Welcome New Members
April through June 2008

Mexico
Ignacio Padilla Aguilar of Agropecuaria La Soledad ........................................Lagos de Moreno, Jalisco
Abraham Jorge of Tamam .................................................................................... Merida, Yucatan

USA
Harold & Deborah Graves ..................................................................................... Mountain View, Arkansas
Ken & Valerie Borello of Oak Valley Ranch ......................................................... Grass Valley, California
Gary & Andrea Ott of Abundant Blessing Ranch, LLC ........................................... Auburn, California
Roberta & Roger Williamson of Two Bog Katahdins Farm ................................. Lakeland, Florida
Galen & Erica Smith of Smith Farm ........................................................................ Camden, Illinois
John & Kim Doty of Heaven’s View Farm .............................................................. Loogootee, Indiana
John & Brigetta Hughes ......................................................................................... Van Meter, Iowa
Marty Miller of Meadow View Farm ....................................................................... Horse Cave, Kentucky
Debra P & Mickey J Gaspard of Cajun Wind Acres ............................................. New Iberia, Louisiana
Leslie of Raber of Salmon Run Farms .................................................................... Sabattus, Maine
Brent Greenbert &/or Jennifer Knuth of Double Barrel Farm .............................. Greaney, Minnesota
Kenny & Martha McCarty of Featherweave Farms ............................................... Stringer, Mississippi
Dave & Dana Wittorff ............................................................................................ Shepherd, Montana
Troy Lahm of Little Salt Farm ................................................................................ Ceresca, Nebraska
Dow or Marlene Daugherty of Cheap Sheep ....................................................... Bosque Farms, New Mexico
Raymond Burns & Teresa Sullivan of Sullyback Farm ......................................... Port Crane, New York
Beth M Voss of DatL Do Farm ............................................................................. Loveland, Ohio
Ray Dreibelbis of Dreibelbis Farm ......................................................................... Pa Furnace, Pennsylvania
Caroline Owens of Owens Farm ........................................................................... Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania
Niki Stevens of Karrula Katahdins ........................................................................ Spring Run, Pennsylvania
Elton R Anson of Anson Ranch Katahdins ......................................................... Miller, South Dakota
Dawn Bello of Iron Spike Ranch .......................................................................... Doucette, Texas
Gerald Coulthard of 2C Farm ............................................................................... Saltville, Virginia
Michael & Felicia Coulthard of Cove Creek Farm ............................................... Saltville, Virginia
James & Sally Hash of Big H Livestock ............................................................... Marion, Virginia
Robert & Anita Haney of A & R Ranch ................................................................. Battle Ground, Washington

"Calling in the Flock"
photographed by Karen Kenagy of Oregon
First Place - Action Category
2007 KHSI Photo Contest
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Cover: "Montana Girls" photographed by Karen Kenagy of Oregon, awarded Second Place - Scenic Category in the KHSI 2007 Photo Contest; Pictured Above: “Fall Flock” photographed by Lindsay Hodgman of Maine, awarded 3rd Place - Scenic Category, 2007 KHSI Photo Contest
Seems like yesterday I wrote a report stating how cold and snowy the winter had been. Everyone in Northern Illinois was excited about the arrival of spring but little did we know that with the coming of spring we would get record breaking rain that would produce record breaking floods. Three miles east of us the Pecatonica River flooded out several thousand acres of corn and soybeans. With all the flooded land, the demand for corn and the price went sky high. With the shortage of corn the bidding at the commodity market went out of sight with contracts of corn going for $7.00 a bushel (a bushel is 56 lbs). Because of this the feed for livestock has almost doubled in price. Again this year there is going to be a shortage of hay. My advice would be to get your supply of hay as soon as possible and don’t wait until the last minute.

The Midwest Stud Ram Show and Sale were held in Sedalia, Missouri again this year. On Monday, June 23 was the Katahdin show. The entries were up again this year and there was a large supply of spectators that filled the bleachers. Later that afternoon, Dr Leroy Boyd put on a showmanship clinic in the aisle by the Katahdin pens. This was a fun experience with several of the kids and their parents attending. This was a hands-on opportunity and a wonderful learning experience for both the young people and their parents.

On Tuesday evening, the Midwest Katahdin Hair Sheep Association held their annual Membership Meeting and there was a lively discussion about getting our youth involved. Lots of ideas were talked about and a committee was formed looking into a possibility of programs for youth involvement. On Wednesday, June 25 the Katahdin Sale started at 1 PM. Prior to the sale, the KHSI Board had designated money for an “aisle party” with ice cold water, pop and snacks available for buyers, breeders and friends. Our thanks to Michael Seipel for making this possible. He brought in a stock tank filled with ice cold beverages to make the aisle party a big success this year. It was very well attended and very much appreciated.

The auction was lively and the prices were very strong. All in all this three day show and sale was a fun time.

I’ve had several telephone calls since the last Hairald was mailed and every call was very positive about the human interest stories. Everyone was in agreement that the youth stories were a breath of fresh air. Here is where I would like to ask for your help. If you know of an event or anything that would be unusual that you would like to share with our members, it will be a welcome story in the Hairald.

Your KHSI Board has worked hard this year gathering ideas for promotion to help you the members find new markets for growth and sales for our Katahdin sheep. All this had to be put on hold until we established a tax exempt status with the IRS. The CPA that we have hired to represent us is from Fayetteville, Arkansas. The KHSI Board is hoping the penalties assessed by the IRS will be on the lenient side. As I have said before this has been an oversight that we had assumed had been taken care of several years ago. A contract description has been written and submitted to our Operations contractors for review. The KHSI website is also under review and it’s been many years since the format has been changed. It soon should be ready to be submitted for bids. It is our hope that we will soon have a new shiny and informative web page.

KHSI has the biggest event of the year coming up. It takes place in Boonsboro, Maryland. It all starts September 25 and goes through the 27th. Our host for the event is Susan Schoenian and she has promised an exciting educational and fun-paced adventure for us all. It will give us a chance to visit with Katahdin sheep breeders from all over the country. Susan has lined us up several interesting speakers and a field tour of research projects.

The highlight will be the Annual Meeting and the National Katahdin Sale. Make arrangements to attend this fabulous event – even with the high gas prices it’s guaranteed to be a rewarding experience.

I look forward to visiting with all of you.

www.KHSI.org
Western Maryland is the site of the 2008 Katahdin Hair Sheep International Expo. The Expo is being organized by Susan Schoenian, Sheep & Goat Specialist for University of Maryland Extension. The Expo will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 26-27 at the Washington County Agricultural Center (fairgrounds) in Boonsboro, Maryland. The Four Points Sheraton in Hagerstown, Maryland, will serve as the hotel headquarters. The Sheraton is approximately 9 miles from the fairgrounds. All activities will take place at the fairgrounds. Opportunities for learning while in Hagerstown & Boonsboro, Maryland include attending a 6 hour National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) on “Using EPDs” the day before the KHSI Expo on September 25.

The Expo is open to all sheep producers, especially those interested in hair sheep. Organizers expect to attract participants from throughout North America. Western Maryland is an ideal location because it brings together portions of four states: Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. It is less than a day’s drive for many KHSI members. Sheep transport is easy as Hagerstown is a major transportation hub: interstates 81 and 70 intersect nearby. There are many attractions close by and within a few hours drive.

Much of Friday’s educational program will focus on topics for which the Mid-Atlantic region is known: selecting for parasite resistance, growing lambs on grass/pasture, and the ethnic/religious markets for sheep and lamb.

After opening remarks, an overview of sheep research and extension programs in the Mid-Atlantic states will be given by various invited guests.

The bulk of the morning session will consist of two concurrent tracks: Genetic Improvement of Katahdin Sheep and Pasture Production of Katahdin Lamb. The genetics track will feature presentations by Dr. David Notter from Virginia Tech and Kathy Bielek, an Ohio producer. Virginia Tech is home to the U.S. National Sheep Improvement Program Genetic Evaluation. Bielek has been selecting her Katahdins for parasite resistance.

The afternoon session will focus on marketing. Dr. Robert Herr, an order buyer at the New Holland Sales Stables in Pennsylvania, will talk about the ethnic markets and how Katahdin lambs fit in. New Holland is one of the supreme markets for sheep and goats in the United States. It is a focal point for the ethnic markets.

Habib A. Ghanim, Sr., President of the Halal Chamber of Commerce in Washington DC, will help producers understand the Muslim demand for lamb and the market potential for Halal-certified meat. The Scott County (Virginia) Hair Sheep Association will share its experiences marketing Katahdin lamb to a multi-state supermarket chain. Dr. Charles Parker will conclude the marketing session by explaining how to produce lambs for different market segments, including the effect of size and maturity on market suitability.

The KHSI annual membership meeting will be held from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Friday at the fairgrounds. All members are encouraged to attend.

Activities scheduled for Saturday, September 27 include a Katahdin hair coat inspection school from 8:30 to 10 a.m. For those already certified as coat inspectors or not interested in the training, there will be a (concurrent) wagon tour of the adjacent Western Maryland Research & Education Center.

The Western Maryland Research & Education Center encompasses 491 acres in picturesque Washington County. The center is home to the Western Maryland Pasture-Based Meat Goat Performance Test, one of the few small ruminant testing programs in the U.S. that evaluates breeding stock on a pasture-only diet and collects copious data on parasite resistance. There are currently 61 male goats on test.

A sale of elite Katahdin breeding stock will get underway at noon on the fargrounds. Sale animals will be available for viewing from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Your registration fee will include a reception and 2 meals as well as morning breaks. Friday’s lunch will feature taco salad made from mutton. Dinner will be a (whole) lamb and goat roast. Entertainment will be country music and humor. Morning refreshments will be provided on both Friday and Saturday. A welcome reception will be held at the hotel on Thursday night, prior to the meeting.

Registration forms will be sent to all KHSI members. The pre-registration deadline is September 12. After that, there will be a late registration fee of $15 extra. Send registration forms with payment to KHSI Operations, P.O. Box 778, Fayetteville, AR 72702. If you do not receive a form in the mail (or need extra forms), please contact KHSI Operations at 479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net. Registration forms will also be available at the Events page of the KHSI website, www.khsi.org.

For more information, please contact Susan Schoenian at 301-432-2767 ext. 343 or 301-582-4317 or sschoen@umd.edu or Jim Morgan/Teresa Maurer at 479-444-8441.
From Bakewell to BLUP: A History of Livestock Breeding, Part I

by Richard Gilbert, Ohio Katahdin Breeder

Editor’s Note: This is the first article on the history of livestock breeding. Richard will submit another article on the key developments in livestock breeding after Bakewell.

The history of livestock breeding reveals two rather surprising aspects: scientific selective breeding is a recent development in the long centuries of breed formation; and quantum leaps in progress have been made even more recently and by a mere handful of breeders and geneticists.

Many have heard of Robert Bakewell, a farmer known as the father of selective breeding. Bakewell (1725–1795) became famous for transforming his region’s sheep into a remarkable new strain. From Dishley in central England, Bakewell came to epitomize breeding success primarily because of his New Leicester sheep.

At one time, sheep drove selective breeding progress, attracting ingenuous, independent thinkers like Bakewell. This is because, by the 1400s, wool was wealth, Roger J. Wood and Viteslav Orel write. “The idea of learning from sheep was at the same time an in-joke and a shared revelation within the circle to which the secret was being revealed.”

Bakewell’s farm, Dishley Grange, consisted of 450 irrigated acres, and he was the third generation on the land, which was leased. The Bakewells were self-described graziers who fattened sheep and cattle for the city meat markets (Dishley is about one-hundred miles north of London).

Dishley Grange’s productivity permitted the master to become the first English farmer to specialize in selective breeding. Bakewell sought to increase growth rates and maturity (sheep were then being slaughtered at three- to four-years of age); to increase the proportion of edible parts—muscles; and to produce sheep with the least amount of feed possible.

Bakewell reportedly called his New Leicester sheep “machines for turning herbage . . . into money.” His sheep didn’t look like other sheep. They were smaller, finer-boned, bulged with muscles, had big bellies, and grew much faster—sent to market after their second shearing, a full year earlier than the local race.

Some were as broad as they were long, according to Wood and Orel. How did Bakewell do it? To compare growth rates and efficiency of an animal in converting feed into flesh, he fed individuals the same amount of feed and weighed them. He bred out twenty to forty top ram lambs a year and recorded their growth rates. He also looked for beauty (important for sales), muscling, and the texture of their flesh.

In one experiment, he bought a number of ram lambs from different sources and fed them for almost twelve months to ascertain growth rates and consequent differences in income when sold. Anyone who feeds out his own animals, as Bakewell did, wants efficient growth. Animals that eat ten percent less feed to achieve the same amount of growth earn more money.

Bakewell’s breeding methods were both mysterious and controversial. For one thing, he was concerned with meat production and was stunningly uninterested in wool—a heresy. A Southdown breeder marveled in a letter that Bakewell told him “he wishes to breed a sort of sheep that produces no wool, a sort of doctrine I could not understand.”

But the best coarse wool from typical English longwool sheep wasn’t valuable even in Bakewell’s day. He did experiment with a Merino ram in the 1780s and may have considered crossing as well.

Bakewell’s lesson often is reduced to “he inbred,” but Genetic Prehistory in Selective Breeding reveals rigorous selection for performance, conformation, and constitution. Contrary to legend, a cornerstone of Bakewell’s work apparently was extensive outcrossing as well.

Jay L. Lush, in his classic textbook Animal Breeding Plans, writes, “There is also more than a hint that he kept his operations secret because of certain extreme outbreeding he was practicing which, if known, might have injured the commercial reputation of his stock.”

During the 1760s, Bakewell pioneered the practice of leasing his top rams, rather than selling them, so he could evaluate the breeding worth of his best animals on the best ewes of other shepherds.

“His annual auctions, or ram-lettings, attracted great attention and were a distinct financial success,” writes Lush. “He is said to have received as much as 1,200 guineas for one year’s use of a ram. By this practice of ram-selling, the best sires came back to him each year and any whose progeny had proved them much better...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5
than the others could be kept for use in his own flocks or herds.”

Bakewell also brought in rams sired by his best leased rams—more new genes. As an important corollary to the principle that a handsome ram may not pass along his qualities, Lush speculates that Bakewell occasionally took back for his own use a ram that he had thought somewhat flawed but that was seen to have sired superior lambs in a customer’s flock.

A breeders’ club, the Dishley Society, established in 1789 with Bakewell as its first president, was an important development in uniting superior sheep and limiting inbreeding. The society shared similar goals, and this was a historic shift away from the previous pattern of breeders having vastly different ideals.

“This early version of the progeny test, designed to assess a male’s breeding value, was acknowledged by later breeders as a highly significant step in technique,” write Wood and Orel.

“Bakewell had privileged access to all the flocks of the Dishley members on which to test his rams. From the point of view of progeny testing, the Dishley agreement was equivalent to his possessing an enormous herd.”

The flock was Bakewell’s goal, a useful number of above-average animals, not merely a few superior individuals that couldn’t perpetuate themselves. This “population thinking” by the Dishley breeders was another breakthrough, according to Wood and Orel. The principle of comparing large numbers of animals of the same type and with common relationships—population genetics—would become the cornerstone of modern livestock breeding theory 150 years later.

As for specific technique, apparently Bakewell kept parallel, unrelated lines within his flock and could “cross” them when relationships became too close or performance suffered. He outcrossed to sheep that also had been selected rigorously for growth rate and conformation. “Such matings within a stock already strongly selected, brought substantial benefit with a manageable degree of risk, and it set the pattern for other breeders to follow,” observe Wood and Orel.

Bakewell also realized that improvements didn’t hold constant, but had to be fought for in each generation. Rigorous selection would be relentless and never ending. However, a large population of animals would be continuously improved through shared goals.

The Dishley Society was also way ahead of its time in realizing that accurate comparison could be confounded by different management practices. An important rule of the society was that rams being evaluated would not be fed grain, according to Genetic Prehistory in Selective Breeding.

“Bakewell and his friends clearly appreciated that extravagant feeding on some farms, but not on others, would confuse the genetic picture,” Wood and Orel write. “Their willingness to cooperate represented a radical departure from the traditional practice of ‘making up’ [heavy feeding and fattening].” Again, the science of livestock breeding would codify this 200 years later into the principle of “contemporary groups”: animals being compared should be fed and managed similarly for accurate comparison.

The Dishley breeders’ passion and excitement were unaffected by the fact that their traffic in rams was laughed at outside their circle as a “visionary romance.” While neighbors brayed, the world was literally beating a path to Bakewell’s door as word spread. Visitors came from across England, from France, from the outer reaches of the Austrian monarchy, from Poland, and even from Russia. On the way to Bakewell’s farm, they braved hazardous seas, roads that were muddy quagmires, language barriers, and crude roadhouses.

Bakewell’s maiden sister, Hannah, received visitors, and sometimes she and her staff were forced to host them for many days or weeks until her brother returned from a trip. He was generous with these pilgrims, conducting what was, in effect, a school of agriculture. Bakewell’s irrigated farm was an innovative showplace for animal breeding and feeding—he even had developed his own strain of forage cabbages.

Bakewell’s hall became a museum of skeletons and joints, pickled in brine, to demonstrate the effects of selective breeding and nutrition. By means of such forensic evidence and by his living animals, Bakewell inspired an international wave of interest in selective breeding, George Washington reportedly sought sheep from him.

To summarize his methods and insights as reported in Genetic Prehistory in Selective Breeding:

- He emphasized the selection of superior individuals rather than making matings based on pedigree or remote ancestors, and looked for “nicks,” progeny superior to either parent.
- He bred the “best to the best,” regardless of the closeness of relationship, kept parallel lines for diversity, and tried to balance strengths and weaknesses in matings.
- He combined inbreeding for prepotency with selection pressure for desirable traits, and seized on valuable traits kicked up by inbreeding.
- He evaluated the breeding value of rams and ewes based on the performance of their offspring, and outcrossed to superior animals that resulted from the use of his stock or methods in other flocks.

Bakewell was a genius, but he was human. At one point, he went too far in shortening legs, which caused trouble for his sheep in walking and in lambs’ ability to nurse, and had to correct this. Nevertheless, the revolutionary insights of Bakewell and the society led to historic breeding progress in England, famously with Shorthorn cattle, and sent ripple effects around the world that would transform animal breeding. Breeders of livestock, and of sheep in particular, created an interest in heredity and left an important legacy to science, according to Genetic Prehistory in Selective Breeding.

The pressing practical problems of breeders raised the most interesting theoretical questions—many of which would be illuminated by a monk who began crossing peas in a monastery garden 61 years after Bakewell’s death.

Future article: A handful of European researchers laid the foundation for America’s transformation of selective breeding through the use of breakthrough computer analysis, called BLUP (Best Linear Unbiased Predictors).
The Next Revolution in Selecting Superior Sheep and its Impact on USA and World Sheep Breeds: Will the Future of Production Agriculture Include Katahdins?

Author’s Note: This is a follow-up to the article in the Summer 2008 Katahdin Hairald: “Selecting Superior Meat Sheep in the 21st Century.” It is suggested that Katahdins and other sheep breeds that want to remain relevant for meat production need to be proactive and start a strategic planning process. Dr Steven Kappes will speak on “Genomics” and the new DNA technology, the 64K SNP chip at the NSIP Workshop on September 25, prior to the 2008 KHSI Expo and Sale in Maryland.

In the next few months, new DNA technology will be available to the sheep industry. The new technology is powerful and can identify large numbers of DNA markers and genes that affect performance and disease resistance in sheep. The revolution will not be immediate. It will start slowly over the next 5 years, but in 15-30 years will drive sheep production in the world.

The new DNA technology will be combined with EPD selection indices to greatly improve accuracy of selection. EPDs, expected progeny differences, for balanced growth, milk and reproductive efficiency will still be required to a) identify DNA markers and b) to evaluate the performance of sheep with DNA markers.

The key piece of technology is a chip that can assay a single animal’s DNA at 64,000 different locations in a short period of time. It is called the 64K SNP chip (Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms; pronounced “snip chip”). Consider being able to identify how the top five rams in your ram pen stack up at 64,000 different genes. The price tag is not that big when we consider being able to assay at 64K positions, but it takes a significant investment. Predictions are that it will cost $500/sheep in 2008.

However, there is a big barrier at the moment. While it will be possible to assay at 64,000 different sites in the sheep genome, we as scientists, producers and breed associations need to learn which of these 64,000 sites in the sheep genome (polymorphisms) affect production traits and which allele of each polymorphism is the preferred one. But that will change in the near future.

Before going on, we need to discuss polymorphism. Those of you who have had a biology, genetics, or agricultural course may remember the term “polymorphism”. When comparing the genes between any two individuals of the same species, no matter how much they appear to differ visually, the vast majority of their genes are identical. DNA does differ at several locations and that is what makes individuals and breeds unique and different. The genes that differ in a species are said to be “polymorphic” (poly = many; morphic = form; therefore, more than one form/sequence of the same gene). A common DNA test for a polymorphism in sheep that most know about is for scrapie resistance in the prion gene. Commonly, sheep are RR, QR or QQ and this determines whether sheep have resistance to scrapie and is an example of a polymorphism.

A consortium of sheep scientists from around the world has identified 64,000 sites in the sheep genome in which a polymorphism occurs and used these sites to develop the 64K sheep SNP chip. Next using reference populations of sheep, scientists will correlate performance traits with specific polymorphic markers. Over time, selection of superior rams will include an index of EPDs and multiple gene markers. A breeder will be able to DNA test lambs at birth to know whether they are carrying the traits needed.

What traits will be identified? Multiple markers that affect growth, maternal behaviors, tenderness, taste, feed efficiency, shedding, parasite resistance, disease resistance, fiber traits, seasonal breeding, prolificacy, body condition and heat tolerance are just a few of the possibilities. Using these markers, over the course of several years seed stock producers will be able to select for a sheep that is highly adapted to specific production system. For example, sheep that are adapted to production in the Southeastern USA on forage alone; or a ewe for the Pacific Northwest that is adapted to wet cool winters and always weans triplets on a diet of only grass forage; or for animals with superior performance on concentrates. In 30 years, we can predict there will be sheep that have DNA markers and EPDs (expected progeny differences) that ensure 10-35% more production on 5-20% less inputs (labor, housing, feed, veterinary care) for a specific environment and management system.

In the last year, a few USA scientists and sheep producers have discussed the impact of the new technology. We have different thoughts about how this technology will affect the USA sheep industry. Some of us think the 64K SNP chip technology will create major changes. Others suggest that the United States Department of Agriculture does not have the funds to do the necessary background research and that without common use of artificial insemination, the USA sheep industry will be less able to capitalize on the new 64K SNP chip technology. Australia, New Zealand and other major sheep producing countries are investing in the research needed to start identifying key performance markers. The USA sheep industry is just starting to talk about it.

It is hard to predict the future of agriculture, let alone make any specific predictions for the sheep industry. Energy and feed prices are at an all time high, which makes it even harder to predict the future of the USA sheep industry, with or without the SNP chip. With planning, Katahdin breeders can take the lead in the USA sheep industry and command their future. It is exciting and daunting at the same time. With good planning, Katahdin breeders can take the Katahdin to new heights.

Possibilities for the future include:

A) Artificial insemination (AI) will become much more common. Without AI, the sheep industry will lag behind the dairy, beef and poultry industries’ use of the
Thank you for all the cards and condolences on the loss of our son. He was a man we were very proud of. He battled cancer for 2 years, and at the end, he went home to be with the Lord. He is missed, but will never be forgotten.

John and Marian Stromquist
Extension Livestock Agents Check Out KHSI Booth

At the Annual Meeting/Professional Improvement Conference of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents, Katahdin Hair Sheep had a presence. KHSI exhibited at the conference in Greensboro, North Carolina for three days July 13-15. Over 1400 agents from across the country attended the event for nearly a week which included educational offerings and tours of many livestock venues in the state.

Agents at the meeting had two opportunities to learn about Katahdins. Dr. Richard Brzozowski, Extension Educator from Maine, presented his research project on the Northeast Katahdin Hair Sheep Research Project. A second opportunity was to visit the KHSI-sponsored exhibit booth for discussion and materials. The three-day exhibit was staffed by Fred and Barbara Pugh, North Carolina producers.

This exhibit brought the Katahdin story to agents from most states. Says Pugh, “We were able to connect with agents to let them hear our story, but it was also beneficial for KHSI to get feedback from so many areas of the country as to their levels of knowledge and interest. KHSI is pleased to be able to promote our sheep to such an educated and diverse group.”

Besides the traditional booth exhibit of display board, banner, printed materials, the agents were especially interested in the sheep skins which were there. As educators, they really understood the concept of shedding hair sheep when shown a slick hair sheep skin and one that was an example of part hair and unshed wool and hair fibers. A lighter and more fun side of the exhibit was giving agents with youth work a hand-tied halter with the suggestion that they make halter-tying a part of the learning process for their youth back home. Showing agents how to tie halters kept them around the exhibit longer to provide a greater opportunity to plant the Katahdin seed. Many of the agents visiting the booth completed a questionnaire which was intended to provide KHSI with feedback about their interest and knowledge about Katahdin sheep.

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Fred Pugh explains shedding to an interested extension agent using a tanned shed hide and a hide from a partially shed sheep.

Fred Pugh demonstrates the technique of making a halter to extension agents.
KHSI Website – Upgrade

By KHSI Operations Office

KHSI is upgrading our website. The first stage is completed!

Prospective buyers can navigate to the Member Listing page of the KHSI website, www.khsi.org, and search for sheep for sale using many more parameters than in the past. A buyer can include parameters such as Ram Lambs, Ewe Lambs, Yearling Rams, Yearling Ewes, Aseasonal Lambing, Semen for Sale and Month(s) that a flocks lambs.

For example, if a buyer wanted to know the listing for breeders in Indiana that sell Registered Yearling Rams, it is now possible. This search will list all breeders who sell such stock. We expect these new features to be very powerful and very informative to buyers.

We have also added a Prefix search which allows you to search the prefixes of all current members. This is the first step. In the future, we will develop a new protocol that will enable KHSI members to search for all prefixes listed on KHSI pedigrees.

Future work on the website will include making it much easier to use and more informative. The KHSI website committee and Directors are targeting three classes of users. These include a) individuals that want to buy Katahdins or find specific stock, b) information for the public who want to know more about the advantages of Katahdins including many more pictures and c) increased information and services for KHSI members.

Proposals for Hosting 2009 Expo Requested

The KHSI Board is ready to receive proposals for hosting the KHSI 2009 Expo/Annual Meeting. Those wishing to host can contact KHSI Operations for assistance and a general outline of the needs that should be addressed in a brief proposal. Potential hosts should have general ideas about developing a day of educational programs. The host location will need adequate facilities for the educational seminars/workshops and facilities for the Annual Expo Sale. Fully and partially shed sheep are also required for the hair coat inspectors training. There should also be sufficient hotel accommodations close to the sale and educational events. Many resources are available for developing, supporting and hosting the Annual KHSI Expo. It’s a great way to get Katahdins better known in a particular area. Typically, meeting registration charges are set to cover the cost of facilities and hosting the event. KHSI will also be accepting proposals for hosting the 2010 KHSI Expo. The deadline for submitting proposals to host is September 10, so that the KHSI Board can review and announce decisions at the September Expo.

KHSI Operations can be contacted at 479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net.

There was a pre-conference live-stock tour on Friday and on Saturday. We were able to provide a packet of KHSI info to each person on the tours. This might be considered a personally expensive part of the event. When Fred delivered the packets to the agent in charge in the next county, while on the trip, the radiator “went” on his vehicle, and the vehicle subsequently was hauled back to local garage on a rollback.

KHSI should be proud of the exposure received here. We were the only breed association exhibiting. Some of the agents remarked to us that it was refreshing to see something new in the exhibit area. Their next annual meeting will be in Portland, Oregon. For KHSI this event was promotion funds well-spent.

Small Ruminant Conference Set August 22-23 4H Center in AL

Dairy and meat goat and sheep producers are invited to attend the Annual Conference on Small Ruminants on August 22-23 at the Alabama 4-H Center in Columbiana, Alabama.

Participants will have a chance to hear experts from across the South, including Fort Valley State University Extension Animal Scientist Specialist Dr. Will Getz; Dr. Richard Browning, Associate Professor at Tennessee State University; Dr. Terry A. Gipson, Interim Goat Extension leader, Langston University; Dr. James Morgan, President of the Board, for the National Sheep Improvement Program; and Dr. Maria Leite-Browning, Extension Animal Scientist, Alabama A&M University.

This conference is designed to educate sheep and goat producers on genetic and reproductive management issues that can affect small ruminant herd productivity and profitability in the Southeast.

There is no fee for the conference; however, participants are responsible for their meals and lodging expenses. Please visit http://www.aces.edu/urban for additional conference information or contact Dr. Maria Leite-Browning at 256-372-4954.

Extension Agents at KHSI Booth, continued from page 8

By KHSI Operations Office

There was a pre-conference live-stock tour on Friday and on Saturday. We were able to provide a packet of KHSI info to each person on the tours. This might be considered a personally expensive part of the event. When Fred delivered the packets to the agent in charge in the next county, while on the trip, the radiator “went” on his vehicle, and the vehicle subsequently was hauled back to local garage on a rollback.

KHSI should be proud of the exposure received here. We were the only breed association exhibiting. Some of the agents remarked to us that it was refreshing to see something new in the exhibit area. Their next annual meeting will be in Portland, Oregon. For KHSI this event was promotion funds well-spent.
64K SNP chip. At $500/animal, the only way for a seedstock producer to recoup the investment of testing his/her ram pen with the SNP Chip will be to sell semen. B) Proactive and forward looking breeds will have developed strategic plans to use the new DNA technology to complement their current production strengths.

i) There may be only 3-5 of the current sheep breeds in the USA and Canada with significant use in future production agriculture systems. The rest of the breeds will have minor impact on meat production.

ii) Production/environment breeds and types will increase in prominence. New composite types selected for specific management/environments such as feedlots, humid environments or grazing will be developed.

iii) Current breeds that remain important will have made key strategic decisions by a) evaluating their current genetic strengths, b) using the 64K SNP chip to bring in key DNA markers/traitsthat complement their current genetic strengths, c) embracing AI and d) have an open flock book

C) There will definitely be room for easy care breeds that are disease resistant, have either excellent wool or no wool and require almost no extra labor. These easy care breeds will most likely be selected for specific environments and have integrated newly identified markers/genes for performance, feed efficiency, lamb survival and disease resistance. If energy, hay and grain prices remain high, easy care sheep are even a better investment.

D) Countries that do not invest in the new technology may buy their genetics from the countries that do. If US sheep researchers and industry fail to implement the new technology, the majority of sheep genetics in the USA in 30-40 years could be imported from New Zealand or Australian breeders that have utilized the new technology.

E) The genes and markers involved in shedding will be identified. No-shear sheep will not be limited to a few breeds. Any breed that wants shedding will be able to use the 64K SNP chip to select for shedding while changing few of their other traits.

F) Parts of the sheep industry may become vertically integrated. The increased cost of DNA typing, artificial insemination may require the investments of major companies similar to the poultry and pork industries. This currently hasn’t happened in ruminants for multiple reasons, but with increased accuracy of selection and potentially less money from the USDA to put into sheep research, openings for large corporations to provide genetics may occur. (Note: Most scientists consider this to have a low probability of occurrence.)

G) For the record, some in the USA sheep research community predict that USA sheep breeders will not invest in the new technology. As a result, productivity of USA sheep could lag behind as other countries invest in the use of EPDs and the new DNA technologies using the 64K SNP chip.

What does all this mean for the Katahdin breed? With good planning, Katahdin breeders can be in a leading position. Note that in 20-30 years, any “current” performance advantage of the Katahdin will be available to other breeds or be incorporated into specific management types. For example, if the genetics of shedding are simple (less than 3-5 genes) any breed that wants to quit shearing will. Without major improvement, the Katahdin advantage of being more parasite resistant than other major production breeds will disappear. Any breed will be able to incorporate markers for parasite resistance. There is already a patented gene that increases parasite resistance by 10% in New Zealand sheep. Better parasite resistant DNA markers will follow. Those are two examples of how current Katahdin advantages may no longer be unique. But with good planning, Katahdin breeders can build on these two advantages and be several steps ahead.

To remain a key agricultural breed, I suggest that Katahdin breeders need to implement two strategies. In the short term, we need breeders to step forward to take us to new levels of easy care, parasite resistance and meat production. This involves making good use of performance evaluation and EPDs, and will give the breed time to adopt the new DNA technology. Katahdin breeders also need to start developing a strategic plan that will 1) identify where we want the Katahdin to be in 20-30 years, 2) assess which newly identified gene markers are needed and 3) develop group breeding schemes to integrate and potentially fix these new traits into the Katahdin. Care will need to be taken to preserve and enhance the traits that we currently value in the Katahdin.

Future sheep production is an opportunity. Katahdin breeders can stake their position and help lead the sheep industry.

If you need transport of a sheep to or from the KHSI Expo Sale, contact KHSI Operations at 479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net

Plan to Attend
Sept. 26 & 27, 2008
the KHSI Expo in Maryland
Introducing **NDSU 7635 RR**

_Sire-Stacked_

**Dam NDSU 2716**

_Born 5/29/07 Triplet_

We selected this ram for his growth, (133lbs. in 150 days) length of body, strength of bone, width of top, and length of hind saddle. He is out of one of our strongest ewe families (15 lambs in 5 lambing) with this set of triplets she weaned her own weight (188lbs.)

Our consignment to the 2008 Expo Sale will be 3 RR rams and 3 RR ewes. They will be sired by “Stacked”, “New Design”, and 380 Canadian AI ram.

Thank you to all of our Midwest Stud Ram Sale buyers and friends.
Editor’s Note: This is the third in a series of interviews with KHSI members.

Note: Text and phrases in italics are questions and comments from the Katahdin Hairald.

Jim Lovelace and his wife Kay live in Missouri near the town of Troy which is northwest of St Louis. They have been members of KHSI for 18 years and currently have 200 ewes. Jim is a frequent attendee of the Annual KHSI Expo/Meeting.

How did you become interested in farming? When Kay and I were married and decided to raise a large family, we decided to farm so we would always have plenty to eat. We both were raised hearing stories from the great depression from parents, grandparents and elders.

Why did you add sheep to your farm? We added sheep to the farm to complement the cow-calf operation. Eventually, we sold the cattle and concentrated on the sheep.

Why did you choose Katahdins and where did your first Katahdins come from? I chose the Katahdins mainly because they didn’t need shearing. Then we butchered the first one and couldn’t believe how good the meat was. We bought our first Katahdins from the Heifer Project from Laura Callan (Fortmeyer). Mary Van Anrooy delivered them. We have been a part of KHSI for 18 years.

What do you do besides farming?

Does work help with your Katahdin and farm work? I work as a “toolmaker” in a factory at night. I get up and take care of the farm in the morning and my children take care of things in the afternoon. The farm could not have been so successful without the help of the entire family. My tool making skills have helped with building a few pieces of equipment. The most useful pieces of equipment I have made are feed troughs from a 20 foot long, 12 inch diameter schedule 40 PVC water main pipe. Each pipe is cut into three troughs. We have also constructed creep feed areas. The creep feed areas are 80 ft long and access is gained through modified pipe gates. Often the best equipment is simple in design.

How have the challenges in raising sheep changed over the years? Are there any particular challenges that have been especially interesting or especially difficult? Predator control has always been my biggest challenge over the years. We have to deal with the whole gauntlet including coyotes, bobcats and domestic dogs. There are even reports of wolves and mountain lions (most likely escaped or released pets). My final solution is to run 10 Great Pyrenees. This also provides income from guardian dog sales.

Have you been able to improve productivity of your farm over the years? This has been a big success. Running sheep has improved the soil on the farm. In years past, all parts of the farm had been in crop production and the top soil ruined. Now there isn’t any place in the pasture that doesn’t have a solid stand of grass. The predominant grass is Kentucky Fescue. There is also about 100 acres of forest that is dominated by white oak. The sheep love white oak acorns, so much they won’t come to a bucket of corn when acorns are available. I believe when grazing acorns, sheep also need access to good grass pastures so that they can balance their diet.

Do you raise other livestock or crops on your farm? Last year we added four Dexter cows and a bull to complement the sheep. I like the Dexters because they eat so much brush and can graze higher than the sheep. I was hoping they would knock down the poke weed which is getting out of hand, but the cattle have not helped.

How many ewes do you lamb each year? What was your maximum flock size? I generally lamb about 200 ewes. Last year, I sold mature ewes and was down to 100 ewes. In the past, I have lambed as many as 300 ewes, but with pasture lambing, it was too many lambs together and created mass confusion with younger lambs trying to find their mothers. Pasture lambing works well for me. I use a hillside for good drainage. You can’t lamb in mud. I unroll a 1000# bale of hay daily for feed and bedding. I supplement with a grind and mix blend of crack corn, bean meal, mineral and A,D, and E vitamins and begin creep feeding when the lambs are one month old.

What are your goals for your Katahdin flock? My goal for my Katahdin flock is to breed in more parasite resistance. I believe I am already seeing results. When I have a wormy-looking lamb,
I cull his dam. My latest project is to establish a small lot of pyrethrum daisies and the sheep graze them when they bloom in June. I’ve noticed when you turn cattle into a fresh pasture the first they plant they eat is the meadow weed which is a similar plant.

While not a goal, one thing I do to keep the sheep’s hooves in shape is to have them traverse some glacier deposits which are made up of large mounds of crushed gravel and dirt. I think anyone might be able to do this to increase hoof wear and decrease need for trimming feet by laying out a path of gravel and make the sheep traverse the gravel daily.

Over the past 18 years the main improvement in the Katahdins has been the broadening of the shoulders. In our flock this has come from buying rams from breeders like Mac Allen Edwards who upgraded from Dorsets and spread the influence through sales of rams. I always buy the best rams available.

You have been a frequent attendee at the KHSI Annual Meeting/Expo. What are your favorite experiences or presentations and have you learned much? At the annual meetings my favorite experiences are learning techniques from other shepherds and presentations on parasite control, parasite resistance/tolerance and nutrition.

The Katahdin Hairald thanks Jim Lovelace for his time and thoughts. But we can’t leave Jim Lovelace without telling a story. At the 2004 Katahdin Annual Meeting in McComb, Mississippi, Jim bought a ram and all he had was a small car, a Chevy Cavalier. To the surprise of many at the meeting, Jim made a trip to a local farm supply shop and made a few purchases and was able to take out the back seat and put the ram lamb in there. In October, 2004, we asked him about the trip. This was his email reply.

The trip went without a hitch I left McComb at 6am. I unloaded the ram and the bedding all slid out on the plastic sheet it was on. I pulled the seat out of the trunk and put it back in place. The ram is now with my ewe lambs. I hadn’t planned on buying anything at the meeting. Otherwise I would have been more prepared, but the ram was an exceptional specimen with RR at codon 171. I just had to have him. I do have a custom fit cattle panel to go behind the front seats of a Chevy Cavalier for sale.

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Sept. 25, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Western Maryland Research & Education Center, Keedysville, MD

Speakers

Dr Dave Notter - Virginia Tech University & NSIP Genetic Evaluation Center
Dr Charles Parker - Emeritus Chair, Ohio State University Animal Science Department & Director of the US Sheep Experiment Station
Dr Steve Kappes - USDA-ARS, Deputy Administrator of Animal Production & Protection
Dr James Morgan - National Sheep Improvement Program

Workshop for Breeders of all Skill Levels. Topics Include:

• EPDs (Expected Progeny Differences) 101 • Why Seedstock Breeders Need EPDs
• Marketing Breeding Stock with EPDs • Using EPDs to Breed Elite Stock
• Submitting Performance Data to NSIP • Increasing EPD Accuracy
• The Next Revolution in Livestock Selection: Genomics & EPDs
• EPDs: A “Blue Chip Stock” for An Industry In Transition

For Registration Form, Information or Hotel Information contact James Morgan, 479-444-6075 or jlmm@earthlink.net

Lunch Included

$25 Early Registration by 9/7/08

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Patty Carver
National Sheep Improvement Program
505-632-1827
patty.carver@usda.gov

9/7/08 is the deadline for Early Registration.

NSIP, SFCP certified scrapie free

Optional Lunch: $15 the day of the event

NSIP WORKSHOP

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

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

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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
  - Brochures (20 free per member per year; additional at cost) & promotional items
  - Information on members with sheep for sale, anyone wanting to buy sheep
  - Articles, ads, and comments to be published in the Katahdin Hairald
  - Volunteer for KHSI Committees
  - Annual meeting information

- Office Hours (Central time): Monday mornings 11 am-2 pm, and Monday and Tuesday evenings 7-10 pm. Calls at other times will be answered personally whenever possible.
- Answering machine, FAX and email: available for messages 24 hours per day. PLEASE CALL before sending a fax.

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

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

- Guidelines - Ron Young
- Youth - Michael Seipel
- Web page facilitator - Robert Elliott
- Sales & Show - Wes Limesand & Ron Young
- Promotions - Kay Cloyd & John Stromquist
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RR 246 lbs 16 mo

RR, twin, 290 lbs 16 mo.

COR 08-04 RR, twin, 100 lbs, 4 mo.

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COR 08-08 RR, triplet, 107 lbs, 4 mo.

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Lazy B Livestock
receives the
Best Katahdin
Consignment
Award
at the recent Midwest Stud Ram Sale in Sedalia, MO

Our thanks to the buyers and all who showed interest at the Midwest Stud Ram Sale and SCKA Meeting

1st Late Spring Ram Lamb & Reserve Champion
(sired by "Git-Her-Dun") - buyer Brokaw Farm
Katahdins, IL

4th Fall Ram Lamb & Top Selling Ram (sired by "Frontier") - buyer Billy & France Lansdell, AR

7th Yearling Ram (sired by "Frontier") - buyer G.F. & Deb Kennedy, MN

2nd Early Spring Ram Lamb (sired by "Big-Un")
- buyer Jay Greenstone, VA

2nd Late Spring Ewe Lamb (sired by "Git-Her-Dun")
- buyer Lincoln University, MO

SCKA Meeting - (one ram lamb sired by "Block-Bust-R", one ram lamb sired by "Big-Un", two ewe
lambs sired by "Git-Her-Dun") - buyer Ronald & Rosemary Prokop, FL

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Katahdins
with a Purpose

Check our website for Boonsboro Expo entries

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Howard & Lavonne Brown
Route 1 Box 44
Prague, OK 74864
405-367-2569
Award Presented to Young Shepherd at Southcentral Katahdin Hair Sheep Association (SCKA) Annual Meeting

By Gabrielle Boudreaux Bodin, SCKA Secretary

One deserving 13-year old, Kennedy Landry of Singer, LA, was presented with her prize for winning the SCKA Youth Shepherd Development Program Lamb Giveaway on June 14, 2008 at the SCKA annual meeting in McComb, MS. The award was presented by SCKA member Howard Brown. Howard and Lavonne Brown of Lazy B Livestock from Prague, OK donated the registered 5-month old RR Katahdin ewe lamb.

Brown, an avid Katahdin breeder, wanted to find a way to encourage young people to become shepherds of this special breed of sheep. He came up with the idea of giving away a registered breeding stock ewe lamb to a young person who demonstrated an exceptional interest in “carrying the torch”. Candidates were required to write a 2-page essay with the topic being “Why I like sheep.” The call for entries went out in the April edition of the SCKA Newsletter. Landry anxiously answered the call the same night the newsletter arrived in the mail. (Read her winning essay on page 20 of this issue.)

When asked why she entered the competition, Landry said, “I enjoy working with the sheep here and thought it would be fun to train and show them, to get to work with them. And maybe get my friends interested in it, too. It just seems like fun!”

Landry’s grandfather, Darrell Adams, raises sheep at A Dam Olive Sheep Farm in Singer, LA. When Landry went to live with him, she began working with the sheep “and got attached.” The 8th-grader plans on starting her own flock with her new ewe.

“Our young people are the future and this award will encourage future shepherds of the Katahdin breed to get involved,” says Brown. “Kennedy was selected because she showed the most promise for the future.”

“I would like to make promoting youth involvement part of our organizational mission and plan to accomplish this by holding annual events that will nurture youth involvement,” said Howard Covington, SCKA president. “Getting young people interested in Katahdins is vital to the future of the breed.”

For more information about the Katahdin breed and SCKA, visit www.hair-sheep.com.

Brokaw Farm Katahdins

“Striving to produce quality, good milking ewes and superior rams built up to our finest breeding specifications.

Rams and Ewes Available for Sale on the Farm

Breeder Page at KHSI.org
Focus on EWE-TH: Katy Langston

One of several commonalities between my vocation as a college professor and my avocation as a Katahdin breeder is that each offers the opportunity to meet and get to know fascinating people. Occasionally, those communities of interesting folks overlap, and that is precisely the case for the subject of this issue’s ewe-th profile, Katherine (Katy) Langston of Belle, Missouri. I first became acquainted with Katy as a top student in my “Agricultural Entrepreneurship” class, later as a teaching assistant for that same class, and ultimately as a friend and fellow Katahdin breeder. Katy represents one of what I hope is an increasing number of young people who recognize Katahdins as a manageable, low-input agricultural enterprise to complement their off-farm occupation. I recently interviewed Katy and present that interview here, as this issue’s “Focus on Ewe-th”.

~Michael Seipel, KHSI Youth Committee, Callao, MO

Katy, tell us a little bit about yourself and your family. I graduated from Truman State University in May 07 with degrees in Accounting and Business Management and a minor in Equine Studies.

I live on my family’s farm, Ruby Ranch, which is close to Belle, MO. I am the third generation to live on the farm and I actually live in my grandparent’s 100+ years old farm house that I redecorated before moving in last year. We have over 230 acres, 2 houses, and 8 outbuildings, including our huge barn that we lamb in. My parents also live on the farm with me, but they have their own house (thank goodness!). I also have an older brother, Garrett, who is in the Air Force and currently lives in Wyoming with his wife Sarena.

I am currently a Senior Admissions Counselor for Missouri University of Science and Technology in Rolla, MO. I work with transfer students and travel all over Missouri, Kansas, and Illinois in the spring and fall to recruit at community colleges and 4 year schools. When I am in Rolla, I meet with prospective students on campus and help with the admission process.

When did you get started with Katahdin sheep and what other animals do you have on your farm? We got our first registered Katahdin sheep in the fall of 2007. We purchased 6 ewes and 1 ram. We lambed in May of this year with ten beautiful lambs- 6 ewes and 4 rams! My flock (“empire” as I like to call it) has doubled already! I can’t wait for lambing next year! I also have 3 little goats that keep my ram company when he can’t be with the girls and Huckabee, our Great Pyrenees.

In addition to my adorable sheep, I have a miniature donkey gelding and three AMHA/AMHR miniature horse fillies. I hope to breed and raise top quality miniatures and show them, if I can find the time! I also have 2 peacocks, 7 ducks, and about 30 chickens right now. Don’t forget about Lucy and Lizzy, our miniature daschunds, Annie the farm dog, and Max and Molly, the barn cats.

Are other family members involved with your sheep and if so, how? My father, Wayne Langston, and I decided to go into the sheep business together as a partnership. We have worked together to build the Fort Knox of fences so coyotes don’t get any of my babies! We also built an automatic watering system and divided up our pasture so we can take advantage of rotational grazing. We work together to do the daily chores, vaccinating, deworming, lambing, etc. My current job requires a lot of travel, so he holds down the fort while I am on the road; I couldn’t do this without all of his help. Our future project is building more and more fence so we can keep expanding our flock!

What was your first experience with sheep? I have always liked sheep and learned about them in 4-H when I was younger, but never had any of my own and never really knew anyone that had any. Then, my senior year of college, Dr. Seipel brought the sweetest bottle lamb, “PeeWee”, into his office. I was hooked after that! I graduated from college a few weeks later and spent the whole summer building fence and cleaning out the sheds and barns so I would be ready for my own sheep.

Continued on page 19
How did you learn about Katahdin sheep and why did you decide that they were the right animals for your farm? I learned about Katahdin sheep in my Ag. Entrepreneurship class at Truman with Dr. Seipel. He talked about his flock during the class as an example of an agricultural business. I then learned more about them just from talking with him, visiting his farm, and going to the Katahdin shows at the Missouri State Fair. I decided to have Katahdin sheep because they are so easy (and cute! - a must for my farm). They are known for easy lambing, parasite resistance, and shedding their coat so I don’t have to worry about shearing them. These are all wonderful things when you don’t know much about sheep and are learning as you go - the easier the better. Also, I was not interested in selling wool, just meat, so they were a logical choice.

What have you learned through the process of raising and caring for your sheep? I have learned that lambs leap in the air and kick up their heels when they are happy to see you! I have also learned that I can give shots and I can pull a lamb if I have to — great confidence boosters. I have also learned that communication and planning are important when you are trying to do something as a partnership.

What has been the biggest challenge encountered so far in raising and caring for your animals? I think my biggest challenge overall is that I get too “stressed out” when I think something is wrong with one of my animals and I’m not quite sure what to do to fix it. I got myself worked up into quite a state during lambing, but I think as time goes on I will learn what is normal and what is a situation that must be addressed immediately.

What resources have you used to solve problems or answer questions about your sheep? I have read, highlighted, and reread Storey’s Guide to Raising Sheep. I also call or email the breeders I have purchased my sheep from and they always know the answer! I would say experienced owners are my greatest resource.

What has been the most rewarding aspect of raising livestock in general and sheep in particular? The most rewarding aspect of raising livestock is the relationship that you are able to have with the animal. You can communicate with them on a level that doesn’t need words and it is amazing when you have earned their trust.

I think the most rewarding moment I have had with my sheep is when I walked into the field and had ten baby lambs running to me and I felt like I was part of the reason they were all here. That, and when my brother watched me pull a lamb and then started calling me the “giver of life” for the rest of the week while he was home.

What are your plans and goals for your Katahdin sheep? My plans are to expand my empire and get rich!!!!!!! Ha ha, not really. My plans are to work hard to raise and sell healthy, beautiful registered Katahdin sheep that other breeders would be proud to have as a part of their flock and to raise and sell high quality, all natural meat to local consumers. I love my sheep! Market day is going to be a sad, sad day at Ruby Ranch...

Katahdin Sale Round Up

The KHSI Sale Committee is rounding up all the organized sales that include Katahdins. 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 emphasizing 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 sale to be posted. 479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net.


September 27, 2008. Midwest Hair Sheep Sale. 1:00 PM EDT at the Washington County Fairgrounds-Salem, IN. Buyers and Consignments Wanted. Open to All Hair Sheep (registered and commercial). Consignment fee of $10/head paid with consignment by September 1. $15/head for consignments paid September 2-27. Health papers required. Health inspection committee must also approve consignments prior to unloading sheep on sale day. Registration transfer fees paid by seller. Association reserves the right to limit consignments. Sponsored by the Washington County Sheep Association. For more info contact Brad Shelton at 812-883-4601 or sheltonb@purdue.edu; Blanche Perkins at 812-967-4554 or bearcreekterrel@hotmail.com; Dave Embree at 812-755-4414 or ddembree@yahoo.com.

Katahdins & Katahdin Breeders In the News

The Shepherd magazine — Lisa and Larry Weeks of Triple L Farms in Waynesboro, VA had a picture of one of their Katahdin ewes and her two lamb make the cover of May issue of The Shepherd magazine. The Shepherd magazine is a leading sheep magazine in the United States and has advertised in the Katahdin Hairald for the last year and a half.

Editor’s Note: If you or your Katahdins are featured in a magazine, newsletter or TV story, let KHSI Operations know. Also, if you know of another Katahdin breeder featured in the news let us know as well.
Editors Note: This is the essay that Kennedy Landry, age 13, wrote to win the contest and the RR ewe lamb donated by Howard & Lavonne Brown of Prague Oklahoma. You can read about the award on page 17 of this issue of the Hairald.

Some of my friends like horses because they are pretty. Others like kittens and puppies because they are cute. I like sheep. It's not the most common answer that pops up when young people are asked what their favorite animal is, but to me, it's more than my favorite.

There are many interesting things about sheep. There are many different breeds. There is a whole new vocabulary just for sheep! Most of the kids at my school wouldn't know if I was talking about cows or pigs if I said words like ‘ewe’ and ‘ram’. But I know exactly what they are.

I like sheep because of the ram’s muscular body. The ewes are good mothers when it comes to her lambs. Sheep can adapt to almost any area or climate and have beautiful coats. Some of them have a better shield of protection from things like roundworm. Sheep are graceful creatures, and we can and do use them for many purposes. We use them for the wool that wool sheep provide and use them for meat. A lot of people use them for breeding and selling because they can bring large sums of money.

No matter what use you have with them, they are good for it. Granted, sheep do have their negatives, but doesn't everything?

Sheep are a major part of life in today’s society. People all around the world are breeding, selling, butchering, shearing, and raising sheep. Why are they doing this, you may ask yourself? Not because of the money!! Sheep can and do bring in loads of cash if you manage your herd. They are easy to raise, easy to confine and have less problems than with other livestock. They are also healthy and good to eat.

I currently work with my grandfather at his farm. I greatly enjoy working with the sheep because they are so easy and enjoyable to work with.

We raise hair sheep consisting of Katahdin, Dorper, and St. Croix. My favorite thing to do is brush one of our rams. I had fun training him to walk beside me by leading him around the pasture. We even bump our heads together when we are happy!

One day I was brushing him and noticed there was an odd number of sheep in the pasture. I stood up and did a head count. Satisfied with the number, I looked down and realized the ram was hitting his head against the brush in my hand. I held the brush to his head and again, he looked at it and bumped it with his head. I started brushing him and he began wagging his tail like a dog that just got handed a bone. I laughed and discovered that it I brush his chest or back legs, he really winds up the tail.

I love to watch our sheep just because they are fun to watch. Most of the time they do something really funny and weird, such as the time we banded the tail of one of the lambs and when we set him down, he started walking funny and then just fell over like someone had just shot him. I also enjoy watching the lambs play together or hop around the pasture trying to find their mother. I think it’s so funny, watching the sheep crowd around the person with the feed bucket, trying to get the feed. (That is, until I am the one with the bucket, of course!) I like listening to them talk to one another and I really think it’s funny when they talk and eat grass at the same time.

There are numerous things that I like about sheep; I can’t even name them all. My friends enjoy coming out to the farm because of the sheep. When I first met one of my friends, she couldn’t tell the difference between sheep and goats. I have taught her a lot since then. She may not know as much as me, but at least she now knows the difference in them.

Sheep are good for many uses. They’ve been on this Earth for a long time and will continue on Earth for many more years. To me, they shouldn’t be raised just for the money, but for the pleasure in owning such creatures and the great opportunity to learn more about them. I’m not saying that you should just watch them for a few minutes a day, but if you don’t already, take a little time to enjoy them. Try to get inside their minds and you might be surprised.

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**Take YOUR Flock to the Next Level**

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**Sept. 27, 2008 in Boonsboro, MD**
**FREE RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR SHEPHERDS**

BEHAVE: Behavioral Education for Human, Animal, Vegetation, & Ecosystem Management. This is a website hosted by the Utah State Extension Service. A founder of the project is Dr Fred Provenza. The major emphasis of this project is to learn more about grazing behavior and utilize this knowledge to improve landscape management and production. Information on training cattle and sheep to eat forages they currently ignore is available. A great site for helping shepherds learn to watch their sheep and learn from them. [http://www.behave.net/](http://www.behave.net/)

New Parasite Control Resources. Many small ruminant producers are finding that their dewormers are no longer effective. There are two new publications available free to USA farmers by phone and free to all on the internet which offer help with controlling these issues. Call the ATTRA program at 800-346-9140 to request a copy or go to the website links below.


Both publications are the results of work by the Southern Consortium for Small Ruminant Parasite Control ([www.scsrpc.org](http://www.scsrpc.org)). The first publication covers the use of a tannin-rich forage, sericea lespedeza, to control the barber pole worm, which is the major nematode parasite in the humid areas of the USA, Mexico and Canada. The Southern Consortium is investigating several other tannin-rich forages to see if they can be used to control parasites in small ruminants. The second publication is about the use of copper oxide wire particles to deworm lambs and goat kids. Copper oxide wire particles are effective against barber pole worms. Note that very small amounts of copper oxide particles (0.5 grams or 0.035 oz) are used to deworm and that it differs from the highly toxic, readily absorbed copper sulfate commonly found in cattle and goat minerals.

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www.blueoaksranch.org
Historic 10th National Katahdin Expo held in Aguascalientes

By Alejandro Ferrer, DVM,
Mexico KHSI Representative

Dr. Ferrer thanks Dr Sergio Bolaños for his translation of this article

There is no doubt that the 10th National Katahdin Expo celebrated at the city of Aguascalientes in Mexico during the month of April was a tremendous success.

Surrounded by such a magnificent building, 42 Katahdin breeders brought a total of 420 animals to the show room. The high “Genetic Quality” observed in the animals present at the expo leaves no doubt what a great job Mexican breeders are doing with their stock selection. They have made the Katahdin breed the most popular breed for lamb production in Mexico.

The success of the sale at the 10th Katahdin Expo speaks for itself. The sale gave us a great view on how popular the Katahdin breed is in Mexico.

This exceptional expo included two presentations from KHSI members. Mr. John Stromquist, President of KHSI, talked about the future of Katahdins in America and shared his knowledge gathered as a sheep breeder during his long career. We all as Mexican breeders thank John and appreciate his excellent presentation. We also enjoyed the lecture given by our friend Dr. James Morgan who spoke about how important EPDs are in our breed and the experience KHSI has with using performance evaluation. We also want to thank Dr. Morgan for his time.

For the first time in an event of this type, we had live transmission via internet to the United States, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Costa Rica. This was achieved thanks to the supreme effort and great coordination of logistics by Mr. Oscar Cesar. Mr. Cesar and his staff worked closely with the Expo organizers, led by Mr. Armando Garcia, to coordinate the live transmission. For promotion and publicity of Katahdins, we have created a commission named CRICAMEX, which is part of the Mexican Lamb Breeders Association. CRICAMEX’s main business is to gather together all Katahdin breeders of Mexico to work together to improve and promote the Katahdin breed. We recently published a Special Edition magazine for the Katahdin breed and a breeders directory of all the states of Mexico which is given out in all states’ Expos. Also we have our web page www.CRIKAMEX.com.

On the 24th of April all of us were anxious and nervous before the start of the 2008 National Katahdin Show. We had the honor to have Ms. Colleen Sawyer from Canada judge the show. The “Quantity and Quality” of the animals put Judge Sawyer through many difficult moments and close tight decisions.

We had classes of up to 30 individuals. In this occasion the Grand Champion Ram and Grand Champion Ewes were exhibited by Shangrila Ranch which is owned by Mr. Alejandro Ferrer and Mr. Carlos Acevedo.

After the show, CRICAMEX Supreme Auction sold 19 of the highest quality animals from the best lines from the best ranches of Mexico. The record price for the auction was $4800 dollars (US) for a ewe bred and consigned by Mr. Benjamin Zarazua.

The finale to this magnificent and delightful event was the annual meeting of Katahdin breeders in Mexico. We discussed many important topics including how the three North American Katahdin Associations in United States, Canada and Mexico can work together to promote the breed, develop the same breed standards and to make registrations from any of the three associations acceptable to the other three. In National matters some breeders ask for the possibility of opening the registration book for the Katahdin breed; a situation that causes a lot of discussion between the full blood breeders and those that grade up to full blood Katahdins. In this matter we have to keep working and look for answers that benefit all breeders. Once we finished discussion, we enjoyed an exquisite dinner party to close the annual meeting.

At the end of the Expo the Katahdin breeders returned home with a smile on their faces and were very optimistic about the breed’s future (though a few wished they would have won more prizes in the show ring.)

Finally I believe that all Katahdin breeders are winners; winners because the breed we have chosen is proving to be the breed of choice in the lamb industry of Mexico. With their excellent results in the field, Katahdins are showing that they are the superior breed in Mexico.

I send my greetings from Mexico and we are looking forward to seeing all of you at the KHSI Expo in Maryland.
Small Scale Direct Marketing Lamb By The Cut
100 Lambs or Less Per Year To Consumers

By James Morgan, Round Mountain Farm, Arkansas

Marketing of agricultural products directly from producer to the consumer is promoted as a means to obtain a higher return for agricultural products and reduce fluctuations typically occurring when selling on the commodity market. Driving part of the increase in direct marketing is the increasing percentage of consumers in the USA that want organic, sustainably-produced, humanely-raised, grass-fed and/or locally raised products.

Direct marketers of meat typically sell freezer lambs by the half or whole, or market by the cut. Marketing by the cut increases a direct marketer’s sales opportunities as many individuals, restaurants and stores do not want all the cuts.

In the experience of our farm and working with other direct meat marketers in Northwest Arkansas, there are a few key points that producers can quickly evaluate before embarking on extensive direct marketing by the cut. Simple questions to ask are a) distance to a USDA or state inspected processing plant that is willing to work with a direct marketer, b) distance to the market, c) number of potential buyers in the target market and d) the amount of time needed to sell and deliver the product. Speakers and publications promoting direct marketing rarely speak to all of these questions. A comprehensive business plan would include these as well as many other costs, but these are four key questions. I have observed that direct meat marketers I have worked with in northwest Arkansas that lived more than 100 miles from the target markets (NW Arkansas and Little Rock) were out of farming in two years.

Producers can easily increase efficiency and reduce fuel costs and the labor of driving by taking 10-20 or more lambs to the processor at one time so that number of people, it is more probable that the direct marketer will access that small percentage of consumers a) wanting to buy direct from the farmer/rancher, b) willing to pay a higher dollar for a quality product (e.g. local, organic, humanely raised, gourmet quality), c) willing to invest the time in the inconvenience of not being able to do one-stop shopping at a large supermarket and/or d) a chef willing to work with a small specialty supplier. When your farm is an hour from your market, you need to sell enough meat to generate enough to cover the overhead vehicle costs and time involved in delivery. This means dedicating $50-$100 per three hour round trip of the gross meat sales to cover the labor invested in sales and delivery and vehicle expenses.

Even with the large increases in fuel costs in the last year, the key undervalued investment that that really drives up a direct marketer’s cost is their labor investment in delivery and marketing. Few beginning direct marketers value that cost.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of lambs taken to processor/trip</th>
<th>10 Lambs</th>
<th>5 Lambs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lamb (100 lbs @ $1.10/lb)*</td>
<td>$110</td>
<td>$110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processing/lamb</td>
<td>$75</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation to processor &amp; back on a per lamb basis (round trip =120 miles; 5 or 10 lambs/trip)</td>
<td>$9.00 ($0.75/mile)**</td>
<td>$18.00 ($0.75/mile)**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving &amp; unloading labor per lamb; 2.5 hrs ($15/hr*** on a per lamb basis)</td>
<td>$3.75</td>
<td>$7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation: pick up processed lamb, return meat to storage facility. Per lamb basis (RT – 120 Miles; 5 or 10 lambs/trip)</td>
<td>$9.00 ($0.75/mile)</td>
<td>$18.00 ($0.75/mile)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driver Labor ($15/hr on a per lamb basis)</td>
<td>$3.75</td>
<td>$7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal (cost of processed lamb)</td>
<td>$210.50</td>
<td>$236.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* - $1.10/lb is standard in Arkansas for most of the year
** - $0.75/mile. Small truck and light trailer
*** - $15/hr – Person can put higher/lower value here. $15/hr is a very moderate price for a professional.
There are other models of direct marketing, including an on-farm store, wholesaling to stores, and coupling meat deliveries to consumers with commuting to an off-farm job that differ. This article is written for the direct marketers who sell direct to consumers in the city at farmer’s markets or other delivery points.

Table 1 documents the costs of taking lambs to the processor and then returning with the processed product. This marketing scenario is different from some in the following respects. A) The costs are determined on a per lamb basis. The total cost of processing, delivery and marketing are summed. Then it is a simple math exercise to adjust the costs per cut or for a whole freezer lamb to cover processing and direct marketing lamb expenses. B) Costs of raising the lamb are not analyzed. This is a marketing article and does not analyze production costs. A set price per pound of live lamb is included in the analyses and is similar to the price a producer can receive at many sales in the USA. C) Labor is set at $15 per hour. If that is too high or low, it can be adjusted for another operation.

The increase in efficiency by taking 10 instead of 5 lambs to the processor is 10-15% for the scenario (Table 1). This efficiency is affected by fuel costs and distance to the processor.

There are several expenses that a direct marketer incurs and these would be very different in each operation. Rather than itemizing these expenses in the table, a figure of $40/lamb is used for marketing with Round Mountain Farm. It is very close to our current expenses. Our farm gradually grows our operation selling 15 lambs/year to 100/year and we have not had to invest in more expensive advertising since we let sales drive the number marketed. If we market 50 lambs/year this cost is closer to $50-$60/lamb because of loss of efficiencies. Some expenses are set and are incurred each year, regardless of whether 4 lambs are marketed or 200. Expenses include office, advertising, computer, product liability insurance, farmer’s market association fees, brochure printing and website. The $40/lamb also includes prorated portion of freezer, transport coolers, labels and other items that last for several years.

The $40/lamb does not include labor of sales or delivery. It is the labor of sales and delivery that is the final determinant of the total cost. The profit in direct marketing lamb in this scenario is paying the labor of delivery, driving and marketing (Table 2).

A question in most minds at this point is the price list for cuts needed to generate $250 to $350/lamb. How does a marketer price the rack, leg, shank and ground to make $250 or $350 or more per lamb? That is another article and is affected by many items that differ depending on the processor, cutting directions, degree of finish, grass versus grain finish, breed, ram versus wether versus ewe lambs being processed, how the butcher trims cuts and how much deboned product is sold. My “cattle/pork” butcher who processes the lamb prefers to cut the rib bone on the rack and rib chop even with the rib eye, and that can easily cost me $12.00/carcass. Turning the shoulder into ground and not selling any bone-in shoulder cuts greatly increases the cost per pound of ground.

Round Mountain Farm is considering many options to decrease labor involved in sales and delivery. Some of these include investments in display freezers to take to the farmer’s market to improve presentation and also selling other products besides lamb. Most buyers going past our booth do not eat lamb and selling other products would bring more buyers to our table. Most lamb eating consumers also eat beef, chicken and vegetables. It would be much easier to sell $1000 of product/trip to the farmer’s market if we sold beef, herbs, vegetables as well as lamb. Another approach used by many is to offer discounts for retail customers who buy $50, $100 or $200 of lamb. To do this, the price per cut needs to be high enough, so that the volume discounts do not decrease income below expense.

There are other values to direct marketing that do not directly affect the bottom line. There is considerable satisfaction to having many of our customers tell us that we raise the best lamb they have ever eaten. There is considerable educational value for a sheep seedstock producer to be involved in the processing and selling (and eating!) of meat.

In summary, sheep producers considering a time or money investment in direct marketing lambs by the cut need a comprehensive business plan. Key questions to ask before starting are a) distance to the USDA or State-inspected processing plant, b) distance to the market, c) number of potential buyers in the target market and d) amount of time needed to sell and deliver the product. Too often, the direct marketer undervalues their time investment needed to sell and deliver the meat and don’t live close enough to a large metropolitan to provide a sufficient number of buyers.

**Table 2. Marketing Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount Marketed Per Trip to Town</th>
<th>1 lamb</th>
<th>10 lambs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value of Processed Lamb from Table 1. Taking 5 lambs/trip to processor &amp; 10 lambs/trip to processor</td>
<td>$236*</td>
<td>$210.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Expenses (insurance, computer, brochures, freezers) per lamb (see text)</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery (RT 30 Miles; $0.75/mile)</td>
<td>$22.50</td>
<td>$2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving/Delivery Time (1.5 hours)</td>
<td>$22.50</td>
<td>$2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selling Time (1.5 hrs @ $15/hr) (home or Farmers Market)</td>
<td>$22.50</td>
<td>$2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of marketing 1 lamb to recoup expenses and labor in marketing and processing</td>
<td>$343.50</td>
<td>$257.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: The * indicates the total cost is an estimate.*
White Post Farm
A Significant Difference

Taking 2 of this year's finest ewe lambs and 2 of our finest ram lambs to the Expo.

Hope to SEE YOU in MD!

I want to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their support over the past 3 years and look forward to serving you again.

John

John and Steve Stromquist
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August 22-23, 2008. Annual Conference on Small Ruminants on at the Alabama 4-H Center in Columbiana, Alabama**. Talks on genetics of meat production. For more information, Dr. Maria Leite-Browning at 256-372-4954 or mll0002@aces.edu.

Sept 25, 2008. NSIP and EPD Workshop. 9 AM to 4 PM. Keedysville, MD at Western Maryland Research & Education Center. Will be held just prior to the KHSI Expo. Stay at same hotel. Contact Jim Morgan, jlimm@earthlink.net or 479-444-6075 for more information and registration form. $25. Early Registration by 9/7/08. (see display ad in this issue for topics).

Sept 25-27, 2008**. 2008 KHSI Expo. Includes educational workshop and a premier Katahdin Sale. Social on evening of the 25th. Boonsboro/Hagerstown, Maryland. Registration form and schedule will be sent to all KHSI members and available at the website. Early Registration due by 9/12. Best hotel rates available if reserved before August 24th.


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

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Breeding Katahdins since 1999
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Reserve Now to Get Special KHSI Expo Hotel Rate!

The hotel for the 2008 KHSI Expo is the Four Points by Sheraton in Hagerstown, Maryland. The hotel is 9 miles north of Boonsboro where the educational events and sale will be held. To make reservations, call 1-800-325-3535. Mention Katahdin Hair Sheep to get the special rate of $73 (plus 12% taxes).

IMPORTANT NOTE: This very special rate is only good through August 24, so reserve early to save money! There may be rooms after this date, but the price will be higher.
KHSI 4th Annual Photo Contest Now Open!

KHSI Promotion Committee

Attention all photographers: KHSI announces the opening of the 4th Annual Photo Contest in our continuing efforts to get quality photographs to be used in promoting Katahdin sheep. The contest is open to all who wish to enter. The photographer does not have to be a member of KHSI. The photograph must include Katahdin sheep.

Entries must be received by November 1, 2008 at khsint@earthlink.net or on a CD/floppy sent to KHSI Operations, PO Box 778, Fayetteville AR 72702 (CDs are preferred)

Photographs from previous contests have been used in ads in national sheep magazines and other KHSI promotional activities. Several have been included in the Katahdin Hairald.

Entries will be judged on composition, exposure, focus, relevance, and creativity (or appeal) with the goal of promoting Katahdin sheep. Awards will be given in each of the 6 categories:

1. Grand prize: Choice: 1 year free membership OR 1 year free breeders page on website OR free ½ page print ad in Hairald OR $50 value in registration paper fees or promotional items (hats, T-shirts, silver Katahdin head, metal signs).
2. First runner up: Choice of $25 value in registration paper fees OR 3 hats or 2 T-shirts OR 1 silver Katahdin head OR 1 metal sign.
3. Second runner up: Choice of free hat or T-shirt or $10 value in registration paper fees.

Categories:

1. Best Promotion of Katahdins – Photographs that show one or more of the qualities promoted for Katahdin sheep such as: no shearing, efficient grazers, superb mothers, low maintenance, easy lambing, adaptable, etc.
2. Action – Photographs of activities such as moving/trailing sheep, lambing, tagging, exhibiting, grazing, feeding, etc. (Note that all pictures featuring youth ages 18 and younger should be entered in the “Kids and Sheep” category.)
3. Scenic – Photographs of sheep outdoors. (Photos entered in this category cannot include people.)
4. Kids and Sheep – Photographs containing pictures of youth less than 18 years of age and sheep.
5. Shedding Sheep – Photographs that demonstrate Katahdins shedding. An entry could be composed of a sequence of 2-3 pictures of the same animal.
6. Open Category – Photographs that do not fall into the five above-listed categories.
7. Just for Youth – Pictures of Katahdins taken by individuals under 18. The picture topic can be any category.

Other contest rules:

• Photos being submitted have never been previously published.
• All entries become the property of KHSI to be used or reproduced at the discretion of KHSI. Owners of the photographed sheep may continue to use the photos.
• All entries must be submitted in digital form, at least 300 dpi, either by email or on a disk or CD. (Camera and copy shops and some discount stores can help you turn your best hardcopy photos into digital format. Call Operations at 479-444-8441 if you need suggestions on this).
• Digitized photos must be less than 2 MB.
• Entries must be submitted in the name of the person who took the photograph.
• Entries are limited to two per person per category.
• Only photographs that have been taken in the past three years may be entered.
• Provide the following information in an email or in a file on the disk or CD:
  1. Title of photo
  2. Category (from the seven listed above) into which it is being entered
  3. Photographer’s name
  4. Mailing address
  5. Phone number
  6. E-mail address
  7. Approximate date photograph was taken
  8. Approximate location of where photograph was taken

Questions? Please call or email KHSI Operations at khsint@earthlink.net or 479-444-8441. We do want to acknowledge that we used ASI photo contest guidelines as the basis for the KHSI contest.

Business Card Ads in the Hairald are only $15 (b/w) or $25 (color) for members advertising sheep.
**Classified Ads**

Classified sale ads for Katahdin or Katahdin-cross sheep are free to all KHSI members in the Katahdin Hairald and at the KHSI website. For the Hairald, please limit length to 40 words. Sheep Wanted Ads can be placed for free for non-KHSI members. Ads for the Winter 2008 Hairald are due Oct. 7, 2008. Contact KHSI Operations, 479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net

### SHEEP WANTED

**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 & has asked me to contact Katahdin breeders. He wants to feature Katahdin lambs at both places. He is working toward farm fresh semi-organic eaterly. Please call him if you can deliver lambs. 504-400-2191. Posted by Les Jordan, KHSI member from Mississippi

**MISSOURI**

SW Missouri. Full Blood Ram. Prefer color. Contact Steve Counts at SC5238@hotmail.com or 417-459-5953 in Nixa, MO

**NEW MEXICO**

Registered Ram/Ram Lamb. Prefer RR with color & good size. Reasonable price & distance or ability to ship to Central NM. Our flock is TB & ovis free. OPP Negative. Dave & Jenny Anglen, 505-861-0489 or djanglen@msn.com

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Starter Flock of Katahdin sheep. Approximately 6 ewes & 1 ram. Full blood or very high percentage. Dorper-Cross okay. Please call or email with prices & details. Jeff Sedon, Russell, PA 814-563-6421 or jksedon@verizon.net

**VIRGINIA**

Commercial Ram Lamb. Late 07 or spring 08 commercial ram lamb to breed two ewes this autumn. Located in Central VA between Charlottesville & Richmond. Prefer in-State (or w/ in 100 miles of Charlottesville, VA) to avoid commercial hauling &/or long distance pick up. Please email laingcroftfarm@yahoo.com with percentage Katahdin breeding, age, location & price.

### SHEEP FOR SALE

**ALABAMA**

Southern AL. Mature proven RR registered ram. Elvis. 03 RR white ram out of GF9398 (#2 in the Nation for Prolificacy EPDs.) Owned since birth; time to change. Pics available. Contact ricochetaussies@yahoo.com. asking $500 Certified Scrapie Free. In SFCP for 6 yrs.

**ILLINOIS**

Ram Lambs. Late Feb-early Mar. Sired by RR Registered Ram. Seven white ram lambs. $125 ea. Camden, IL. Galen or Erica Smith at 217-322-4663 or gesmith97@frontiernet.net

Registered & commercial ewe lambs. Feb born ewe lambs; all multiple births. RR & QR sires. Colored & white. Pics available. Exceptional ewe production. Sire is from NDSU & out of Stacked. Prices start at $100 to $250. Jane Phillips, Galesburg, IL 309-344-1138 or janegarden@grics.net

**INDIANA**

Ewes, ewe lambs & rams. Registered & commercial. 24 Feb ewe lambs & 15-20 young ewes. Most registered, some recorded high %’s. All QR/RR. NDSU, Fortmeyer & Stromquist bloodlines. Reg RR/RR rams. Call for individual/group prices. Linda Terrel 812-967-3380 or Blanche Perkins 812-967-4554

**IOWA**

Central IA. Commercial rams. One proven 2 yr old with nice lambs this spring. Other is a yearling ready for fall. $150 for the 2 year old, $125 for the yearling. Brigetta Hughes at: lealer1@msn.com or 515-996-2517

Northern IA. Registered QR/RR ewes & ewe lambs. Four 2-3 yr old QR ewes. 6 Mar/Apr QR/RR Ewe Lambs. Ewes $250. Ewe Lambs $225. Rams available.$1200 for Ewes with ram & $1250 for ewe lambs with ram. Steve Bull, Manly, IA redbarnkatahdins@yahoo.com or 641-420-7535

**KENTUCKY**

Central Kentucky. Registered ram & ewe lambs. Most RR. Born Mar 08. Certified scrapie free (SFCP) & member of NSIP. Kay Cloyd, 859-254-2840 or kacloyd@cs.com in Lexington, KY


South Central KY. Commercial ewe lambs. 60 spring born (Feb/Mar) pasture-raised ewe lambs. Good Stock. Dan Miller, Horse Cave, KY. 270-528-1239 or 270-786-2600. $150/ea

South Central KY. Registered Yearling QR/RR ewes. 08 Ewe & Ram Lambs. 8 QR yearling ewes; 4 RR yearling ewes. QR/RR Mar 08 ewe & ram lambs. SFCP 2003. Call for specifics 270-789-1421. Linda Cundiff & Scotty Hedgespeth, Finley KY

Registered 07 & 08 ewes. Six Jul/Aug-07 ewes. Eight Feb-Mar 08 ewe lambs $200-$300. All are registered or can be registered. Kenny & Donna Gentry, Garfield KY. papandma@bbtel.com or 270-668-5294
### Classified Ads

#### Sheep For Sale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEW MEXICO</strong></td>
<td><strong>Central NM.</strong> Registered mature, proven QR ram. 50% KatxCotswold Ewes. Ram bred by Joyce Geiler &amp; born 12/04 for $250. Ewes $150. From TB, B Ovis free flock &amp; OPP negative flock. Dave &amp; Jenny Anglen. 505-861-0489 or <a href="mailto:djanglen@msn.com">djanglen@msn.com</a> Bosque, NM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NORTH CAROLINA</strong></td>
<td>Commercial &amp; Registered Ewe &amp; Ram Lambs, Yearling &amp; Mature Ewes. Lambs 3-6 months old. Proven 1 &amp; 2 yr old ewes for sale as well that can be registered. Downsizing-drought. Starting at $125 to $200. Steve at 828-625-1679 or <a href="mailto:sauce@oldmule.com">sauce@oldmule.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NORTH DAKOTA</strong></td>
<td>Commercial QR/RR yearling ram/ram lambs. Fast growing, heavy muscled Mar/Apr born rams, good milking mothers. All gained around 0.70 lbs/day, birth to weaning. 2 are RR, 2 could be QR/RR. RR yearling ram. Prices start @$150. Pics available. Luke Lillehaugen 701-280-0938 or <a href="mailto:Lillehaugen@cableone.net">Lillehaugen@cableone.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OREGON</strong></td>
<td>NW Oregon. Registered/commercial ewes. Springwater Stables in Oregon City, OR. Several colorful registered &amp; commercial ewes. Most are pure Katahdin but also some Kat x St. Croix crosses. $100-$200, package prices available. 503-631-7471, leave message. Ted Ashkar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MISSOURI</strong></td>
<td>South Central MO. Registered Yearling Rams. Two Rams Jan/Feb 07 born. Twin/Triplet births. One white coat &amp; hooves. 2nd is white, tan spots, freckles &amp; black hooves. $350 each. Good solid rams, great frames. Growth records available. Rod/Kat Phipps, Belle, MO 573-646-3309 or <a href="mailto:barnkat@fidnet.com">barnkat@fidnet.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MISSISSIPPI</strong></td>
<td>Registered ewe &amp; ram lambs. Color throughout the flock. $150/lamb. Herb &amp; Laura Gorin. Oxford, MD. <a href="mailto:Herbgorin@hughes.net">Herbgorin@hughes.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MARYLAND</strong></td>
<td>Registered ewe &amp; ram lambs. Born 4/08 from an elite group of ewes. SFCP certified free flock. John Bruner Leaning Pine Farms LLC at <a href="mailto:jnosbruner@msn.com">jnosbruner@msn.com</a> or 606-271-0582. Science Hill, KY.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MONTANA</strong></td>
<td>Montana. Registered FR/QR rams. Born 3/08 from an elite group of ewes. SFPC certified free flock. John Bruner Leaning Pine Farms LLC at <a href="mailto:jnosbruner@msn.com">jnosbruner@msn.com</a> or 606-271-0582. Science Hill, KY.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MISSOURI</strong></td>
<td>Southern MI. Registered ewes. In Scrapie program (SFCP) for 6 yrs &amp; are Certified Scrapie Free. All are good solid stock &amp; proven mothers. We also have some yearling ewes. Les &amp; Amanda Jordan, McComb, MI 601-684-1205 or <a href="mailto:lajordan@wildblue.net">lajordan@wildblue.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MISSOURI</strong></td>
<td>West Central Ohio. Registered flock dispersal. 12 Mar born ewe lambs &amp; 9 adult ewes. $225 to $300 ea, or $4000. for all. SFCP, NSIP, not dewormed in 4 years. Naomi Hawkins, Lewisburg, OH 937-839-1280 or <a href="mailto:naomihawkins@hotmail.com">naomihawkins@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OHIO</strong></td>
<td>NE Ohio. 2 registered ewes. One QR all white 2 yr old., $300. One 4 yr old all brown. $250. Rotationally grazed in spring/summer/fall, hay in winter. No foot problems, good mothers, SFCP since 05. Photos available. Shawn/Susan Goodman. 330-540-1495 or cfo@nhiconstruction. N Jackson, OH.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OHIO</strong></td>
<td>Central PA. Registered, recorded &amp; commercial QR/RR ewelambs. Most born &amp; raised as twins or triplets in Feb, Apr, May 08. Adult ewes available. Located near Bellefonte, just off I-80 &amp; Rt. 220. Leave message at 814-355-5506 or <a href="mailto:Katahdins@lycos.com">Katahdins@lycos.com</a> Ken &amp; Lilae Shope.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OHIO</strong></td>
<td>NE PA. Registerable Yearlings &amp; Lambs. Sell individually or as groups. 08 Feb/Mar ewe &amp; ram lambs. Mature, proven &amp; “Typie”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Get your Katahdins on the Web – Build a KHSI Breeder’s Page at the KHSI Website

- www.khsi.org
- Contact 479-444-8441 or khsint@earthlink.net
Business Card Ads in the Hairald for members advertising sheep are currently $15 b/w or $25 color.
Sunset Ridge Katahdins
The next generation of Katahdin Hair Sheep

We will be breeding these rams to 75 ewes in Sept. 2008

**Cherokee** SRK07-59
16 mo. wt. 232 lbs. • triplet born

**Ajax** PBB61-83
16 mo. wt. 262 lbs. • twin born

**Prime Time** SWP07-103
16 mo. wt. 242 lbs. • triplet born

We hope that you will consider us a source of genetics for your next generation of lambs.

**Greg and Matt McGinnis**
1335 Ridgeline Road • Washburn, TN 37888

Home: 865-497-3085 • Cell: 865-310-7784
Email: sgmcginnis2003@yahoo.com
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Lambrecht Lamb & Land
Registered Katahdins
RR Ram Lambs for Sale
Sired by “MOSES” son of “SAMPSON”

Ram and Ewe Lambs available NOW!
Dave, Kim, Anne & Adlen Lambrecht • Belgrade, MT
(406) 579-0599 • lambrecht@theglobal.net
### 2008 Katahdin Expo Schedule (Preliminary)

**September 26-27, 2008   Boonsboro, Maryland**

#### Thursday, September 25

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Consigned Animals due at Washington County Agricultural Center, Boonsboro, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 pm. to 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>KHSI Hospitality at Four Points at Sheraton, Hagerstown, MD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Friday, September 26, Washington County Agricultural Center, Boonsboro, MD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. to 9 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration and refreshments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 to 9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome and Opening Remarks by Susan Schoenian Sheep &amp; Goat Specialist, University of Maryland Extension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 to 10 a.m.</td>
<td>An overview of sheep research and extension programs in the Mid-Atlantic states.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 to 10:15</td>
<td>Morning break</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Track 1: Genetic Improvement of Katahdin Sheep**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:15 to 11:45</td>
<td>a) EPD’s for beginners - Dr. David Notter, Dept of Animal &amp; Avian Science, Virginia Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) Selecting sheep for parasite resistance - Kathy Bielek, Misty Oaks Farm, Wooster, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c) The genetics of parasite resistance - Dr. David Notter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Track 2: Pasture Production of Katahdin Lamb**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 noon to 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch and exhibits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 to 4 p.m.</td>
<td>Marketing Katahdin Sheep and Lambs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a) Ethnic markets for sheep and lambs - Dr. Robert Herr, Nix Besser Livestock Company (order buyer at New Holland Sales Stables, New Holland, PA), Narvon, PA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) Understanding the Muslim/Halal market - Habib A. Ghanim, Sr., President, USA Halal Chamber of Commerce, Inc., Washington DC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Afternoon break**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c) The Scott County (VA) Experience - Martha Mewbourne &amp; David Redwine, Scott County Katahdin Hair Sheep Assoc, Scott County, VA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d) Producing lambs for different markets: matching size and maturity - Dr. Charles Parker, Professor Emeritus, Dept of Animal Science, The Ohio State University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. 2008 KHSI Annual Membership Meeting

6:30 p.m. until Lamb and Goat Roast & Live Entertainment (country music & humor)

#### Saturday, September 27

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Morning refreshments and KHSI coat inspector training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m. to 11 a.m.</td>
<td>Wagon tour of Western Maryland Research &amp; Education Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 a.m. to 12 noon</td>
<td>View sale offering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 noon</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2008 National Katahdin Sale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2008 Katahdin Expo Schedule (Preliminary)

- **September 26-27, 2008**
- **Boonsboro, Maryland**
PermaNet™ 10/48/6

- Unique semi-permanent electric barrier for sheep, goats, cattle, llamas, pigs, predators and deer.

- For fences when a permanent fence is too costly or interferes with future plans. Very adaptable to hills and curves.

- Differs from other electric nets in:
  - Height (48” instead of 35 or 42”).
  - Size of posts and steel ground spikes (larger and stronger).
  - Time to install/remove (more—but still only minutes/500 ft. instead of hours/days).

- Like all nets it needs no tools or special skills. Line posts are built in.

- To use successfully vegetation must be controlled (herbicide is best).

- $167 per 150 ft. roll. Other lengths, heights and vertical spacings of PermaNet are available.

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