

MIDWEST TUNIS ASSOCIATION

MIDWEST AND BEYOND

January 2024

VOL. # THIRTEEN ISSUE #1

LOUISE'S LITTLE BIT

There is a new country song that describes where I live..."**We do things different around here!**" And I think it really applies to my little town...

We have a gas station/coffee shop where the pregnancy tests are displayed along with the cigarettes for sale.

The drive thru across the street sells condoms along with the alcoholic beverages... and the little church takes care of all of us.

AND... one of the guys who starts a new business every year when the last one goes under... started "Discount Port-A-Jon" this year... I think that is a bucket!

One of the local kids came into coffee shop with new slides that said "I love HOT Moms!" ... He's 12 and I don't think he understands yet.

I took my female boxer to be bred recently... and the male just licked her ears for an hour... is that how we get puppies now?

When I am down at the store having coffee, one old man walks past me and always smells my neck... is he a perfume tester???? or just creepy?

But I like different... AND I have different ideas I want to try...

#1 - Let's write our ads differently (and show notices) too!

What does this ad tell us about the sheep...

FOR SALE: Six registered ewe lambs born in March. Located in Nogo, Ohio.

There are many different purposes or plans for raising red headed sheep – meat – wool – historical -grass eaters – show – hobby, etc. Which type is for sale?

No shame or glory... just your purpose... now let's advertise those sheep correctly...

I, personally, believe that less than 20% of our readers ever show the sheep in 4-h or other shows.

So how do those other 80% sell their sheep? We need more descriptive ads!!!!!! Like:

FOR SALE: Six registered ewe lambs from a historically motivated flock with emphasis on the breed standard – never fed grain. Located in Nogo, Ohio.

OR

FOR SALE: Six registered ewe lambs from an easy keeping & fast growing flock where rams go to the Farmers Market and the ewes show in slick shorn classes. Nogo, Ohio.

OR

FOR SALE: Six registered ewe lambs from a flock that emphasizes wool production. Can send micron tests on the dams. Located in Nogo, Ohio

OR

FOR SALE: Six registered ewe lambs from a flock that is shown at 4 or more competitive shows a year. These ewes would give a 4-Her a great start. Located in Nogo, Ohio

THINK DIFFERENTLY!!!!... Let's write more descriptive ads.

MidWest Tunis & Beyond

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OR • OR OR • OR OR OR • OR

AD PRICES -

Full Page color or black and white - \$100 for one insertion, 4 times = \$350

Half Page color or black and white - \$75 for one insertion, 4 times = \$250

Free 4 line ad/no pictures with Full Membership

Placement of all ads is determined by availability of space

OR • OR OR • OR OR OR • OR

NEXT SUBMISSION & PUBLICATION DATE

March 29, 2024

www.midwesttunis.com

PLEASE SEND SHOW RESULTS & INFO ABOUT OTHER TUNIS ACTIVITIES for publication to
tunis@bright.net

OR • OR OR • OR OR OR • OR

#2 – Different places to sell non-show animals!

When I started with Tunis in the early 1990's, there were no online sales, very few on site sales and few Tunis classes at shows... so where did you get a start of a flock? "Private Treaty Sales" in someone's barn. Advertised for a Sunday afternoon at a centrally located farm... no entry fee, no sales commission... no fitting or showing... just bring your dependable ewes, those extra ewe lambs and your sheep with different purposes. The sheep were put in pens all over the barn... people came early to handle & look... may have an educational or discussion topic... enjoy a carry in potluck at noon and head to the barn to sell or trade and go home.

This time around we would have Facebook for breeders to advertise what they are bringing... are you interested? Please let me know by July 1st and we will have a **Private Treaty Sale** at my house... my farm is located 30 minutes north of the outerbelt of Columbus... BIG BARN... acceptable parking for trucks and trailers...

And the dog and I would love to have you...

So, I am not afraid to be a little bit different... those Private Treaty Sales continued for almost 10 years and eventually moved to a fairground and then on to Pennsylvania before they faded away. I think it is time to try it again. But it only works if breeders bring sheep to it... again, if interested, let Louise know.

So different is okay in my household but I'm sure that lots of people think of me like this cartoon said as two men were talking...

One man said...."I wish I was smarter..."

The other man said, "Everyone is smart in their own way."

First man again....."Okay....I wish I was smart in a different, less useless way."

I hope I am useful in some way!!!!!! Louise, Editor

NOTE: I have only one email address now – darlingtunis@gmail.com
& one phone number – 937-407-4062

A NEW BUT DIFFERENT YOUTH MONEY PROGRAM...

The OHIO TUNIS SHEEP ASSOCIATION is establishing a new REWARDS Program for ALL Tunis youth!

- The **REWARDS** program will be in effect for the next 5 years & is open to **any** youth meeting the requirements **REGARDLESS of which state they live in!**
- Any youth between the ages of 18 & 21 years of age may apply but can win only once.
- Requirements are, at least, 2 years of membership (individual or family) in the OTSA and a two paragraph explanation of your involvement during these 2 years with the Tunis breed and how the applicant will use the money.
- This application will be printed in the National newsletter.
- There is no selection process... the \$1,000 will be equally divided between each year's applicants... but will be, at least, \$250 per individual.
- The money may be used for college expenses, trade school expenses or to add to the applicant's Tunis flock or sheep equipment.
- Applications are due by **May 1st** each year and need to be received by the OTSA Treasurer by that date. Checks will be presented at the National Sale each year.
- The REWARDS program will be overseen by the OTSA's officers.

PLEASE direct all questions and/or to send your 2024 application OR OTSA Membership to

- Matt Maag, OTSA Treasurer
- 13757 Rd 12, Ottawa, OH 45875
- matchesmaag@yahoo.com
- Ohio Tunis Sheep Association Dues are \$20 for a Family or Individual

Plan ahead... this program is in place for a guaranteed 5 years... do you have a child that will meet the age requirement in this time frame? Then ----- Join OTSA now!

7 Steps to Enter Direct-to-Consumer Meat Market

by Mindy Ward – Missouri Ruralist & Ohio State Sheep Education Site

“... In recent years, the direct-to-consumer (DTC) market has become trendy, especially in the meat industry. With changing consumer preferences, growing interest in food sourcing and rising e-commerce sales, DTC marketing is providing a viable and profitable option for farmers and ranchers.

... Entering this market requires careful planning and execution. If you are new to the DTC market, it is hard to know where to start. So, here's information from Cornell University combined with my list from DTC farm business interviews over the past five years.

Here are seven essential steps to get your direct-to-consumer meat business up and running. There is still time to put them into play before the holiday season.

#1. Know the rules and regulations. Before you start selling any meat products directly to consumers, it is important to understand the legal and regulatory requirements in your area. Search out items such as food safety standards, labeling laws and permits. Talk with your local authorities and health agencies to ensure you meet all the necessary regulations.

#2. Practice transparency in transactions. Consumers want to know where their food comes from and how it was raised. While some want humanely raised animals, others are quite content with simply knowing the farmer. Either way, don't oversell. Openly communicate your commitment to quality to build trust with consumers. If you want to add a level of credibility, your farm can obtain certifications such as USDA Organic or Certified Humane.

#3 – Marketing your meat. This all starts with a brand that resonates with your target audience. Using 'farm' or 'farmer' is often the go-to for many DTC business names because consumers google it. Use professional photography to showcase your products. Highlight what makes your country unique – whether it's sustainable farming practices, premium quality, or a special regional flavor.

#4 – Establish an online presence. Build a strong online presence to reach and engage customers. Create a user-friendly website that showcases your products, pricing and ordering information. Make sure it is mobile-friendly as well. Implement secure payment options and provide clear shipping and delivery details. Choose an e-commerce platform that suits your needs and budget. Develop a shipping and delivery strategy that guarantees the freshness and safety of your products.

#5 – Don't overlook in-person sales. One reason people turn to DTC is for human interaction. Consider delivery to a specified location or a farmers market booth. This allows your customers to meet their farmer and inspect the products. Developing those personal connections combined with quality products can lead to customer retention.

#6 – Consider customer loyalty programs. To increase the chance of long-term relationships with your customers, consider loyalty programs, discounts for repeat customers and subscription options. DTC food brand 'the Butcher Box', which rose in popularity during the COVID-19 pandemic, still implement a 'monthly box' subscription service. Customers can choose from pre-selected boxes or customize their own box. They incentivize customers with free products for staying on their subscription. Don't forget to let everyone know about your customer loyalty programs through social media channels.

#7 - Don't settle. DTC requires adapting and innovating. Stay informed about industry trends and customer preferences. Look for new products or packaging options to keep your customers engaged.

Direct-to-customer marketing can be a rewarding venture, but it is one that requires careful planning and execution, in addition to a lot of hard work. In the meat industry, DTC is one way for farmers to capture more of the value out of the animal. It allows them to provide a quality product while offering customer convenience.

And that's just what the customer ordered.”



A BREEDER'S QUESTION... Will you help?

I'm curious about how people decide how to have lambs processed when they are going to sell cuts of meat. For the lambs that we had processed, we only got back 2 lbs of ground lamb per animal. From what I am seeing, ground lamb is cheaper than any other cut. From a profit standpoint it seems like there is more money made when selling things like lamb chops, legs, shoulders, shanks, rack, etc. On the other hand, it seems like ground lamb would be in demand, and customers could be lost if there isn't any available. I'd be interested to know how experienced producers choose the cuts at processing time to maximize sales. Contact Janae Foss at Jnfoss@gmail.com

About this calendar...

YES, I will run the calendar in every Tunis newsletter issue... PLEASE send me additional dates...

ON-LINE & ON-SITE SALES

April 15 th	WESTERN NEW YORK ON-LINE SALE	Integrity Livestock Sales Yearling Ewes, Fall Ewe Lambs, Spring Ewe Lambs, Fall Ram Lambs & Spring Ram Lambs
	Consignors:	Swartz & Talley Tunis, M & M Bugman Farm, Old Glory Farm, Red Barn Farm & Double Trouble Tunis. Watch Facebook for Postings
April 21 st	SPILDE TUNIS ON-LINE SALE	608 334 0259 for info Integrity Livestock Sale
		Delivery possible to Greenville
April 22 nd	WOOLY HOLLOW TUNIS SALE	dgochen@vt.edu Integrity Livestock Sale
		Delivery possible to Greenville
May 9 - 11 th	NATIONAL TUNIS SALE @ Ohio Showcase Sale	Greenville, OH ENTRY Deadline – Ck in March at "Ohio Showcase Sale"
June 10-15 th	MIDWEST STUD RAM SALE	@ Sedalia, MO

OPEN CLASS SHOWS

Jul. 18 th - 27 th	Delaware State Fair	Harrington, DE
Jul. 24 - Aug. 4 th	Ohio State Fair	Columbus, OH
Aug. 1 st - 11 th	Wisconsin State Fair	W. Allis, WI
Aug. 2 nd - 18 th	Indiana State Fair	Indianapolis, IN
Aug. 8 th - 18 th	Missouri State Fair	Sedalia, MO
Aug. 8 th - 18 th	Illinois State Fair	Springfield, IL
Aug. 15 th - 25 th	Kentucky State Fair	Louisville, KY
Aug. 21 st - Sep. 2 nd	New York State Fair	Syracuse, NY
Aug. 22 nd - Sep. 8 th	Maryland State Fair	Timonium, MD
National Tunis Show – Labor Day Weekend		
Sep. 13 th - 29 th	The Big E Tunis Sept. 21 st	W Springfield, MA
Sep. 27th-Oct. 6 th	Keystone International	Harrisburg, PA
Nov 17 th - 21 st	North American Livestock Expo	Louisville, KY

MAJOR YOUTH SHOWS:

Jul. 4 th - 7 th	JR All American	E Lansing, MI
National Jr Tunis Show!		
Jul. 19 th - 21 st	NEYSS	W Springfield, MA
Jul. 26 th - 28 th	Youth Sheep Expo	Greenfield, IN
Jul. 31 st	Buckeye Blowout Show	Columbus, OH
Nov. 16 th - 17 th	NAILE	Louisville, KY

WOOL/FIBER SHOWS:

Feb. 2 nd - 4 th	DeMarVa Fiber Fest	Ocean City, MD
May 4 th & 5 th	Maryland Sheep & Wool	W. Friendship, MA
May 18 th - 19 th	KY Sheep & Fiber Festival	Lexington, KY
May 25 th - 26 th	Great Lakes Fiber Festival	Wooster, OH
Sep. 6 th - 8 th	WI Sheep & Wool	Jefferson, WI
Sep. 7 th - 8 th	Endless MT Fiber Festival	New Milford, PA
Sep. 7 th - 8 th	NJ Sheep & Wool Festival	Ringoes, NJ
Sep. 21 st - 22 nd	Lehigh Valley Wool Festival	Allentown, PA
Sep. 28 th - 29 th	Shenandoah Fiber Festival	Berryville, VA
Oct. 19 th - 20 th	NY Sheep & Wool Festival	Rhinebeck, NY
Nov. 23 rd - 24 th	PA Fall Fiber Festival	Leesport, PA

KEYSTONE International Livestock Expo – Harrisburg, PA

65 Head of Tunis shown by 13 Exhibitors from 5 states

1 Yr Ram	3 Fitted Fall RL	1 Slick Shorn RL	9 Early Spring RL
S & T Tunis, NY	S & T Tunis, NY S & T Tunis, NY	S & T Tunis, NY	Lea Bielewicz, NY Woolly Hollow, VA
2 Late Spring RL	1 Slick Shorn RL	13 Early Fitted Yr E	3 Slick Shorn YrE
Woolly Hollow, VA	S & T Tunis, NY	Gregory Loper. NY	S & T Tunis, NY
Marshall Kerper, PA		S & T Tunis, NY	Old Glory Farms, NY
6 Fall Fitted EL	2 Slick Shorn Fall	15 Early Spring EL	7 Late Spring EL
S & T Tunis, NY	S & T Tunis, NY	Drew Ridgeway, MD	Drew Ridgeway, MD
Drew Ridgeway, MD	S & T Tunis, NY	S & T Tunis, NY	Gregory Loper, NY
2 Slick Shorn EL	5 Exhibitors Flock		
S & T Tunis, NY	Gregory Loper, NY		
Kalie Harrison, NY	S & T Tunis, NY		
PREMIER EXHIBITOR – S & T Tunis		PREMIER BREEDER – S & T Tunis	
CHAMPION RAM – S & T Tunis		RES CH RAM – Lea Bielewicz	
CHAMPION EWE – Gregory Loper		RES CH EWE – Drew Ridgeway	

EXHIBITORS – Lea Bielewicz, NY; Mackenzie Gill, MD; Stephen Gill, MD; Kalie Harrison, NY; Madison Johnson; Marshall Kerper, PA; Gregory Loper, NY; Old Glory Farm (Howe Family) NY; Drew Ridgeway, MD. S & T Tunis, NY; Jaime-lyn Widman; Jason Widman; and Woolly Hollow (Dana Gochenour), VA:



I'll be in the barn.

When people have come to visit over the years
they commonly hear from me "I'll be in the barn."

When life gets hard... I'll be in the barn.

When things are just right... I'll be in the barn.

When the sun shines... The rain falls... Or snow covers the ground

I'll be in the barn.

If things seem to be falling apart or if I'm celebrating the simple things,
I'll be in the barn.

When I'm looking for answers or trying to clear my mind, I'll be in the barn.

When I'm looking for myself, I'll be in the barn.

If I'm working or trying to relax, I'll be in the barn.

Even when I'm not in the barn my mind drifts there,
I find myself thinking about being in the barn...

It's where I keep my riches... All my wins and my failures

Every one of my hopes, dreams, hardships and memories.

You can find them all in the barn, buried in the hay, hiding under a halter,
spilling out of the feed bins, or glimmering with dust in the evening light.

I may be covered in dust, dirt, feed, hair, and hay, smell of sweat and manure,
and sometimes there may be blood or tears but I'll be there. I'll be in the barn.

So if you're wondering where to find me, I'll be in the barn.

If I'm not there, I promise I'm on my way.

- Author Unknown

Louise's Note... This poem says a lot to me. Life hasn't always been smooth for me, but I always go to the barn and the sheep for comfort. It works!

Excerpts from... November 2023 "The Shepherd Magazine....

from "Minds like Parachutes" written by Lee Hawes

talking about bulls & genetics....

"...I guess what I am trying to point out is if you buy a ram at a sale thinking he is going to benefit your operation because he was the high selling ram at the Golden Gate Ram Sale or whatever, he might, by the way of his daughters, take you down a primrose path that could take you virtually years to correct.

A buck to turn out now is the one you are putting your trust in to benefit your operation down the road. It's not going to be a one-and-done unless he doesn't have any daughters to keep. As we start putting the bucks out, look at the markets and then the environment then make adjustments."

"Managing Parasite Infections in Small Ruminants"

"People are often tempted to treat an entire herd or flock of animals for parasites at once to reduce their worm burden but because it is impossible to get rid of all parasites, this leaves parasites that are the most resistant to the medications....The remaining parasites will reestablish the parasite population, which will now be even more resistant to the medications, launching farms into a spiral of worsening parasite problems with nothing that seems to work for treatment."

"All flocks and herds need a parasite management plan, which should, ideally, include prevention strategies.... Examples include feeding animals in troughs and feeders that are designed to prevent manure from falling into them; ensuring that there aren't too many animals on a piece of land, which can concentrate parasites and increase worm burdens; and using targeted, selective treatments for the animals that need them."

"Passing Gas..."

"Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) recently announced a research project 'Selecting for Lower Methane Sheep.' The objective is to 'enable Australian sheep breeders to select for reduced enteric methane emissions.' The project seeks to collect 'methane data' on 10,000 sheep from across the country. In a fit of laughter, I nearly emitted a little methane myself when I read the project was being commissioned by the Australian 'Emissions Avoidance Partnership'!"

"Thanksgiving Thoughts...WOOL"

I am grateful that wool is a wonderful fiber. Natural fibers are gaining respect. Those who are concerned about plastics in the environment are learning that a major source of microplastics in the ocean is residue of fibers washed from polyester fleeces and other synthetic fabrics. I hope this will translate into more respect for natural fibers--not just wool, but also cotton, linen, and other animal and plant-based fibers."

A Touch of History...written by Woody Lane...

from Sheep Farming in America originally published in 1907.....

"1907.....'a world that no longer exists.' America contained 38 million sheep. Montana had the most, with 5.5 million (mostly crossbred Merinos with Cotswolds). Then came Wyoming (3.8 million), New Mexico (3.2), Idaho (2.3), Ohio (2.0), Utah (2.0), Oregon (2.0), and California (1.6). Texas was number nine 1.4 million nearly tied with Michigan (1.2 million).

In 1907, you could buy ewes for \$4 and rams for \$10, and most dairy farms had a few sheep. Fat lambs sold for six cents a pound - at a profit. And the writer exuberantly claimed that the problem of internal parasites was nearly solved."

FAMOUS 4-H ALUMNI

"One of every 7 adult Americans is a former 4-H'er!!" Like these people...

Julia Roberts	Ned Jarrett	Dan Reeves	Nancy Grace
Dolly Parton	Johnny Cash	Reggie White	Luke Bryan
Randy Owen	Roslyn Carter	Roy Rogers	Al Gore
Jimmy Carter	Johnny Carson	Faith Hill	Alan Shepherd
Jennifer Nettle	Walter Mondale	David Letterman	Lamar Alexander
Herschel Walker	Trisha Yearwood	Reba McIntire	Kevin Richardson
Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis	Orville Redenbacher		Ben Nighthorse Campbell

AND ME!!!!



ALFALFA FACTS

What's the difference between alfalfa and grass hay?

The main difference is the amount of protein. Quality alfalfa can have as much as 50% more protein than grass hay.

What's the cost difference?

Alfalfa typically has a higher input cost compared to grass hay, but it's important to also consider which forage type will work best with your grain and help you to meet your goals.

Should I feed alfalfa year-round?

The best time to feed high-quality alfalfa is during gestation, and lactation to support milk production or when the pasture is declining in quality or quantity.



CONSEQUENCES OF OVER CONDITIONING OF BREEDING BULLS

Something to think about...from "*Progressive Cattle*"

Feeding high energy diets to young bulls right up to the point of breeding season can have a negative effect on breeding ability, semen quality and embryo development."

Louise's question... is this why that older rams are better in the breeding pen than those rams coming right off the show string & in a slightly fat body condition?????



Australia has too many sheep and farmers are giving them away free!

"Australia's mutton glut has sent prices tumbling, and some farmers are compelled to give their sheep away to save costs instead of rearing them on the farm. Driving the large sheep flock were three years of above average rainfall in Australia's sheep regions.

...Australia has had several good seasons over the past several years, which means that the sheep flock has reached 78.75 million head – the largest since 2007.

Australia's mutton glut sent prices tumbling, and some farmers are culling, or giving away their sheep to save costs instead of rearing them on-farm.

...Farmers have (since) seen a massive fall in profitability. Many sheep may not have a market which could lead to farmers destroying animals.

...that farmers would much rather give the animals away than cull them, but there hasn't been many takers for the free sheep.

Consequently, the oversupply of sheep sent prices of the livestock lower. Marking a reversal of the windfall that farmers enjoyed from three years back.

The discounted prices are a double whammy for farmers, who now have to feed a huge flock for longer, even as weather conditions have taken a turn for the worse."

(Editor's note----Australia is now experiencing extremely dry weather.)

Reprinted from a cnbc.com news report

A GLIMPSE OF CHINA'S "MEGA SHEEP"

The Author writes..." In November 2018, I was one of the several international speakers at a Symposium on Sheep Industry Development in Tianjin, China. While there, I got to visit a couple of 'mega' sheep farms.

The seedstock farm I visited had 6,000 ewes on-site (11,000 sheep total) and raised imported terminal sire breeds: White Dorper and Australian White. The commercial farm I visited had 20,000 ewes of the native Chinese Hu breed.

Chinese Hu is a fat tailed sheep with origins in Mongolia. It is known for its outstanding maternal characteristics, including early sexual maturity, aseasonality, and prolificacy. In fact, the FeeB gene, which is responsible for high ovulation rates and litter sizes in Booroola Merino sheep, has been identified in the Hu. Wouldn't it be great to have this breed in the US?

Most people are familiar with the White Dorper, a muscular 'hair' sheep from South Africa. The Australian White is another composite 'hair' breed. Its make-up includes White Dorper, Texel, Poll Dorset, and Van Rooy. The Van Rooy is another South African hair breed (fat tailed).

The 'Australian White is called the 'Wagyu of the sheep world.' because its meat is considered to have superior eating satisfaction, due to the lower melting point of its intramuscular fat. At least one US farm is now importing Australian White genetics. This is good news, as the US industry strives to improve lamb meat quality.

China is the largest producer (by far) and consumer of sheep meat in the world. While the majority of producers (*88%) have fewer than 30 animals, there are great efforts to intensify sheep (and other livestock) production in China to meet the growing demand for meat and dairy products.

Per capita consumption of sheep meat is much higher in China than the United States: 7.7 lbs vs > 1.1 lbs. The Chinese do not seem to differentiate between lamb and mutton.

China's largest sheep farm has 100,000 ewes. On these 'mega' farms, the sheep are raised in buildings similar to pigs. They are kept in social groups, except for the few days ewes and lambs spend in 'big' lambing jugs. Some animals (e.g. rams) have outside lots. In fact, the rams at seedstock operations were taken out for exercise daily.

Breeds which adapt well to confinement are raised. Lambing is accelerated (every 8 months). Some insemination and embryo transfer is practiced; at least, it was on the breeding farm. Detailed records are kept. Electronic ID is used. Lambs are marketed when they are about 4 months of age and weigh 110 lbs live.

The sheep we saw were healthy, productive, and well fed. I did not witness any stereotypes (abnormal behaviors due to confinement.) While a few sheep had hoof issues, the majority appeared sound. The sheep are fed silage-based diets according to the requirements of each stage of their production cycle. Weaned lambs are fed pelleted diets. Biosecurity was impressive.

Some people may scoff at this kind of production system, calling it 'factory farming' (Author note: A term I despise.) While many producers keep sheep (and goats) confined, these kinds of farms take it to a different level. Some sheep never get to go outside. Though they consume largely forage diets, they do not get to graze or browse."

From the Internet

AND IN RELATION TO THIS ARTICLE... I came across a new recipe for "Fried Lamb Tails" & here are some of the comments that followed...

"We had roasted lamb tails for dinner last night. The excess fat was drained off and will be used for frying. For those who like chicken or turkey necks, the meat is very similar."

"I like that nothing is wasted."

From Frontiersin.org...

"Sheep tail fat inhibits the proliferation of non-small-cell lung cancer cells in vitro and in vivo."

"How many lamb tails does it take to make a meal." "I ate 3 for dinner and 2 for lunch."

"People need to learn how to cook rather than complain about the cost of groceries."

MAXIMIZE REVENUE OPPORTUNITY FROM CULL EWES

By Dr. Patrick Gunn of Purina Animal Nutrition

"Ewes are culled from the flock when they are no longer contributing to the profitability of your operation. But cull ewes don't have to be a loss."

WHEN TO CULL: There are two key times of the year to evaluate ewes for culling – after weaning and before breeding. After weaning, assess ewes for productivity and profitability in terms of number of lambs weaned and the cumulative weaning weights of those lambs.

Around 45 to 60 days before breeding season, evaluate how ewes held up during the breeding season. Did any ewes require greater maintenance in terms of parasites, worms and other health challenges? Did they have feet and leg issues? Body condition can be a factor for culling, but under-conditioned ewes that are otherwise sound and productive still have time to get back into condition with nutritional support before breeding.

For spring lambing flocks, now, during late gestation, is a good time to review annual records and earmark ewes that have decreased in productivity in the past few years so you can watch them going into lambing season.

VOLUNTARY & INVOLUNTARY FACTORS: Many factors influence culling decisions, and you can group these factors into two categories – voluntary and involuntary culling.

Involuntary culling is associated with factors that negatively impact the bottom line regardless of market conditions. Involuntary culling factors are factors typically associated with reproductive issues (not breeding back) and severe health challenges.

Most other factors are considered voluntary culling – factors preventing ewes from being highly productive but might be overlooked if the profit margins are high in a given market. As such, voluntary culling factors include: manageable feet and leg issues, assisted or unassisted lambing, mothering ability, udder quality, number of lambs weaned, cumulative weaning weight of lambs, body condition and age.

Producers often ask me what age to cull ewes. The answer depends upon the ewe. Is she weaning cumulative lamb weight that ranks in the top half of the flock? Has she remained hardy in terms of feet and legs and udder quality.

Age alone isn't a reason to cull a ewe if the ewe is productive and weaning an adequate weight of lambs.

EVALUATING MARKET OPPORTUNITY: Once you've decided which animals to cull, consider if you should cull immediately or keep ewe in the flock for a time to maximize market opportunities. The decision is twofold: what are the expected feed costs to add weight to cull animals before marketing, and will the expected return on investment outweigh any addition input costs?



**A New Sheep & Goat Equipment Sale Facility
located in central Ohio.**

**Marweld Equipment from Canada
Ask about Farm discounts!**

Perimeter Solutions 5537 County Road 49

Huntsville, OH 43324 (937) 464-2043

WHO IS PROMOTING WOOL ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

This graphic is from the [#campaign for wool](#), [#choosewool](#), [#promotewool](#) threads on X (Twitter).



Editor's note: I need someone to either write about wool for the newsletter or direct me to a reliable source for articles... HELP!!!!!!

AND WHO IS PROMOTING TUNIS ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

By Debbi Brown

One of my favorite YouTubers does! Sandi Brock from the *Sheepishly Me.* channel has over a million subscribers! She is a Canadian sheep farmer that raises market lambs indoors. She breeds for lambs four times a year. Her videos are a mix of her life's challenges and her daily sheep chores and lambings. Her husband is a grain farmer and they have two grown children. She admits she is learning as she goes, and she freely passes on her failures and successes. Even though our farm setups have few similarities, I have learned quite a bit from watching her videos.

A couple of years ago, Sandi added two Tunis rams to her flock as terminal sires. Since the solid white Canadian breed, Rideau, makes up the majority of her flock, she really enjoys having colored lambs, both blacks, and now, the red lambs that her Tunis boys are siring. I'm sure her viewers do too.

For some interesting videos, be sure to check her YouTube channel out!

The image shows a screenshot of Sandi Brock's YouTube channel page. At the top, there is a circular profile picture of Sandi Brock holding a white goat. To the right of the profile picture, the channel name "Sheepishly Me." is displayed in a stylized font, with "Sheepishly" in a blue hexagon and "Me." in a white hexagon. Below the name, the tagline "Adventures of a Sheep Farmer" is written. A red YouTube play button icon is followed by the text "new videos every week!". Below this header, the channel's name "Sandi Brock" is displayed in a large, bold, black font, with a small blue circular icon next to it. Underneath the channel name, the subscriber count "@SandiBrock · 1.08M subscribers" and the number of videos "909 videos" are shown. A bio text "I am a mom, a wife, and a farmer. In that order (most days). >" is followed by a link "twitter.com/sandibrock?lang=en and 2 more links". A "Subscribed" button with a bell icon is present. Below the channel information, there are three video thumbnails. The first video, titled "We have RED LAMBS!!! ...and I'm obsessed. 😊 | Vlog 683", shows Sandi Brock holding a red lamb. The second video, titled "A surprise RED TRIPLET LAMB?! ...born over 8 HOURS LATER!! | Vlog 684", shows a red triplet lamb. The third video, titled "Red's BIG day!!! ...now THIS was worth the wait. | Vlog 703", shows a person interacting with a sheep. Each video thumbnail includes the title, the channel name, views, and the upload date.

Sheepishly Me.
Adventures of a Sheep Farmer
new videos every week!

Sandi Brock • 1.08M subscribers • 909 videos

I am a mom, a wife, and a farmer. In that order (most days). >

twitter.com/sandibrock?lang=en and 2 more links

Subscribed

We have RED LAMBS!!! ...and I'm obsessed. 😊 | Vlog 683
Sandi Brock 261K views • 9 months ago
You guyssss!!! After a devastating prolapse, our Little Red made it to the finish line and delivered a beautiful set of twin boys!! ...but is there more in there that I missed?? Stay tuned...

A surprise RED TRIPLET LAMB?! ...born over 8 HOURS LATER!! | Vlog 684
Sandi Brock 255K views • 9 months ago
GUYS!!! Red wasn't finished!!! After ending the day yesterday with a beautiful set of twin boys, she thought she'd keep the last a secret and shock me first thing this morning with a GIRL!!...

Red's BIG day!!! ...now THIS was worth the wait. | Vlog 703
Sandi Brock 171K views • 6 months ago

TUNIS FOR SALE:

ARIZONA: One registered Tunis ewe & one unregistered Tunis ewe – both bred for March lambing plus one registered Tunis ram for sale. Located in Pearce, AZ Text 360 820 3117 for details.

MISSOURI: Tunis breeding stock of all ages for sale. Also have a few 2023 ewe lambs available @ Stumpe Farms in Mexico, MO. Contact Keith at 573 473 1814



WANTED TO BUY:

NORTH CAROLINA: Seeking High Quality Tunis to enhance my breeding program. Wanting 1 registered quality ram lamb showing strong Tunis genetics and resilience. Additionally want 3 registered ewe lambs not related to the ram. Prefer animals that show excellent breed characteristics and temperament. May be 2023 animals or reserving 2024 lambs. Contact Matt Hyatt @ 910-987-4855 or hello@bendingbranchnc.com.



LOUISE'S LAST COMMENTS:

And I continue to be different... I am not publishing an "Expert's" advice on dealing with mastitis... I'm just giving you my 30 years of personal – in the barn - advice!

When I switched from raising Suffolks to a barn full of Tunis, I had several cases of mastitis... so I called my vet... an old, experienced man that simply explained "I didn't know my breed"!

He reminded me that when the black faced ewes lambed, I increased the grain right away... but he told me that the red headed ewes were different. And I changed my feeding habits right away and NO MORE mastitis. Different breeds – different feeding plan!

The red Tunis ewes maybe are getting a ¼ lb of corn the last month before lambing... and when they lamb... the ewes don't get any grain for 3 days... after 3 days. the lambs are ready to eat and Mom better be able to milk!! I always said that for my red headed ewes..." increase the grain and you increased the milk production!" And no mastitis because by the time the ewes are in full production... those lambs are ready for all of it. So knock on wood... but no mastitis here!

Free advice from a really old lady... remember I will be 19 birthdays old... the last day of February 2024. You figure it out! - Louise

Tunis Messenger

NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP REGISTRY DIRECTORS:

Region 1 -

Nathan Loux, Cummington, MA

Region 2 -

Justine Bielewicz, Nunda, NY

Region 3 -

Nettie Ridgeway, Liberytown, MD

Region 4 -

Dan Erwin, Richwood, OH

Region 5 -

Dana Gochenour, Woodstock, VA

Region 6 -

Lloyd Arthur, Greenfield, IN

Region 7 -

Kelly Stumpe, Russellville, MO

Region 8 -

Debbi Brown, Axtell, TX

In this issue:

- President's Message
- NTSRI Ewe Lamb Futurity Results
- Show Sponsors Needed
- Regional Director Reports
- BOD Meeting Notes
- NAILE Open Class Results
- Next TUNIS TIMES
- NAILE Junior Class Results
- 2024 Election News
- 2024 NTSRI Scholarships
- Louise's Last Bit

**Not everything in the sheep industry is black & white...
Pick a Red Head!**

The NTRSI's President's Message

REGION 7 Director & President, Kelly Stumpe writes:

This is the best time of the year to sit back and make plans before those January lambs hit the ground. The NTSRI Board did just that at our Board meeting in Louisville and the talk was about how to keep those young Tunis breeders involved. After many ideas were thrown around, the Board decided to emphasize the Futurity program by putting more money into awards.

Recently, regardless of the amount of consignors' fees collected, the program gave out \$1,000 in prizes to the top 5 kids in order of the number of points they had won. The Board decided to up the prize money to **\$2,000** and to give money awards to **the top 80%** of the kids in the program in 2024. More kids get more money!

So how does this Futurity work? Any NTSRI youth member (\$12 youth membership fee) simply needs to buy a consigned lamb - notice the winners and the listed breeder in the 2023 winning list - at a spring on-line or on-site show. It can be a 2024 spring born ewe lamb or 2023 fall born ewe lamb that the consignors have paid the consignment fee before the sale... Louise will collect this fee and give the buyers the paperwork needed for the shows. The youth goes back home and shows their purchased lambs. At any show - open or youth - separate Tunis classes or All Breed Classes - county fair - 4-H shows - your own state fairs! The Jr All American which serves as our National Junior Tunis Show and the final Jr Show at Louisville earn double points... BUT each kid can only have the top 5-point shows figured in the total! But the kids need to send show reports after every show to Louise. The Sales are already listed in the newsletter.

AND the **FREE Buyers Credits** that are given away at the Greenville & Sedalia sales are simply a bonus and aren't directly connected to the Futurity... Last year, Louise gathered more than \$1,000 in \$50 or \$100 or \$200 amounts. Watch out... Louise is on the look out for money this year. Everyone at the meeting knows that when the kids are busy with their sheep, they are headed in the right direction. And isn't that what we want?

In the April issue, the Board will have a schedule of the Tunis activities for Greenville. Make your hotel reservations now. See you in Greenville.

Kelly Stumpe, NTSRI President and Region 7 Director

Next newsletter deadline: March 29, 2024

NTSRI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOTES

Kathy Niese, NTSRI Executive Secretary reports...

NTSRI BOD Meeting Draft Minutes November 12, 2023, Room C107

Call to Order: President, Kelly Stumpe

Roll Call:

Region 1 Nathan Loux
Region 3 Nettie Ridgway
Region 5 Dana Gochenour
Region 7 Kelly Stumpe
Guests: Jessica Swihart

Region 2 Justine Bielewicz
Region 4 Dan Erwin
Region 6 Lloyd Arthur
Region 8 Debbi Brown (absent)

Secretary Report: Kathy Niese

Approval of Minutes from 9-7-2023

Moved by: Lloyd 2nd by: Dana Motion to approve: Passed Unanimously

Treasurer Report:

Huntington Bank: \$7398.32

Checks paid 9-1-23 to 10-31-23.

- 9-6 #1793 Associated Registry July and August Fees \$1647.97
- 9-6 #1794 Kathy Niese August Stipend \$200.00
- 10-2 #1795 Novel Design Website retainer \$200.00
- 10-2 #1796 Kathy Niese September Stipend \$200.00
- 10-2 #1797 Associated Registry October Stipend \$139.20
- 10-16 #1798 Anne Marie Chapdelaine Big E Leadline \$10.00
- 10-16 #1799 Louise Dunham Newsletter Stipend & Fees \$468.92
- 10-16 #1800 Debbi Brown Newsletter Formatting \$100.00
- 10-20 #1801 Mitchell Agency D & O Insurance \$1325.00

Expenses Encumbered from September 7, 2023

- 1783 Louise Dunham (Buckeye Blowout) \$300.00
- 1798 Anne Marie Chapdelaine (Big E Leadline Participant) \$10.00

Huntington Checkbook balance \$7088.32

Bennington Bank: \$24,019.56 (requested 2, \$4,000.00 withdrawals to be deposited into Huntington Bank)

PayPal: \$7913.69 (requested \$5,000 to be transferred to Huntington Bank)

Total of all accounts: \$39,121.97

Approval of Treasurers Report pending audit:

Moved by: Lloyd 2nd by: Dana Motion to approve: passed unanimously

Associated Registry Report:

September	Registrations 47	Transfers 46
	Dues 3	Memberships 5
	Christening 1 - Louise Dunham - Mighty Marcus	
October	Registrations 34	Transfers 36
	Dues 2	Memberships 1
	Christening 4 - AR shows 4 new Christening names, but I only received 3	
	MJM Family Farm - Donkey Kong	
	Swartz and Talley - Naughty Frank	
	Claire Spilde - Cash	
Tunis Ad	11 Ads	\$5542.50

A motion was made by Lloyd Arthur to clear all Associated Registry Debits prior to January 1, 2020. The motion was 2nd by Nathan Loux. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Show and Sale: Justine reported that the National Show schedule will be as follows:

- 2024 Maryland
- 2025 Naile (If our show will be held on Monday, if the show falls later in the week, there may be an adjustment to this schedule)
- 2026 TBD (The Ohio Tunis Sheep Association is planning to submit a request for this show)

Social Media:

- The committee has planned to move forward with Country Lovin' Website for 6 months. The motion was made by Lloyd Arthur and 2nd by Nettie Ridgeway. The motion passed unanimously.
- The committee will then move forward with Novel Design for the new website.

Youth Update: Matt: No Report at this time.

Futurity: Louise Dunham: The Futurity program had a tie for 4th place, it was moved by Dan that we should pay the same premium to both 4th place winners. Justine, 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Scholarship Committee: Mark Swihart: Mark reports he will have some changes to the 2024 scholarship application.

Old Business:

NTSRI Directory follow-up: Dan Erwin: the next magazine will be published by April 1, 2024. There are plans to add the following items to the next issue:

- Post NAILE results
- National Sale Results
- Encourage participation in Photo contest. 2 photos will be on the cover of the next issue of the Tunis Times and the motion was made by Lloyd Arthur for 2 winners to receive \$50.00 each for the winning photos, the motion was 2nd by Dana, the motion passed unanimously.

Digital Database, follow-up: Dana has been trying to make contact with the person responsible for creating the database, but he has not replied to her at the time of the meeting.

Rebranding Committee Update: Jessica sent the new logo to the directors for approval. Everyone was in favor of adopting the logo.

New Business:

- Select Election Officer: Nathan Loux will continue as the election officer for Region 2 and Region 3, Dana will be the election officer for Region 1.
- Budget Proposal for 2024: Kathy will send the 2023 budget form 2023 to the directors before the next meeting for review.
- NAILE Superintendent: Sue Anderson will be leaving her position as Naile Superintendent in 2024. Kelly will work with Sue to transition a new superintendent into this position.
- The topic of points for Regional Shows is being discussed.
 - Double futurity points will be discussed in a future meeting.
 - We will give parameters to the All-American Junior Show Staff with regard to showing wethers, and clarification on faults and disqualifications at the scales. We will look at other breeds' qualifications to determine any changes that might be made moving forward.
 - Guaranteed Futurity prizes. A motion was made by Lloyd Arthur and 2nd by Justine that NTSRI will guarantee \$2000.00 for the Futurity Program. The motion passed unanimously.

Next BOD Meeting Date: January 15th, 2024 7:30 pm EST

Respectfully Submitted:

Kathryn M. Niese

NTSRI Executive Secretary

8777 Rd I 7 Ottawa, Ohio 45875

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Region 1 Report: **Nathan Loux, Director**

It is so strange to look outside as I type this and not see any snow. I am sure we will be slammed in January and February. I hope you all have a successful lambing season! We do not have any Tunis due for a couple of weeks.

I know shows are not on the forefront of your mind right now, but I wanted to send some important dates:

Massachusetts Sheep and Woolcraft Fair, Cummington, MA - May 25th and 26th.

NEYSS, West Springfield, MA - July 19-21

Big E, West Springfield, MA - Tunis show, Saturday morning, September 21st.

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Region 2 Report: **Justine Bielewicz, Director**

It has been a busy holiday season here in Western NY. We are finally ready for new lambs to arrive the first of January. We have all of our close ewes in the barn, in pens of 20 or less and ready to make small pens for ewes once they lamb to avoid ewes rejecting their lambs. I hope everyone has a successful lambing season.

Please feel free to reach out anytime with questions or even just to chat. We will be welcoming farm visits this spring as we prepare for our online sale April 15th as well as the Big Ohio sale.

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Region 3 Report: **Nettie Ridgeway, Director**

As we prepare for our lambing to start in January, we have been lucky to have mild temperatures so far. Let's hope that continues once the lambs hit the ground. We are looking forward to hosting the National Show this year at the Maryland State Fair, August 30-September 2, 2024 in Timonium, MD. We have been told that Tunis will show last on Monday. Opportunities to sponsor classes at the 2024 National Show can be found in this newsletter. The state fair has been great with working with us to add all the additional classes we need including slicked classes. They also offer several additional group classes that we normally don't see at many shows. If you show other breeds bring them too as there are many breed shows offered over the 4 days. Of course, don't forget that we also have the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival at the Howard County Fairgrounds May 4-5, 2024. Tunis will be represented through the display barn and if you're a wool enthusiast then think about making a trip to this festival as there are hundreds of vendors.

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Region 4 Report: **Dan Erwin, Director**

What's In Your Bag?

While waiting to dump grain (3 hr.) at the ethanol plant I discovered podcasts. I listened to several different ones and became envious of the ability to make the most trivial topics educational and entertaining. With that idea and a nudge from an ad on tv this topic came to mind. I hope it is educational and thought provoking.

We have all heard the credit card ad asking "what's in your wallet." It is lambing time and shepherds young and old are assembling the "stuff" that helps make for successful lambings. In our operation the tools first and most often needed are in a Milwaukee Tool bag that lives on top of the deep freezer. This bag makes almost every trip to the barn from January to March. It lives in the back room of the house to keep the contents warmer and cleaner than the barn in winter.

After a leg injury I tired of making multiple trips to and from the house to the barn. This led to the idea of consolidating all these things together. We tried a box, a cloth grocery bag, a milk crate. These were all too big and clumsy and disorganized as well as not durable enough. We came across this tool bag that a friend was tossing out and it has worked well plus it is washable.

What is in the bag? This will vary with every shepherd. The products in our bag are geared to lambing assistance and neonatal care. Our bag contains: OB Lube, 2 OB sleeves and 2 lanyards that conventions use for nametags. The lube and sleeves allow us to intervene quicker on pulling lambs and are already warm. The lanyards make great leg snares. The next set of tools deal with getting our lamb to breath dry and fed. They include an infant aspirator (known as the snot sucker around here) to clear airways and nostrils, navel clips for lambs leaking blood from the cord, towels, a tube feeder, Tupperware cups and Nutri Drench. We prefer the 140ml syringe on our tube feeder. This allows us to put 4oz of milk at a single feeding. The cups are used to milk ewes into for tube feeding. We carry both an 8 and 10 ounce cup and like them for the wide mouth and ease of holding while milking. Nutri Drench is used to boost some instant energy if needed.

What started as an idea to save steps has turned into something that saves intervention time, keeps us organized which reduces stress.

So, the question is **What Is In Your Bag?**

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Region 5 Report: Dana Gochenour, Director

Greetings from Region 5! Are you ready for lambing season, if you haven't started already? Have you thought about how you are going to market your coming lamb crop, or what animals you might be looking to purchase this coming year? Those might seem like strange questions when the lambs aren't even on the ground yet, but I just had a conversation with another breeder and we agreed that when you raise livestock if you aren't thinking a month or more ahead, then you are already behind. It is easy to put off those "tomorrow problems" when you are sleep deprived in the middle of lambing, but a little planning now will set you up for success later.

I also hope that as you are thinking ahead you will plan to attend some Tunis events over the coming year! Join us in Greenville, OH in May for the National Sale, or come to the Maryland State Fair over Labor Day weekend for the National Show. Even if you don't show your Tunis, attending a show is a great way to meet other Tunis people. Louise does a great job of advertising shows, fiber festivals, and any other place where Tunis sheep where Tunis sheep can be found, where Tunis sheep can be found, so check out that section of the newsletter and find one near you! so check out that section of the newsletter and find one near you!

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Region 6 Report: Lloyd Arthur, Director

Our family would like to thank the Tunis Association for the donation to Evan's memorial fund. It was absolutely not needed but greatly appreciated.

We plan on seeing you in Greenville and at the Youth Sheep Expo this spring.

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Region 8 Report: Debbi Brown, Director

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year! January is always an exciting time for us, our lambs should start coming in a couple of weeks. There are still a lot of preparations to be made; rearranging the barn, getting the "lamb cam" installed again, and restocking the lambing kit. And we schedule our shearer to come before lambs start arriving if possible.

I hope everyone has a successful lambing and agreeable weather! I'm looking forward to seeing many of you in 2024!

NAILE OPEN CLASS TUNIS SHOW @ Louisville, KY

110 Head of Tunis shown by 24 Exhibitors from 10 states

4 Yr Fitted Rams

S & T Tunis, NY
McLayn Musick, IL
Kristen Swihart, OH
Linda Cook, IN

2 Slick Shorn Yr R

S & T Tunis, NY
Mattilyn Maag, OH

1 Fitted Fall Ram

S & T Tunis, NY

8 Jan. Ram Lamb

Gregory Loper, NY
Clint Garey, IL
S & T Tunis, NY
S & T Tunis, NY
Dana Gochenour, VA
Todd Brisco, OH
Mattilyn Maag, OH
Gregory Loper, NY

5 Feb. Ram L

Beau Mumm, IL
Gregory Loper, NY
Beau Mumm, IL
Colin Anderson, NY
Linda Cook, IN

3 March RL

Beau Mumm, IL
Beau Mumm, IL
Dana Gochenour, VA

9 Slick Shorn RL

S & T Tunis, NY
S & T Tunis, NY
Linda Cook, IN
Kade Joseph, OH
Kade Joseph, OH
Jacoby Maag, OH
Gregory Loper, NY
Mattilyn Maag, OH
Linda Cook, IN

10 Fitted Yr Ewes

Claire Spilde, WI
Scott Odland, MN
Beau Mumm, IL
McLayn Musick, IL
McLayn Musick, IL
Gregory Loper, NY
Lynn Murry, MO
Drew Ridgeway, MD
Kristen Swihart, OH
Anna Chapdelaine, MA

10 Fitted Yr E

Nash Arthur, IN
Claire Spilde, WI
Gregory Loper, NY
Lynn Murry., MO
Clint Garey, IL
Clint Garey, IL
S & T Tunis, NY
Jessica Vandenbroek
Todd Brisco, OH
Todd Brisco, OH

11 Slick Yr Ewe

S & T Tunis, NY
Kristen Swihart, OH
Lynn Murry, MO
Kade Joseph, OH
Mattilyn Maag, OH
Gregory Loper, NY
Mattilyn Maag. OH
Aaron Loux, MA
Kade Joseph, OH
Linda cook, IN

7 Fitted Fall EL

Claire Spilde, WI
Drew Ridgeway, MD
S & T Tunis, NY
McLayn Musick, IL
S & T Tunis, NY
Drew Ridgeway, MD
Todd Brisco, OH

10 Jan. Ewe Lambs

Frank Hunter, NY
Claire Spilde, WI
Clint Garey, IL
McLayn Musick, IL
Claire Spilde, WI
Clint Garey, IL
Kristen Swihart, OH
S & T Tunis, NY
Todd Brisco, OH
S & T Tunis, NY

9 Feb. Ewe L

Jessica Vandenbroek
Beau Mumm, IL
Beau Mumm, IL
Nash Arthur, IN
Colin Anderson, NY
S & T Tunis, NY
Linda Cook, IN
Dana Gochenour, VA
Mattilyn Maag, OH

8 March Ewe L

Claire Spilde, WI
Lynn Murry, MO
Frank Hunter, NY
Beau Mumm, IL
Lynn Murry, MO
Gregory Loper, NY
Dana Gochenour, VA
Todd Brisco, OH

13 Slick Shorn Ewe L

S & T Tunis, NY
Aaron Loux, MA
Henrik Vandenbroek, OH
Gregory Loper, NY
S & T Tunis, NY
Gregory Loper, NY
Kristen Swihart, OH
Lynn Murry, MO
Kade Joseph, OH
Emma Chandler, MO

5 Get of Sire

Gregory Loper, NY
S & T Tunis, NY
Kade Joseph, OH
Linda Cook, IN
Mattilyn Maag, OH

6 FLOCKS

Gregory Loper, NY
McLayn Musick, IL
S & T Tunis, NY
Kristen Swihart, OH
Kade Joseph, OH
Linda Cook, IN

BEST HEADED RAM – S & T Tunis
BEST HEADED EWE – McLayn Musick
PREMIER EXHIBITOR – S & T Tunis

SR CH RAM – S & T Tunis – Yr Ram
JR CH RAM – Gregory Loper – Jan. RL

RES SR CH RAM – McLayn Musick 2nd Yr Ram
RES JR CH RAM – Beau Mumm March RL

GRAND CH FITTED RAM – Gregory Loper
GRAND CH SLICK RAM – S & T Tunis-Ram Lamb
RES CH SLICK RAM – S & T Tunis- 2nd Place RL

OVERALL CHAMPION RAM – Gregory Loper
Joe & Joan Seavey Memorial Trophy
OVERALL RES CHAMPION RAM – Beau Mumm

SR CH EWE – Claire Spilde – Fall Ewe
JR CH EWE – Frank Hunter – Jan. EL
GRAND CH FITTED RAM – Claire Spilde
GRAND CH SLICK EWE – S & T Tunis - Yr Ewe

RES SR CH EWE – Nash Arthur - Yr Ewe
RES JR CH EWE – Jessica Vandenbroek – Feb. EL
RES CH FITTED EWE – Frank Hunter
RES CH SLICK EWE – S & T Tunis - Ewe Lamb

OVERALL CHAMPION EWE – Claire Spilde
Peter & Judy Harris Trophy
OVERALL RES CHAMPION EWE – Frank Hunter

EXHIBITORS: Colin Anderson, NY; Nash Arthur, IN; Todd Brisco (Shadybrook Tunis) OH; Emma Chandler, MO; Anne Chapdelaine, MA; Linda Cook (Triangle Farms Tunis), IN; Clint Garey, IL; Dana Gochenour (Woolly Hollow), VA; Frank Hunter, NY; Kade Joseph, OH; Gregory Loper, NY; Aaron Loux, MA; Jacoby Maag, OH; Mattilyn Maag, OH; Beau Mumm, IL; Lynn Murry, MO; McLayn Musick, IL; Scott Oland, MN; Drew Ridgeway, MD; S & T Tunis (J & M Bielewicz) NY; Claire Spilde, WI; Kristen Swihart (Swihart's Moonlight Tunis). OH; Henrick Vandenbroek, OH; and Jessica Vandenbroek, OH.

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THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE “TUNIS TIMES”

As most of you know we published our first ‘Tunis Times’ in November just prior to the National Show. It had great acceptance from both advertisers and readers. The purpose of this magazine is to give all Tunis breeders a platform to promote your flock and product. Work is starting on the next issue as you read this. The committee needs your help! We need pictures of Tunis in their natural environment. Please send us those pasture, lambing, barn and human-interest images to be used in the magazine. Contact Dan Erwin for more on this.

The deadline for ads in the April issue is March 15. Associated Registries will again be handling layout and publishing the magazine. They will also help any with ad layout and creation for those that need assistance. This is at no additional charge. There are several people on staff who will bring ideas to life. For more info on ad rates and the magazine please contact:

Dan Erwin – 937-578-8303 or danerwin.54@gmail.com
Lloyd Arthur-317-696-7705 or iioydt@arthursing.com
Associated Registries-785-456-8500 or asregistry.com

NAILE JR TUNIS SHOW @ Louisville, KY

78 Head of Tunis shown by 25 Exhibitors from 10 states

1 Slick Shorn Fall 3 Jan. Ram Lamb

Nathan Everhart, IN Gregory Loper, NY
Gregory Loper, NY
Mattilyn Maag, OH

6 Feb. Ram Lamb

Colin Anderson, NY
Beau Mumm, IL
Beau Mumm, IL
Gregory Loper, NY
Mattilyn Maag, OH

3 March Ram L

Beau Mumm, IL
Beau Mumm, IL
Autumn Piazza, DE

5 Slick Shorn RL 6 Early Yr Ewes

Morgan Johnson, OH Beau Mumm, IL
Kade Johnson, OH Claire Spilde, WI
Jacoby Maag, OH Autumn Piazza. DE
Kade Joseph, OH Gregory Loper, NY
Gregory Loper. NY Madison Feehan, OH

7 Late Yr Ewes

Claire Spilde, WI
Kylie Schakel, IN
Oliver O'Keefe. CT
Gregory Loper. NY
Amanda Willard, MA

10 Slick Yr Ewes

Mattilyn Maag, OH
Madison Feehan, OH
Nathan Everhart, IN
Kade Joseph, OH
Kade Joseph, OH

5 Fall Ewe Lambs 1 Slick Shorn Fall

Beau Mumm, IL Nathan Everhart, IN
Claire Spilde, WI
Mackenzie Frame, OH
Autumn Piazza, DE
Nathan Everhart, IN

8 Jan. Ewe Lambs

Claire Spilde, WI
Gregory Loper, NY
Madison Feehan, OH
Jayce Coers, IL
Nathan Everhart, IN

8 Feb. Ewe Lamb

Colin Anderson, NY
Kylie Schakel, IN
Beau Mumm, IL
Beau Mumm, IL
Autumn Piazza, DE

5 March Ewe L

Claire Spilde, WI Gregory Loper, NY
Gregory Loper, NY Gregory Loper, NY
Beau Mumm, IL Morgan Johnson, OH
Madison Feehan, OH Nathan Everhart, IN
Kida Smith, NH Kade Joseph, OH

10 Slick Shorn EL

Gregory Loper, NY
Autumn Piazza, DE
Mattilyn Maag, OH
Kade Joseph, OH

4 Young Flocks

CHAMPION RAM – Colin Anderson
RES CHAMPION RAM – Morgan Johnson
CHAMPION EWE – Claire Spilde
RES CHAMPION EWE – Colin Anderson

Feb. Ram Lamb
Slick Shorn Ram Lamb
Late Yearling Ewe
Feb. Ewe Lamb

EXHIBITORS – Colin Anderson, NY; Nash Arthur, IN; Emma Chandler, MO; Jayce Coers, IN; Nathan Everhart, IN; Madison Feehan, OH; Mackenzie Frame, OH; Mallory Johnson, OH; Morgan Johnson, Kade Joseph, OH; Gregory Loper, NY; Jacoby Maag, OH; Macie Maag, OH; Makenzie Maag, OH; Mattilyn Maag, OH; Beau Mumm, IL; Oliver O'Keefe, CT; Autumn Piazza, DE; Kylie Schakel, IN; Kida Smith. NH; Claire Spilde, WI; Hannah Swanson, IN; Abby Wagner, OH; Jake Wagner, OH, & Amanda Willard, MA.

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2024 ELECTION INFORMATION

Regions 1, 2, and 3 are all due to elect their board of director over the next couple of months. Nathan Loux (region 1) will serve as the election officer for regions 2 and 3. Dana Gochenour will serve as the election office for region 1. Nathan is the current director for region 1 and cannot coordinate the voting for his region.

All three directors from regions 1, 2, and 3 have mentioned an interest in running again (Justine Bielewicz - region 2 and Nettie Ridgeway - region 3). Please look for nomination slips to arrive in the mail toward the end of January. As we've done the last couple of years, both nominations and elections can be done via email or mail.

We have found email to be the most efficient.

2024 NTSRI SCHOLARSHIPS

The NTSRI will be awarding 3 - \$1,000 scholarships to students seeking post-secondary education in the fall of 2024. High school seniors or current college students are eligible. Applicant or parent must be a current NTRSI member.

FULL rules and new application form will be available February 1, 2024, from Mark Swihart or Dana Gochenour. The application deadline remains April 15th and the winners will be announced at the Tunis National Sale in May!

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LOUISE'S LAST LITTLE BIT - Nationally

#1 - My life is more settled and I know I will be in sheep awhile longer... so I am placing my ad in the TUNIS TIMES spring issue... you can too!

#2 - To support the additional Futurity money given by the Board for 2024 - I think we need to help more kids buy (and the consignors sell) more quality ewe lambs and those FREE Buyers credits work...

IF YOU DONATE... I will advertise the donor 3 times and I normally get 4 times the number of entries as credits... and yes, kids that have other breeds. Both the National & Ohio Tunis Associations give money...

BUT I need	MORE	\$50 buyer credits
	MORE	\$100 buyer credits
	MORE	\$200 buyer credits

They can be given in memory of someone or to honor someone or for any reason!

Contact Louise @ darlingtunis@gmail.com or text 937-407-4062

DUES ARE DUE !

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National Tunis Sheep Registry Inc. MEMBERSHIP FORM

\$12 - Jr Membership (under 22 yrs) \$25 - Sr Membership

NAME _____ AGE (if under 22 years) _____

ADDRESS _____

STATE & ZIP _____ FARM _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

WEBSITE _____ FAX _____

Send to: NTSRI
PO BOX 231
Wamego, KS 66547