



Romney Ramblings

August 29, 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Fellow Romney Breeders,

You will see a new name attached to messages from the ARBA secretary/treasurer – we are thrilled that Jodi Rametes has joined us as our secretary/treasurer, and we are excited to be working with her. We owe a big debt of thanks to outgoing secretary/treasurer, Georgina Anderson for her hard work on behalf of ARBA over the past 3 years. While she was in the position, Georgina helped us to update some of our practices - like using Google suite to more easily share information between board members and PayPal to make it easier and faster for members to pay dues and for other transactions. Thanks Georgina! Welcome Jodi!

ARBA election results are in, and we welcome Sue Kalina back as District 4 Director, and we are pleased to welcome Patty Sanville as our new District 2 Director and Ethan Kennedy as our new District 6 Director – welcome and congratulations Sue, Patty, and Ethan!

In this edition of the Ramblings, you can find lots of information about the ARBA Annual Meeting and National Show being held at the BigE next month – the meeting is Friday September 20, and the show is Sunday September 22 – please join us! We are looking forward to a great turnout with exhibitors and also members to cheer on our fellow breeders. District 1 Director Marianne DiTaranto and her team are putting together a great event!

Reading about how our beautiful sheep perform at the big shows is always interesting; and I love showing my Romneys at the local fairs near me.....but many ARBA members, myself included, aren't raising Romneys for the show ring. Some of us raise them for their fiber and the beautiful yarns their fleeces produce, some raise them for the delicious meat, and some for excellent breeding stock to supply Romney or crossbreed flocks. A couple of our committees have begun working on identifying and increasing resources for those of us who focus more on the fiber studio and the freezer than the show ring. Look for updates in the next edition of the Ramblings.

Until then, I wish you a productive breeding season, and look forward to seeing many of you at the annual meeting and national show.

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1912 - 2012 : "100 Years of Serving the Romney Breeders of America"
American Romney Breeders Association

Mentoring Program

Mentors are available to assist breeders with questions, discuss upcoming events, chat sheep and help promote the membership. ARBA members have signed up as mentors, and this list is posted on the website.

Welcome to our New Members:

As always, the board is no further than a phone call or email away.

If you know a Romney Breeder that isn't a member yet - invite them to join in on the fun!

**Dan and Holly Ennis
Emma Hill
Malone Krotz
Trapper Lemay
Sherri and Jared Nordin
Misha Porter
Toni Scholder
Marin Scott
BreeAnna C. Welch**

Romney Ramblings

The Romney Ramblings is the newsletter of the American Romney Breeders Association. The purpose of the Ramblings is to provide sheep industry news, highlight the efforts of ARBA, announce events and activities, provide an outlet for promotion of your sheep and wool products and recognize the accomplishments of the membership.

Advertising in the Ramblings

Full Page \$100

1/2 Page \$75

1/3 Page \$60

1/4 Page \$35

Card Ad \$20

Classified Ads—45 cents per word.

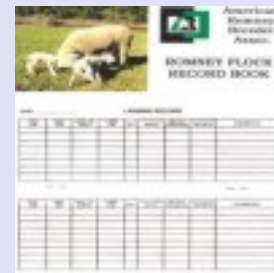
Above rates are based on camera ready copy, sized to fit the space purchased for the ad. Ads prepared by the editor will be charged at \$15 per hour, with a minimum fee of \$15.

Send all advertising information and news to: Patricia Sanville
4637 Cap Stine Road
Frederick, MD 21703

Flock Record Book:

Provides General Sheep Information and space to record lambs born and raised for 1 or several years.

Price: \$3.00 postpaid.



Order now from the
ARBA Secretary.
secretary
@americanromney.org

ARBA on Facebook Check out the American Romney Breeders Association Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/americanromney> to see events, news, and reminders about the association.

ARBA on Instagram ARBA now has an Instagram account for sharing events and news about the association. Its handle is: @americanromney.

ARBA Website The ARBA website, americanromney.org, has information to assist with many of your association and production needs. You can advertise your products and animals, read about management tools, review animal health needs, locate members in your region, read minutes of the board meetings and keep up to date with news submitted by your directors and district representatives.

Rambling Roads: District Director Reports

This edition finds almost all of our directors out in the field at fairs, festivals and sheep shows.

Those who volunteer for our organization also tend to volunteer for other organizations as well.

It's been a rough year in most of our districts weather wise as well. Failed crops due to either too much rain or not enough. Too much heat in most of the country. Fires, floods, drought and pests. Farming and ranching is not for the faint of heart. The breed is hardy! So are the shepherds!!

My hope for all of you, (us), is that the weather breaks, your flock cooperates, and breeding goes smoothly!

We'll check back in with our directors in a few months and see how they are holding up!

Thank you to each and every one of our Romney Breeders family for doing all you do to keep our breed in the spotlight.

Donation Ewe: Charlene Carlisle

This year our National Sale was held in Greenville, Ohio at the Ohio Showcase Sale and it went great. There are several reasons why it was so awesome. First and foremost, Select Livestock Services managed the sale and welcomed us in making it an easy transition. The fairgrounds are large with beautiful old barns and plenty of parking and ease to get trailers through without difficulty. The livestock folks, especially our fellow Romney breeders, are just fun people. We laughed and helped each other get through the show and sale ring, helped blow up balloons and decorate pens and tables, pick up donuts, make the coffee, and whatever else had to get done.

As most of you know, we are always trying to raise money to help support the Jr shows. This year is no different but we tried something different this time. The Plank Family (E/C Plank) donated a NC Romney Ewe Lamb to be auctioned off with proceeds to be used for the JR shows at NAILE and the All American. The ewe was E/C Plank 2418. She was a January ewe lamb, long bodied with an attractive profile. She was a great ewe to start in a foundation flock or just to add new genetics. Knowing what generous folks we have in the Romney world, it wasn't hard to rally some funds up to help support the Jrs. The following breeders donated \$50 each to purchase this ewe lamb: Plank Farms, 3L&S Farms, Little Hooves Romneys, Schmolls Livestock, Thistle Down Farm, MCS Livestock, Winding Wicks, Mill Ridge Farm, Mis-Fit Acres, Rincker/ VonBehrens, and Fonke Farms for a total of \$550. After bidding was done, this group of breeders donated the ewe lamb back and the bidding started all over again. The second time it was auctioned off it went to Leandra Gray, a junior from Fredericktown, Ohio for \$500. Hoping to see this ewe lamb out and about this summer. So the total donated amount of money to go to the Jrs is \$1050. Special thanks to Willis Plank and his family for providing this opportunity for our youth. Their family has been involved with Romneys their entire life and we appreciate what you have done for our youth and what you continue to do. Thanks again Willis, you're the best! Caitlin aged out from our Junior division last year but I think we'll still be seeing her face around the show ring.

Michigan Fiber Festival: Penny Swearingin

Fresh from August 17th Michigan Fiber Festival in Allegan MI:

Neil Ketner Award

Supreme Fleece on Hoof

Romney Yearling ewe 3LS "Peanut"

Exhibited by ARBA Junior Sadie Bonyng of Aledo Illinois.

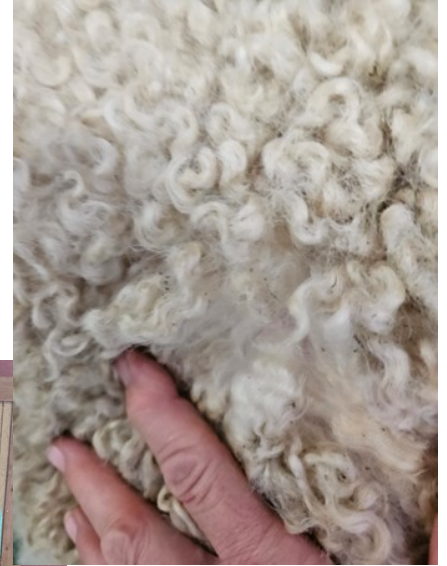
Sadie was up against TOUGH competition!

Sheep hailed from California - Pennsylvania and East Coast in addition to Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio, etc.

Note: this was the Bluefaced Leicester (BFL) National Show!

In the Wool Fleece Show, Sadie also exhibited the Best Romney Fleece Sponsored by Pitchfork Ranch. Thanks Margaret and Cindy!

Note: It was the BFL National Show and the Supreme Champion fleece was the BFL fleece.



Ringside snapshots of the four Romney exhibitors at the Michigan Fiber Festival.

Well done!



American Sheep Industry:

The American Sheep Industry is trying to get the word out about the Secure Sheep and Wool Supply Program. This program was designed to prepare your farm/ranch for an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). Learn how to protect your property and your flock.

Advanced trainers are ready to run sessions in your area.

Find a list of advanced trainers at:

securesheepwool.org

Whether your flock is large or small - planning ahead can make all the difference when disease strikes.

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE WANTS TO KNOW:

Is there something you would like the directors to answer in a future issue of the Ramblings? Just reach out to your director, the president or the editor of the Ramblings to submit your questions.



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American Romney Breeders Association's National Sale 2024: Charlene Carlisle

ARBA's National Sale was a big success this year. For the first time this sale was held in Greenville, Ohio in conjunction with the Ohio Showcase Sale. It is our intent to have our National Sale at this venue for the next five years and then to reevaluate and determine if it's serving our membership to its fullest potential.

This year we received 40 consignments and 6 were scratched prior to sale time. Therefore 34 head went through the show and sale. The White Romneys numbered 19 total, 7 rams and 12 ewes. The Natural Colored Romneys had a total of 15, 8 rams and 7 ewes. The 7 NC ewes included a donated lamb (to benefit the Juniors) from the Plank Family. There were a total of 11 breeders from 10 states. The following breeders (in alphabetical order) supported the sale with many of them nominating their ewes into our Futurity program:

E/C Plank MI
Emma Rogers CT
Fonke Family Farm NC
Little Hooves Romneys NJ
MCS Livestock NY Mill Ridge Farm OH
Mis-Fit Acres NY
Rincker Land & Livestock IL
Schmoll Livestock WI
Thistle Down Farm SC
Winding Wicks NH

Champion White Romney Ram went to Rincker Land & Livestock's Yearling Reserve Champion White Romney Ram was the January Ram from Winding Wicks Champion White Romney Ewe was Winding Wick's Yearling entry Reserve Champion White Romney Ewe was the January Ewe Lamb from Winding Wicks

Champion NC Romney Ram was the Yearling Ram from Thistle Down Farm Reserve Champion NC Ram was the Fall Ram Lamb from Winding Wicks Champion NC Romney Ewe was Thistle Down Farm's Yearling Ewe Reserve Champion NC Romney Ewe was the January Ewe Lamb from E/C Plank

There was a lot of interest around the show ring and the pens. ARBA provided coffee, juice, donuts and fruit for any Romney folks wandering by our pens with plenty of conversation provided by breeders, buyers, sellers and Romney enthusiasts. Prices had a fairly wide range with the top seller being the NC Champion Ewe which brought an all time record selling price of \$5250, the NC Reserve Champion Ewe brought \$1700. The Champion and Reserve White Ewes brought nice bids of \$2500 and \$3250. The sale average was \$1154.

Overall, the sale went quite well. The only negative to the sale, in my opinion, was that it was ram heavy compared to ewes. In the past, we have put in rules that made it mandatory to enter 2 ewes for every ram, this year we chose not to do that. The sale committee may want to re-discuss this rule before next year. Despite this thought, I believe the National Sale was well received, the sheep all looked like they deserved to be in the limelight. Many will leave this venue and continue to show in youth and open shows across the US. Congratulations to all buyers and many thanks for the support.

The NC Donated Ewe Lamb deserves her own article so be sure to look for it in the Ramblings, on the website and social media.

Special thanks to the Ohio Showcase sale for allowing us to join this sale, thanks to the association for encouraging us to try this sale option, many thanks to the National Sale committee for putting it all together, and the folks who helped get the balloons filled with helium and provided our coffee and snacks. It was really a fun time. Hope to see you there next year.

Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival 2024: by Charlene Carlisle

The first full weekend in May every year brings my favorite show! For those of you who haven't visited before, it should be on your bucket list. It's just a really fun show, low key with minimal stress. It is run well and very organized by great people. The show was not super big this year but there were 19 white ewes in the yearling ewe class! They seemed to just keep coming and coming. The Champion White Romney Ram went to Alivia Blum (MD) with her yearling, Reserve Champion White Ram went to Little Hooves (NJ) with the first place JR ram lamb. Champion and Reserve White Ewes went to Emma Rogers (CT) with her first-place yearling ewe and her first-place fall ewe lamb Super nice individuals and enjoyable to gaze upon. Champion NC Romney Ram went to Davey Peterson (DE) with his first-place yearling ram and Reserve Champion went to Little Hooves (NJ) with their first place JR ram lamb. Champion NC Romney Ewe went to Little Hooves (NJ) with their first place JR ewe lamb and Reserve Champion went to Davey Peterson (DE) with their yearling ewe.

Special congratulations to Cheryl Dunlap with her 1st place Romney Fleece in the wool show with Silverado. Competition was stiff with 996 fleece entries. Also, she received Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion in the Photo contest. Thought her timecard might be all filled in and then realized that she also competed in the creative shearing contest. Don't want to forget that her sheep also did well in the show ring. Last but not least, in the Sheep to Shawl Contest, the Fidget Spinners chose to use a Romney from Little Hooves Romneys for the second year in a row and received first place award for the second year in a row. Congratulations to all. The shawl was beautiful.

All American Jr. Sheep Show: by Charlene Carlisle

The All American JR Sheep Show is a big deal and it is also our National Jr Show. Youth come from all across the US for a long weekend of fun, laughter and hard work. The kids network with each other to get their breeds shown. The camaraderie, the team work, and the learning that happens is unbelievable. If you have never attended, please make it a priority for you and your juniors. As you can imagine, the showmanship classes are very large and super competitive. It can be lengthy and tiresome but our kids persevere. Lots of pictures were taken and posted to Face Book so please check them out. Following individual showmanship, there was team showmanship which is always fun to watch. In Class 15 Showmanship (18 year olds), Lindsey Schmoll from WI secured the first place position. For specific results of all classes and promotional items, check out the AAJS website allamericanjuniorshow@gmail.com

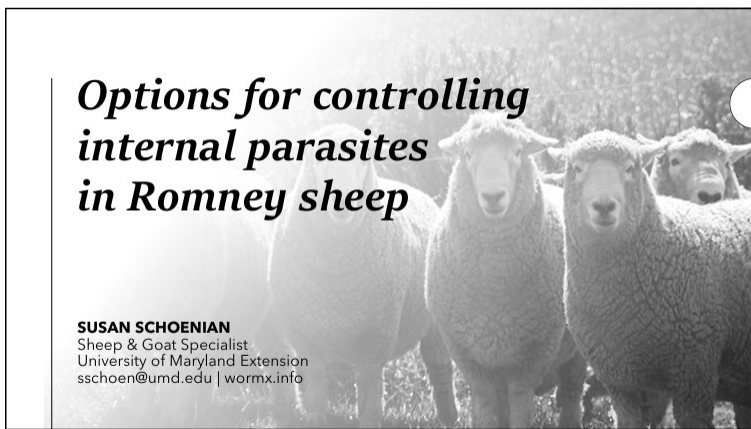
On Saturday at the All American Junior Sheep Show, ARBA hosted an ice cream and brownie social. It's difficult to get everyone together as most of the kids help other kids show various breeds so we kinda have to let the kids and their families come as they can. Special thanks to Willis (MI) and Stacy (WI) for putting it all together. Ice cream was yummy and those gooey brownies were simply delicious.

For ARBA's National Romney Show the juniors received back packs with a placard stating name of show, date, location and Champion award title. There were also embroidered fleece blankets for each exhibitor. It was a little hot to truly enjoy the value of the blankets but when fall and winter rolls around, they should get some use. These were all sponsored by Romney breeders and Romney enthusiasts who want our kids to learn while having a great time. Sponsors are listed elsewhere in this edition of the Romney Ramblings and we appreciate all of her help. Also special thanks to Pleasant Valley Creations, Heidi Erickson-Riessland for always doing such a great job making our awards.

Internal Parasites, Education Committee: Penny Swearingen - Chairman

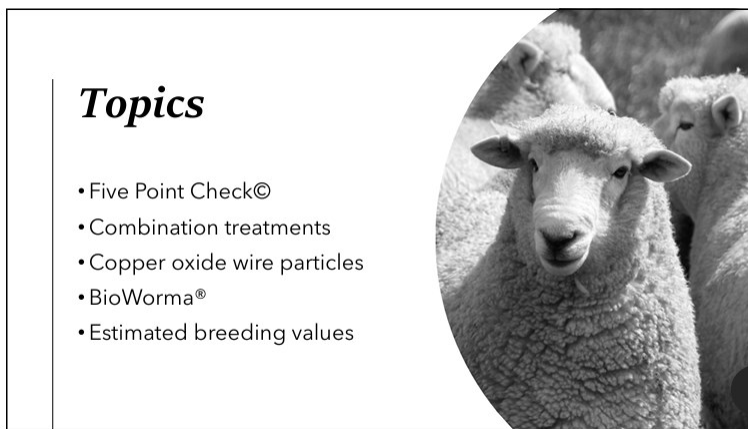
Summer 2024 has definitely presented a lot of opportunities for Romney Breeders across the Country. Regardless of which part of the country you hail from, weather has presented "New Challenges" in keeping our sheep healthy. Top of the List is the control of Internal Parasites.

There are several organizations doing intensive studies with published work on this topic. One of these is the University of Maryland Extension. Here are the first few Slides of the presentation Susan Schoenian gave us in 2021 on Control of Internal Parasites. More information can be obtained through Maryland Small Ruminant Page. You can access through the ARBA Website>Home Page>Reference>Link> Maryland Small Ruminant Page.




Options for controlling internal parasites in Romney sheep

SUSAN SCHOENIAN
Sheep & Goat Specialist
University of Maryland Extension
sschoen@umd.edu | wormx.info



Topics



- Five Point Check©
- Combination treatments
- Copper oxide wire particles
- BioWorma®
- Estimated breeding values



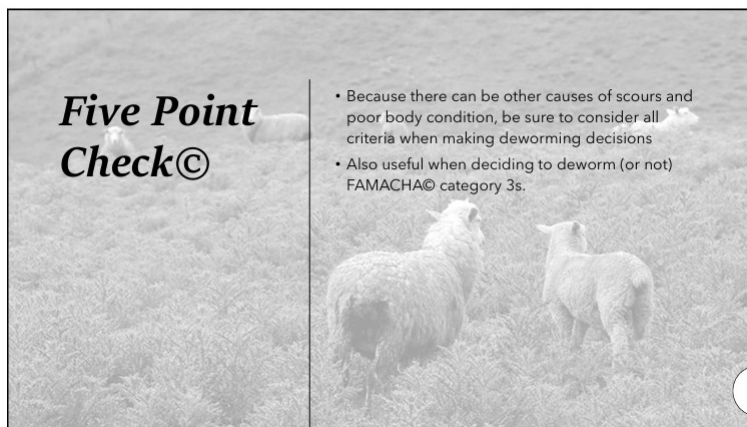
Five Point Check©

- Chute-side decision-making tool for deworming small ruminants.
- Extension of the FAMACHA© system, which is only useful for blood-feeding parasites, such as *Haemonchus contortus* (barber pole worm).
- Adds criteria for the other parasites that typically infect sheep, especially those that cause scours and snotty noses.

Five Point Check©



- 1) Nose (discharge)
- 2) Eye (anemia)
- 3) Jaw (swelling)
- 4) Back (body condition)
- 5) Tail (soiling, dags)



Five Point Check©

- Because there can be other causes of scours and poor body condition, be sure to consider all criteria when making deworming decisions
- Also useful when deciding to deworm (or not) FAMACHA© category 3s.

National Jr Show - All American Jr. Sheep Show Awards - A Special Thank you!

Final update from our National Jr. Show held at the All American Jr. Sheep Show in East Lansing, MI over the 4th of July weekend.

We had such a great response from Romney breeders, members and enthusiasts from all areas across the country to help cover the expenses of awards, gifts, and our ice cream social. Our shows couldn't be run without all of your support and not just the financial part. It takes many hands to keep things running. Show ring help was great thanks to Willis Plank, Emma Rogers, Marianne DiTaranto-Hromis and Mallory Schmoll.

The ice cream social coordinating skills included Willis Plank, Caitlyn Plank, Lindsey Schmoll and Stacy Schmoll. The following folks made cash donations to cover various costs of ice cream, supplies and participant gifts. The Frey Family, The Schmoll Family, Marianne DiTaranto-Hromis, Alan Huntley, Mis-Fit Acres, The plank Family, and Little Hooves Romneys.

The following awards for the actual show were sponsored as follows:

Champion White Ram - Winding Wicks/Marianne DiTaranto-Hromis
Res. Champion White Ram - Winding Wicks/Marianne DiTaranto-Hromis
Champion White Ewe - Emma Rogers
Res. Champion White Ewe - Southern Oregon Romneys
Best White Fleece - Hayley M. Reed
Champion Natural Colored Ram - FP Livestock
Res. Champion Natural Colored Ram - Zachary Lyman
Champion Natural Colored Ewe - FP Livestock
Res. Champion Natural Colored Ewe - Mis-Fit Acres
Best Natural Colored Fleece - Mis-Fit Acres

Hats off to you all, you are the best! When you see these folks around the barns, make sure to say "Thanks"!



Showmanship from the North East Youth Sheep Show: Charlene Carlisle

Showmanship at NEYSS is super competitive and our youth excel!

Results as follows:

6 years & under	Tucker Randall 2nd
7 year olds	Elizabeth Briggs 2nd
8 year olds	Anneke Borlang 3rd
9 year olds	Emily Wildes 1st Kenneth Briggs 2nd Braden Higgins 6th Cooper Randall 7th Henry Turk 8th
10 year olds	Noah Borlang 2nd
12 year olds	Griffon Borlang 5th
13 year olds	Hunter Hayes 6th
15 year olds	Ava Jo Hayes 2nd Penny Kemp 4th
17 year olds	Cadence Higgins 4th Jackson Crisp 12th
18 year olds	Annabelle Miller 3rd
20 year olds	Alivia Blum 3rd
21 year olds	Megan Higgins 2nd Catherine Hromis 3rd Caleb Allen 6th
Team Showmanship	
Senior	Cadence & Megan Higgins 5 th
Junior	Emily Wildes & Katie Drum 2nd Penny Kemp & Henry Turk 3rd Griffon & Noah Borlang 5th
Judging	Ava Jo Hayes 1st Cadence Higgins 2nd
Spirit Awards	Hunter Hayes Tucker Randall
Novice Skillathon	Cooper Randall 3rd
Quiz Bowl	
Cloverbuds	Tucker Randall 1st Novice Cooper Randall 2 nd
Fleece Show	
NC Long	Anneke Borlang 1 st and Champion
White Long	Noah Borlang 1 st and Res Champ

Lots of fleece entries this year, thanks to Anneke, Griffon & Noah Borlang, Catherine Hromis, Megan Higgins, and Caleb Allen for skirting all those fleeces!

Congratulations!! See you next year.

North East Youth Sheep Show Results: Charlene Carlisle

The Northeast Youth Sheep Show (NEYSS) was another fun show for our youth this summer.

There were 10 White Romney Youth Exhibitors and 7 NC Romney Youth exhibitors with a total of 41 head going through the show ring.

Special thanks to the following kids and their support group (family, friends, etc.) which actually made them able to participate in this event. Alivia Blum (MD), Anneke Borlang (NY), Griffon Borland (NY), Noah Borlang (NY), Annabelle Miller (MD), Caleb Allen (CT), Catherine Hromis (NH), Penny Kemp (CT), Elizabeth Briggs (NH), Kenneth Briggs (NH), Braden Higgins (CT), Cadence Higgins (CT), Megan Higgins (CT), Henry Turk (CT), Cooper randall (NY), and Tucker Randall (NY).

The placings are as follows:

Champion White Ram went to Alivia Blum's yearling ram

Res Champion White Ram was the Jr ram lamb from Catherine Hromis

Champion White Ewe went to Catherine Hromis' yearling ewe

Res Champion White Ewe went to Megan Higgins with her yearling ewe

Best White Fleece went to Catherine Hromis

NC Champion Ram was the Sr ram lamb from Catherine Hromis

NC Res Champion Ram went to Griffon Borlang with his Jr ram lamb

NC Champion Ewe was Catherine Hromis' yearling ewe

NC Res Champion Ewe went to Cadence Higgins' yearling ewe

Best NC Fleece went to Elizabeth Briggs

Best Headed Ewe from both the white and NC classes went to Catherine Hromis

Congratulations to all exhibitors, the sheep looked great!

IPAD Raffle: Charlene Carlisle

New raffle to help raise funds to support Juniors at All American JR Show and NAILE's JR Show. So pleased to announce that Ethan Kennedy of Thistle Down Farm has donated a new iPad to be raffled with 100% funds going to AAJS and NAILE JR Show. The iPad is a 9th Generation Wi-Fi 64 GB with a smart cover. These two shows require the most funds and we must always plan ahead and have these funds available. In the past we have done several raffles on donated ewe lambs and quilts which have always been very successful. This raffle will start now and ticket sales will continue up until the National Show at the BigE in September of this year. The tickets will be \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Tickets will be available for sale at most sheep gatherings including the National Sale in Greenville, Ohio and Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival (both in May) or feel free to contact any director or myself to purchase. More details will be forthcoming on Facebook and Instagram. This raffle is kind of a pop up, spur of the moment raffle idea so we need to sell tickets fast and furious. Anyone wanting to help sell tickets please reach out to Charlene Carlisle, 609-760-0399 (text or call) or email ccshep1@aol.com

Thanks for the continued support of our Juniors!

Calendar of Events:		
EVENT	DATE	NOTES
VA Tech 25th Annual NSIP Production Sale	Sept. 3	Sas.vt.edu/facilities/Copenhaver-sheep-center.html
WI Sheep and Wool Festival	Sept. 6-8	Wisconsinsheepandwoolfestival.com
Wyoming State Ram Sale	Sept. 9-10	Wyowool.com
MT Ram and Ewe Sale	Sept. 11-12	MTsheep.org/news-events/annual-montana-ram-and-ewe-sale
BigE	Sept. 13-29	TheBigE.com
Garden State Sheep Breeders Sheep and Fiber Festival	Sept. 14-15	NJSheep.net
PA Sheep and Wool Growers Field Day	Sept. 14	PASheep.com
Hettinger Ram Sale	Sept. 18	ndlwpa@gmail.com
NSIP Online Replacement Ewe Sale	Sept. 18	NSIP.org/nsip-influenced-replacement-ewe-sale
ARBA Annual Meeting	Sept. 20	Americanromney.org
ARBA Annual Dinner	Sept. 20	Springfield MA - Storowton Tavern
National Romney Show	Sept. 22	Mallary Building at Eastern States Exposition
The North American Hill Sheep Show	Sept. 26-28	NAHillSheepShow.com
South Dakota Sheep Growers Association Annual Convention	Sept. 27-28	SDSheepGrowers.org
New River Valley Sheep and Goat Club's Festival	Sept. 28	NRVSheepandGoatClub.com
Pennsylvania Sheep and Wool Growers Shearing School	Sept. 28-29	PASheep.com
National Ram Sale	Oct. 4-5	NationalRamSale.com
Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival	Oct. 5-6	VTSheepandWoolFest.com
Utah Ram Sale	Oct. 9-10	UtahRamSale.org
PA Sheep & Wool Growers Symposium & Annual Meeting	Oct. 19	PASheep.com
New York State Sheep and Wool Festival (Rhinebeck)	Oct. 19-20	Sheepandwool.com
West Central States Wool Growers Convention	Oct. 31—Nov. 2	IdahoWoolGrowers.org
Ozark Fiber Fling	Nov. 1-2	OzarkFiberFling.com
Secure Sheep and Wool Supply Program—Training Session	Nov. 3	patriciasanville@gmail.com - Frederick, MD
Washington State Sheep Producers Convention	Nov. 8-9	WSSP.org

Please forward any missing show dates or any changes to the listed shows to the editor - the show schedule is always subject to changes due to state and federal guidelines. Check websites or social media for the most up to date information. For more dates - there is a list at www.sheepusa.org



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