

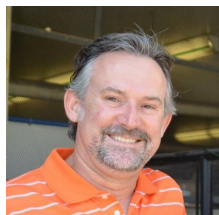


the Rambler

ISSUE 4 • WINTER 2024



President's Message



Greg Ahart
District 1
Sacramento, California

As I'm sitting down to type this out, I keep thinking about the weather in most of the country right now. Lambing season is getting into full swing for many, and Mother Nature is not playing nice at the moment. Nothing I can say will help, but I hope things work out for each of you as best they can.

This is actually my favorite time of the year (weather permitting). Immediately after the holidays, lambing jugs are full and you can start to see if what seemed like a good idea about a half a year ago really was a good idea. For a guy who paid his way through college fitting sheep, shows and sales have become about the least important thing in the sheep world I think about anymore. When I was young and looking for fun, the shows were where it was at. Somewhere along the way I decided that within my sheep operation my opinions formed throughout the year were more important than one person's opinion about my sheep on one day. Now, I'd much rather watch my efforts succeed or fail as the next generation emerges.

Real world priorities are reinforced at lambing time. Are they good mothers? Have I sacrificed too much milk chasing other traits? What's the lambing percentage? Are the ewes in the right condition? How does it compare to last year? What did I do differently? Did it work? Are the lambs growing and the ewes milking?

A few months ago the rams needed to be working, but other than the ewes being healthy we don't worry much about what they're doing then. Now, the rubber meets the road so to speak for the 95+% of the flock (herd if you prefer). This time of the year the rams need to stay alive (and out of the way) and the ewes need to WORK, and they need to earn their keep for another year. Are they doing that better or worse than they did before?

There was a nice family who came to pick out market lambs for their county fair this morning, and I was lucky enough to have a really enlightened conversation about goals with an 11 year old girl. While we talked about her it got me thinking more about mine – which was the impetus for some of the above questions.

What are your goals for your sheep? Are they working for you, or are you working for them?

Stay warm and good luck lambing.

Greg

A Collaborative Publication



A PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED SUFFOLK SHEEP ASSOCIATION

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f @unitedsuffolk

UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE

- February 15 - Suffolk Source Ad Commitment Deadline
- March 1 - USSA Membership Dues - Discounted rate and Suffolk Source listing deadline
- June 7-9 - Suffolk Event, Springfield, Illinois
- July 4-7 - National Junior Suffolk Show w/All American Junior Show, East Lansing, MI



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Send to info@suffolks.org

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Assisting the Ewe at Lambing

by: E. Massender and D. Kennedy

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs



INTRODUCTION

Being prepared for lambing season can increase the chances of having a lamb born alive. This factsheet provides guidance on how to best prepare for lambing, the stages of lambing and some of the signs of abnormal delivery. The ewe's gestation period ranges from 144–151 days in length, with an average of 147 days. The date that the first lambing is to be expected can be calculated from the date of the first exposure of the ewes to a fertile ram.

PREPARING A LAMBING KIT

Before lambing starts, prepare a kit of lambing aids.

The essentials of this kit are:

- soap
- disinfectant
- obstetrical lubricant
- disposable obstetrical gloves
- sterile syringes — 10 mL and 1 mL
- hypodermic needles of sizes suitable for the ewe and the lamb
- antibiotics and vitamin E/selenium injections
- lambing cords and lamb snare
- iodine-based navel disinfectant
- clean towels or cloths
- clean pail for warm water

LAMBING

Signs of Impending Lambing

About 10 days before the ewe will lamb, the teats begin to feel firm and full of colostrum. Between then and lambing, the lips of the vulva slacken and become slightly swollen. In the last hours before lambing, many ewes will separate from the flock. At this point, the ewe could be moved into a lambing pen, depending on your management system.

At birth, the normal presentation of a lamb is spine upwards, forefeet with the head between them pointing toward the cervix. The cervix itself is still sealed by a mucous plug. The lamb is surrounded by two fluid-filled sacs, the allantois and the chorion. These first and second waterbags have acted as cushions to prevent injury to the developing fetus and form part of the placenta. The placenta is attached to the wall of the ewe's uterus by about 80 small buttons, the cotyledons. It is through these and the placenta that the developing lamb has received nutrients from the ewe's blood supply. The placenta with the cotyledons will be expelled as the afterbirth.

Physiology of Parturition (Lambing)

The mechanism by which any mammal gives birth is stimulated by changes to the mother's hormone balance and the bulk of the uterine contents, the fetus and the placental fluids. These stimuli cause the uterus to contract, pushing the fetus into the dilating cervix and expelling it.

Normal Lambing

In a normal lambing, there are three distinct stages:

Dilation of the Cervix

- As the uterine contractions start, a thick creamy white mucous, the remains of the cervical seal, is passed from the vulva. This often goes unnoticed.
- Continued contractions of the uterus push the first waterbag into the cervix, stimulating its dilation. Eventually the cervix will be about the same diameter as the neck of the uterus.
- The ewe is uneasy, getting up and down, switching her tail and bleating frequently.
- There may be some straining. This stage can take 3–4 hours.

Expulsion of the Lamb

- As the uterine contractions become stronger and more frequent, the lamb and waterbags are pushed into the dilated cervix.
- The first waterbag bursts, releasing a watery fluid through the vulva.
- As the ewe continues to strain, the second waterbag is pushed through the vulva and ruptures, to release a thicker fluid. The rupturing of these bags has established a smooth, well-lubricated passage through the vagina.
- The hooves and nose of the lamb can often be seen in the second waterbag before it bursts.
- The ewe continues to strain, gradually expelling the lamb, forefeet first, followed by the head.
- The ewe may need considerable effort to pass the head and shoulders of the lamb through her pelvis. Once this happens, final delivery is rapid.
- The birth of a single lamb should take an hour or less from the rupture of the first waterbag. A ewe lambing for the first time, or with multiple lambs, could take longer.

Expulsion of the Placenta/Afterbirth

- The placenta serves no further function once the lamb has been born and is passed 2–3 hours after delivery has finished.
- In multiple births, there will be separate afterbirths for each lamb.

Signs of Abnormal Deliveries

Most ewes will lamb unaided, and about 95% of lambs are born in the normal presentation, forefeet first. A normal delivery usually takes 5 hours from the start of cervical dilation to the delivery of the lamb, 4 hours for the dilation of the cervix and 1 hour for the actual delivery. The first 4 hours often go unnoticed. However, in the event of a problem, any delay in assistance could mean the difference between a live and dead lamb.

DISPOSABLE OBSTETRICAL GLOVES

It is always the best practice to wear disposable obstetrical gloves when assisting a ewe during lambing. Wearing gloves reduces the risk of uterine infections for the ewe and the risk of zoonotic pathogens being transmitted to the producer (e.g., chlamydiosis, campylobacteriosis, cryptosporidiosis, listeriosis, toxoplasmosis or Q fever).

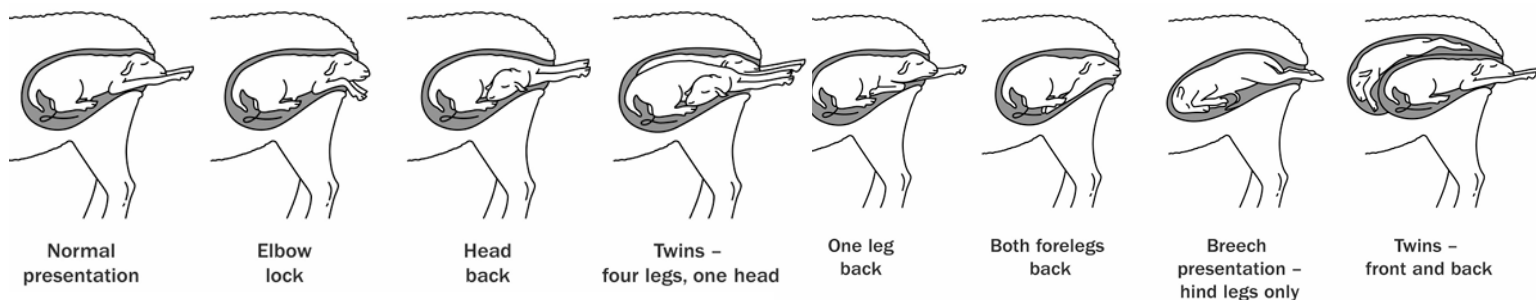


Figure 1. Normal and Abnormal lamb positions commonly observed during birth.

Signs that assistance may be needed:

- Ewe continues to strain, but there is no sign of the waterbags.
- Ewe continues to strain an hour after the rupture of the waterbags, but there is no sign of a lamb.
- The lamb appears to be wedged in the birth canal.
- There is an abnormal presentation, a leg back, head back, etc.

Making the Internal Examination

Cleanliness is important to prevent infection of the uterus. Wash the area around the ewe's vulva with soap and a mild disinfectant to remove any manure and other debris. Scrub hands and arms with soap and a mild disinfectant, put on gloves and lubricate with soap or an obstetrical cream. Slide the gloved hand carefully into the vagina to feel the lamb and assess the situation. Obviously, a person with a small hand is best suited for this task.

In many cases, the lamb will be presented normally — you will feel two forelegs with the head between them. In other cases, there will be a malpresentation with hind legs instead of fore legs, or one or both hind legs back, or a breech presentation where only the tail and rump are felt, Figure 1.

Resolutions

Normal Presentation

- Place the noose of a lambing cord over each leg above the fetlock joint and apply a firm steady pull synchronized with the ewe's straining.
- Lubricate the vagina around the lamb with obstetrical jelly to smooth the passage of the lamb. This is especially important if the waterbags have been ruptured for some time, and the vagina has lost this natural lubrication.

Abnormal Presentations

- In most cases, the position must be corrected before attempting to pull the lamb.
- However, do not attempt to convert a hind leg presentation to the normal delivery. Pull the lamb out hind legs first, straight back until the lamb's hind legs and pelvis are out of the vulva, then change the pull to downwards towards the ground behind the ewe. Pulling down before the lamb's pelvis is out will wedge the lamb in the pelvic canal of the ewe. Remember that multiple births are common. Two lambs may be presented with legs intertwined. Always ensure that legs and head are part of the same lamb before attempting to pull them.

- Occasionally, deformed lambs will be produced with enlarged heads, stiff joints or skeletal deformities. To successfully lamb, a ewe in these situations may require help from an experienced shepherd or veterinarian.
- Ewes often have multiple births. The same sequence of the rupture of the waterbag and expulsion of the lamb will be repeated for the delivery of each lamb. After an assisted lambing, always check the ewe internally to ensure that there is not another lamb to be delivered.

AFTERCARE

In all cases, whether the delivery was natural or assisted, check that the lamb is breathing and that its nostrils are clear of mucous and not covered by any uterine membrane. At this time, the lamb's navel should be disinfected with an iodine solution recommended by the flock veterinarian to prevent infection.

The ewe usually starts to lick the lamb. This is a natural process and should be allowed to continue. Some ewes will eat the afterbirth, but this should be prevented as it can lead to digestive disturbance. Afterbirth should be removed from the lambing site and disposed of according to the farm deadstock disposal plan.

A healthy lamb struggles to its feet soon after birth and starts to nurse from its dam. Lambs weak from a prolonged delivery should be helped to nurse or be given colostrum by stomach tube.

After any assisted delivery, the ewe is at risk of infection. A protocol should be developed with the flock veterinarian that will ensure cleanliness and determine when antibiotics should be given.

CONCLUSION

Lambing is one of the most critical and challenging points in the sheep production cycle, requiring both careful observation and timely decision-making. Ensuring that you are adequately prepared, know the signs of impending lambing and can recognize abnormal deliveries that may require intervention, will increase the likelihood of survival of both the ewe and her lambs.

This factsheet was originally written by John Martin, Veterinary Scientist, Sheep, Goat and Swine, OMAFRA. It was updated by Delma Kennedy, Sheep Specialist, and Erin Massender, Small Ruminant Specialist, OMAFRA.

"I try to confine lambing to a 45 day period and I wean when the youngest lambs are 60 days old as a group. The lambs stay in the creep area that they've accessed since starting on solid food. At that point they have also had two vaccinations for clostridium C, D, and tetanus. The lambs remain on full feed of creep and good hay. Ewes receive no grain the week prior to weaning and are limit fed grass hay then also for the next several weeks. They dry up on their own with no additional management."

Bill Zwyers, Indiana

"We try to keep the lambs with the moms for 60 days. By 5-6 weeks the lambs will greatly increase the amount of creep feed consumed. We reduce the quality of hay fed and eliminate grain for a week prior to weaning."

Marlin Subra, Wisconsin

"I try to wean all lambs within a week of being 8 weeks of age. I always leave the lambs in their space and move the ewes to reduce stress on the lambs. I also take 60-day weights."

Travis Schacherer, Minnesota

"The primary responsibility of a Ewe is to raise her lamb or lambs. I say let them nurse and wean themselves."

Tom Burke, Missouri

"I normally like to wean lambs around 8 weeks of age. This can vary a week or more depending on the size and strength of the lamb and the condition of the ewe. I take the ewes off pasture and begin feeding them grass or older (poorer condition hay), about two days prior to weaning. It is good to have a gate which allows the lambs to continue going to pasture. I then separate the lambs and their mothers. It is good to separate them so the mothers and the lambs are in separate sections of the barn or in different barns. Continue feeding the mothers (ewes) the poorer quality hay for 5 to 7 days. Watch their udders and strip some milk out, if necessary to prevent mastitis. After 5 to 7 days the ewes should be ready to return to pasture."

Bill Royer, Illinois

"Wean at 70 to 80 days of age, in some cases earlier but have problem drying ewes. Weaned ewes are given limited feed and free choice water for 2 - 3 days and then fed a grain hay. Weaned lambs get a 2nd enteroxemia/tetanus shot, wormed (Safe Guard) and weighed. Keep lambs in the same pen for a week or so."

Ron Alves, California

"We typically wean lambs in groups as they reach 70-85 days of age. We gradually reduce the ewes' grain down to no grain the last several days before weaning. 24 hours before separating them, we lock the ewes and lambs in the barn where the lambs can get creep feed but the ewes have no access to pasture or water, just poor quality dry hay. The next day we lock the lambs in the creep feed while we load the ewes up and haul them to a different farm. The lambs quickly transition and don't miss a beat because they are in familiar surroundings and can't hear their mothers. We keep the ewes locked in off pasture for another 12-24 hours on poor quality hay and no water. Then they are turned out on pasture for the summer."

Radell Schrock, Virginia

For years, we have followed the prescribed practice of Dr. Kennedy (renowned Pipestone sheep veterinarian). Ewes grain is slowly reduced and removed entirely several days prior to weaning. Ewes are moved to new surroundings and lambs stay put. Ewes have access to water and are given a large brome hay bale for feed free choice. Lambs continue to have the same feed and hay with salt and baking soda free choice. Ewes condition is monitored daily."

Michael Jensen, Iowa

"Nutritionally I taper down grain to the ewes over the last week and cut them off completely 3-4 days before I start, and transition them to lesser quality hay at the same time. From a set up standpoint I've had the best luck making the creep big enough that I can lock the lambs in, but they still have fenceline access to their mothers. I leave the ewes and lambs on their respective sides, and after about three days I'll let the lambs back in to milk the ewes down if they look too bagged up. After a half hour or so I'll put grain back in the creep and lock the lambs back in again. Usually after a week total both sides have lost interest in each other and I can move the ewes out to pasture."

By keeping them next to each other (even though it's noisy), both the ewes and lambs seem much less stressed and take the process better. I never restrict water to either set."

Greg Ahart, California

"I've handled weaning very differently depending on genetics and marketing goals. I've managed accelerated systems where lambs were pushed hard on creep and weaned at 45 days to sell hothouse lambs and get the ewes bred back quickly. I've also worked with annual-lambing pasture systems where lambs were essentially not weaned until they were marketed at 6-7 months. I like to run my Suffolks more like the latter now, which reveals more about their genetics for milk and mothering (and possibly forage conversion and parasite resistance) because the differences aren't masked by creep feeding. I record 60-day weights, but I often don't wean until 90 or 120 days. Meat lambs are sold at 4-5 months, depending on grain intake. Sometimes this is right off of the ewes. I like to decrease the ewes' feed quality in advance of the actual weaning day, but this means the lambs must be eating enough on their own to keep gaining weight. Drying ewes up long after peak lactation is a lot easier on udders. Cleanliness is key, regardless of timing. Withholding water is contentious (and prohibited in weaning protocols by some IACUC committees and animal welfare certifications), but I consider it more humane than causing mastitis. Milk is over 80% water, and restricting water reduces milk production. I cut water the day before and the day after weaning. If possible, I keep lambs in place and move ewes far enough away that the lambs cannot see nor hear them. And I never reintroduce lambs or milk a ewe until she is dry. I check drying ewes regularly, and if I detect any problematic heat or swelling, I treat with antibiotics. Generally the ewe will wean the lambs herself before big lambs cause too much udder damage, so I'm more concerned by the risks of weaning early than late. But developing lambs more slowly on cooler rations and subjecting them to parasite loads with their dams does reduce the ability to market breeding stock as lambs."

Joe Emenheiser, Vermont

"After lambing we put lambs and ewes back out to pasture as 3-7 days after birth. February is cold but usually not terrible weather. We feed high quality alfalfa to the ewes on the ground. This gets the sheep out of the feedlot and muck. We do creep the lambs after the first month. Just with ground corn and barley. We really don't wean these lambs until summer. We then only separate the ram lambs off but leave ewe lambs with their mother in the pasture rotation. I'll be honest, not all ewes raise both lambs. Some will kick on lamb off usually because of milk. I really think that still happens when they are in a close confinement system but you don't know it as much because they rob other mothers. (We do put the starving lamb on our milk machine and most of them take to it) This has eliminated mastitis from our flock. It has completely identified the best mothers who can raise twins through the first 4-5 months. Parasite resistance is easily evaluated. It was tough to watch the first year, but after a few years of doing this we know the breeding lines really doing their job."

Jack Blattner, Idaho

JUNIOR NOTES

f @juniorsuffolk

Learn More @www.suffolks.org



Suffolk Juniors!

2024 is going to be a great year! I hope you are all having a successful time in your lambing barns and in your lives.

We are currently finishing up this month of January with the virtual skillathon contest with more contests yet to be announced so please everyone participate and there are awards for each age group 1st-3rd.

We also have several great events coming up this year! The Suffolk Event will be held in Springfield, Illinois again this year with many opportunities for Junior involvement. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our National Junior Suffolk Show which will be held in East Lansing, Michigan.

Feel free to reach out to me with any questions at creed@creedharker.com. I know what it's like to be a first-timer and if you have any questions (there are no dumb questions), or you need help reach out! Our Junior board is here and our Senior board to help you get started out raising and/or showing this great breed!

Sincerely,
Creed Harker, President UJSSA

2024 National Junior Suffolk Show in conjunction/All-American Junior Show July 4-7, East Lansing, Michigan

IMPORTANT NOTE

The National Junior Suffolk Show will be held again in 2024 in conjunction with the All-American Junior Show - plans are well underway. **Due to facility space there will be NO late entries accepted this year.** The entry deadline has not been published but is usually around May 25th. Entries for the National Junior Suffolk Show are to be made through the AAJS - www.allamericanjuniorshow.com.

Welcome
TO
the UJSSA!

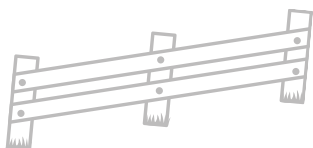
Ella & Sawyer Bules Ramona Holden Kerstin Voll
Ashley Butler Jaelynn Osborn
Brianna Compton Abigail Stewart
Raquel Gray Lexie Vandivort

Lambing Time

N G J R A L W R B L H F S A M
R N D Y S T O C I A R P B A D
G R A F T T U S R B F N I C Q
E E M V E G I M T O A E R O P
B H A E E H C X H R A I T L H
A K T M B L B O D W A H H O A
W A U M A M T R A V G W T S T
V Z T B A A W V T I T P Y T A
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T D H H S I H N U R S E F M U
S H Y P O T H E R M I A C N R
T Q I T R I P L E T I I R H E
T M T I R S I N G L E P L P W
E I B R E E C H T T L E H E P

single	colostrum	straw	navel	labor
twin	mastitis	heat lamp	nurse	dystocia
triplet	lamb	vigor	lactation	breach
sire	birth date	birth weight	hypothermia	
dam	birth type	iodine	graft	

New words? Learn more in The Suffolk Source!



Fun in the Creep

Sheep hEWEmer

Answers on page 8

- Q1. What do you call a sheep with wings?
Q2. What do you call a dancing sheep?



Colostrum

Antibody-rich first milk that a ewe produces in the first 24 hours after giving birth. The antibodies are most readily absorbed by the lamb in the first 24 hour time frame.

THE SUFFOLK SHEEP



Suffolks are found in the western range, farm flocks, purebred operations, commercial operations, feedlots, a part of youth projects, and in the showing. Suffolks are the essential terminal sire and demanded in the US Sheep Industry. Nearly 60% of American lamb is genetically influenced by black faced rams; progress of the Suffolk breed is not only impactful in your flock but essential to the US Sheep Industry.

THE SUFFOLK RAM

BIG, GROWTHY, MUSCULAR, 3-DIMENSIONAL, POWERFUL TERMINAL SIRE

THE SUFFOLK EWE

ENCOMPASSES MATERNAL MOTHERING AND MILKING ABILITY TO GET GROWTHY SUFFOLK LAMBS OFF TO GREAT START



Lambtastic!

Chili with a TWIST

A sweet and spicy chili alternative- perfect for those who do not like traditional chili!

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 lb. ground lamb | 2 tsp cumin |
| 1 lb. pork sausage | 2 tsp garlic powder |
| 3 qt. whole tomatoes | 1/4 c. brown sugar |
| 1 packet chili mix seasoning | 1 Tbsp molasses |
| 1 lg can pork and beans | 1 medium onion, diced |
| 1 can kidney beans | 1-3 drops liquid smoke |

Directions

Brown meat and onions, and drain (best cooked separately). Mix all ingredients together in a stock pot for 30 minutes or until bubbly hot. Can be served with cornbread, rolls or biscuits.

Notes

This recipe is very forgiving and can easily be adjusted to taste preferences - amount and type of tomatoes, beans, and meat. A few teaspoons of jalapenos can be added for added heat!

A slow cooker can be used, allow up to 4 hours on high to cook thoroughly.

Do you have a LAMBTASTIC recipe to share?

Submit the recipe and photo to info@suffolks.org for a chance to be featured in the next issue!

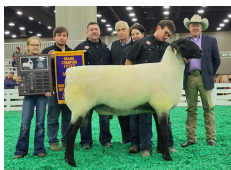
The Clever Cleaver

Lamb, properly packaged, can be stored up to 1 year in the freezer, without quality being greatly impacted.



National Suffolk Show

Visit www.livestockexpo.org for full results.



Champ. Fitted Ram: Windswept 2A43, Joey Slack, WI
Res. Champ. Fitted Ram: Arnevik 2558, Corrine Arnevik-Hansen, WI



Champion Slick Shorn Ram: MacCauley 5938, MacCauley Suffolks, PA
Res. Champ. Slick Shorn Ram: Slack 10685, Jordyn Leininger, IN




Champion Fitted Ewe: 5 Star J 2246, 5 Star J Farms, IN
Res. Champ Fitted Ewe: Knutson 22-107, Knutson Suffolks, SD



Champion Slick Shorn Ewe: MacCauley 5734, MacCauley Suffolks, PA
Res. Champ. Slick Shorn Ewe: Slack 10301, Jordyn Leininger, IN





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1/8 PAGE B/W	\$200

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2024 Publishing Partner

CONTACT THE USSA OFFICE: info@suffolks.org / 641.684.5291

Welcome

New USSA Members!

Tim Bursaw, IA
Desiree Gray, WI
Kelly Heagy, PA
Wesley Linke, SD

Oliver Menard, DE
Katherine Purvis, IN
Chrisina Ripley, NY
Jose Rodriguez & Arthur Vasquez, CO
Abby & Robert Schoenfish, SD
Doug Woelber, IA

The Member Connection

Births

Knox Steven to Raelynn (Thompson) & Adam Heffelfinger, December 2023

Marriages

Kendra & Wesley Linke, October 2023

Deaths

(click to link to obituary)

Richard Hafer, Nebraska (November 2023)

Marsha Harwood, Michigan (January 2024)

Roger Huntrods, Iowa (October 2023)

Russ Knutzen, Nebraska (September 2023)

Evan Neumeister, Indiana (November 2023)

Norm Pensoneau, Illinois (December 2023)

Randy Pirtle, Oklahoma (August 2023)

Please share member connection updates by email: info@suffolks.org.

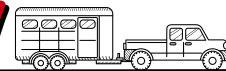
Fee Structure Changes

Effective January 1, 2024

- Elimination of the credit card convenience fees
- Reduced transfer rate from \$10 to \$8/head
- Increased registration rate from \$6 to \$10/head for lambs

Effective for 2024, membership dues paid by March 1 and new memberships are \$75. Dues paid after March 1 are \$90.

Make Plans Now to Join Us this June!



- ✓ Educational Seminars
- ✓ Youth Educational Seminars
- ✓ Attendees Determine Sale Order
- ✓ National Suffolk Sale
- ✓ Suffolk Hall of Fame Banquet
- ✓ Junior Suffolk Show
- ✓✓✓ Suffolk Networking



Springfield Hotel Room Blocks

Holiday Inn Express • "Suffolk Sheep"

3000 South Dirksen Pkwy, Springfield IL 62703
(217) 529-7771
\$124/night + tax
Room block ends May 25, 2024

Ramada Inn • "Suffolk Sheep Sale"

3281 Northfield Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62702
(217) 523-4000
\$105/night + tax
Room block ends May 16, 2024

There are several events in Springfield the weekend of The Suffolk Event.

Book Now!

USSA POSITION OPPORTUNITIES

It's a new year, and 2024 is dawning with new opportunities in your United Suffolk Sheep Association.

A newly created **Intern** position offers hands-on opportunities for an individual looking for practical office and event experiences. This position is project-based. A full position description and application are available at www.suffolks.org. The application deadline for the USSA Intern is February 15.

The position of **Junior Coordinator** of the United Junior Suffolk Sheep Association has also been refreshed. The application process will open biennially, and the job description has been updated to reflect new responsibilities and compensation. The position description and application are available at www.suffolks.org. The application deadline for the Junior Coordinator is March 1.

Please encourage qualified individuals to contact the USSA office for more information.

FOUNDATION NEWS

Supporting the Suffolk breed through Youth Development, Education, and Research.

New Programs in 2024!

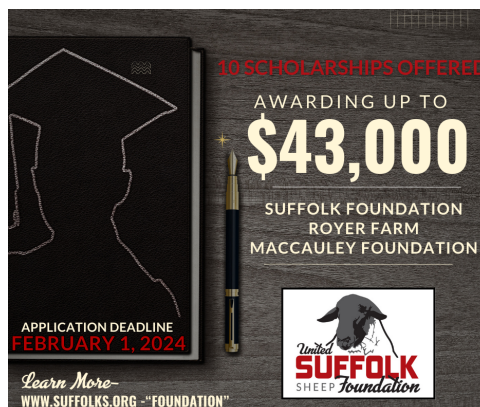
The Suffolk Foundation is developing new programs to be rolled out later in 2024 to support Suffolk lamb marketers. Watch for more details!

Ewe Grant Program

The Suffolk Ewe Grant program offers financial assistance to up to 5 youth starting a Suffolk flock. The grant is \$1,000 and the grant recipients are required to contribute the first \$250 of the purchase price of the ewe. Please see website for more details about the program. The application deadline is March 1.

2024 Online Semen Sale Fundraiser Auction

Plans are underway for the spring online semen auction. This is the single largest fundraiser for the Suffolk Foundation and we plan to offer more in 2024! If you would be interested in donating a lot to this sale, please contact Ron Alves (209.404.6585). Donations committed by March 10th will be included in the semen catalog insert in the 2024 Suffolk Source.



2023 Scholarship Winners

MacCauley Foundation

\$10,000

Zachary Schoelerman, Iowa

\$7,500

Raesa Zelinsky, South Dakota

\$5,000

Emily Blattner, Idaho

\$2,500

Jordyn Leining, Indiana
Sidney McAllister, Ohio

Royer Farm

\$2000

Kylie Ketcham, Illinois

Suffolk Foundation

\$1000

Caleb Antram, Pennsylvania
Raesa Zelinsky, South Dakota



Plans are in progress for the USSA to partner with Flock 54 to link Flock 54 results into Digital Suffolk. Stay tuned to learn more about this venture.

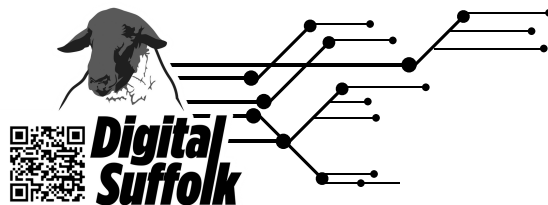
Did you know that USSA members receive \$3 off per Flock 54 test?



DIGITAL BY DESIGN



Just a snippet of what Digital Suffolk has to offer...it's more than just a registration paper! All USSA and UJSSA members have access to Digital Suffolk at no extra cost. Contact the Suffolk Office to get your login!



RECORD LAMBS NOW - REGISTER LAMBS LATER!

Did you know you can record all your lambs born at no charge? Record your lambs in Digital Suffolk now then upgrade those you want to register later. Consider loading all your lambs now then it's just a quick step to officially register those you want to later! You will not be charged the registration fee until you upgrade the lambs to registered.

RECORD YOUR LAMBS

To "record" lambs **UNCHECK** the boxes in the **Register?** column. Other than that change, the birth queue functions the same, the sheep will be recorded as UN until you choose to upgrade to **registered**. No fee will be assessed if the animal is only recorded.

Lamb										All / None	Mail Papers to Me	Sire		Dam	
Sex	Flock ID	Birth Date	Birth Type	Rearing Type	Service Type	Scrapie ID	Scrapie Result	Spider Resu	Register?			Registration Number	Flock ID Suffolk %	Registration Number	Flock ID Suffolk %
X	Flock ID	mm/dd/yyyy	S		NS				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reg #		Reg #	
X	Flock ID	mm/dd/yyyy	S		NS				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reg #		Reg #	
X	Flock ID	mm/dd/yyyy	S		NS				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reg #		Reg #	
X	Flock ID	mm/dd/yyyy	S		NS				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reg #		Reg #	
X	Flock ID	mm/dd/yyyy	S		NS				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reg #		Reg #	

UPGRADE LATER TO REGISTERED!									
Males									
Females									
Options									
Reg #	Born	Sex	Flock Name/ID	Type	Scrapie	Spider	DNA	View	Edit
U683925	09/19/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 1051	UN	RR	NN		View	Edit
U683937	09/19/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 1053	UN	RR	NN		View	Edit
679854	02/06/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 2326	RG	RR	NN		View	Edit
679974	02/12/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 2328	PC	RR	NN		View	Edit
679975	02/15/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 2329	RG	RR	NN		View	Edit
680141	02/19/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 2331	RG	RR	NN		View	Edit
680144	02/25/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 2334	RG	RR	NN		View	Edit
680459	03/04/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 2337	RG	RR	NN		View	Edit
U683929	08/26/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 2344	UN	RR	NN		View	Edit
U683933	08/26/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 2345	UN	RR	NN		View	Edit
U683924	09/20/2023	F	Russell Sheep Co. 2347	UN	RR	NN		View	Edit

When you're ready to upgrade lambs to **registered**, simply to **Sheep in my Flock** and click **register** on any sheep you want to be upgraded from recorded to registered. At that time UN will be removed and your account will be assessed a fee for the registration. Once upgraded, a registration paper will be generated.



"Digital Suffolk provides an easy place to record all births in the entire flock, along with weights, DNA, and other comments and data. Then as lambs are sold or chosen to be retained in the flock, registration and transfer is as easy as a click. And papers are immediately available for print as soon as payment is processed!"

-Diane Russell, Russell Sheep Co., Indiana

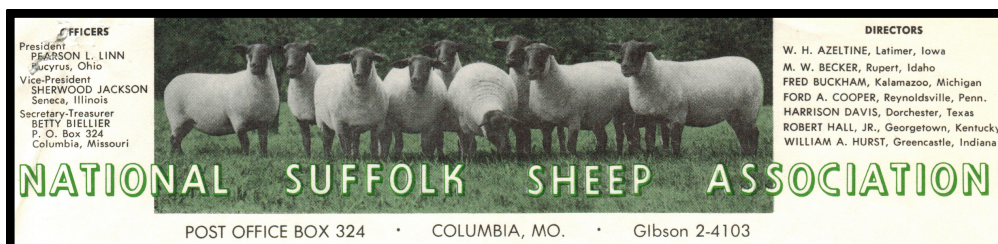
NEW INTRODUCTORY MEMBERSHIP

CURRENT MEMBERS CAN NOW PURCHASE AN INTRODUCTORY MEMBERSHIP FOR THEIR CUSTOMERS FOR \$20

ELIGIBILITY

MEMBER MUST TRANSFER AT LEAST ONE REGISTERED SHEEP TO NEW OWNER

A BLAST FROM THE PAST



National Suffolk Sheep Association letterhead circa late 1950s early 1960s.

CONTENT HERDER

We're looking to Ewe! Do you have content you'd like to see us include? Or, if you think it needs to be included, write it up and send it over and we'll take a look at it! This publication is for you, help us customize for Suffolk Breeders!

