

Suffolk Newsletter

The United Suffolk Sheep Association

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Now that lambing season is in full swing, I'm thinking of all you—long nights, winter weather and...lambs, lambs everywhere! I know your days and nights are busy so I'll just pass on some brief reminders:

The newsletter will now be a quarterly publication— issues will be sent out in January, April, July and October. Please make note of this as you may have information you would like to share with the membership through the newsletter. If there are events or other information that you would like to share with the membership in between issues, please send the information to the office and it can be posted on the USSA and/or UJSSA website. Also, if there is a sale or event that you think would benefit from an email blast sent to the USSA and UJSSA membership and other Suffolk enthusiasts, please contact the office. The cost of the email blast for members is \$100 per blast and \$200 per blast for non-members.

As you begin to sell lambs in the future months, please take note that there has been a change in transfer pricing. All non-family transfers are \$10 per transfer. There will no longer be two different transfer fees, dependent on sale date. Within family transfers will remain \$3 per transfer. Additional revenue from the increase in transfer fees will be used to support junior activities throughout the country and marketing and advertising of the Suffolk breed and the USSA.

Just a reminder that USSA is again partnering with Banner Publications to create the 2015 Breeders Directory. Members whom pay their dues prior to March 1st will be listed in the 2015 Breeders Directory. Membership dues paid before March 1st are \$35.00. Membership dues submitted after March 1st are \$50.00, so I encourage everyone to send their payments early. If you would like to have an ad included in the directory, contact Greg Deakin.

Lastly, I would like to make you aware that members have been receiving scam emails in regard to buying or selling sheep. Often these emails are suspicious, reflect the purchase or sale of sheep from outside the US and/or discuss a cashier's check and do not discuss how the animal will be shipped and the costs involved. If you receive emails that include a link to learn more—don't click on the links and for any of these emails do not forward them to another individual. If you receive these emails and question if the offer is legitimate, please contact the office. If you have fallen victim to one of these email scams, please contact your local authorities. The individuals sending these emails pull your information from membership listings and ads on websites. The most recent email has been sent by an individual named Bil Nancy. Computer related crime is way up compared to years past; please be aware of this and be cautious of emails discussing the purchase of sheep.

If you have something you would like to share in the next issue please contact the office.

Wishing you the best this lambing season!

Amanda

The Suffolk Newsletter will now be a Quarterly Publication



...new members, returning past members (whom have not been active in recent years) and past UJSSA members who have joined the USSA during November and December.

Baird Livestock, MT ♦ Bruce Ford, WA ♦ Brian Pomerence, MO ♦ Rogers Suffolks, IL

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USSA Committee Updates

Hall of Fame Committee

If there is someone you would like to consider for a future Hall of Fame inductee, please share that information with the USSA Office by May 1st.

Futurity Committee

Thank you to all who nominated and purchased futurity ewes in 2014. Suffolk breeds—please consider nomination your ewe lambs in 2015 if you are consigning to a sale (online sales as well!) or having a production sale! You can nominate your whole ewe lamb flock for \$250 or each ewe lamb for \$25. Animals sold privately are not eligible.

Junior members planning to show a purchased yearling ewe in 2015—consider nominating your yearling ewe in the yearling ewe futurity! It only costs \$25 per ewe; 100% payback!

Participation in the futurity program is easy—

- ⇒ Purchase a nominated ewe lamb or nominate your purchased yearling ewe
- ⇒ Show your ewe in any show that has Suffolk specific classes—don't forget to bring a points form with you for signature by a show representative!
- ⇒ Submit your points form to the office

Transfer Price Increase—Effective January 1, 2015

All non-family transfers are now \$10 per head.
There will no longer be a price difference based on sale date.

A Message from your USSA President

I recently assumed the duties of president of the board of directors of the USSA, and I entered the office at a time of proposed change in the percentage program, and at the beginning of lambing season at our east central Indiana grain and sheep farm. It was a flood of activity in hearing from our membership – and a flood of activity in our lambing barn - and it gave me a flood of thoughts about the common interests that we share.



In hearing from our membership, I was reminded of the passion and the diversity within the Suffolk breed. It would be easy to carve us up into our differences; the Old English, the NSIP, the frame-types, the wether-types, and the commercial Suffolks. I appreciate that each of these have found a reason to raise the type of sheep they love. And because the United States is such a geographically diverse land – it's only natural that different regions of the country demand a different type of sheep. I know that it's our shared love of these sheep that keep us making those treks to the barn in adverse conditions in the middle of winter.

When I enter our lambing barn, I'll know what to expect by the behavior of "Buddy", our silly English Shepherd dog. If he's curled up on the stack of straw bales – all is calm. If he's pacing the aisles – someone's in labor. If I'm hearing him bark – a newborn (or 2 or 3...) has arrived. That crazy dog thinks he's pretty much in charge of our barnyard and everything in front of the pens. Of course our beautiful Pyrenees are really in charge of everything from there to the back of all pastures! I must also say that husband Paul and son Jeremy do all the real work 24-7. But I get to pitch in, give advice (always appreciated ha-ha), keep records, and observe.

Last week I went into a mixing pen that contained a group of ewes with 2-3-4 day old lambs. In the corner I laughed when I saw a "puddle" of Suffolk lambs. There must have been 20 or more little ones – content and curled up together, sound asleep. I quietly gave these mamas their moments of peace, for any disturbance would have set up a flurry of "finding and feeding". Instead I went to the neighboring barn where the 2-3 week old lambs are housed. What joy! Who can't enjoy watching an energetic gang of lambs racing and bouncing and twisting in the air? They grow so fast! I'm always impressed by the ability of the ewes to nurse and grow lambs so efficiently!

Yes – what we as Suffolk sheep producers hold in common is much greater than the differences that separate us. It is my privilege and my challenge to work on your behalf. As the board continues to address all the issues that we face, keep in mind that we are the **United Suffolk Sheep Association**. The bylaws charge that our purpose is **"to foster, promote and develop the Suffolk breed in particular, and the sheep industry in general"**. You have a board of directors who take that quite seriously, who have volunteered to represent you, who have set personal agendas aside, and who are dedicated to a brighter future for our breed. Let's work together, count our blessings, and support each other!

Wishing you a fantastic winter in the lambing barn!

Diane Russell

SUFFOLK NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

1 page—\$200/issue

1/2 page—\$100/issue

1/4 page- \$50/issue

Ads should be emailed to: news@u-s-s-a.org. Please include the ad size and which quarter the ad should be run. Ads must be "publish-ready".

A Message from your UJSSA President

Happy lambing season! January is upon us, and for many of us it means we will have countless late nights in the barn tending to our newborn lambs, and ultimately our new show flock! For many July may seem far, far away, but I assure you the UJSSA is already planning for it! The National Junior Suffolk Show will be held from July 2-5 in West Springfield, MA in conjunction with the All American Junior Show. We hope that many of you will come and join us on the east coast! Many who have attended Junior Shows in the past will tell you what a great experience it is, and though it may seem like it is far away, why not start planning now? You get to spend Fourth of July with fellow Suffolk breeders, enthusiasts, and of course Suffolk Sheep!

The National Junior Suffolk Show enjoys a long and rich history of fantastic showmanship, competition, camaraderie and fun. We hope you will include us in your Fourth of July plans in West Springfield, MA!



Sincerely,
Chris MacCauley

2014 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2014 USSA Scholarships. Juniors are encouraged to apply for the 2014 USSA Scholarship and Let's Grow Suffolk Scholarship (deadline is Oct. 1, 2015).

USSA Scholarship (two \$1000 USSA Scholarships)

Jennifer Frost of Bloomingburg, Ohio is a sophomore at The Ohio State University. Jennifer has served as the Ohio Suffolk Queen, exhibited at the Ohio State Fair and worked at the Midwest Stud Ram Sale. She is majoring in Animal Science-Animal Industries and goal is to work for the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium or the Ohio Department of Agriculture after graduation – and continue to raise Suffolk sheep.

Christopher MacCauley of Atglen, Pennsylvania is a student at The Pennsylvania State University. Chris and his family have an active Suffolk flock of about 200 brood ewes. Chris is active in the UJSSA and the National Junior Suffolk Show and currently holds the office of UJSSA President. He is majoring in Agri-Business Management also plans to attend auctioneering school; his goal is to continue raising Suffolk sheep, using his degree to bring a fresh perspective on marketing and selling.

Let's Grow Suffolks Scholarship (\$1000 Scholarship)

Katie Frost of Bloomingburg, Ohio was awarded the \$1000 Let's Grow Suffolks Scholarship. She is a currently attending The Ohio State University, majoring in Animal Science/ Pre-Vet and hopes to attend The Ohio State University School of Veterinary Medicine after graduating, specializing in sheep. Katie has actively exhibited Suffolk sheep at the county and state level and worked for the Ohio State Fair and Midwest Stud Ram Sale.

2014 EWE Lamb Giveaway Recipient ANNOUNCED!

Congratulations to Alex Boomer of Hall, MT for submitting the winning video for the ewe lamb giveaway! Take a look at Alex's video on the USSA website!

Notes from the UJSSA

Attention Suffolk Breeders! Would you be willing to help the UJSSA plan and coordinate the 2015 National Junior Suffolk Show to be held in West Springfield, Massachusetts? The UJSSA is looking for volunteers to help with this year's events. If interested, contact UJSSA President, Chris MacCauley.

2015 National Junior Suffolk Sheep Show Sponsorship Would you like to help sponsor the 2015 National Junior Suffolk Show? If you are interested in sponsoring a specific class or would like to just be a general sponsor please contact a UJSSA Director.

2014 NATIONAL JUNIOR SUFFOLK SHOW



CHECK OUT THE
SHOW RESULTS
ON THE [UJSSA](http://www.ujssa.org)
SITE!

Now posted on the [UJSSA Website](http://www.ujssa.org):

Photos • Complete Results • 2014/2015 UJSSA Directors

UJSSA Board of Directors



www.ujssa.org
The UJSSA is on Facebook!

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UJSSA FUNDRAISER

The UJSSA board is selling t-shirts and sweatshirts as a fundraiser for the 2015 National Junior Suffolk Show. T-shirts are \$20 and sweatshirts are \$30; prices include shipping. Contact the USSA Office to order!

T-shirt design!



2014 USSA FUTURITY PROGRAM RESULTS

Ewe Lamb Futurity

District Placing	Overall Winner	Exhibitor Name			Futurity Ewe Lamb	Points
District 2						
1		Wesley Linke	Wessington Springs	SD	Kimm 14321	42
2		Raesa Zelinsky	Brookings	SD	Kimm 14112	36
3		Carter Linke	Wessington Springs	SD	BarZel 4010	33
District 3						
1		Jacklyn Oelke	Barrett	MN	JMG 1408	57
District 4						
1	1	Clayton Henderson	Atlanta	IN	Quam 4-17	58
2		Evan Arthur	Greenfield	IN	LynLee 14016	57
3		Madelynn Pimm	Bergen	NY	Russell Sheep Co. 4020	55
4		Brady Henderson	Atlanta	IN	Quam 4-19	50
5		Clayton Henderson	Atlanta	IN	Kimm 11020-14003	16
6		Nathaniel Patti	Greene	RI	LynLee 14023 2712(s)	14
7		Brady Henderson	Atlanta	IN	MacCauley 3077	10
8		Nathaniel Patti	Greene	RI	EB Suffolks 0302	4



1st place district 2
Kimm 14321
Wesley Linke



1st place district 3
JMG 1408
Jackie Oelke



Overall Futurity Winner
1st place district 4
Quam 04-17
Clayton Henderson



1st place Yearling Ewe
Quam 11192
Tayler Wolff, ND

Yearling Ewe Futurity

Overall Placing	Exhibitor Name			Futurity Yearling Ewe	Points
1	Tayler Wolff	Oakes	ND	Quam 11192	65
2	Tayler Wolff	Oakes	ND	Quam 11193	51

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2014 Hall of Fame Recognition

On Monday, November 17th, during the 2014 Annual Meeting the 2014 class of the USSA Hall of Fame was honored. It was a great evening of reminiscing and honoring those who have contributed to the Suffolk Breed, National Suffolk Sheep Association, American Suffolk Sheep Society and the United Suffolk Sheep Association. Here's photos of the inductees (and/or their families) who were able to attend the dinner. Special thanks to Jodee Oelke and Greg Deakin for taking these photos.

Inductees not pictured include Andy Asberry, Jim & Jacky Caras, Hawkins Farm Suffolks, Glen "Sadie" Hawkins and Joy Hawkins and Marvin & Sandy Heupel.



Andrus Suffolks, Ken & Jim Andrus & Family



Tom Burke Suffolks



Joe Holbrook
(Joe Holbrook, Jr. & wife pictured)



Bob Kimm & Family



Norman Olsen & Family



Tom Slack & Family

Newborn Lamb Management

By: Scott P. Greiner, assistant professor, and Mark L. Wahlberg, associate professor, Department of Animal and Poultry Sciences, Virginia Tech

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For direct access to the article: <http://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/410/410-026/410-026.html>

At no other time during the year are the investment of time and sound management practices more important for a sheep producer than during lambing. The financial success of a sheep operation largely depends upon maximizing the pounds of lamb weaned per ewe exposed while minimizing costs of production. In turn, pounds of lamb weaned per ewe depend on saving the lambs that are born. The largest percentage of lamb deaths occurs at or shortly after birth.

The three primary causes of death of lambs around lambing time are:

- Difficulty during the birthing process
- Starvation
- Hypothermia

Therefore, solid management practices at lambing time are essential for the economic viability of the sheep operation.

Lambing Time Procedures

1) Frequent visits to the lambing barn

Dystocia (lambing problems) can be a significant cause of lamb mortality. Losses due to stillbirths and dystocia can be reduced by frequent visits to the lambing barn and timely assistance to ewes. Pregnant ewes should be checked every three to four hours. If ewes are checked at 11:00 p.m. or midnight it is not necessary to check again before 5:00 or 6:00 a.m. Ewes that will lamb between these times usually show signs at the late-night observation.

Ewes close to lambing will be restless and may try to claim other newborn lambs. Ewes in labor will normally separate themselves and frequently choose a corner or area along a wall or feedbunk to nest and deliver. The lambing area should be dry, well-bedded, and free of cold drafts that will chill newborn lambs. A heated lambing barn is not necessary; a dry, draft-free area is more important.

The lambing process can vary considerably between ewes. Ewes in labor should be left undisturbed. However, once the ewe begins forceful straining and the water bags are passed, delivery should normally take place within 45 to 60 minutes. Once the front legs are visible, lambs should be born within 30 to 45 minutes. After the first lamb is born, subsequent lambs are normally delivered within 30 minutes.

Prolonged delivery beyond these times may indicate lambing difficulty, and the ewe should be examined and assisted if necessary. Prior to assisting the ewe, the examiner should wash the ewe's vulva with mild soap and water. Likewise, the shepherd should thoroughly wash his or her hands and arms and wear an OB sleeve when assisting or examining a ewe. When assistance is required to deliver one lamb, the uterus should be examined for additional lambs. For lambs that are pulled, a piece of straw may be gently inserted into the nostril as an irritant to help stimulate breathing. Lambs that are delivered rear legs first should be gently shaken upside-down by holding the rear legs to allow fluid to drain from the lungs.

2) Move ewes to a jug after lambing

When possible, allow ewes to give birth where they initially bed down. Moving ewes to individual pens when they start lambing may prolong the birthing process and cause other complications. Additionally, allowing ewes to complete the lambing process before moving them to jugs helps keep the jugs drier and prevent injury to lambs in multiple-birth situations.

Lambing jugs should measure at least 5 feet x 5 feet, with a maximum slat spacing of 3 inches. Large breeds and multiple births may require larger jugs. The environment of the jug is critical to newborn lamb health and survival. The jugs should be kept well-bedded, dry, and free of drafts. Facilities with concrete floors should have a base of lime or sawdust/shavings under the straw. Concrete floors can be cold and damp, causing chilling and pneumonia in newborn lambs. When feasible, clean the lambing jugs between ewes. Feed troughs and water buckets should be suspended out of the reach of newborn lambs.

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The first 24 to 48 hours after birth are a critical time for the ewe and her lambs. During this time, bonding occurs and the ewe as well as her lambs learn to identify each other. The jugs also assist the shepherd in keeping a close eye on the ewe and lambs.

When moving the ewe into the jug, clip the lambs' navels and immerse in a 7% iodine solution. Many navels (less than 2 inches) will not need to be clipped. Iodine helps prevent infection and promotes drying of the navel.

3) Ensure lambs receive adequate colostrum intake

Colostrum is the milk produced by the ewe for up to 18 hours after birth. It has important nutritional value for the newborn lamb. Colostrum contains essential antibodies that provide protection against certain diseases for the newborn lamb and provides energy to keep the lamb warm. Newborn lambs are susceptible to hypothermia due to their relatively low energy reserves and their large body surface area relative to body weight.

Lambs should receive adequate colostrum within 30 to 60 minutes after birth. To help ensure this, strip the ewe's teats to remove the wax plugs that frequently obstruct the teats. In some cases, lambs that appear to be nursing may not be getting milk due to these plugs. Stripping the teats will also confirm the ewe has milk. Lambs should be monitored closely to make sure they nurse. Lambs that have nursed will have a full stomach upon palpation. Crotching ewes prior to lambing will enhance the lambs' ability to access the udders, particularly with long-fleeced ewes. Lambs that have not nursed should be assisted. Most lambs have a strong suckling reflex shortly after birth, and will nurse when presented a teat. It may be necessary to close the lamb's mouth on the teat and/or squirt milk in the lamb's mouth to initiate suckling. An effort should be made to help the lamb nurse the ewe before other methods are used to get colostrum into the lamb.

In some cases, the lamb is unable to nurse the ewe even with assistance. These lambs may be small, weak, chilled, rejected by the ewe, or injured. In these cases, stomach tube feeding is necessary to get colostrum into the lamb. Lamb stomach tubes that attach to syringes are available commercially and should be on hand for all shepherds. With the lamb's head in a natural position, insert the tube in the side of the lamb's mouth, following the roof of the mouth down into the throat. Don't force the tube down; rather allow the lamb to swallow as the tube goes down the esophagus. The tube can be felt on the outside of the neck as it is inserted down into the stomach, and will go in about 12 inches. Although it is difficult to get the tube down the trachea (windpipe), the tube can be checked to see if air is being expelled (listen or moisten end of tube to see if bubble forms). After inserting of the tube, give the colostrum slowly. Lambs should receive 20 cc colostrum per pound of body weight. As a reference, 30 cc equals approximately 1 ounce. Therefore, a 10-pound lamb should receive 200 cc or about 7 ounces of colostrum in the first 30 minutes after birth. After the initial tube feeding, many lambs will respond and begin to nurse on their own. If not, the lamb may need to be tube fed every two to three hours after the initial feeding.

The source of colostrum for these cases is another important consideration. The first choice would be from the lamb's mother. If colostrum is not available from the ewe, another ewe that has just lambed may be a source. It is a good idea to freeze colostrum for future use from ewes that lose their lambs or ewes with singles that are heavy milkers. Colostrum should be pre-measured and frozen using ice cube trays or freezer bags. Frozen colostrum should be thawed with indirect heat (water bath), and not a microwave or direct heat as these can produce enough heat to destroy the antibodies. In an emergency, goat or cow colostrum may be used. There are also commercially available artificial colostrum substitutes.

Post-Lambing Management

The ewe and her lambs need to be monitored closely for the first few days after birth. Healthy lambs are content, and will stretch when getting up and wag their tails when nursing. A gaunt and weak appearance may be indicative of starvation. Check the ewe to be sure she has milk. In the case of multiple births, the smallest lamb may not be able to compete for the milk supply. Constipation can be a problem in newborn lambs if feces dry and mat down on the tail. Cleaning the area with a damp rag will alleviate this problem.

Time spent in the jug will depend largely on the number of jugs available and rate at which ewes are lambing. Strong, healthy singles may be removed from the jugs in 24 to 36 hours after birth and twins after 48 hours. Triplets and ewes with weak lambs may need to stay in the jug for three or more days. Remove ewes and lambs from the jug as quickly as possible, as the longer they are confined, the greater the chances of them contracting pneumonia and diarrhea. Labor requirements are also much greater when ewes are confined to the jugs.

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Before turning ewes and lambs out of the jugs, record pertinent information on the ewes and lambs. Appropriately identify the lambs (ear tags, paint brands, ear notches, etc.) at this time as well. The ability to match a ewe with her lambs can be a very helpful management tool. Thin, poor-doing lambs may indicate a health problem in the ewe (mastitis) or inferior milking ability.

Most of Virginia is deficient in selenium. Selenium and/or vitamin E deficiency causes white muscle disease in lambs. To prevent this disease and for all-around flock health and performance, provide the ewe flock with a high-selenium complete mineral mix specifically formulated for sheep during gestation (fed free-choice). Additionally, lambs should receive 0.5 cc Bo-Se a day or two after birth. Bo-Se is a combination of vitamin E and selenium.

For systems in which ewes and lambs will be going to pasture immediately after lambing, ewes should be dewormed either two to three weeks prior to lambing or upon leaving the jug. Ewes shed an increased number of worm eggs during the last weeks of gestation and continue through just after lambing.

Upon removal from the jugs, ewes and lambs should be put into a mixing pen with three or four other ewes and their lambs. This will help acclimate them, and they should be closely observed to identify abandoned and rejected lambs. After a day or two, the ewes can then be put into larger groups.

Lambing jugs should be cleaned and rebedded after each ewe and her lambs are removed. Even though the area may look clean, urine and manure in the pen will release ammonia, which is harmful to the newborn lamb's lungs and can lead to pneumonia.

Complications with Newborn Lambs

Hypothermia and Starvation

Hypothermia is defined as low body temperature. This condition may result from a variety of factors including exposure, weakness, trauma, and starvation. Lambs with hypothermia appear weak, gaunt, and hunched up. In severe cases, the lamb may be unable to hold its head up and may even be unconscious. The ears and mouth may feel cold, and the lamb may lack a suckling response. The normal body temperature for lambs is 102° to 103°F. Lambs with temperatures below 100° are considered hypothermic. Use a rectal thermometer to measure body temperature.

In newborn lambs, true hypothermia may result from exposure. In these cases, it is necessary to get warm colostrum into the lamb immediately to bring its body temperature up. Tube feeding is an effective means to administer this colostrum. It may also be necessary to move the lamb into a warmer environment to elevate its body temperature. If wet, the lamb should be dried off and wrapped in a towel. A cardboard box can be used to confine the lamb, with jugs of warm water used as a heat source. This method is similar to the heating boxes that are sold commercially. Heat lamps may also be effective. However, heat lamps should not be used routinely in the lambing barn. They are expensive to operate, and do not supply enough heat to prevent hypothermia. They also are a fire risk. Healthy lambs are adaptable to very cold temperatures, provided the environment is dry and free of cold drafts. As the lamb warms up, monitor its body temperature. Water baths have also been used to warm lambs, although care should be exercised not to use very hot water (>105°F), which will warm the lamb too quickly and cause shock.

For lambs that are older than 24 hours, hypothermia usually is a result of starvation. Without energy from milk, lambs become hypoglycemic, then hypothermic and may die. Treatment for these situations is similar to that used for the newborn, with the exception that older lambs need not receive colostrum. Milk replacer can be fed with a bottle or feeding tube. The milk should be warm, but not hot when a drop is placed on the inside of your wrist. As a guideline, these older lambs should receive 6 to 8 ounces of milk per feeding.

Orphan Lambs

Orphan lambs may result from abandonment, rejection, or the death of the ewe. Options to consider are grafting the lambs on another ewe, artificial rearing with milk replacer, or selling the lambs if an outlet is available. Many methods are used to graft orphan lambs to other ewes. The largest, most aggressive lamb is usually the best candidate to graft. Grafting works best when the lambs to be grafted are similar in age to the ewes' own lambs. Grafting a triplet lamb to a ewe with a single is the usual case. The grafting process should be initiated as soon after birth as possible. The longer the ewe and her lambs are together, the stronger the bond to each other becomes. Older lambs are difficult to graft not only due to rejection by the adopting ewe, but also rejection of the ewe by the orphan lamb. In all cases, as described previously, colostrum intake by the orphan lamb in the

(Continued on page 11)

first 24 hours is important.

To get a ewe to accept an orphan lamb, the ewe must think the lamb is her own. Some ewes are easier to fool than others. If grafting to a ewe that has just given birth to her own lamb, rub the orphan lamb in the birthing fluids and afterbirth to give the orphan lamb the smell of her own lamb. Another method involves a stocking that is worn by the adoptive ewe's own lamb for a day or two, and then placed on the orphan lamb. In all cases, place the ewe's head in a stanchion so she can eat and drink but not turn to smell and fight the lambs. This forces the ewe to allow the orphan lamb to nurse. The length of time required for successful grafting varies. Over a period of three to seven days, most ewes will accept the new lamb. Ewes with grafted lambs should be monitored closely once they are turned out.

Lambs may also be raised artificially on milk replacer. The milk replacer should be specifically formulated and labeled for lambs. Again, lambs require colostrum within the first 24 hours after birth and then may be placed on milk replacer. The best candidate for artificial rearing in a multiple birth situation is the smallest, weakest lamb. The sooner the lamb is taken off the ewe, the easier it is to train to the bottle. It frequently takes several feedings to train the lamb to the bottle. Starting with a hungry lamb (five to six hours since last feeding) will assist in training. It may be necessary to force-feed the bottle. Lambs will consume around 20 percent of their body weight in milk per day. This would equate to about 38 ounces per day for a 12-pound lamb (12 pounds x 16 ounces per pound x .20 = 38 ounces). This amount should be divided according to how many times the lamb will be fed per day. One- to two-day-old lambs should be fed a minimum of four times a day, while older lambs can be fed only twice. Initially, the milk should be fed warm to stimulate intake. Once lambs are acclimated to the bottle, time and labor are saved if the lambs are fed cold milk in a bucket feeder. It is important to thoroughly clean the nipple bucket at least twice daily and to keep the milk fresh to avoid spoiling. When putting lambs on the self-feeding bucket, group them by age and size to avoid competition. A warm, dry pen is important for the health of artificially reared lambs. Another important aspect of bottle feeding is to get the lambs started on dry feed and water as soon as possible. Have fresh lamb creep feed (20 percent protein) available to these lambs at one week of age. Artificially reared lambs can be weaned as early as three weeks of age (minimum weight of 20 pounds). Research at Virginia Tech has indicated lambs can be artificially reared for around \$25 per head. For more information on this subject, refer to *Profitable Artificial Rearing of Lambs*, Virginia Cooperative Extension publication 410-023.

Docking and Castration

There are several tools available for docking and castration, including:

1. Knife
2. Emasculator
3. Elastrator
4. All-in-one Castrator
5. Burdizzo Emasculatome

Your choice of instrument depends on your management practices and the lamb's age at docking and castration. All of these tools, when used correctly with proper sanitation, are effective.

Lambs that are docked stay cleaner and are less likely to have fly strike. Mature sheep with intact tails may have problems at breeding and lambing time. Intact males are frequently discounted at marketing. Feeding ram lambs and ewe lambs together may result in decreased weight gains and unwanted pregnancies.

Docking and castration are best when performed at the same time, usually two to five days after birth. At a young age, there will be less stress on the lambs. Additionally, these practices are faster and simpler to perform for the producer when the lambs are young. Lambs should be docked before they reach two weeks of age, and castrated by six weeks of age.

Vaccination of ewes with *Clostridium perfringens* type C and D with tetanus approximately three weeks before lambing will provide protection for lambs against tetanus (via colostrum), provided docking and castration are done a few days after birth. If ewes have not been vaccinated with tetanus prior to lambing, lambs should receive 300 IU of tetanus antitoxin as well as tetanus toxoid. Do not mix the antitoxin and toxoid in the same syringe or give in the same location (use opposite sides of neck). The toxoid produces an immune response in the

(Continued on page 12)

lamb, while the antitoxin provides antibodies. For lambs that are three to four weeks old at docking and/or castration, vaccinate with tetanus toxoid. The antitoxin may be used in high-risk situations.

As a guideline, the tail should be docked at the point in which the caudal skin folds join into the tail. These skin folds are found on the underneath side of the tail, just above the anus, and terminate about 1 inch down the tail. Exercise care to avoid docking tails extremely short. Excessively short tail docks, in combination with other factors, contribute to an increased incidence of rectal prolapses.

An emasculator is frequently used for docking. The emasculator has both a crushing and cutting mechanism. The crushing mechanism seals the blood vessels on the tail remaining on the lamb, while the cutting edge effectively removes the tail. The burdizzo works in a similar fashion to crush the tissue on the end of the tail. A knife is used to cut off the long end of the tail (inside the burdizzo). With the emasculator and burdizzo, each device should be left on the tail for approximately 30 seconds to help prevent bleeding. Application of elastrator bands is also quite common, especially for producers with sheep that will be exhibited at shows. Since tail removal with the elastrator bands is a two- to three-week process, fly strike can be a problem. The tail can be cut off below the band after two or three days to speed the removal process.

Before castration, it is important to confirm both testicles are descended. The most popular choice for castration is the knife. With the lamb held in a sitting position, cut the bottom third of the scrotum off with a knife or the scissors portion of the all-in-one tool. Push the cut end of the scrotum towards the body to expose one testicle. Use your fingers, or all-in-one tool to grab the testicle firmly. With your free hand use your thumb and index finger to grab the neck of the scrotum and hold it firmly against the lamb's body. Between your fingers you should feel the cord of the testicle. Slowly and gently pull the testicle out until the cord breaks, allowing the cord to slip between your thumb and index finger while maintaining pressure on the scrotum against the body wall. This procedure will help prevent hernias. Repeat the procedure for the second testicle. Cutting or severing the testicle cord with a knife will cause bleeding and should be avoided.

An elastrator band may also be used for castration. The band is placed around the neck of the scrotum, just below the teats. Be sure to have both testicles in the scrotum when the band is released. In two to three weeks the scrotum will fall off. As with the tail, the scrotum may be removed below the elastrator band after a few days, which will leave a small cut that will heal quickly.

After docking and castration, wounds should be treated with iodine or wound dressing. Docking and castration should be delayed for lambs that are small, weak, thin, or unhealthy. These lambs should be allowed to regain strength before processing.

Checklist of Supplies and Equipment for Lambing Time

- OB sleeves
- OB lube
- thermometer
- ear tags and tagger
- vaginal retainer
- lamb warming box
- heat lamps
- scissors
- docking and castration tools
- stomach tube with 60 cc syringe
- bottle with lamb nipples
- frozen colostrum
- lamb milk replacer
- 18 and 20 gauge needles (1 inch)
- 3, 6, and 12 cc syringes
- 7% iodine solution
- injectable selenium/vitamin E
- tetanus antitoxin
- fly spray
- propylene glycol
- Antibiotics
- electrolytes

Happy New Year!



2014 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION

Junior Breeding Show—Ram Results



SUPREME CHAMPION SUFFOLK RAM
Champion Fitted Ram
MacCauley 2942
Christopher MacCauley



RES SUPREME CHAMPION SUFFOLK RAM
Res. Champion Fitted Ram
Livermore Family Suffolks 562-14
Jennifer Livermore



Champion Slick Shorn Ram
GG Friesen 1420
Grant Friesen



Res. Champion Slick Shorn Ram
MacCauley 3025
Christopher MacCauley

To see complete NAILE results visit:

www.livestockexpo.org



2014 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION

Junior Breeding Show Ewe Results



OVERALL CHAMPION SUFFOLK EWE
Champion Fitted Ewe
K Slack 1111
Andrew Slack



RESERVE OVERALL CHAMPION SUFFOLK EWE
Res. Champion Fitted Ewe
Silver Dollar BHR 1335
Thomas Thompson

Fitted Senior Champion Ewe— K Slack 1111, Andrew Slack
Res Champion Senior Fitted Ewe— Silver Dollar BHR 1335, Thomas Thompson
Fitted Junior Champion Ewe—Quam 0417, Clayton Henderson
Res. Champion Junior Fitted Ewe—5 Star J 4130, Jacinda, Raelynn & Rhett Thompson



Champion Slick Shorn Ewe
MacCauley 2974
Christopher MacCauley



Res. Champion Slick Shorn Ewe
Cruit 14-70
Shelby DeOrnellas

Slick Shorn Senior Champion Ewe—Slack 3493, Grant Friesen
Res. Champion Senior Slick Shorn Ewe – Krinsky 1335, Sabrina Frankovich
Slick Shorn Junior Champion Ewe—MacCauley 2974, Christopher MacCauley
Reserve Champion Junior Slick Shorn Ewe— Cruit 14-70, Shelby DeOrnellas
State Flock—Pennsylvania



2014 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION

Open Show Results - Slick Shorn Show



No Photo Available

Champion Slick Shorn Ram
MacCauley 2997
Christopher MacCauley

Res. Champion Slick Shorn Ram
PHFT 14-50 "Cleveland"
Phantom Hills Fitting & Training, Ethan, Annie & Ty Smith

Slick Shorn Ram Senior Champion - MacCauley 2952, Christopher MacCauley

Slick Shorn Ram Res Sr Champ - MacCauley 2805, Christopher MacCauley

Slick Shorn Ram Junior Champion - MacCauley 2997, Christopher MacCauley

Slick Shorn Ram Res. Jr Champ - PHFT 14-50 "Cleveland", Phantom Hills Fitting & Training, Ethan, Annie & Ty Smith

Pair of Slick Shorn Ram Lambs - Christopher MacCauley



RES SUPREME CHAMPION SUFFOLK EWE

Champion Slick Shorn Ewe
PHFT 1323

Phantom Hills Fitting & Training, Ethan, Annie & Ty Smith

Res. Champion Slick Shorn Ewe
McLaughlin/Griffin 1457
Christopher MacCauley

Senior Champion Slick Shorn Ewe - PHFT 1323, Phantom Hills Fitting & Training, Ethan, Annie & Ty Smith

Res. Sr. Champion Slick Shorn Ewe - PHFT 13-18 "Pink", Phantom Hills Fitting & Training, Ethan, Annie & Ty Smith

Junior Champion Slick Shorn Ewe - McLaughlin/Griffin 1457, Christopher MacCauley

Reserve Junior Champion Slick Shorn Ewe- PHFT 14-21, Phantom Hills Fitting & Training, Ethan, Annie & Ty Smith

Pair of Slick Shorn Yearling Ewes - Phantom Hills Fitting & Training, Ethan, Annie & Ty Smith

Pair of Slick Shorn Ewe Lambs - Christopher MacCauley

Slick Shorn Flock - MacCauley Suffolks

Slick Shorn Premier Exhibitor—MacCauley Suffolks



2014 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION

Open Show Results - Fitted Show

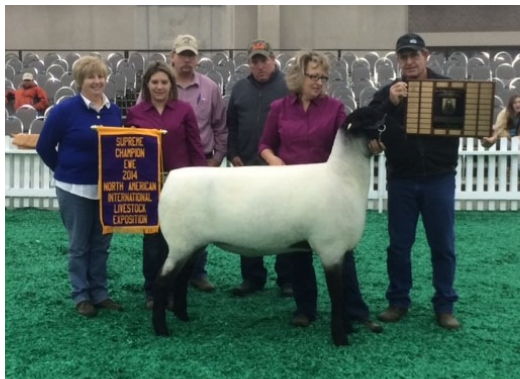


SUPREME CHAMPION SUFFOLK RAM
Champion Fitted Ram
5 Star J 3134
Jacinda, Raelynn & Rhett Thompson



RES SUPREME CHAMPION SUFFOLK RAM
Res. Champion Fitted Ram, Best Headed Ram
Ruby Mountain 1405 "Buckaroo Banzai"
Ruby Mountain Sheep Co.

Senior Champion Ram—5 Star J 3134, Jacinda, Raelynn & Rhett Thompson
Reserve Senior Champion Ram - 5 Star J 3164-13 "Hands Up", Schambow Family
Junior Champion Ram— Ruby Mountain 1405 "Buckaroo Banzai", Ruby Mountain Sheep Co.
Reserve Junior Champion Ram— Begg Family Suffolks 156, Allie Begg
Pair of Ram Lambs— Ruby Mountain Sheep Co.



SUPREME EWE
SUPREME CHAMPION SUFFOLK EWE
Champion Fitted Ewe
Ruby Mountain 1304 "Jackie O"
Ruby Mountain Sheep Co.



Res. Champion Fitted Ewe
Silver Dollar BHR 1335
Thomas Thompson

Senior Champion Ewe—Ruby Mountain 1304 "Jackie O", Ruby Mountain Sheep Co.
Reserve Senior Champion Ewe - Silver Dollar BHR 1335, Thomas Thompson
Junior Champion Ewe - Ruby Mtn 1412, Ruby Mountain Sheep Co.
Reserve Junior Champion Ewe - Five Star J 4131, Jacinda, Raelynn & Rhett Thompson
Pair of Yearling Ewes - Ruby Mountain Sheep Co.
Pair of Ewe Lambs—Jacinda, Raelynn & Rhett Thompson
Fitted Flock - Ruby Mountain Sheep Co.
Best Headed Ewe—5 Star J 4123, Jacinda, Raelynn & Rhett Thompson
Fitted Premier Exhibitor— Tom Burke Suffolks



2014 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION

NAILE Lead Line



2nd Place Adult Lead
Diane Russell



3rd Place Adult Lead
Annie Smith



1st Place Ages 17-21
Katie Frost

Additional placings for individuals leading Suffolks:

Ages 8-10: 9th place Raesa Zelinsky, 10th place Courtney Parker

Ages 11-13: 8th place Katherine Parsley

Ages 17-21: 7th place Connor Vincent

Sheep Costume: 5th place Kensey Parker



Suffolk Market Lamb Results



Champion Suffolk Market Lamb
Lane Slaton, Noblesville, IN



Res. Champion Suffolk Market Lamb
Emily Smith, Elk City, OK

State/Regional Suffolk Association Updates

North East Suffolk Sheep Association

Spring meeting for North East Suffolk Sheep Association— April 11, 2015 - 11am at Mil-Sid Farm, 272 Frisbieville Rd., Schoharie NY 12157.

If any one has any topics for the agenda feel free to email Josh Miller, millers@midtel.net or via telephone - 518-231-8113

Update from the USSA Board Regarding Percentage and Purebred Registration Status

January 23, 2015

The **United Suffolk Sheep Association** Board of Directors (BOD) would like to update our membership regarding the recent attention to the percentage and purebred status on registration papers, and the opportunities afforded to registrants of all Suffolk sheep. This letter is a summary of facts and current status. After those bullet points, we will share a summary of the discussion points that have brought this issue to be a part of the past and current BOD's order of business.

- ◆ The USSA registers both purebred (94% and greater) Suffolk Sheep and Percentage (anything less than 94%) Suffolk Sheep. The membership consists of breeders of both.
- ◆ The Suffolk breed began as a two-breed mating and breeders have been introducing outcrosses ever since – hence the ever evolving styles of Suffolk Sheep.
- ◆ At present time there are no changes in the registration format of both purebred and percentage sheep. The existence of a percentage in the pedigree is a part of our computer program and is recorded and traced on all registration papers. (including purebred papers that have progressed through percentage lines)
- ◆ The BOD recommends all sheep being registered as Suffolk adhere to the **Breed Standard**.
- ◆ USSA membership numbers continue to decline, as does the number of sheep being registered. This trend threatens the financial viability of the breed.
- ◆ In other species and in other sheep breeds, associations give privilege to percentage animals that the USSA at this time does not recognize. (Example - the privilege to participate in sales and shows).
- ◆ The current BOD is considering a recommendation that a Suffolk registered at 75% and greater, and meets the **Breed Standard**, be allowed to participate in all Suffolk Shows and Sales potentially increasing participation numbers and financial outcomes. While there would be no change to the information on the registration papers, at 75%, the association would print and issue white certificates. (presently all certificates under 94% are printed on the green percentage paper)
- ◆ The BOD will make no final decision on this issue until after March 1, allowing time for membership comment. The USSA office can make available example registration certificates via email request to give members a visual representation of the various stages of certificates.

Now we would like to share with you, some of the points that the board has considered in discussion of this topic:

1. *The considered change allows better access to registered sheep for youth breeders – especially for those youth who are breeding and exhibiting their own animals. By breeding a registered Suffolk to a commercial blackface, they could produce animals to show in a breeding class (whether at county or national level) in two years. (rather than in 5 generations). With the expansion of junior shows that require papers, this could increase our number of registrations, and, in the future bring in new members who have enjoyed opportunities in the junior programs.*
2. *Breeders making changes in their breeding program to a different style of Suffolk can do so and be a part of shows and sales at a faster pace. A particular advantage would be for those breeders seeking more muscularity expressed in their Suffolk flocks.*
3. *As registrations have decreased over the years, so has the genetic pool. Example - 20 years ago 30,000 Suffolks were registered - now 7,000. To have a greater number of registered sheep in the gene pool benefits both the Suffolk and the Commercial sheep industry.*
4. *Pedigree integrity!!! Often times the reason a breeder is tempted to falsify a registration is due to having an outstanding individual, that is not a purebred Suffolk, but that breeder wishes to enter it in a show or*

(Continued on page 19)

sale. Hence, papers are falsified and the breed is left with an inaccurate accounting of pedigree. The BOD advocates for honesty, integrity, and a transparency in the pedigrees of all sheep in the registry. The proposed change may reduce the temptation to falsify pedigrees.

5. Many examples exist of cases where there are lapses in the paperwork of purebred Suffolk sheep. This can be due to many factors; incomplete paperwork in transfers of ownership, the passing of a flock from an older member who may have kept inadequate records to a younger family member who wishes to participate in all the opportunities of the association, or broken gates at breeding time where there is a mixing of rams with ewe groupings. Members in these situations currently face a 5 year process if they are honest about pedigrees and want to participate in shows and sales. Hence – they walk away from the association.
6. Some members will wish to keep only pure genetics (94% and above) in their flock. They can do so with greater confidence if our registry certificates are honest accurate and reliable. Other members wish to add traits to their registered flock that can best be found in unregistered sheep. The BOD supports all members in raising the Suffolk sheep that best suit their needs, and that meet the **Breed Standard**.

These examples are real situations that our members have dealt with. And it is with these members in mind that the BOD is considering this issue. The bylaws charge that the purpose of the association is “**to foster, promote and develop the Suffolk breed in particular, and the sheep industry in general**”. That is exactly the board’s intent as we try to provide members with accurate pedigrees and opportunities to participate in the activities of the breed. We welcome your input.

ATTENTION SUFFOLK BREEDERS

Plan to be part of the 2015 Breeders Membership Directory

The Directory will be published by THE BANNER in glossy magazine format. All members of the United Suffolk Sheep Association will be mailed a directory. Directories will be distributed at every major show and sale in 2015!



**Breeders
& Commercial
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Deadline is
March 10**

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2015 Howard Wyman Sheep Industry Leadership School : June 21-24, 2015, Denver, CO

Application Deadline April 1st

Tours will include visits to feed lots, Superior Farms Processing Plant, lamb pelt grading, an ethanol and by-products plant, as well as other related industry information. Ron Cole, who holds a degree in Animal Science from Colorado State University and has worked in all phases of livestock, grain and meat reporting both at the local and national levels, will direct the 2015 Leadership School.

How To Apply

Applicants must be 20 years of age or older. A group of 26 individuals will be selected. Once accepted, a \$200 per person registration fee is required to secure placement. Applications must be received in the NLFA office by e-mail or fax not later than Wednesday, April 1, 2015.

Applicants will be selected following the cut-off date and those selected will be notified as soon as possible. Participants are responsible for the cost of their own travel to and from the school, including transportation from the nearest airport. Basic information will be provided in terms of proximity and options for shuttle or taxi service.

During school NLFA covers the cost of meals, lodging and any tour-related expenses. In terms of lodging, roommates will be assigned based on double occupancy rooms. A couple may apply to attend; however, both must be involved in the sheep business and each must complete and submit an application. There is no fee to apply.

Complete an [**application form \(pdf\)**](#) and submit electronically or download the PDF and return by mail or fax (503) 585-1921. For more information, call the NLFA office at [503-364-5462](tel:503-364-5462) or e-mail: info@nlfa-sheep.org.

Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program Lambing Time Short Course and Bus Tour February 6th & 7th 2015

News Release

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the 2015 Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program Lambing Time Short Course and Bus Tour which will be held on February 6th and 7th in Pipestone. We have an excellent program planned and we will be touring two outstanding sheep operation. The program starts with an optional Friday evening discussion. Saturday will begin with lambing time management and health topics. The afternoon will be spent touring and viewing two successful sheep operation.

Topics include: Changing the US Sheep Industry, Handling Common Ewe Health Concerns, Virtual Lambing Barn Layout and Creep Design Tour, Telling the Sheep Production Story to Consumers, Antibiotic Availability and How to Establish a Vet/Client/Patient Relationship, Cost Effective Ewe Feed Rations, and Managing the Leading Killers of Baby Lambs.

The purpose of this short course and bus tour is to help producers recognize and effectively deal with common lambing time problems. We are fortunate to have highly qualified sheep veterinarians on the program to share their thought on common lamb and ewe health problems. Touring two top area sheep operation in the afternoon will provide an opportunity for individuals to see firsthand how other sheep producers recognize and deal with lambing time problems. You will see how they lay out their lambing barn, set up creep pens, graft lambs, dock, vaccinate, feed and management of their lambs and ewes. The farm demonstration session will provide an excellent learning opportunity.

For those who are unable to attend our short course and bus tour please consider our web based Lambing Time Management Series which consists of 6 recorded topics that can be view through an Internet connection in the comfort of your home or office.

For more information visit our web page www.pipestonesheep.com or contact Jodi Christensen, jodi.christensen@mnwest.edu (507) 825-6806.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Have a Suffolk related event you would like to add to the calendar of events? Email your event to: news@u-s-s-a.org. The newsletter may not contain all upcoming events. To find a full listing, please visit : www.u-s-s-a.org.

March

- 1 Last day for the reduced rate on 2015 Membership Dues (and also listed in the 2015 USSA Directory)
27-28 Premier 10 Midwest Elite, Richmond Indiana [website](#)

April

- 3-4 Illini All Breeds Sale, Bloomington, IL [website](#)
11 California Ram Sale, Potterville, CA [website](#)
24-25 Corporation — Black and White, Chickasha, Oklahoma [website](#)

May

- 7-9 Big Ohio Sale Weekend, Eaton, OH [website](#)
22-24 Great Lakes All Breeds Sheep Sale, Wooster, OH [website](#)
28-30 Nugget All-American Sheep Show, Reno, NV [website](#)

June

- 1 National Junior Suffolk Show Entries Due
1 USSA Ambassador Applications Due
6 Midwest Junior Preview Show, Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO [website](#)
22-27 Midwest Stud Ram Sale/National Suffolk Sale, Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia, MO [website](#)

July

- 2 National Junior Suffolk Show Check-In, West Springfield, MA
3 National Junior Suffolk Show Market Lamb & Wether Dam Show & Leadership Contests
4 National Junior Suffolk Show Breeding Ewe Show & Leadership Contests
National Junior Suffolk Show Awards Banquet – check back for event details
5 National Junior Suffolk Show Ram Show
9-12 Northeast Youth Sheep Show, Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, MA [website](#)

August

- 6 Midwest Regional Junior Suffolk Show, Ohio State Fair

GREEK NACHOS - Try this recipe for your upcoming party!

Do you have a lamb recipe that is absolutely delicious you want to share? Do you have a child that loves to cook? We'll feature their recipes, too! Please email recipes to news@u-s-s-a.org to be featured in an upcoming newsletter!

Ingredients:

- 1.5 pounds ground American Lamb
- 1.5 cups chopped onions
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 1 teaspoon dry oregano
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon crushed, toasted fennel seeds
- 1/2 teaspoon cracked black pepper
- Kosher salt, as needed
- 6 cups plain pita chips
- 1 cup diced ripe tomatoes
- 1/2 cup sliced scallions
- 1/2 cup crumbled plain feta
- 1/2 cup sliced pitted Kalamata olives
- 1/2 cup Greek-style nonfat yogurt
- 4 mint sprigs

Directions

In a large skillet, cook lamb over medium-high heat until almost completely browned, approximately 4 to 5 minutes, stirring often. Stir in onions, garlic, oregano, paprika, fennel and pepper; continue to cook 4 to 5 minutes, until the onions are almost golden. Adjust seasoning with salt. Remove from heat; keep warm until ready to serve.

For each serving, place 1-1/2 cups warmed pita chips in a wide soup plate; top with 1 cup lamb-onion mixture. Sprinkle with 1/4 cup tomatoes, 2 tablespoons scallions, 2 tablespoons feta and 2 tablespoons olives. Top with 2 tablespoons yogurt and garnish with a sprig of mint. Serve hot.

Recipe from the American Lamb Board:

<http://www.americanlamb.com/consumer/greek-nachos/>

USSA Member News

Our condolences to the following families...

Edward John Dick, DVM passed away at the age of 77 in his home in Hill Country Village on Wednesday, December 24, 2014.

He was born in Dixon, Illinois to parents Gavin Douglas and Marcella (Bremer) Dick. He married his wife Nancy Ann Lane in Argyle, Illinois.

He graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois in 1961 and later started the Lone Star Animal Hospital where he was the sole veterinarian for 38 ½ years.

Edward was involved with his community through multiple organizations, including stockholder of the San Antonio Toro's Football Team, former Hollywood Park volunteer fireman, former Mayor of Hill Country Village, member of the Bexar County, Texas, and American Veterinary Medical Associations, and Bexar County 4-H where he was the leader of the Hill Country 4-H Club for 15 years and received the Texas State Leadership Award.

He raised purebred Suffolk sheep for 43 years and was a member of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association and the United Suffolk Sheep Association. He enjoyed showing his sheep and shared this hobby with his children and grandchildren.

His family was very important to him, and he was very proud of them. He felt his life was successful and complete.

Edward is survived by his wife of 56 years, Nancy; son, Dr. Edward Dick, Jr. and wife, Lo-Rá; son, Ian Dick; son, David Dick; daughter, Deanna Dick; and son, Adam Dick and wife, Heather; grandchildren, Elizabeth, Gavin, James, Amanda, Travis, Marcella, and Vance.

Private services will be held for the family.

To view obituary visit: http://www.porterloring.com/memsol.cgi?user_id=1486425



Jack David Larsen, age 83, of West Mountain, Utah passed away December 31, 2014 in Payson, Utah.

Jack was born July 4, 1931 to Mildred Moore and David Bowen Larsen of Leland, Utah. He married Mary Evelyn Davis on May 30, 1954 in Logan, Utah. They later divorced. Jack married Bessie Greenhalgh Perkins on March 13, 1992 in Las Vegas, Nevada. She preceded him in death on August 1, 1999.

Jack graduated from Spanish Fork High School and attended Utah State University. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science from Utah State University in 1954. He later received a teaching endorsement from Brigham Young University and taught in Nebo School District for six years.

Jack served as an officer in the United States Army at the end of the Korean Conflict. He later followed his true passion as a rancher and livestock man in the Spanish Fork area. He raised Columbia and Suffolk sheep, cattle and horses. He was awarded several prestigious awards; 1972 Utah Sheepman of the year, 1992 Utah Purebred Sheepman of the year. In 2013 he was inducted into the Suffolk Sheep Association Hall of Fame inaugural class of 2013.

He was a member of the L.D.S. church and worked in the Provo Temple for many years until his decline in health.

His survivors include his three daughters: Marthanne (Dennis) Argyle of Spanish Fork, Melinda (Steve) Paasch of Grass Valley, California and Milicent (Brian) Fogarty of South Jordan, Utah, nine grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife Bessie and grandson Joseph Argyle.

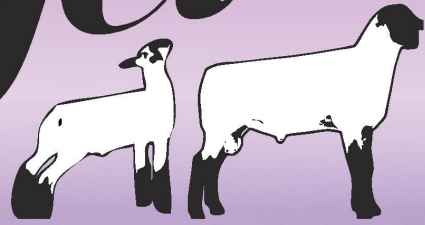
Our family would like to thank the nurses and staff at the Central Utah Veteran's Home for the excellent care and tenderness they showed to our father during the last months of his life.

To view obituary visit: <http://www.walkerspanishfork.com/obit/jack-david-larsen/>



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CLASSIFIED ADS

USSA Members only. Ads are free. Must be sheep related: animals, vehicles, trailers, equipment, transportation, working dogs, etc. Include your contact information. Email your ad to: news@u-s-s-a.org. The newsletter may not contain all of the classified ads or include photos that are posted with the classified ad. To find a full listing, please visit our website: www.u-s-s-a.org.

Rams for Sale: 3 yr old registered Suffolk Ram for sale - Mint Gold/Dobberpuhl breeding. 2 yr old registered Hamp Ram for sale - University of Wisconsin breeding.

Contact: Helen Schattner, Shady Chestnut Farm 262-835-1106, hsca73@yahoo.com

Bred Suffolk Ewes For Sale: RR - Registered \$600/each. One non-bred yearling \$600. OR lambs available in March/April - \$200 each. Located in Medina, TN (Fifteen miles from Jackson, TN).

Contact: tracyprank@gmail.com

Suffolk Flock for sale beginning April 1, 2015. 60 brood ewes, 10 yearling ewes, 4 top quality yearling rams and a mature Slack buck. All are RR. Call for more details.

Contact: Hugh Lesnet, Edon, Ohio, 419-485-0435

Small Square Bales of Hay For Sale : Quality ranges from course first crop to premium fourth crop. Some pure alfalfa some 50/50 mix grass to alfalfa. Prices range from \$3 to \$5 per bale.

Contact: Shawn Odonavan, 920-960-6460

Show Quality Ewe Lambs For Sale. Reasonably Priced .We have three show quality ewe lambs starting at \$750 These lambs are sired by either "Red Ryder" Pfeifer 1330 or "Bob" Ream 12TG34

Contact: Rainbow Meadow Farms, Larry Christensen 209-232-9990



2015 USSA Breeders Directory

It's that time of year again to start thinking about 2015 USSA Breeders Directory and 2015 USSA Membership Dues. Once again this year USSA is partnering with Greg Deakin and Banner Publications to create the 2015 Breeders Directory. As always, this will be a magazine-quality, informational listing of USSA members that you can count on to keep in touch with other breeders within the association. In addition, the directory will contain up-to-date news, show results, pictures, sale information, breed standards and more. If you are interested in advertising in this year's directory, please contact Greg by phone at 309.785.5058 or by email at ads.banner@sybertech.net.

Members paying their dues prior to March 1st will be listed in the 2015 Breeders Directory. Membership dues paid before March 1st are \$35.00. Membership dues submitted after March 1st are \$50.00, so everyone is encouraged to send their payments early.

Advertising Rates are as follows:

Suffolk Directory Prices:

Full Color:

1 page - \$650

1/2 page- \$400

1/4 page: \$250

1 Color:

1 page - \$500

1/2 page - \$300

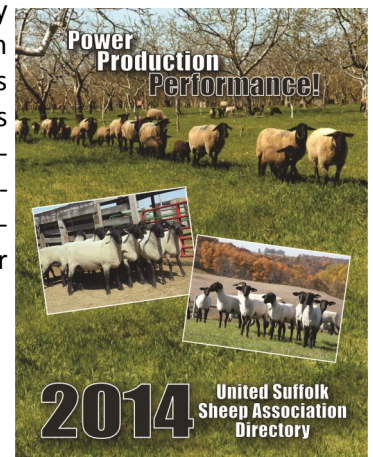
1/4 page - \$200

Black & White:

1 page - \$425

1/2 page - \$250

1/4 page - \$150





NSIP UPDATE

Submitted By Alan Culham

As the calendar turns to 2015, it promises to be an exciting new and challenging year for the U.S. sheep industry and subsequently the Suffolk breed.

With the implementation of “The American Lamb Industry Roadmap Project”, issues concerning cost of production as well as product yield and quality will come to the table.

The Roadmap Project has identified the four major areas requiring industry goals

- ◆ Product Characteristics -Improve eating characteristics and the consistency of American lamb products as defined by the Lamb Quality Audit.
- ◆ Demand Creation – Achieve a significant increase in demand for American lamb meat as measured by the Demand Index.
- ◆ Productivity Improvement – Achieve a significant increase in industry productivity with metrics to be defined.
- ◆ Industry Collaboration – Work toward a common industry goal of meeting consumer desires rather than short-term self-interest.

Suffolk breeders are impacted most by the areas of Productivity Improvement as well as Product Characteristics with the USSA needing to being involved in the Industry Collaboration.

Objectives for – Product Improvement

1. Adopt consumer-driven, value-based pricing for slaughter lambs
2. Improve the consumers’ eating experience of lamb
3. Install electronic grading at packing plants
4. Conduct a Lamb Quality Audit every three years

Recent research shows that the Suffolk breed offers commercial producers and feedlot operators the most return for lambs sold on a value based system. Suffolk breeders as well as the USSA need to position themselves to take advantage of this reality. If we don’t another breed will!

Objectives for – Productivity Improvement

1. Promote widespread producer use of quantitative genetic selection
2. Reduce the seasonality of the lamb industry
3. Develop a long-term plan for U.S. sheep research and producer education

The Suffolk breed is positioned as the terminal sire breed with the most flocks enrolled in the National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP). Not only does this impact productivity directly but also product improvement by identifying those sheep with superior genetics for carcass traits. However, we need more flocks involved. If we don’t another breed will!

The American Sheep Industry has made funds available through its “Grow our Flock” committee to assist in meeting the stated goals of the Industry Roadmap. Suffolk breeders as well as the USSA need to use these funds to achieve the targeted goals. If we don’t another breed will!

This needs to be a priority of the Suffolk breed!

If you would like more information concerning NSIP feel free to contact Bill Shultz or myself or go to the NSIP website at: www.NSIP.org



The American Lamb Industry Roadmap Project

[Click Here](#) to access the American Lamb Board’s Final Lamb Industry Roadmap Report!

CALIFORNIA SUFFOLK AND HAMPSHIRE SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION Website

ILLINOIS SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION

IOWA SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION

Website

Facebook Page

MINNESOTA SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION

MISSOURI SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION

MONTANA SUFFOLK SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Website

NORTHEAST SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION

Website

Facebook Page

OHIO SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION

Facebook Page

PENNSYLVANIA SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION

Facebook Page

SOUTH DAKOTA SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION

WISCONSIN SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION

Website

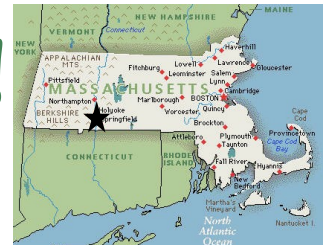
Facebook Page

Mark your calendars for....

2015 National Junior Suffolk Sheep Show!

July 2-5 Eastern States Exposition • W. Springfield, MA





United Suffolk Sheep Association

PO Box 872000
Canton, MI 48187

Phone: 641.684.5291

Fax: 734-335-7646

E-mail: info@u-s-s-a.org



We're on the Web!
www.u-s-s-a.org
www.ujssa.org

SUFFOLK ITEMS FOR SALE

Prices include the cost of shipping. Please contact the USSA office to order!



Suffolk Print \$80



T-Shirts \$20

Sweatshirts \$30



Suffolk Sculpture \$190

Sheep Resources

The USSA Office often gets phone calls asking for resources producers can go to for sheep-related questions. The following are resources the office is aware of for producers to use. Since this may not be a complete list, if there are additional resources that you use and would like to share please email those to news@u-s-s-a.org.

Sheep Producer Resource Website

Sheep Community of Practice is a new web-based tool available to sheep producers through the eXtension Foundation, a non-profit entity. This website offers a Ask the Expert Tool that will connect you with experts and allow you to ask questions. Through the Ask the Expert Tool, the producer can even attach images. The website also offers information about sheep feeding and nutrition, reproduction and breeding, management practices, genetic selection, health and veterinary care, grazing and pasture, and wool. To visit the Sheep Community of Practice website go to: <http://www.extension.org/sheep>

Ask a Sheep Vet

This website is a blog written by sheep veterinarian Dr. Kennedy of Pipestone Veterinary Clinic, Pipestone, MN. The blog contains answers to various sheep related questions, with new information added often. To visit Dr. Kennedy's blog please go to: <http://askavetsheep.wordpress.com/> Also, if you "LIKE" [Pipestone Vet Sheep-Goats](#) on Facebook, are several question and answers posted daily.

A Guide to All Things Sheep©

A Guide to All Things Sheep© is a new resource for sheep breeders and producers by Premier 1 that offers information on several topics from educational guides, how to's, photos, recipes, an events calendar, view points and industry spotlights. To visit A Guide to All Things Sheep© please visit: www.premier1supplies.com/sheep-guide/

Check out the USSA Facebook page!

