



Wild & Woolly



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VOLUME IV □ ISSUE III

WINTER 2012

Shearer Headed To New Zealand

Twenty-seven year old Emily Chamelin, a professional sheep shearer from Westminster, is headed to New Zealand to compete in the Golden Shears International Sheep Shearing Contest.

Chamelin will compete in the blade shearing contest. Blade shearing is the old-fashioned way of shearing sheep.

Chamelin qualified for the international competition when she won the blade shearing contest at last year's Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival. In addition, she placed 7th among 18 competitors from around the world in the All Irish National Competition.

Chamelin started shearing sheep about 10 years ago. She got involved with raising sheep through 4-H, even though her family owns a dairy farm with cows and goats. Chamelin has a flock of about 20 sheep.

Source: Carroll County Times

Good Luck Emily!



Used with permission from Ken Koons/ Carroll County Times Staff Photographer

We're On Facebook!

The University of Maryland Extension Small Ruminant Program is now on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/MDSmallRuminant>.

Facebook is a social networking web site. You can ask and answer questions, make comments, and share ideas, links, pictures, and videos. Many farmers and agricultural organizations have Facebook pages to promote their products and communicate with consumers.

You can view the Small Ruminant Program Facebook page without creating a facebook account. However, to add anything to the page such as comments or ask a question you will need to have a facebook account.



Pasture



Pen-fed Goats



A carcass comparison study was conducted in conjunction with the 2011 Western Maryland Pasture-Based Meat Goat Performance Test. Several consigners to the test provided additional goats of similar genetics for pen-feeding and carcass evaluation.

The carcasses of nine goats from the pasture test were compared to the carcasses of nine goats that were pen-fed a diet of hay and grain. For each goat from the pasture test that was harvested for data collection, a pen-fed goat from the same consigner was slaughtered.

The pasture-fed goats consumed a pasture-only diet, with no supplemental feed, only free choice minerals. They were rotationally grazed among six 2-acre paddocks, planted in a variety of warm and cool season grasses. The forage was always ample, though its quality was not tested.

The pen-fed goats were confined and had unlimited access to grass hay. They were hand-fed a commercial goat pellet (ADM Goat Power™) once per day, all the grain they could consume in 20 minutes: not much at the beginning of the test, but almost 1.7 lbs. per head per day by the end.

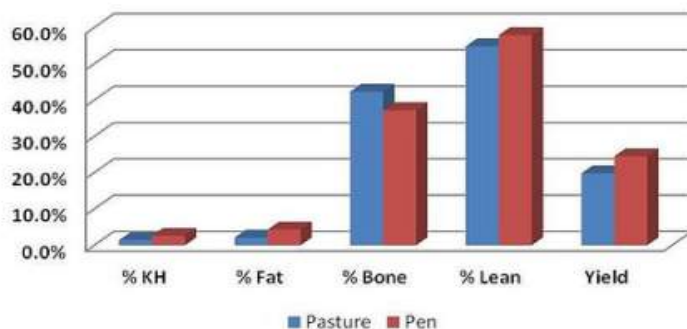
The eighteen goats consumed their respective diets from June 5 until September 25. The pasture-fed goats gained 0.124 lbs. per day from June 5 until September 15. During the same time period, the average daily gain of the pen-fed goats was 0.232 lbs. per day. Neither group experienced clinical internal parasitism, but the pen-fed goats had much lower fecal egg

Pasture vs. Pen-Fed Goats

counts and less dagginess than the pastured goats.

On September 29, the goats were weighed and transported to Country Foods, a custom-exempt slaughterhouse in Waynesboro, PA, for same day slaughter. Their carcasses were weighed, deboned, and measured six days later.

Carcass yields



Each carcass was separated into three components: lean, fat, and bone. A sample from the longissimus dorsi (rib eye) muscle was collected from each carcass. The samples were sent to Ohio State University where they are being analyzed for nutrition and fatty acid composition.

As expected, the carcasses from the pen-fed goats were fatter, as evidenced by a thicker body wall and higher percentages of kidney and heart (internal) fat and overall fat. However, the pen-fed goats produced a higher yield of fat-free, boneless meat: 24.5 vs. 19.8 percent (of their live weight). The pen-fed goats also had a higher dressing percentage than the pasture-raised goats: 44.4 vs. 39.4 percent.

Statistical analysis showed the differences in fat, yield, and dressing percent to be statistically significant. While numerically

(Continued on page 6)

Hoof Diseases in Sheep and Goats

There are several diseases that can affect the hooves of sheep and goats. The three most common are footrot, foot scald, and foot abscess. All are caused by opportunistic bacteria that invade unhealthy tissue.

Footrot is an infectious disease caused by the interaction of two anaerobic bacteria: *Fusobacterium necrophorum* and *Dichelobacter nodosus*. *F. necrophorum* is found in the digestive tract and feces of sheep and goats. *D. nodosus* is usually introduced to a farm via an infected or carrier animal. It cannot survive for very long outside an infected hoof, only up to 14 days.

Irritation of the hoof's interdigital tissue, due to moisture or trauma, allows entry of *F. necrophorum*, resulting in foot scald, an inflammation and reddening of the interdigital tissue. Foot scald is not contagious and usually does not involve the horny tissue of the hoof.

Once the interdigital tissue is weakened, other disease-causing bacteria may enter the hoof and cause disease. *Actinomyces pyogenes*, a common bacteria in soil, can interact with *F. necrophorum* to cause a foot abscess. Foot abscesses usually only affect one hoof or digit.

If *D. nodosus* is present on the farm, it can also invade the weakened interdigital tissue, releasing protease enzymes which will eat away at the connective tissue between the horny and soft (fleshy) portions of the hoof, resulting in footrot. Maggots can be a problem with severely infected hooves.



There are 20 different strains of *D. nodosus* that can infect sheep and goats. The strains vary in their virulence. When goats are infected with *D. nodosus*, they don't usually develop as severe footrot symptoms as sheep, whereas they may experience a more severe form of foot scald, called "benign" footrot in some countries. In fact, there is evidence to suggest that benign footrot also involves *D. nodosus*.

The predisposing factors to any hoof disease are warmth (over 45°F) and moisture, overgrown hooves, and abnormal hoof growth. Hoof trimming allows air to reach the hoof and eliminate disease-causing bacteria. Mud and fe-

ces are less likely become trapped in a properly-trimmed hoof. Animals that have excessive or abnormal hoof growth or have chronic hoof disease should be culled. Culling is a shepherd's most powerful tool against hoof problems.

		TRIM	TREAT	ISOLATE	CULL
4-PLUS	Day 0	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Day 7		✓	✓	
	Day 14	✓	✓	✓	
	Day 21		✓	✓	
	Day 28	✓	✓		✓
Footrot is eradicated!					

It goes without saying that hoof diseases can affect the health, welfare, and performance of infected animals. They can also be costly to treat, especially labor and the premature culling of otherwise good livestock.

There is no single way to control or eradicate footrot from a flock or herd. Control and/or eradication usually involves a combination of measures, which may include hoof trimming, antibiotic injections, topical treatments, repetitive foot soaks, vaccination, isolation, and culling.

Strict biosecurity will prevent the bacteria that causes footrot from ever establishing itself in a healthy flock or herd. Though there are other vectors, the primary source of infection is newly-introduced animals. Never buy animals from a flock or herd that has a history of hoof disease. Isolate all new purchases for at least three weeks and assume they are infected with footrot.

University of Maryland Extension has been cooperating with University of Maine Extension on a grant-funded project to help sheep (and goat) producers in the Northeast eliminate footrot. To learn more about the project, visit the web site at <http://extension.maine.edu/sheep>. For a list of links pertaining to hoof care and diseases visit my web site at <http://www.sheepandgoat.com/footrot.html>.

Sidebar: Test your knowledge of hoof health and diseases by taking an online quiz www.sheepandgoat.com/Quizzes/Hoofhealthand diseases/quiz.html

Sidebar: The University of Maine Sheep Foot Health Project advocates a four week protocol for eradicating footrot.

Wanted: Bucks for Performance Testing

2012 will be the 7th year of the Western Maryland Pasture-Based Meat Goat Performance Test. Last year we saw the largest number of bucks tested (80), along with the initiation of a pen-feeding program for carcass comparison purposes.

The purpose of the goat test is to evaluate the performance of bucklings consuming a pasture-only diet, with natural exposure to internal parasites, primarily the barber pole worm. While on test, the goats are evaluated for growth, parasite resistance (fecal egg counts), parasite resilience (FAMACHA© scores and anthelmintic treatments), carcass merit, structural correctness, and reproductive soundness. They are managed as a single group in a ~12.5-acre rotational grazing system.

2012 Test

For this year's test, the goats must be delivered to the test site at the Western Maryland Research & Education Center (in Keedysville) on Saturday, June 2. After a short adjustment period, starting data will be collected on Thursday, June 7. The goats will be handled every two weeks thereafter to determine their body weights, FAMACHA© eye anemia scores, body condition scores, coat conditions scores, and dag (scour) scores. Low-stress handling techniques are emphasized.

Fecal samples will be collected bi-weekly from the rectum of each goat. Individual fecal egg counts will be determined by Dr. Dahlia O'Brien's lab at Delaware State University. A pooled fecal sample will be collected every four weeks. Fecal coproculture (larvae ID) will be done by Dr. Ray Kaplan's lab at the University of Georgia.

Towards the end of the test, the goats will be scanned (using ultrasound) to determine their rib eye area and back fat thickness. They will be evaluated for structural correctness and reproductive soundness. Scrotal circumference will be measured. Teats will be counted and characterized. Hooves will be trimmed and evaluated for growth, soundness, and health. Final data will be collected on September 13.



To be eligible for sale, bucks must meet Gold, Silver, or Bronze standards of performance for growth rate, parasite resistance, and parasite resilience, and minimum standards for structural correctness and reproductive soundness. Details pertaining to the sale of this year's top-performing bucks are still being worked out.

Eligibility

Male goats of any breed or breed cross, with or without registration eligibility, may be consigned to the test. Producers from any state may consign up to five goats to the test. At least two are recommended. Half-sibs (goats with the same sire) are suggested. Some producers may be asked to provide additional bucks for the carcass comparison study.

Eligible goats must weigh between 35 and 70 lbs. upon delivery to the test site on June 2. They must have been born between December 20, 2011, and March 20, 2012 (inclusive). They must have been weaned for at least two weeks prior to the test and received two vaccinations for overeating disease (*Clostridium perfringens* type C & D) and tetanus. Their hooves must be properly trimmed for foot soaking.

The nomination period for this year's test is April 1 through May 15. A \$20 deposit (per goat) is due at the time of nomination. It is not necessary to identify specific goats at the time of nomination. Health papers are required for admission to the goat test.

Information about the goat test, including all pertinent documents, can be found on the goat test blog at <http://mdgoatstest.blogspot.com>. Specific questions may be directed to Susan Schoenian at (301) 432-2767 x343 or sschoen@umd.edu.



Using Grain to Improve Goat Carcass Quality and Value

As a follow-up to last year's goat carcass evaluation study, conducted in conjunction with the Western Maryland Pasture-Based Meat Goat Performance Test, a more formal study will be conducted in 2012 to compare the performance, carcass quality, and economics of pen-fed vs. pasture-fed goats.

Fifteen (15) male goats will be penned and fed a diet consisting of free choice grass hay and limit-fed grain. The grain diet will be a mixture of whole barley and a protein supplement. The goats will be fed once daily and allowed to consume all the grain they can eat in 20 minutes, after which time the feeders will be removed from the pen. Rumensin (coccidiostat) will be provided via free choice minerals.

Each goat in the pen will have a "mate" of similar size and genetics on pasture. The fifteen (15) pastured goats will graze with the goats participating in the Western Maryland Pasture-Based Meat Goat Performance Test. They will consume a pasture-only diet that includes various cool and warm season grasses. Free choice minerals, containing a coccidiostat, will be available.

To do the study, we are looking for pairs of intact male goats that will weigh around 40 lbs. (each) at the start of the study on June 2. One goat from the pair will be pen-fed. The other will be pasture-raised. A fair market price will be paid for the 40 lb. goats. Participating producers will receive a copious amount of data on the goats in the study. The study is being funded by a grant from the Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board.

Contact Susan Schoenian at (301) 432-2767 x343 or sschoen@umd.edu, if you are interested in providing goats for the study.



Webinars - Sheep and Goat Nutrition and Feeding

A series of webinars will be held on consecutive Thursday nights in January and February. The webinars will focus on the feeding and nutrition of sheep and goats.

- January 12 - Digestive physiology
- January 19 - Nutrients
- January 26 - Feedstuffs
- February 2 - Nutritional management
- February 9 - Rational balancing
- February 16 - Nutritional disorders



Each webinar will begin at 7:30 p.m. EST and last for approximately one hour. An hour of questions and answers will follow. Topics may overlap more than one webinar. University of Maryland Extension Specialists and Educators will be the instructors for the webinars.

Anyone with an internet connection may participate in the webinars. High speed access is recommended.

The first 100 people who log onto:

<https://connect.moo.umd.edu/sschoen/>, will be able to participate.

All webinars will be recorded and available for later viewing at <http://www.sheepandgoat.com/recordings.html>.

Even though pre-registration is not required, those who plan to participate should contact Susan Schoenian at sschoen@umd.edu, so that they can be added to the webinar e-mail reflector list. People who registered for last year's webinars should already be on the list and have received e-mail notification of the 2012 webinar series.

Ewe and Doe Management

Ewe and doe management (from late gestation through weaning) was the subject of a webinar short course held last winter (2011). The short course was held over the course of six evenings.

The webinars were recorded and minimally edited. They are available for viewing at <http://www.sheepandgoat.com/recordings.html>. Scroll down to past webinars.

The page includes links to the PowerPoint presentations that accompanied each webinar. The presentations are available for viewing and downloading at <http://www.slideshare.net/schoenian>.

A webinar is a seminar that is taught over the world wide web. A webinar on feeding and nutrition is currently in progress.

<http://www.sheepandgoat.com/recordings.html>



2012 Shearing School for Beginners

There will be a Shearing School for Beginners on Friday and Saturday, March 23-24, 2012, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Ridgely Thompson's farm at 1942 Uniontown Road, Westminster, MD 21157.

The registration fee is \$80 per person and includes a copy of ASI's Sheep Shearing Notebook and an instructional DVD. Pre-registration is required. No registrations will be accepted after March 19. Participation is limited to the first 25. The minimum age is 16.

The New Zealand method of shearing will be taught. Shearing machines will be provided. Blade shearing will not be taught. Instructors are David Greene, Dr. Richard Barczewski, and Aaron Geiman.

The school is sponsored by University of Maryland and Delaware Extension, the Maryland Sheep Breeders Association, and the Delaware Sheep and Wool Producers Association.

Checks should be made payable to the Carroll County Extension Advisory Council and mailed to David L. Greene, 2014 White Hall Road, White Hall, MD 21161-9712.



Pasture vs. Pen-Fed Goats (continued from page 2)

different, there was no statistical difference in rib eye area or percent lean (lbs. lean/cold carcass weight) between the two groups of goats.

While our data show that pen-feeding can improve carcass yield, the economics of pen-feeding is affected by many different factors and will vary by operation. In conjunction with this year's buck test, a similar study will be conducted to evaluate carcass differences between pen-fed and pasture-fed goats, as well as to look at the economics of pen feeding vs. pasture-rearing.

Instead of a commercial pellet being fed to the goats, a more economical ration consisting of whole barley and a protein pellet will be fed.

Sheep and Goat Production in Brazil

by Susan Schoenian

While serving as a speaker at an International Symposium on Meat Goat and Sheep Production in Brazil (5th Sincorte) in October (2011), I had the opportunity to visit a few sheep and goat farms. While Brazil is known for having large sheep and goat farms, we visited several "small" farms.

The first farm we visited was a sheep farm, with approximately 150 breeding ewes. The ewes were mostly Santa Inês, with some Dorper mixed in. The Santa Inês is an attractive, multi-colored hair sheep that is known for its resistance to internal parasites. Its primary shortcoming is its reproductive rate. As compared to many other hair sheep breeds, it is less prolific. On this farm, the ewes were producing 1.2 to 1.3 lambs per lambing. Their lambing interval was less than one year.

The farmer was very progressive in his breeding program. On the dam side, he was crossing the Santa Inês with the Damara, a hair breed from South Africa. For his terminal cross, he was starting to use Texel and Suffolk rams.

The feeding program included a combination of grazing and confinement feeding. Ewes with older lambs spent the day grazing and were brought in at night for supplemental feeding. Ewes with younger lambs were housed in old poultry houses.

A variety of feedstuffs were being utilized, including several by-product feeds: hay, grass silage, pineapple, and a liquid brewery waste product. The ewes had messy



mouths as a result of consuming the pineapple product. The lambs were creep fed a mixture that contained corn and soybean meal, but also readily consumed the pineapple waste.

Next, we visited a dairy goat farm that was milking about 60 does, hoping to expand to more than 100 does. The does were a mixture of Alpine and a native breed that looked similar to the Alpine. I suspect it shared some common ancestry.

All of the dairy goats were kept in confinement, either concrete structures that provided plenty of natural ventilation or dry lots with covered feeders. The bucks were housed away from the does in a separate concrete structure with a lot for exercise.

Like the sheep, the goats were fed a mixture of feedstuffs: hay, silage, cactus, and another by-product from the brewing industry. The cactus was grown on the farm, harvested, and cut into small pieces for feeding. Milking was done by hand, in a separate milking parlor that elevated the does to a convenient height for milking.

Our last visit was to a farm that was characterized as a subsistent farm. This farm kept a mixture of goat breeds for milking. The milking parlor was similar to the other, with the does elevated on a concrete walkway. Milking was done by hand. The Brazilian government is encouraging dairy goat production by purchasing goat milk for use in school meal programs. I wish our government would do the same!

(Continued on page 10)

Another Successful Lambing & Kidding School

Eighty-six adults and youth attended the 2011 Lambing & Kidding School, held November 19 at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, MD. The school is held every other year at a different location in Maryland. The next school will be held in 2013 in Western Maryland.

Dr. Susan Kerr, a 4-H Extension Educator and veterinarian from Washington State University was the featured speaker at this year's school. Her participation was sponsored by Northeast SARE.

Other speakers included Dr. Nelson Escobar, Small Ruminant Specialist at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES); Dr. Dahlia O'Brien, Small Ruminant Specialist at Delaware State University; Jeff Semler, Agricultural Extension Agent in Washington County; Dr. Michael Jacobs, a private veterinarian; and Susan Schoenian, University



of Maryland Extension Sheep & Goat Specialist.

This was the first school in which a separate educational tract was held for youth. Seventeen youth participated in the youth tract, which included a parasitology lab, skills lab, wet lab, and skillathon practice.

Proceedings of the Lambing & Kidding School were provided to the participants via a notebook and/or flash drive.

If you are interested in purchasing a copy of the proceedings (notebook @\$15 or flash drive @\$10), please contact Pam Thomas at pthomas@umd.edu or (301) 432-2767 x315.

The proceedings are also available online at <http://www.sheepandgoat.com/programs/11LKSchoolNotebook.html>.

UMCP Sheep Flock - 2011 Recap

By Crystal Caldwell
Farm Manager

The 2011 lambing season at the University of Maryland's Campus Farm, in College Park, was a successful one. Fifteen ewes produced thirty live lambs, which sold for record prices, in accordance with the market. After weaning many older ewes were sold and six ewe lambs were kept as replacements. With breeding season now over there are 17 ewes/ewe lambs confirmed pregnant via ultrasound.

The current flock consists of 21 ewes/ewe lambs, 2 wethers, and 2 rams. Eight of the females are purebred Katahdins with the remainder having some Dorper in them, except that is for CeCe, who is Suffolk x Katahdin and gives us market lambs for the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival. The two purebred Katahdin rams that were the predominant flock sires fall 2009-fall 2011 will be replaced with new Katahdin ram(s) and perhaps a Dorper for this fall.

Summer 2011 we had our fifth inspection as part of the Voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program and we are now a certified flock.

ANSC 235, officially known as "Small Ruminant Parturition", but fondly called "Lamb Watch", continues to be an extremely popular course. In this class students pair up to become "ewe parents", assist with the care of the flock, and the neonatal care of "their ewe's" lamb(s). We are looking forward to another great lambing season!



University of MD Image

Recipe - BAAAA Sliders

Sliders, which are nothing more than mini burgers, are a very popular item right now, and lamb sliders with a bright, creamy cucumber-yogurt sauce takes the idea to a new level of deliciousness.

Makes 8-10 Lamb Sliders with Creamy Yogurt Sauce.

Prep time: 30 minutes

Cook Time: 6 minutes

Total time: 36 minutes

Ingredients:

Yogurt Sauce

1/4 cup plain Greek-style yogurt

1/2 Tbsp. minced garlic

3 Tbsp. grated cucumber

1 Tbsp. olive oil

2 Tsp. fresh lemon juice

1 Tbsp. chopped fresh parsley

1/2 tsp. freshly ground black pepper

Salt to taste

For the Lamb Burgers

1 lb. lean ground lamb

5 oz. regular ground pork

2 Tbsp. minced garlic

2 tsp. salt

2 tsp. cracked black pepper

1 Tbsp. olive oil

8-10 small rolls, split (mini sandwich rolls or small dinner rolls work great)

Preparation:

Sauce

In a small bowl, combine all the ingredients. Refrigerate until needed.

Lamb Burgers

In a large bowl, combine all the ingredients except the oil. Form the mixture into 8 to 10 small, thin patties. Heat a cast-iron grill pan over high heat and brush with oil. Add the lamb burgers and cook for 2-3 minutes on each side for medium.

Lightly toast the rolls on the griddle, then sandwich a lamb burger in each and spread with the yogurt sauce.

Serve immediately

Recipe & Image Provided by North Star Sheep Farm, Windham, Maine



New Source for McMaster Slides

There is a new source for McMaster slides. It is FEC Sources. The slides can be ordered online from their web site at fecsource.com.

A McMaster slide is a two or three-chambered slide that is used to count worm eggs. Fecal egg counting is a quantitative method of determining anthelmintic (dewormer) resistance and pasture contamination.

Other sources of McMaster slides include the Chalex Corporation (www.vetslides.com) and Focal Point (www.mcmaster.co.za).

Featured Web Site

Compendium of Veterinary Products (CVP)

Sponsored by Bayer Health Care LLC, Animal Health Division, the Compendium of Veterinary Products (CVP) is a searchable database of animal health products. All searches direct the user towards a product label and package insert check. All the information may be viewed and printed.

The Compendium also includes various charts by species. It is a handy reference for anyone who uses animal health products.

You can access the Compendium of Veterinary Products at Bayer's web site at www.bayerdvm.com. Registration is free.

The Compendium of Veterinary Products is also available as an app for smart phones and tablet computers. The app can be downloaded for free from iTunes or Android.

http://www.bayerdvm.com/Resources/cvp_main.cfm

(Sheep and Goat Production in Brazil *Continued from on page 7*)

When I visit farms in other countries, I always take a special interest in the native breeds of livestock. Native breeds (including those in this country) are seldom given the respect they deserve, yet they are always the animals best adapted to the local environment.



While it is common to cross improved and introduced breeds to native breeds to improve productivity, such crossing should always proceed with caution, as many "so-called" improved breeds fail to thrive in their new environments. Improved breeds often require better feed and management.

Word Search Fun

A A Q G S U S K T A T E B D G

S I D U B K I E O F C X S L C

L R R F A D I P D N F T S A A

E P N E D L I L A I V C A C N

T S O I T K I M L T L R C S U

P Z N C W C R T O A L S R M T

R G G L L O A R Y O T R A E R

L R V I F X T B G S R H C Y I

A U R R N O Q M H U C L O V T

M P E C O M P E N D I U M N I

B P Y F X G A B S C E S S Z O

I G C U O R E T S A M O O S N

N B C U I P Y H Y B Y J R I G

G J D N S T K O O B E C A F H

S M G K O G X G W F Q F V W E

ABSCCESS

BACTERIA

CARCASS

COMPENDIUM

FACEBOOK

FOOTROT

KIDDING

LAMBING

NUTRITION

PERFORMANCE

QUALITY

SCALD

SHEARING

SKILLATHON

SLIDES

2012 Jr. Sheep & Wool Skillathon

The 2012 Junior Sheep & Wool Skillathon will be held on Sunday, May 6, 2012, at the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival. The Festival is always held the first full weekend in May at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, Maryland.

The skillathon will be held in the dining hall. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. The contest will start at 9 a.m. Results are usually announced around 2 or 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

Premiums and awards will be provided by the Festival Committee of the Maryland Sheep Breeders Association and the University of Maryland Small Ruminant Extension Program.

The skillathon is open to individual and teams (3 or 4) of youth, ages 8 to 18, from any state of province. Youth compete according to their age as of January 1, 2012.



Pre-registration is requested by Monday, April 30. Teams must be pre-registered in order to compete. To pre-register, send names and ages (as of January 1) to Susan Schoenian at sschoen@umd.edu or (301) 432-2767 x343.

2011 Shepherds of the Year

Maryland Sheep Breeders Association

At their annual fall banquet and meeting, the Maryland Sheep Breeders Association named Larry Pugh from Woodbine as their 2011 "Shepherd of the Year."

Larry has been raising sheep since the 1950's and his 4-H days in Montgomery County. He has raised purebred Dorsets since the 1970's. He has also raised Hampshire, Suffolk, Southdown, and Finn sheep.

Larry was a long-time member of the now-defunct Howard County Sheep Breeders Association, serving as President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary at various times. He has been associated with the Howard County Fair almost continuously since the early 1970's and currently is an assistant superintendent for the sheep show.

Larry has been a volunteer at most of the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festivals, only missing a couple since the very beginning -- helping with setup, takedown, cleanup and many other duties as assigned. He currently serves on the MSBA Board.



Frederick County Sheep Breeders Association

At their annual dinner meeting in November, the Frederick Sheep Breeders Association named Bob and Charlotte Dinsmore their "Shepherds of the Year."

Bob and Charlotte are long-time sheep breeders. Along with their son, Robert, they raise Hampshire and Shropshire sheep on their farm in Jefferson, Maryland. They are also owners/operators of Ceresville New Holland and Sheepman Supply Company in Frederick.

The award was presented by Emily Chamelin, past recipient of the award and vice president of the Association.



Calendar of Events



January 25-29

American Sheep Industry Association Annual Convention

Scottsdale Plaza Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona

Info: info@sheepusa.org

January 26

University of Maryland Extension Webinars

Sheep and Goat Nutrition and Feeding - Feedstuffs

Log on to: <https://connect.moo.umd.edu/sschoen/>

Contact: Susan Schoenian at 301-432-2767 ext 343 or email sschoen@umd.edu

February 2

University of Maryland Extension Webinars

Sheep and Goat Nutrition and Feeding - Nutritional Management

Log on to: <https://connect.moo.umd.edu/sschoen/>

Contact: Susan Schoenian at 301-432-2767 ext 343 or email sschoen@umd.edu

February 9

University of Maryland Extension Webinars

Sheep and Goat Nutrition and Feeding - Ration Balancing

Log on to: <https://connect.moo.umd.edu/sschoen/>

Contact: Susan Schoenian at 301-432-2767 ext 343 or email sschoen@umd.edu

February 16

University of Maryland Extension Webinars

Sheep and Goat Nutrition and Feeding - Nutritional Disorders

Log on to: <https://connect.moo.umd.edu/sschoen/>

Contact: Susan Schoenian at 301-432-2767 ext 343 or email sschoen@umd.edu

March 23-24

Shearing School for Beginners

Ridgely Thompson's Farm - Westminster MD

Info: Carroll County Extension Advisory Council, David Greene

email: greelamb@gmail.com website: carroll.umd.edu

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