

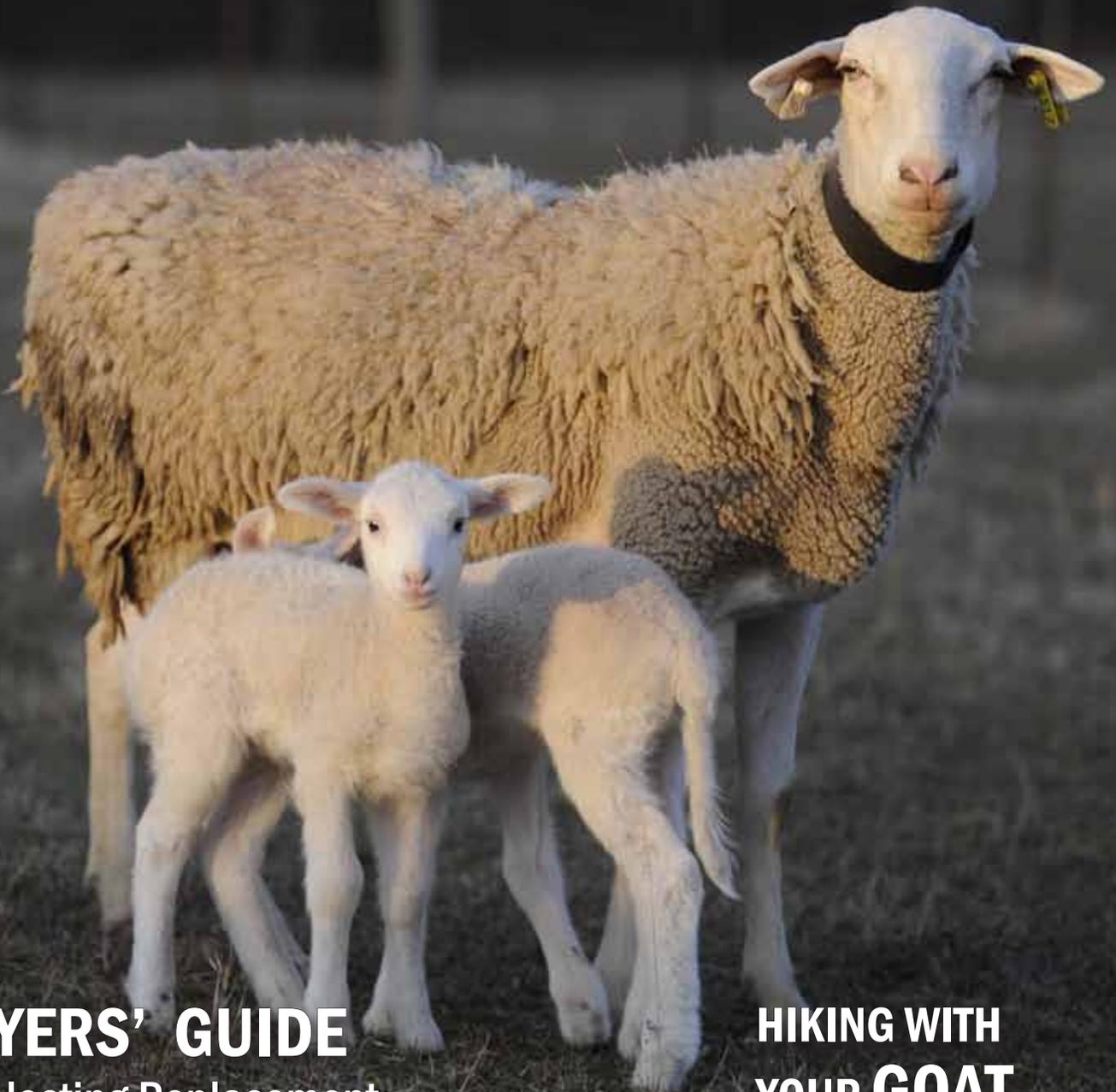
Volume 23 Spring 2016

Hoof Print

The Small Ruminant Magazine



TSPA WOOL POOL
2016 TN & KY Dates Set



BUYERS' GUIDE
to Selecting Replacement
Females

**HIKING WITH
YOUR GOAT**

We make the tools

that make your life EZier!



From milking your goats, sheep & cows... to drawing colostrum, it's never been easier with our best-selling Udderly EZ™ hand-milker and new Ultimate EZ™ electric! No power? No Problem! Be sure to look at our EZ Solar Solution™



Questions? Contact the inventor, Buck Wheeler | 800-287-4791 or 507-213-2126 | info@EZAnimalProducts.com
For more information and video demonstrations visit www.EZAnimalProducts.com

Hoof Print Magazine

Published Quarterly

\$24 per year

Free with paid membership to one or more of our partner organizations.

HoofPrint: The Small Ruminant Magazine is a periodical to promote better animal health, husbandry, and knowledge among sheep and goat producers. *HoofPrint* is the joint effort of members of the sheep and goat industries and serves as a united voice for all small ruminant producers.

EDITOR / MARKETING DIRECTOR

Kelley Yates

EDITORIAL BOARD

Tess Caudill, Maggie May Rogers

Sonia McElroy, Scott VanSickle,

Debra K. Aaron, Donald G. Ely,

Mark Powell, Denise Martin,

Beth Johnson, Kathy Meyer, Jim Mansfield,

Dr. Tom Huber, Brent Ballinger

DESIGN & LAYOUT

Maggie May Rogers

OFFICE SUPPORT

Sharon Koontz

PHOTOGRAPHY

Dr. Beth Johnson, DVM, Dr. Debra

Aaron, Philippe Roca, Brent Ballinger,

Elizabeth Ann Moore, Noah Collins,

Monty Vanderbilt

Cover Photo provided by Philippe Roca

©Roca 2016

ADVERTISING

Kelley Yates

kyates@kysheepandgoat.org

(502) 682-7780



Executive, Editorial & Advertising Sales directed by Kentucky Sheep & Goat Development Office: P.O. Box 4709 Frankfort, KY 40604-4709

Copyright © 2015 by Kentucky Sheep & Goat Development Office. All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced mechanically, electronically, or by any other means, including photo copying without written permission from the publisher.



IN THIS ISSUE

- 10 Buyers' Guide to Selecting Replacement Females
- 14 From Rock Bottom
- 26 Bridging the Gap between Sheep and Shawl- Marketing Wool to the Hand Spinner
- 29 2016 Tennessee Wool Pool
- 30 Hiking With Your Goat



SPECIAL FEATURES

- 16 HEALTH & MANAGEMENT
The Veterinary Feed Directive: What Does It Mean to Small Ruminant Producers
- 18 GENETICALLY SPEAKING & NEWS TO EWES
Stomach Worm x Breed x Management Interactions



IN EVERY ISSUE

- 4 KY Goat Producers Assoc.
- 6 TN Sheep Producers Assoc.
- 8 KY Sheep and Wool Producers Assoc.
- 31 Marketplace



President's Letter

Happy Spring Fellow Goat Producers!

We have all been busy in the kidding barn; hope you have had a good kid crop. Now begins a busy time of year for the Kentucky Goat Producers Association:

The Kentucky Proud Elite Breeders Sale is April 16th at The Franklin County Fairgrounds. This sale kicks off the youth activities sponsored by the KGPA and we are happy to help support our youth by supporting this sale.

The Kentucky Junior Market and Breeding show is being held at Mercer County Fairgrounds, Harrodsburg Kentucky this year on June 11th. We encourage all Kentucky youth raising goats to get out there and exhibit your dairy and meat breeding stock at this Kentucky Department of Agriculture sponsored event.

All of these events lead up to the Kentucky State Fair in August and the goat shows representing the best of Kentucky and our youth exhibitors. The Kentucky Goat Producers Association support the Sale of Champions every year, raising money to offer these fantastic youth top dollar for their Champion and Reserve Champion Market goats. We also award belt buckles to the champion dairy goat youth showmanship winner, the champion and reserve champion commercial doe and the champion and reserve champion market kid. We feel that our industry will flourish with the involvement of our youth and they are the future of the goat industry in our state.

Denise Martin, President
Kentucky Goat Producers Association

South Central Goat & Sheep Producers Organize

by Chris Schalk

A group of sheep and goat producers for Barren and surrounding counties have formally organized into the South Central Goat & Sheep Producers. The group has been meeting monthly for the past 16 months in partnership with the Barren County Cooperative Extension Service. Each month an educational program is held along with time for members to network and share ideas. The group meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Barren County Cooperative Extension office at 6:30 PM, and all interested in sheep and goat production are invited to attend.



The officers of the newly formed South Central Goat & Sheep Producers (left to right) Leslie Steele, secretary—Susan Mings, treasurer—Dee Daniels, president—Jeff Chapman, vice-president.

2016 KGPA Board of Directors

President

Denise Martin, Magnolia, KY
martinmeadowfarms@yahoo.com

Vice-President

Vincent Thompson, Elizabethtown, KY
vat.farm.345@gmail.com

Correspondence Secretary

Jackie Bremer, Danville, KY
jbremer12@gmail.com

Treasurer

Brent Ballinger, Bardstown, KY
brent@millcreekranch.biz

Membership Secretary

Sheila Duncan, Hardyville, KY
svkennels@src.com

2016 KGPA Board Members

- *Beverly Branco* Perryville, KY
Bevsboergoats@gmail.com
- *Kenny Fenwick* New Haven, KY
- *Angie French* New Haven, KY
kyfarmgirl@gmail.com
- *Ray Graves* Perryville, KY
ray.graves@beckyhybrids.com
- *Amy Keach* Bagdad, KY
kysaanens@gmail.com
- *Donna Puckett* Munfordville, KY
donna.puckett@gmail.com
- *Dr. Debbie Reed* Murray, KY
debbie.reed@murraystate.edu



**TIME TO RENEW!
KGPA Membership Application**

Your \$30 membership provides:

- 4 issues of the *HoofPrint* Magazine plus the newly designed 2016 Sheep and Goat Management Calendar
- A unified voice for the goat industry on the state and national level
- Representation on important committees such as the Check-Off and the Animal Care Standards boards
- Support of various educational and youth activities
- Youth Membership forms can be found at kysheepandgoat.org/KGPA.html
- **And much, much more!**

Visit www.kysheepandgoat.org to join today!

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Please enclose a check for \$30 made out to KGPA and mail to:

Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office
P.O. Box 4709, Frankfort, KY 40604-4709.

KGPA Youth Essay

What my Goat Project Has Taught Me

By Gage Ross

My name is Gage Ross and I am 7 years old and in the 2nd grade. This was my 3rd year showing Boer goat wethers. My goats name this year was Dasher,(but my Mom liked to call him wild child). He was the biggest goat I have ever shown. When I sold him last week he weighed a lot. Dasher weighed 89 pounds. Even though I have shown before this year, I learned a lot about taking care of my goat. I got to try new things with my goat this year, from feeding to washing. I may be small, but I have grown in the goat world.

When I started showing I was 4 years old and all the goats were bigger than me. That meant that I could only do so much to help with my goat. I could give them the feed that my brother measured out for the goats and rub in the shampoo, but I couldn't do as much as I wanted. This year I am big so I can do more. This year I learned how to measure feed for the wethers (even for my breeding does). Before I could put their feed in the trough I had to take a glove and clean out their trough to get out the old food, leftover powder and bird poop. After I did that I measured the feed using the little cup for the wethers and the scoop for the does. My wether also got a top dress of 111 to help them get big and strong for shows.

I also checked their mineral and baking soda every day. Even though my brother still has to get the water (because its too heavy) I can now add the vinegar that keeps them from getting sick and dying. The goats love to see me coming because I give them yummy treats like sunflower seeds and beet pulp (but only to the does). I don't know what's yummy about that but they like it.

I love getting my goat ready to show. I am big enough now that I can lead them out to the washstand and put them on myself. My Mom taught me that it is very important to rub in the purple shampoo or when you rinse them off you have a purple goat. I think that would be really neat. After I washed them, head to hoof, I have to lead them back in to the barn to blow dry them with the dryer. This is my favorite thing to do. Once the fun is over, I have to go to work. I check their hooves (my dad helps me with that) and then I put in conditioner and comb it in. After I check them all over they are ready to show.

I love my goats and I am really excited about showing breeding does next year. They are my favorites. Next year I hope I am big enough to get the water. Maybe then I can spray my brother as he walks by.

Gage Ross, Age 7 – Runner up, KGPA Youth Contest Essay Contest 2015

KGPA Youth Memberships
 KGPA has updated their Youth Membership Program. For details be sure to visit www.kysheepandgoat.org/KGPA.html



Avery and Grant Holman were the winners of the 2015 Youth Membership Competition! Congratulations!



KGPA - UPCOMING EVENTS

Calendar of event items can be sent to kyates@kysheepandgoat.org with date, location and time.

Northern Kentucky Goat Producers Association Meeting – First Tuesday of every month 6:00pm @ the Kenton County Extension Office - 10990 Marshall Road

APRIL

Date	Location / Details
16th	Kentucky Proud Elite Breeders Sale 11:00 A.M. POI Denise Martin 270-307-2356

MAY

21st	ADGA 2 Ring Show – Junior Does, Senior Does & Bucks Judges: Karen Smith (TN) and Jay Bennett (KY) Location: Franklin County Fairgrounds Contact: kysaanens@gmail.com
28th	Marketing Goats & Their Products Seminar" hosted by Slate Woods Farm in Winchester, Ky for more information - slatewwoodsfarm@gmail.com

JUNE

11th	Kentucky Junior Breeding/Market Goat Show, Mercer county fairgrounds Harrodsburg KY
------	---

TENNESSEE SHEEP PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear TN Sheep Producers,

Hello, I am Alan Bruhin, and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new President of the Tennessee Sheep Producers Association. I look forward to serving the sheep producers of Tennessee over the next year. I hope each of you have enjoyed a great, trouble free lambing season and are looking forward to seeing new spring lambs running around on green pastures soon. I also hope each of you had the opportunity to attend this year's Tennessee Sheep Producers Conference in Murfreesboro last February. What an outstanding line up of speakers and a wonderful trade show! Special thanks goes to the board members who worked to put the program together and to the Tennessee Cattlemen's and Tennessee Dairyman's Associations for allowing the Sheep Producers to join in their conference this year.

Congratulations to this year's award winners:

- Reyes Rich was selected as the winner of the Ben Powell Shepherds Award
- Randall Kimes was recognized for his contributions to the sheep industry as the Service Award Winner.

Each of these are very deserving of the recognition as both have made very valuable contributions to the Tennessee Sheep Industry.

I would like to welcome new Tennessee

2016 TSPA Board of Directors

*Alan Bruhin, President
Sevierville, TN*

*Ed Bowman, Vice President
Gray, TN*

*Debbie Joines, ASI
Representative Mt. Juliet, TN*

*Mark Powell, Secretary/Treasurer
Watertown, TN*

2016 Board Members

Stevan Alsup, Lascassas, TN *Dwight Loveday, Louisville, TN*

Reyes Rich, Moss, TN *Jessica Shanks, Lenoir City, TN*

Chris Wilson, Jonesborough, TN *Mark Shedden, Knoxville, TN*

Noah Collins - President, TN Junior Sheep Producers Association 

Sheep Producer Board of Director members elected at this year's business meeting. Steve Alsup, Reyes Rich and Debbie Joines will bring new ideas and excitement to the board.

Your TSPA board of directors will actively be working over the course of the upcoming year to bring Tennessee sheep producers expanded educational and marketing opportunities. Look for information coming soon on our shearing school this April and wool pool in May. Go ahead now and mark your calendar for the 2017 Tennessee Sheep Producers Conference. The date will be January 13-14 back in Murfreesboro. We are again planning to partner with other livestock association groups from across the state to make for an outstanding educational experience. I know you will want to be a part of it!

I would like to encourage all TSPA members to look for ways to assist our Tennessee young people who are involved in the sheep industry. These young people are the lifeblood of the future of the sheep industry in Tennessee. Find a 4-H or FFA member and serve as a mentor. I think you will find the experience to be both fun and educational. You never know the difference you may make in the life of a young shepherd.

I look forward to seeing all of you this spring and summer at field days and shows. Let me encourage you to contact me or any of the current board of directors if you have any ideas of things we can do to assist sheep producers across the state. We are here to serve and would welcome your ideas.

Sincerely,
Alan Bruhin, TSPA President

TSPA - UPCOMING EVENTS

Date • Details • Location • Website

April 15-17 • Smokey Mountain Fiber Festival

GSM Heritage Center, Townsend, TN
<http://townsendartisansguild.net/fiber-arts.html>

April 22-23 • TSPA Sheep Shearing School; Doug

Rathke instr. Middle TN State University Murfreesboro
www.tennesseesheep.org

April • Bid on TSPA Wool Pool UT - Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

May 23-24 • 7th Annual Middle TN Fiber Festival

Dickson County Fairground, Dickson, TN
www.tnfiberfestival.com

May 27-28 • State 4-H Sheep Conference Tennessee

Tech University - Hyder Burks Pavillion Cookeville, TN
<https://4h.tennessee.edu/news/Pages/Tennessee-4-H-Sheep-Conference.aspx>

Mid June • TSPA Wool Pool-Middle

www.tennesseesheep.org

Mid June • TSPA Wool Pool - East

www.tennesseesheep.org

July 18-20 • TN Sheep Expo, Ward Agriculture Center,

Wilson County, Tennessee
<http://animalscience.ag.utk.edu/Sheep/4-HSheepProject.html>

July 22-23 • Southern States Dorper Show and Sale

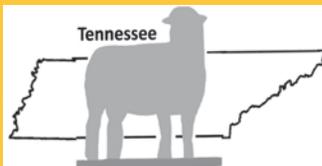
Tennessee Tech University - Hyder Burks Pavillion
Cookeville, TN <http://www.dorper.org/events.html>

August 2-3 • South Central Katahdin Aassoc. Meeting

and Field Day Caney Creek Farms Chapel Hill
caneycreekfm@united.net

August 4-6 • 12th Annual Katahdin Hair Sheep

International Expo Tennessee Tech University -
Hyder Burks Pavillion - Cookeville, TN
www.katahdins.org



If you are interested in a committee please select below:

- Wool Youth
 Jr. Expo Sale
 Production Education
 Membership/Revenue
 Publicity
 Annual Meeting

TSPA Membership Application

JOIN TODAY!

Annual Dues: Adult: \$30.00 Junior \$10.00

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Breed(s) of Sheep: _____

Please enclose a check for amount made out to TSPA and mail to:

Tennessee Sheep Producer's Association
4233 Poplar Hill Road, Watertown, TN 37184

Tennessee Sheep Producers Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Tennessee Sheep Producers Association was held on February 5-6, 2016. The biggest change to this year's meeting was joining with The Tennessee Cattleman's association annual meeting at the Embassy Suites in Murfreesboro. The other major change to the meeting was the 90 vendor trade show held in the conference center. Vendors representing a wide variety of agriculture businesses and associations were present and ready to answer questions concerning their products and services. Members enjoyed a wide variety of speakers during the 2 day conference including radio personality Trent Loose, Wayne Gilreath from Tyson Fresh Meats, Dr. Scott Greiner of Virginia Tech, Dr David Pugh from Auburn University, Dr's Andrea and Duckett from Clemson University, USDA Grazing Specialist Greg Brann, and ASI Representative Wes Patton from California. Following the convention, President Sam Kennedy presided over the TSPA annual business meeting. Three board members were elected to serve a 3 year term including Steve Alsop of Lascassas, Debbie Joines of Mt. Juliet, and Reyes Rich of Moss. The association recognized Mr. Randall Kimes receiving the TSPA Service Award and Mr. Reyes Rich receiving the Ben Powell TSPA Shepherd Award. Following the meeting, the TSPA board of directors elected the following slate of officers: Alan Bruhin: President, Ed Bowman: Vice President, and Debbie Joines: ASI Representative. Mark Powell will continue to serve as the Secretary Treasurer.



One of the highlights of the conference was the trade show which hosted 90 vendors from a variety of agri businesses and associations.



The silent auction was a popular spot among conference goers. Proceeds from the silent auction benefitted the TSPA junior association.

Members enjoyed a wide variety of speakers during the 2 day conference including radio personality Trent Loose, Wayne Gilreath from Tyson Fresh Meats, Dr. Scott Greiner of Virginia Tech, Dr David Pugh from Auburn University, Dr's Andrea and Duckett from Clemson University, USDA Grazing Specialist Greg Brann, and ASI Representative Wes Patton from California. Following the convention, President Sam Kennedy presided over the TSPA annual business meeting. Three board members were elected to serve a 3 year term including Steve Alsop of Lascassas, Debbie Joines of Mt. Juliet, and Reyes Rich of Moss. The association recognized Mr. Randall Kimes receiving the TSPA Service Award and Mr. Reyes Rich receiving the Ben Powell TSPA Shepherd Award. Following the meeting, the TSPA board of directors elected the following slate of officers: Alan Bruhin: President, Ed Bowman: Vice President, and Debbie Joines: ASI Representative. Mark Powell will continue to serve as the Secretary Treasurer.



Randall Kimes (R) receives the TSPA Service Award from President Sam Kennedy (L)



Reyes Rich (L) receives the TSPA Ben Powell Shepherds Award from President Sam Kennedy (R)

The members and board wish to thank past President Sam Kennedy for his service to the TSPA over the past 3 years. Sam was diligent in steering the association into new areas and welcoming in a new and diverse group of sheep producers. His professionalism and business since were a nice addition to our association.

All photos curtosy of Noah Collins President of JR TSPA

2016 Tennessee Sheep Shearing School

Features Doug Rathke

The 2016 Tennessee Sheep Shearing School will be on April 22 and 23, 2016, at the Tennessee Livestock Center on the Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) campus in Murfreesboro. The school is sponsored by the Tennessee Sheep Producers Association, the University of Tennessee Extension Service and the MTSU School of Agribusiness.



Doug Rathke, a seasoned shearer, is returning again this year. Doug knows what it takes to learn the art of shearing and he knows what it takes to teach it on a level so it can be understood and retained. That is why so many people have taken his sheep shearing course. Whether you are a beginner or a more advanced shearer, there is something for everyone to learn.

Mr. Rathke will be assisted by Mark Powell, with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Dr. Warren Gill, MTSU School of Agribusiness an Agriscience, William Rick, visiting shearer, and Caleb Fritz, MTSU Alum and local shearer.

The shearing school is designed for either beginner or experienced shearers who wish to improve their skills. Top sheep shearers will teach the most modern, up-to-date shearing methods. One of the most important aspects of the school is information about maintenance and care of sheep shearing equipment.

The school will start at 10:00am on Friday, April 22, with registration. At 10:30 AM there will be a discussion of equipment care and maintenance and at 1:00 PM we will start shearing. On Saturday, April 23, at 8:00 am we will continue until all sheep are sheared.

The cost for the Shearing School is \$125 per person. In order to make plans, pre-registration is required. Participation is limited to the first 20 paid applicants. Complete the form below and return to the address shown. If you have questions, please call Mark Powell at 615-519-7796 or Warren Gill at 615-478-3828.



Pre-Registration
2015 TN Sheep Shearing School

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail _____

Make checks payable to:

Tennessee Sheep Producers Association
 4233 Poplar Hill Rd
 Watertown, TN 37184

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Expectations. As I write this letter, lambing season is in full swing and expectations are high. The decision of ram selection has been made months ago with many criteria considered for the impact that the sire has on half of the lamb crop. And for the ewes, the thoughts of which ones to keep based on lambing records, weaning weights and how the lambs grew out are all critical components to the success of the flock. Crosses are contemplated looking at genotypic and phenotypic traits, during breeding season records are kept all in anticipation of what the winter crop might be or not... Every season feels similar to me- trying new rams, holding on to those that have worked and the excitement of looking at ewes, with their pedigrees in my mind, keeping their daughters and having high expectations all the while.

So what expectations do we have for our association? What is our perception and what is the reality of the KSWPA? What changes need to be made? How do we create a positive impact on as many Kentucky shepherds as possible? As you ask yourself these questions, if things come to mind please contact someone on your board, or Kelley Yates. We are all very happy to hear new ideas and constructive criticism. And as always, we have open elections every fall and we would be happy for those interested in actively participating to run for a seat on the board and bring fresh insight to the questions that we deal with each day. The association is always faced with the challenges of tackling new projects and having the people to help with them.

Currently, your board is working on several projects, with one being the KIO (Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio) Tri-state Small Ruminant Summit - Let's Grow Together. This meeting, taking place on October 8, 2016, will be our annual conference in Burlington, KY at the Boone County Enrichment Center. This fairly new and expansive facility is a great venue with several areas to use for lectures, demonstrations and a multi workstation kitchen for preparing American lamb. I would like to thank Kathy Meyer for leading the initiative on this exciting project, her willingness to volunteer for the KSWPA is unabating.

Volunteers are an important part of any non-profit organization, like ours. There is a long list of individuals who give of their time and talents to help strengthen the KSWPA. Another person that I would like to recognize is Dorothy Vale. Dorothy, who lives in Nicholasville, has two daughters that were very successful in showing sheep and Dorothy has kept the tradition alive with her grandchildren. She has been a member for over thirty years and for the last twenty has volunteered as the state director for the Kentucky Make It With Wool (KyMIWW) competition. You will find Dorothy set up at various venues, such as the state fair, annual meeting, and fiber festival helping promote the KyMIWW and KSWPA. She runs the state competition for MIWW and travels each year to the nationals with our Kentucky participants. She also has served on the board of directors, performing various duties, all with her trademark laugh and smile. So Dorothy, thank you for all that you do, you continue to set a high standard for expectations.

Take care,
Scott VanSickle, KSWPA President



Congratulations to Marion Mulligan

Marion Mulligan, from Springfield, adult winner of Kentucky Make It With Wool placed 4th in the National Adult Competition held during the 2016 American Sheep Industry Convention. Marion made a navy 100% wool dress, and a navy and ecru hounds tooth jacket. Marion received two pieces of Pendleton Wool and sewing notions.

Kentucky Junior winner Abby Rank, from Winchester, competed in the National Junior and Senior competition in Scottsdale, AZ. She came home with Pendleton Wool and sewing notions.

The 2016 Kentucky Make It With Wool will be held on October 8, 2016 in Burlington, KY at the KIO Tri-State Small Ruminant Summit-Let's Grow Together. Entry forms are available at www.kysheepandgoat.org

or by contacting Dorothy Vale, State Director, kymiww.aol, 859-420-3217. Entry forms are due September 1, 2016. Please TEST all wool before sewing by sending 5x5 piece of wool and \$5.00 to Dorothy Vale, KYMIWW, 142 Carolyn Lane, Nicholasville, KY 40356



Marion Mulligan, from Springfield, KY is the adult winner of KY Make It With Wool & 4th place winner in the National Adult Competition at the 2016 American Sheep Industry Convention.



KSWPA Membership Benefits

- Quarterly issues of HoofPrint Magazine plus the newly designed 2016 Sheep and Goat Management Calendar
- A unified voice for the sheep industry and representation on important state and national committees
- Assistance with new marketing opportunities such as The Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival and HoofTrader.com
- Receive a membership to the American Sheep Industry, our national lobbying, marketing and promotional support system.
- Support of various educational and youth activities

Name: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please enclose a check for \$30.00 made out to KSWPA and mail to:

Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office

P.O. Box 4709, Frankfort, KY 40604-4709.

TIME TO RENEW !
Visit www.kysheepandgoat.org

News from ASI

ASI had its annual meeting on January 27 thru 30th in Scottsdale Arizona. As usual there were plenty of speakers covering a variety of topics concerning our industry. There was one announcement in which I feel would be of interest to many of you. There is now available Working Dog Insurance. It is liability insurance for the farmer using livestock protection dogs and herding dogs. It is available all across the country. If you are interested in this insurance you can contact Food & Fiber Risk Manager at 701-867-9160 or visit www.fafm.com or www.dogfafm.com. This insurance is for any type of farm that uses these types of dogs in their operation.

On March 14 thru 17th, a legislative trip to Washington D.C. was conducted by ASI. Producers, staff, and board members of ASI went to Washington to help take our message to our Representatives. Highlights of the trip will be included in the summer issue of HoofPrint.

Bob Leer

Region II Executive Board Member, ASI
Chairman, Legislative Action Council, ASI



KY & TN
WOOL POOL

Details on Page 29

2016 KSWPA Board of Directors

<p>President <i>Scott VanSickle</i>, Auburn, KY scottvansickle@wheattech.com</p> <p>Vice President <i>Kathy Meyer</i>, Paris, KY 1tkmeyer@bellsouth.net</p> <p>Past President/ASI Director <i>Jim Mansfield</i>, Salvisa, KY jim@fourhillsfarm.com</p> <p>Secretary <i>Mary Brown</i>, Lexington, KY mary.brown929@gmail.com</p>	<p>Treasurer <i>B.P. Davis</i>, Mt. Sterling, KY davisclublamb@yahoo.com</p> <p>ASI Regional Director <i>Bob Leer</i>, Paris, KY bobleer@bellsouth.net</p> <p>Make it with Wool Chair <i>Dorothy Vale</i>, Nicholasville, KY kymiww@aol.com</p>
--	--



Director- *Endre Fink Lexington, KY*
 Director- *Madeline Norman Cox Creek, KY*
 Director- *Bill Decker Waddy, KY*
 Director- *Hannah Nilsson Windsor, KY*
 Director- *Warren Adcock Campbellsburg, KY*

KSWPA - UPCOMING EVENTS	
APRIL	
Date	Location / Details
5th	Eweprofit School III C. Oran Little Research Farm Midway, KY
16th	KY Proud Elite Breeder Sale, Franklin County Fairgrounds, KY
MAY	
21st	Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival Lexington, KY
JUNE	
4th	KY Wool Pool, C. Oran Little Research Farm Midway, KY



BUYER'S GUIDE to Selecting Replacement Females

By Ricky Skillington

I hear lots of sheep and goat producers say “I think I am just going to get out of the business. I just can’t seem to make any profit from raising these animals. I go and sit at the local sale barn and buy the best looking females that come through the barn and pay more for them than anyone else. Then when I get them home, the lambs and/or kids they raise are just sorry. Heck, most of the time, I either lose them or they won’t breed.”

I cringe when I hear producers talk like this, then try to make them understand that in most cases, the animals that are being sold at the weekly auction barn are there for a reason. That reason is usually that they didn’t work in their owner’s breeding program. They have just gone out and bought someone else’s problems.

In most cases, small ruminant producers understand that the ram is one half of the entire lamb/kid crop. This is very true, but the females that are being used make up the other half of the crop and more than likely, will be the foundation for the future of any operation. Small ruminant producers need to make sure that this foundation is solid. They need to realize that the necessary genetics for the small ruminant operation needs to be there to produce profits in the future. Producers must do lots of “homework” and planning before they even begin to start looking for replacement females.

The first thing that I recommend to a producer who is looking for high quality replacement females is see what is available in their area. Look for a producer who has some history in small ruminant production. If they have been



*Look for herds and flocks
that have been established
for some time.*

raising sheep/goats for a while, they are doing something right and usually that means that they are pretty good at producing females that work. I also recommend that the potential buyer look at operations that have between 40 females and 150 females in their operation; even more if they are looking at registered. By looking at operations of this size, there should be enough good females available for potential buyers to find enough half-sisters to provide a similar genetic base to build toward the future.

If you can’t find any in your area or you would like to move to an area different from yours to search for some new genetics, this can be done pretty

easily. Go to industry magazines, breed association web sites or simply ask other breeders in your area that you trust, whom they would suggest. I don’t recommend any producer pick up a breed magazine and look at whom is just winning the shows now. Using show ring as a measuring stick for future production has doomed many good commercial producers, especially those who are considering moving into the registered business. Look for herds and flocks that have been established for some time. These are the ones who usually have replacement stock for sale or if they don’t, they can recommend someone who does. While I don’t recommend “word of mouth” in production practices, I do in selection of replacement animals. No matter the specie of animal, there are those who have sold or will sell animals that are less than quality for more money than they are worth. Usually, the reputation of these producers will follow them and the word will get out about these folks. If you are looking for registered animals, try to find a producer who has several years in the registered business. Ask questions as to whom they have sold replacement animals in the past and talk to those folks. If they are in the business to sell replacement females, they will gladly give you the names of people who have bought their animals. Be prepared to spend some money and let the producer from whom you are buying know that if these work out for you, you will be back to purchase more. Getting a flock/herd of females with similar genetics will help

produce a lamb/kid crop that is similar in quality for the owner to sell.

Secondly, ask to see the producer's records. If they have none or won't let you see them, then thank them for their time and LEAVE! Any small ruminant producer "worth their salt" will have some records. Now these records may not be the neatest or written from a computer program, and they will more than likely be written out on paper, but they will be something.

I strongly encourage potential buyers to request a Codon 171 test on any replacement ewes they are considering for purchase. This will help the buyer better understand the chances of them having to deal with Scrapie in their sheep flock. Most producers are fully aware of what can happen to a flock or herd that has been diagnosed with Scrapie, so I won't waste time dealing with that subject.

Finally, the question always comes up, what are replacement animals worth? That is a question that I get all the time. I usually tell producers that it depends on how long they plan on being in the business and the ready capital that they have to purchase these replacement animals. As a general rule, I recommend that commercial producers plan on spending at least three to five times the value of the most expensive animal that they sold last season. If the producer wants a better animal, they may have to spend up to ten times the value of this animal. How I came up with this figure is that a producer can recoup what they spent on the replacement in two to three lamb/kid crops figuring a 1.5% crop. If you are looking to get into the registered business, once again use the breed/industry magazine to see what quality animals are bringing at sales. While you might be able to buy a quality animal for a cheap price, the old saying, "You get what you pay for" is usually true in buying replacement animals.

Ricky Skillington, is the "First Responder" for Small Ruminant Production with the University of Tennessee Extension. He is also the County Director for the Marshall County Extension Service and he and his family raised and exhibited registered Southdown sheep throughout the South before dispersing his flock. He is currently judging breeding sheep shows throughout the South.

ASK THE EXPERT

What are your top tips for people purchasing replacement females?

**Kathy Meyer, Final Frontier Farm, Paris, KY-
Commercial Sheep Producer**

Kathy Meyer and her husband Tony own Final Frontier Farm, located in Paris, KY. They manage 140 Texel crossbred spring lambing ewes in a companion grazing system with 45 Angus crossbred fall calving cows.

1. Buying replacement ewes is serious business and much effort should be put into knowing as much about those ewes as possible. Ask permission to visit the farm during lambing or at a time when the shepherd may have all the sheep together, like at weaning. More information is always better and that relationship is how you are assured you are getting the correct information. I want prospective buyers to study the lambing records for the females or in the case of ewe lambs, buyers are shown the lambing records of their dams.
2. It is my practice to encourage new shepherds to let me manage as much "wrong" out of the ewes, especially ewe lambs, as I can before they take them home. Raising ewe lambs on pasture and feeding them enough to make them grow, but not so much that they are too heavily conditioned, takes a little more observation than a new producer may possess.

**Denise Martin, Martin Meadow Farms, Magnolia, KY-
Commercial Goat Producer**

Denise Martin and her husband, Brian, have been raising meat goats for 15 years. Denise sells several value added meat goat products such as jerky sticks, bacon and summer sausage.

1. Be sure the female has a good udder! Without a good udder, you will have sorry kids because she won't be able to feed them. A "good" udder is clean and has 2 teats with no spurs or hooks. I will accept a four teated doe only if the teats are separate and clean.
2. Must have good sturdy feet and legs. If the doe can't support her pregnant weight, she will break down and cull herself out of the herd.
3. Must have a good set of teeth that properly aligned so that she can eat easily and get the most out of her feed.
4. Know if the doe is a twin or a triplet, and how long her mother has been in production. I want to get the longest production time out of my goats, and I cull goats that just produce singles. For my business model, the surest way to make money is to have multiple births by does that can have longevity in the herd.
5. Now using this criteria, will I know any of this information on the does running across the scales at my local stockyard? Most likely no! I will know nothing about them except most likely they were someone else's problem does!

Happening This
October 6th – 9th



*No need to travel;
Sell Online!*

CALL FOR CONSIGNERS!

Market your Quality Female Animals direct to 100s of Potential Buyers,
Receive Invaluable Industry Advertisement, and
Market YOUR Flock/Herd's High Quality Genetics
across Kentucky and to surrounding states.

THE DETAILS

- All consigners must have entered by **August 5, 2016**
- All consignments will have an on-farm screening completed between **August 5 – September 15, 2016.**
- **Sale will take place online October 6-9, 2016**
- Any current member of the Kentucky Sheep and Wool Producers Association or the Kentucky Goat Producers Association may consign **females** to this sale. All females must have been born on the farm of the consigner.
- Each producer may consign a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 20 head.
- **\$30/lot fee.** Lots may be any size from 3 to 20 but must be uniform as determined by the sale committee.
- Consignments must be a minimum of 6 months of age and no older than 2 years of age as of the day of sale and must be size appropriate for their age as determined by the sale committee.
- Consignments may be commercial or registered females.

Consign Early for Best Promotion and Exposure!

Registration forms and complete guidelines can be found at

www.kysheepandgoat.org

or Contact Kelley Yates at (502) 682-7780

kyates@kysheepandgoat.org



Electric Fencing That Keeps Sheep & Goats Secure

Gallagher electric fencing is a safe & secure containment option for sheep & goats.

We offer both permanent & temporary electric fencing, as well as offsets that can easily be added to existing non-electrified fences for animal control. Gallagher also manufactures quality energizers designed specifically to control sheep & goats in a variety of terrains.

Visit us on the web at www.GallagherUSA.com to learn more and to locate your nearest Gallagher dealer.

www.GallagherUSA.com

The B100 Solar Energizer (G392SK) Powers up to 60 acres/7 miles of multi-wire permanent fence.



The Smart Fence (G70000) is a 4 wire, all in one 328' long portable fencing system.

Purchase one 1,312' Roll of Gallagher Turbo Wire or Braid AND one Gallagher Medium Geared Reel and receive a FREE Live Fence Indicator with mail-in rebate & proof of purchase.



Offer valid on purchase made between April 1 - May 31, 2016. May not be combined with other offers. Rebates must be postmarked by June 3, 2016 to qualify. Rebate forms and offer details are available at www.GallagherOffers.com.

FREE
by Mail
Live Fence
Indicator

after mail-in rebate

\$33.50
VALUE



GALLAGHER

THE ONLY
WAY TO GO
IS UP!

FROM ROCK BOTTOM

By Shon Wylie

What's a girl to do when all she ever wanted her whole life was to own horses and live on a farm?

"My father always told me that if I wanted a horse, I had better get a really good job, because horses are expensive!" Amy Henson laughed as she began to explain how Rock Bottom Soap came to be—an unintentional endeavor if ever there was one.

Taking her father's words to heart, Henson headed off to college, obtaining her undergraduate degree from Cumberland

University—a major in biology with a minor in chemistry. That was quickly followed by a medical degree in optometry from Indiana University, providing her the 'day job' that allowed her to pursue her equine dreams.

After marrying Wes McFadden, whom she had literally known since they attended kindergarten together in Laurel County, Amy's dream came true when they purchased a farm in that same county where they were both raised.

The name "Rock Bottom" carries a double meaning—the young couple

was down to rock bottom after investing everything they had to acquire their land which didn't even have one improvement on it. Later as they began to run fencing and build on their farm, they hit copious amounts of rock at every turn.

It was the advent of a foal born to a milk-less mare that brought dairy goats into the picture, as their vet suggested goat's milk on which to raise the baby.

Words of Wisdom

from Amy Henson for newcomers to goat keeping:

"You will need lots of patience, and you will need to do lots of research! Goats will make you laugh and always keep you learning something new to aid in their care."

Advice for getting into large retail stores:

Tell your story. Explain what makes your product different than that of a large manufacturer. Also, always be prepared – you never know when an opportunity that you would never dream of will come knocking!



Amy researched dairy goats to determine which breed she wanted to raise before purchasing her first doe, eventually settling on Nubians because of the higher fat content of their milk.

Ms. Henson assumed that others might also have a need for milk on which to raise orphan animals and that she could easily find a market for the excess. As the milk began accumulating in her freezer for lack of buyers, Amy realized that she needed a Plan B and decided to try her hand at soap making.

"My first batch of goat's milk soap was such a huge success, I got really excited!" Ms. Henson laughed as she recalled the experience. "My second batch was an equally huge disaster, but that just made me more determined to figure out the process and get it right."

Once the initial batch had cured and she began handing it out to friends and family to try to gain feedback, she realized that maybe—just maybe—she was onto something.

"I knew I liked it and that it made my skin feel better than the commercial soap I had always used. But it was the fact that people who had tried it kept coming back to me wanting more that really convinced me that I could sell the stuff."

As she honed her craft and gained more experience making soap, Amy began adding lotions, lip balms and other products to the Rock Bottom line. She contacted the Kentucky Proud program online and went through the process to become certified, a move that would prove to be extremely beneficial to the fledgling company.

"The Kroger company had obtained a listing of Kentucky Proud certified producers, and we received an invitation to participate in a vendor event in Louisville to present our products to be judged by Kroger managers from all over the state," Ms. Henson explained. "After visiting each vendor booth and trying products, they voted for their favorites and the top vote getters were invited to sell at Kentucky Kroger stores."

What was it like for someone who was producing and selling soap on a small(ish) scale to receive that first purchase order from Kroger?

In a word—or three—"A bit overwhelming," acknowledged Ms. Henson. "The first purchase order was for 200 dozen!"

While Kroger was the first affiliation with a large chain for Rock Bottom Soap that followed as a direct result of their Kentucky Proud certification, it wasn't the only one. Lucky's Market in Lexington is now carrying their product line. In addition, they have their own brick and mortar store at 429 East Fourth Street in London, Kentucky as well as selling online through their website.

With Wes handling most of the milking duties in addition to running his landscaping business, the couple has adopted a rotational strategy for kidding and milking their current herd of 20 does. The plan is to breed a few does each month so that there is a continual supply of milk and Mr. McFadden is milking no more than five does at any one time. Ms. Henson is adamant about the humane treatment of her animals, and the goats are no exception. She feels that the rotational system they have in place insures that her does will never be overburdened in their milk production, and their bodies will have plenty of time to recuperate between freshening.

For more information on Rock Bottom Soap, contact them at (606) 231-0707 or through the website at www.rockbottomsoap.com.

Shon Wylie, graduated from the University of Kentucky with a B.A. in journalism. She and her husband, Jerry, are both Thoroughbred trainers that now also raise sheep, dairy goats and cattle. With an eye toward natural and humane treatment of animals, their agri-tourism farm seeks to educate others in self-sufficiency.



Blue Grass Livestock Marketing Group

Lexington Sales
Moved to Richmond →

Richmond Sales
Hog, Sheep and Goat Sales
2nd Mondays of each month @ 1pm
Receiving 8a.m. – Noon

Richmond Office
348 K Street Richmond, KY 40475
859-623-1280

Questions? Contact:

Dennis Sullivan 859-462-3537	Mike Isaacs 859-314-1953
Darrell Tate 859-893-8283	Jim Dause 859-314-7211

www.bgstockyards.com

The Veterinary Feed Directive: What Does It Mean to Small Ruminant Producers

by Beth Johnson,
Field Veterinarian, KDA/OSV

As we have all heard, antibiotic resistance is continually increasing in the environment. We have seen it in livestock production as well. To identify the antibiotic in which a disease, such as a respiratory disease, is resistant and susceptible, diagnostic samples are tested for culture and sensitivity. Over the years of practice, I see more resistance to certain antibiotics that have been used routinely on the farm. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published three reports in December 2013 outlining the upcoming changes for the use of antibiotic products in production animals (livestock). The goals of these changes are to:

1. promote judicious use of antibiotics,
2. protect public health, and
3. help limit the development of antimicrobial resistance.

On June 2, 2015, the FDA finalized the Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) rule. After a brief comment period, the rule went into effect on October 1, 2015. Briefly stated, the rule removes all antibiotic use in livestock that was associated with growth and/or feed efficiency or long term use that allowed extended time for bacteria to develop resistance. Antibiotics approved for use under the VFD regulation will be for prevention, treatment and/or control of specific bacterial diseases.

VFD drugs, which are animal drugs intended for use in or on animal feed but are limited to use under the professional supervision of a licensed veterinarian, will require a VFD beginning January 1, 2017. The VFD is a written (nonverbal) statement issued by a licensed veterinarian that orders the use of a VFD drug or combination VFD drug in or on an animal feed. The VFD can be issued on paper or electronic.

Veterinarians who issue a VFD must have a valid Veterinary-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR) with the producer for whom they are writing the VFD. Some states define the VCPR for their

Table 1. A VCPR is present when all of the following requirements are met:

- The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the patient and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian's instructions.
- The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient by virtue of a timely examination of the patient by the veterinarian, or medically appropriate and timely visits by the veterinarian to the operation where the patient is managed.
- The veterinarian is readily available for follow-up evaluation or has arranged for the following: veterinary emergency coverage and continuing care and treatment.
- The veterinarian provides oversight of treatment, compliance and outcome. Patient records are maintained.

veterinarians and if they don't, the state follows the definition defined by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). See **Table 1** which defines the requirements of a valid VCPR. **It is crucial that a producer develops a good working relationship with their veterinarian and establishes a valid VCPR prior to January 1, 2017.** They should not expect to walk into a veterinary clinic and require the veterinarian to issue a VFD without the veterinarian having a working relationship with that producer.

Other veterinarian's VFD responsibilities are:

- Must be licensed to practice veterinary medicine
- Must prepare and sign a written VFD (paper or electronic) including all required information.
- Issue the VFD in compliance with the conditions for use approved, conditionally approved or indexed including the duration of use and expiration of the VFD.
- Write the name of the VFD drug on the VFD
- Include information about the location of the animals that would

allow someone to locate the animals.

- Provide a copy of the VFD to the producer (client) and feed distributor.
- Maintain all original VFD records for 2 years

The producer that has been issued the VFD is required to feed the animal feed containing a VFD drug only to animals based on the VFD that was issued by their licensed veterinarian. They cannot feed the feed beyond the expiration date on the VFD and the VFD record must be maintained for 2 years.

Is a VFD required for feeds with ionophores (i.e. Monensin, Deccoquinat, Lasalocid)? No, ionophores will not require a VFD, unless combined with a medically important antibiotic with an approved label, i.e. a VFD drug. See Table 2 for current and future VFD drugs.

So what are the implications to small ruminant producers? A VFD drug will have a specified claim that has been approved by FDA for prevention, treatment and/or control of a specific bacterial disease. For example, chlortetracycline (CTC) is labeled for use in sheep for up to 14 days at a dose of 10mg/lb to prevent or treat bacterial enteritis due to *E. coli* or bacterial pneumonia due to susceptible isolates of *Pasteurella*. This and one other label claim

TABLE 2: CURRENT AND FUTURE VFD DRUGS

Currently Approved VFD Drugs		Approved for Use in the Following Major Species
Avilamycin		Swine
Florfenicol		Swine
Tilmicosin		Cattle, Swine

Ingredient Class	Drugs Changing from OTC to VFD in 2017	Approved for Uses in the Following Major Species
Aminoglycosides	Apramycin	Swine
Aminoglycosides	Neomycin	Cattle, Swine
Lincosamides	Lincomycin	Swine, Chickens
Macrolides	Erythromycin	Swine, Chickens, Turkeys
Macrolides	Oleandomycin	Swine, Chickens, Turkeys
Macrolides	Tylosin	Cattle, Swine, Chickens
Penicillins	Penicillin	Swine, Chickens
Streptogramins	Virginiamycin	Cattle, Swine, Chickens
Sulfas	Sulfamerazine	(minor species only)
Sulfas	Sulfaquinoxaline	Chickens, Turkeys
Tetracyclines	Chlortetracycline	Cattle, Calves, Swine, Chickens, Turkeys
Tetracyclines	Oxytetracycline	Cattle, Calves, Swine, Chickens, Turkeys

for the use of CTC to prevent or control abortion due to *Campylobacter* species in sheep are the only FDA approved label claims that will be acceptable on January 1, 2017 for sheep. There are no approved VFD drug claims approved for use in goats.

In the past, our only access to utilize drugs not approved for use in small ruminants has been through AMDUCA (Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification Act) and ELDU (Extra Label Drug Use) by prescription from a licensed veterinarian. This includes all drugs utilized by producers either by prescription or over the counter (OTC) that are not approved for use in small ruminants. **Currently stated, there will not be any extra label use of drugs accepted on VFDs.** This means that if a goat producer walks into a feed store on January 1, 2017 and would like to purchase a bag of feed with CTC in it to control an abortion problem, the producer will not be able to purchase this product because their **veterinarian is not allowed to issue a VFD for extralabel use of an antibiotic in feed.**

There has been some misunderstanding about the use of injectable antibiotics becoming unavailable due to the Veterinary Feed Directive. As stated in this article, the VFD only applies to medically important antibiotics that will be utilized in feed or water. But, as stated in the previous paragraph, it is extremely important to develop a working relationship with your veterinarian because extra label use of injectable antibiotics does require a prescription from your veterinarian.

It is my hope, that the new VFD regulation inspires many small ruminant producers to establish working relationships with their veterinarians and learn to use their expertise in production medicine along with health care of their flock/herd. For further information about the VFD and/or VFD drugs here are some other resources:

<http://www.fda.gov/safeeed>

To find small ruminant veterinarians in KY, visit www.kysheepandgoat.org/small-ruminant-vets.html

<http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/ucm482106.htm>

<http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/ucm482107.htm>

<http://feedstuffs.com/vfd.aspx>

AVMA VFD page:
<https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Documents/AVMA-VFD-form.pdf>

Dr. Beth Johnson, is a Staff Veterinarian in the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and has 40 years of experience raising and treating small ruminants. Her family farm is in Parksville, KY where she raises Gelbvieh cattle and Boer goats.

Stomach Worm x Breed x Management Interactions

By Drs. Donald G. Ely and Debra K. Aaron,
University of Kentucky

Introduction

Any producer can encounter a “sheep wreck”. The size of the “wreck” can range from an entire flock to a small blip on the total program. Causes can be an outbreak of disease, summer sterility in rams, genetic defects in newborns, low lamb prices, poor producing ewes, and others. However, it seems the most often occurring “sheep wreck” is one that involves the ever-present stomach worm (also known as the *Haemonchus contortus*).

Wreck No. 1. One hundred hair-type ewes lambed in April and nursed twins until late June. They grazed cool season grass pasture **without any supplemental feed**. Temperatures and rainfall were normal for Kentucky. In early June, however, some ewes became really thin and lethargic. One died. Then, another died. Immediate deworming the entire flock helped a little. Eventually, the lamb crop weaned in late June looked terrible.

Wreck No. 2. One hundred hair-and wool-type lambs born in April nursed ewes on cool season grass pasture and were weaned in late June. After weaning, they were moved to “clean cool season grass pasture” **without any supplemental feed**. Weather was typical for July/August (hot and dry). Lambs seemed to be doing OK, except some were trying to eat off the ground around the waterer where there was no grass. Then, a 2-inch rain fell that was followed with 85 to 95° F temperatures and 80% humidity. One morning a lamb was found dead. Upon closer inspection, several exhibited “bottle jaw”. Another died the next day. The panic button was pushed. All lambs were dewormed. Another died. All were dewormed again. The “wreck” finally calmed, but the producer was mentally and economically devastated.

The purpose of this article is to present information that may help us to “manage

stomach worms” so we are better able to survive the onslaught of infestations like the ones just described.

The Stomach Worm

This parasite lives off its host. It lives in the sheep’s abomasum and attaches to the wall of the abomasum so it can live off the blood it sucks from its host. It has been estimated that each mature female stomach worm can lay 5,000 to 10,000 eggs per day. These eggs pass out of the sheep’s body in the feces, land on the grass of the pasture being grazed, and develop into larvae on the grass leaves until consumed by the grazing sheep. Once in the abomasum, these larvae develop into mature worms and the cycle begins over again unless interrupted by the shepherd. A critical deviation of this cycle is the “hypobiotic state”, which is a stage of parasite larval dormancy that allows escape from harsh environmental conditions by remaining in the wall of the abomasum. These harsh

conditions can be exceptionally hot, dry, or cold combinations not conducive to larval development. Once the harsh conditions pass, the larvae can “wake up”, develop into mature worms and begin to suck blood and lay eggs. Soon thereafter, sheep that harbor large number of worms may become exceptionally thin (body condition score near 1.0) and lethargic. Examination of the third lower eyelid may reveal a FAMACHA score of 4 or 5. An accumulation of fluid under the skin (edema) is another major symptom of a large infestation. This edema is typically seen under the jaw; thus, it is called “bottle jaw”.

World-wide, sheep diets contain 85 to 90% roughage and 10 to 15% concentrate. Sheep raised in the eastern half of the U.S. typically consume their roughage from cool season grasses like fescue, orchardgrass, and bluegrass. Figure 1 shows that dry matter production per acre peaks in May and June. Producers try to take advantage of this curve by lambing ewes in April

Figure 1

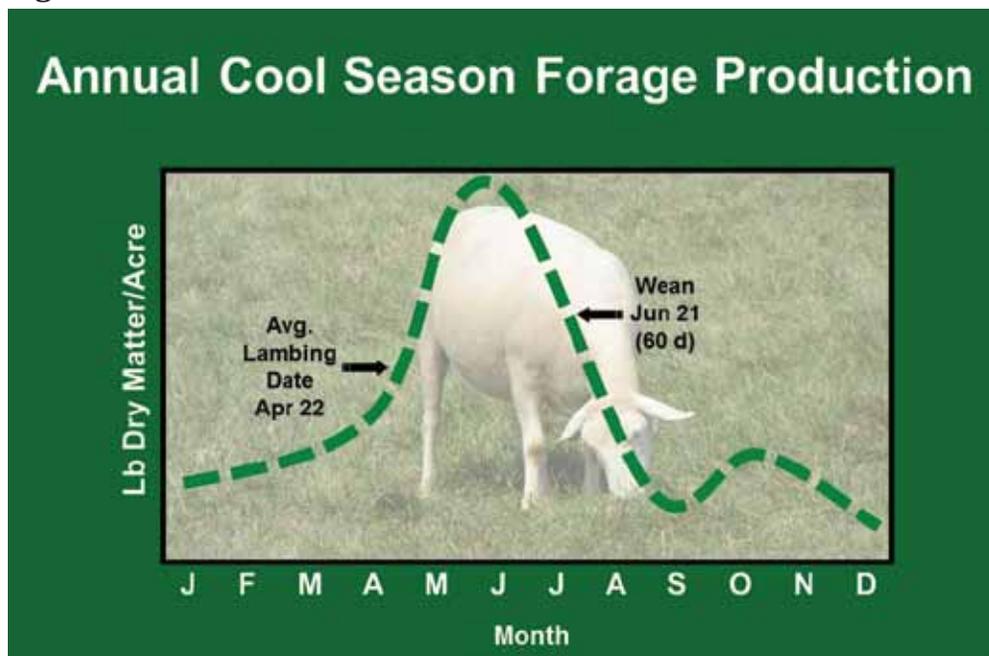
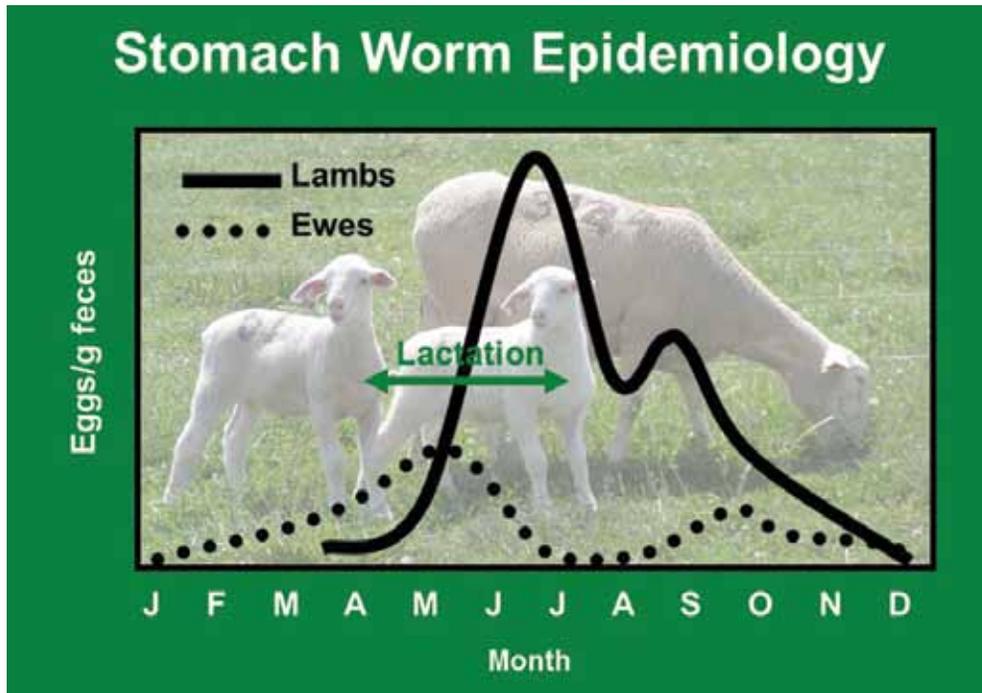


Figure 2



and weaning lambs in June to pasture or allowing ewes to continue grazing and nursing lambs to produce slaughter lambs as efficiently as possible. However, Figure 2 shows that stomach worms can interfere with some of this efficiency. Two points about this figure are: (1) Peak stomach worm infestation occurs when April lambing ewes are nursing lambs and (2) The main infestors of stomach worms in lambs are their mothers. Now, if we place Figure 2 on top of Figure 1, we will find the greatest stomach worm infestation occurs when forage production is greatest. A conclusion that can be derived from these two figures is: **If ewes lamb in April and graze, with their lambs, on cool season pasture, they will have stomach worms.** So, the question is: How can we manage pasture and/or sheep to control (manage) these worms?

Integrated Pasture Management

Pasture management techniques to help control stomach worm infestations have been offered as long as sheep have grazed forages. Some of these techniques have been discarded or changed as we learn more and more about the interactions of sheep x stomach worms x management. One of the current techniques is to use **Clean or Safe Pastures**. It is generally accepted that a clean or safe pasture is one that has not been grazed by sheep in

the last 6 to 12 months. To do this, cattle or horses can graze these pastures during this interim because the stomach worm of the sheep does not affect cattle or horses and vice versa. Harvesting a single cutting of hay prior to grazing sheep will help to make the pasture clean or safe. Even better is taking hay from a pasture for an entire season. Fields rotated with field crops or pastures renovated by tillage can also be considered clean or safe.

From a forage standpoint, **Pasture Rest and Rotation** usually infers that rotating sheep from a grazed pasture to a fresh one means the previously grazed pasture is given a minimum of 30 days of rest before animals return. This length of rest may be okay for the forage and its nutritional value, but to control stomach worm infestations and make a pasture **Clean or Safe**, 6 to 12 months of rest may be needed. Not many producers can afford to rest a pasture this long. Rotating to "rested" pastures too soon may contribute to stomach worm problems rather than help prevent them. Therefore, use of **Pasture Rest and Rotation**, as an integrated pasture management procedure, may create a dilemma between forage and stomach worm management.

Generally, the recommendation is to not allow sheep to graze forage below 2 inches from the ground. Some even recommend not grazing below 4 inches.

The thought behind this **Grazing Strategy** is that 80% of stomach worm larvae are found in the lower 2 inches of the plant growth (2 inches above ground level). Research has shown that larvae move up and down within the lower 2 to 4 inches of grass growth. If the grass is wet, from rain or dew, larvae move up and back down as the pasture dries. A sheep management recommendation is to allow daily grazing only after the forage dries out. Three problems arise from this **Grazing Strategy**. First, it is virtually impossible to estimate 2-to 4-inch forage heights of thick stands because plant growth usually falls towards the ground and lays there instead of growing upward for measurement. Secondly, techniques for forcing sheep to only consume forage that is taller than 2 to 4 inches have not been discovered. Finally, grazing only after forage dries in the middle of a summer day is liable to result in low forage intake because this is when sheep are typically in the shade.

Multi-Species Grazing is a management technique that can increase forage productivity because sheep eat weeds and short grasses while cattle prefer taller grasses. Although both sheep and cattle can become worm infested, it is generally accepted that internal parasites harbored by either of these do not infest across species. Although cattle may provide some protection from predators for the sheep, two different supplemental mineral sources should be available. If this is not an option, provision of only sheep mineral, because of its lower copper content, can be provided for both species. A way to avoid this problem is to use a "leader-follower" system, which allows the highest producing animals (ewes/lambs or cows/calves) to graze the pasture first and maintenance animals (dry ewes or cows) to follow.

Alternative Forages can contribute to integrated pasture management for stomach worm control. Lespedeza, birdsfoot trefoil, and chicory have all been shown to help manage stomach worms in different situations. Alfalfa can also serve as an **Alternate Forage** for cool season grasses because of its ability to withstand drought and still produce nutritious forage. It will not prevent or may not even decrease stomach worm

Genetic News continues on pg. 20

infestation, but grazing alfalfa stimulates growth of the consuming animal, which will allow them to better withstand an onslaught of stomach worms than those grazing cool season grasses.

As described, the Integrated Pasture Management techniques can be helpful in controlling stomach worm infestations in some situations. In other situations, they may not be as effective. Use of genetic resistant or resilient sheep and nutritional supplementation schemes offer us the potential to better “live with stomach worms” than we have been able to do in the past.

The Stomach Worm x Breed

The Gulf Coast Native, St. Croix, and Barbados Blackbelly are recognized as breeds that are “resistant” to stomach worms. The Katadhin also appears to have some resistance. However, none of these are totally resistant. The Dorper and White Dorper originated in South Africa and are believed to be more “resilient” to an infestation than many other breeds, especially wool breeds like the Polypay. This stimulated Aaron and co-workers to study the factors affecting indicators of *Haemonchus contortus* infestation in Polypay and White Dorper ewes.

Aaron et al. Study I.

This work, conducted from 2005 through 2008, used a grading-up mating scheme designed to remove wool from the traditional Polypay (PP) by mating PP ewes to White Dorper (WD) rams. Resulting genetic types and numbers of ewes were:

- PP (83)
- 1/2 WD x 1/2 PP (53)
- 3/4 WD x 1/4 PP (53)
- 7/8 WD x 1/8 PP (38)
- 15/16 WD x 1/16 PP (25)

A total of 455 lambings resulted from 3-week breeding seasons that extended from November 15 to December 7 each year. Ewes lambed in a barn in April each year, but remained there less than 7 days before being moved to pasture. All received an anthelmintic upon leaving the lambing jug. Ewes and their lambs were maintained as a single flock and rotational grazing was practiced as ewes were supplemented with 1.0 lb shelled corn per head daily. Lambs had continued access to creep feed until weaned at 70 days of age

(average). All ewes received an anthelmintic at weaning. Stomach worm indicator traits measured on each ewe at weaning (70 days) were 1) Eyelid color scores (ECS-FAMACHA®), packed red blood cell volumes (PCV, %) and fecal egg counts (FEC, eggs/gram feces).

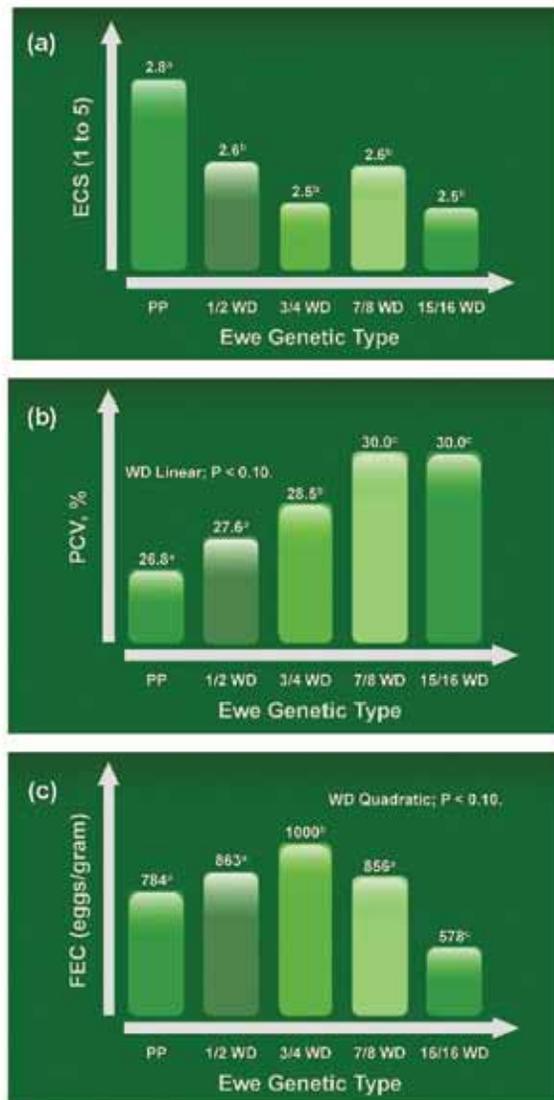
The influence of genetic type on the ECS, PCV, and FEC at weaning (70 days) is shown in Figure 3.

Highest ECS was found in the PP and the 2.8 of a 5.0 maximum was different from all WD genetic types. The PP ewes also had the lowest PCV (Figure 3b), which tended to increase as the percentage WD increased. The FEC graph (Figure 3c) presents a somewhat different picture; that is, the 3/4 WD had the highest count, the 15/16 WD had the lowest, and the PP count was similar to the intermediate counts of the 1/2 and 7/8 WD. **Ideally, if ECS (FAMACHA®) is low (closer to 1.0), PCV should be high (greater than 28%), and FEC should be low. Conversely, if ECS (FAMACHA®) is high, PCV should be low, and FEC high.** An overall analysis of the data in Figure 3 indicates PP ewes were carrying

more stomach worms, when lambs were weaned at 70 days of age, than the WD genetic types. Professional parasitologists generally agree that ECS (FAMACHA®)

and PCV are more precise indicators of stomach worm infestation than is FEC. Therefore, we conclude the infestation decreased as WD genetics increased, even

Figure 3. Influence of Ewe Genetic Type on Eyelid Color Score (a), Packed Cell Volume (b), and Fecal Egg Count (c) at Weaning (70 Days).



abc Means not sharing common superscripts differ (P < 0.05).

though FEC did not directly line up with ECS and PCV.

Another aspect of this research was how ewe age (parity) and number of lambs nursed affected stomach worm infestation indicators. These effects, measured across ewe genetic types, are illustrated in Tables 1 and 2. Table 1 shows younger ewes have lower ECS and higher PCV although FEC did not appear to be affected by ewe age. The data in Table 2 show ewes nursing multiple lambs are more susceptible to stomach worm infestations than are ewes nursing singles, regardless of genetic type.

Overall, this experiment found that stomach worm indicators (ECS-FAMACHA®, PCV, and FEC) are affected by genetic type (PP more susceptible than percentage WD), age (older ewes more susceptible than younger ones), and number of lambs weaned (ewes than wean twins and/or triplets more susceptible than those with singles). One might also conclude that older ewes are more susceptible because they typically nurse more multiple lambs.

Aaron et al. Study II.

A second research study was conducted by Aaron and co-workers that evaluated

Table 1. Influence of Ewe Age (Parity) on Stomach Worm Indicator Traits at Weaning (70 Days).

Ewe Age (Yr)	No. Lambings	Trait ¹		
		ECS	PCV	FEC
1	183	2.4 ^a	29.3 ^a	793
2	117	2.6 ^b	27.8 ^b	786
3+	155	3.0 ^c	26.5 ^c	811

¹ECS = Eyelid Color Score (FAMACHA®), 1 = optimal to 5 = fatal; PCV = Packed Cell Volume, %; FEC = Fecal Egg Count.

^{abc}Means in the same column not sharing common superscripts differ (P<0.01).

Table 2. Influence of Type of Rearing on Stomach Worm Indicator Traits at Weaning (70 Days).

No. Lambs Reared	No. Lambings	Trait ¹		
		ECS**	PCV**	FEC*
Single	154	2.5	29.1	715
Multiple	301	2.8	26.7	887

¹ECS = Eyelid Color Score (FAMACHA®); 1 = optimal to 5 = fatal; PCV = Packed Cell Volume, %; FEC = Fecal Egg Count.

**Single vs. multiple difference (P<0.01).

*Single vs. multiple difference (P<0.10).

Genetic News continues on pg. 22

Mountainview Livestock

Farm • Ranch • Custom Livestock Equipment



FREE
 pickup at KSFF
 May 21-22
 2016

TUFF • DURABLE • LONG LASTING

mountainviewlivestock.com 



PH: 605-253-2018
 47324 309TH ST
 BERESFORD, SD, 57004



There's Value in Belonging

State Graded Sheep & Goat Sales

2nd & 4th Thursdays
of every Month

Cattle Sales

every Tuesday
at 1:00pm

**4350 Louisville Road
Bowling Green, KY
(270) 843-3224**

post weaning growth and stomach worm tolerance of lambs that differed in percentage hair breeding and were raised on pasture. The lambs in this study were raised by the ewes described in Study I, resulting in the following genetic types:

- PP
- 1/2 WD x 1/2 PP
- 3/4 WD x 1/4 PP
- 7/8 WD x 1/8 PP

Lambs were born in April in a barn where they remained for 7 days. Ewes and lambs were then moved to cool season grass pasture. All lambs were provided a corn-based creep feed, weaned at 70 days of age (~ June 20), managed on cool season pasture for 105 days post weaning and supplemented with a grain mix fed at 2 to 3% body weight daily. Data reported here were collected from a randomly selected sub-population of 44 lambs (11 of each genetic type). Traits measured were lamb weights/gains, red blood cell concentration of jugular blood (Packed Cell Volume = PCV), and fecal egg counts per gram of feces (FEC). These traits were measured at weaning (70 days of age) and at 3-week intervals post weaning (91, 112,

Table 3. Summary of Lamb Weights, Gains, PCV, and FEC by Genetic Type.

Trait	Genetic Type			
	PP	1/2 WD	3/4 WD	7/8 WD
Weaning Wt., lb	53 ^a	52 ^a	45 ^b	38 ^b
Final Wt., lb	98 ^a	104 ^b	102 ^{ab}	82 ^c
TG, 70 to 175 d, lb	45 ^a	52 ^b	57 ^b	44 ^a
Weaning PCV, %	30.5 ^{ab}	33.5 ^a	28.5 ^b	28.0 ^b
Final PCV, %	33.5	34.0	33.0	32.5
PCV Change, 70 to 175 d, %	+ 3.0 ^a	+ 0.5 ^b	+ 4.5 ^a	+ 4.5 ^a
Weaning FEC, eggs/g	112	105	120	135
Final FEC, eggs/g	1050 ^a	1600 ^b	1000 ^a	1450 ^{ab}
FEC Change, 70 to 175 d, eggs/g	+ 938 ^a	+1495 ^b	+ 880 ^a	+1315 ^a

^{abc} Values on the same line not sharing common superscripts differ (P<0.05).

133, 154, and 175 days of age). However, only traits measured at 70 and 175 days are presented here.

Lamb weights, gains, and stomach worm indicator traits (PCV and FEC) are summarized in Table 3. Weaning weights (70 days) of 3/4 and 7/8 WD lambs were less than those of PP and 1/2 WD. Final weights, at 175 days of age, were heaviest

for 1/2 and 3/4 WD. Resultant total gains for the 105 days from weaning to 175 days of age favored the 1/2 and 3/4 WD genetic types. Increased performance of these crossbreds was most likely due to heterosis.

The PCV at weaning were highest for the PP and 1/2 WD lambs. This may indicate these lambs were carrying fewer worms,

Genetic News continues on pg. 24



The Kentucky Sheep and Goat Check-Off Program collects \$.50 for every \$100 worth of sheep and goats sold in the Commonwealth. According to Kentucky law, Check-Off funds must be used for the purpose of promoting the increased use and sale of sheep and goats.

Major efforts of the Check-off program:

- Special Projects Grant- Provides funding for sheep and goat related special projects that either work to increase the supply of sheep and goats in Kentucky or increase the demand for Kentucky raised sheep and goats and their products.
- State-wide promotion and marketing of all sheep and goat products such as the Kentucky State Fair, Incredible Food Show, promotional materials for producers and so much more!

To learn more details about the Kentucky Sheep and Goat Check-off Program visit www.kysheepandgoat.org/Check_Off.html



New To The Market ***Lamb Grower & Finisher***

- ⇒ High in energy from the best available ingredients to ensure proper growth and skeletal development
- ⇒ Formulated with high levels of vitamins and organic trace minerals to help keep your young lambs immune system strong
- ⇒ Contains Ammonium Chloride to help reduce the incidence of urinary calculi (water belly)
- ⇒ Non-medicated to allow for flexibility in usage and access to natural markets

Lamb Grower Pellets

Protein	Minimum	17.5%
Fat	Minimum	3.0%
Fiber	Maximum	9.0%
Calcium	Minimum	.80
Calcium	Maximum	1.10%
Phosphorous	Minimum	0.50%

- ⇒ Contains alfalfa meal and molasses to help ensure proper feed intake and keep your lambs growing properly
- ⇒ Contain added yeast to help ensure good fiber digestion and proper gut health

Lamb Finisher Pellets

Protein	Minimum	14.5%
Fat	Minimum	3.0%
Fiber	Maximum	9.0%
Calcium	Minimum	.90
Calcium	Maximum	1.20%
Phosphorous	Minimum	0.60%

- ⇒ Ideal for finishing lambs and growing out breeding stock
- ⇒ Also suitable for breeding season supplementation of mature bucks and ewes

Danville • Glasgow • Bowling Green • Columbia • Edmonton

Hardinsburg • Lebanon • London • Rineyville • Shelbyville

Tennessee: Shelbyville Farm Center • Putnam Farm Supply • Manchester Farm Center

www.burkmann.com OR www.facebook.com/BurkmannNutrition

which may have contributed to heavier weaning weights. On the contrary, 3/4 and 7/8 WD lambs had lower PCV and lighter weaning weights. No lamb genetic type differences were found for PCV measured 105 days later even though final weights and gains were affected by genetic type.

Fecal egg counts (FEC) were exceptionally low at weaning, but increased to 1000 to 1600 eggs/gram of feces after 105 days of grazing. The largest FEC change from weaning to final was found for the 1/2 and 7/8 WD lambs, but this finding did not align with the weight and PCV changes.

Overall, 1/2 and 3/4 WD lambs used forage plus supplemental concentrate to produce fastest post weaning gains. The 1/2 WD lambs were heaviest and had highest PCV at 175 days even though they had high FEC. The PP and 7/8 WD lambs gained slowest, but this was not attributable to differences in PCV or FEC.

Nutritional Supplementation

A recent 2-year study conducted at the University of Kentucky by Wood et al. compared performance of supplemented (S) and unsupplemented (US) Polypay (PP) and White Dorper (WD) lambs. These

Table 4. Total Gains of Lambs Grazing Alfalfa/Orchardgrass Pasture from June 25 to September 17.

	Gain, lb/hd
<u>Breed</u>	
PP	40.5
WD	38.3
<u>Supplementation</u>	
S	48.0
US	30.8
<u>Breed x Supplementation</u>	
S-PP	50.0
US-PP	31.0
S-WD	45.8
US-WD	30.6

Table 5. Log-Transformed Fecal Egg Counts of Lambs Grazing Alfalfa/Orchardgrass Pasture from June 25 to September 17.

	Initial FEC, 6/25	Final FEC, 9/17
<u>Breed</u>		
PP	2.98	2.80
WD	2.46	2.25
<u>Supplementation</u>		
S	2.77	2.66
US	2.39	2.63
<u>Breed x Supplementation</u>		
S-PP	3.04	2.67
US-PP	2.92	2.93
S-WD	2.51	2.12
US-WD	2.41	2.37

lambs were born in April and were weaned at 70 days of age to alfalfa/orchardgrass pasture. One half of the lambs of each breed was supplemented, at 2% body weight daily, with a 14% crude protein concentrate from June 25 to September 17 (84 days). The other lambs of each breed were unsupplemented. The effect of breed (PP vs. WD) and supplementation on total lamb gains is summarized in Table 4. The comparison of PP and WD is made across supplementation treatments and shows PP gained 6% more than WD. A comparison of supplementation treatments, regardless of breed, shows how dramatic the effect of supplementation has on weight gains when lambs are raised on pasture during summer (48.0 vs. 30.8 lb/head; 156% greater for supplementation). The breed x supplementation gains in Table 4 show that PP lambs were more responsive to

supplementation (50.0 vs. 31.0 lb/head) than WD (45.8 vs. 30.6 lb/head).

Table 5 shows initial and final FEC of PP vs. WD as well as supplemented vs. unsupplemented lambs. The interaction of breed x supplementation on FEC is also presented in this table. The numbers presented here are log-transformed rather than actual values. Comparison of these numbers is the same as if they were actual. Simply put, the larger the log-transformed number, the higher the FEC. The PP lambs had higher FEC than WD at both the beginning and end of the grazing season.

Both breeds had slightly larger FEC at the beginning of the grazing season than at the end. Supplemented lambs had higher initial FEC than unsupplemented, but they were near equal by September 17. The FEC of supplemented lambs decreased only slightly from initial to final, whereas

Keep your animals on TRACK when moving to shows by giving them...

Fastrack Jumpstart Gel

Phone: 1.800.727.0716
www.showmepformance.com

The logo for FarmTek, featuring the word "FarmTek" in a bold, red, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol.

1.800.327.6835 FarmTek.com/ADHP

WE MANUFACTURE • WE INSTALL
WE SAVE YOU MONEY

BUILDINGS OF 1,000 USES

Superior Work Environments
Natural Lighting, Low Cost Per Sq Ft

Versatile Agricultural Buildings
Feed, Equipment & Livestock Options

Foundation Solutions
Build Anywhere & Quick Construction

ZERO PERCENT FINANCING AVAILABLE RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY | **MADE IN USA**

unsupplemented FEC increased from 2.39 to 2.63. Further analysis of Table 5 (breed x supplementation) shows that PP had higher values than WD (regardless of supplementation). The benefit of supplementation becomes apparent when S-PP initial and final (3.04 vs. 2.67) values are compared with US-PP initial and final (2.92 vs. 2.93). Likewise, S-WD decreased from 2.51 (initial) to 2.12 (final) as US-WD decreased only from 2.41 (initial) to 2.37 (final).

Where Does This Leave Us?

Ewes that lamb in April "on pasture" will get stomach worms, even if they are so-called "genetically resistant breeds", are rotated through cool-season pastures, dewormed as needed, supplemented daily with a concentrate, and evaluated via FAMACHA. The question now becomes, "How do we manage ewes and lambs from April lambing?" The following is a proposed method. First, lactating ewes must be supplemented with at least 1.0 lb of concentrate daily. Provide creep feed to lambs from birth until weaning at 70 days of age. After weaning, move lambs to a clean alfalfa/orchardgrass pasture and supplement with a concentrate at 2%

body weight daily. Move ewes to a low-quality "clean" pasture. Deworm ewes and lambs as needed based on FAMACHA and other characteristics (lethargy, bottle jaw, slow growth, eating off ground). Lambs can be marketed at light weights (50 to 90 lb) until October as desired or marketed in October/November at 100 to 120 lb.

Two management options are available if we want to avoid the stomach worm season. The first calls for breeding ewes in August/September and lambing in January/February. Feed ewes harvested feeds in the barn for 90 to 100 days (last 4 weeks of gestation and 60 days of lactation). Creep feed lambs from birth to weaning at 60 days of age. Move ewes to clean pasture and finish lambs in confinement (barn) to 100 to 120 lb. Market in May.

The second option is to breed ewes in May for September/October lambing. Feed harvested feeds to ewes after lambing in the barn or supplement with 1.0 lb concentrate/head/day on stockpiled fall pasture. Creep feed lambs from birth to weaning at 60 days of age. Move ewes to clean pasture plus low quality hay for winter. Finish lambs in confinement or outside to 100 to 120 lb. Market in late February/early March.

Summary

Many management techniques have been proposed to control stomach worm infestations. Even though it is virtually impossible for producers to practice all of these, this does not mean we shouldn't try. The Integrated Pasture Management practices can aid in keeping infestations under control. Use of "genetically resistant breeds" and daily supplementation with a concentrate are other practices that can help control this devastating parasite. As these practices are incorporated into the annual management of flocks, we should remember that stomach worm infestations are also affected by age of ewes and the number of lambs they nurse. Finally, recognize and accept the fact that sheep on pasture are going to have worms. It is the producer's responsibility to manage these worms to minimize their effect on the sheep. This may even require producers to breed ewes to avoid the stomach worm season. 🐏

Drs. Donald G. Ely and Debra K. Aaron,
Professors in the Department of Animal & Food Sciences at the University of Kentucky

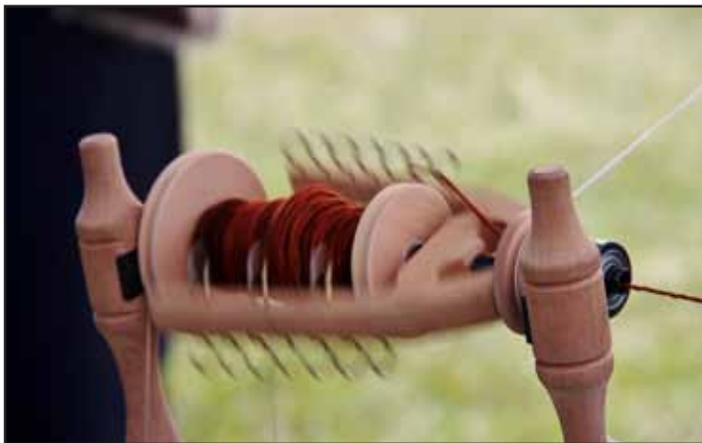


Bridging the Gap between Sheep and Shawl Marketing Wool to the Hand Spinner

by Hannah Nilsson

The wildly popular sustainable living movement has given rise to an increased number of people hand spinning yarn. The hand spinner is no longer just a colonial woman pictured in an encyclopedia. Fiber festivals, spinning circles and living rooms are filled with young and old, women and men who enjoy this, dare I say, addictive pass-time. Simultaneously, the appeal of the sustainable lifestyle has brought on an increase in small scale farming. As fiber arts and the practice of tending sheep make a resurgence, a look into the past may prove valuable to bringing these two groups together and lessening the gap between sheep to shawl.

I once read that 'When man stepped out of the cave, the sheep was there to greet him.' Once involved with sheep and fiber, it doesn't take long to get the sense of being a part of something ancient and feel a connection to these long-time companions. In a simpler time, a family that tended sheep, harvested the meat, spun the wool, wore the clothes, drank the milk and ate the cheese. The old farmers were the end user. The care of the animal had a direct impact on the product they produced. Today there is a tendency to identify as **either** a producer **or** a consumer. Bridging the gap between sheep to shawl, farm to table is a cornerstone of the sustainable movement. What would happen if we started thinking like the old farmer? What would happen if we actually considered the uses for the wool our flocks are producing and how to make it better for that purpose? In doing so, we might bring producer and consumer closer together.



Small farmers need to maximize every opportunity made available to us by the versatile sheep. A little education of what the end user needs is a way to start bridging the gap. Whether wool as a primary product or as a by-product of a meat operation, small farms can reach the hand spinner market by considering the following: Quality, Capability and Contact.

Quality

Hand spinning is a time consuming activity so quality is of utmost importance. Cleanliness, strength of fiber and staple length are on the top of the fiber enthusiast list when selecting a fleece.

Cleanliness

The unwashed “raw” fleece, fresh off the sheep, is preferred in order to determine the natural characteristics of the fiber. Attention can be given to keeping vegetable matter (VM) out of wool by using hay conserving feeders, grazing in clean pastures, and coating sheep (which also protect from sun damage and exposure) and timely shearing of the fleece. Not lumping the entire fleece together at shearing time or combining the entire wool clip, allows fleece to be separated by breed and avoids blending of dissimilar wools. Taking a few minutes to grade the fleece beyond skirting belly wool will greatly improve quality which pays off when selling the fleece. Another consideration is to hire a skilled shearer in order to minimize the useless, bits of wool known as second cuts.

Strength of Fiber

When a fleece is processed it is washed, carded or combed and spun. If a fiber is weak, it will literally fall apart

during this process. Wool “break” is a term used for brittle fiber usually caused by stress, poor health or nutrition. Snapping a lock of wool will produce a pinging sound. This indicates a strong fiber that can be processed with ease. Nutrition is paramount in growing good fleece. Because good husbandry practices are a top priority to most shepherds, growing good fleece goes along with taking good care of the flock. A fiber artist friend noted that strength of fiber and cleanliness are an indicator to them that the animal was cared for. This is an important aspect to many hand spinners who wants to support humane farming practices.

Staple Length

There is a staple length for every project under heaven. Time shearing to coincide with premium staple length. A fleece sheared too soon can negate the benefit of a long staple or sheared too late can leave a felted mess.

Capability

Know what your wool is capable of! Knowing what you have makes it easier to market. Even though I am partial to the long wool breeds such as the Border Leicester, Bluefaced Leicester, Wensleydale and Teeswater with their long curls and luster, there is a growing market for heritage

breeds, double coated breeds and yes, down breeds. Meat sheep can be raised to produce a quality fleece. Hampshire, Suffolk, Dorset and Texel have a lovely springing fleeces that grow to a respectable 3 inch staple. Lamb fleeces from a down breed can produce a lace weight yarn suitable for scarves. Young adult fleeces are great for a worsted or sport weight yarns used to make sweaters and socks. The non-felting properties of down wool also makes it great for toys and stuffing. Hand spinners like to spin from all breeds of sheep! Border Leicester yarn is different than Texel yarn. Wool has a variety of

Middle Tennessee Fiber Festival



May 27 & 28, 2016

**Dickson County Fairgrounds
Dickson, Tennessee**

Over 50 Vendors

Classes All Day Friday & Saturday

Shearing, Weaving & Spinning Demonstrations

All indoors / Air conditioned

For more information:
www.tnfiberfestival.com
tnfiberfestival@yahoo.com
615-789-5943

capabilities. Knowing the characteristics of the wool you are growing is a real plus when marketing to the hand spinner. Taking a beginning Sheep to Shawl class at a local Sheep and Fiber festival can help you become knowledgeable about your wool.

Contact

This is where most people believe marketing begins. It is, IF you have done your homework. You have to know what you have and how that can benefit your customer. The old farmer knew what he had and how to produce the best product because he was the end-user. The distance from sheep to shawl was as far as the barn to the house. We are walking a bit further, so we need to know our wool, then where and how to reach the customer.

The endless variety of wool and the way they represent in a skein of yarn/fiber project is one of the reasons why you see guilds, classes and festivals populated by the hand spinner. Determining the ping, luster, color, feel (handle) of a fleece is a hands-on activity. Determining breed, staple length, and to some extent cleanliness, can be done virtually. Because wool selection is a tactile process, attending/vending as a



wool grower at sheep and fiber festivals, farmer's markets and sustainable living events is a great way to get your product into the hand of the spinner. It is also a great way to build relationships with customers. Using social media sites such as Facebook, Instagram and Pinterest are a popular way to showcase your wool and can direct customers to your farm site or online retail presence on Etsy, EBay, etc. The key to selling online is to accurately represent what you have. Aren't you glad you did your homework? Accurately photographing and describing your wool in terms that fiber artists understand greatly improves your success in selling a product that is best purchased in person. Word of mouth is an old-fashioned yet very effective way to sell wool to hand spinners.

When selling online you rarely get a second chance to make a first impression. Fiber artists are generally loyal customers when a consistent product is provided.

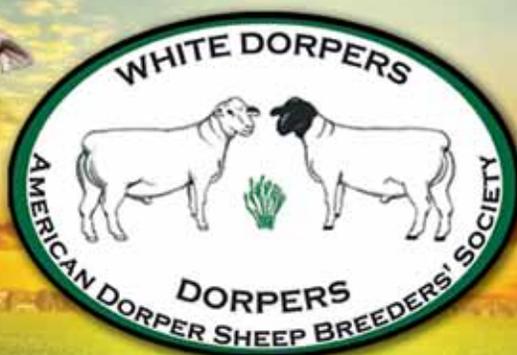
The sustainable movement that reawakened the hand spinner and the small farmer is not about market analysis though. It is about lifestyle: living a simpler existence close to the land, enjoying the benefits of a slower pace while supporting yourself. The joy of new born lambs or tending a flock of docile, woolly sheep; the satisfaction of working with wool; the whirl of the wheel and the rhythmic motion of the treadle are compensation beyond the bottom line. So, when you are walking from the barn to house in search of the hand spinner so you can sell them your wool, stop a minute and enjoy the view.

Hannah Nilsson, is the shepherdess at Windsor Wool Farm and owner of Windsor Wool Farm Consultation Services. She raises registered Border Leicester and Wensleydale sheep as well as Bluefaced and Teeswater crosses on her small farm in South Central Kentucky. She is known for her common sense approach to life as a shepherd, educator and author.

Move up to Dorpers & White Dorpers

You'll Never Look Back!

Hardy and Adaptable
Excellent Maternal Qualities
Long Breeding Season
Reproductive Efficiency



Visit our website:

www.dorper.org

Ronda Sparks, Registrar
P.O. Box 259 • Hallsville, MO 65255-0259

Attend These Upcoming Dorper & White Dorper Events:

MID-AMERICA DORPER SHOW & SALE
April 22-23 • Duncan, Oklahoma

OHIO DORPER SHOWCASE SALE
May 12-13 • Eaton, Ohio

WESTERN STATES DORPER SHOW & SALE
May 28-29 • Chico, California

NATIONAL DORPER SHOW & SALE
June 21-23 • Sedalia, Missouri

SOUTHERN STATES DORPER SHOW & SALE
July 22-23 • Cookeville, Tennessee

TEXAS HILL COUNTRY DORPER SHOW & SALE
September 9-10 • Fredericksburg, Texas

ADSBS DORPER BREEDER COURSES & JUDGES SCHOOL
October 5-8 • San Angelo, Texas

Non-Selective Grazers
Heat and Insect Tolerant
Parasite Tolerant

ADSBSoffice@centurytel.net

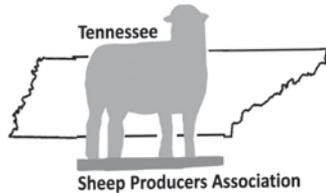
Tel: 573-696-2550 • Fax: 573-696-2030

2016 Tennessee Wool Pool

SELL YOUR WOOL AT HIGHER PRICES!!!

2015 Wool Pool Prices

White Face	\$0.98
BlackFace	\$0.98
Burry	\$0.83
Short (White*)	\$0.78
Black	\$0.19



**2016 Wool Prices
being negotiated now!**

*The Short/Lamb Wool Grade is short staple wool that is white. Lamb wool shorn from black face lambs needs to be bagged separate as it has a dark color and will receive the black wool grade and price.

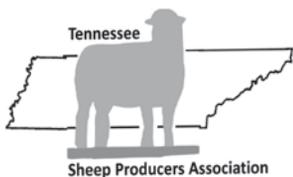
Attributes that separate Tennessee wool from other state's wool pools:

- Eliminating kemp (hair) from the wool clip. Hair or kemp is not accepted in the TN Wool Pool.
- Keeping dark wool separate from white wool
- Wool is baled on site into uniformly packed wool packs
- Storing and transporting wool in approved wool sacks and not putting wool in poly mesh feed sacks

Wool Pool Pick-up Sites

EAST TN Wool Pool

2nd Week in June
Location To Be Announced



Middle TN Wool Pool

June 24th
Maury County Farmer's Co-op
423 Westover Dr., Columbia, TN
GPS: 35.609485, -87.067375
Time: 8:00 am - noon
(lunch will be provided for the volunteers who help work the wool)

Details on the pool can be found at

<http://www.tennesseesheep.org>

Contact Mark Powell for more information at 615-519-7796

Come early and plan to help. There are plenty of jobs for volunteers, and the help is needed to keep costs down.

Wool outside of Tennessee is Welcome!

KY Wool Pool Participation June 4, 2016

at C. Oran Little Research Farm,
Sheep Unit, Midway, KY

Visit www.kysheepandgoat.org
for details.



The Cooperative
Extension Program
at
Langston University
will host
the 31st Annual

Goat Field Day

Saturday April 30, 2016

9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

at the E (Kika) de la Garza American Institute for Goat Research

This year's focus will be on *Keeping Your Goats Healthy*. Featured speakers will be specialists with considerable goat experience.

Presentations will include:

Morning Session:

- Preventative Medicine 101
- What To Do When Your Goat Is Sick

Afternoon hands-on workshops:

- further discussion on various aspects of herd health
- useful tips for cheese makers, internal parasites
- basic goat husbandry practices, farm budgets
- goat feeding and nutrition, government assistance,
- fitting and showing market wethers, DHI training,
- pack goats, and many more workshops

Program includes morning and afternoon activities for youth. Langston University is located 12 miles east of Guthrie, OK on Highway 33.

Registration is free and begins at 8:00 a.m. Lunch may be purchased or you can bring your own. For registration information contact Dr. Terry Gipson (405) 466-6126 or tgipson@langston.edu or register online at

<http://www.luresext.edu/?q=content/2016-goat-field-day-april-30>

DAIRY RAM FOR SALE

95 % East Friesian dairy ram available early June.

Parents out of Everona Farm dispersal

Born 14th Feb 2016

Febus Farm Harrodsburg, KY

(859-734-9035) phroca27@gmail.com



HUMANE
BLOODLESS
DRUG FREE

CATTLE GOATS SHEEP

“THE CALLICRATE
‘WEE’ BANDER
IS WELL WORTH
THE INVESTMENT.”

JOHN BLEVINS, CALIFORNIA



MADE
IN USA

Callicrate
‘WEE’
BANDER™

EARLY CASTRATION

The Callicrate
BANDER®

DELAYED CASTRATION

HORN
REMOVAL



“THE CALLICRATE
BANDER IS
PHENOMENAL.”

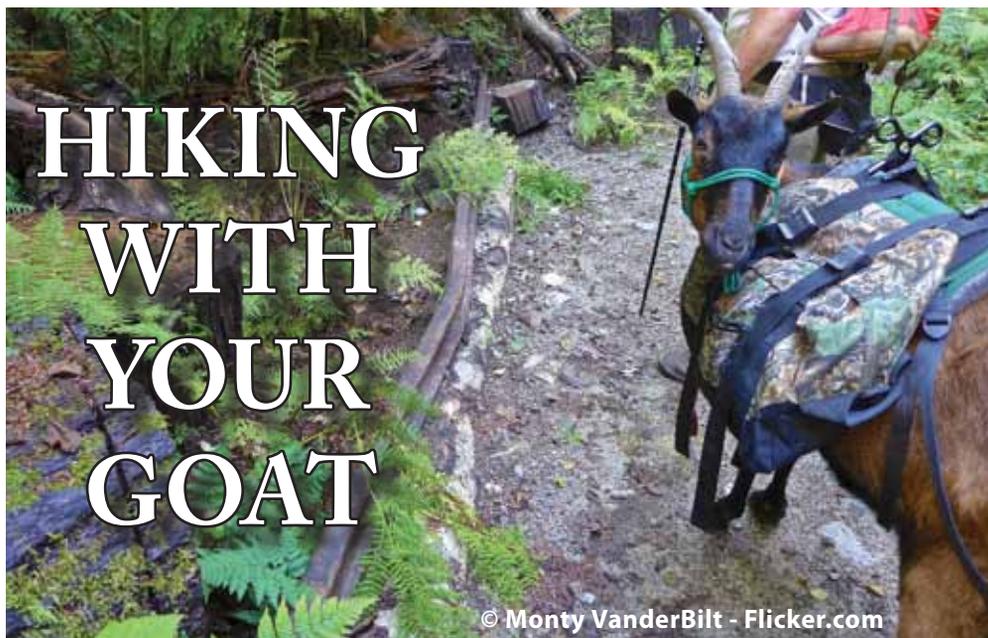
GEORGE CHAMBERS, CARROLLTON, GEORGIA



CALL FOR A DISTRIBUTOR NEAR YOU

800-858-5974
www.CallicrateBanders.com

HIKING WITH YOUR GOAT



© Monty VanderBilt - Flickr.com

By Polly Lush

How would you like to go hiking or backpacking and not have to carry all your stuff? Try taking your goat!

Goat packing can be fun for you and your goat, if done correctly:

1. The first thing to remember is pack your goat so that weight is evenly distributed. An uneven load could cause pressure ulcers from the saddle and could cause injury to the animal.
2. Goats are eager to learn and explore new things. For you and your goat's safety, I highly recommend a halter or collar and a long lead of some type. This is to keep your goat under control should something scare them and prevent them from running off.
3. When backpacking always prepare for the worst. Some safety supplies should include matches, large black heavy garbage bags(for warmth and to help stay dry), water, protein bars or high protein snack, diaper rash ointment (for minor cuts, abrasions or burns), gauze or strips of white cloth for bandages, a gun (if area permits), ammunition, and an interchangeable knife. These things could save your life should you get lost.
4. Now for your travel companion, I prefer a lightly milking doe, as my girls are pretty well bomb proof. She can make milk out of just about anything. Should you get lost, her milk is a good source of calories. She can provide you with warmth as well. If stranded for a long period of time, she can feed you. Goat meat is very good should it come to this. Let's hope it doesn't go that far!

5. Remember when you stop for a break, give your goat a break as well. This is a good time to remove the saddle and inspect the skin for the start of saddle sores, abrasions, burrs or briars. Check the saddle pads as well. Take a healthy snack such as granola or baggies of sweet feed.

Breaking a goat to pack a saddle has been easier than I expected. I put the empty saddle on first. Walk them around a bit then slowly load the pack with the weight evenly distributed. Please, please don't overload your companion. Depending on the size and breed of the goat, they can only carry up to 1/3 of their body weight. An example is a 125# goat could carry a load up to 31# but no more. That's a lot of weight for such a small animal. Don't forget to add the weight of the saddle and any paniers or packs used in the total carrying weight.

The best place I have found to get supplies is Northwest Pack Goat and Supplies. They have a weight chart as well, to assist you in determining the total safe weight for your goat.

Have fun, stay safe and enjoy the outdoors with your 4 legged friend!

Polly Lush, owner, of Beautiful Valley Dairy Goats (Genessee Klizzie) located in Grayson county on Nolin Lake, has a small herd of 20 Dairy Goats. She raises Alpines, Nubians and most recently Sables. She and her husband travel to many different areas speaking and doing presentations on goat packing, most recently in North Carolina at the Preppers convention. Beautiful Valley Dairy Goats
Clarkson, Ky
Beautifulvalleydairygoats@yahoo.com

MARKETPLACE

American Dorper Sheep Breeders Society, Inc.
573-696-2550 • www.dorper.org

American Institute for Goat Research
Langston University
www2.luresext.edu/goats

American Kiko Goat Association
254-423-5914 • www.kikogoats.com

Bluegrass Livestock Marketing Group
www.bgstockyards.com

Burkman Nutrition
www.burkman.com
www.facebook.com/BurkmanNutrition

Callicrate Bander 1-800-858-5974
www.CallicrateBanders.com

FarmTek Fodder Pro 1-800-201-3414
www.FodderSystems.com/ADHP

Fastrack
1-800-727-0716

Febus Farms
859-734-9035

Gallagher
800-531-5908

HoofTrader KY Sheep & Goat Development Office
www.kysheepandgoat.org • 502-682-7780

Kentucky Goat Producers Association
www.kysheepandgoat.org

Kentucky Sheep & Goat Check-Off
www.kysheepandgoat.org

Kentucky Sheep & Wool Producers Association
www.kysheepandgoat.org

Ketcham's
www.ketchamssheepequipment.com

Middle TN Fiber Festival
Dickson Co. Fairgrounds, Dickson, TN
tnfiberfestival@yahoo.com
615-789-5943

MountainView Machine
605-253-2018
www.mountainviewlivestock.com

National Livestock Producers Association
www.sheepandgoatfund.com
1-800-237-7193 ext. 10

TN Sheep Producers Association
www.tennesseesheep.org

Udderly EZ 1-800-287-4791
www.udderlyez.com
email: buck@udderlyez.com

United Producers, Inc.
270-843-3224

University of Kentucky
www.uky.edu/AnimalSciences/sheep/sheep.html
www.uky.edu/AnimalSciences/goat/goat.html
www.ca.uky.edu

ADVERTISE

your on-farm sale
or Summer consignment sale
in HoofPrint.
For publication dates
and pricing contact:

Kelley Yates
kyates@kysheepandgoat.org
(502) 682-7780



We're here for what's next.



800-237-7193 ext. 10 - sheepandgoatfund.com



The NLPA Sheep and Goat Fund assists the U.S. sheep and goat industries by financing projects that strengthen and enhance the production and marketing of sheep and goats and their products. It is a valuable tool to expand your operation and take it beyond the farm gate. Learn how you can benefit from the fund at sheepandgoatfund.com.

-  Invest in equipment and business development
-  Facilitate flock/herd expansion
-  Improve marketing and product quality


Kentucky
SHEEP & GOAT
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
P.O. Box 4709
Frankfort, KY 40604-4709

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Permit #1
Lexington, KY



TM

www.ketchamssheepequipment.com



Introducing our new

RED LITE CHUTE SYSTEM

Lighter weight, shorter length, and more economical.

In addition to our original chute systems components and packages, we are now adding new chute system packages by changing only two components to give our Ketcham's Customers more choices when it comes to purchasing a chute system. Our traditional chute systems have 10 foot Solid Panels and 10 foot Drop-Top Panels therefore, making up our 10, 20, and 30 foot Chute System Packages. The new Red Lite Chute System has 8 foot Solid Panels and 8 foot Drop-Top Panels therefore, making our new 8, 16, and 24 foot Chute System Packages. Both of the new 8 foot panels can be purchased individually just like all of our chute components can be purchased. The other components that make up our new Red Lite packages such as the Stop Gates, Sorting Gates, and Anti-Back-up Arms, will remain the same as in our traditional packages.

The new 8 foot Solid Panel and 8 foot Drop Top Panel will be lighter in weight not only because of the reduction in length but also because we are using 1" square, 16 gauge tubing versus our 1 1/4" square, 14 gauge tubing in our big heavy traditional chute panels. With that being said, the material modification also allows us to sell the panels at a more economical price. Freight also becomes more economical for those needing to ship the equipment. The panels will be easier to pick-up, move or haul, store, and will still be made with the same Ketcham's quality. The new Red Lite Chute System is ideal for smaller operations and use in compact spaces. To have a complete set-up, we recommend adding our 10 foot Circle Pen Package and our Tilt Table to this new system. As always, all of our panels, gates, chutes, and chute components are all compatible and will all attach to each other for added versatility including the new 8 foot Solid Panel and 8 foot Drop-Top Panel.

For a limited time, we are offering the Red Lite Chute System Packages along with the individual panels at an introductory price. These introductory prices will be good through June 30th—all orders must be placed and paid for by 6/30/16. Call or check out our website for details!

KSEM, Inc.

6471 Miller Drive, Edwardsville, IL 62025

618.656.5388