

A U.S. TARGHEE SHEEP ASSOCIATION PUBLICATION

TARGHEE

TALK



Fall 2024

VOL 5- 2024

CONTENTS

PAGE 2

Upcoming Events and Announcements

PAGE 3

From My Flock to Yours - Letter from the USTSA
President

PAGE 4

Roundtable Responses from the Board of
Directors

PAGE 5

Fall Sale Averages

PAGE 6-7

Nutritional Considerations for Flocks During
Breeding Season

PAGES 8

Starter Flock Update

PAGES 9-13

Starter Flock Application

PAGE 14-21

Junior Corral

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

East Director
Susie Skinner
937-375-5671
twins2@hughes.net

Vice President

At Large -West
Jack McRae
406-977-6121
jmcrae@midrivers.com

Central Plains Director

Scott Kilber
605-380-5262
scott.kilber@agtegra.com

Board of Directors

West
Wendell Von Krosigk
307-258-6122
wvonkro@gmail.com

Board of Directors

Montana Director
Keith Green
406-930-5914
greencontracting@hotmail.com

Secretary/ Treasurer

Jackie McMartin
605-553-3331
ustargheesheep@gmail.com

Promotions and Public Relations Specialist

Julia Selman Norman
435-279-0624
julia.selman@outlook.com

Upcoming Events & Announcements



October 31- November 2, 2024 - Western Staes Wool Growers Convention in Boise, ID

November 10, 2024: Junior Targhee Assoc. Meeting at 7 p.m. CST via Zoom. Link will be sent closer to date. Please check Facebook and Remind app for more information. Please contact Logan or Jonalyn for any questions.

November 13, 2024: IU-USU-SDSU Extension Sheep and Goat Monthly Webinar. For more information, visit Uldaho.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fWiLWKvuS2-dx3AJnWotNw.

November 23, 2024: ASI Young and Emerging Entrepreneur Lambing School in Watertown, S.D.

December 11, 2024: IU-USU-SDSU Extension Sheep and Goat Monthly Webinar. For more information, visit Uldaho.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fWiLWKvuS2-dx3AJnWotNw.

January 15 - January 18, 2025: ASI Annual Convention in Scottsdale, AZ

March 1, 2025: Starter Flock Application due



From My Flock to Yours

A letter from the USTSA President



Dear Membership,

We, like many of you, have had an interesting autumn. Who would have thought that a hurricane that hit Florida would turn and come into the hills of Appalachia? We did not expect 10 inches of good soaking rain, prompted by high wind warnings which led to power outages. Jamie has been in the southeast for 3 weeks and he says it will take weeks if not months to get everybody reconnected.

Many of you are in the midst of fall lambing. Some of us are still waiting. While we wait we often let our mind wander to past adventures and future ones. We, as your Board of Directors, are doing just that. We used the roundtable items you presented back to us in Redfield and we discussed each item thoroughly. On the following page is the list of what you presented to us, with what the Board commented on doing. If you have any further comments on how we should progress, please let me know by phone (937-375-5671) or email (twins2@hughes.net).

One concern the board has is separation of duties. It seems everyone is going to one person with all the problems they are having. We would like to try to remedy this situation by requesting that if you live west of the Mississippi you contact Jack McCrae (406-977-6121) and east of the Mississippi you can contact Susie Skinner (937-375-5671). Also you can contact Board members in charge of various committees. We just want to balance the load and better serve the membership.

Below are listed the standing committees for the Association. If you have a desire to be active on any of these, please contact the Board member in charge. They are sitting by their phones waiting for your call (HAHAHHA)

The 2025 committee assignments are as follows:

Junior - Board Representative - Jackie McMartin, Advisors Logan Johnson and Jonalyn Beastrom

Starter Flock - Chair - Jonalyn Beastrom, Board Representative - Scott, Junior Advisor - Logan Johnson, Missy Holtz, Charleen Von Krosigk and Dylan Laverell

Futurity - Jon Beastrom and Todd Taylor

Hall of Fame - Board Representative Jack McRae, Darrell Deneke and Paula Brakke

National Show and Sale - Hosting State

(Disclaimer: The Junior, Hall of Fame and Sifting Committees are closed committees and will not be taking additional members.)

Standards and Sifting will be discussed and decided at a later date.
I hope that fall season works well for all of you.

Susie Skinner

Round Table Discussion Topics from July 20 Meeting with Board of Directors responses

- *Food trucks available at the event –host state will look into this.
- *White Water Rafting-not near Miles City but the host state will check into something fun and active for us to do.
- *More social events–referred to the host state.
- *Education on microns-there will be a wool seminar in 2025. Would also address belly wool as it remains number 1 reasons for sifting.
- *Commercial Targhee–this discussion will be continued to the January meeting. This is an ongoing issue that may take some time to resolve.
- *Hyperlink other state breed associations webpage to the Targhee page. How many states have their own web page, we only know of SD (yes) and Montana(no).
- *Increase the number of open show livestock participating - Still need ideas for this one.
 - *To include retired members in good status with USTSA- referred to committee but may take by-law change which will be discussed in January for vote in July.
 - *For 2025 we request only registration papers sent to show chairman to be used to enter. Additional paperwork including NSIP data and health papers to be sent in with the registration papers. Deadlines will be strictly enforced so get papers early.
 - *Promotion of the breed and its activities must be put back on the front burner. We have only had one post on the web page in the last 90 days. Breeders can help by getting the information turned asap.
 - *Committees will be listed in Targhee Talk, if you see something that interests you, call Susie Skinner at 937-375-5671 to be added to the list.
 - * QR codes did not link properly. Try again in 2025 or say “scrap that idea”.
 - *Request was made to cash and present checks to consignors in a more timely fashion–that was corrected in 2024 (Thanks Jackie)
 - * Support the Juniors in all National and Regional shows they attend.
 - *Advertisements for fall ram sales should be completed by May 1 and ready to send as soon as possible to the sale management.
 - *Fairness in dealing with all people at the show and sale, no signs of favoritism. Board will take this under serious consideration and attempt to make all decisions as transparent as possible.
 - *Fleeces for Sale can be advertised in Targhee Talk and possibly sell at Miles City show and sale. Private consignment.
 - *Online sale at Miles City continues to be cost prohibitive. We need higher numbers to investigate this further.
 - *Credit card options will be looked into for Miles City and Beyond.

2024 Sale Averages

Fall has come and almost gone, with winter starting to knock on the door. With the end of fall comes the end of the sale season. Sale results are the following:

The Montana Ram Sale

September 11-12, 2024

“More than 60 percent of the rams sold were Targhee sheep. The sale averaged \$1,765 per head for the 170 Targhees. The high-selling ram was consigned by Ortmann, and sold for \$7,500 to Turner Sheep Company in Wyoming. Two other Targhee lots sold for \$7,000 per head.” In the words of ASI, Targhee is leading the way in Montana.

The Wyoming Ram Sale

September 10, 2024

At the Wyoming Ram Sale, 53 Targhee Yearlings sold at \$1,037 per head. As for the Targhee fall lambs, 5 sold at \$510 per head. The highest bidding ram went for \$3,100 from Von Krosigk Family Targhees.

Newell Ram Sale

September 19-20, 2024

For the Targhee breed, the sale averaged \$712 per head for the 24 Targhee sold. The Targhee Champion ewe sold for \$700.00 from Wooden Nickel Targhee. The Targhee Champion Ram sold for \$1,150.00 from Wooden Nickel Targhee as well. Brooke LaMont brought home the Targhee Reserve Champion Ram which sold for \$600.

National Ram Sale

October 4-5, 2024

At the last sale of the year, the Targhee breed made an incredible showing and the popularity of the breed is growing throughout the western states. 37 Targhee rams were sold in total. Stud rams averaged \$733 per head. The remainder of the rams averaged \$1892 per head. The highest selling lot went to Southern Utah University for \$3,200 per head for a pen of 4.

Nutritional Considerations for Flocks During Breeding Season

Written by Jaelyn Whaley with contributions by Heidi Carroll former SDSU Extension Livestock Stewardship Field Specialist & Beef Quality Assurance Coordinator, and Kelly Froehlich, former Assistant Professor & SDSU Extension Sheep and Goat Specialist.

Managing nutrition during breeding season is critical for improving lambing rates, but it can often be a challenge. When breeding for spring-born lambs, forages are declining in nutritional value while nutrient requirements for sheep are increasing. Fall lambing requires breeding when heat can challenge conception. Regardless of the time of year, it's important to keep ewes and rams in mind before, during and after breeding season. Prior to and throughout breeding, many producers utilize flushing to increase ovulation rates. During the breeding season, rams are working hard to service ewes in heat while attempting to meet their own nutritional needs. Increasing the flock's plane of nutrition continues to play an important role in ewes by reducing early embryonic death and helping rams recover after breeding.

Ewe Management

Success of breeding is largely dependent on nutrition. Simple management techniques, such as flushing or managing ewe lambs that are still growing separately can boost breeding success. Simply put, flushing means increasing your flock's plane of nutrition at least two to three weeks before and after breeding. Flushing helps to initiate estrus, improve ovulation and increase conception rates by promoting the ewe's body to signal to the reproductive tract that she is ready to support herself plus a growing fetus or fetuses. Additionally, flushing improves embryonic attachment to the uterine wall, hence reducing the number of early embryonic deaths, which most commonly occur within the first 30 days of conception. Ensuring that ewes are bred within that first 21 days (the first heat cycle) can help shorten your lambing window. High-energy feeds, such as corn, are commonly used for flushing at approximately one pound per head daily. Moving ewes to a higher-quality pasture or cover crop can also elicit a similar response to flushing. Ovulation and weaning rates are positively influenced when ewes can consume greater amounts of quality forage.

Maintaining an increased plane of nutrition is even more important for first-time mothers. In many cases, young ewes aren't finished growing while also being asked to also carry offspring. However, it has been shown that young ewes that raise offspring their first year may have greater lambing performance as mature ewes. If infrastructure and feed resources allow, increasing supplementation to ewe lambs and having a separately managed breeding group specifically for ewe lambs will promote conception and maintained pregnancy.

Ram Management

Ram care is also important before, during and after breeding and should be monitored. The energy requirement of a ram increases by approximately 9% from maintenance to pre-breeding. This improves semen quality and allows for excess body stores during an energy-demanding breeding season. On average, a ram can lose up to 25% of his own body weight throughout a breeding season.

It's generally recommended to utilize one ram per 30 ewes, but if breeding groups are placed in large pastures, or greater than one ram per 30 ewes, a ram's requirement to travel farther or service more ewes will increase energy expenditures. Additionally, adverse weather conditions and low forage quality further challenge a ram's energy demand. Extra supplementation may also be needed for ram lambs utilized during the breeding season. Improving the longevity of rams is a common concern on range operations, so take care of the rams that play a huge role in conception rates and, ultimately, your bottom dollar.

Body Condition Score Prior to Breeding

Body condition also plays an integral role in improving conception. Body condition scores (BCS) should be assessed at least three weeks prior to breeding to make nutritional decisions, especially because increasing body condition takes longer than decreasing condition. While there may be incidences of sheep maintaining or improving body condition on low-quality pasture, this is extremely difficult when considering the nutritional demands of the breeding season. Both ewes and rams should be in a BCS 3 to 3.5 prior to breeding. Ewes in BCS 3 or slightly lower typically show an improved response to flushing effects. Rapid weight losses after joining ewes and rams should be avoided to achieve maximum conception and pregnancy rates. Therefore, flushing diets should be provided to ewes and rams for two to three weeks before and after breeding. For more information on BCS, check out the article, [Managing Sheep Body Condition Score Throughout the Year](#).

Optimizing flock nutrition throughout the breeding season can help improve conception rates, lambing percentages and ram longevity. Utilizing high-energy feedstuffs, such as corn supplemented at about one pound per head daily, or the use of nutrient-dense pastures and cover crops make excellent options for both ewes and rams. For the best results, a flushing diet should be made available at least two to three weeks prior to breeding, throughout the season and two to three weeks after breeding. Proper nutritional management is one simple way to positively influence your lamb crop and, in turn, increase the profitability of your flock.



Starter Flock Update

Written by Jonalyn Beastrom



Ruby Bonn is our 2024 USTSA Starter Flock Winner. During the 2024 National Show & Sale she was awarded an aged ewe from Kilber Family Targhees. On September 30th, Ruby gained her first ram lamb to add to her flock! Her goal is to show this ram lamb at the 2025 National Targhee Junior Show. She is excited to continue to learn more about the Targhee breed and as well as be an active member!

This could be you! Starter Flock Applications are now open and are due March 1, 2025. For questions, please see the application for information and contacts.

2025 U.S. Targhee Sheep Association (USTSA) Starter Flock Program

Purpose

To promote growth and visibility of the Targhee breed, and to promote youth involvement and education within the breed.

Who is eligible?

Any youth, age 10 to 15 as of January 1, 2025, whose immediate family does not raise registered Targhee sheep.

What Comprises the Starter Flock?

The winner will be awarded a Starter Flock of three (3) ewes, consisting of at least one (1) ewe lamb donated by members of the USTSA. The donors from the USTSA will have quality sheep that meet Targhee breed standards. Each animal will be a USTSA registered animal, with a side micron less than 24.0 and must have a QR scrapie codon 171 genotype.

Promotion

The program will be featured on the USTSA website, and advertisements will be advertised on social media and in youth organizations as declared by the Starter Flock committee. Promotion by current members at shows and sales is strongly recommended.

Award

The winning applicant will be notified by May 1, 2025, and will be awarded the starter flock at the 2025 USTSA National Show and Sale, held July 17-19th, 2025, in Miles City, Montana. **Attendance at the National Show & Sale is mandatory.**

- a. The recipient will be eligible and encouraged to participate in the showmanship competition at the 2025 USTSA National Junior Show.
- b. A buyer credit of a minimum of \$500 will be donated by the USTSA for the intended use of purchasing sheep at the 2025 National Show & Sale.

Complete applications with supporting material will be reviewed by the USTSA Starter Flock Committee. The chosen applicants will complete a primary interview via Zoom on a device with camera access, and a possible farm visit from members of the USTSA.

U.S. Targhee Sheep Association
2025 Starter Flock Program Application

Applications are due March 1st, 2025

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Does your family currently raise livestock? _____ If yes, what species/breed? _____

If chosen, you must be able to attend the 2025 USTSA National Show and Sale, held July 17-19th, 2025 in Miles City, Montana. Will you be able to attend? Y/N? _____

Do you have the means to transport your sheep from the National Show and Sale? Y/N? _____

Please provide videos and pictures adequately showing facilities and basic necessities for the awarded sheep.

To help provide guidance to the Starter Flock winner, a USTSA member will be available for support and to check on the welfare of the awarded animals.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Please feel free to use an extra sheet of paper if needed.

1) Do you currently own sheep? If yes, how many years of experience do you have involving sheep? (4-H, FFA, or Junior Show Involvement)

2) What facilities do you have available to house and care for sheep?

3) Describe your knowledge/experience of the Targhee breed? Including both, encouraging and challenging moments.

4) Part of the program is to be an active member in the U.S. Junior Targhee Sheep Association and the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association. How do you see yourself contributing and giving back to the Association?

5) How did you hear of the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association Starter Flock program?

6) What do you know about the National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP)?
If you have no knowledge of the NSIP program, please leave blank.

7) Please tell us about your short and long term goals within raising registered Targhee Sheep?

References:

Please provide a letter of recommendation from an 4-H or FFA leader along with an email address and phone number.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Veterinarian Contact:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

The 2025 U.S. Targhee Sheep Association Starter Flock winner will be notified no later than May 1st, 2025.

Applications can be sent to ustargheesheep@gmail.com or mailed to Jonalyn Beastrom at 20344 293rd Ave. Pierre, SD 57501

If you have any questions about this application, please feel free to call Jonalyn Beastrom at 605-280-8182 or Scott Kilber at 605-380-5262

Policies:

- The starter flock winner will be required to donate a Registered Targhee Ewe that meets breed standards back to the program within three (3) years.
- In the first five (5) years if the recipient finds it necessary to liquidate their Targhee Flock or cannot maintain them, he/she/they **MUST** notify the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association. The donated sheep will be returned to their original donors.
- Only USTSA registered Targhee rams may be used for breeding.
- Basic needs (feed, water, shelter, vaccinations, etc.) to grow and maintain the sheep in good health must be provided at all times. If failure to do so, mentors will visit and evaluate the accommodations to decide if the sheep need to be surrendered to the USTSA at the cost of the recipient.
- The recipient will be required to exhibit at least one (1) of the awarded animals in a local, county, state or national show within one year (July 2026) of being awarded. Results will be posted on the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association and the U.S. Junior Targhee Sheep Association Facebook pages, Targhee Talk and our website.
- This is a one-time award, previous recipients may not reapply.
- Your parents and or guardian must understand the responsibility and approve of this application.
- The donated ewe lamb shall be transferred early into the recipient's name to be eligible to show in the USTSA Junior Show as well as meeting deadlines for local, county and state fairs.

By signing this agreement, I have read the above policies and assume the responsibility of any and all that is required with the awarded sheep from the U.S. Targhee Sheep Association Starter Flock program. A signature from a USTSA member indicates that they agree to be your mentor for the duration of the applicant owning Targhee sheep.

 Applicant

 Parent or Guardian

Name: _____

Signature: _____

USTSA Member/Mentor (If directed you to application)



JUNIOR CORRAL

Written by Josee Johnson, Logan Johnson and Jonalyn Beastrom



Please find us on Facebook: U.S. Junior Targhee Sheep Association
& The Remind App

Ruby Bonn-2024 Starter Flock Winner

Prairie Winds Country Fair:

- Reserve Champion Breeding Ewe



Pearl Bonn

Prairie Winds County Fair:

- 1st in February Breeding Ewe Lamb



South Dakota State Fair:

- 3rd in Class in 4-H

SD Wool Classic :

- 2nd in Class

Coudron Family- 2023 Starter Flock Winner

Great Plains:

Andrew

- 1st Place January ram lamb
- 2nd Place January ewe lamb
- 2nd Place Showmanship

Annabel

- 2nd Place January Ram Lamb
- 2nd Place Yearling Ewe
- 3rd Place Fall Ewe Lamb
- 1st Place January Ewe Lamb



All American:

Andrew

- 2nd Place January Ram Lamb - Reserve Champion Targhee Ram
- 2nd Place Yearling Ewe
- 2nd Place January Ewe Lamb - Reserve Champion Junior Ewe Lamb

Annabel

- 1st Place January Ram Lamb - Grand Champion Targhee Ram
- 1st Place Yearling Ewe - Grand Champion Senior Ewe - Grand Champion Overall Targhee Ewe
- 1st Place Fall Ewe Lamb - Reserve Champion Senior Ewe
- 1st Place January Ewe Lamb - Grand Champion Junior Ewe - Reserve Champion Overall Targhee Ewe



Lyon County Fair:

Andrew

- 2nd Place January ewe lamb
- 3rd Place showmanship

Annabel

- 1st Place Yearling Ewe
- 1st Place Fall Ewe Lamb
- 1st Place January Ewe Lamb
- 2nd Place Showmanship



MJ Raisler: Junior Favorite Lamb Recipe

Pulled BBQ Lamb in the Crockpot.

I just put a roast in the crockpot, let it cool and then take the fat and bones out.

MJ's favorite BBQ sauce is the homemade from Adam's Grandma

1 & 1/4 cups ketchup, 1/4 cup molasses, 1/3 cup brown sugar, 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar, 1/4 cup honey, 3/4 tsp paprika, 1/4 tsp garlic powder, 1/4 tsp onion powder, 1/2 tsp kosher salt, 1/2 tsp cayenne pepper.

Rasiler Family-2020 Starter Flock Winner

Kya Raisler

Wisconsin State Fair:

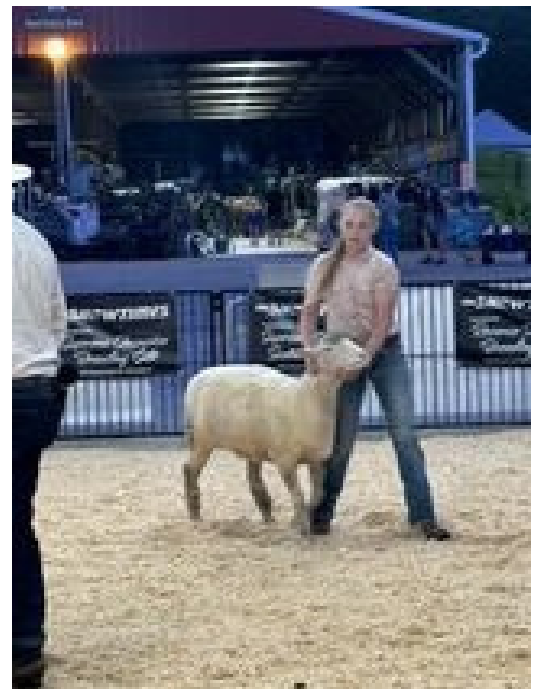
- Reserve Champion Overall AOB Wool Class- Spring Ewe Lamb
- 2nd Place Yearling Ewe Class
- 2nd Place Winter Ewe Class



Mallex Raisler

Wisconsin State Fair:

- Grand Champion Overall AOB Wool Class- Yearling Ewe
- 1st Place Winter Ewe Lamb
- 2nd Place Spring Ewe Lamb



Carrisa Scheel

Open Class South Dakota State Fair:

- Champion Targhee Ewe

4-H South Dakota State Fair:

- Champion Targhee Ewe



South Dakota State Fair:

- Champion Targhee Ram
- Reserve Supreme Breeding Ram

Great Plains Jr. Breeding Sheep Show:

- Reserve Champion Targhee Ram

South Dakota Summer Spotlight:

- Champion Targhee Ram
- Reserve Supreme Breeding Sheep Ram

Jerauld/Buffalo County Achievement Days:

- Champion Targhee Ram
- Reserve Champion Breeding Ram

Brown County Fair:

- Reserve Champion Targhee Ram
- Reserve Champion Targhee Ewe



Wyatt Burggraff

Participated In:

- Great Plains Jr Breeding Sheep Show
- Brown County Fair
- South Dakota State Fair

Kilber Family

Open Class South Dakota State Fair:

- Champion Targhee Ram
- Reserve Targhee Ewe

Great Plains Jr. Show:

- Champion Targhee Ram

Edmunds County Fair:

- Champion Targhee Ewe

SD Wool Classic:

- Supreme Champion Targhee Ewe

Sweet 16 Showdown:

- 4th Overall Targhee Ewe

Brown County Fair:

- Grand Champion Targhee Ram
- Grand Champion Targhee Ewe



KK Raisler: Junior Favorite Lamb Recipe

Lamb tacos

1. 1lb ground lamb (wealotoftimesaddalbofbeeftoitsotechnicallyit's50/50)
2. Tacoseasoningonthemeatonceit'scooked

Serve in shells with your favorite toppings (hers is sour cream, cheddar and black olives).

Lamont Family

Brooke Lamont

Newell Show & Sale:

- Reserve Champion Targhee Ram



Logan Lamont & Kole Lamont

South Dakota State Fair:

- 1st Place Yearling Ram
- 4th and 5th Place Yearling Ewes
- 2nd Place Young Flock



Knock Family



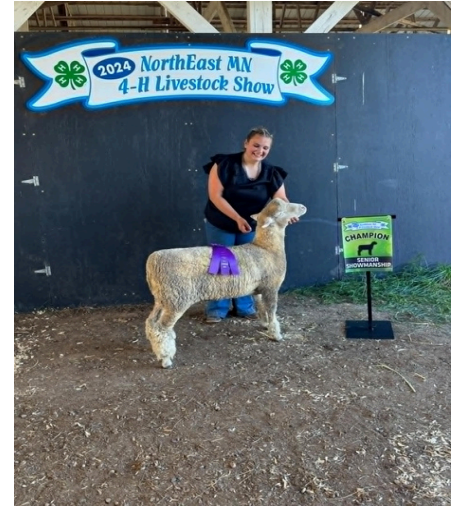
Rylee Knock
Spink County County Fair:

- Grand Champion Breeding Ewe

Alicia Holtz

NorthEast 4-H Livestock Show

- Reserve Overall Breeding Ewe
- Grand Champion Registered Ewe



Kessler Family

Charlee Kessler
McPherson Country Fair:

- Champion Breeding Ewe



Chancey Kessler



Cortlynn Kessler



Addison Hellwinkel

County Fair:

- Grand Champion Wool Ewe
- Reserve Champion Breeding Ewe
- 3rd Place Homegrown Market Lamb



Kya Raisler: Junior Favorite Lamb Recipe

Lamb MeatBalls

- 1lb ground lamb
- 10.5oz tomato soup
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 cup rice
- 2tbs Onion
- 1/2tsp salt
- 1/2tsp pepper

Roll into balls, cook 30-45 min in a sprayed pan (you can sauté them a bit first)



U.S. Targhee Sheep Association

Stay current with us using www.targheesheepus.com
and follow us on Facebook @ US Targhee Sheep Association

111 Orion Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

605-553-3331