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Joe Helle  
Vern Keller  
Bill Lehfeldt  
John Paugh

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Dr. Whit Stewart  
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Board of Livestock Sheep Rep.  
John Lehfeldt  
(406) 636-4212

American Sheep Industry Assn. (ASI)  
(303) 771-3500

Scrapie Tag Ordering Information  
(866) 873-2824

Online Sheep Transportation Permits  
http://app.mt.gov/sheep

Governor Steve Bullock  
(406) 444-3111

Senator Jon Tester  
(202) 224-2644

Senator Steve Daines  
(202) 224-2651

Representative Ryan Zinke  
(202) 225-3211

MWGA Dues  
Dues to the Montana Wool Growers Association are $20 per membership plus $.06 per pound of wool (or $.60 per sheep). The $20 covers the cost of the Montana Wool Grower Magazine, membership in the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) and the ASI Newsletter that each member receives. The additional six cents per pound is what the Association operates on as it works to improve the opportunities for raising sheep and wool in Montana.

About the Cover:  
Ike Heser, John Green, and Heinrich Ortmann compare notes after the wool judging contest that was held at Wool Grower Campout in Wolf Point at the Ortmann Ranch in June.

Deadline for the Convention Issue will be November 1st, 2016.
Wool Pools and Buyers Operating In Montana

NE Montana Pool
Plentywood
Colleen Buck
(406) 765-3406

McConie Pool
Circle
Tandi Kassner
(406) 485-2605

MonDak Pool
Wibaux
Danielle Harper
(406) 796-2486
Bruce Smith
(406) 377-4277

Lower Yellowstone Pool
Sidney
Tim Fine
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Highline Pool
Malta
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(406) 684-2543

Front Range Pool
Conrad
Luanne Wallewein
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Big Timber
Mark King
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Upper Musselshell
Harlowton
Stacey Grove
(406) 473-2244

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Jefferson
Dillon
J P Tanner
(406) 683-3785

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Polson
Jan Tusick
(406) 883-4093

Snowy Mountain Pool
Lewistown
Bertie Brown
(406) 535-3919

Granite/Powell Pool
Drummond
Barbara Weaver
(406) 288-3282

Garfield County Pool
Jordan
Jerry Hensleigh
(406) 557-2839

Wool Buyers
High Plains Wool
Bruce Barker
(307) 674-4504

Center of the Nation
Belle Fourche
Larry Prager
(605) 892-6311
Billings
Scott Lammers
(406) 245-9112

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Glasgow, MT
(406) 228-9306
www.glasgowstockyards.com

Headwaters Livestock Auction
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(406) 285-0502
www.headwaterslivestock.com

Lewistown Livestock Auction
Lewistown, MT
(406) 538-3471
www.lewistownlivestock.com

Public Auction Yards
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www.publicauctionyards.com
(406) 245-6447

Western Livestock Auction
Great Falls, MT
(406) 727-5400
www.westernlivestockmontana.com

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Sidney, MT
(406) 482-3513
www.sidneylivestock.com

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Bowman, ND
(701) 523-5922
www.bowmanauctionmarket.com

St. Onge Livestock
Newell, SD
(605) 642-2200
www.stongelivestock.com

Save the Date

August 23-24, 2016
100th Anniversary of USSES
Dubois, Idaho

August 25, 2016
USSES Range Tours
Dubois, Idaho

August 27, 2016
Montana Columbia Show & Sale
Lewistown, MT

September 10, 2016
Black & White Sale
Harlowton, MT

September 14, 2016
MSU Sheep Seminar, 9-4pm
Eastern MT Fairgrounds, Miles City

September 14, 2016
Social 5, pm
Montana Ewe Sale, 6pm
Eastern MT Fairgrounds, Miles City,

September 15, 2016
Lunch, 11am
Montana Ram Sale, 12pm
Eastern MT Fairgrounds, Miles City

October 5-9, 2016
Trailing of the Sheep Festival
Hailey, ID

October 15, 2016
Jewell Merino Annual Production
Ram Sale
Rifle, CO

November 10-12, 2016
Celebrate Agriculture 2016
Montana State University, Bozeman

December 1, 2016
Next Generation Wool Grower Day
Billings Hotel & Convention Center
Billings, MT

December 1-3, 2016
133rd MWGA Annual Convention
Billings Hotel & Convention Center
Billings, MT

January 25-29th, 2017
ASI Annual Convention
Denver, Colorado

Advertising Rates
$30 for 1/8 page
$55 for 1/4 page
$100 for 1/2 page
$175 for full page

For Subscription or Advertising:
Write, email, or call Jesse Wallewein at
mtwga@outlook.com or (406) 450-3429.
The MWGA newsletter is printed quarterly with additional issues published as needed.
Hello all, it’s been a wacky summer! Just when you think you have it made, Mother Nature changes the program. MWGA once again made their presence known during the Montana Range Days event in Harlowton and had the opportunity to emphasize the importance of grazing sheep on the landscape. We also want to give them a big thank you for purchasing a canopy for MWGA to use for this event.

Jim Brown and I have been questioning the current management practices of the Grizzly bear as it has become a real issue. Both in terms of the Livestock Compensation Board and time and resources spent by Wildlife Services. There has been some sheep producers taking a big hit from grizzly bear predation. The bear is moving east so don’t feel like you’ve been left out of the fun.

The combined Lab project is about to write another chapter to the benefit of our Industry. We still find time to stay in touch with our congressional people and if you have any concerns, you should get ahold of Jesse Wallewein so we can express them to these people. We do have their ear and it’s refreshing not having to introduce ourselves every time we see them.

I ask for everybody to be safe, get the last of the hay up and the harvest in before Mother Nature does it for you.

Respectfully,

Dave McEwen
MWGA President

Are you on Facebook??

Follow the “Montana Wool Growers Association” to keep up with upcoming events, articles, and sheep industry news!

*****

Follow “Montana State University Extension Sheep Program” for the quickest way to get updates on upcoming programs, events, and extension news!
-President Dave, Lenora, and Johna McEwen, Executive Secretary Jesse Wallewein, and board members Kevin Halverson and Ben Lehfeldt cooked a delicious lamb lunch for the participants of the Montana Range Days event held in Harlowton.

-MWGA Campout was held in June at the Ortmann Ranch near Wolf Point. Many board members were in attendance and had a quick meeting to discuss a few issues.

-President Dave McEwen sent letters to Bill Clay and Martin Mendoza, both of Wildlife Services in Washington, D.C., thanking them for their attention to our Grizzly Bear problem in Montana and for taking the time to hear our concerns.

-MWGA gave comment to the Board of Livestock Long Range Planning committee regarding the future of the Board of Livestock.

-Public Affairs Director Jim Brown, President Dave McEwen, and immediate Past President Greg Wichman participated in a round table discussion with Rep. Ryan Zinke and Congressman Mike Conaway (TX) on the reauthorization of the farm bill.

-Preparations are underway for the release of the newly updated MWGA website.

-MWGA has been heavily promoting the upcoming MT Ram and Ewe Sales on the Facebook page and highlighting the consignors and their stock offerings.
2016 Tri-State Idaho-Montana-Wyoming Wool Growers
Association Range Tour:

On August 25, 2016, the US Sheep Experiment Station will host the Idaho-Montana-Wyoming Tri-State Wool Growers Range Tour. The Tour will focus on policy and science that affects utilization of America’s rangelands for food production from grazing livestock. Topics to be addressed are Bighorn-domestic sheep conflict issues; Grizzly bear delisting and management plans; Livestock grazing, fire, and sage grouse management; non-traditional grazing resources; and management of invasive weeds. Representatives for the topic areas will be from various land and game management agencies and USDA and university research institutions in the Intermountain West. Registration will be capped at 150 participants. Participants will be divided in two groups, and groups will be rotated to each site for the morning and afternoon sessions. Buses will be available to transport participants between sites. Lunch will be served at 12:00 p.m. at the headquarters location. Refreshments will be provided throughout the day.

Registration deadline was August 5th. We will accept late registration, but please make your reservations as soon as possible. Registration cost (includes lunch and refreshments): $40/person.

8:00 am
- Arrive at the US Sheep Experiment Station Headquarters Office
- Assign Tour Groups A & B

8:30 am to 12:00 pm
- Group A—Sessions 1 & 2 at Sheep Station Headquarters
- Group B—Session 4 at field sites

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm
- Lunch
- Session 3

1:30 pm to 5:00 pm
- Group A—Session 4 at field sites
- Group B—Sessions 1 & 2 at Sheep Station Headquarters

Session 1: Bighorn-Domestic Sheep Issue
- Update on bighorn-domestic sheep policy — Rob Mickelsen
- ARS role in research efforts regarding bighorn-domestic issues — Don Knowles
- Legislative updates — Amy Hendrickson

Session 2: Grizzly Bear Delisting and Management
- Update on Wyoming-Montana-Idaho state management plans for grizzly bear — Gregg Losinski
- Grazing sheep in grizzly bear habitat — Bret Taylor
- USFS management plans for grizzly bears — TBA

Session 3: Sage Grouse Policy and Management
- Land-management policies and plans regarding sage grouse in Montana — Pat Fosse
- Sage Grouse monitoring in the Intermountain West — Devin Englestead

Session 4 (field sites): Non-traditional Grazing Resources
- The spring-grazing conundrum — Steve Seefeldt
- Targeted grazing and invasive weeds — Karen Launchbaugh
- Crop residue for winter forage — Pat Hatfield
- New plant products for improving rangelands — Kevin Jensen
It really hasn’t been that long since you’ve had an update from MWGA but it feels like there is still a bunch to catch you up on! Pres. Dave, his wife Lenora and daughter, Johna, Kevin Halverson, Ben Lehfeldt, and myself spent the day in Har- lowton on June 21st cooking lamb for the participants of Montana Range Days. We had a pretty good crew gathered around the grill patiently waiting for the lamb and we heard nothing but good remarks! The Montana Range Days crew was nice enough to buy MWGA a canopy for us that we can use to give us a little shade when we do cookouts like that.

If you weren’t at campout, then you missed a pretty good time! Although it rained most of the weekend, we still got the chance to get out and see some country and some of the Ortmann’s sheep herds. We would like to thank them for hosting and for letting us take over the house for the weekend. Sam Ortmann and his family tested our knowledge with a wool judging contest with about 15 different fleeces. All in all, it was a good weekend and we can’t wait until next year’s campout.

We ran a photo contest that ended on July 10th and I’m pleased to report that we had over 75 entries. The judging was tough but we narrowed it down to one grand prize winner. The winning photo is on page 40. The winner of the photo contest will receive one night’s stay at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center during Annual Convention.

I’ve been keeping busy advertising for the Montana Ram and Ewe Sales as well as getting all the details sorted out. Everyone has been a huge help to me this year and I can’t tell you how much I appreciate that. If you haven’t already, make plans to attend the 91st Annual MT Ram Sale and the 3rd Annual MT Ewe Sale in Miles City on September 14th and 15th. We’ll start out the day on the 14th with the MSU Sheep Symposium that Dr. Whit Stewart is putting on. Be prepared to get lots of good information out of this seminar with some hands-on activities, as well. There will be a lamb BBQ at noon that you’re not going to want to miss. After an afternoon of learning, the Ewe Sale Social will begin at 5pm and the Sale will start promptly at 6pm. The fun continues on Thursday with the Ram Sale Lunch at 11am and the Ram Sale starting at 12noon. Both sales offer top-end, high-quality stock that will be sure to fit what you’re looking for. All events will take place at the Eastern Montana Fairgrounds.

Many of you have probably noticed how outdated the website is. By the time this issue hits your mailbox, there should be a brand new website for you to check out. I’ll do my best to keep it updated so let me know how you like it and if there is anything else that you would like to see on there. Head on over to mtsheep.org to check things out and don’t forget to sign up on our email list!

Last but certainly not least, don’t forget to put the dates for the 133rd Annual MWGA Convention on your calendar. On December 1st, we’ll be putting on a day long Next Generation Wool Grower Program for the Young Entrepreneurs of Montana with hopefully a few out of state participants as well. Look for more information on this program in the months leading up to Convention. The fun will officially kick off that night with the President’s Reception. We’ll jam pack socializing, networking, informative sessions, educational opportunities, and the popular evening events into two full days. We aren’t sure what the weather will be like but be sure and put December 1-3 on your calendar because it’s going to be a Convention that you won’t want to miss!

That’s about all for now. Remember to check the new MWGA website for more updates and have a safe rest of the summer. We’ll see you at Ram Sale!

MWGA Updates
By Jesse Wallewein, Executive Secretary

When: September 30th-October 2nd, 2016
Where: Holiday Inn, Great Falls, MT
Who: Ages 18-40
What: Look forward to area ag tours, entertainment, workshops, speakers, entrepreneur spotlights, and much, much more! For more information, visit mfbf.org
Wear Wool!
By Monica Ebert, MSU Wool Lab Manager

One of my favorite questions to ask when giving a program about wool is to see who in the audience is wearing wool. In one of the last presentations I gave before leaving Texas last summer I even gave away a free pair of wool socks to the person wearing the most wool clothing that day. As you can imagine there weren’t very many people in the crowd wearing wool on that particular hot August day in San Angelo. One person from the crowd even spoke up to say, “This is Texas, honey” as though the idea of wearing wool on a 100 degree summer day was absurd. I was thankful for this person’s comment as it led in nicely to the presentation I gave that day encouraging the audience to invest in wool products. Since the start of my Master’s research I have invested heavily in my wool wardrobe. I continue to make it a point to wear wool on a daily basis no matter if it is 5 or 105 degrees outside. The benefits of wool are unparalleled and as companies continue to innovate new fabrications with wool the options are endless for wool fabrics.

It is often times easy to forget about what happens to our wool after we drop it off at the warehouse. It is also easy to be disappointed when our wool check isn’t quite as high as we would like it to be but before you get too upset ask yourself, “Have I invested back into the industry?” “Am I doing anything to help make the wool industry more successful?” If not, then how can we expect consumers to buy our products if we don’t buy them ourselves? I challenge each and every wool grower to wear wool on daily basis if you are not already. I also encourage everyone to become advocates for our fiber and help others realize the benefits of wool because I can guarantee no other fiber can match the exceptional attributes of wool and if they invest in a wool product once they will be a loyal customer for life.
Good luck and have fun at the MT Ram and Ewe Sales!

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Larry Prager
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Wildlife Services Update
From John Steuber, State Director

Wildlife Services (WS) has been very busy this year handling reports of grizzly bear depredations from the Rocky Mountain Front to Red Lodge and the Madison Valley. To date this calendar year, WS has completed 53 grizzly bear investigations. Each investigation can represent one to multiple livestock depredations. WS has determined 18 calves, 3 adult cattle, 2 alpacas, 3 adult sheep, & 10 lambs as confirmed grizzly bear depredations. In addition, WS has determined the following livestock are probable grizzly bear depredations: 23 calves, 5 adult cattle, 2 horses, & 39 lambs.

Coyote damage management has taken most of the MT WS Specialist’s time as coyotes continue to be the predator which causes the greatest number of livestock depredations throughout the state, particularly on sheep.

This month a State Program Review was conducted on the Montana WS Program. This is a regularly schedule review by the WS Western Region. A number of MT WS employees took part in the review.

Our Wildlife Disease Biologist, Jerry Wiscomb, transferred to his home state of Utah in June. Jerry worked for the MT WS Program for 9 years. We have recruited Jared Hedelius to fill the vacated position effective 22 August. Jared began his career with WS as a research technician at the WS National Wildlife Research Center’s Predator Ecology Field Station in Logan, UT where he worked for 4 years. The last 10 years, Jared has worked as a WS Specialist with the Idaho WS Program where he assisted landowners with coyote, black bear, mountain lion, & wolf predation problems. Jared has a B.S. degree in Wildlife Science from Utah State University.

Montana and Idaho WS have hired a NEPA Biologist to assist both states with their NEPA compliance. Alex Few started work for WS the end of June. Her office is located in the Montana WS State Office in Billings. Alex previously worked for California Fish and Wildlife on their Sierra Nevada big horn sheep project where she worked closely with California WS employees in trying to reduce mountain lion depredation on the Federally listed sheep. Alex has a B.A. degree in Biology from the University of Texas and a Ph.D. in Pharmacology from the University of Washington. She also has graduate coursework in wildlife management from Oregon State University.
Attorney At Law

Meeting your needs in the following areas of practice, including lobbying and public affairs on behalf of the Montana Wool Growers Association.

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- Real Estate
- Tax Law
- Wills, Estate Planning, & Probate
- Zoning & Land Use

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Helena, MT 59601
406-449-7444
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<td>Curtis Farm and Auto-</td>
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Montana State University is a proud consigner to the 91st Miles City Ram Sale!

Offering 11 foundation rams that will breed true in economically relevant traits.

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lewi@midrivers.com
ben.lehfeldt@hotmail.com
Asking the Right Questions

By Whit Stewart, MSU Sheep Extension Specialist

The Miles City ram sale is rapidly approaching and our thoughts are turned to buying and selling rams. Or, more realistically getting hay put up, lambs weaned, submitting records to NSIP, start of the school year, etc. The point is, that its busy, and most of us are a couple days ahead (at best), or a few behind. As the future of our flock weighs in the balance of our purchasing decisions this fall, chances are we’d be better served evaluating and planning in preparation to sale day. Rather than a rehash of animal breeding 101, I’ll offer some additional questions that are worth asking when selecting the next addition to the flock this fall. Surely some of these are part of your current selection protocol but maybe you’ll find a reminder or two.

Asking the Right Questions; Not the Neighbors Opinion

The best place to start begins where you stand within your own flock. How many pounds of lamb weaned per ewe do you produce? When and what size of lamb do you usually try to market? What grade of wool do you market, does it make adequate staple length and what’s it worth?. Chances are if you don’t know where your operation’s level of production is at, then genetic improvement becomes more of a chance than choice. Criteria can be quite different between a commercial and seed stock operation, but suffice to say, they have to be your own criteria, and tied to an economic value.

Secondarily, identifying what traits are of economic relevance to your production and marketing system can help you avoid chasing someone else’s opinion. Pounds of lambs weaned per ewe exposed, is the greatest indicator of profitability on any sheep operation. Consequently, balanced selection for lambing rate or number of lambs born has great potential to increase number of lambs weaned. Many factors contribute to how many lambs are marketed per ewe. Specific traits such as ovulation rate, embryo survival, ewe rearing ability, lamb survival are lowly heritable (0.01 to 0.15; on scale of 0.01 to 1.00) and difficult to select for without record keeping. Of course, the ewe has to be able to raise more lambs but the economics of producing two lambs vs. a heavy single will increase profitability more quickly than single trait selection elsewhere. However, the unfortunate reality is that picking the most attractive looking ram doesn’t make reproductive improvements. Accurate estimated breeding values EBVs (enter NSIP) generated from both the performance of the individual ram AND performance of the animal’s ancestry and relatives is the most accurate method of genetic improvement. Refresh your memory on the meaning of each EBV and it’s importance on your operation (see attached description of EBV’s).

Asking the Extra Questions

In addition to EBVs some additional questions might be:

- What’s their average drop rate? What’s the weaning percentage?
  A great lambing (drop) rate is good but how many of the ewes are subsidized by the milk replacer. Does the milk machine soften one’s tolerance towards poor milking/mothering ewes? Everyone’s culling for poor milk production or mothering is different but if this is something you want to improve, the seller’s culling criteria should be at least defined, at best rigid. Milk weights or EBV’s available might help show additional selection pressure is placed on ability to give birth to and raise multiple lambs.

- Longevity and productivity of a rams dam and grand-dam?
  Which ram would you choose based on their dam’s production information? (See table on next page)
It’s possible that if the weaning weight from ram 5124 was the only measurement available this ram might be your first choice, but a quick glance at 5037’s dam’s production records would point you in a different direction. It’s not hard to imagine which ram is easier on the eyes, yet there’s no question which ram will sire better daughters. The western range index is still the best “all in one” tool for selecting rams that will sire excellent replacement females but attention to number of lambs born (NLB) and maternal weaning weight (MwWT) EBV’s will improve the quality of replacement ewe lambs in your flock.

- **Selection for growth and loin-eye area in tandem.**

Fortunately, the utilization of carcass ultrasound technology has been an excellent tool in identifying genetic outliers in muscle and fat deposition, especially having been pioneered here in Montana. It’s use in MT has led to the creation of eye-muscle-depth (EMD) EBV’s, and eye-muscle-area reported in the sale catalog. Since eye-muscle-area will increase as the animal increases in body weight, a weight-adjusted area is often calculated and reported to compare rams scanned at different body weights. In a perfect world the most rapidly growing rams (weaning, post-weaning) would also have the largest loin eye, however this is not always the case. It’s not uncommon for a 30 lb difference to exist in a pen of growing rams when scanned. Rapidly growing rams that are heavier than contemporaries might be discounted when compared on the weight adjusted ribeye area and ratio alone. Let’s look at a subset from a real-world example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>REA at Scanning</th>
<th>Ratio</th>
<th>Weight (187 lb) Adjusted REA</th>
<th>Weight Adjusted Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>536</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>3.01</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>544</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>101</td>
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<tr>
<td>531</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>3.07</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What ram would you choose if only the weight adjusted rib-eye information was taken into account? Assuming these twin born and raised rams were fed the same, which ram exhibits both growth and potential carcass merit? When taking the growth and rib-eye approach in tandem, ram 544 doesn’t appear the best option.

- **Do they shed lamb or range lamb? What are their feeding inputs?**

Environment isn’t everything but it can determine if genetic potential is attainable in your production system. Specifically, if you are a range based operation that range lambs and does not supplement, maybe buying a stud from a 250% lamb crop operation whose ewes are dry-lotted 6 months of year may not be the best fit. Maintaining 200% production in 20 inch precipitation zones vs. 10 inch may not be economically feasible given the different feed resources available. Will those rams survive in challenging environments both during breeding season and afterwards? Are you willing/able to supplement adequately to make certain breed types work in your management system? Like most people in the sheep industry, sellers are approachable and willing to share information about their operation. Take the time to ask about their management and see how it aligns with your goals.
Asking the Right Questions

(Continued)

- **What about the wool?**

  Asking good questions is an art form; especially when deciphering a sales pitch or glitzy marketing from true genetic potential. Asking good questions is the best place to start. If your wool objective is to select a ram that produces a heavy 60 grade fleece, and a consigner can’t provide a micron or grease fleece weight, then you might question their performance testing/selection strategies. Specific traits such as grease fleece weight, staple length, crimp frequency, clean yield are highly heritable (0.37 to 0.59; on scale of 0.01 to 1.00). With such high heritability, progress can be made quickly and although wool revenue is a small portion of total income its often timely revenue when the lamb check doesn’t come for another 6 months. Often times a simple change in attitude regarding wool quality can lead to premiums.

- **Objective wool analysis?**

  Average fiber diameter (micron) is a major determinant of wool value but it’s not everything. If wool analysis results are available, take time to compare the standard deviation (SD) and coefficient of variation of fiber diameter (CV). More uniform fleeces in terms of fiber diameter will have comparatively smaller SD and CV on the report. If available, average fiber diameter sampled from the side and britch will also provide an estimate of uniformity of micron that can help you maintain a quality clip.

  In the past 5 years, market trends suggest that although the highest price is achieved for finer wool the difference is less pronounced than it was 20 yr ago (see table with prices 7/15/2016).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Micron</th>
<th>US Grade</th>
<th>Clean US Delivered</th>
<th>75-85% Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>80s</td>
<td>$5.48</td>
<td>$4.11 to 4.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>70-80s</td>
<td>$5.33</td>
<td>$3.99 to 4.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>64-70s</td>
<td>$5.26</td>
<td>$3.95 to 4.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>64s</td>
<td>$5.23</td>
<td>$3.92 to 4.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>62s</td>
<td>$5.17</td>
<td>$3.88 to 4.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>60-62’s</td>
<td>$5.15</td>
<td>$3.86 to 4.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>60s</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>58s</td>
<td>$4.40</td>
<td>$3.30 to 3.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>56-58s</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td>$3.00 to 3.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>54s</td>
<td>$2.76</td>
<td>$2.07 to 2.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>50s</td>
<td>$2.30</td>
<td>$1.76 to 1.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>46-48s</td>
<td>$1.93</td>
<td>$1.45 to 1.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If available ask for the wool analysis closest to the sale date. A fiber diameter of 18 micron sampled as an 8 month old ram lamb doesn’t provide an accurate estimate of where the ram is at when sold as an 18 months of age and beyond. Samples taken after the first shearing will better estimate lifetime production in terms of fiber diameter.

- **What was the grease fleece weight and does the wool make length?**

  When was the ram sheared? If your evaluating a ram or ewe its difficult to evaluate staple length without knowing when the lamb was sheared. If there is only 1 inch of regrowth on 6 months of fleece its improbable that the fleece will reach the 3 inch staple target at a year. A year’s worth of growth should produce a minimum 3 inch staple (will vary by breed). Selecting for longer stapled fleeces will generally increase
Asking the Right Questions

(CONTINUED)

weights and clean yield, and as long as attention to fiber diameter is monitored, a very marketable clip can be main-
tained. Any potential premiums achieved for producing finer fleeces can quickly be negated if the clip fails to make
length.

Some specific follow-up questions to ask might be:

⇒ What was the yearling grease fleece weight?
⇒ Where did he rank in comparison to his contemporaries that were fed and managed the same?
⇒ What are the flock’s average grade, yield and clip marketed?
⇒ Pure-bred breeders - How important is maintaining fleece breed character (crimp, color, condition).

Final Thoughts

In an election year where common sense doesn’t seem too common I’ll leave you with Dr. Dave Notter’s advice
from last year’s ram sale symposium. He defined common sense ram selection as the following:

It’s knowing what you need (which is not always the same thing as knowing what you want)!
It’s projecting the impact of the sale rams on your flock.
It’s placing emphasis on the things that affect the profitability of the flock, and mostly ignoring the rest!

Obviously the list of inquiries could go on for every trait measurable but you get the idea. Taking time to prioritize
your selection criteria now can save you money and frustration down the road. American baseball historian, writer,
and statistician Bill James once said, “I have always been much better at asking questions than knowing what the
answers were”. The same rings true with personal anecdotes in sheep selection, but success begins with asking
the right questions well before the sale. Here’s to finding the perfect compliment to your flock in Miles City this fall!

Welcome
to the 2016 Montana Ram Sale

We appreciate your interest and look forward to visiting with you about our consignments

Hampshire Cross and
Suffolk Ram Lambs
⇒ Rib eye data
⇒ B-Ovis free flock
⇒ MSU on-farm gain test

Pat and Bev Gibbs

Gibbs Range Rams

(406) 557-2852
Jordan, Montana
Description of EBV’s

EBV’s (breeding values) are an estimate of the genetic potential that a sheep will pass on to its progeny. The EBV’s for the weights traits are in expressed kg but for practical purposes the same values as EPD’s expressed in pounds. For other traits an EPD is just ½ the BV. Traits and explanations that are shaded are those that should be of particular importance to most Montana producers.

| Animals with more positive BV’s for BW (birth weight) will on average produce progeny is heavier at birth. Both low (lamb survival) and high (lambing difficulties) should be avoided. |
| Animals with more positive BV’s for Milk Wt, will on average produce progeny that has more pre weaning growth potential at an young age and will be heavier at ages less than 100 days. **Note:** Producers considering weaning at an early age (60 to 90 days) should consider this value. |
| Animals with more positive BV’s for YGFWT (yearling grease fleece weight) will have progeny that produce heavier grease fleece weights. **Note:** A ram with a BV of 20 vs one with a BV of 0 will produce lambs that shear 10% more wool |
| Animals with lower BV’s for YFD (yearling fiber diameter) will have progeny that have finer fleece (negative values are finer than positive values) |
| Animals with more positive BV’s for YSL (yearling staple length) will have progeny that have longer stapled fleeces. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BV’s</th>
<th>BWT</th>
<th>Milk WT</th>
<th>PWT</th>
<th>YWT</th>
<th>YGFWT (%)</th>
<th>YFD (micron)</th>
<th>YSL (MM)</th>
<th>NLB (%)</th>
<th>US Range $ Index (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- Animals with more positive BV’s for PWT (post weaning weight) will have progeny that grow quicker and will under typical Montana range conditions be heavier at shipping in the fall. **Note:** This is the value that producers should use to select rams that will produce progeny with heavier shipping weights in the fall. A ram with a BV of 2 vs one with a BV of 0 will produce lambs that will be 2 pounds heavier at shipping in the fall.
- Animals with more positive BV’s for YWT (yearling weight) will have progeny that have larger mature weight. As a rule of thumb YWT should not be more than 3 times PWT.
- Animals with more positive BV’s for NLB (number of lambs born) will have female progeny that have a higher percentage of lambs. Lamb plan also calculated a BV for number of lambs weaned (NLW) which provides an estimate of number of lambs at weaning. **Note:** A ram with a BV of 10 vs one with a BV of 0 will sire daughters that will have 5% more lambs at weaning.
- An index is a guide to the value of a ram for a particular market. Rams with higher indexes will produce sheep that are suited to a particular breeding objective. The Western Range Index combines EBVs for various traits into an index designed to improve profitability in Western Range flocks with positive emphasis on both lamb and wool production. This index is applicable to self-replacing (replacement ewe lambs kept) flocks producing 21 to 23 micron wool and shipping feeder lambs in the fall.
TARGHEE SHEEP

Montana Ram Sale & Montana Ewe Sale

With the days and weeks flying by, Fall is fast approaching and it will soon be time to be thinking about the breeding stock in your flock. We will be bringing 26 yearling rams and 50 yearling ewes to the Ram and Ewe Sales in Miles City. Raising the sheep on the grasses and weeds that grow on our ranch, we continue to use NSIP to measure and select for traits that are important to our (and your) bottom line.

We will be bringing:

1 Targhee Stud Ram

1 Top performing Montana Central Ram Test Ram

24 Top Quality Yearling Range Rams

50 Range Raised Yearling Ewes

We would like to give thanks to Chase and Emily Hibbard and Sieben Live Stock for their years of dedication to the Montana Woolgrowers Association, and the Targhee Breed!!! All of us raising Targhee sheep have benefited greatly from their contributions. Congratulations on your retirement!

Looking forward to seeing all of you in Miles City ~ September 14 – 15!!

Carolyn and John

THE Green RANCH L.L.C.

JOHN & CAROLYN GREEN  BOX 266 MELVILLE, MT 59055  (406) 537-4472
Keith Braaten Retires after 31 Years of Shearing

By Jesse Wallewein

Most sheep ranchers around the state are probably familiar with the name Keith Braaten, but most probably are unaware how Keith came to be a sheep shearer and the long road he took to reach his very much deserved retirement from the contract sheep shearing business.

Keith grew up on a ranch near Winnett where his father was a ranch hand. Clinton Hassett, the owner of the ranch, taught him to shear around the year 1985. It wasn’t until 1994 that he started his own contract sheep shearing business. Keith worked at that same ranch for several years after his dad retired and eventually married Cyndee. Keith and Joe Carpenter spent their first short year of shearing in Burley, Idaho for a contractor on a nine-man crew. Carpenter has been the trapper in the Chinook area for 20 years and has just recently retired. Joe once again joined Keith’s crew at the end of last year for shearing and spent this shearing season on his crew, as well. There was a special bond between the two shearers that allowed them to start and finish their shearing careers together. After his first season in Idaho, he came back to help Larry Emery shear on his crew and ended up staying with him from 1985-1994. During the fall months (September-January), Keith and Cyndee would travel to Wyoming to shear the feedlots.

Larry Emery’s father, Cliff Emery, was a big shearing contractor in the 1950s and sheared up until he was 80. Some ranches have had either Keith, Larry, or Cliff shearing for them for the last 60 years. “That’s the type of connection a lot of the sheep producers here in Montana have with their shearers,” remarked Braaten as he reminisced about the special bond between the sheep producers and shearers. “Everyone gets along and you know you have a good relationship with the rancher when you can come in the door and eat dinner at the same table.” Braaten attributes the reason why Montana is still mostly shorn with local shearers to that very attitude.

Keith started with a four-man shearing trailer that he got from Larry Emery. He used that for 10 years before it was destroyed in a wreck. Keith got his current five-man trailer from the Jordan country and has been using it for 11 years. He has also built a two-man trailer from scratch, which he will be keeping for himself. Many times, he would attach two trailers together so he could have more guys shearing at the same time.

While Keith is not one to boast about how many sheep he has sheared in his lifetime, he did tell me that he probably averaged 10,000 head a year, peaking at 20,000 for a few years. As a crew, the most they’ve shorn was 52,000 head in one year! The first year that Keith started his own crew, he had some of Larry’s guys shearing for him. Some of Keith’s crew members have been local guys from the Stanford area, but he’s also had foreign shearers, as well. In the last couple of years, some of the MSU Shearing School attendees have been on his crew. Many of the crew members that started with Keith have since then branched out on their own. The connection between Keith and his crews was a special bond that runs quite deep and those are memories that will last forever. When you work that hard right beside someone for months at a time through the good and the bad, it’s easy to start feeling like a family.

Keith and Cyndee would like to thank everyone that had a place in their crew over the years and they appreciate the hard work and dedication they have shown to the business.

Keith wasn’t the only one who put in many hours on the shearing trail. For several years, his wife Cyndee packed the wool for the crew. When Cyndee gave up her job of packing wool, Keith remarked that it was hard to fill the position.

L to R: Cyndee, nephew Jason Braaten, Uncle Freeman Brist, and Keith Braaten
When the couple began having children, the kids tagged along until they were old enough to go to school. Because of their time commitment away from home, Keith and Cyndee’s children learned to be independent from January to May each year. Keith’s son, Branden, has followed in Keith’s footsteps as a shearer and has made a pretty good reputation for himself. One thing Keith and Cyndee are looking forward to is making up for the time they spent away from home from their kids, with their four grandchildren. Keith is also hoping that his twin grandsons will carry on the family tradition of shearing and that one day, he can shear right beside them. The Braaten’s have a haying business that has held strong over the last several years and will be their main focus for the future.

“It’s an industry that you’ve got to keep shearing in demand. As a full time shearer, you want to stay busy. You’ve got guys out there trying to make a living that want to work. You keep the shearers in your crew by overworking them, not underworking them. That’s the quickest way to lose crew members.”

It’s no secret that sheep numbers have weakened over the years. Even as sheep numbers were decreasing, Keith’s business kept on growing, but he remarked that he’s felt the decline more the last couple years. According to Keith, there just aren’t many shearing crews left in Montana. Keith decided to retire because he didn’t want to see his business dwindle and break away, rightfully so. Taking over Keith’s crew and business will be George Kerr and his sons. Kerr will continue to run the business as a full time operation. Keith still hopes to be involved in shearing in the future, just not at the dedication that he has shown in the past. Looking back on everything, Keith mentioned that he’s always enjoyed shearing. He enjoyed meeting people, the meals that they prepared for him and his crew, the conversations that they had around the dinner tables, and watching everyone’s kids grow up. Whether someone had just 1 sheep or 1,000 sheep, he always tried to treat them the same. Every job had its place to fill the shearing run.

When Keith started shearing sheep, he didn’t imagine that it would take him all around the world. Keith has been to Australia shearing sheep, as well as Hawaii, Canada, and most of the states surrounding Montana. Hawaii? Keith, along with a few crew members, have been shearing in Hawaii for the Kahua Ranch for the last 14 years. Over the years they’ve sheared anywhere from 700-2300 head of sheep in Hawaii. In recent years, Keith actually organized transportation for ewes from Wisconsin to make the big trip to Hawaii from LAX. This is one shearing gig that Keith is certain he will remain a part of.

Keith and Cyndee started with nothing. They quickly realized after that first year of shearing that if they dedicated themselves to the business and continued to get better at shearing, they could make something of it. And they did. They credit all they have to shearing and wouldn’t have it any other way. Keith and Cyndee would like to thank all the people who stuck with them throughout the years. “We would have never had a crew without the sheep men and shearers.”
McRae Brothers Targhees

Selling 25 Range Rams at Miles City

Jack & Kathryn McRae
Jordan, MT
(406) 557-6266
jmcrae@midrivers.com

NSIP since 1987

133rd Annual MWGA Convention
Billings Hotel & Convention Center - Billings, MT
December 1-3, 2016

See EWE there!!
Question: I'm taking some ewes elsewhere to be bred. I'm not overly familiar with the abortion diseases that can be carried from flock to flock. I'm wondering if I should vaccinate the ones before they leave or if I should vaccinate my whole flock. Can they still carry it home to the others if they have been vaccinated?

Answer: Moving ewes from flock to flock is an excellent way to contract abortion problems. I would vaccinate for both Camphylobacter and Clamydia and hope for the best. Check out our blog site for more information regarding abortion http://bit.ly/2an87AK

Copper Toxicity

Every so often Copper toxicity raises its ugly head. I don’t know what it takes to make people aware that you can’t add additional copper to sheep rations. Sometimes it’s a mixing mistake and sometimes it is just plain ignorance but in any event sheep die and those that don’t need to be handled differently for an extended period of time so they don’t relapse as well. The merging of sheep and goats together is another problem as goats tolerate more copper than sheep. Sheep get adequate amounts in natural occurring feedstuffs. Goats may too but supplementing goats is a common practice. We have a selenium iodine premix that we mix with salt for sheep, I have long toyed with the idea of making one with copper for goats but quite frankly I don’t have confidence enough in people that a mistake won’t get made so for goats I recommend adding it to trace mineral cattle salt.

When toxicity occurs molybdenum levels need to be increased for a period of time and amount of stress reduced. Long term effects can be minimized by continued feeding of molybdenum at prevention levels. Treatment of clinically sick animals is unrewarding.

For more information on copper toxicity go to our blog http://bit.ly/1seZNdB or Pipestone’s Veterinary Guide to Sheep and Goats.

Question: Which dewormers are safe for pregnant sheep and goats. A client told me she heard Safeguard was the only product appropriate for these animals.

Answer: Only wormer not safe is Valbazen. I do avoid handling sheep 30 days prior and 30 days following breeding. For more information on wormers check out my blog at http://bit.ly/2a8KQnu

Question: Bought ewes in Sedalia. Came home with cough. Used LA200 on one. Now four out of the five are coughing. Did not cure the original one that was hacking. Any suggestions? Also...my lamb flock has had tape-worms. Horrible year. Used Valbazen, Ivermec, Corid, Probit in case it was caused by other parasites. Still have tape worms and had four with bottlejaw. Bottlejaw was taken care of with the Ivermec. Help. Never had this happen before.

Answer: Try Nuflor 6cc per 100# subq, repeat 48 hours. The tape worms are not an issue, eventually sheep will develop immunity but that doesn’t happen readily when you are dealing with stomach worms.
Helle Rambouillet

We look forward to seeing you at the Montana Ram Sale September 15th! Stop by our pens to view our consignments and discuss your breeding stock needs.

John and Tom Helle
1350 Stone Creek Road
Dillon, MT 59725

hellerambouillet.com
(406) 683-6686
jhelle64@gmail.com

Last Chance Merinos

Selling 2 Range Rams and 10 Yearling Ewes in Miles City

Scot & Shannon Tamblyn
Shepherd, MT
(406) 794-1036
(406) 794-5913

High Quality Wool
Micron Ave. 16-20
# 91st Annual Montana Ram Sale
## 3rd Annual Montana Ewe Sale

### September 14 & 15, 2016

Eastern Montana Fairgrounds  
(42 Garryowen Road)  
Miles City, Montana

## Schedule of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 1, THUR</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ram and Ewe Sale Catalogs Available Online</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://frontierstockyards.com/">http://frontierstockyards.com/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.mtsheep.org">www.mtsheep.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 13, TUES</td>
<td></td>
<td>Online buyers for ram and ewe sale should be registered online</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 14, WEDS</td>
<td></td>
<td>7am Ram and most ewe consignments available for viewing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9am-4pm</td>
<td>Montana State University Sheep Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9am-4pm</td>
<td>Eastern Montana Fairgrounds</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9am-4pm</td>
<td>Dr. Whit Stewart - Montana Sheep Extension Specialist (406) 994-3758</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12noon</td>
<td>Lamb BBQ</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12noon</td>
<td>Dr. Greg Johnson—Sheep Ticks and Keds 101</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Dr. Whit Stewart—Ewe Body Condition and Reproductive Potential</td>
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<td>Rusty Burgett—Ram Buyers Guide Exercise</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Dr. Dave Notter—Common Sense Cross-Breeding</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Dr. Tom Murphy—Genetics vs. Environment: Reading the Catalog the Right Way</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>Social</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>Lamb Sliders and Cash Bar</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>3rd Annual Montana Ewe Sale</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>410 Ewe Lambs and Yearlings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 15, THUR</td>
<td></td>
<td>11am-2pm Lamb lunch in the Sale Barn</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Noon Sharp</td>
<td>91st Annual Montana Ram Sale</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>317 Range Ready Rams</td>
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**Buyers:** Thank-you again for your continued support of the Montana Ram and Ewe Sales. We will not yet be accepting credit or debit cards, so remember the check book. Make sure to register for a bidder number and enjoy the meal in the sale barn on Thursday from 11 am till 2 pm. Your bidder number will work for either the ram or ewe sale. Ewes may be loaded out after the sale on Wednesday night or before 11 am on Thursday morning.

**Internet Bidders:** Please register online at least one day prior to the sale to familiarize yourself with the set up. If you just want to watch the sale online, you still have to register as a bidder. Some mobile devices are not well adapted to video software, so if possible use a laptop.

**Canadian Buyers:** We will again be pre-certifying rams for Canadian export. Make sure you have your import permit number and paperwork. If we have a case of vesicular stomatitis or blue tongue in Montana, expect the border to be closed. Sam Ortmann (406) 263-4064 of Wolf Point has again agreed to hold the rams. Due to closures in the Helena office, all Canadian export paperwork is now sent by Fed Ex and cleared through the Boise, ID office.
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Total Rams: 317

DALLAS SHEEP OUTFIT

Quality Range Ready Targhees

⇒ Consigning 10 Yearling Targhee Rams at the Miles City Ram Sale
⇒ Consigning 10 Yearling Targhee Ewes at the Montana Ewe Sale
⇒ NSIP member since 1998
⇒ B Ovis free flock
⇒ Selected for premium wool
⇒ More rams available

Chuck Dallas - Mardy, Cassie, & Cody
131 Horse Creek Rd S
Wilsall, MT 59086
(406) 578-2159
dallassheep@wildblue.net

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Great Plains Wool | Bruce Barker

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Access expert sheep and goat advice with the Pipestone Shepherd’s Club:

- Sheep and Goat helpful tip calendar
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- Strategic webinars addressing:
  - Lambing Time Preparation
  - Lamb Health and Processing
  - Parasite Control
  - Vaccines and Breeding
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Pipestone, MN www.pipevet.com
39+ Years of Raising Quality Suffolk Sheep

See you at the
Miles City Ram Sale!

5 Ewe Lambs and
7 Ram Lambs for Your
Consideration

Knutson Suffolks

Kim Knutson
(406) 578-9175
(406) 220-5115 cell
kimssuffolks@yahoo.com

Experience You Can Trust!
A few rams and ewes for sale at home.
Certified Scrapie-free MT0890

Steadman’s Ace Hardware

“Proudly Supporting the Montana Wool Growers Association and the Montana Ram Sale!”

Steadman Family
Locally Owned Since 1967
611 S. Haynes Ave
Miles City, MT 59301
milesityacehardware.com
(406) 234-4168

Tunby Ranch Targhees
Randy and Amanda Tunby
Baker, Montana ♦ (406) 772-5627 ♦ tunby@midrivers.com

Welcomes You to the Montana Ram Sale
We are again offering our best rams at this year’s sale. Please stop by for a visit and look at what we have. We will also have rams for sale at the ranch.

Earl says he should have been using Targhee Rams from the Tunby Ranch
On August 1, 2016, MWGA President Dave McEwen and MWGA immediate past President Greg Wichman took time out of their busy schedules to drive to Great Falls to participate in a roundtable discussion on agriculture. The roundtable was hosted by Montana Congressman Ryan Zinke and featured Mike Conaway, Congressman from Texas and the present chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture.

The primary topic of the roundtable was reauthorization of the Farm Bill. The Farm Bill is slated to be reauthorized in 2018. Chairman Conaway requested that the agriculture-based organizations in attendance inform him of their priorities for the 2018 bill.

MWGA’s touched on Montana’s and the American Sheep Industry’s issue priorities. These priorities include: (1) bighorn sheep – domestic sheep research; (2) minor use animal drugs; (3) wool marketing loans; and (4) perfect of mandatory price reporting law. In addition, President McEwen spoke of the need of the Congress to adequately fund USDA Wildlife Services. McEwen pointed out that for every dollar the feds put into the program, Montana producers match those dollars. Further, McEwen pointed out that the federal government needs to move away from direct payment programs for agriculture producers and move to providing additional funding for scientific research. McEwen placed special emphasis on the need for Congress to provide adequate funding for Dubois Sheep Station and the need to fund an ARS sheep scientist position.

In addition to MWGA, among the participants in the Great Falls meeting were the Montana Farm Bureau, the Grain Growers, and the Montana Farmer’s Union. MWGA also took this roundtable opportunity to speak with members of the Montana Legislature, who were in attendance, about MWGA’s legislative priorities for the 2017 Montana legislative session, which such priorities include funding for the Wool Lab located at MSU, adequate funding for the Livestock Loss Board; and the need for more adequate grizzly bear-livestock depredation prevention efforts.

As part of its mission and as a service to its membership, MWGA engages in sheep policy and advocacy services. Such efforts include traveling around the state to meet with our elected officials. Also, every spring, as part of ASI’s annual DC Washington Policy Summit, representatives of MWGA travel to Washington DC to meet with Montana’s congressional delegation in their congressional offices. This is the most effective way MWGA communicates with Montanan’s congressman about issues that are important to the industry.

MWGA is always looking for persons to attend the DC fly-in. If you are interested in going to DC with MWGA and ASI next year or have questions about the trip, please give Jim Brown or Jesse Wallewein a call.
MSU Sheep Extension Symposium
September 14, 2016 • 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Lamb BBQ at 12:00 p.m.
Eastern Montana Fairgrounds • Miles City, MT

Dr. Greg Johnson — Sheep Ticks and Keds 101
Dr. Whit Stewart — Ewe Body Condition and Reproductive Potential
Rusty Burgett — Ram Buyers Guide Exercise
Dr. Tom Murphy — Genetics vs. Environment: Reading the Catalog the Right Way
Dr. Dave Notter — Common Sense Cross-Breeding
Jewell Merino Annual Production Ram Sale
October 15th 2016
Preview at 9am - Lunch at 12pm - Sale Time at 1pm
0280 CR 259-A - Rifle Colorado

Lisa Surber & John doing ribeye scores

Individual records include: two microns(Yocom-McColl & Montana State) - Individual Yield - Fleece Weight - Staple Length - Birth Records - Weaning Weight - End Weight - Ribeye Score(Lisa Surber)

Contact: John Jewell 970-379-0397c or 970-625-1578h
Georg Ann Jewell 970-379-9760c
jewellmerinos@gmail.com

0280 CR 259-A
Rifle CO 81650

8141 Lower Cottonwood Creek Rd
Lewistown MT 59457

***Rams will be available to view in Lewistown MT until Oct 8th.

Look to WestFeeds for your ram and ewe lamb development this fall

Talk to your WestFeed area specialists about available growing ration options like Amino Gain Complete and Amino Gain Supplement.

Rick Coyle, Billings Area 406-860-0296
Ryan Hughes, Dillon Area 406-581-1873
Will Rambo, Great Falls Area 406-564-6149
Travis Standley, Great Falls Area 406-708-1371
Josh Stroh, Lewistown Area 406-954-9743
Mike Wilson, Missoula Area 406-240-7343
Collin Gibbs, Miles City Area 406-939-0645
Calvin Bacon, Billings Area 406-939-2219

Customer service locations in:
Billings, Dillon, Great Falls, Lewistown and Miles City
800-283-5505 - westfeeds.net

WestFeeds®
“Excellence in Animal Nutrition”
MWGA members have been busy the last couple months, showcasing their sheep and wool at shows across the country. The National Columbia Sheep Show and Sale was held in Minot, North Dakota June 6-11th, 2016.

Tom Key of the Montana Aerie Ranch won the Champion Production Ram Class. Luanne Wallewein of Timber Coulee Columbias won the Champion Ewe and Overall Fleece Award. Gene & Mary Langhus of Langhus Columbias won the Reserve Champion Ewe and Overall Fleece Award. Awesome job, Montana!

*****

Congratulations to all the Montana folks that attended the National Targhee Show and Sale in Arlington, WI July 14-16th, 2016. Here are the show placings for the Montana group:

Clover Meadows—Cal and Julie Ward
   Reserve Champion NSIP Yearling Ram—Sold for $1500
   8th Place Open Yearling Ram
   5th Place Open Pair of Yearling Ewes

Elisha Lewis
   6th Place Open Yearling Ram

Rachel Pruitt
   7th Place Open Spring Ram Lamb

Lisa Surber
   8th Place Open Spring Ram Lamb
   11th Place Open Spring Ewe Lamb

We are very proud of those that are representing Montana at these National Shows and Sales! Keep up the good work!
MONTANA BLACK & WHITE SALE
Wheatland County Fairgrounds, Harlowton, MT
September 10, 2016
View lots from 8 am. Live bidding 1 pm.
RAMS AND EWES AVAILABLE FOR SALE

BREEDS FOR SALE INCLUDE:
- Suffolk
- Hampshire
- Targhee
- Merino
- SAMM’s
- Columbia
- Boer Goats and Savannah

Dawe Suffolks
- Quality Range Ready Suffolks
- High Performance & Fast Growth
- Closed Flock
- Certified B-Ovis Free
- RR Sires

Consigning 4 Rams to the
Montana Ram Sale

Robertta & Kevin Dawe
Big Timber, MT
406.932.6529 * krdawe@itstriangle.com

Looking Forward To Seeing You In Miles City!

Sieben Live Stock Co.
The Hibbard Family
PO Box 835
Helena, MT 59624
(406) 468-2350

Forty One Adel Targhee Rams Sell in Miles City at the Montana Ram Sale

After having sold 3,072 rams through the Montana Ram Sale since 1950,
THIS IS OUR LAST SALE
Many thanks to the Montana Wool Growers, the progressive sheep program at MSU and
OUR GENEROUS AND LOYAL CUSTOMERS
for making it all happen!
Chase & Emily
Bieber Land, LLC.
Consigning 60 Commercial Targhee Ewes to the Montana Ewe Sale

Cord and Kristin Bieber
Brockway, MT
406 939 3200

Thank you!
Sieben Live Stock Company
for giving us our start in the sheep industry
May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
the rains fall soft upon your fields

SKULL CREEK TARGHEES
Consigning Targhee Rams for the Montana Ram Sale
NSIP member since 1989
Range Raised

Kristin and Cord Bieber
Brockway, MT
406 672 4471
Find us on Facebook

Consigning 10 rams to the Montana Ram Sale
Consigning 10 ewes to the Montana Ewe Sale

and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Montana Sheep Co
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406-467-2462 - roeder@3rivers.net
Excellent Mothering Ability - Reliable Twinning Rates
Heavy Weaning Weights
Fine, Dense, White, High Yielding Fleeces
We’ll See ‘EWE” on Wednesday, September 14th!
3rd Annual Montana Ewe Sale
By Cheryl Schuldt, Ewe Sale Manager

The 3rd Annual MT Ewe Sale is pleased to announce that 410 outstanding commercial and purebred ewes will be available for buyers to choose from in Miles City on Wednesday, September 14th.

Cord Bieber, Ewe Sale Chairman, reports, “This year’s consignment consists of several breeds that should appeal to everyone. We have Suffolk ewe lambs, Rambouillet commercial and purebred yearlings, Targhee commercial and purebred yearlings as well as yearling commercial Targhee X Rambouillet ewes.” Bieber also pointed out, “This year we welcome two new consignors to the ewe sale—Scot and Shannon Tamblyn from Sheperd and Darold Tomsheck from Oilmont. Tamblyn’s will bring 10 head of purebred Merinos out of foundation Rafter 7 genetics they purchased a few years ago. Tomsheck’s will consign 20 commercial Targhee ewes.”

The vast majority of the ewes offered for sale are either out of rams purchased from the MT Ram Sale or from Ram Sale Consignors—ensuring quality genetics through and through—regardless of the breed.

The Suffolk ewe lambs will sell in lots of 5 head and represent a great opportunity for youth wanting to start or expand their flocks from reputation Suffolk breeders or for established breeders to add quality ewe lambs to their existing flocks. All the whiteface lots for sale on the grounds will either sell in lots of 10 head or 20 head. All ewes will be handled individually and tipped up to make sure they have functional udders, a sound mouth and that no health risks are evident at inspection.

Of the 410 ewes consigned to this year’s sale, the majority of the ewes, 310, will be available for viewing on the grounds before the sale. Lehfeldt Rambouillet will offer 100 head for sale off-site and those ewes will be grazing near Fishtail when delivery is taken.

Be watching for the on-line ewe sale catalog which should be ready on or before September 1. The ewe and ram sale on-line catalog can be viewed at frontierstockyards.com. Cheryl Schuldt, Sale Manager urges all consignors and perspective buyers alike to take a few minutes and check out this year’s offering of yearling ewes—EWE WON’T BE DISAPPOINTED!

Sale day phone numbers: Frontier Stockyards 406-853-0539, 406-951-2593 or 406-951-3005; Cheryl Schuldt, Ewe Sale Manager 406-945-0404; Cord Bieber, Ewe Sale Chairman 406-939-3200.
### 3rd Annual Ewe Sale Offerings

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### ORTMANN TARGHEES

~20 Rams For Sale at the 91st Annual MT Ram Sale~

~Rams For Sale Off the Ranch~

~NSIP Records and Microns Available~

WOLF POINT, MT
SAM (406) 392-5356
HEINRICH (406) 392-5277

37
Thank you Sam, Nancy, and Heinrich Ortmann for hosting Wool Grower Campout!

Nancy and Sam Ortmann discuss their ewes with Lenora McEwen and Betty Sampsal

Whit Stewart, Heinrich Ortmann, and Ike Heser stop to talk about Heinrich’s sheep

Wool Grower Campout Wool Judging Contest
A BIG thank you to all of my customers and friends for their support in 2016!

Looking forward to serving your sheep loin-eye ultra sounding needs in the coming year.

Best of luck to all the Ram and Ewes Sale consignors!

Contact me at: lmsurber@gmail.com or (406) 581-7772

Hello Ram Buyers,

This is my first year consigning at the Montana Ram Sale. I will be selling two NSIP Targhee Rams. Their USA Range numbers are 103.8 and 104.

I am excited about the Montana Ram Sale in Miles City and hope to see you there!

Aiden Fouhy

HEART LAZY P SUFFOLKS WELCOMES YOU TO THE 91ST ANNUAL MT RAM SALE & 3RD ANNUAL MT EWE SALE

**Offering**

9 Suffolk Ram Lambs
5 Suffolk Ewe Lambs

Established in 1999, we have worked hard to produce functional Suffolks that are moderate sized, structurally sound, and heavily muscled with quick growth, natural fleshing abilities and great maternal traits.

"We take pride in what we raise and stand behind what we sell!"
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Performance Data Collected since 2007

See Ewe There!

Marty, Dana & Rulee Penrod
(406) 234-2648
Visit: www.heartlazypsuffolk.com for performance data and pictures
The Montana Woolgrower’s Memorial Fund

The Montana Woolgrower Memorial Fund (official name “Educational and Research Endowment Fund”) was established in 1983 when over $100 was sent to the association in memory of Miles City sheepman/wool buyer, Duncan McDonald. A savings account was established for such a purpose and others, wanting to remember longtime sheepmen, be they friends or relatives, made similar donations.

In 1984 the Board filed the necessary papers to make such gifts tax deductible and a three-person board was appointed to oversee the account. The original board consisted of Don McKamey, Bill Lehfeldt, and Ralph Dreyer.

Funds must be used for educational or research purposes only and cannot be used for expenses of the Woolgrowers Association. The present board consists of Jim Whiteside, chairman, John Baucus, and Bob Lehfeldt.

Those wishing to make a donation should make the check out to Montana Woolgrower Association Memorial Fund and send it to the Helena office. You will receive a receipt and if the memorial donation is sent in memory of someone, that person’s family will also receive an acknowledgement.

John C Paugh  
Jack and Kathryn McRae  
Marshall & Gwen Haferkamp

Gerry Devlin  
Jack and Kathryn McRae

Ed Smith  
Jack and Kathryn McRae  
Bill Lehfeldt

Dr. Bill Hawkins  
John and Nina Baucus  
Bill Lehfeldt

Leonard Kramer  
Kimberly Laden

Pat Goggines  
John and Nina Baucus

Congratulations Lisa Surber on winning the Photo Contest!  
Thank you everyone for participating!
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### Breeder’s Directory

**Columbia**  
MT COLUMBIA SHEEP ASSN.  
Raina Blackman  
2925 Craig Frontage Road  
Wolf Creek, MT 59648  
(406) 235-4227  
scottblackman1965@gmail.com  

**PRAIRIE ISLAND**  
Jim & Margaret Eller  
415 Knapstad Road  
Sun River, MT 59483  
(406) 264-5426  
3ellers@3rivers.net  

**HRH SHEEP RANCH**  
Hayden Hammontree  
PO Box 293  
Hobson, MT 59452  
(406) 423-5512  
hrh2k@yahoo.com  

**GRACE PANKRATZ**  
PO Box 288  
Opheim, MT 59250  
(406) 724-3232  
glpankratz@yahoo.com  

**LONI BLACKMAN**  
2925 Craig Frontage Road  
Wolf Creek, MT 59648  
(406) 231-0901  
loniblackman@yahoo.com  

**PAT & BEV GIBBS**  
513 Van Norman Road  
PO Box 382  
Jordan, MT 59337  
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