



THE LINCOLN LETTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL LINCOLN SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Fall 2018

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If you have any ideas for articles in future issues, please email Tiffany Deakin at tdeakin93@gmail.com.

LUSTROUS LOCKS AT KEYSTONE

BY SALLY COLBY • ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN
COUNTRY FOLKS NEW ENGLAND FARM WEEKLY

Darlene Leary, of Wind Valley Farm in Oakham, Massachusetts, took a few minutes to talk about sheep during a break from preparing a selection of animals for the show ring at the Keystone International Livestock Expo (KILE) held recently in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Although Darlene is no novice when it comes to raising and showing purebred sheep, this year was different at KILE – it was the first year the show offered classes for Lincolns. “We brought natural colored Lincolns,” said Darlene, who partners with Bryan Mason to operate the farm. “It’s the first year they’re being shown (at KILE) so we want to support that show.” Wind Valley Farm is home to four breeds, but the Lincolns, which vary in color from almost black to silvery gray, belong to Darlene and Bryan, who is also the shearer for the flock.

Natural colored Lincolns were added to the Wind Valley flock four years ago when Darlene had the opportunity to purchase 41 natural colored Lincolns from New York Lincoln breeder Joe Seavey. “All were good quality, and it kept a long-time breeding program going,” she said. “Sometimes, with a group of sheep, you have to cull some of the brood ewes, but we’ve only culled three ewes so far. It’s a good group of sheep and they’re our main breed now.”

Today, Darlene has about 30 Lincoln ewes. In the fall of 2017, 22 ewe lambs were born, adding to the options for flock replacements. “We’re just getting started with lambing this year,” she said. “We breed purposely for fall because barn space is limited. The goal is to have about half the ewes lamb in fall.”

To ensure a uniform lamb crop and the ability to select replacements from similar age groups, Darlene uses CIDRs (controlled intervaginal drug release) to synchronize estrous, bringing ewes into heat uniformly and at a time that works best for overall farm management. While all four breeds are kept together throughout the year, they’re separated for breeding. With four breeds and the need to maintain separate breeding groups, Darlene has found several neighbors with small acreage willing to host ewes with a ram during breeding season.

Lincolns, whether white or natural colored, are a true multi-purpose sheep. “With a Lincoln, there’s a carcass, a fleece and a pelt,” said Darlene. “That makes the most sense to me. It’s the most useable breed for us for what we’re doing.” Darlene has some lambs processed at a USDA facility and works with a local golf course restaurant to feature Wind Valley Farm lamb on the menu.

Darlene says that jet-black natural colored Lincolns will usually retain a dark color, while silver or mixed fleeces tend to lighten over the years. Pelts, which are highly desirable for outstanding luster and unique color, are processed at Bucks County Fur in Pennsylvania. Darlene sends some fleeces to Baaay State Blankets, and others are sold to private individuals and offered at the fiber festival in November at the Big E.

“We do a lot of fleece management,” said Darlene, adding that fence line feeding helps keep feed and chaff out of the fleeces. “This is the time of year we like to

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shear the Lincoln ewes. After we have rain, the fleeces dry for two days, then the fleeces come back 'up' and the dirt is out." Bryan shears the Lincolns twice a year – in March and October. Darlene says the spring-sheared wool isn't as high quality as fall-shorn wool. Yearling ewes are sheared, and Darlene can usually market those fleeces via social media.

Brood ewes are maintained on pasture, and Darlene has developed a partnership with Cold Harbor Brewing, a local craft brewery in Westborough, to obtain spent grains for supplemental feeding. "They brew twice a week, so I pick up spent brewer's grains twice a week in 55-gallon barrels," she said, adding that she's been feeding spent grains for three years. "We feed it to all the sheep, but it's mostly for the pastured sheep to supplement pasture. Our brood ewes don't typically get any grain until a week or so before they're due to lamb." Darlene has found that while most of the flock is eager to eat spent grains, there are several sheep that don't like it. "Spent grains has been our biggest lifesaver," she said. "We have about 15 acres of pasture to graze, so that gives us some rotation, but the brewer's grains help so much."

To prepare Lincolns for the show ring, sheep are first trained to walk on a halter. As the show date nears, bellies are sheared and the tips of the lustrous locks are clipped to shape the animal and highlight its most positive qualities. Three years ago, Wind

Valley Farm was named premier breeder at the Big E, and received the premier exhibitor award two years in a row. "At Big E this year, there were six Lincolns in the fall ewe class, and they were all bred by us," said Darlene, adding that it's satisfying to see others have success from sheep resulting from her breeding program. Darlene sometimes exhibits sheep at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Kentucky, and determines whether she has animals suitable for that show based on their performance in shows leading up to NAILE. Because of the time and expense of traveling to a show that's quite a distance from Massachusetts, Darlene prefers to take a large group to NAILE.

While natural colored Lincolns account for the majority of sheep at Wind Valley Farm, the farm is also home to Hampshires, Southdowns and Dorpers. "We have a variety," said Darlene. "We have two meat breeds, a fleece breed and a hair breed."

The 15 Hampshires are owned by Malcom Johnson of New York, the 20 Southdowns belong to niece Jessica Leary, and nephew Jakob Leary is working on establishing a Dorper flock. Both Jessica and Jakob help prepare and show sheep. Whenever possible, Darlene and her family purchase new stock privately, and support on-line purebred sales.

Although predators are an ongoing issue for most sheep owners, Darlene says they had an isolated coyote attack three years ago when the fence was down. "It was a dry year," she said. "The stone wall sunk and left a perfect 'V', and they went right under." "Darlene has since seen coyotes on the game cameras, but they haven't been a problem.

Darlene likes to see young people becoming involved with sheep. "It helps them learn responsibility," she said, "and they spend less time on electronic devices."

Learn more about Wind Valley Farm on Facebook.



Darlene Leary of Wind Valley Farm with her Premier Breeder plaque at the Big E in September.



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INDUSTRY PUBLIC RELATIONS: THE STORY STARTS WITH YOU!

BY K. T. JONES

Let's face it, marketing our sheep today can be as complex as ever! With social media platforms spreading information faster than a small town barber-shop, and our clientele driving in different lanes of the information super highway, identifying and reaching our target audience can be a difficult task. Add to this the complexities of the various breeder preferences and styles in any given breed, and the quotient for disaster can be real; however, the answer is truly simple. We just need to go back to our grass roots and do what farm people do best...utilize our common sense and resources.

Today more than ever, savvy consumers are craving three essential components from their product providers...quality content, product authenticity and follow through. Who better to deliver this message than our farmers and producers!

Whether it is selling lamb face to face at the local farmer's market, spinning yarn at the fiber festival or manning our farm displays at the state fair, it is essential we work together to provide a uniform and palatable message to our consumers.

The sheep we sell are an amazing commodity with a plethora of byproducts from companion animals providing joy to our young people in the show ring, to giving us sustaining proteins and fibers to clothe our bodies and insulate our dwellings. The responsibility of promoting this dynamic product truly lies in the hands of everyone involved in the industry.

One might ask, where do we start? We simply start at home! Here are five easy places each of us can devote a little extra time and attention over the next year. Together our few minutes of time invested just might add up to one terrific

grassroots campaign to promote our sheep, our associations and our industry.

1. Word-of-Mouth: Our story starts at home! Today's consumer is focused on building relationships. From farm signs to phone calls, providing a personal touch is essential to educating our consumers about the benefits of our product. Simply put, we need to provide a quality product and develop a following of patronage buyers. There is nothing more powerful than word-of-mouth advertising!

2. Create Goodwill: While not all introverts will agree, social is the new norm. It is the one-to-one contact and our generosity to donate our time and resources that can truly set us apart from the others. Take a moment to donate a trophy, step up to demonstrate a skill at an event or even make public connections at local farm events. Make it your motto to "go social or go home!"

3. Print Media: While social media may drive much of today's daily conversation, print media is still alive and well. Whether it be a write-up in a newsletter, a special interest piece in the local newspaper or an informative article in a monthly publication, print media goes farther than a simple advertisement. Utilizing our local and national print media outlets to focus on special interest stories can be an essential part of our promotions process. How can you showcase what is unique about your breed and your operation? Content sells advertising and advertising sells sheep!

4. Social Media: From websites to various platforms, today's digital age allows us to connect with our audience in an instant. We can not only tell our story, but we can educate and engage our followers in ways we have never dreamed. If it sounds scary, start with a website,

pick a platform, develop a page, or simply represent yourself on your personal site. Regardless of your preference, having a voice and presence is an essential part of reaching the public.

5. Displays and Decorations: Herdsmanship isn't just for 4-H and FFA anymore. The truth be told, one of the most efficient and effective ways to educate and engage the public is through our fair and festival circuits. With a branded and targeted marketing approach, producers can utilize the many public relations tools we now have at our fingertips to excite people about our industry. From business cards to brochures, providing a high quality interactive display should be on the top of our list when attending these events.

In today's content driven universe, information is king! How and when we strategically present this information is the difference between a good marketing campaign and a failed attempt to get information into the hands of our consumers. The effort truly starts at home with how we tell our story, and then resonates into our associations and organizations.

How we tell our story and how we present ourselves should always be at the forefront of our thought process. Details truly matter the most; from choosing the best photos to use for advertising to providing interactive material to engage our audiences should always be a foundation level decision. While having so many tools at our disposal can sometimes be overwhelming, it is essential to simplify our efforts and start somewhere.

I won't claim to be a public relations guru, or for that matter, a marketing expert. However, I am someone who spent several years in the trenches as an FFA Advisor promoting programs, almost two decades writing for agricultural publications, and more recently have found myself in the realm of social media marketing and branding. Ultimately, our industry has a responsibility to tell our story, but so do we and our story starts with us.

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RAM BEHAVIOR

BY: JACKIE LEE, DVM CANDIDATE 2019
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

We have all heard the stories of shepherds who have been injured or even killed by rams unexpectedly. The best way to avoid these situations is to prevent them. Knowing normal ram behavior, what promotes ram aggression and methods to mitigate aggression will facilitate producer safety. As a brief aside, there were very few scientific and text resources that impart advice on ram safety and incident prevention, so much of this article is attributed to the personal experiences and opinions of myself as well as my colleagues and mentors.

Rams have many typical behaviors that most producers are familiar with and expect to observe on a regular basis. Of these behaviors, sexual behavior is the most important to the breeding program and future of the flock. Aggressive behaviors are associated with normal sexual behavior and highest during breeding season. Sexual behaviors that can translate to aggressive behaviors towards humans include pawing at the ground, nibbling, head butting, charging, and gargling vocalizations. Normal sexual behaviors are variable between rams. Some rams are more aggressive than others whereas some are more docile. The extent of sexual behavior is determined by genetics but also by how the ram was raised. Regardless of an individual ram's behavior, it is important to remember that all rams are aggressive or have the potential to be aggressive, even if they appear "friendly".

Knowing ram behavior is the first step to prevention which is key to reducing the risk of an incident occurring. For example, it is not recommended to pet rams on the head because it promotes head butting. Another recommendation is to avoid hand-rearing rams whenever possible. Orphaned ram lambs should be transferred to another ewe if it is an option. It is important for ram lambs to develop social skills amongst the flock and maintain a workable flight distance with the shepherd. Hand-reared ram lambs may seem more docile and friendlier but in fact they are more dangerous since they have no fear of the shepherd. Evaluating the behavior of ram lambs at a young age may also be helpful in preventing ram aggression. Even rams that are not hand-reared but still friendly as lambs are more likely to be aggressive as adults. It may be worthwhile to consider the genetics of that ram lamb and if they are worth keeping for breeding stock.

If early preventative practices fail and the ram becomes a known aggressor, the best

recommendation is removal of the ram. Ideally, the ram would be sent to slaughter rather than sold to another producer who then would be assuming the potential risk of injury. This may seem like a drastic measure, but the safety of a human life is worth more than any ram. Not to mention any liability that you could be assuming if the ram injured someone else. The hesitation by producers behind this recommendation is if the ram is genetically valuable. If the aggressive ram absolutely must be kept, it becomes even more necessary to practice strict safety practices when around the ram. However, never fail to acknowledge the inherent increased risk of owning a dangerous ram. Finally, it is important to always remember to never trust a ram (or any livestock animal for that matter). Never turn your back on a ram and always know where the ram is when you are working around them. Minimize the time that you are around any ram especially with handling and restraint. And if this was not already obvious, never allow children in a pen with a ram.

The recommendations on what actions to take during an attack by a ram are highly variable. Essentially there are no overarching rules about how to handle these situations since every single incident is going to vary. Some people in the industry recommend making loud sounds and chasing the ram if they feel as though the ram is showing aggressive behaviors. My opinion is to always watch that ram very carefully and leave the pen as quickly as possible if your observation detects a threat. Always know your quickest escape route, whether it's a quick hop over a fence or a through a gate. This is why I would recommend keeping feeders and waterers just inside the enclosure so that the producer can minimize their time spent in the pen with a ram. If an attack does occur, of course seek medical attention as soon as possible. However, when you are at the hospital ER waiting to be seen, you may want to use that time to reconsider the future of the ram on your farm.

Overall, remember that all rams have the potential to be dangerous. Knowing the behavior of the ram and warning signs of ram aggression will help prevent an incident. However, if a ram is aggressive, strongly consider if his genetics are good enough to outweigh the risks. Stay safe and best wishes for a successful breeding season!

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DAVID W. HAMMER

David W. Hammer, 77, of Cuba City, Wisconsin, died October 8, 2018, at Stonehill Franciscan Care Center in Dubuque, Iowa.

David was born on December 4, 1940, in Galena, Illinois, the son of Wilbur and Marilyn (Koehler) Hammer. He married Katherine Hesseling on July 16, 1974, in Kieler, Wis.

David graduated from Cuba City High School and the Non-Commissioned Officer Academy at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base. He spent 27 years serving his country in the Air National Guard. He worked for over forty years as a tool and die maker at John Deere Dubuque Tractor Works. From 1975 until present day he showed and owned commercial and registered sheep both locally and nationally. David served on the Farm Service Agency Board for nine years and also served for over ten years on the Lafayette County

Board. He enjoyed history, playing euchre, and spending time with his children and grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Katherine; two daughters, Amy (Ryan Bouckaert) Hammer, of Littleton, Colorado, and Sara (Stephen) Chulski, of Green Bay, Wisconsin; two sons, August (Sarah Welbes-Hammer) Hammer, of Dubuque, Iowa, and Leo Hammer, of

Oshkosh, Wisconsin; one brother Dale (Kathleen) Hammer, of Cuba City, Wisconsin; and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

A David W. Hammer Scholarship Fund has been established. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.caseyfuneralhome.net.

David Hammer is shown at right with his Reserve Champion Colored Lincoln Ewe at NAILE in 2013. David's enthusiasm for life, Lincolns, and the entire sheep industry will be missed.



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– \$50 each class for pottery awards; \$60 each for banners

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Reserves – ram & ewe, both black & white – \$60 each class

Pairs of yearling ewes & ewe lambs, black & white – \$65 each class



Contact Debbie with questions • **Please make checks to NLBSA**

Donations may be mailed to Treasurer, Debbie Vanderwende:

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USING DIRECT MARKETING OF MEAT TO EVEN OUT FARM INCOME STREAMS

BY CHRISTIANE PAYTON

Every farmer is familiar with fluctuations in the prices of our products, whether we grow field crops and/or livestock. As agricultural producers, we are in the business of growing things that are commodities - in other words, raw materials. Supply and demand determine prices in a free market and the reason that commodity prices are notoriously volatile is that there are many factors which can impact both sides of the supply and demand equation. Let's take a look at supply first.

Supply of a commodity can be affected by any number of the following: yield, weather conditions, pest conditions, acreage devoted to production, cost of inputs, war as well as other factors. Using sheep as an example, lamb production numbers are directly related to the number of breeding ewes held over from the previous year as well as weather conditions such as drought which affect lamb survival rates.

Historically, commodity demand has been tied to prices as well as the price and availability of substitutes. So, for example, if a consumer is in the grocery store and wants to purchase lamb for a meal, their desire and ability to do so will be affected by the price of the lamb on the shelf as well as the price of possible substitutes like beef and pork. In the past few decades, as our food supply has become increasingly global rather than just national or local, commodity prices have become subject to foreign exchange fluctuations and other global trends. Small produc-

ers have little ability to enter into long term supply contracts, which help to lock in prices or to use financial instruments to offset price fluctuations.

However, by selling lamb directly to the consumer, shepherds can help to


lock in farm revenues. How does this work? Value added products such as meat that is freezer ready does not have to fluctuate in price with live lamb prices. Some prices are "sticky," which means they go up with the market, but are slower to come down.

Here's an example many of us will relate to: when the price of unrefined oil spikes, we see it at the gas station right away, even though the fuel being pumped into our car was purchased by


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the energy company long in advance of the oil price increase. And when the price of oil comes down, gasoline prices follow - eventually. They are "sticky" - they go up faster than they go down.

I have been direct marketing USDA lamb by the half and the whole for 16 years and my prices have only gone up, they have never gone down, even when live lamb prices have cratered. This is because my costs to produce those lambs have generally increased over time (alfalfa has gone from \$150/ton to \$240/ton) and butcher fees have gone up as well.

Let's take a look at a real life example, using prices at my closest auction yard here in Oregon to illustrate how I can even out my farm income stream despite fluctuations in live lamb prices over the last 4 years.

A lamb: 120 lbs. at 7 months old
Live weight price at auction:

Year	Price per cwt	Total Price
2018	\$130	\$156
2017	\$142	\$170
2016	\$150	\$180
2015	\$155	\$186

Let's say we are selling 20 lambs of roughly the same size through the auction - this means we would have made \$600 less in 2018 than in 2015. Of course, there are some years where the live lamb prices are very strong, but these tend to be the exception rather than the norm.

Let's take that same 120 lb. lamb and direct market it to a local consumer. When the lamb is slaughtered, let's say that the hanging weight is 50% of live weight, so 60 lbs. I can charge my customer \$7/lb. hanging weight, which means gross revenues of \$420. My butcher costs (which I cover) are \$113. I also have to factor in the cost of travel to the butcher which in my case is one hour - the same amount of time it takes to get to the auction yard. I also deliver the lamb to my customers and I group the orders to save on gas and time. Let's say that I have \$20 in gas to deliver six lambs into the metro area at a time - that's \$3.33 per lamb. So that 120 lb. lamb nets me \$303. Multiply that by 20 and we have \$6,073 from direct marketing lamb rather than \$3,120 at the sale barn - a difference of \$2,953.

My customers are used to buying their lamb supply from me at \$7/lb. - they are happy to get a high quality product delivered to their doorstep. It bears repeating, my direct butchered

lamb sales do not fluctuate with live lamb prices, so I have effectively insulated my farm income from some of the risks of live lamb price fluctuations. Food for thought!

Important components of direct marketing:

- USDA butcher
- Time spent marketing and advertising (decreases after you build a customer base)
- Understanding cuts of meat
- Communication with butcher and customers
- Flock genetics - improving carcass yield
- Knowing your state's rules and regulations regarding direct meat sales

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- Blue & Black Messenger Bag** \$20
- Blue & Black Cinch Bag** \$20
- Royal Blue Quarter Zip** \$35
- 1 Metal Lincoln Sign** \$100
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Contact Debbie Vanderwende at (302) 349-4240 if Interested

MARYLAND SHEEP & WOOL FESTIVAL SHOW RESULTS

MAY 4 & 5, 2018
WEST FRIENDSHIP, MD

WHITE LINCOLN –

YEARLING RAM – 1) & 2) Beverly Boersma, IL; 3) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 4) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 5) Joe Haddock, VT

JUNIOR RAM LAMB – 1) & 3) Beverly Boersma, IL; 2) & 4) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 5) Diane Klingelhofer, MD

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Beverly Boersma, IL; 2) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 3) Diane Klingelhofer, MD

CHAMPION RAM – Beverly Boersma, IL

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Beverly Boersma, IL

YEARLING EWE – 1) & 2) Beverly Boersma, IL; 3) Joe Haddock, VT; 4) & 5) Deborah Vanderwende, DE

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) Beverly Boersma, IL; 2) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 3) Joe Haddock, VT; 4) Alison Ungar, OH; 5) Diane Klingelhofer, MD

SENIOR EWE LAMB – 1) & 2) Beverly Boersma, IL; 3) Diane Klingelhofer, MD

JUNIOR EWE LAMB – 1) Alison Ungar, OH; 2) & 4) Beverly Boersma, IL; 3) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 5) Deborah Vanderwende, DE

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Beverly Boersma, IL; 2) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 3) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 4) Emmaline Long, NY

CHAMPION EWE – Beverly Boersma, IL

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Beverly Boersma, IL

FLOCK – 1) Beverly Boersma, IL; 2) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 3) Diane Klingelhofer, MD

BEST FLEECE – Diane Klingelhofer, MD

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – Beverly Boersma, IL

COLORED LINCOLN –

YEARLING RAM – 1) Annabelle Kruse, IL; 2) & 3) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 4) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 5) Elaine Moore, MD

SENIOR RAM LAMB – 1) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 2) & 3) Darlene Leary, MA

JUNIOR RAM LAMB – 1) & 3) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 2) & 5) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 4) Alison Ungar, OH

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 2) Darlene Leary, MA;

3) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 4) Emmaline Long, NY

CHAMPION RAM – Annabelle Kruse, IL

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Diane Klingelhofer, MD

YEARLING EWE – 1) & 2) Annabelle Kruse, IL; 3) Christina Weston, NH; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 5) Darlene Leary, MA

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) Annabelle Kruse, IL; 2) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 3) Christina Weston, NH; 4) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 5) Lena Berry, DE

SENIOR EWE LAMB – 1) & 2) Darlene Leary, MA; 3) Diane Klingelhofer, MD

JUNIOR EWE LAMB – 1) & 4) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 2) & 3) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 5) Annabelle Kruse, IL

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 2) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 3) Darlene Leary, MA; 4) Annabelle Kruse, IL; 5) Lori Shea, NJ

CHAMPION EWE – Annabelle Kruse, IL

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Annabelle Kruse, IL

FLOCK – 1) Annabelle Kruse, IL; 2) Darlene Leary, MA; 3) Diane Klingelhofer, MD; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, DE; 5) Emmaline Long, NY

BEST FLEECE – Annabelle Kruse, IL

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – Deborah Vanderwende, DE

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MARYLAND SHEEP & WOOL FESTIVAL NATIONAL LINCOLN SALE REPORT

MAY 5, 2018 • WEST FRIENDSHIP, MD

JUDGE: Dr. Joe Haddock, VT
AUCTIONEER: Terry Jacobs, MD
SALE MANAGER: Banner Sale Management Service, Cuba, IL

SALE TOP: \$1,600.00 (tie)
SALE GROSS: \$21,800.00

WHITE LINCOLN

AVERAGES BY CLASS:

1 Yearling Ram	\$1000.00
2 Spring Ram Lambs	\$525.00
5 Yearling Ewes	\$755.00
5 Spring Ewe Lambs	\$840.00

13 WHITE LINCOLNS

AVERAGED \$771.15

COLORED LINCOLN

AVERAGES BY CLASS:

1 Fall Ram Lamb	\$800.00
5 Yearling Ewes	\$505.00
2 Fall Ewe Lambs	\$1450.00
3 Spring Ewe Lambs	\$475.00

11 COLORED LINCOLNS

AVERAGED \$695.45

24 TOTAL LINCOLNS

AVERAGED \$736.46

The Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival All Breeds Sale was held in conjunction with the 45th Annual Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival. This year's sale featured the National Lincoln Sale.

The National Sale Grand Champion White Lincoln Ram was a yearling bred by Boersma Ranch, IL. He topped the rams, selling for \$1,000 to Ashtyn Anderson, MO. Kruse Farms, IL then sold their first place spring ram lamb to Deborah Moore, MD for \$600, and another Boersma ram lamb went to Terence Blake, MA for \$450.

The National Sale Grand Champion White Lincoln Ewe was bred by Locust Grove and their class winning yearling ewe sold to Deborah Moore, MD for \$1,000. Reserve honors went to Boersma Ranch, IL with their second place yearling ewe selling to Sophie and Ada Larson, WI. Larson then bought the third place Kruse yearling for \$800, and KEB Farm, CT picked up a Boersma ewe for \$700. A Liberty Farms ewe rounded out the class, going to Robert Sando & Family, OH for \$500.

Three spring ewe lambs then excited the crowd with the winner going to Boersma Ranch. She tied the sheep sale high honors, going for \$1,600 to Deborah Moore, MD. Campbell Lincolns, OH stood second and she sold for \$1,000 to Laurie Baughman, OH. Terence Blake then bought the third place Kruse ewe lamb for \$1,000.

In the Colored Lincoln division, Wind Valley Farm, MA sold their fall ram lamb to Barbara Mullen, MD for \$800. The National Sale Grand Champion Colored Ewe was a yearling consigned by Rocks & Rills Farm, NH. She sold to Wind Valley Farm for \$850. Liberty Farms' second place yearling ewe and Reserve Grand Champion went to Wyatt Kerper, PA for \$400.

Two Wind Valley Farm fall ewe lambs then stole the Colored Lincoln Sale as they sold for \$1,300 and a sale-topping (tie)

\$1,600 bid. Annabelle Kruse, IL purchased both ewe lambs. Liberty Farms' first place junior ewe lamb sold to Terence Blake for \$550 to round out the better National Lincoln Sale prices.

With a combined average of \$736.46, white and colored Lincolns were the stars of the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival Sale, beating the all-breed average of \$622.86 by over a hundred dollars.

The 2019 National Lincoln Sale will once again be held in conjunction with the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival.

GREAT LAKES SALE REPORT

MAY 26, 2018 • WOOSTER, OH

JUDGE: Jim Brandt, OH
AUCTIONEERS: Gary Saylor, OH & Danny Westlake, OH
SALE MANAGER: Banner Sale Management Service, Cuba, IL

SALE TOP: \$2,000.00
SALE GROSS: \$80,525.00

WHITE LINCOLN

AVERAGES BY CLASS:

1 Yearling Ram	\$1500.00
2 Spring Ram Lambs	\$475.00
4 Yearling Ewes	\$600.00
1 Fall Ewe Lamb	\$500.00
6 Spring Ewe Lambs	\$575.00

14 WHITE LINCOLNS

AVERAGED \$628.57

COLORED LINCOLN

AVERAGES BY CLASS:

3 Spring Ram Lambs	\$558.33
2 Yearling Ewes	\$1075.00
2 Spring Ewe Lambs	\$1012.50

7 COLORED LINCOLNS

AVERAGED \$835.71

21 TOTAL LINCOLNS

AVERAGED \$697.62

Buyers converged once again to the 26th annual Great Lakes Sale on the Wayne County Fairgrounds in conjunction with the Great Lakes Fiber Festival. New for the first time was a Friday-Saturday show and sale schedule, differing from the previous Saturday-Sunday format. In addition to the white and colored Lincolns that sold, 20 other breeds went across the auction block, including Border Leicesters, Tunis, Merinos, Southdowns, Shropshires, and Hampshires, to name a few.

The Lincoln portion of the sale was opened by the Rader's Lincolns, IL Champion Yearling Ram. He was the high-selling ram of the day, going to Sophie and Ada Larson, WI, for \$1,500. Rader's Lincolns also won the Reserve Champion honors with their spring lamb that sold to Ewesfull Acres, MI for \$300. Diamond J Lincolns, WI, sold their spring lamb for

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Porcine Stress Syndrome	\$22
CEA/Collie Eye Anomaly <small>NCA members - \$40</small>	\$50
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 2018 Missouri State Fair
Reserve Champion
 As a lamb
 2017 NAILE



Champion Ram
 No Yearling Ram class offered

Reserve to "Black Label"
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Reid 18-050

Thanks to:

Wyatt Kerper, MO
 Who bought our Reserve Champion Ewe at the Great Lakes Sale!



Reid 18-009

Thanks to Jeb Stevens
 Who bought our Top-Selling Ewe Lamb in Wolf Bros. Online Sale!



Reid 18-039

Thanks to Kay Stadeli
 On her purchase of a top ewe lamb!

Watch for us at Louisville!

Our Top-Selling Ewe Lamb
 at the Great Lakes Sale, sold to **Bailey Towery, OH**



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Yearling Ewe**



**Grand
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**Jr.
Champion Ewe
Res Champion
in Jr. Show**



**Annabelle's
1st Place Flock**

Our White Lincoln Champion Ram



**Grand Champion Ram
1st Place Intermediate
Ram Lamb**

**Congratulations to;
Barbara Mullen, MD
with her
Supreme
Champion Ewe
at the Montgomery
County Ag Fair, MD with
her Kruse Ewe purchased
from us at Wooster**



Thanks to all our 2018 Buyers & Bidders! • See Both Flocks at NAILE!

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Champion Ewe
Jr. Champion Ewe**



**Res Grand
Champion Ram
Sr. Champion Ram**

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\$650 to Thomas J. Foster, Willow Pine II Farm, MN.

The Champion Lincoln Ewe was a Rader-bred yearling, selling to Sophie and Ada Larson for \$700.00. Kruse Farms, IL, won Reserve Champion Ewe on their fall lamb that sold to Laurie Baughman, OH for \$500.00

Rader's Lincolns sold their second yearling ewe for \$500 to Robert Sando and Family, OH, who also took home a Diamond J yearling for the same price. Friesz Livestock, ND picked up a Boersma Ranch, IL ewe for \$700.

Joe Gromacki, IL, gave a \$1,500 bid for the class-winning spring ewe lamb from Rader's Lincolns. Kruse Lincolns, IL sold the runner up to Lilburn Lincolns, OH for \$400, which is the same price Squab Hollow Farms, OH gave for the third place Boersma Ranch entry. Rader then sold a pair of lambs, the first to Lena Berry, DE for \$500 and the second to Squab Hollow Farms, OH for \$300. Campbell Lincolns, OH sold the final white Lincoln spring ewe lamb to Kallan Latham, MD for \$350.

The Colored Lincoln Champion Ram was won by Rader's Lincolns with a spring lamb that sold for \$1,025 to Campbell Lincolns. Reserve Champion honors went to Wyncrest Farms, MO with their runner-up spring lamb that sold to Bailey Towery, OH for \$400.

Kruse Farms, IL bred the Champion Ewe that was the high-selling Colored Lincoln. She earned a \$1,400 bid from Barbara Mullen, MD. The Wyncrest Reserve Champion Ewe sold next and was the runner-up yearling, going for \$750 to Wyatt Kerper, PA.

Wyncrest then saw more success with the final two spring ewe lambs in the sale. The first sold to Bailey Towery, OH for \$1,000 and the second sold to Campbell Lincolns for \$1,025.

Overall, the white and colored Lincolns had the third-best and the overall best breed averages of the day. Together, the twenty-one total Lincolns averaged just shy of \$700, which was a full \$200 higher than the overall average.

ALL-AMERICAN JUNIOR SHOW RESULTS

JULY 5-8, 2018
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

WHITE SENIOR RAM LAMB – 1) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 2) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 3) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 4) Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH

NATURAL COLORED SENIOR RAM LAMB – 1) Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH; 2) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 3) Mallory Johnson, Wooster, OH; 4) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI

WHITE JUNIOR RAM LAMB – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH; 3) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 4) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 5) Rebecca Bader, Deforest, WI

NATURAL COLORED JUNIOR RAM LAMB – 1) Laura Millikan, Noblesville, IN; 2) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 3) Laura Millikan, Noblesville, IN; 4) Tori Chapman, Munford, TN; 5) Bailey Towery, New Madison, OH

CHAMPION RAM – Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH (White Senior Ram Lamb)

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Laura Millikan, Noblesville, IN (Natural Colored Junior Ram Lamb)

WHITE YEARLING EWE – 1) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 2) & 3) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 4) Abby Motter, Waterford, OH; 5) Jennifer Bennett, Mooreland, IN

NATURAL COLORED YEARLING EWE – 1) Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH; 2) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 3) Owen Shehab, Hopewell, NJ; 4) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 5) Lena Berry, Wyoming, DE

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH; 2) Justin

Taylor, Arlington, WI; 3) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 4) Lena Berry, Wyoming, DE; 5) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

WHITE SENIOR EWE LAMB – 1) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 2) Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH; 3) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 4) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 5) Owen Shehab, Hopewell, NJ

NATURAL COLORED SENIOR EWE LAMB – 1) Mallory Johnson, Wooster, OH; 2) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 3) & 4) Owen Shehab, Hopewell, NJ

WHITE JUNIOR EWE LAMB – 1) Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH; 2) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 3) Lena Berry, Wyoming, DE; 4) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 5) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH

NATURAL COLORED JUNIOR EWE LAMB – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) & 4) Laura Millikan, Noblesville, IN; 3) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 5) Jennifer Bennett, Mooreland, IN

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 2) Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH; 3) Laura Millikan, Noblesville, IN; 4) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 5) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

CHAMPION EWE – Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH (White Senior Ewe Lamb)

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH (Natural Colored Yearling Ewe)

YOUNG FLOCK – 1) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 2) Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH; 3) Laura Millikan, Noblesville, IN; 4) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 5) Bailey Towery, New Madison, OH

BEST FOUR HEAD OF EWES – 1) Laurie Baughman, New Concord, OH; 2) Blake Campbell, Waterford, OH; 3) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 4) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 5) Laura Millikan, Noblesville, IN

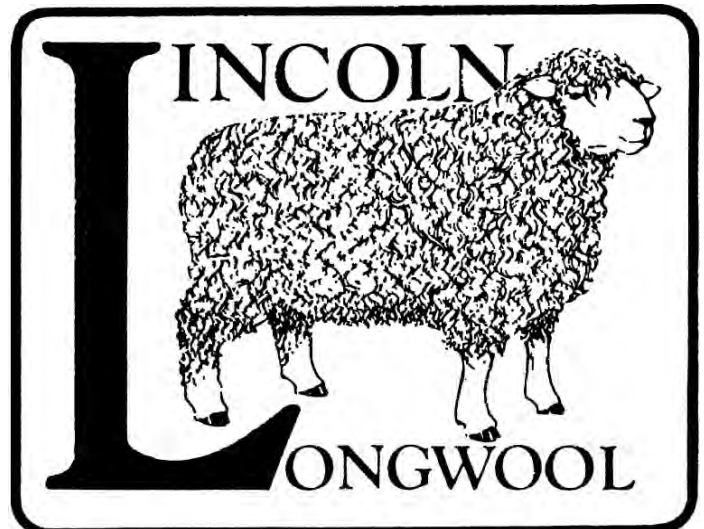
BEST FLEECE – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI

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Wisconsin Sheep
& Wool Festival



Taylor 18-19RR B: 1/17/18

Champion Ram
Open and Junior Show

Reserve Supreme Champion
Junior Show



1st Place Flock
Wisconsin State Fair

PREMIER EXHIBITOR & BREEDER
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Ram-lin 1451



Diamond J 14437

Her sister is the dam of the ram we
sold to Tom Foster, MN
at the Great Lakes Sale



Justin Taylor

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NORTHEAST YOUTH SHEEP SHOW RESULTS

JULY 19-22, 2018
WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA

SENIOR RAM LAMB - 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

JUNIOR RAM LAMB - 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 2) Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS - 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

GRAND CHAMPION RAM - Tayler Garges, Telford, PA (Junior Ram Lamb)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM - Tayler Garges, Telford, PA (Senior Ram Lamb)

YEARLING EWE - 1) & 2) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 3) & 5) Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA; 4) Peter Priest, Ludlow, MA

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES - 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 2) Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA

SENIOR EWE LAMB - 1) & 2) Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA

JUNIOR EWE LAMB - 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS - 1) Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA

GRAND CHAMPION EWE - Peter Priest, Ludlow, MA (Yearling Ewe)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE - Jakob Leary, Oakham, MA (Yearling Ewe)

MEETING MINUTES AND
BACK ISSUES
OF THE LINCOLN LETTER ARE
AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
LINCOLNSHEEP.ORG

EXHIBITORS FLOCK - 1) Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA; 2) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

BEST FLEECE - 1) Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA; 2) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

INDIANA STATE FAIR RESULTS

AUGUST 3-19, 2018
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

YEARLING RAM - 1) & 2) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

RAM LAMB, BORN 9/1 - 12/31, 2017 - 1) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

RAM LAMB, BORN 1/1 - 2/14, 2018 - 1) Creek Road Farms-Thomas, Noah and Christian Day, Greenfield, IN

RAM LAMB, BORN AFTER 2/14 - 1) & 2) Alyse Millikan, Hamilton County, IN; 3) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS - 1) Alyse Millikan, Hamilton County, IN; 2) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

CHAMPION RAM - Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM - Alyse Millikan, Hamilton County, IN

YEARLING EWE - 1) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH; 2) Alyse Millikan, Hamilton County, IN; 3) & 4) Jennifer Bennett, Delaware County, IN; 5) Creek Road Farms-Thomas, Noah, and Christian Day, Greenfield, IN

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES - 1) Jennifer Bennett, Delaware County, PA; 2) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH; 3) Creek Road Farms-Thomas, Noah and Christian Day, Greenfield, IN; 4) Alyse Millikan, Hamilton County, IN

EWE LAMB, BORN 9/1 - 12/31, 2017 - 1) & 2) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

EWE LAMB, BORN 1/1 - 2/14, 2018 - 1) & 2) Creek Road Farms-Thomas Noah and Christian, Day, Greenfield, IN; 2) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

EWE LAMB, BORN AFTER 2/14, 2018 - 1) & 2) Alyse Millikan, Hamilton

County, IN; 3) & 4) Jennifer Bennett, Delaware County, IN

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS - 1) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH; 2) Alyse Millikan, Hamilton, County, IN; 3) Creek Road Farms-Thomas, Noah and Christian Day, Greenfield, IN; 4) Jennifer Bennett, Delaware County, IN

CHAMPION EWE - Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE - Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

BEST 4 HEAD - 1) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH; 2) Alyse Millikan, Hamilton County, IN; 3) Creek Road Farms-Thomas, Noah and Christian Day, Greenfield, IN; 4) Jennifer Bennett, Delaware County, IN

FLOCK - 1) Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH; 2) Alyse Millikan, Hamilton County, IN; 3) Creek Road Farms-Thomas, Noah and Christian, Day, Greenfield, IN

PREMIER EXHIBITOR - Robert Sando, Arcanum, OH

ILLINOIS STATE FAIR RESULTS

AUGUST 17, 2018
SPRINGFIELD, IL

WHITE LINCOLN

YEARLING RAM - 1) & 3) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL 2) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL; 4) Kate Henkel, El Paso, IL; 5) Audrey Cooper, Mt. Pulaski, IL

SENIOR RAM LAMB (BORN 9/1/17 - 1/31/18) - 1) & 2) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL

JUNIOR RAM LAMB (BORN ON OR AFTER 2/1/18) - 1) & 3) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) & 4) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL; 5) Kate Henkel, El Paso, IL

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS - 1) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL; 3) Kate Henkel, El Paso, IL

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GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL (Yearling Ram)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Michael Rader, Danvers, IL (Yearling Ram)

YEARLING EWE – 1) & 2) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 3) & 4) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL; 5) Kenneth Cooper, Mt. Pulaski, IL

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL; 3) Kate Henkel, El Paso, IL

SENIOR EWE LAMB (BORN 9/1/17 – 12/31/17) – 1) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL

EARLY JUNIOR EWE LAMB (BORN 1/1/18 – 2/15/18) – 1) & 3) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL; 2) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 4) & 5) Kate Henkel, El Paso, IL

LATE JUNIOR EWE LAMB (BORN ON OR AFTER 2/16/18) – 1) & 2) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 3) & 4) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL; 5) Kate Henkel, El Paso, IL

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL; 3) Kate Henkel, El Paso, IL

GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL (Late Junior Ewe Lamb)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Michael Rader, Danvers, IL (Early Junior Ewe Lamb)

BEST FOUR HEAD – 1) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL; 3) Kate Henkel, El Paso, IL

YOUNG FLOCK – 1) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) Michael Rader, Danvers, IL; 3) Kate Henkel, El Paso, IL

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – Michael Rader, Danvers, IL

Colored Lincolns were also shown at the Illinois State Fair as part of the Natural Colored Club Show. Unfortunately, those results were unavailable to *The Banner* at the time of publication.

WISCONSIN STATE FAIR RESULTS

AUGUST 2-12, 2018
WEST ALLIS, WI

SUPREME CHAMPION HONORS—
RESERVE SUPREME CHAMPION WOOL BREED EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (White Lincoln)

LONG WOOL—
(White Lincolns)

YEARLING RAM – 1) & 3) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 2) Ada Larson, Reedsburg, WI

SENIOR CHAMPION RAM – Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI (Yearling Ram)

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION RAM – Ada Larson, Reedsburg, WI (Yearling Ram)

JANUARY RAM LAMB – 1) & 3) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 2) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI

FEBRUARY RAM LAMB – 1) & 2) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 3) Rebecca Bader, DeForest, WI

MARCH RAM LAMB – 1) & 2) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 3) Rebecca Bader, DeForest, WI

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 2) Rebecca Bader, DeForest, WI

JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM – Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI (March Ram Lamb)

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM – Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI (January Ram Lamb)

GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI (March Ram Lamb)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI (Yearling Ram)

YEARLING EWE – 1) & 4) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) & 5) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 3) Ada Larson, Reedsburg, WI

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WISCONSIN SHEEP & WOOL FESTIVAL SHOW

SEPTEMBER 8, 2018
COLUMBUS, WI

SUPREME CHAMPION HONORS –
SUPREME CHAMPION RAM – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (White Lincoln)
RESERVE SUPREME CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington WI (Colored Lincoln)

WHITE LINCOLN –
YEARLING RAM – 1) Faith Baerwolf, Columbus, WI
JANUARY RAM LAMB – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI
FEBRUARY RAM LAMB – 1) Rebecca Bader, Deforest, WI; 2) Jennifer Langer, Lake Mills, WI
MARCH OR LATER RAM LAMB – 1) & 2) Josiah Hooper, Palmyra, WI
CHAMPION RAM – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (January Ram Lamb)
RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Rebecca Bader, Deforest, WI (February Ram Lamb)
YEARLING EWE – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) Faith Baerwolf, Columbus, WI
JANUARY EWE LAMB – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI
FEBRUARY EWE LAMB – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) Faith Baerwolf, Columbus, WI
CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (Yearling Ewe)
RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (February Ewe Lamb)
BEST FLOCK – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI

COLORED LINCOLN –
YEARLING RAM – 1) Josiah Hooper, Palmyra, WI
FEBRUARY RAM LAMB – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) Faith Baerwolf, Columbus, WI; 3) Jennifer Langer, Arlington, WI (February Ram Lamb)
CHAMPION RAM – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (February Ram Lamb)
RESERVE CHAMPION RAM – Josiah Hooper, Palmyra, WI
YEARLING EWE – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) Josiah Hooper, Palmyra, WI
FEBRUARY EWE LAMB – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) Rebecca Bader, Deforest, WI; 3) Jennifer Langer, Deforest, WI
MARCH OR LATER EWE LAMB – 1) Braydn Starkenburg, Deforest, WI
CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (Yearling Ewe)
RESERVE CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (February Ewe Lamb)
BEST FLOCK – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 2) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 3) Ada Larson, Reedsburg, WI

SENIOR CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (Yearling Ewe)

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION EWE – Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI (Yearling Ewe)

JANUARY EWE LAMB – 1) & 3) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 2) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI

FEBRUARY EWE LAMB – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) & 4) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 3) & 5) Rebecca Bader, DeForest, WI

MARCH EWE LAMB – 1) & 2) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 3) Rebecca Bader, DeForest, WI

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 3) Rebecca Bader, DeForest, WI

JUNIOR CHAMPION EWE – Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI (January Ewe Lamb)

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (February Ewe Lamb)

GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (Yearling Ewe)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI (January Ewe Lamb)

EXHIBITOR'S FLOCK – 1) Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI; 2) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – Sophie Larson, Reedsburg, WI

ANY OTHER BREED - WOOL –
(Colored Lincolns showed against Natural Coloreds, colored Border Leicester, and Icelandic)

YEARLING RAM – 1) Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI; 2) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 3) Laura Volkmann-Boesen, Olivet, MI

FALL RAM LAMB – 1) Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI; 2) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

SENIOR CHAMPION RAM – Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI (Yearling Ram)

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION RAM – Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI (Fall Ram Lamb)

JANUARY RAM LAMB – 1) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

FEBRUARY RAM LAMB – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI

MARCH RAM LAMB – 1), 2), 3), & 4) Laura Volkmann-Boesen, Olivet, MI

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 2) Laura Volkmann-Boesen, Olivet, MI

JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (February Ram Lamb)

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM – Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL (January Ram Lamb)

GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI (Fall Ram Lamb)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (February Ram Lamb)

YEARLING EWE – 1) & 2) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 3) & 5) Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI; 4) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI; 3) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 4) Michele Hinthorne, Alto, MI

FALL EWE LAMB – 1) Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI

SENIOR CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (Yearling Ewe)

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (Yearling Ewe)

JANUARY EWE LAMB – 1) & 3) Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI; 2) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

FEBRUARY EWE LAMB – 1) & 3) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

MARCH EWE LAMB – 1) Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI; 2), 3), 4) & 5) Laura Volkmann-Boesen, Olivet, MI

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL; 2) Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI; 3) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 4) Laura Volkmann-Boesen, Olivet, MI

JUNIOR CHAMPION EWE – Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI (January Ewe Lamb)

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (February Ewe Lamb)

GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (Yearling Ewe)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI (Yearling Ewe)

EXHIBITOR'S FLOCK – 1) Justin Taylor, Arlington, WI; 2) Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI; 3) Tiffany Deakin, Cuba, IL

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – Kevin Lindow, Chili, WI

THE *LINCOLN LETTER* IS A COMPILATION OF SUBMISSIONS FROM MEMBERS. WE VALUE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS *JANUARY 15.*

PLEASE SEND YOUR NEWS TO TIFFANY DEAKIN AT TDEAKIN93@GMAIL.COM.

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and Ewe**
or pulled for supremes at
every show we
attended this summer

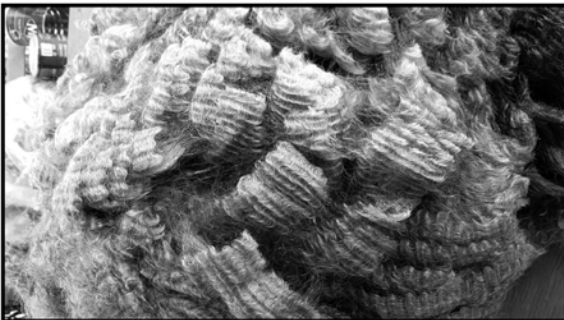


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EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION RESULTS

SEPTEMBER 14 - 30, 2018 • WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA

JUDGE: BRIAN SCHERMERHORN, NEW YORK MILLS, MN

THE BIG E WEIGHS THE TOP THREE ANIMALS IN ALL INDIVIDUAL CLASSES.

THE WEIGHT OF THESE ANIMALS HAS BEEN INCLUDED WITH THE SHOW RESULTS.

SUPREME CHAMPION HONORS -

SUPREME CHAMPION WEEK 2 EWE

- Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL (White Lincoln)

WHITE LINCOLN -

YEARLING RAM - 1) 321# Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 2) 280# Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

SENIOR RAM LAMB - 1) 192# Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL

SENIOR CHAMPION RAM - Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL (Senior Ram Lamb)

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION RAM - Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE (Yearling Ram)

INTERMEDIATE RAM LAMB - 1) 183# Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) 189# & 3) 201# Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 4) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 5) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

JUNIOR RAM LAMB - 1) 160# Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) 167# Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 3) 133# & 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 5) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM - Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL (Intermediate Ram Lamb)

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM - Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL (Junior Ram Lamb)

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS - 1) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 3) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 4) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 5) Kathy Bombria, Columbia, CT

GRAND CHAMPION RAM - Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL (Intermediate Ram Lamb)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM - Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL (Yearling Ram)

YEARLING EWE GROUP 1 - 1) 232# & 3) 258# Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 2) 210# & 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 5) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

YEARLING EWE GROUP 2 - 1) 220# & 2) 224# Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 3) 189# & 5) Joe & Carol Haddock, Jericho, VT; 4) Kathy Bombria, Columbia, CT

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES - 1) Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 2) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 3) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 4) Joe & Carol Haddock, Jericho, VT; 5) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

SENIOR EWE LAMB - 1) 174# Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL

SENIOR CHAMPION EWE - Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL (Yearling Ewe Group 1)

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION EWE - Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE (Yearling Ewe Group 1)

INTERMEDIATE EWE LAMB - 1) 164# & 5) Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 2) 135# Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 3) 132# Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

JUNIOR EWE LAMB - 1) 137# & 3) 143# Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 2) 167# Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 4) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 5) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

JUNIOR CHAMPION EWE - Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL (Junior Ewe Lamb)

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION EWE - Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL (Junior Ewe Lamb)

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS - 1) Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 2) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 3) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 5) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA

GRAND CHAMPION EWE - Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL (Yearling Ewe Group 1)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE - Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL (Junior Ewe Lamb)

EXHIBITOR'S FLOCK - 1) Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 2) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 3) Deborah Vanderwende,

Greenwood, DE; 4) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 5) Kathy Bombria, Columbia, CT

BREEDER'S FLOCK - 1) Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 2) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 3) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 4) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

GET OF SIRE - 1) Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL; 2) Jonathan Kruse, Effingham, IL; 3) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 4) Kathy Bombria, Columbia, CT

BEST FLEECE - Joe & Carol Haddock, Jericho, VT

BEST HEADED - Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

PREMIER EXHIBITOR - 1) Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL

PREMIER BREEDER - 1) Beverly Boersma, Murphysboro, IL

COLORED LINCOLN -

YEARLING RAM - 1) 280# Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) 256# Taylor Meek, Harmony, RI; 3) 229# Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 4) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 5) Katie Bombria, Columbia, CT

SENIOR RAM LAMB - 1) 212# & 2) 230# Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA; 3) 152# & 4) Christina Weston, Hancock, NH

SENIOR CHAMPION RAM - Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL (Yearling Ram)

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION RAM - Taylor Meek, Harmony, RI (Yearling Ram)

INTERMEDIATE RAM LAMB - 1) 125# Christina Weston, Hancock, NH; 2) 117# Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 3) 144# Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA; 4) & 5) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

JUNIOR RAM LAMB - 1) 113# & 5) Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) 117# & 3) 110# Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM - Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL (Junior Ram Lamb)

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM - Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA (Junior Ram Lamb)

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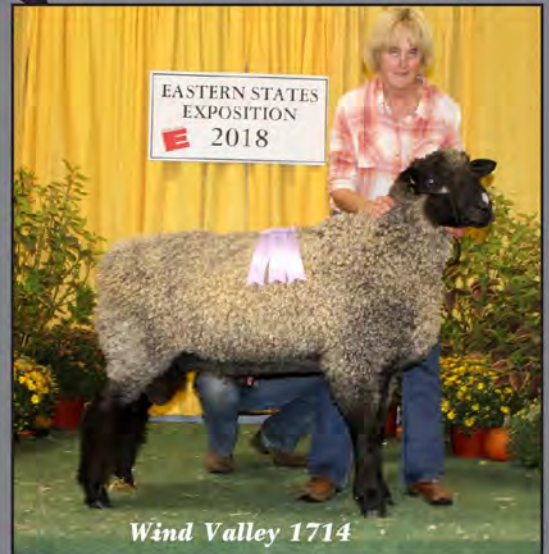
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PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA; 2) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 3) Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 4) Christina Weston, Hancock, NH; 5) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL (Junior Ram Lamb)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA (Junior Ram Lamb)

YEARLING EWE GROUP 1 – 1) 235# & 4) Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) 173# & 3) 177# Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA; 5) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

YEARLING EWE GROUP 2 – 1) 202# Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA; 2) 189# Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 3) 199# Christina Weston, Hancock, NH; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 5) Joe & Carol Haddock, Jericho, VT

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA; 2) Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 3) Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA; 4) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 5) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

SENIOR EWE LAMB – 1) 137# Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA; 2) 169# & 4) Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 3) 158# & 5) Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA

SENIOR CHAMPION EWE – Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL (Yearling Ewe Group 1)

RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION EWE – Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA (Yearling Ewe Group 2)

INTERMEDIATE EWE LAMB – 1) 137# & 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 2) 118# Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 3) 105# Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 5) Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA

JUNIOR EWE LAMB – 1) 116# & 4) Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) 124# & 5) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 3) 117# Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA

JUNIOR CHAMPION EWE – Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL (Junior Ewe Lamb)

RESERVE JUNIOR CHAMPION EWE – Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE (Junior Ewe Lamb)

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 2) Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 3) Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA; 4) Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA; 5) Christina Weston, Hancock, NH

GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL (Yearling Ewe Group 1)

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA (Yearling Ewe Group 2)

EXHIBITOR'S FLOCK – 1) Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA; 3) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 4) Brianna Taylor, Oakham, MA; 5) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

BREEDER'S FLOCK – 1) Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA; 2) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 3) Christina Weston, Hancock, NH; 4) Taylor Meek, Harmony, RI

GET OF SIRE – 1) Annabelle Kruse, Effingham, IL; 2) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 3) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 4) Christina Weston, Hancock, NH; 5) Taylor Meek, Harmony, RI

BEST FLEECE – Joe & Carol Haddock, Jericho, VT

BEST HEADED – Christina Weston, Hancock, NH

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – 1) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

PREMIER BREEDER – 1) Wind Valley Farm, Oakham, MA

KEYSTONE INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPO

SEPT. 28 – OCT. 7, 2018
HARRISBURG, PA

RAM, 1 YEAR AND UNDER 2 YEARS – 1) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 2) & 3) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 4) Zaren Kerper, Fleetwood, PA; 5) Elaine J. Moore, Taneytown, MD

FALL RAM LAMB, BORN SEPT-DEC 2017 – 1) & 2) Darlene Leary, Oakham, MA; 3) Elaine J. Moore, Taneytown, MD

EARLY SPRING RAM LAMB TRIMMED, BORN 1/1/2018-2/15/2018 – 1) & 3) Terence Blake,

Ludlow, MA; 2) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 5) Deborah Moore, North East, MD

LATE SPRING RAM LAMB TRIMMED BORN 2/16/2018 OR LATER – 1) & 2) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 3) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 4) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA

PAIR OF RAM LAMBS – 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 2) Darlene Leary, Oakham, MA; 3) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 5) Elaine J. Moore

GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Mikara Anderson, Three Springs, PA

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION RAM – Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA

EWE, 1 YEAR AND UNDER 2 YEARS – 1) Darlene Leary, Oakham, MA; 2) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 3) & 4) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 5) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA

PAIR OF YEARLING EWES – 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 2) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 3) Elaine J. Moore, Taneytown, MD; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 5) Darlene Leary, Oakham, MA

FALL EWE LAMB BORN SEPT-DEC 2017 – 1) & 2) Darlene Leary, Oakham, MA

EARLY SPRING EWE LAMB TRIMMED, BORN 1/1/2018-2/15/2018 – 1) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 2) & 5) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 3) Elaine J. Moore, Taneytown, MD; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE

LATE SPRING EWE LAMB TRIMMED, BORN 2/16/2018 AND AFTER – 1) & 3) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 2) Lena Berry, Wyoming, DE; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 5) Elaine J. Moore, Taneytown, MD

PAIR OF EWE LAMBS – 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 2) Darlene Leary, Oakham, MA; 3) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 4) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 5) Elaine J. Moore, Taneytown, MD

GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Darlene Leary, Oakham, MA

RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION EWE – Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

EXHIBITORS FLOCK – 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA; 2) Terence Blake, Ludlow, MA; 3) Darlene Leary, Oakham, MA; 4) Deborah Vanderwende, Greenwood, DE; 5) Elaine J. Moore, Taneytown, MD

PREMIER EXHIBITOR – 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

PREMIER BREEDER – 1) Tayler Garges, Telford, PA

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KEYSTONE INTERNATIONAL WORTH THE TRIP FOR LINCOLN BREEDERS

BY SALLY COLBY • ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN
COUNTRY FOLKS NEW ENGLAND FARM WEEKLY

The Keystone International Livestock Expo was held recently in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and the sheep show drew exhibitors from across the country. This year's event offered classes for Lincoln Longwool sheep for the first time.

One Lincoln exhibitor was long-time Greenwood Delaware sheep breeder Debbie Vanderwende, who says her introduction to sheep was in 1990 when her daughter raised Suffolks for 4-H. "Then she added Lincolns," said Debbie. "The Lincoln was a gift to me but I gave it to her because she was the show person."

The Lincolns appealed to Debbie, and as is often the case with those who start with just a few sheep, Debbie started to accumulate a sizeable flock. Although her first Lincoln was natural colored, Debbie eventually added white Lincolns to the flock.

Debbie currently has about 150 Lincolns, both white and natural colored, on the farm she calls Locust Grove Farm. Natural colored Lincolns range in color from nearly black to almost white, and some of Debbie's natural colored sheep have a coloration pattern known as silver saddle. "The rear end is darker than the front," she said, describing the pattern. "Then there are really light colored sheep, almost white, that get lighter every year."

Debbie is a stickler when it comes to her breeding program, and has worked hard to improve wool in the britches – the wool on the animal's lower hind legs that can be coarse, hairy and overall lower quality. Although Debbie will usually use white rams to breed white ewes and black rams to breed black ewes, she'll vary that program to improve individual animals. "I'll breed a ram, usually a white ram that has a really good britch, to a black ewe to improve the britch," she said. "If a sheep doesn't produce a consistently good fleece, they won't be in the flock for long."

In the show ring, Lincoln judges evaluate and score animals based on three factors: 40 percent on fleece, 40 percent on conformation and 20 percent on breed character. Debbie says wool quality can be the tie-breaker in a class.

"Their wool grows one inch per month," said Debbie. "They're sheared twice a year, right after the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE, held in Louisville, Kentucky) at the end of November and in spring."

The wool on the forelock portion of a Lincoln's head typically rolls into dread-

locks, and Debbie prefers to remove those dreadlocks from ewes at lambing to make sure ewes' vision isn't impacted. "The dreads will come off all the sheep except the babies," she explained. "I leave them on the babies so they'll have nice dreads for next year. The second shearing is after the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival in May."

Debbie says that while there's a good market for Lincoln fleeces, it takes time to develop a strong customer base. "I'm hoping to sell more fleeces online," she said. "Right now, it's mostly word-of-mouth, or someone will come up with a tag number from a sheep they saw at a show and ask if I still have the fleece from that sheep."

The rams are added to the ewe flock on September 1 for early spring lambs, and removed at the November shearing. "These girls are on the road so much," said Debbie. "I quarantine them for two weeks when we get home, then clean them up and go on the road again." Debbie realizes that it's impossible to totally isolate sheep at a show, but does her best to ensure her animals' health.

Debbie's flock is closed other than the occasional ram purchased to introduce new bloodlines. When it comes to selecting replacements for the flock, Debbie looks at several factors. Since she knows her ewe families well, performance history is part of the selection criteria, and she also keeps a close eye on young animals as they mature. Observation also helps when it comes to selecting animals for the show ring. Whenever possible, Debbie enters two animals, often siblings, in each class at a show so she can see how they compare to one another. Maintaining a high-quality flock has allowed Debbie to sell breeding stock and fleeces, and some lambs are custom processed for local customers.

As she fitted a February 2018 natural colored Lincoln ram for the show ring, Debbie explained that the process involves trimming the wool in and around the neck to blend that area smoothly with the animal's head. "I'll blend it in to his shoulder without destroying too much of the lock structure," she said. "I love the locks, and show sheep in a longer fleece than a lot of others because my next show will be Rhinebeck (at the New York State Sheep and Wool Festival) where I need a long fleece. Also, hand spinners love the

longer fiber, so want a good quality product."

Although most who show sheep use a fitting stand to trim animals prior to a show, Debbie uses a method that works well for her. Since she travels to shows on her own, she has found that it's easier on both her and the sheep to work on them while sitting on a rolling mechanic's chair. This means she doesn't have to haul a fitting stand when she travels, and she has also observed that it's easier on the animal to be tied because it's something they're already accustomed to from training at the farm.

The February ram lamb Debbie trimmed prior to the show was recently shown at the Big E in Massachusetts, where Debbie exhibited 22 animals. She received three Reserve Grand Champion ribbons, and was named Premier Exhibitor with her natural colored Lincolns. Debbie also exhibits sheep at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival, the Delaware State Fair and the Maryland State Fair.

This is the first time Lincoln breeders have had an opportunity to exhibit at KILE, and many of the classes were large. While most Lincoln shows have separate classes for natural colored and white sheep, at KILE, the classes were combined. Debbie exhibited 12 Lincolns at KILE and predicted that showing blacks against whites in the same classes would be more challenging.

"In Great Britain, they don't recognize black Lincolns," said Debbie, adding that natural colored Lincolns have become more popular. "Here, it's because we have a market for the wool."



Debbie Vanderwende, NLSBA Sec./Treas. shown with her Premier Exhibitor plaque at the Big E in September.

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