pedigree. Sired by “Moses” son of “Sampson”(North Dakota State University). All are twin born except for rams out of yearlings. (SFCP) Lambrecht Lamb & Land. Call Dave at 406.579.0599 or lambrecht@theglobal.net

OKLAHOMA


Registered QR Ram Lamb. A twin born in early May 06. Ram Lamb is thick and muscular. SFCP Flock. Solid brown in color. Sire was solid white; ewe
Yeanning Cote

By Robert Elliott, Texas Producer

Editor’s Note. Words we use as shepherds often have an interesting history and often different pronunciations. Robert Elliott has agreed to write a few articles on the history of our shepherd vocabulary and pronunciations.

Though these are words not commonly used today, they were formerly part of the vocabulary of shepherds in Great Britain. Because sheep and wool formed such an integral part of the economy of early England, these words were also used by English writers. In 1667, when comparing Satan to a ravening wolf, Milton wrote in Paradise Lost, IV, 186f, “Watching where Shepherds pen thir Flocks at eeve/ In hurld’d Cotes amid the field secure,/ (the wolf) Leaps o’ the fence with ease into the Fould.” (Some things never change!)

Cotes were small, detached buildings used for housing small livestock. Here it is temporary and portable since it was made of hurdles (lattice-type panels.) In an early English translation of Psalm 23, circa 1549, the phrasing for line 2 goes “He doth me fold in coates most safe. The word cote came to England with the invasion of the Normans in A.D. 1066 and was a corruption of a Latin word. It survives today in the cognate word cottage which in Medieval England was a cot (cote) and land held by a tenant in return for labor and other obligations to a feudal lord. As late as 1869, cot often designated in Scotland a solitary shepherd’s farm. It survives today in dove-cote for roosting pigeons.

The words yean and to yean were brought to England earlier with the invasions of the Anglo-Saxons (and Jutes, too) in the Fifth century. According to Webster’s 1997 collegiate dictionary to yean was derived from an old English word ge-e’anian and is related to the Latin word for lamb: agnus. To yean is used specifically of sheep (and goats) to bear live young. So, a yean is a lamb. The earliest written examples come from Wyatt’s versification of the Bible in 1408. He renders Psalm 144, 13, as “The sheep of hem ben with e(e)ne (yean).” In Fitshers’ 1503 book on Husbandry, #37, we find: “An ewe goth with lambe xx wekes, and shall yeane her lambs in the xxi.” In the Shepherd Oracle (vii) of 1644 the author writes, “(They) conspire to yeane their jolly lambs within thy cote.” (I just love that sentence.) Another of my favorite passages comes from Dryden’s translation of Virgil’s Georgics II, 75f: “The yeaning ewes prevent the springling year.” Here prevent from L. prae-venire has its original sense of to come before, to anticipate ----- the verdant spring. And, finally, in the Complete Grazier of 1776 (ed.4), xxvi.144, the writer advises: “It is necessary she (the ewe) should at her yeaning have the benefit of springing grass.” ——-advice we should still follow. A yeaning cote is therefore a lambing barn.

Dictionaries such as the Oxford English Dictionary indicate that these are words now obsolete. This does not make them any the less interesting for they provide us with a perspective on one of our oldest industries and demonstrate the importance of sheep in Great Britain. To this day, the Texas Delaine Assoc. still uses yeaning to designate date-of-birth on their registration forms.
Buckeye Acres Genetics

"User Friendly" Katahdins
Low input/Low maintenance Katahdins for high rate of return

Dreaming of Spring

Buckeye Acres, Ron and Carla Young, Ohio .......................................................... 28

Ram Lambs & Yearling Rams available April 15th

We presently have 125 Katahdin females

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Van Wert, OH 45891
419-495-2993 • buckeyea@metalink.net

2007 Lamb Sires: Long Boy, Mama’s Boy, Mr. Muscle, and Sweetness

• National Voluntary Scrapie Program member since 1995
• DNA tested flock
• NSIP 2007

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Jubilee Farm, Doug & Laura Fortmeyer, Kansas ........................................................... 14
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KHSI is pleased to announce the winners of the 2006 Photo Contest. The pictures will be featured throughout the year in the Katahdin Hairald and in ads placed in sheep magazines. KHSI is always looking for good pictures that can be used to promote Katahdins.

The judges for the contest ranked pictures without knowing the names of the photographers. Entries were judged on composition, exposure, focus, relevance, and creativity (or appeal) with the goal of promoting Katahdin sheep. Winners receive KHSI bucks. They can be used to pay for Membership, Registry Services, Breeder’s Page at the KHSI Website and KHSI promotional items including t-shirts, hats, farm sign and jewelry. KHSI bucks awarded include $50 for 1st, $25 for 2nd and $10 for third.

**Best Promotion**
1. Karen Kenagy, OR -------------- Ewe with Nov lambs
2. Katie Smith, FL ------------------ Grass Fed Lamb
3. Cathy Stahlman, IA ------------- Second Day in the World

**Scenic**
1. February in Oregon
   Photography by Karen Kenagy of Oregon
   1st Place - Scenic
   KHSI 2006 Photo Contest

1. Tess Bernard, OR ---------------- Just Lookin
2. Karen Kenagy, OR ---- Yearling Ram & Ewes

**Kids & Sheep**
1. Travis & Puddin’ - Long Walk, Short Talk
2. Lamb Lamb Goes to School
3. Best Friends

**Action**
1. Her First Lambs 2 at 12 months
2. Here Come the Girls!
3. Flock of Color
4. And he’s off!

**Shedding**
1. Ewe Shedding
2. Ewes Shedding
3. New Spring Coats

**Open**
1. Rosita in the Snow
2. Cute Feb Lambs!
3. Lambs on Spring Grass

**Youth Photographers**
1. Pollyanna
2. You Talkin’ to Me
3. Best Friends

**SO CRANK UP YOUR CAMERA AND START TAKING PICTURES FOR THE 2007 CONTEST!**
Plan to Attend the 2007 Annual KHSI Expo in Fargo, ND
September 20-22, 2007

When KHSI breeders experience great Expos and Annual Gatherings as they have over the past several years, new hosts may find them hard acts to follow. But we are pleased that North Dakota State University has stepped up to the plate, accepted the challenge and is providing excellent facilities and programs. All that is needed to make it great is for Katahdin breeders to show up.

With their decades of experience in research and sheep production, NDSU has the knowledge to host an excellent Expo. Over the last 6 months, Wes Limesand, NDSU sheep flock manager, and many others have arranged for an excellent Katahdin Expo Experience. The Fargo Convention & Visitor’s Bureau has already extended a hearty welcome to us hair-raisers.

Below is the preliminary program. One example from the list of outstanding program events is a live animal evaluation followed by a carcass evaluation. For years, several KHSI members have wanted to view a class of meat lambs and follow that with a carcass evaluation on the same animals. Few universities have the meat lab and teaching facilities to do this. This is a very special effort and Wes has the staff and professors set to go. The outstanding learning experience doesn’t stop with this part of the program. There are many opportunities for each of us shepherds, no matter how long we have been raising sheep, to learn more about production, breeding stock markets and promotion.

Events will start on Thursday, 9/20 and end early Saturday afternoon on 9/22 so that those traveling home can make planes or get a good ways down the road. The KHSI Board of Directors is very pleased with the program.

The Red River Fairgrounds, where the workshops will be held, include a national class pioneer museum with exhibits from farming, ranching, homestead and life on the early plains. Fargo has an airport that is serviced by major airlines and is situated at intersection of US Interstate highways, 94 and 29. The meeting hotel is the Sleep Inn (701-281-8240) – be sure to reserve early and ask for the Katahdin annual meeting rate. Registration forms will be mailed in mid-summer.

Editor’s note: We thank Wes Limesand for the information in this article and for the energy and time he has already put into the 2007 Expo!

Tentative Program Topics

- Live animal (lamb) evaluation (hands on available)
- Carcass breakdown - primal cuts and retail cuts
- Semen collection, freezing and thawing
- Measuring ribeye and backfat with ultrasound
- Scrapie research and promising new technology
- Utilizing by-products of the ethanol industry in sheep rations
- Tour of diagnostic lab - what happens when you send a problem to the lab
- Marketing Katahdin genetics throughout the world
- Carcass evaluation (next day)
- Artificial insemination procedure
- Pregnancy testing with ultrasound
- Federal I.D. Program
- Tour of NDSU Katahdin flock