

NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY, INC.

OCTOBER, 2011

ISSUE 31

IN MEMORY OF A "TUNIS" FRIEND.....Kenneth Mayes

May 25, 1925 – October 8, 2011

Published in July of 1996...."For once—an easy interview to write. I've finally met Kenneth & Darlene Mayes! Kenneth is one of the people that you call right away when you are buying your first Tunis. I've talked with him several times but now I have talked with him face to face!

Kenneth and Darlene live close to the town of Shelbina, Missouri now since they have retired. They cash rent out their larger grain farm which still provides them with the necessary grain for their flock. Kenneth says he has a hobby flock now with 100 brood ewes and 40 replacement yearling ewes! And don't forget the 4 rams he has so they can offer unrelated stock for sale! Kenneth says, 'We have had other breeds of sheep in the past. Montadale, Suffolks and we did some accelerated lambing with Dorset-Rambouillet cross ewes that lambed on a six month interval. We purchased a few Tunis in 1980 and later expanded to 160 ewes. Last year, we decided 100 ewes was enough to take thru the winter and lamb.'

The Mayes family includes 4 grown children – all married – and 8 grandchildren. You've probably met some of that extended family if you have ever attended any Tunis shows/sales, etc. as Kenneth and Darlene often have some family member with them!

As secretary of the National Tunis Sheep Registry, Kenneth has an excellent chance to reach his goal...'My goal is to get as many young people interested in sheep (Tunis) as I can. Also to raise the best quality Tunis I can.' When asked about the people who have been the most help to him, Kenneth admitted that I had stumped him a little bit with that question. 'Oh', he said, 'I could come up with a long list of names but would prefer to answer that question with 'I respect the integrity of the old time Tunis breeders who held this breed together with their hard work.'

Kenneth and Darlene are always willing to help those people starting out with the Tunis by giving this advice: 'Buy the very best animals you can find.' 'Set your goals and stay with them.' 'Show your sheep to anyone that will look!'

Kenneth's Obituary: Kenneth Mayes, age 86, of Shelbina, MO, passed away Saturday, October 8, 2011, at the Salt River Community Care in Shelbina, MO. He was born May 21, 1925 in Monroe County, MO. On October 24, 1946, he was united in marriage to Darlene Goodnight in Chula Vista, CA and she survives. Kenneth is also survived by four children, Kenneth Lee Mayes and wife Jo of Edina, MO; Donald Joe Mayes and wife Cheryl of Edina, MO; Julia Dee Ridge and husband Ron of Hartselle, Alabama and Bill Mayes and wife Susan of Shelbina, MO along with 8 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Kenneth was a graduate of Shelbina High School and a member of the Shelbina Christian Church. He served his country in the United States Army during World War II. He was a banker in the community for several years, serving at the Madison and Hunnewell Banks. He was a member of the Shelbina American Legion and the Masonic Lodge. He was the largest Tunis Sheep Breeder in the United States, serving on the Board of the Tunis Sheep Registry and helping start the World Sheep Fest. He was honored with the Shelbina Farmers Day Award. Kenneth loved South Shelby Sports, especially watching his grandchildren participate and loved hunting and dancing. Funeral Services were held Tuesday, October 11, 2011.

For those of you that never met Kenny Mayes....let me tell you a few things....

You never knew where he would turn up with that low profile aluminum trailer filled with Tunis sheep. Darlene was always with him and always perfectly dressed and very much treasured by Kenny. I know that Mayes Tunis made it to the Big E....to Springfield, Illinois in the late '90's with brood ewes to sell at the Illinois sale...to the Mid Eastern Regional Tunis Trade Days in Ohio (again in the '90's) and any place or show, he was needed to promote those sheep.

Ken served in various offices in the NTSRI and was always willing to help a youth or a new person start out with the right sheep. Ken always had something to sell and you often came back with more sheep than you planned...right after Jim and I were married, we went out to Shelbina to add some Tunis yearling ewes...maybe 5 or 6...do you know that Ken and Jim put 9 yearling ewes in our Dodge Dakota pick up truck? Those sheep made us rock all the way home! But that was Ken. He will be missed.

The Family of Kenneth Mayes "would like to thank the NTSRI for the beautiful white rose floral arrangement. The Tunis organization was so special to him."

There will be at least (1) Youth Sales Credit given at the Star of Louisville Sale in memory of Kenneth Mayes and his interest in the youth!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Katelyn Anderson, W 12398 Spring Crk Rd., Black River Falls, WI 54615	Region 7
Bill & Mary Benoit, Box 144, Fennimore, WI 53809	Region 7
Brendan Burrows, 1618 Richmond Rd., Red Lion, PA 17356	Region 3
Mark & Bev Comfort, 93 Empire Hanna Rd., Cardinal, Ontario, Canada KOE 1EO	Region 1
Mike & Cheryl Daro, 12898 Sni A Bar Rd., Wellington, MO 64097	Region 7
Pat Feiner, S 10084 Old Bluff Trail, Prairie Du Sac, WI 53578	Region 7
Allison Henson, 854 Pond Brook Rd., Hinesburg, VT 05461	Region 1
Lynn Jordan Family, RR1 Box 248, Marlinton, WV 24954	Region 4
Linda & Michael Mulford, 17487 Domino St., Elmer, MO 63538	Region 7
Scott & Becky Odland, 116 N. Rebecca St., Ivanhoe, MN 56142	Region 7
Shawntell Stiner, Box 85, Marvel, CO 81329	Region 7
Marcus Toeves, 348 S. Locust Pt. Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055	Region 3
John & Cheryl Vogel, Box 85, Marvel, CO 81329	Region 7

NTSRI TREASURER'S REPORT

7/17/2011 - 10/16/2011

EXPENSES:

Advertising.....	\$ 271.00
All American Jr Show	\$1,000.00
Calendar Printing.....	\$1,029.23
Domain Hosting	\$ 99.50
Dues Transaction Fees.....	\$ 168.15
Duplicate Paper Transaction Fees	\$ 45.60
General Liability Insurance Premium.....	\$ 150.00
Lead Line.....	\$ 50.00
Memorial Donation.....	\$ 84.98
Newsletter.....	\$ 618.24
Photo Contest Awards.....	\$ 87.65
Postage Associated Registries	\$ 63.30
Previously Unrecorded Expenses	\$2,208.85
Promotional Mailings – Louise.....	\$ 106.46
Registration Transaction Fees	\$1,125.75
Rush Fees – AR.....	\$ 102.60
Transfer Transaction Fees	\$ 800.85
Tunis Directory Mailing	\$ 32.09
Tunis Display.....	\$ 448.20
.....TOTAL: \$8,492.45	

INCOME:

AR Income Received.....	\$8,289.35
Brochure Sales	\$ 15.00
Calendar Advertising	\$ 595.00
Calendar Sales.....	\$ 5.00
Futurity Nominations	\$ 125.00
National Sale Commission	\$ 423.75
T-Shirts	\$ 72.00
Web Ad.....	\$ 50.00

TOTAL: \$9,575.10

+ \$1,082.65

NE SALE RESULTS: W. Springfield, MA July, 2011

RAMS:

Early Spring RL – Grand Champion	Anna Charest, MA	\$250	Emily Colli, CT
Late Spring RL – Res. Grand Champ	J & J Seavey	\$250	Emily Colli, CT

EWES:

Yearling Ewe – Grand Champion	J & J Seavey	\$300	Brittany Coleman, FL
Early Spring Ewe – Res. GR Champ	J & J Seavey	\$500	Emily Colli, CT
Late Spring Ewe	J & J Seavey	\$300	Connor Priest, MA

NTSRI NEWSLETTER MISSION STATEMENT.... "The two main purposes of the NTSRI newsletter are to promote the Tunis breed of sheep and all activities connected with this breed and to educate all members or interested people about the breed in a positive, supportive manner." NTSRI Board Approved...May, 2005

ABOUT THE NATIONAL TUNIS SHOW @ THE BIG E!

The 2011 National Tunis show is over and on behalf of the Northeast Tunis Sheep Association I would like to thank everyone for a successful show. We appreciate all of the class sponsors, donations, and all of the welcome center and event contributions. The show was supported by 21 exhibitors from 13 states and this is what made the show a success. Everyone had a great time talking Tunis and the success of the show was thanks to everyone's support. Thank you again and look forward to seeing you all at the 2012 National show in Missouri. Troy Staples, President of the New England Tunis Sheep Association

The Bruce Hunt Award was presented at the National Tunis Show.....

“Bruce Hunt was 59 when he passed away in July of 2000. Bruce and his wife, Sandie, owned and operated Honey Lamb Farm in Gardner, Massachusetts. It was called Honey Lamb because they raised honey bees and Tunis sheep.

Bruce was outgoing, loved people first, then his sheep. He was always a promoter, got along with everyone, and did whatever he could to help youth get into raising Tunis.

A number of us who knew Bruce got together and proposed an award in his name that became the Bruce Hunt National Tunis Shepherd of the Year Award. The award has been given since 2003. It is meant to recognize those who best emulate the qualities of: friendly, outgoing, promoters of our sheep, and supporters of our youth. This is the only National award that I know of given in the Tunis breed. Past recipients include: Joe Seavey, Ken Mayes, Gary & Jeannie Grenier, Lyle Hotis, Judy Harris, Peter Harris, and Sally Barney.

The award is provided by Sandie herself in memory of Bruce. Sandie can't be here this evening but I have been in close contact with her regarding the award. Sandie keeps a plaque of her own that has a picture of Bruce and a name plate with all of the winners of this award. She wanted to send it for display but couldn't get it back from the engravers in time. I promised her pictures of this year's winner.

And this year's winner is Louise Dunham" Speech given by Lyle Hotis

And Louise writes.....Thank you for this honor. I appreciate the fact that Mark Cox nominated me and I really am humbled by the fact that the committee chose me over the other highly regarded nominees. I feel like a beginner in the Tunis sheep world compared to the past recipients...hopefully, this honored group will continue to mentor and monitor me so that I can feel as if I really belong....Thank you...Thank you.

NATIONAL TUNIS SHOW @ The Big E!

136 Head by 22 Exhibitors!!!

Doris Powell, Judge

7 Yearling Rams

Westwind Farm, KY
WindSong Farms, MA
J & J Seavey, NY
David Brown Farm, MA
J & M Swartz, NY
Kyle Harris, MA
Triangle Farm, IN

3 Sr Ram Lambs

Mom's Tunis, VA
WindSong Farms, MA
J & J Seavey, NY

2 Jan. Ram Lambs

Anna Charest, MA
J & M Swartz, NY

13 Feb. Ram Lambs

Boulder Creek Tunis, ME
RQL Farms, NJ
Kayla Barkley, PA
David Brown Farm, MA
Anna Charest, MA
J & J Seavey, NY
Wendy Cameron, MA
Kyle Harris, MA
Mom's Tunis, VA
RQL Farms, NJ

11 March RL

Rocksway Tunis, MO
Boulder Creek Tunis, ME
Wendy Cameron, MA
David Brown Farm, MA
Mom's Tunis, VA
Westwind Farm, KY
RQL Farms, NJ
Anna Charest, MA
Devan Newton, RI
Aaron Loux, MA

6 Slick Shorn RL

Westwind Farm, KY
Aaron Loux, MA
Kayla Barkley, PA
Wendy Cameron, MA
Anna Charest, MA
Triangle Farm, IN

11 Pairs Ram Lambs

Boulder Creek Tunis, ME
RQL Farms, NJ
Mom's Tunis, VA
David Brown Farm, MA
Kayla Barkley, PA
Wendy Cameron, MA
J & J Seavey, NY
Westwind Farm, KY
J & M Swartz, NY
Anna Charest, MA

16 Yr Ewes #1 Class

David Brown Farm, MA
Kayla Barkley, PA
J & J Seavey, NY
Mom's Tunis, VA
RQL Farms, NJ
Wendy Cameron, MA
Kayla Barkley, PA
Westwind Farm, KY
Anna Charest, MA
J & M Swartz, NY

NATIONAL TUNIS SHOW RESULTS.....continued

15 Yr Ewes #2

Mom's Tunis, VA
 Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH
 Jeremy J-Chickering, NH
 Jeremy J-Chickering, NH
 WindSong Farm, MA
 WindSong Farm, MA
 J & J Seavey, NY
 J & M Swartz, NY
 David Brown Farm, MA
 Triangle Farm, IN

8 Slick Shorn YE

Kayla Barkley, PA
 Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH
 Kayla Barkley, PA
 WindSong Farm, MA
 Aaron Loux, MA
 Anna Charest, MA
 Triangle Farm, IN

16 Pairs Yr Ewes

Mom's Tunis, VA
 David Brown Farm, MA
 Jeremy J-Chickering, NH
 WindSong Farm, MA
 Kayla Barkley, PA
 Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH
 Westwind Farm, KY
 RQL Farms, NJ
 Wendy Cameron, MA

7 Sr Ewe Lambs

Kayla Barkley, PA
 Mom's Tunis, VA
 Westwind Farm, KY
 RQL Farms, NJ
 Westwind Farm, KY
 J & J Seavey, NY

10 Jan. EL

Kayla Barkley, PA
 Brianna Taylor, MA
 Brianna Taylor, MA
 Westwind Farm, KY
 Mom's Tunis, VA
 J & M Swartz, NY
 Triangle Farm, IN
 RQL Farms, NJ
 Anna Charest, MA
 Justine Swartz, NY

15 Feb. Ewe Lambs

RQL Farms, NJ
 Mom's Tunis, VA
 Anna Charest, MA
 Kayla Barkley, PA
 Boulder Creek Tunis, ME
 WindSong Farm, MA
 J & J Seavey, NY
 RQL Farms, NJ
 Triangle Farm, IN
 Wendy Cameron, MA

8 March EL #1

WindSong Farm, MA
 Mom's Tunis, VA
 David Brown Farm, MA
 David Brown Farm, MA
 RQL Farms, NJ
 Boulder Creek Tunis, ME
 Triangle Farm, IN
 Kyle Harris, MA

8 March EL #2

Wendy Cameron, MA
 Wendy Cameron, MA
 Boulder Creek Tunis, ME
 Devan Newton, RI
 Calamity Farm, CT
 Devan Newton, RI
 J & M Swartz, NY
 Anna Charest, MA

7 Slick Shorn EL

Kayla Barkley, PA
 Westwind Farm, KY
 Kayla Barkley, PA
 Aaron Loux, MA
 WindSong Farm, MA
 Triangle Farm, IN
 Anna Charest, MA

16 Pairs EL

Kayla Barkley, PA
 Mom's Tunis, VA
 Brianna Taylor, MA
 David Brown Farm, MA
 RQL Farms, NJ
 WindSong Farm, MA
 Westwind Farm, KY
 Anna Charest, MA
 J & J Seavey, NY
 Wendy Cameron, MA

14 Exhibitor's Flock

Mom's Tunis, VA
 Kayla Barkley, PA
 David Brown Farm, MA
 RQL Farms, NJ
 Westwind Farm, KY
 J & J Seavey, NY
 WindSong Farm, MA
 Brianna Taylor, MA
 Anna Charest, MA
 Wendy Cameron, MA

13 Breeder's Flock

Mom's Tunis, VA
 Kayla Barkley, PA
 David Brown Farm, MA
 RQL Farms, NJ
 J & J Seavey, NY
 Westwind Farm, KY
 WindSong Farm, MA
 Anna Charest, MA
 Wendy Cameron, MA
 Devan Newton, RI

11 Get of Sire:

Kayla Barkley, PA
 David Brown Farm, MA
 RQL Farms, NJ
 Westwind Farm, KY
 J & J Seavey, NY
 WindSong Farm, MA
 Boulder Creek Tunis, ME
 Anna Charest, MA
 Wendy Cameron, MA
 J & M Swartz, NY

Sr Champion Ram – Westwind Farm, KY
Reserve Sr Champion Ram – Mom's Tunis, VA

Jr Champion Ram – Boulder Creek Tunis, ME
Reserve Jr Champion Ram – Rocksway Tunis, MO

Grand Champion Ram – Westwind Farm, KY

Reserve Grand Champion Ram – Boulder Creek Tunis, ME

Sr Champion Ewe – Mom's Tunis, VA
Reserve Sr Champion Ewe – Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH

Jr Champion Ewe – Kayla Barkley, PA
Reserve Jr Champion Ewe – RQL Farms, NJ

Grand Champion Ewe – Mom's Tunis, VA

Reserve Grand Champion Ewe – Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH

Premier Exhibitor & Premier Breeder – Kayla Barkley, PA

EXHIBITORS:

Kayla Barkley, PA; Boulder Creek Tunis (Troy Staples Family) – ME; David Brown Farm (The McDonoughs) – MA; Calamity Farm (Calvo & Lewis) – CT; Wendy Cameron – MA; Anna Charest – MA; Jacci Erwin Tunis – OH; Kyle Harris, MA; Jeremy Jochums-Chickering – NH; Aaron Loux – MA; Mom's Tunis (The Cassells) – VA; Devan Newton – RI; David Rock – NJ; Rocksway Tunis – MO; RQL Farms (David & Sandra Rock) – NJ; Joseph & Joan Seavey – NY; Justine Swartz – NY; Mandy & Justine Swartz – NY; Brianna Taylor – MA; Triangle Farm (Cook & Huhnke) – IN; Westwind Farm (Anderson Family) – KY; and WindSong Farm (Kerns Family) – MA;

**CONGRATULATIONS goes to
Westwind Farms of Hustonville, KY
Nat'l Champion Tunis Ram &
SUPREME CHAMPION RAM - WEEK #2
@ The Big E!**

The ram is owned and shown by Warren, Susan, Georgina & Roberta Anderson and was prepared and fitted by Jozi Best!
Another good way to advertise our breed! Thank you!

Tid - Bits of information:

NEW ADDRESS - Dale Hunhke, Region 6 Director
5995 N 600 E, Hamlet, IN 46532

NEW ADDRESS - Associated Registries - Box 51, 222 Main St.
Milo, IA 50166 641-942-6402

REMEMBER to inform me (the editor) of any change in your email address.....it never fails when I send out the email version of the newsletter, I get 15-20% of them back as 'undeliverable' because of address change.....please keep me up to date. Associated Registries doesn't inform me of any changes....so please tell me.

TUNIS ADVERTISING SLOGANS.....I want to thank Linda Casey of Taylorsville, GA for answering my "Breeders' Questions" for this issue....but she is the only one that responded! So I'm going to ask you....."Do you have any other advertising slogans to add about our breed?" "Do you agree/disagree with any of them?....if so, why?" Please send me answers by November 15th and I'll publish them in the next issue! Email them to tunis@bright.net or mail - Louise Dunham, 8566 Co Rd 28, Zanesfield, OH 43360.

This is my list.....TRUE or FALSE?

- #1 The traditional Tunis are too small for the current meat market.
- #2 The sloped rump makes lambing easier for the ewes.
- #3 White blazes down the front of the face are really signs of the "old" genetics.
- #4 The extra teats on a Tunis ewe are really not a problem.
- #5 The show ring size of Tunis are really too big.
- #6 Tunis wethers will never make good show lambs for market lamb classes.
- #7 Grass fed Tunis meat is milder tasting than the grain fed Tunis meat.
- #8 Tunis will breed naturally out of season...both ewes and rams.
- #9 Tunis meat is mild tasting much more acceptable to the public.
- #10 To improve the red color, you simply cross a lighter Tunis with a darker Tunis....like adding food coloring to a frosting mix.
- #11 Whenever you cross a Tunis with another breed...the Tunis color will dominate and the offspring will be red.
- #12 One way of knowing if a Tunis is crossbred with another breed is to look at the size, shape and placement of the ears.

2011 NTSRI CALENDAR:

Nov. 5 -6th Fiber Festival of New England @ W. Springfield, MA
Nov. 12th Star of Louisville Sale @ NAILE @ Louisville, KY
Nov. 13th Tunis Jr. Show @ NAILE @ Louisville, KY
Nov. 14-18th Sheep Show @ NAILE @ Louisville, KY
Nov. 14th Open Class Tunis Show @ 8:00 am @ NAILE in Louisville, KY
Nov. 14th Yearling Ewe Jackpot Show @ 5:30 pm

2012 NTSRI CALENDAR:

Jan. 1 All Membership Fees are due
Feb. 15th NTSRI Youth Scholarship Applications are due
March 15th Nat'l Tunis Sale Entry Deadline
April 5th Midwest Stud Ram Sale Entry Deadline
April 14th NE Tunis Sheep Meeting in MA
April 15th NTSRI Youth Ambassador Applications Due
May 20th Nat'l Jr Tunis Show Entry Deadline
May 25 -27th Nat'l Tunis Sale & Wool Show in Wooster, OH
June 9th Midwest Jr Preview Show in Chillicothe, MO
June 18 - 23rd Midwest Stud Ram Sale in Sedalia, MO
July 6th - 8th Nat'l Jr Tunis Show @ the All American Show in Des Moines, IA
July 20 - 21st New England Sale & Youth Show @ W Springfield, MA
Aug. 1 - 5th Ohio State Fair @ Columbus, OH
Aug. 3 - 19th Indiana State Fair @ Indianapolis, IN
Aug. 12-15th Nat'l Tunis Show @ Missouri State Fair in Sedalia, MO
Sept. 19 - 25th The Big E Tunis Show in W Springfield, MA
Oct. 19 - 21st New York Bred Ewe Sale @ Rhinebeck, NY
Nov. 10 - 16th North American International Livestock Expo in Louisville, KY

Please send dates to tunis@bright.net

Tunis activities & Fiber Fests!

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday, May 26, 2012

4TH Annual NTSRI Wool Show -
@ Nat'l Tunis Sale @ Wooster, OH!

January 15th...next newsletter deadline!!

SHOW & SALE ROTATION.....

National Sale

2012 - Great Lakes Show
Wooster, OH

National Youth Show

2012 - Junior All American
Des Moines, IA

National Open Show

2012 – Missouri State Fair
Sedalia, MO
2013 – NAILE – Louisville, KY

*National Sale sites are
scheduled one year at a time and must fit the NTSRI requirements

Bill Kerns, Region 1 Director writes.....

Fall is upon us and lambing has started all over again. It has been unusually warm in the Northeast this year with plenty of rain. Crop futures are among the highest ever, leading to expensive feed for our sheep across the nation. Hopefully meat and wool values will increase as well. Our local farmers' markets in Region 1 are supporting higher prices...good for all of us.

This year the Northeast Tunis Sheep Association (NETSA) hosted the National Show at Eastern States Exposition. A year of planning and support from farms across the US and Canada made this event a huge success for farms from 13 states that attended. Key activities included an ice cream social, catered dinner and a pizza party after the show. Championship and class awards were supported by 24 farms and vendors across the US and Canada. I want to thank NETSA and importantly the Planning Committee, for hosting the show and all the long hours that went into making it a huge success. Everyone did an outstanding job. We are looking forward to the National Show in Missouri next year.

Brianna Taylor was chosen the new NETSA Tunis Youth Ambassador for 2011-2012. We would like to thank Devan Newton from Rhode Island who carried the torch in 2010-2011.

The Tunis Yearling Jackpot Show, sponsored by NETSA, is off to a great start and we are looking forward to the first show results at NAILE this year with 21 ewes competing for a Jackpot of over \$1200. Check the NTSRI web site for details of the Jackpot Show.

NETSA has planned their annual meeting in April at WindSong Farms. Further information with details will be sent after the holidays.

Please let me know if there are any concerns or questions that I can assist with regarding the National Organization. Our next Directors' meeting is scheduled the week at NAILE and we are planning to have members meeting as well at NAILE, likely on Saturday. Watch the NTSRI web site for details. I will continue my emails to Region 1 members quarterly. If you are not hearing from me quarterly, it suggests I don't have your correct email address. Please contact me. Respectfully, Bill Kerns Region 1 Director billkerns@windsongfarms.net

Eric Irvine, Region 3 Director writes.....

I would like to take the chance to thank everyone who either exhibited at or sponsored the Keystone International Livestock Exposition. It was an enjoyable show as we arrived on Wednesday and the Open Tunis Show was Friday when Mike Wright judged. He commented on what a nice set of sheep the exhibitors presented. Saturday was the Sale and I am glad to announce that the Champion Tunis Ewe was the overall high selling ewe! I think this is a very positive thing for the Tunis breed. The Tunis, unlike other breeds, had a strong sale and, without seeing the other breeds' numbers, would think had the highest average since we were able to get all the sheep sold. Sunday was the Junior Show with Matt Trostle judging. The juniors all did a fantastic job presenting and showing their sheep. Having seen this set of juniors working with their animals, the future of the breed looks bright.

As leaves have changed and the days are getting colder, I am sure many of you have fall lambs starting to appear. With the National Show and Keystone International Livestock Exposition over, it is time to look forward to Louisville in November. I hope to see many of you there. There will be a BOD Meeting and a General Meeting, canchaser@zoominternet.net if you have any thoughts or suggestions, please feel free to send them to me in an email at or call me at 724-650-4880. I am representing you and would love to hear from you.

Eric Irvine, Region 3 Director

Ohio Tunis Sheep Association.....

The OTSA will be having their fall meeting on October 22, 2011. The meeting will be hosted by Dan, Cris and Jacci Erwin.

The OTSA will be starting to make plans for the National Show and Sale to be held in Wooster this May 26 and May 27, 2012. Please mark your calendars now so you don't miss a wonderful opportunity to sell or buy quality Tunis sheep and relax with fellow Tunis breeders. We are hoping for a large crowd. The particular details for the weekend will follow. Just mark your calendars NOW so you don't miss out. It's also not too early to get your motel reservations.

The National Tunis Show at the Big E is history and will be remembered as one of the best. Thanks to all the folks who helped to put on a class act. I would like to thank Dan, Cris and Jacci Erwin for sending sheep to represent Ohio and congratulations for bringing back the Reserve Champion Ewe to Ohio. Job well done!!!! Good luck to all breeders in their breeding this fall. I hope all of the rams make good connections and produce fabulous lambs this spring. Good Luck to everyone and remember when the lambs hit the ground to pick a few for the National Show and Sale in Wooster.

Submitted by: Cynthy Kleman, OTSA President

The First Annual Tunis Yearling Jackpot Show at NAILE is less than a month away! For a year and half, Tunis Breeders have been watching their ewe lambs grow and mature into yearlings, with the hope of winning the 2010-2011 Jackpot.

There are 13 farms with 21 entries participating this year in the show; we started with 14 farms and 40 sheep. The show is scheduled for Monday, November 14, 2011 at 5:30 pm. in the Sale Show Ring at NAILE. There are three experienced judges; Mike Wright of New Hampshire, Judy Moore of Michigan and Chuck Ream of California. The monies will be divided and awarded to the first five places.

Please come and join in the fun for The First Annual Tunis Yearling Jackpot Show and cheer for your favorite Tunis Yearling Ewe! Hope to see you there. Right after the show, you are invited to attend "It's a Red Thing Jackpot Gala" to celebrate; it will be hosted by the Ohio Tunis Sheep Association.

The 2011-2012 Tunis Yearling Jackpot Show at NAILE is off to a great start! The deadline was August 15, 2011 and we have fifteen farms with fifty-two entries. All monies collected go toward the Jackpot, except for the ten percent which goes to the Northeast Tunis Sheep Association for the Youth Fund.

Remember having your ewe lambs entered into the Jackpot is a great selling point during the year!

Any questions, please call/email Sharon Kerns. 978.456.1240, sharonkerns@charter.net

Let's Talk About Wool.....by Kim Day

"A Crash Course in Dyeing with Kool-Aid!"

Dyeing wool with Kool-Aid is very easy, and best of all, totally safe! Kool-Aid drink mix is an acid dye, which means it will only dye protein fibers: wool, mohair, camelid fibers, angora or silk. Since the drink mix is non-toxic you can use your regular cookware and kitchen utensils - no need to have separate pots, measuring cups, etc. For dyeing with Kool-Aid you'll need:

- Yarn or roving
- Kool-Aid packets (for bright colors use 1 packet per ounce of fiber)
- Large pot or microwave-safe dish; or pot with a steamer basket
- Rubber or latex gloves

To begin, soak your fiber in warm water with a couple drops of dish soap or rinse aid (Jet Dry) for about 30 minutes. Squeeze out excess water or spin it out in a salad spinner. While the fiber is soaking, prepare your dyepot by filling halfway with water and adding drink mix powder (don't add any sugar). Heat the dyepot to almost a simmer and add the fiber, making sure it's all submerged. Keep the dyepot near a simmer for about 30 minutes, stirring gently a few times so that the fiber doesn't rest on the bottom of the pot. Check the dyebath by scooping some of the water in a clear container (i.e., a Pyrex measuring cup or Mason jar). When it's clear, all the dye has been absorbed. Remove the dyepot from the burner and let it cool to room temperature. Rinse the fiber in clean water (about the same temperature as the dyebath) and air dry.

To use your microwave to dye your fiber, add water and Kool-Aid to your microwave-safe dish/bowl. Stir so that the powder is dissolved. Add the pre-soaked fiber and enough water to cover the fiber. Microwave for 2 minutes and check the fiber. If the dye isn't fully absorbed, microwave in 2 minute increments until it is (let the fiber rest in between heating so that it doesn't burn). When the dyebath is clear, cool the pot to room temperature and rinse as above.

Dyeing with Kool-Aid is something everyone can try, since there's no need for special equipment. It's even a fun activity to do with your children. During the fall and winter, what better way to spend a day than dyeing with some Kool-Aid!

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Please send in dates for any Wool Shows in your area!

Tunis Pride Photo Contest

The Tunis Pride Photo contest is continuing with monthly winners receiving a \$25 Visa gift card. Please send your entries to Debbi Brown or Dale Huhnke. You will need to sign a photo release form when you enter your photos which are on the NTSRI website, www.tunissheep.org. Go out and take those wonderful photos of Tunis sheep.

NTSRI “Youth” News!

EWE LAMB FUTURITY: Remember youth members....when you show your Futurity nominated lambs this year....please send the results card immediately to Kelly Stumpe! The forms can be obtained on www.tunissheep.org or you may scan the information and send it in an email to be recorded!

* * * * *

2011 NTSRI EWE LAMB FUTURITY STANDINGS as of 10/17/2011

JR MEMBER	Futurity Lamb	# of Shows	Points
Emily Belewich, NY	RQL 1114	3	15
Mikeal Finklea, PA	JET 1100	4	48
Mikeal Finklea, PA	Uptown 1103	4	41
Frank Irvine, PA	S & T 1836	3	26
Jacob Long, MO	Craft 9	5	34
Kaleb Schakel, IN	Schambow 561	4	69
Justine Swartz, NY	Triple T 1103	5	44

National Youth Fund Raiser 2012 Tunis Calendars

The photos from the 2010/11 Tunis Pride Photo Contest monthly winners are now in calendar form. For \$5 you can have a great looking calendar that will show upcoming Tunis events. These calendars make a great holiday gift. So if you want a calendar please make a check out to NTSRI and mail it to Dale Huhnke, 5995 N 600 E, Hamlet, IN 46532 (please note different address).

“Pop-a-Top” for Riley’s Children Hospital

Once again our Tunis youth have an opportunity to participate in a national service project. This year we will allow adults collect tabs too. The “Pop-a-Top” for Riley’s Children Hospital lets you save the pop top of a soda and/or beer can for this Indianapolis hospital. Our final collection will be in Wooster in May 2012. Whoever collects the most tabs (by weight) will win a prize. Gathering the tops will be Linda Cook and Dale Huhnke. For more information you can email Dale at dalehuhnke@yahoo.com. So go out and collect those tabs!!

Sheep Management Education in the comfort of your own home:

Continuing with providing various delivery methods of educational information, the Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program launched online courses so sheep enthusiasts can keep current in the comfort of their own home or office.

The most popular course is Introduction to Sheep Management (LWMP 1001). This course is the online version of the successful home study course that provides an overview of year long sheep management. The course also studies the philosophy of sheep management and its relationship to business goals. Introduction to Sheep Management course is a 14 lesson self paced course with continuous enrollment. This is a one credit course that has no text book required. The 14 lesson topics include: Getting Started in the Sheep Business; Your Ewes, Your Rams and Their Health ; Breeding Strategies; Lamb Feeding; Facilities and Equipment; Ewe Flock Economics; Wool; Pre-Lambing Management; Lambing Time Management, Difficult Births, Baby Lamb Health; Orphan or Bonus Lambs, Grafting; Creeps and Creep Feeding; Weaning and Weaning Methods; Fitting and Showing Sheep; Raising Versus Buying Replacement Ewes. This course is offered online or through the mail.

Other online course offerings include: Equipment and Facilities (LWMP 1202); Introduction to Sheep Health (LWMP 1300); Ewe Ration Formulation (LWMP 1502); and Wool Characteristics and Properties (LWMP 1701)

The Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program is a sheep management education/consulting program offered by Minnesota West Community and Technical College located at Pipestone, Minnesota. The purpose of the program is to help sheep producers increase income and profit through the production of quality lamb and wool. To maximize the profit per ewe and realize the full potential of all sheep through use of modern management practices, new technologies and new approaches to marketing of both lamb and wool.

For more information visit the Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program web page www.pipestonesheep.com or contact one of the Lamb and Wool instructors, Philip Berg, philip.berg@mnwest.edu , (507) 825-6799 or Mike Caskey, mike.caskey@mnwest.edu, (507) 825-6808. To register for one of the on-line courses contact Sue Lovell (507) 847-7929, sue.lovell@mnwest.edu or register on-line at www.mnwest.edu/formmail/formdl.htm

Let's Talk About NAILE..... Nov. 11th thru 18th!

**There have been several changes in the line-up of classes
at the North American International Livestock Expo....**

JUNIOR EXHIBITORS.....Jr Breeding Sheep Showmanship has been moved to Friday, Nov. 11th at 5:30 pm in the main show ring opposite of the Market Lamb Showmanship. All breeds will be shown together and classes will be broken by the exhibitor's age.

ALSO....the Jr Breeding Sheep schedule will remain similar for the 2011 NAILE Junior Breeding Sheep show with the exception of moving the Jr Hampshire Show earlier in the breed rotation since they have the first Open Show on Monday.

WOOL SHOW...several classes in the Wool Show have been combined due to a lack of participation. However, a Purebred Meat Breed Fleece Division and a Purebred Wool Breed Fleece division have been added to encourage entries within both divisions. The Champion and Reserve Champion Fleece in each of these divisions will receive an additional monetary award. Any classes that continue to have low participation may be combined or omitted in the future to enhance the premium offerings in wool classes that have more interest.

LET'S KEEP OUR TUNIS WOOL CLASSES....remember you can ship fleeces to this show and the winning fleeces are prominently displayed in the main entry way!

REMEMBER: At least **ONE(1) \$50 Sales Credit** given away to a youth who has their own buyer's number for the Star of Louisville Sale in memory of Kenneth Mayes!

REMEMBER: The Board & General Meetings are on Saturday mornings!

CONTACT Dan Kleman if you have questions/concerns about NAILE!

NAILE Schedule – ALL events open to one and all!!!

Nov. 11, 2011 **Friday**

1 pm *LEAD LINE AND COSTUME CLASS*

5pm JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP Tunis will show with all breeds by age of exhibitor.

Nov.12, 2011 Saturday

8 am COMPLIMENTARY SAUSAGE GRAVY & BISCUIT BREAKFAST

Provided by Jeff, Julie & Morgan Munsey @ their pen space!

9 am NTSRI Board Meeting

11 am NTSRI Membership Meeting; open agenda

12 noon until 4pm Check in for "Stars Of Louisville" Sale Sheep.

See Kelly Stumpe for check – in

2 pm Satisfy your “**sweet tooth**” at the **Youth Meet and Greet**, Triangle Farms Pens, presented by Indiana Tunis Sheep Association

4:30 pm – 8:00am “Snacks, Beverages & Sales Talk” Provided by Missouri Tunis Association
Located @ the Stumpe Pens!

6 pm "STARS OF LOUISVILLE" Show in EAST HALL.

SALE TO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW. Presented by NTSRI youth committee.

Nov.13, 2011 Sunday

Junior Tunis Show - Show Ring 2 - South - following Southdown and Hampshire Junior Shows

Nov.14, 2011 Monday

8 am North American International Tunis Show

5:30 pm Tunis Yearling Ewe Jackpot. Presented by N.E. Tunis Association - Sale Ring
Its A Red Thing Jackpot Gala Reception sponsored by Ohio Tunis Sheep Assoc.

*****WATCH for the "complimentary" NTSRI sponsored
REFRESHMENT TABLE!!! It may appear at any time, & place!

You are cordially invited to attend
"IT'S A RED THING JACKPOT GALA"
The Jackpot Show and Gala will be held
Monday, November 14th @ 5:00pm

The show will be held in the sale ring behind the sheep offices.
Show your Tunis Pride and wear RED to the Show and the Gala!
Hosted by the Ohio Tunis Sheep Association

OPEN CLASS TUNIS @ Indiana State Fair...2011

80 Head by 16 Exhibitors!!!

5 Yearling Rams

Jeff & Julie Munsey, IN
Kaleb Schakel, IN
WindSong Farms, MA

3 Fall Ram Lambs

Clint Garey, IL
WindSong Farms, MA
J, S, & A Taylor, IN

2 Early Spring RL

Olivia & Lane Brown, OH
Westcott Family, IN

6 Late Spring RL

Big Time Tunis, OH
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN
Murry Farms, MO

3 Slick Shorn RM

BWB Farms, OH
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN
BWB Farms, OH

3 Pairs Ram Lambs

Triangle Farms Tunis, IN
L & T Norris & Family, IN
BWB Farms, OH

9 Early Yr Ewes

Clint Garey, IL
C & A Summe, IN
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN

11 Late Yr Ewes

WindSong Farms, MA
Big Time Tunis, OH
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN

11 Slick Shorn YE

John Reed, IN
J, S, & A Taylor, IN
Kaleb Schakel, IN

10 Pairs YE

WindSong Farms, MA
Big Time Tunis, OH
Triangle Farms Tunis, IN

4 Fall Ewe Lambs

Clint Garey, IL
Clint Garey, IL
John Reed, IN

11 Early Spring EL

Kaleb Schakel, IN
Olivia & Lane Brown, OH
WindSong Farms, MA

11 Late Spring EL

WindSong Farms, MA
Clint Garey, IL
Kaleb Schakel, IN

4 Slick Shorn EL

WindSong Farms, MA
Triangle Farms, IN
J, S, & A Taylor, IN

7 Pairs Ewe Lambs

Clint Garey, IL
Kaleb Schakel, IN
Olivia & Lane Brown, OH

10 Best 4 Head

WindSong Farms, MA
Clint Garey, IL
Kaleb Schakel, IN

5 Flocks

WindSong Farms, MA

Clint Garey, IL

Triangle Farms Tunis, IN

Champion Ram - Jeff & Julie Munsey

Res. Champion Ram - Kaleb Schakel

Champion Ewe - WindSong Farms - Bill & Sharon Kerns

Res. Champion Ewe - Clint Garey

Premier Exhibitor - WindSong Farms - Bill & Sharon Kerns

EXHIBITORS: Big Time Tunis, OH; BWB Farms, OH; Olivia & Lane Brown, OH; Donald Craft, IN; Clint Garey, IL; Hunter Mote, IN; Jeff & Julie Munsey, IN; Murry Farms, MO; Larry & Teresa Norris & Family, IN; John Reed, IN; Kaleb Schakel, IN; Carlton & Amanda Summe, IN; John, Shannon & Alex Taylor, IN; Triangle Farms Tunis, IN; Tammy Westcott Family, IN; and WindSong Farms, MA;

NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY INC.

2012 - MEMBERSHIP FORM

MEMBERSHIP NAME* _____

MEMBERSHIP # _____

MEMBER'S NAMES** _____

ST. ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____

DATE _____

E MAIL _____

Sr Renewal _____ Jr Renewal* _____ New Member _____**

Seniors.....\$20.00

Juniors.....\$10.00

* Individual or Farm Name...Junior memberships can only be one name.

** For Family/Farm Partnerships...List individuals included in the membership.

*** Junior members must be less than 22 years old...List Birthdate: __/__/__

Amount Enclosed _____

Send to: NTSRI, Box 51, 222 Main St., Milo, IA 50166*****NEW!!!

OPEN CLASS TUNIS @ Ohio State Fair...2011

83 Head by 15 Exhibitors!!!

Jim Brandt, Judge

3 Yearling Rams

Triple M Ranch, IN - 256#
WindSong Farms, MA - 233#
Brown Family Tunis, OH - 260#

2 Fall Ram Lambs

Clint Garey, IL - 190#
WindSong Farms, MA - 168#

2 January RL

Bruns Tunis, OH - 130#
Mom's Tunis, VA - 151#

5 February RL

Mom's Tunis, VA - 118#
RQL Farms, NJ - 133#
Brown Family Tunis, OH - 140#

3 March RL

Big Time Tunis, OH - 107#
Bruns Tunis, OH - 102#
Scarlet & Gray Farm, OH - 83#

1 Slick Shorn RL

BWB Farms, OH - 97#

3 Pairs RL

Mom's Tunis, VA
Bruns Tunis, OH
RQL Farms, NJ

8 Early Yr Ewes

Bruns Tunis, OH - 198#
Triple M Ranch, IN - 193#
Mom's Tunis, VA - 168#

14 Late Yr Ewes

Mom's Tunis, VA - 188#
Bruns Tunis, OH - 180#
Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH - 174#

9 Slick Shorn YR E

Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH - 170#
Kaleb Schakel, IN - 168#
Mom's Tunis, VA - 154#

9 Pairs YR E

Bruns Tunis, OH
Mom's Tunis, VA
Big Time Tunis, OH

4 Fall Ewe Lambs

Clint Garey, IL - 150#
Clint Garey, IL - 125

9 January EL

Mom's Tunis, VA - 130#
Bruns Tunis, OH - 118#
Mom's Tunis, VA - 111#

14 February EL

Kaleb Schakel, IN - 85 #
Triple M Ranch, IN - 108#
Bruns Tunis, OH - 96#

8 March EL

WindSong Farms, MA - 104#
Mom's Tunis, VA - 85#
Bruns Tunis, OH - 86#

1 Slick Shorn EL

7 Pairs Ewe Lambs

Mom's Tunis, VA
Bruns Tunis, OH
Clint Garey, IL

5 Young Flocks

Bruns Tunis, OH
Mom's Tunis, VA
WindSong Farms, MA

3 Get of Sire Entries

Mom's Tunis, VA
WindSong Farms, MA
Clint Garey, IL

CHAMPION RAM – Triple M Ranch – The Munsey Family

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Bruns Tunis – John & Irene Bruns

CHAMPION EWE – Mom's Tunis – Barbara Cassell

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Bruns Tunis – John & Irene Bruns

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – Mom's Tunis – Barbara Cassell of Wytheville, VA

EXHIBITORS: Barnes Farms, OH; Big Time Tunis, OH; Brown Family Tunis, OH; Bruns Tunis, OH; Emily Burns, OH; BWB Farms, OH; Jacci Erwin Tunis, OH; Clint Garey, IL; Kaleb Huser, OH; Mom's Tunis, VA; RQL Farms, NJ; Scarlet & Gray Farm, OH; Kaleb Schakel, IN; Triple M Ranch, IN; and WindSong Farms, MA;

Remember when you sell a sheep...

Send me the name & address & I'll send them a

PROMOTIONAL PACKET OF INFORMATION!

(It's like a bonus that comes from buying sheep from you!)

PAPER OR EMAIL? At the NTSRI Board Meeting in Louisville in 2008, I was instructed by the Board to send the newsletter by email to any member who has listed their email address with our association...so if you are receiving this by email...there will be no paper newsletter this time. If you want a paper copy of the newsletter instead, please notify the editor and the change will be quickly made! **Or please send me your email address if you prefer that method...it does save the club money!**

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – JANUARY 15TH!!

OPEN CLASS TUNIS @ Keystone (KILE)...2011

52 Head by 8 Exhibitors!!!

Mike Wright, Judge

5 Yearling Rams

Mindy Stoops Irvine, PA
S & T Tunis, NY
Triangle Farms, IN

3 Fall Ram Lambs

RQL Farms, NJ
Mikeal Finklea, PA
Nicholas Loughman, PA

7 Early Spring RL

RQL Farms, NJ
S & T Tunis, NY
S & T Tunis, NY

4 Late Spring RL

Mikeal Finklea, PA
RQL Farms, NJ
RQL Farms,

5 Pairs RL

Mikeal Finklea, PA
S & T Tunis, NY
RQL Farms, NJ

13 Yr Ewes

Mikeal Finklea, PA
S & T Tunis, NY
Triangle Farms, IN

6 Pairs Yr Ewes

Triangle Farms, IN
Mikeal Finklea, PA
S & T Tunis, NY

2 Fall Ewe Lambs

RQL Farms, NJ
Sonshine Acres, PA

10 Early Spring EL

Mikeal Finklea, PA
RQL Farms, NJ
Drew Ridgeway, MD

8 Late Spring EL

Mikeal Finklea, PA
RQL Farms, NJ
Mikeal Finklea, PA

8 Pairs Ewe Lambs

Mikeal Finklea, PA
RQL Farms, NJ
Triangle Farms, IN

3 Get of Sire

Mikeal Finklea, PA
RQL Farms, NJ
Sonshine Acres, PA

6 Exhibitors Flocks

Mikeal Finklea, PA
RQL Farms, NJ
S & T Tunis, NY

Champion Ram – Mindy Stoops-Irvine

Reserve CH Ram – Mikeal Finklea

Champion Ewe – Mikeal Finklea

Reserve CH Ewe – S & T Tunis

Premier Exhibitor – Mikeal Finklea

Premier Breeder – RQL Farms

EXHIBITORS: Mikeal Finklea, PA; Nicholas Loughman, PA; RQL Farms, NJ; Drew Ridgeway, MD; S & T Tunis, NY; Sonshine Acres, PA; Mindy Stoops-Irvine, PA; and Triangle Farms, IN.

KEYSTONE JR TUNIS SHOW:

Eric Irvine writes...,"I would like to thank the following people for sponsoring awards for the KILE Jr Show and to let the KILE Jr Exhibitors know to watch the mail for the added premiums from the NTSRI."

AWARD:

CH RAM – Misty Lane Farms #1109
R CH RAM – Misty Lane Farms #1130
CH EWE – Misty Lane Farms # 110
R CH EWE – Misty Lane Farms #1128
CH SR SHOWMAN
CH JR SHOWMAN

WINNER

Ethan Simpson
Mikeal Finklea
Mikeal Finklea
Mikeal Finklea
Ethan Simpson
Alivia Blum

SPONSOR

Uptown Farms, The Lamberts, MO
Triple M Ranch, The Munseys, IN
Stumpe Tunis, Kelly Stumpe Family, MO
RQL Farms, David & Sandra Rock, NJ
Maple Hollow Farm, The Barkleys, PA
Steve, Stacy & Callie Taylor, PA

KEYSTONE TUNIS SALE....Mike Wright, Judge

CHAMPION SALE EWE – Yr Ewe

Misty Lane Farms, PA

\$900

Ethan Simpson, DE

RES. CH EWE – Fall Ewe Lamb

Sonshine Acres, PA

\$300

Natalie Banff

SPRING

EWE LAMBS

RQL Farms, NJ
Callie Taylor, PA
Callie Taylor, PA
Callie Taylor, PA
Callie Taylor, PA
Sonshine Acres, PA

\$500
\$325
\$375
\$400
\$250
\$250

Alivia Blum
Mikeal Finklea, PA
Mikeal Finklea, PA
Brianna Kabina
Mikeal Finklea, PA
Peter Schnieder

A BIG THANK YOU goes to the New Jersey Tunis Breeders who awarded two \$50 Buyers Credits to Alivia Blum and Mikeal Finklea!

PROPER HANDLING OF LIVESTOCK VACCINES: By Melanie Barkley, Extension Educator

Looking at a group of healthy sheep peacefully grazing while their lambs bounce around the pasture can be a very satisfying experience. However, healthy animals don't just happen, they take time and care. One step to keeping animals healthy involves vaccinating them to protect against disease. In order to accomplish good protection against disease, it is important to handle vaccines properly.

To protect your animals against infectious diseases, it is important to vaccinate not only at the right time, but with the right product. Properly handling the vaccine from the time it is purchased to the time it is given to the animals will ensure the best immunity.

When buying vaccines, purchase from a reputable source who will deliver a high quality vaccine. Most vaccines should be stored in a refrigerator. Heat can make the vaccines ineffective, so they should not be allowed to warm up to room temperature at any time. Also, be sure that the vaccines do not freeze. This could also make them ineffective.

If you buy vaccines that need mixed, use only the rehydrating solution packaged with the vaccine. Determine how many animals you need to vaccinate and only mix enough to vaccinate that number. Any leftover vaccine should be thrown away as it loses its effectiveness during storage. For some vaccines, this could be as quickly as one to two hours after it has been rehydrated. So, only mix what you will use in a very short period of time.

Generally, there are two types of vaccines: modified live and killed. Modified live vaccines have been treated so that the disease viruses will not cause the disease, but will allow the animal to produce immunity to the disease. This occurs when the virus reproduces in the animal's body and the animal's immune system then develops antibodies. These vaccines are generally not safe to give to pregnant animals because the vaccine mimics an infection.

Killed vaccines are made from viruses or bacteria that are no longer active. This type of vaccine stimulates the animal's body to produce antibodies which prevent the animal from getting the disease if the animal is exposed. These vaccines can be given to pregnant animals.

Follow label directions for how to give the injection. Some products call for subcutaneous (SQ) injections which are given under the skin. Other products should be given in the muscle (IM). If you have a choice, it is better to give the injection SQ as this will minimize any damage to muscle tissue. The best area to give the injection is in the neck, or in front of the shoulder.

In addition to the injection site, look for the timing of the vaccinations. Be sure to follow directions for age at administration and if another vaccination needs to be given at a later time period. Younger animals tend to need a second injection two to four weeks later. Then, annual boosters are recommended using a single dose. If the animals receiving the injection will be used for meat, make sure you check the withdrawal times. Most withdrawal times are 21 to 28 days after injection.

Handling vaccines properly will help to ensure that the product will produce immunity against specific diseases within your sheep. And, will help keep those lambs bouncing happily across your pastures.

An Act of Kindness by: Mike Niese

Mike and Kathy Niese would like to thank Sam and Pat Wiford for coming to their rescue on Highway 30 heading home from Wooster. We had just left Mansfield, Ohio after the National Tunis Show and Sale when we hit a hole in the road and the empty trailer began to bounce like a basketball, and came off the hitch! I looked back and the trailer is heading down the highway toward a ditch, where it stops when the tongue of the trailer wedged itself into the side of a ditch. Thank goodness no one was hurt! Kathy begins to call AAA roadside service and she finds out that they don't come out to rescue trailers, but gave her a number of other tow companies in the area that we could call.

About that time a nice young man traveling on the other side of the highway saw what happened and turned around to help us, the Wooster police showed up, and Sam and Pat Wiford saw Kathy standing by the road and they pulled over too, everyone was so nice! One of the officers and the young man that helped us said that this has happened to everyone who has pulled a stock trailer at some point in time, so not to worry, they would get us out. And they did! The officer could tell the trailer had been hooked up right, and so we didn't get a ticket because there wasn't any damage done. To be on the safe side, not knowing why the trailer would have come off like that, the officer had me ride on the hitch, while Kathy drove slowly down the highway to the next exit where we could get it checked out. Sam and Pat stayed with us the whole time in case we needed to be driven anywhere to get help. While driving to the exit the hitch and ball fell into place and we were able to hook up safely and continue our trip. We just wanted to thank Sam and Pat for their kindness and concern. Sheep friends are the best!

Notes from Green Lane Farm by Val Ames

Perhaps I'm a little ahead of myself thinking of lambing but after what looks like a successful breeding season (the rams are looking distinctly bored now!) it's time to turn to the next major season in my sheep year. (Apologies if I am repeating myself too much)

I plan for lambs in January though I keep the rams with the ewes long enough that any slow settlers will still give me lambs the following year, at which time I will determine whether to keep the late lambing ewe/s; this way I do not keep any sheep for more than a year with no lamb production just because the rams have been removed after the traditional 6 - 8 weeks.

Lambing/claiming pens are set up in the attached bank barn, separate from the pole barn with the expectant ewes. As the ewes have their own daily routines (free choice feeding does that) they typically lamb around 6.30 in the morning or occasionally mid to late afternoon - no night shift for this shepherd!. Because Tunis are such good Mothers, it is easy moving ewes with their new lambs, often all cleaned up and fed by the time I get to the barn, to claiming pens. With multiple lambs I often put them in a Rubbermaid tub and just pull them behind me to the pen, ewe following. Occasionally a ewe will lamb outside beside the hay feeder but despite the cold (anything from minus 20 to zero) I have never lost a lamb to hypothermia. Usually it just means a longer walk to the claiming pens but if the lamb/s are too chilled I just put them in a garbage bag tied loosely around their neck, and put them in a bucket of warm water. The garbage bag moulds to the lamb's body, allowing the warm water to totally surround the lamb without getting it wet. The lamb can be kept beside the ewe if necessary, until it warms up. I have tried a variety of 'hot-boxes' & bringing them into the house but find this much more efficient and it allows the ewe to bond still.

The only problem I sometimes have by not separating ewes just before they lamb is the occasional ewe that is about to lamb and thinks those already born to someone else are hers! I have a large open area beside the claiming pens, and will often let a ewe lamb there. Many of them will wait at the inside gate to the bank barn or will come to me when I go to check them, and want to follow me out to the lambing/claiming area (mature ewes of course, who know the routine).

Claiming pens are typically 4' X 6' (with fewer sheep now I usually go bigger) and comprise several long portable hay feeders and 3' to 6' slatted hemlock panels attached along their length forming the walls of several pens, each with a length of feeder as part of one 'wall', and another panel able to open to take the new occupants. With everything portable/temporary for the season, any number of pens can be set up in any permutation. Water is supplied in free three gallon (previously holding bulk margarine or similar product) buckets, tied to a panel.

Once in the claiming pens, teats are stripped to make sure neither are plugged (and to confirm that lambs not trying to drink have drunk already) and navels are dipped in a 3% iodine solution, delivered with a dairy cow teat dipper - cheap and works very well. If I need reassuring that a lamb is fed and able to go through the night without attention, I will give it a colostrum bolus (surely easier than a pump of paste?) Just wet it in your mouth first and it can be slid down with a finger no problem.

After two or three days, tails are removed with an electric docker (unfortunately now a relic of the past) from about the 4th . tail joint, or where the skin underneath starts to have a wool covering. Anything shorter has been proven to encourage prolapsing by late gestation ewes carrying multiple lambs, as the bone to which some important muscles attach is no longer there. After vaccination shots and a foot trim, ewes and lambs are let into a new area with only those ewes that have lambed already. I often prefer to trim the ewes one at a time after lambing rather than a whole flock foot trim, and the bedding makes a soft landing when I tip them up. This group also has free access to hay under an outside hoop house, and measured grain is fed outside in halved 9" ABS pipe cut into 8 ft sections with legs. (details of construction on request)

A creep feed area is set up at the start of the lambing season, with size and location as flexible as the claiming/lambing pens. There is a scaled down hay feeder for lambs, buckets for daily fresh water, salt and minerals, and a 4 ft ABS trough, switched up to several troughs as more lambs are born, for a 14% creep feed pellet. Access is via a roughly 1 sq.ft. open section in hemlock gate panels, that will take either a solid panel slotted into it to lock in/out lambs (useful when I want to tattoo/deworm the lambs without the ewes in the way), or one or more 2" plywood strips to reduce the hole to fit the maximum size of lamb allowed into the creep. A 5 or 7 watt bulb provides light all night in that area, and of course it is well bedded and away from all draughts.

As you can see, raising sheep here is very low tech in the barns, and almost anything can be custom made on site with a much smaller outlay than if purchased ready-made, yet is just as durable.

*****I would like to read more about 'working' Tunis as opposed to 'show' Tunis in the newsletter - does anyone have a freezer lamb business where the customers prefer Tunis meat, or is there anyone milking Tunis for additional products, etc.? Is anyone still testing for scrapie? Is scrapie testing an advertising bonus? How about Tunis wool? When Koigu Wool Designs produced some of their own fibre here in Ontario, a Tunis ram gave some of their yearling fleeces a wonderful new colour. How about Tunis for cross-breeding - are there any particular crosses that have proven most successful? My Tunis X Dorset ewe lambs are a popular cross for those people to whom I am not able to supply purebred ewe lambs (waiting list too long). As there is no opportunity to show Tunis up here in Canada (unless you want to enter an "Any Other Breed" class), they are a working breed only.*****

Getting Started with Sheep

BY: Laurie Maus, Hawk Hill Farm, Dunvegan, ON <http://www.hawkhillfarm.ca>

I have had livestock most of my life - cattle, horses, chickens - but four years ago I fulfilled a long time dream of having a small flock of sheep. While I am sure my previous experience has helped the transition into being a shepherd, sheep really are a different "critter" with unique behavioral and husbandry requirements. The following is the tale of misconceptions that we had with the start up with sheep.

Over the last decade, my husband and I have owned, bred, raised and shown Canadian horses. While I still love the breed a combination of the downturn in the horse market and the carrying costs for each animal meant that we had to downsize our herd to our current four animals. That left us space and time to start up with sheep. Easy transition... right? Wrong!

First misconception: sheep weigh 150-250 pounds so they should be much easier to handle than a horse. Wrong. It took three of us to manhandle our first lambs from one barn to the next. And who knew that a North Country Cheviot lamb could clear a four foot fence. I would have been better to start with sheep right from the beginning if I wanted show jumpers.

Second misconception: I only have a few sheep so I can shear them myself. Wrong! Run, don't walk to the phone to call your local shearer. I did shear our sheep the first year. Remember the three people required to manhandle the lamb? Take the same three people, a set of shears and an hour a sheep. That is a task I will put on my Resume and **NEVER** do again. A good shearer is worth every penny.

Third misconception: if hay is good enough for the horses, it is good enough for the sheep. Wrong. Granted the Canadians will eat just about anything you throw at them but we always put in clean, though often mature grass hay for the horses. You could hear the sheep spitting it out. Unlike most teenagers, sheep don't have a 5 second rule if it hits the ground where it is still safe to eat. If it falls out of their mouth and hits the ground, in a sheep's opinion, it is bedding. Sheep waste so much more hay than horses. Give them the best quality young, clean hay and you will have less wasted hay and less money spent on supplements.

Fourth misconception: if you know how to control parasites in your horses, you can control parasites in sheep. Maybe! There are two big problems with sheep: parasites and predators. While one is associated with a more dramatic death than the other, I bet that parasites have the greater economic impact on a flock. This is one area where you can never learn too much. The best resource I have found to date is a parasite control handbook available on Dr. Menzies' web page. See the resource section at the end of this article. Work with your vet, do fecal testing on your flock, learn how to body condition score, monitor dag scores, look for weight loss and signs of anemia. De-worm as required with the right product at the right dose. That and effective pasture management will help you keep parasites in check. Parasite management requires a holistic approach where you are constantly on watch.

Fifth misconception: my fencing is good enough. Wrong! Horse safe fencing is not sheep safe fencing. Fencing for sheep serves two purposes: one to keep the animals in and two to keep the predators out. If you have good quality pastures, the first purpose is not as critical since they will not tend to challenge the fences if everything they need is in their pasture. The second purpose is critical. If coyotes are a problem in your area, talk to other shepherds and Agricultural experts about how to build a predator-resistant fence. Good fencing and possibly guardian animals may be required to keep your flock safe.

Sixth misconception: feeding more is better. Wrong! The opposite is also wrong. Talk to a qualified nutritionist on the feeding requirements for your flock at all stages of their life and during pregnancy. This year, we probably fed more protein than required for our late gestation ewes. The end result was huge lambs and difficult births with much more intervention required than was desirable. Many of the heritage breeds are "easy keepers" so work with body condition scoring and other measures to ensure a healthy animal without overfeeding. Our Tunis ewes were fat on that diet but our North Country Cheviots were in good body condition. However the extra protein went right to the lamb growth at the last of the pregnancy. Keep records and learn as you go.

Based on our experience, I have the following advice. Start small and stay small until you feel comfortable with all aspects of sheep management. Buy the best quality stock you can from a reputable breeder with good management practices and healthy sheep. Find experienced mentors and learn as much as possible from them. There are advantages of having more than one mentor as each shepherd will have a different approach and some approaches will work better on your farm. Spend time with your mentor(s) and their flock. Ask questions. Learn how to give injections, drench, deliver lambs, bottle feed, tube feed, trim feet, take temperatures etc. Develop a good working relationship with your vet and livestock nutrition expert. Spend a lot of time watching your flock. The best way to be able to tell you have a problem is to know what is normal first. Keep a flock diary with health, diet and reproductive records. You would be surprised how much you learn by going back through that diary.

Finally, accept the fact that you will need help at the beginning and **never** be afraid to ask for help.

Good references:

<http://www.sheep101.info/> Great general sheep health and management reference

http://www.uoguelph.ca/~pmenzies/PDF/Handbook_Control_Internal_Parasites_Sheep_PMenzies.pdf The parasite management handbook mentioned in the text.

Storey's Guide to Raising Sheep, P. Simmons and C. Ekarius Storey Publishing, LLC; 4 edition (Nov 18 2009) **ISBN-10:** 9781603424592 **ISBN-13:** 978-1603424592 A good general reference book.

Remember to renew your MEMBERSHIP AFTER JAN. 1ST!

(All memberships expire Dec. 31st!)

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - January 15th!!!!

NTSRI REGIONAL DIRECTORS!

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H - 978.456.1240 **BEST WAY?** Leave message if no answer
ALTERNATE - Troy Staples, 366 Southern Bay, Penobscot, ME 04476 bouldercreektunis@yahoo.com
H-207-326-9131 C-207-460-8418 **BEST WAY?** @ Home between 6:30 & 9:00 pm

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C - 716-474-0215 **BEST WAY?** Call me 8:15-9:15 pm or in the am
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H - 518-537-4476 C - 518-755-1701 bbarfarm@aol.com **BEST WAY?** Email then cell

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H - 814-333-0251 **BEST WAY?** Email or phone in the evenings

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H - 740-943-3792 **BEST WAY?** Email.

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C - 202-255-1764 **BEST WAY?** Call cell phone Anytime...leave a message.
ALTERNATE - Georgina Anderson, 515 Carpenter Creek, Hustonville, KY 40437
georgina.anderson@gmail.com H - 606-346-3916 **BEST WAY?** Home phone

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Director - Dale Huhnke, 5995 N 600 E, Hamlet, IN 46532 dalehuhnke@yahoo.com
C - 630-881-8108 **BEST WAY?** By email or after 6 pm
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REGION 7 - Wisconsin & west of the Mississippi River plus Western Canada

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H - 217-253-5435 C - 636-357-8227 **BEST WAY?** Call cell phone

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WEBSITE INFO - Debbi Brown texastunis@yahoo.com **BEST WAY?** By email 254-863-0606
Ads on the website - \$10 Ads in the Newsletter - \$15 Same ad in both places - \$20
NEWSLETTER - PROMOTIONAL PACKETS - & BROCHURES! - 20 for \$5 Louise Dunham,
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