

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

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

The NTRSI's President's Message

This issue of the NTSRI newsletter contains lots of opportunities for the Tunis breeders to advertise their product. One of the opportunities is the opportunity for members to promote their flock in the new TUNIS TIMES Magazine. The fall issue will have the directory and member ads. Remember this opportunity is happening quickly so don't take too long to contact Associated Registry at 785-456-8500 to place your ad... October 6th will come around quickly.

The 2nd big opportunity for Tunis breeders in 2024 is the new location for the National Open Class Tunis show. The show will be held in Timonium, Maryland in late August/early September at the Maryland State Fairgrounds. I know that many of the Midwest Tunis breeders will make the trip, but the Board also hopes that the East Coast breeders will take advantage of this opportunity. With the early release of the show information, every Tunis breeder will have a chance to make plans.

As we finish out the calendar year, we don't want to forget the last two major shows. The Keystone International Livestock Expo (KILE) will be held soon with NAILE (North American International Livestock Expo) in Louisville. The NAILE Open Class Tunis Show will be our National Open Class Tunis show on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 8 am. Please check for the full schedule of events in Louisville for show times - both junior and open class meetings plus meeting times. The Board will also present the checks to the top 5 kids earning points in the NTSRI Ewe Lamb Futurity Contest... This contest is too close to predict the winners now... the NAILE JR Tunis show will be especially important right now.

The January 2024 issue is a good time to advertise your online sales, important show dates, and other Tunis events... and don't forget to renew your NTSRI membership. Rather you are showing or not, the Board hopes to see you at Louisville in November.

Kelly Stumpe, NTSRI President and Region 7 Director

The American Lamb Board is offering 250 complimentary copies of their new Home Grown Flavor recipe book and 25 complimentary copies of any other supporting material such as stickers and tattoos. These recipes are very appropriate for farmers markets, fairs, and festivals. Contact the ALB at americanlamb.com.

NEW NATIONAL PUBLICATION!

The National Tunis Sheep Association is proud to announce the "Roll Out" of a new publication called "**The Tunis Times**" Magazine and Directory.

Opportunities to advertise have been limited in the last 2 years, especially in the print media.

The NTSRI has committed to offering a platform to promote your flock through "**The Tunis Times**", a biannual magazine. "**The Tunis Times**" will be a full color breeder-based publication that will be distributed in April and November, by mail.

Extra copies will be printed to hand out at events throughout the year. A digital copy will be available on the updated website. The Associated Registries staff will create "**The Tunis Times**" magazine, and if needed, they have several people on their staff who can help members with ad ideas, layout, and design.

The first edition of the magazine will come out as the National Tunis Sheep Association Directory in November, and the ad deadline for this issue of the magazine is October 6th.

For more information or assistance in creating your ad. Please contact,

Associated Registry at 785-456-8500 or one of the committee members listed below:

Dan Erwin	Kelly Stumpe	Lloyd Arthur	Debbi Brown
937-578-8303	636-357-8227	317-696-7705	254-715-6815

NOVEMBER AD DEADLINE is October 6, 2023

AD RATES		
	Single Issue	Two Issue Contract
Inside Front Cover	\$450	\$850
Center Page	\$450	\$850
Inside Back Cover	\$450	\$850
Back Cover	\$450	\$850
Full Page	\$350	\$650
2 Page Spread	\$675	\$1300
3/4 PG	\$300	\$550
1/2 PG	\$200	\$350
1/4 PG	\$150	\$250

FROM THE NATIONAL TUNIS QUEEN - Another "Thank You"!

Hey everyone! I am Madison Feehan in case you didn't know I am the National Tunis Queen and a college scholarship recipient. I wanted to write and talk about how college is going and what I am doing.

I am enrolled at Bowling Green State University and currently I am taking 5 classes that equal out to 18 credit hours and loving every minute of it. After deciding to major in Special Education, my schedule was remade to include those education classes and I am loving those especially.

The sheep are doing wonderfully and enjoying the pasture expansion for this fall. Most of the day is spent outside with a visit from me at least twice a day. (They love me!)

I am so thankful for the scholarship and the impact it is going to have on my college education making the financial burden less of a worry. It has meant so much to me growing up in this association and all the kind people associated with it. Thank you all!

NATIONAL TUNIS SHEEP ASSOCIATION BOD MEETING NOTES

Kathy Niese, NTSRI Executive Secretary reports....

NTSRI BOD Draft Minutes September 7, 2023

Call to Order: President, Kelly Stumpe

Roll Call:

Region 1	Nathan Loux	Region 2	Justine Bielewicz
Region 3	Nettie Ridgeway	Region 4	Dan Erwin
Region 5	Dana Gochenour	Region 6	Absent
Region 7	Kelly Stumpe	Region 8	Debbi Brown
Guests: Matt Maag and Sue Anderson		Executive Secretary - Kathy Niese	

Secretary Report: Kathy Niese

- Approval of Minutes from 8-7 2023
- Moved by: Lloyd Arthur 2nd by: Dana Gochenour Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Kathy Niese

- Huntington Bank: \$11,379.47
- Expenses Encumbered from August 7, 2023
 - 1783 Louise Dunham (Buckeye Blowout) \$300.00
 - 1793 Associated Registry (July and August) \$1647.97
 - 1794 Kathy Niese (August Stipend) \$200.00
- Huntington Checkbook balance \$9871.29
- Bennington Bank: \$17,350.91
- PayPal: \$7,64.71
- Total of all accounts: \$34,885.91

Approval of Treasurers Report: Moved by Dan Erwin, 2nd by Lloyd Motion passed unanimously pending audit.

Associated Registry Report: July and August

- Registrations 335
- Transfers 148
- Dues 50
- Memberships 13

Committee Reports

Show and Sale: Justine reported:

- The Show and Sale Committee was asked to review the judge election SOP for NAILE. After some discussion and review of the current policy and the review of past policies, it was decided that the existing SOP will remain in place.
- The National Show rotation was discussed moving forward.
 - 2024 Maryland
 - 2025 Ohio (It is expected that Ohio will submit a proposal for hosting soon)
 - 2026 NAILE, (however, if our show is scheduled for a Wednesday that year, we may want to schedule differently, it will be discussed at a future meeting).
- **NAILE:** Sue is unable to attend, she shared with Kathy Niese that Kristin Swihart was interested in helping coordinate the Social Activities at NAILE and we could follow up with her on a schedule for that event. Also, if we schedule rooms for meetings, let Kathy or Kelly know and we will share them with Sue. She will call NAILE and schedule the time for each meeting room. We need to know dates, times and number of people who will be attending. Kelly will follow up with Sue.

Social Media: Jessica Vandenbroek shared the 2 proposals for rebranding and updating Tunis social media. After the presentation, Dan Erwin moved that we enter contract with Novell Designs to create and implement our new Social Media Package. The motion was 2nd by Dana G. The motion passed unanimously.

Youth Update: Matt is working on exhibitor gifts for the NAILE Junior Show

Futurity: Louise Dunham

The Futurity points will be a total of each participant's top five set of points, with a total of \$1000.00 being split between the top 5 participants. There is still a lot of time left to earn points and the NAILE show is a double point show!

The Futurity standings as of August 27:

• Jayce Coers:	46 pts
• Oliver O'Keefe:	33 pts
• Brook Peterson:	20 pts
• Madison Feehan:	19 pts Wooley Hollow EL
• Madison Feehan	16 pts Stumpe EL
• Autumn Piazza	16 pts
• Emma Chandler	14 pts

Scholarship Committee: Mark Swihart: No report currently.

OLD BUSINESS:

NTSRI Directory follow-up: Dan Erwin: The Magazine/ Directory committee, presented the name of the NTSRI Magazine will be "**The Tunis Times**". It was moved by Lloyd Arthur and 2nd by: Nathan Loux to move forward with the name and begin collecting ads for the magazine. The motion passed unanimously. Dan will write up a promotion flyer and Kathy Niese will email the membership and post on our website, and other social media sites. Ads need to be collected and paid for by October 6, for an October 27 go to print date, and published by November 6.

- The front cover will be a collage of all types of Tunis photos.
- A 5% discount will be applied to advertisers who pay for ads in the 2 issues of the magazine.
- There will be between 32 and 36 pages published at .20cents per page.
- There will be between 250 and 300 copies printed.
- Full page ad in one magazine \$350.00 or both for \$650.00
- $\frac{3}{4}$ page ad \$300.00 for one, and \$550. 00 in both
- $\frac{1}{2}$ page ad \$200 single issue, and \$350.00 in both
- $\frac{1}{4}$ page ad \$150.00 single issue, and \$250.00 in both

Digital Database, follow-up: Dana presented a proposal to work with Associated Registry and Doug Meyer, who has experience creating Breed Pedigree Link to the NTSRI Website. Doug has a one-time \$600.00 set up fee and then a \$300.00 fee for each year, with a \$40.00 fee per update that will be done quarterly. It was moved by Nathan and 2nd by Dan to accept this proposal, and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

National Sale: Dan Erwin reported:

- There were 72 Tunis entered in the National Sale
- 69 Tunis Showed were in the show.
- 68 Tunis Sold
- Sale Average \$822.39 and Averages are trending up, but we were 14 out of 22.
- Tunis were 4th out of the 22 Breeds present at the Sale.
- The Ram rule is no longer in place.
- Floor bids will be raised.
- The 2024 Show will be May 9, and the Sale May 10th.
- Possible Judges for 2024:
 - Cruz Nichols
 - Evan Snyder
 - Alex Wolfe
 - Matt Martin

Next BOD Meeting Date: Sunday November 12th at 10:00am

The membership meeting will be at 2:00 the same day. The room will be announced later.

Respectfully Submitted, Kathryn M. Niese, 8777 Rd 17 Ottawa, Ohio 45875 419-969-0783

YOUTH SHEEP EXPO @ GREENFIELD, IN

Financially Sponsored (in part) by the NTSRI
19 Head of Tunis by 6 Exhibitors from 3 states

2 YR Ram

Nathan Everhart
Nathan Everhart

CHAMPION RAM – Beau Mumm
RES CHAMPION RAM – Beau Mumm

1 Fall Ram Lamb

Beau Mumm

2 Spring Ram Lambs

Beau Mumm
Nash Arthur
Fall Ram Lamb
Spring Ram Lamb

7 YR Ewes

Kylie Schakel
Nash Arthur

CHAMPION EWE – Kylie Schakel
RES CHAMPION EWE – Nash Arthur

2 Fall Ewe Lamb

Nathan Everhart
Maddie Huntsman

5 Spring Ewe Lambs

Beau Mumm
Nash Arthur
Yearling Ewe
2nd Place Yearling Ewe

EXHIBITORS: Nash Arthur, Emma Chandler, Nathan Everhart, Maddie Huntsman, Beau Mumm and Kylie Schakel.

NORTHEAST YOUTH SHEEP SHOW @ W SPRINGFIELD, MA

30 Head of Tunis by 8 Exhibitors from 4 states

1 Yearling Ram

Amanda Willard, MA

7 Jr Ram Lamb

Colin Anderson, NY
Lea Bielewicz, NY

10 Fitted Yearling Ewe

Colin Anderson, NY
Peter Priest, MA

2 Slick Shorn Yr Ewe

Lea Bielewicz, NY
Victoria Fuller, DE

1 Sr Ewe Lamb

Autumn Piazza DE

9 Jr Ewe Lamb

Colin Anderson, NY
Lea Bielewicz, NY

CHAMPION RAM – Colin Anderson
RES CHAMPION RAM – Lea Bielewicz
BEST HEADED RAM – Amanda Willard
CHAMPION EWE – Colin Anderson
RES CHAMPION EWE – Lea Bielewicz
BEST HEADED EWE – Peter Priest

Jr Ram Lamb
2nd Place Jr Ram Lamb

Jr Ewe Lamb
Slick Shorn Yearling Ewe

EXHIBITORS: Colin Anderson, Lea Bielewicz, Issac Epe, Victoria Fuller, Oliver O'Keefe, Autumn Piazza, Peter Priest, and Amanda Willard.

NTSRI 2023 Ewe Lamb Futurity

The current standings as of September 25th for the NTSRI 2023 Ewe Lamb Futurity Contest are as follows:

Jayce Coers, IL	Premier #2320	46 pts
Oliver O'Keefe, DE	Mumm #603	38 pts
Brook Peterson, WI	Red Barn 0376	20 pts
Madison Feehan, OH	Wooly Hollow 438	19 pts
Autumn Piazza, DE	MB 2211	17 pts
Madison Feehan, OH	Stumpe 0745	16 pts
Emma Chandler	Wooly Hollow 440	14 pts

Remember the final points show is at NAILE... if any one of these animals are shown in the JR Show... they earn double points. Checks will be presented at the conclusion of the Jr Show to the top 5 placing kids and their nominated ewe lambs.

PS – I will have extra point forms for you to fill out & turn in!

PROUD MOMENTS IN THE TUNIS WORLD!

Marty Van Roekel writes... The Reserve Champion Ewe in the AOMB show at the Iowa State Fair was VR 2201, shown by the Van Roekel Family of Wellman, IA.

The AOMB show is fairly new and getting a little bigger every year. Until this year, we were the only exhibitors with Tunis. There were two farms with Tunis this year, and we'd like to see more folks add this show to their schedule!

Pine Run Tunis Farm is located in Pennsylvania. They offer registered Tunis breeding stock, Tunis fiber in various forms, naturally tanned pelts, Lamb retail meat cuts and a variety of Tunis related merchandise. Visit their website at PineRunTunisFarm.com for a great array of pictures.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Voelker Family of Edgewood, IL

1st Time Tunis Shown at the local Fair!

Grand Champion Purebred - Jr & 4-H Show - aged Tunis Ewe
& Reserve Champion Ewe with a ewe lamb



2023 Supreme Over All Champion Ram Lamb

Exhibited by Aisleen Boday of Lima, Ohio -
Allen County Fair

2023 All Other Breeds Champion Ram Lamb

A big shout out to the Swihart family for allowing us to purchase this awesome boy and for all of the help and advice you have given us; we would not be in this position without it. A big thank you to my Uncle Chris for supporting and buying me my first set of Tunis lambs. I love showing these red lambs.

1st Open Class Tunis Show at The Hardin County Fair in Kenton, Ohio



Great Future with All Juniors Showing!

Region 1 Report: Nathan Loux, Director

The Northeast Regional Tunis Show was held Sunday, September 24th at 8:30 am. There were 79 Tunis exhibited by 16 exhibitors from 7 states. The show was held at the BIG E in W. Springfield, MA.

Thanks, Nate, for doing this extra work for me! Louise

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Region 2 Report: Justine Bielewicz, Director

It has been a crazy summer for us in western New York with multiple New York shows. Our Premier ram "Naughty Frank" took Supreme Ram at the New York State Fair.

Our next stop is the Big E - one of our favorite places. We will be going to KILE next before having our Swartz & Talley bred ewe sale. It will be Sunday October 22nd. We will be offering some outstanding ewes exposed to our National Champion Ram in 2021, S&T 2110, and more including ewe lambs.

We are excited to see everyone at the National down in NAILE this year.

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Region 3 Report: Nettie Ridgeway, Director

Fair season is in full swing with many county fairs going on weekly in our area. Even though we won't be at our county fair, we are excited to be heading to The Big E for the first time this year!

It was great to see many familiar faces at the Maryland State Fair Tunis show during Labor Day weekend. We were excited to see another increase this year in the number shown. There was quite a bit of buzz around the barn about the National Show heading to Maryland next year. We hope to see many of you make plans to come to Maryland, especially with an opportunity to exhibit your other breeds over the weekend too.

Next up for our area will be the Keystone International Livestock Expo with the Tunis show on Friday, October 6th. There is also an opportunity for junior exhibitors to show October 28-29th at the Jack-O-Lantern Jamboree at the Maryland State Fair. More information can be found on their Facebook page and entry deadline is October 10th.

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Region 4 Report: Dan Erwin, Director

Greetings from region 4! Fall is in the air here as the trees have just started to turn color. The year's final cutting of hay is in the barn, silage is chopped, and harvest is starting. Cool weather and shorter day length have increased ram activity with more ewes showing marks daily.

Show season has ended for us here at JET Tunis and fall lambs are arriving. The junior, regional, and open shows at the Ohio State Fair were well attended with deep quality throughout. Thank you to all who made these shows run smoothly and successful.

I am pleased to say that our last board meeting was the most productive in my tenure on the board. We will be offering a print platform in which members may advertise their flocks. The TUNIS TIMES will be published twice per year in November and April. We also authorized a redesign of our website which will include a digital database. This will allow members immediate access to data on pedigrees and much more. Look for more information on this as the year progresses.

The Ohio Tunis Assn. fall meeting will be held October 22 at Louise Dunham's house. We look forward to seeing you all there!

In closing I wish you a successful breeding season, and a safe harvest. Don't forget to take time to enjoy nature's color and beauty.

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Region 8 Report: Debbi Brown, Director

What a hot, dry summer here in Texas. I believe most of those in Region 8 had intense weather to deal with as well. Thankfully, the Tunis breed seems to not be as bothered as us humans. Can you believe we have already circled around to fall breeding season again. At Unicorn Farm we try to breed for Jan-Feb lambs if it has cooled off enough in late August to put the rams in. What works best in your area?

National Tunis Show at the Maryland State Fair - September 2024

- 1. Name of state/regional association, person(s), and organizations to host the show.**
 - a. Nettie Ridgeway would be the representative to host the show.
- 2. Date and time of the proposed show**
 - a. The Maryland State Fair sheep show is held Labor Day Weekend. Tunis typically have shown on Monday. It could be requested for the National Show to be highlighted on Sunday evening.
 - b. Sheep typically need to be penned by Friday by noon and checked in with the superintendent by 1pm. However, pens do open at 3pm on that Wednesday.
 - c. Sheep are released on Monday (Labor Day). The premium book states 8pm, but sheep are normally released at the conclusion of the supreme champion drive and exhibitor meeting. Sheep are released by those that live the furthest away first.
- 3. Location information (name of fairgrounds and city that it resides)**
 - a. Maryland State Fair - 220 York Road Timonium, Maryland 21093
- 4. Hotel information and restaurant information (just to make sure that there are plenty) provide list, phone, etc.**
 - a. There are around 15 hotels within 5 miles of the fairgrounds. The number dramatically increases within a 10-mile radius of the fairgrounds. There are lots of choices depending on budgets for families.
 - b. There are a lot of restaurant options near the Maryland State Fairgrounds from fast food and chain restaurants to lots of choices that are specific to Maryland. Of course, lots of restaurants carry seafood options, specifically Maryland Blue Crabs.
 - c. Local Areas to Visit -
 - i. Baltimore Inner Harbor is 15 miles from the fairgrounds (lots of restaurants and places to visit)
 - ii. Annapolis (Maryland's State Capitol) is less than an hour from the fairgrounds and is home to the Naval Academy
 - iii. Gettysburg, PA - Home to the Gettysburg Battlefields and field with rich history is just a little more than an hour from the fairgrounds
 - iv. Washington D.C. - Is about an hour and a half from the fairgrounds
- 5. How many years has Tunis show been established at the particular fair/festival (a minimum of two years before an association can host).**
 - a. Tunis have steadily grown at the Maryland State Fair and have had their own show for at least 5 years now. Since Tunis have had their own show, there have been around 50 or over in each year. However, Tunis have been represented for over 30 years at the fair.
- 6. Other information to know about potentially holding the National Tunis Show at the Maryland State Fair.**
 - b. The sheep superintendent, Denise Zeigler is on board for holding a National Show at the Maryland State Fair.
 - i. Denise is also great with keeping exhibitors in the loop through the Maryland State Fair Open Sheep Show Facebook page.
 - ii. Penning requests are taken and she works hard to meet all of those requests. If exhibitors have other breeds to show, specifically wool sheep they are given the option to pen in the sheep barn (meat barn) or in the cow palace (wool show takes place there), which is adjacent to the sheep barn.
 - iii. She is also open to working with the Tunis Show in adding the additional classes, like slicked classes into the show. Along with knowing that senior and junior champion divisions would have to be added for the national show.

- c. Additional Classes offered by Maryland State Fair -
 - i. Multiple group classes (pair of yearlings – both sexes, pair of senior ewe lambs, pair of lambs – both sexes, pen of 4 lambs, exhibitors young flock)
 - ii. A junior premier exhibitor award is also given
- d. Entry Fee - Entry fees are \$5/head. There are no charges for group classes. The fair also provides one bale of straw per pen. Entries are typically due by July 31 st of each year.
- e. Payouts - The Maryland State Fair treats their exhibitors very well when it comes to premiums. All individual classes pay 1 st place - \$30 with all other places receiving \$20. Group Classes pay the top 5 starting with \$40 and scaling down.
- f. Other Breed Shows - With the entire Maryland State Fair Sheep Show being held over Labor Day weekend breeders would have the opportunity to show their other breeds, which include; White Border Leicester, Black Border Leicester, Black Lincoln, White Lincoln, Natural Colored – Fine/Medium, Natural Colored – Long, All Other Wool – Fine/Medium, All Other Wool – Long, Dorper, Suffolk, Southdown, Shropshire, Cheviot, Hampshire, Dorset and All Other Meat Breeds.
- g. New Pens - The Maryland State Fair replaced the majority of their sheep pens in 2022.
- h. Exhibitors from other states - Currently the Tunis Show has exhibitors from 4 states. However, sheep exhibitors for other breeds come from Illinois, Wisconsin and New Hampshire to name a few.
- i. Health Papers - All animals go through an animal check point as they enter the fairgrounds, so health papers are required.

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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

MIDWEST TUNIS ASSOCIATION

MIDWEST AND BEYOND

Apr 2023

VOL. # TWELVE ISSUE #2

LOUISE'S LITTLE BIT

"I don't have a train of thought... I have 7 trains on 4 different tracks that narrowly avoid each other when their paths cross and all of the conductors are screaming!"

YES, I am screaming... I don't know if it is my advancing age, my declining mental abilities or **you folks**... but I am always confused when it comes to which articles to publish...

Which group of readers should I have in mind when choosing articles for the newsletter?

Those breeders who believe that show results are very important
OR those breeders who wouldn't go into a show ring dead or alive?

Those who have raised sheep forever?

OR those who are just thinking of buying their first sheep ever?

Those Tunis breeders who see the wool as another source of income?

OR those using the wool as garden mulch?

Those who never feed grain?

OR those who can recite their best grain ration for you?

Shots? Tail docking? Regular worming? Solar grazing?
Selling processed meat at Farmers Market? Ethnic market opportunities?
Hobby farm? Producers of seed stock? Just grass eaters?

OR even register their Tunis?

YES, we are a diverse group of people who simply raise some type of red-headed sheep!

But there are a couple of things that I'm not confused about....

#1 - Show reports (and shows themselves) are very educational for everyone... Show reports indicate where there are lots of Tunis, lots of different genetics to compare and people who will talk sheep!

#2 - Shows/wool festivals/breed meetings are great places to talk Tunis, sheep problems, etc.

The next Ohio Tunis meeting is Sunday, Oct. 22nd at MY HOUSE!!!! Carry in lunch at 1 pm -- I'm providing sandwiches, drinks & table service.

No membership required to attend... no sales pitch... come early!

Three different sets of ewes are visiting my ram... let's talk differences!

30 minutes NW of Columbus... 9048 Co Rd 153, East Liberty

Let's talk sheep! Everyone is welcome to attend!

#3 - Many breeders see their very first Tunis at shows & wool festivals. This is advertisement for the breed... where do you advertise your sheep????

#4 - The Tunis breed is growing in interest and number... every style of Tunis and for every purpose is growing in every direction.

There is something for everyone in the Tunis world!

My parting thought...

*"I came, I saw, I forgot what I was doing....
retraced my steps and got distracted on my way back.
I have no idea what's going on but now I have to pee!"*

LOUISE, the Editor

PS. But somethings aren't confusing but simply reassuring... I was up early the other morning... and I heard the two breeding rams "sweet talking" to individual ewes... the world is still spinning properly!!!!

MidWest Tunis & Beyond

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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

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NEXT SUBMISSION & PUBLICATION DATE

December 30th, 2023

www.midwesttunis.com

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

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OHIO STATE FAIR JR TUNIS SHOW @ Ohio State Fair – Aug. 3rd, 2023

41 Head of Tunis by 16 exhibitors from Ohio!

1 YR Ram

Mattilyn Maag

1 Fall Ram Lamb

Glade Jolliff

2 Winter Ram Lamb

Mason Johnson

Avery Brown

7 Spring Ram L

Mattilyn Maag

Mattilyn Maag

CHAMPION RAM – Mason Johnson

RES CHAMPION RAM – Mattilyn Maag

11 YR Ewes

Jake Wagner

Glade Jolliff

4 Fall Ewe Lamb

Glade Jolliff

Megan Hollar

6 Winter Ewe Lamb

Madison Feehan

Margo Johnson

9 Spring Ewe L

Glade Jolliff

Glade Jolliff

CHAMPION EWE – Jake Wagner

RES CHAMPION EWE – Glade Jolliff

EXHIBITORS: Maddox Antill, Sadie Barnes, Avery Brown, Josh Collins, Andrew Feehan, Madison Feehan, Elias Henry, Megan Hollar, Mallory Johnson, Margo Johnson, Mason Johnson, Glade Jolliff, Jacoby Maag, Mattilyn Maag, Jake Wagner, and Hanna Warnecke

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AN INTERESTING STATISTIC...

4-Hers are 2.3 times more likely to be physically active, are nearly two times more likely to plan to go to college (or trade school) and are 3.4 times more likely to contribute to their communities when compared with youth who do not take part in 4-H!

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OHIO STATE FAIR – OPEN CLASS

August 4th, 2023

94 Head of Tunis shown by 26 exhibitors from 4 states

2 Fitted Yr Ram

Kristen Swihart, OH

Mattilyn Maag, OH

3 Fitted March

Kaitlyn Schakel, IN

M & M Bugman, NY

13 Slick Yr E

Morgan Johnson, OH

Jacci Smith, OH

9 Fitted March EL

Glade Jolliff, OH

Kaitlyn Schakel, IN

2 Fitted Fall Ram

Glade Jolliff, OH

M & M Bugman, NY

5 Slick Shorn RL

Mason Johnson, OH

Dana Gochenour, VA

8 Fitted Fall EL

M & M Bugman, NY

Glade Jolliff, OH

14 Slick Shorn EL

Kristen Swihart, OH

Glade Jolliff, OH

5 Fitted Jan. RL

M & M Bugman, NY

Todd Brisco, OH

7 Early Fitted Yr E

Glade Jolliff, OH

M & M Bugman, NY

7 Fitted Jan. Ewe

M & M Bugman, NY

Kristen Swihart, OH

6 Flocks

M & M Bugman, NY

Glade Jolliff, OH

4 Fitted Feb. RL

Jacci Smith, OH

Dana Gochenour, VA

7 Late Fitted Yr E

Kaitlyn Schakel, IN

M & M Bugman, NY

8 Fitted Feb. Ewe

Glade Jolliff, OH

Jacci Smith, OH

3 Get of Sire

M & M Bugman, NY

Kristen Swihart, OH

GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Kaitlyn Schakel

RES GRAND CHAMPION – Jacci Smith

GRAND CHAMPION – Michaela & Merdith Bugman

RES GRAND CHAMPION – Kaitlyn Schakel

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – Glade Jolliff

Fitted March Ram Lamb

Fitted February Ram Lamb

Fitted Fall Ewe Lamb

Late Fitted Yearling Ewe

EXHIBITORS: Maddox Antill, Sadie Barnes, Jeremy Barth, Todd Brisco, Avery Brown, M & M Bugman, Josh Collins, Louise Dunham, Andrew Feehan, Madison Feehan, David Gerfen, Dana Gochenour, Elias Henry, Megan Hollar, Margo Johnson, Mason Johnson, Morgan Johnson, Glade Jolliff, Jacoby Maag, Mattilyn Maag, Elizabeth Raines, Kaitlyn Schakel, Jacci Smith, Kristen Swihart, Jessica Vandenbroek, and Hanna Warnecke

1 Fall Ram	4 Feb Ram Lambs	1 March RL	4 Early Yearling Ewe
Claire Spilde	Arabella Knuth Holmland Farms	Arabella Knuth Arabella Knuth	Claire Spilde Brook Peterson
3 Late Yr Ewes	3 Fall Ewe Lambs	4 Jan Ewe L	4 Feb Ewe Lambs
Claire Spilde Brook Peterson	Claire Spilde Brook Peterson	Claire Spilde Elizabeth Hasheider	Arabella Knuth Elizabeth Hasheider
3 March Ewe Lambs	1st – Claire Spilde	2nd – Brook Peterson	

GRAND CHAMPION RAM– Arabella Knuth

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Arabella Knuth

GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Claire Spilde

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Claire Spilde

EXHIBITORS – Elizabeth Hashehider, Holmland Farms, Arabella Knuth, Brook Peterson and Claire Spilde.

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HAVE YOU HEARD THIS? Found on Facebook

To get ready to go to a sheep show...

<u>MOM</u>	Packs her stuff	Packs the kids' stuff	Packs her husband's stuff
	Makes hotel arrangements	Emails the kids' teachers	
	Runs to the Bank	Grabs some groceries for the stay	
	Finishes the laundry and packs more clothes		
	Gathers the kids' show clothes	Packs the snacks & the cooler	
	Grabs paperwork for the show	And worries if she forgot anything	
	Grabs a cup of coffee	Loads the show animals and feed	
<u>DAD</u>	Yells from the truck... "Let's go, I am ready!"		

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MISSOURI STATE FAIR – Open Class **August 2023**

31 Head of Tunis shown by 4 Exhibitors

Grand Champion Ram – Stumpe Farms

Reserve Champion Ram – Schmidt Brothers Farm

Grand Champion Ewe – Murry Farms

Reserve Champion Ewe – Schmidt Brothers Farm

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DELAWARE STATE FAIR - August 2023

20 Head of Tunis by 7 Exhibitors

3 Yr Rams	3 Late Ram Lambs	6 Yr Ewes
Victoria Fuller	Autumn Piazza	Autumn Piazza
Victoria Fuller	Joshua Menard	Victoria Fuller

1 Sr Ewe Lamb	6 Early Ewe Lambs	1 Late Ewe Lamb
Autumn Piazza	Autumn Piazza Autumn Piazza	Josh Menard

GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Autumn Piazza

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Victoria Fuller

GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Autumn Piazza

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Autumn Piazza

EXHIBITORS: Deborah Fuller, Victoria Fuller, Ava Gallo, Joshua Menard, Autumn Piazza, Aria Terry, & Zoe Woodward

FEEDING ROUND BALES???????

MANAGE FEED COSTS BY EVALUATING HAY WASTE - PennState Extension

"Sheep and goat operations all experience some amount of hay waste during winter feeding. Now is a good time to look back and evaluate how much hay was wasted."

The largest input for any livestock enterprise is feed costs. In forage dependent operations, most of these feed costs occur during the winter when feeding hay. This is a great time to assess hay feeding areas and consider how much hay sheep or goats waste over the winter.

Is there a large amount of wasted hay lying next to the hay feeders? Did pens inside the barn require minimal bedding last year due to the amount of hay waste? A YES answer to either of these questions should inspire producers to look more closely at feed quality and feeder design. Using feeders should be an obvious means to help reduce waste. Less obvious perhaps is the concept that feeders can also help to promote animal health. This occurs by preventing fecal or soil contamination that can lead to problems such as internal parasites, coccidia, or listeriosis. Hay losses can range from 2% from 60% and results from trampling, forage quality or maturity issues, and fecal contamination. This results in sheep or goats refusing to eat what's left at the bottom of the hay pile, which is typically decomposed and contaminated. Selecting an appropriate feeder can help to manage hay waste.

Not all feeders are designed the same nor is forage quality the same and both can make major differences in the amount of hay wasted by the sheep or goats. Kishel et al 2019 studied the effect of round-bale feeder design and roughage type on feed wastage in sheep feeding. The study used four different feeders to examine changes in hay waste with varying hay quality and feeder design: a round feeder with vertical bars, a round feeder with slanted bars, a six-sided feeder with movable panels, and a feeder that held the round bale in a basket over top of a separate platform 18" off the ground.

In the feed quality part of the research, they found that poor quality forage - defined as forage harvested at a late maturity - resulted in about 1.88 kg of wasted dry matter per ewe per day, or little over 4 lbs. With better quality forage they found that just 0.48 kg of dry matter got wasted per ewe each day, or about one lb. They also noted that most of the waste occurred on the first day the round bale was placed into the feeder compared to four days after the round bale was placed into the feeder.

When comparing feeder design, data confirmed the least amount of hay wasted occurred when using a feeder that held the round bale in a basket. The platform captured hay dropped by the sheep as they ate, which allowed the sheep to consume the forage before it became trampled. Ewes fed in this basket/platform feeder design wasted 0.9 kg of dry matter per ewe each day, or about 2 lbs. Ewes fed in the six-sided feeder with movable panels wasted 1.0 kg of dry matter per ewe or about 2.2 lbs, while ewes fed in the round feeder with diagonal bars wasted 1.1 kg (2.4 lbs), and the round feeder with vertical bars wasted 1.3 kg (2.9 lbs) per ewe per day.

Using this research, producers can evaluate feeders based on the difference in feeder design. Choose feeders that either capture dropped forage or that have panels that move inward as the sheep or goats consume a bale. When assessing feeders currently in use that waste a large amount of hay, producers can consider adaptions to prevent waste. Is there a way to prevent excess forage from being pulled out onto the ground? Is there a way to add a device under the feeder to prevent forage from falling on the ground where it becomes soiled?

In addition to feeder design, producers should consider forage quality. Always assess forage visually and have forage analyzed by a certified laboratory. A forage analysis allows producers to look more closely at forage quality. However, producers can move towards better quality forage by visually selecting forages free of mature stems and molds, and that contain little weed contamination as all these factors decrease forage quality. Sheep and goats often sort through the forage, consuming higher quality leaves and wasting the stemmy portions. As forage quality declines, sheep and goats often refuse intake of the forage and the forage gets wasted.

Now is the time for producers to look back at the amount of forage wasted by their sheep or goats last winter and consider how this was impacted by feeder design and forage quality. Take steps throughout the upcoming months to adapt feeders to reduce waste. Producers should also have this year's forages analyzed to assess feed value and to help balance rations for the winter. Producers who harvest their own forages can consider methods to improve forage quality while producers who purchase forages can purchase based on forage quality as well as cost. Even a well-designed feeder can result in sheep wasting a large amount of forage if forage quality is poor."

Louise's Notes... when my neighbor man does chores... he throws out any hay that wasn't eaten overnight regardless of quality... yes, the manure pile is high!

Swartz & Talley Tunis Online Bred Ewe Sale



Sunday, October 22nd, 2023
INTEGRITY LIVESTOCK SALES

We will be offering Ewes exposed to S&T 2110 the 2021 National Champion pictured above, S&T 2227, and other top sires from our flock. We will also be offering ewe lambs. Delivery to NAILE will be available and we will work with all buyers.

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INDIANA STATE OPEN SHOW

29 Head of Tunis Shown by 6 Exhibitors from 2 states

3 Yr Rams	2 Early Spring RL	3 Late Spring RL	1 Slick Shorn RL
Nathan Everhart, IN	Todd Brisco, OH	Schakel Family, IN	Linda Cook, IN
Nathan Everhart, IN	Linda Cook, IN	Linda Cook, IN	
3 Early Yr Ewes	4 Late Yr Ewes	3 Slick Shorn Yr E	2 Fall Ewe Lambs
Nathan Everhart, IN	Schakel Family, IN	Madeline Huntsman, IN	Nathan Everhart, IN
Nathan Everhart, IN	Nash Arthur, IN	Linda Cook, IN	Todd Brisco, OH
4 Early Spring EL	3 Late Spring EL	1 Slick Shorn EL	3 FLOCKS
Nathan Everhart, IN	Schakel Family, IN	Linda Cook, IN	Nathan Everhart
Linda Cook, IN	Todd Brisco. OH		Todd Brisco

GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Nathan Everhart

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM - Kylie, Kassidy & Kaitlyn Schakel

GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Schakel Family

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Nash Arthur

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – Nathan Everhart

INDIANA PREMIER EXHIBITOR – Linda Cook

EXHIBITORS – Nash Arthur, Todd Brisco, Linda Cook, Nathan Everhart, Madeline Huntsman, Kylie, Kassiday and Kaitlyn Schakel.

THE TOWLINE HAT - TUNIS WOOL FOR BOUNCY CABLES

by Kerry Bullock-Ozkan

"Cables aren't necessarily the first thing that comes to mind when thinking of projects for woolen-spun yarns. Smooth, round worsted-spun yarns are usually recommended for making cables pop. But after sampling this Tunis lambswool from Tarheelbilly Farm (Charis Walker of Ohio), I immediately thought of knitting a hat with squishy cables similar to the Aran wool hats my mother and I once wore.

According to **The Fleece and Fiber Sourcebook**, American Tunis is a dual purpose breed with an interesting history. Tunis lambs have a reddish color to their wool when born, which fades to a creamy white over time. The fiber was soft and bouncy, with a warm cream color and medium staple length, and it fluffed up pleasantly when finished.

SPINNING NOTES

I spun the sample from roving with minimal preparation, only shaking the fiber out a bit to loosen it up. I chose to make a woolen-spun three-ply for several reasons. I think the bounce and crimp of the fiber paired with the loft resulting from the woolen spinning helped to make up for the loss of stitch definition due to the slightly fuzzy surface of the woolen yarn. The three-ply yarn structure also gives a nice roundness and height to the cables." *Thanks KAREN PAGE*

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ASI OFFERS ONLINE WOOL MILL DIRECTORY

Looking for a small wool mill near you? The American Sheep Industry Association has recently completed an update of the Small and Midsize Mills Directory on its website.

The directory provides information for anyone looking for processing services from scouring to weaving to dyeing and even processing wool into fertilizer pellets.

Services and products included in the directory are:

*Scouring	*Carding	*Pindrafting/Gilling	*Combing	*Yarn Spinning
*Dyeing	*Knitting	*Weaving	*Felting	*Fertilizer Pelleting

"We hope that both producers and fiber enthusiasts will find the directory to be a valuable resource as they look for opportunities to sell or buy wool in the future," said ASI Wool Marketing Director Rita Samelson. "These small and midsize mills play a vital role in the American sheep industry while working on a mostly local and regional level."

CONTACT the ASI if you're a mill owner or operator and would like to be listed in the director.

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FEEDING FOR FIBER

While genotype determines a sheep or goat's capacity for fiber production, its ability to express its genetic potential can be modified by several factors, including nutrition.

The nutritional status of the ewe during gestation can influence wool production of her offspring, by influencing follicle development in fetuses.

Pasture and/or browse should be the main source of nutrition for fiber-producing animals. When pasture is not available, hay should be the main part of the diet. Supplementing with some grain can be a good way to increase nutrient density. This practice can be especially beneficial during times of drought or poor pasture quality.

There is a direct relationship between fiber growth and feed intake. The more feed (calories) an animal consumes, the more fiber it will produce in a given period. This increased rate of fiber production is associated with an increase in both fiber length and diameter.

Poorer nutrition, on the other hand, leads to finer fiber, but at the cost of lower yield, poor health, and poor fertility. Poor nutrition, even for a short period of time, can also cause tenderness or 'breaks' in the fibers; thereby, reducing value. 'Medium' feeding is best for fiber production."

by Susan Schoenian, University of Maryland Extension.

JUST A THOUGHT...

In today's world, most of us worry about young folks talking over ranches and farms, carrying on the love of agriculture that we were either born to, or always yearned to be part of. So when the majority of my buyers are young, eager, and even some of them have already contacted Louise and gotten a Tunis newsletter sent to them so that they will be ready to be responsible owners of our Redheads - it makes my heart sing!

In the past, I have had a smattering of young people come to my farm to purchase Tunis, who saved faithfully for a small farm, or joined in with other young people to have a community-type ranch, and each and every time I have been heartened that the lure of being in agriculture has taken hold of them.

But recently, these young folks have really done their homework. They question me closely about feed, breeding, lamb care, fencing---you name it. Their questions are detailed and knowledgeable, and most either take notes or record what I am telling them. Sure, we all still worry about the future of sheep, and particularly our amazing Tunis. But it seems there is a bright light at the end of this tunnel!!!

- Sam Cunningham, Moab, Utah

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ASI News Roundup... RECORD KEEPING

From **The Shepherd Magazine** - September 2023 issue

"University of Wisconsin-Madison Sheep Unit Research Program Manager Todd Taylor joined the American Sheep Industry Association Research Update podcast recently to discuss **Record Keeping** with host Jake Thorne of Texas A & M AgriLife.

'If you take a little bit of time to keep a little better track of issues that are created from day to day and look back at those records, you can get rid of problems quickly and not create more,' said Taylor, who has worked with university flocks in Wyoming, Texas and Wisconsin.

Taylor admitted there's a bigger emphasis on record keeping on university flocks than there might be with the average commercial flock.

'Everything from vaccination protocols and programs to keeping track of any animal that was sick, specifically what we gave them, how much we gave them, keeping a better track of withdraw dates than what maybe we even do,' Taylor said. **'Some of us get a little complacent in our personal flocks. We treat an animal, we try to remember that we treated it, but maybe it doesn't always get written down or get recorded in a database or anything like that. With university systems, you're more required to do those things on a day-to-day basis.'**

Generally, Taylor keeps records in two areas – health and performance – and both are used in decision making for the flock.

'We're still doing most of our selection criteria in terms of replacement ewe lambs and buck lambs that we want to keep and grow out based on performance records for the most part and maybe some pedigree, Taylor said. 'As far as the health things, that's what we use as probably ewe culling criteria.'"

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JUST AN UPDATE...

"Forty four of the fifty states have been scrapie-free for seven years or more, according to the National Scrapie Eradication Program Progress Report released by the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Veterinary Services. Every state must be scrapie free for seven years before the United States can claim to be completely scrapie free.

In 2002-2003, one in 379 sheep sampled at slaughter was positive for the disease. But thanks to efforts of the American sheep industry and the national eradication campaign, only one in 50,000 sampled in 2021 was positive for the disease."

- *Sheep Industry Magazine*

JUST A THOUGHT...

Kurt Vonnegut wrote: "'When I was 15, I spent a month working on an archaeological dig. I was talking to one of the archaeologists one day during our lunch break and he asked those kinds of 'getting to know you questions' you ask young people. Do you play sports? What's your favorite subject? And, I told him, 'no, I don't play any sports. I do theater. I'm in choir. I play the violin and piano. I used to take art classes'.

And he went WOW. That's amazing!

And I said, ' **Oh, no, but I'm not good at ANY of them.'**

And he said something then that I will never forget and which absolutely blew my mind because no one had ever said anything like it to me before: 'I don't think being good at things is the point of doing them. I think you've got all these wonderful experiences with different skills, and that all teaches you things and makes you an interesting person, no matter how well you do them."

And that honestly changed my life. Because I went from a failure, someone who hadn't been talented enough at anything to excel, to someone who did things because I enjoyed them. I had been raised in such an achievement-oriented environment, so inundated with the myth of Talent, that I thought it was only worth doing things if you win at it."

Artist Quote of the Day - Facebook.

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WHEN LOOKING FOR ARTICLES, I use the Maryland Small Ruminant Page, The Ohio State Sheep Blog page and the American Sheep Industry Association page & several sheep magazine for starters. A couple of articles that I considered were about "Gene Editing Could Rid Sheep of Problematic Long Tails" and the full article on "Colostrum: 'Liquid Gold'."

MARYLAND SMALL RUMINANT PAGE..."Colostrum: 'Liquid Gold'"

Sources of Colostrum Pluses & Minuses

Dam	Best source
Another female in flock	Best substitute
Female in another flock	Next best
Ewe from another farm	OPP?CAE risk
Cow	Lower in fat - Johnes risk
Commercial colostrum replacement	Contains IgG
Commercial colostrum supplement	No antibodies
Milk replacer	No antibodies
Homemade colostrum	No antibodies

NOTES FROM ARTICLE

- Antibodies are the important extra ingredient in a ewe's colostrum
- By placing the ewe in the area where she will lamb the last 14 days before lambing... the ewe will grow needed antibodies for that area.
- Orphan lambs that did not get enough colostrum are more likely to develop diarrhea and pneumonia...watch for it!
- Milk out the extra colostrum from an ewe that delivered a single and freeze it!
- A first time ewe will produce less colostrum.
- Nutrition prior to lambing determines the quantity and quality of colostrum produced.
- Frozen colostrum is good for 12 months. It should be thawed slowly in a warm water bath but never refrozen.
- A 10 lb. lamb needs 10% or 1 pound of colostrum in the first 24 hours."

WHERE IS THE BEST PLACE TO BUY SHEEP?"

We often get asked WHERE IS THE BEST PLACE TO BUY SHEEP? A lot depends on your goals and what you'll use the sheep for, but one thing is pretty much certain: Don't buy sheep from the sale barn! Below are some of the more common sales venues with some of the pros and cons listed.

VENUE - On the Farm

PROS -

- Often lowest cost option
- Least chance of biosecurity issues
- Least stress for animals
- Ability to inspect the whole flock & observe management
- Potentially more choices of one farm's genetics
- More flexibility on sale dates
- May allow better opportunity to develop relationship with seller, especially important looking for a mentor.

CONS -

- Limited to only that farm's genetics
- Location – potentially far
- If out-of-state, veterinary transport certificate may require additional time/expenses
- Seller may require cash-only payment

VENUE - In-person Breed Auctions

PROS -

- Wider range of options and genetics available in one location
- Animals sell quickly by sales order
- Ability to physically examine and compare animals
- Consignors usually bring their best to sell
- Seller usually available on site to answer questions
- On-site veterinarian for transport certificates
- Most forms of payment typically accepted
- Chance to meet a lot of new breeders!!!!

CONS -

- Mingling with other animals at sale increases bio security risks
- Additional stress for animal - transport to sale, and at sale
- Competitive pricing
- Consecutive bidding means you can't go back and bid on an earlier animal if you get outbid later in the sale

VENUE - Online Auctions

PROS

- Potentially wider range of options and genetics
- Consignors usually offer their best to sell
- Simultaneous bidding allows you to bid on other animals if outbid on first choice
- Length of sales allows time to plan bidding.

CONS

- Competitive pricing
- Electronic payment usually preferred
- Unable to handle or visually inspect animal
- Seller may be difficult to reach for questions

VENUE - Combination Auction - LIKE the National Tunis Sale! Online Bidding with animals at one location for inspection.

PROS

- Wider range of options & genetics
- Ability to physically examine & compare animals
- Consignors usually offer their best to sell
- Simultaneous bidding allows you to bid on other animals if outbid on 1st choice
- Length of sale allow time to plan bidding
- Sellers usually available onsite to answer questions
- On-site Veterinarian available to provide transport certificates

CONS

- Mingling with other animals increases bio-security risks
- Additional stress for animal – transport to sale, and at sale
- Competitive pricing
- If buyer isn't present – transportation must be arranged
- Acceptable forms of payment vary by sale

Regardless of where you choose to purchase sheep, keep in mind the basics. First, identify your goals for your flock and farm, and develop a plan to reach those goals. Set a budget (and stick to it). Identify what specific traits you want to improve and/or downplay. Do your research –talk to breeders, understand how their sheep are managed and their goals for their flock. Study individual animals offered for sale and remember – **there is no perfect animal.**"

- Written by Braden Campbell – Ohio State Sheep Blog

FROM THE SHEEP IMPROVEMENT COMPANY AD... SEPTEMBER 2023

"A lot of the future you don't have much control over. That fraction of the future which you can control needs arranging. One leverage point you do have is about how you go sourcing genetics. If you are producing your own replacement females, or if you retain ownership of lambs past the farm gate, you should explore options before purchasing your next ram(s).

EXAMPLE: if you are purchasing a ram at a sale, even a ram with EPDs, do you know the age of his dam (the older the better if depreciation costs matter); do you know what her udder conformation and teat size are (if labor and time matter)?

DESIGN DETERMINES DESTINY. Our genetics provides solutions to this industry's most significant problems: **Too much time required & too much fat produced.**"

- Editor's Note... AMEN BROTHER!!!!

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ILLINOIS STATE FAIR - AUGUST 2023

24+ Head of Tunis Shown

Fall Ram Lamb	January Ram L	Feb. Ram Lamb	Yearling Ewe #A
Beau Mumm	Mackenzie Smith	Beau Mumm	Lynn Murry
Jayce Coers	Clint Garey	Beau Mumm	Beau Mumm
Yearling Ewe #B	Fall Ewe Lambs	Jan, Ewe Lamb	Feb. Ewe Lamb
Beau Mumm	Beau Mumm	Mackenzie Smith	Beau Mumm
Beau Mumm	Mackenzie Smith	Clint Garey	Beau Mumm

CHAMPION RAM – Beau Mumm

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Beau Mumm

CHAMPION EWE – Lynn Murry

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Clint Garey

EXHIBITORS – Jayce Coers, Clint Garey, Beau Mumm, Lynn Murry, and Mackenzie Smith (Stumpe)

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JUST A THOUGHT FROM PURINA NUTRITION:

Mineral is an important nutritional component for pregnant ewes and does and is critical for fetal development throughout gestation.

Day 1-50: Early fetus development (organs)

Day 50-100: Performance, growth, average daily gain, fertility, and other critical developmental pieces

Day 100-parturition: Approximately 75% of fetal growth happens

Ewes and does need the most nutritional support within the last 45-50 days before parturition. It's when those babies require more energy and most of the mom's diet goes to growing their young. Don't let nutritional gaps be the reason for parturition challenges!

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TUNIS FOR SALE:

NEW YORK: Swartz & Talley Tunis have rams for sale – including a Yearling ram, fall ram lambs, and multiple springs rams. If you are looking for a breeding ram give Justine a call or text at 716-474-0789.

OHIO: Due to health issues, we need to sell our flock of 100% Tunis. Two are already registered and the rest could be registered. Stock originated from Garey Tunis and used 2 Stumpe rams for breeding. Flock consists of 24 breeding ewes, 4 aged non-breeding ewes, 2 wethers and 2 breeding rams for \$7115, Would like to keep the flock together and may discount to do that. Also a Lakeland sheep system for sale. Located in northeast Ohio. Contact Brian at 314-681-9211 for details-questions or pictures.

THE BIG E – W SPRINGFIELD, MA

September 24th

79 Head of Tunis Shown by 16 Exhibitors – 7 States

Yearling Rams	S S Yr Rams	Fall Ram Lambs	Jan. Ram Lambs
S & T Tunis, NY Aaron Loux, MA	S & T Tunis, NY Autumn Piazza, DE	S & T Tunis, NY Aaron Loux, MA Kyle Harris, MA	Drew Ridgeway, MD Lea Bielewicz, NY
Feb. Ram Lamb	March Ram L	<u>Slick Shorn Ram Lamb</u>	
Colin Anderson, NY S & T Tunis, NY	Troy Staples, ME Autumn Piazza, DE	Aaron Loux, MA Kyle Harris, MA	RES SR CHAMPION RAM– Aaron Loux RES JR CHAMPION RAM– Lea Bielewicz
GRAND CHAMPION RAM – S & T Tunis RES GRAND CHAMPION RAM– Aaron Loux Best Headed Ram – Lea Bielewicz		Yearling Ram 2nd Yearling Ram Jan. Ram Lamb	
Jan. Ewe Lamb	Feb. Ewe Lamb	March Ewe Lamb	<u>Slick Shorn EL</u>
Aaron Loux, MA S & T Tunis, NY	Colin Anderson, NY S & T Tunis, NY	Troy Staples, ME Troy Staples, ME	S & T Tunis, NY Drew Ridgeway, MD
SR CHAMPION EWE – Drew Ridgeway JR CHAMPION EWE– Colin Anderson		RES SR CHAMPION EWE– S & T Tunis RES JR CHAMPION EWE – S & T Tunis	
GRAND CHAMPION EWE– Colin Anderson RES GRAND CHAMPION EWE – S & T Tunis Best Headed Ewe – Aaron Loux		Feb. Ewe Lamb 2nd Feb. Ewe Lamb January Ewe Lamb	
FLOCK BREEDERS FLOCK GET OF SIRE	1st – S & T Tunis 1st – S & T Tunis 1st – S & T Tunis	2nd – Drew Ridgeway 2nd – Aaron Loux 2nd – Aaron Loux	

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Louise's Final Thought...

"ODE TO THE FERAL WOMEN"

"My soul is not set fire by being the best home maker but by growing flowers and plants, shoveling dirt, snow or manure, breathing the cold fresh air, letting the sun beat on my face, and tending animals.

It is not that I can not cook and clean. It's that I desire to be elsewhere.

I've struggled with the fact that I am well me. I am a feral woman. As much as I wish I could be the sweet and clean home maker, I am not.

I finally made peace with this when I saw a quote circulating around that said, "the term domestic house wife implies there must be a feral one." It's me and other women I know. I am and we are feral women.

We may not have perfect houses but we still make them a home. We may not clean the dishes right after every meal but we can sure cook a good meal. The laundry is lagging but at the end of the day everyone has something clean to wear. We may not be domesticated but it does not make us less.

If anything our strength is found as we carry feed sacks across our shoulders, as we till up dirt to plant gardens, as we end a life to provide food for our families all while we still carry the softness of a woman.

Here is to the feral women. May we be them, may we know them, may we raise them."

Author unknown, but clearly a bloody marvelous woman.

I am definitely not a domesticated woman... How about you?