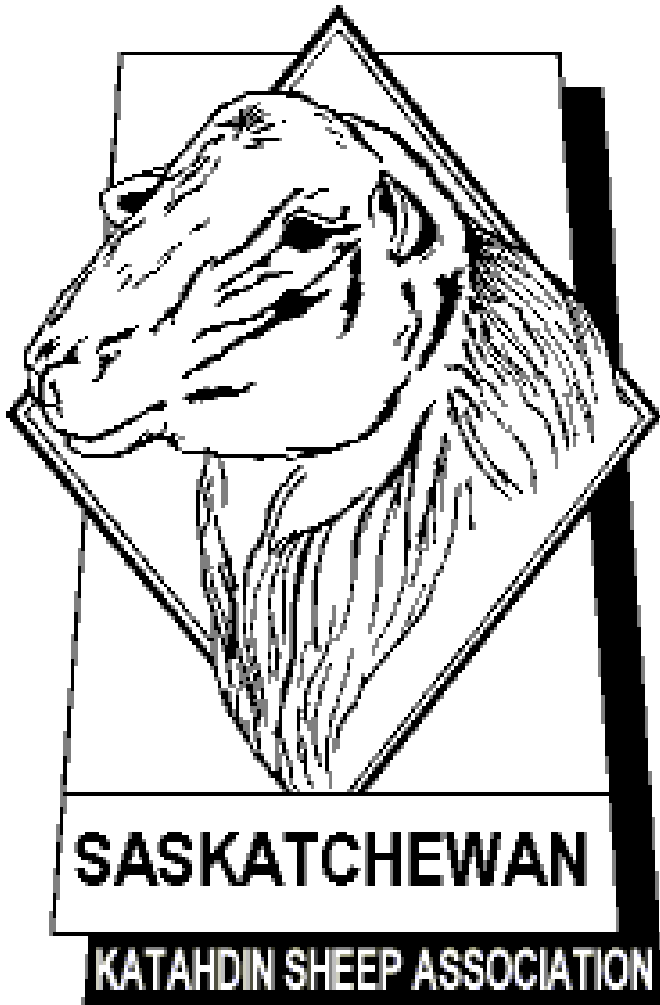


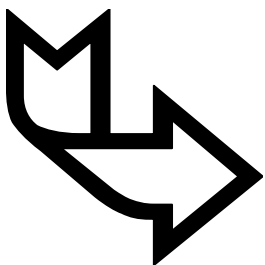
News For Ewes

Saskatchewan Katahdin Sheep Association Newsletter
Oct 2011, Fall Issue



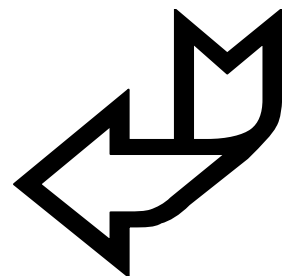
Inside This Issue:

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www.saskkatahdinsheep.com

To advertise on the site please
call 306-429-2221



2011 Canadian Western Agribition Show and Sale!

By Janette Mish

This year will be the 16th Annual Showing of Katahdins and the Canadian Western Agribition and it promises to be another great event! We are very fortunate to once again have Sponsorship from the Canadian Katahdin Sheep Association. Without their continued support the last and only show for purebred Katahdins in Canada would probably not continue. So, in order to justify this event, we need the support of new exhibitors. Why not just bring a few animals to try it out this year? If you have any questions about showing feel free to give me a call (306-429-2221) and I would be more than willing to help you out. There currently is a huge demand for breeding stock and getting your name out there as a breeder is easily accomplished at CWA.

Or, if you would like to purchase some new stock for your farm, this is also an easy place to accomplish this... all under one roof!

List of Important Dates:

Deadline for Entries: October 15, 2011

November 24 - 6:00 pm - Junior & Costume Show

November 25 - 10:00 am - Katahdin Purebred Show

November 25 – 6:00pm – CKSA Annual General Meeting at the Travelodge Hotel

November 26 – 2:30 pm - Katahdin Sale

All shows will take place in Barn 4, with animals being stabled in Barn 5. The SKSA display and information booth will be set up in Barn 4.

This year's judge: Mr. Wes Limesand, NDSU & KHSI Vice-President.

Mr. Limesand has judged a wide variety of sheep shows domestically as well as internationally! His knowledge of the Katahdin breed is extensive. He is also on the planning committee for the KHSI Annual Expo. This event takes place over three days and includes farms tours, numerous sheep related presentations and concludes with their sale of purebred and pens of commercial Katahdin Sheep. We look forward to Mr. Limesand's knowledge and expertise at our event.

To enter your animals in this year's show, please visit www.agribition.com. All entries will be completed on-line via the CWA's website. If you have any trouble with your entries do not hesitate to contact me!

Hotel Accommodations:

Travelodge Hotel

4177 Albert St. S

Regina, SK

Phone: 306-586-9311

Block ID: 951777

Block Code: CGSSHA

Cost: \$149.95

**Please call the number listed above and quote the Block ID & Code in order to book.
Rooms must be booked by October 22nd, 2011**

Pre-Show Preparation and Training:

* Fit sheep with a good fitting rope halter for training and a nylon halter for show ring. Make sure the rope halter tightens under the chin, not over the head. The lead rope should come out of the left side. The nose band should be up under the eyes, rather than down around the nose area where it may interfere with breathing.

* To get the sheep used to the halter, tie them to a sturdy fence post for several hours off and on for a few days. Be sure to keep an eye on them so that they don't get injured! And, when your animal is no longer fighting the halter you can start teaching it to lead. The sheep should walk beside you with no appearance of lagging, rushing ahead or fighting the halter.

* After it is leading well, you can practice stopping it and setting up the feet so that the animal looks the best it can. The feet should be placed wide and square under the body. Have someone else hold the sheep so that you can look at it from a distance, as though you were the judge. Do this with each sheep you will be showing because each stance may be different.

Fitting Katahdin Sheep:

* Wet sheep thoroughly with warm water. Lather in a shampoo. Orvus, a livestock shampoo is recommended, however, any mild shampoo could be used.

* Rinse well to remove all traces of shampoo.

* Trim feet while still soft from washing. (The major trimming should have been done 2 weeks prior to show.) Take off overturned hoof parts, level to sole. Square off toe. Caution: DO NOT over trim - it could result in lameness.

* Blow dry lifting the hair with a curry comb or hair pick to lift hair and create fullness throughout.

* Wipe the face, ears and nose with a moist rag.

* Wipe head and face with a rag moistened with mineral oil after. This will add shine to these areas.

* Cover with a blanket if traveling in a dusty trailer. This applies to summer shows in which you may have washed the animal at home and will not work in the winter months.

In The Show Ring:

* Keep your eye on the judge. Make adjustments on your sheep when it is not the focus of the judge's attention. Always place the sheep between yourself and the judge.

* When the sheep are stationary, crouching down behind your sheep will make the animal more visible. Use your own judgment, if your sheep are high strung, they may take this opportunity to bolt. Do not rest your hands on the sheep's back while under the judge's view.

* Dress according to the dress code of the show. And, above all keep calm and move slowly. Note: Dress code for CWA is Black pants and white shirt.

* Only approach the judge with questions after the show, and have fun!!!

Supplies:

Here is a list of some of the items you will need in order to exhibit your Katahdins at the Agribition:

- straw (or shavings for a fee)
- soap
- halters
- rubber boots
- water hose and sprayer (12 feet or so)
- towels and blow dryer for drying
- combs & brush for finishing
- a sign with your farm name is a nice touch
- a photo album with pictures of your sheep
- feed for sheep
- water pails
- fork
- bottom of a wet suit
- rags for wiping nose and eyes
- tack box (big rubbermaid container)
- lawn chairs
- a cooler with snacks & drinks – it is busy

2011 Raffle Lamb

Tickets will be available shortly... watch your mail or visit the SKSA table during CWA!



SKSA Annual Raffle Lamb 2011

Ewe Lamb Supplied by Calvin Rydzik of Glenavon, Sk

Calvin is a long time breeder of registered Katahdin Sheep and has built a quality flock of excellent genetics. Don't miss your chance to get a ticket on this year's ewe lamb; she is sure to be a great addition to any flock. Picture to be posted on the SKSA website very soon! www.saskkatahdinsheep.com

Draw Date: November 26th, 2011

Ticket Price: \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

Location: Canadian Western Agribition in Regina

Tickets: Available from any SKSA member or at the SKSA display booth

Proceeds will be used to assist with the financial costs incurred to operate the CWA Show and Sale.

SKSA EXECUTIVE:

President: Jean L'Arrivee
RR#1 Arborfield, SK S0E 0A0
Phone: (306)769-8981

Vice President: Janette Mish
Box 218, Glenavon, SK S0G 1Y0
Phone: (306)429-2221

Secretary: Donna Schryvers
Box 548 Quill Lake, SK
Phone: (306)383-2861

Treasurer: Donna Bruynooghe
Box 1810 Battleford, SK
Phone: (306)937-2041

Past President: Dirk VanKuik
Box 313, Hepburn, SK.
Phone: (306)947-2072

Board of Directors:
Jeff Mish, Glenavon
Donna Schryvers, Quill Lake
Jim Bruynooghe, Battleford
Donna Bruynooghe, Battleford

Jean L'Arrivee, Arborfield
Brenda Thomas, Raymore
Debbie Patteeuw, Raymore

CKSA Provincial Representatives:

Wayne Schryvers, Quill Lake
(Liaison between Canadian Katahdin Sheep Association and SKSA)

Debbie Patteeuw, Raymore

Committee Contacts:

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Sale: Terry Shackleton, Box 463, Kipling, SK S0G 2S0
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***To submit relevant articles, reports, classifieds and or pictures,
please feel free to send your information to the editor by email,
regular mail or phone!***

RFID Information

by Janette Mish

I'm sure some of you may have read about this program in the Sheep Development Boards last edition of Sheep Shape and may even know more about it than I do. However, I'm going to try to give you just a brief summary of what I know about the program. First, RFID stands for Radio Frequency Identification, which means that the tags that go into your sheep would have a radio frequency. That would thus enable you to use a hand held electronic reader to scan the tag and put in information into the RFID software program on each animal. It would also enable feedlot operators to scan the tag with their hand held unit rather than grab each ear and try to read the number off the tag. So in principal it is simply an electronic way to track sheep rather than the current CFIA pink tags that we are using. Right now, this traceability program is still strictly voluntary unlike the current CFIA tags we are using.

However, why this is important right now is that the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture has a rebate program in place for producers wishing to purchase the RFID reader, software, panel and training. There is also funding in place for producers that will need to implement modifications to there existing facilities in order to utilize the RFID technology. Those items that are eligible for a rebate will be covered for 70% of the cost to a maximum of \$50,000.00. You must purchase the RFID equipment in order to be eligible for modifications.

RFID reader technology must be purchased from a Government authorized dealer and I have spoken with the Sheep Development Board regarding this. I would recommend that if you are considering purchasing the technology that you contact them to ensure that you get the appropriate items that are covered. They do carry the items necessary for the sheep rebate however if you would like to check out other suppliers, you can visit www.canadaid.com for an up-to-date listing.

After contacting the SSDB, we decided to complete the pre-approval process for our own farm. The forms indicate that "Facility modifications *may* be approved in conjunction with ownership or purchase of readers". So, Jeff drafted up the drawings in AutoCAD of a runway/squeeze chute system in which the animals could be worked through in order to operate the RFID technology. I took the necessary pictures of the potential site with our camera and printed them off all to be included with our application. From that we were informed that "weigh scales, squeeze chutes, crowding tubs, labor of facility owner or employee(s), satellite technology, computers, computer hardware, internet access, and taxes are not eligible and should not be included in the estimate." The only modifications that they would cover were "an 8ft section of alleyway where the animals were to be read, 3rd party labour, permits/licenses, engineering/architectural plans, construction materials for the 8ft section and cement, electrical trenching for the panel reader only, and construction equipment rental to install the reader panel and 8ft section." So as you can see it really only covers the reader/panel and a small spot to install that in. Therefore, at this point in time we have decided not to proceed.

However, if that is all you require or are interested in and you have been pre-approved, items must be purchased or leased between April 1st, 2009 and January 31st, 2013. Forms for the program can be obtained by visiting www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca, at your nearest Ministry of Agriculture regional office or by calling 1-877-874-5365. Based on our experiences this is just a brief over and I hope some of it may be of assistance to you.

President's Report:

by Jean L'Arrivee

Harvest is well underway in the Northeast. Some crops are bumpers and some are poor. We have had great harvesting weather. Our crops were late in developing, so as a result Louis has the second hay all baled and hauled home.

I have 2 groups of ewes separated but not in breeding yet. We are planning to start lambing a little later in 2012, early march.

Market lamb prices are down a bit from early summer, but still quite respectable. Breeding stock are still in demand. I was talking to a Katahdin sheep producer in Southern Alberta who has developed her own market. She has a contract with a meat market in Strathmore for 200 lambs a year. This meat shop wants a 35pound carcass; she gets \$180.00 for this 75 pound lamb.

Maybe this is what we as producers have to do. Can we get together in geographical groups and actively seek out small markets in the larger centers??? I think this is food for thought.

Canadian Western Agribition is fast approaching . I hope new and old Katahdin producers will consider showing their Katahdins at CWA. This is one of the best advertising methods the SKSA has and it is a lot of fun as well. The CKSA AGM is back in Regina this year. I hope to see everyone in Regina for the November show and AGM.

See you in Regina

Jean

Interesting Fact:

by Larry and Valerie

The fact is we're on the bottom of the learning curve when it comes to sheep so we don't yet know enough to say what is "fact" and what is "fiction". As time goes on we'll step out on that limb and attempt to share some interesting information. We are very open to be challenged or corrected. We are new and I hope that more people new to Katahdin sheep will be joining the mailing list for the newsletter. We may ask questions that are old hat to the experienced producer but getting answers from the experienced producers will ultimately help the novices and help grow the industry in Saskatchewan and beyond.

Editor's Notes:

by Larry and Valerie

This is our first newsletter and although we volunteered for the job in April we have been slow in pursuit of the information we needed to make the transition from the previous editor, Janette Mish. Janette has been very helpful to us by providing past newsletters for us to see and getting us important information regarding the Canadian Western Agribition that we must include in this newsletter. Thank you Janette not only for your help but also I'm sure the membership is grateful for all the work you've put in to making an informative, interesting newsletter. You'll be a tough act to follow!

In this issue, I would like to introduce ourselves to those of you whom we haven't met and give a bit of background to those of you we have already met.

Valerie and I are both near retirement age. Valerie is a property tax specialist for the oil industry and I am a professional firefighter in Regina. The little experience we have raising and showing animals is in the dog world. Under the kennel name Vallarlane Kennels, we bred and showed Bouvier des Flandres dogs. We showed our first dog, not of our breeding, to number five in Canada and the "hook was set". We fell in love with the Bouvier and decided to breed and show. Having puppies of a large breed dog cramped us for space and we decided to move to the country. We set up our household and kennel on an acreage just outside of Regina Beach and there began our education about acreage living. It costs time and money! Of course I had to complicate that just a bit by getting a few horses, a love I've had since before I could walk. We had wonderful puppies and found them some good homes but discovered that parting with our pups and finding just the right home was too difficult for our personalities. Showing was quite an experience and we met lots of fun interesting people and made many new friends.

Around the turn of the century (that sounds so long ago) we sold our 10 acres near Regina Beach and bought the land we're on now. 240 acres of farm land, with lots of bush. Since we quit breeding dogs and since we had this land we thought we needed to make it productive so we sowed it to grass/alfalfa and pasture. The plan was to either have a few cows and calves or just pasture some animals for the summer. Slowly we built fences, accumulated machinery for haying and tried to learn what we needed to before getting animals. As time went on we started thinking that maybe cattle were not the right fit for a couple of inexperienced city people. I did spend every summer on my uncle's farm until my twenties but that can only prepare you so much. I found myself starting to flip flop between sheep and cows, sheep and cows. Valerie was supportive of

either choice but when we discussed it, sheep made the most sense. Now what breed? Wool seemed to be more of a burden and hindrance than a commodity so we started focusing on Katahdins. They are hardy, shed and don't need "crotching" tail docking or sheering. We read that their meat was very good and that Canada cannot supply enough sheep for our own demand. We made a connection with the Schryvers at the 2010 CWA and went for a visit to see what's all involved with raising sheep. Donna graciously cooked us lunch and served a katahdin lamb. It was delicious and that helped reinforce our decision to "get into" sheep, specifically the Katahdin breed.

Wanting to get our feet wet and make some connections we attended the April meeting of the SKSA and let our enthusiasm get the better of us. We volunteered to do the newsletter. We can work a computer and didn't know much about sheep yet so we thought it was a good way to get involved. Now we're stumped wondering what to put in the newsletter, so I guess it's sink or swim, but it will definitely be a good learning experience and help us gain the knowledge and connections we need to be successful.

So, that's where we are today. Ten bred sheep coming later this fall and we'll be in up to our.....how much does a sheep poop?

Recipe Corner:

Baked Ribs of Lamb

Serves 4

Ingredients:

2-1/2 lbs Lamb Ribs
salt, pepper and seasoning salt
1 tbsp soy sauce
1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
1 garlic clove, minced
2 tbsp maple syrup
2 tbsp Barbeque sauce



Preparation:

Drizzle syrup over the ribs. Mix all other ingredients and then pour over the ribs as well. Let stand on the counter for 1/2 hour, turning once. Bake uncovered, in 325° oven for 1-1/2 hours, turning 2 - 3 times.

Don't forget advertising at www.saskkatahdinsheep.com
Listings are free so please let Janette know if you would like to include something!!!!

In The News:

Story taken from the Manitoba Co-operator

<http://www.manitobacooperator.ca/news/sheep-goat-breeders-get-access-to-serbia-malaysia/1000597440/>

Sheep, goat breeders get access to Serbia, Malaysia

Sep 23, 2011 4:41 PM - 2 comments

TEXT SIZE  

By: *Staff*

[Livestock](#), [Markets](#)

The governments of Serbia and Malaysia have reached agreements with Canada that are expected to boost access for Canadian exporters of sheep, goats and their genetics.

Trade can start "immediately" now that the federal government has reached new agreements on export certificates with the two countries, Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz said in a release Friday.

The agreement with Serbia allows for exports of sheep and goats, while the deal with Malaysia allows for exports of sheep and goat genetics. The two agreements, combined, are expected to be worth about \$300,000 per year, the Canadian Livestock Genetics Association said in the federal release.

"Our members can now actively pursue business opportunities knowing that the basic issue of market access has been resolved in these markets," CLGA executive director Rick McDonald said in the same release.

Canadian government and industry representatives are "pursuing collaboration" with Malaysia to develop its domestic livestock sector, the government said, and this additional access will allow Canada to supply sheep and goat semen and embryos in support of these projects.

The two agreements were the result of "hard work and direct intervention" on the part of government officials, Ritz said.
