

# LAMB & WOOL

A Newsletter For The Iowa Sheep Industry / July — August - 2010

## 6th Annual Sheep & Wool Festival

Despite the soggy weather the Sixth Annual Sheep & Wool Festival was very successful.

The food was wonderful, it was awesome to meet all the people interested in the sheep industry and once again the events were well attended. If you missed it this year, plan to be part of this wonderful weekend next year. The festival is the premier event for the sheep industry in Iowa.

This newsletter is filled with pictures, recipes and highlights from the weekend. The following newsletters will continue to spotlight the festival until next year so you

will remember to attend.

A huge thank you goes out to the volunteers that made the festival a true success.

We are a very diverse industry and have a lot to be proud of and the festival is just one way to showcase who we are. Our volunteers realize this and do a wonderful job of dedicating themselves to promotion of our great industry.

Enjoy the pictures, recipes and highlights in this newsletter and make plans to attend the Seventh Annual Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival on June 11th -12th 2011. Come, enjoy and support your industry.

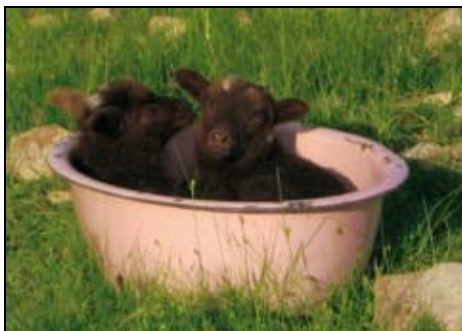


### Donated ram to be sold

The purebred Hampshire ram (RRNN) being donated to the Iowa Sheep Industry Association by Mickelson Hamps, Perry, Iowa is the twin brother to ram # 14 in the Illinois Ram Test shown in the picture above. The # 14 ram has outstanding numbers and a daily average gain of just over one pound per day. The ram will be auctioned at the Wether Sire/Dam Sale on Friday Aug. 20th at the Iowa State Fair. Thank you once again to Mickelson Hamps for making this generous donation to support the work of the Iowa Sheep Industry Association.

### 'Bathing Cuties' wins

"Bathing Cuties" won the photo contest at the festival. Emily Andersland, Gainesville, Missouri entered the photo which will be the subject of an original drawing for the 2011 Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival.



### Festival Dedication

This year's festival was dedicated to Jim Timmins. Jim, his wife Judy and the family were present for Jim to be presented with this honor. Jim and his family have dedicated many years to the sheep industry in Iowa. They are enthusiastic supporters and promoters of sheep, lamb and wool. They have truly been a blessing to the sheep industry.

### Outstanding Service

D a r y l Mickelson was presented with the 2010 Industry Service Award for his outstanding service to the lamb and wool producers of Iowa. Daryl has graciously sold a ram on the Iowa State Fair Wether Sire/Dam Sale for two years. He then donates the money to the Iowa Sheep Industry Association to use for the festival. Once again this year Mickelson Hamps will be auctioning another ram with the proceeds going to increase the prize money for the 7th Annual Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival Lamb Cookoff. Thank you once again for making this generous donation to the Iowa Sheep Industry Association.



# THANK YOU!

Thank you to the sponsors of the 6th Annual Iowa Sheep & Wool Festival

- Iowa Sheep and Wool Promotion Board
- Premier 1 Sheep Supplies
- Kum and Go

- Sara Benson with Intervet
- Milk Specialties Company
- Iowa Lamb Corporation
- Erickson Hamps and Columbias
- ASI Wool Trust
- Mickelson Hampshires

# ShortCLIPS by Dan Morrical

## Urinary Calculi



It seems that we are having more trouble with urinary calculi from the phone calls I have been receiving. In Iowa most of our calculi problems are created by feeding corn. It is not the corn but actually the high phosphorous level in the corn that causes the issue. If we feed a ration that is 1.5 to 2 times higher in calcium than phosphorous there should not be much worry. In normal feedlots one should expect less than 1 in 100 males to develop calculi. Operations experiencing higher levels need to review their whole nutrition program along with water management. As we have moved to castrating lambs at younger ages, it has increased the risks because the urethra is not as large in castrates as intact males.

There are several critical steps to preventing and minimizing urinary calculi. First, one needs to make sure the ration has the proper calcium to phosphorous ratio. Two to one or even higher is ideal. Higher phosphorous levels occur when byproducts from the ethanol industry are incorporated into the sheep rations because of lower cost. Feeding one half percent salt in the ration is standard practice. Salt requirements are .25% of the total ration. Feeding more and more salt

stimulates increased water intake and thus helps flush stones out before they get too large and block up the plumbing. The Merck Veterinary Manual suggests one can feed up to four percent salt without impacting performance. This may be true but it will result in very high bedding costs as lambs will be urinating constantly. One percent salt is probably a more realistic level. I also suggest that free choice plain white salt also be made available to feedlot lambs and stud rams. Salt is really cheap compared to losing a breeding ram or even a feedlot lamb.

The ration also should contain either ammonium sulfate or ammonium chloride at 10 pounds per ton. It appears from reviewing the literature that ammonium chloride is a bit more effective as a urinary tract acidifier. However, ammonium chloride is less palatable and with ground and mixed rations it could be left at the bottom of the bunk. The other aspect that Merck Manual states is to make sure the lambs are receiving adequate Vitamin A. The new Small Ruminant NRC states Vitamin A requirements at 47 international units per pound of body weight. For feedlot lambs that works out to around two million IU of Vitamin A per ton of feed. That is about 50%

higher than the 1985 NRC. If one assumes the feed ingredients provide roughly 500,000 IU of A than we need to add 1.5 million units. This is compared to the standard 1 million IU of Vitamin A historically added to complete rations. Animals consuming fresh pasture or green hay are getting two to three times their daily A requirement.

Stud rams that are getting year old hay and limited grain supplementation may need additional Vitamin A. Additionally, they should always have free choice salt. The last step to preventing urinary calculi is to insure high water intake. Regularly cleaning the watering devices is critical. Additionally, the more water lambs drink the more they also will eat. Vitamin A is critical as it helps maintain the health of the urinary tract. Furthermore it helps the tract recover if it is damaged by stones as they pass through the tract. Most stones are not smooth but more like a grass burr with lots of little points. The size is generally in the three millimeter (.1 inch) range or less.

*SHORTCLIPS Continued on page 3*

## COMMERCIAL BREEDING STOCK FOR SALE

**For Sale:** Purebred Polypay Ram Lambs. NSIP background. Twins and Triplets. Ready to go. Steve Spessard, (507) 372-5956 (7/10)

**Replacement Ewe Lambs and Ram Lambs:** Both Hampshire/Suffolk and Dorset, born January - March, for sale at the farm testing QR or better with no NS. Roger Olsen, 3769 Little Wall Lake Road, Story City, IA, 515.450.2097, ssolsen@iastate.edu. (6/10)

**Registered Suffolk RR ram lambs** - born January and February. Lansing & Ruby Mountain breeding, large framed, fast growing, lots of loin length. Stewart Family Suffolk, Randy and Barb Stewart, 4009 Hwy F-36 W, Newton Iowa, (641) 521-7981 or rstewart@pcpartner.net.(6/10)

**Registered Bluefaced Leicester Rams.** Their wool is a delight for home spinners and use the Rams for purebred or crossing sires. Guard Llamas. Reduce your predator death 100%. We have many to choose from that are proven protectors. All Llamas live with the sheep. Call 515-295-5719 at Ridge Road Farms.(6/10)

**Suffolk Yearling and Ram Lambs** - Good selection of Suffolk rams, all RR/NN, production tested with carcass scan data and NSIP info. See Kimm Suffolks ad on the back page of this newsletter for contact information or call Bob

at 319/476-3875 (home) or 319/290-8997 (cell). (6/10)

**RR or QR Suffolk ram lambs.** Neilsen Family Suffolks. 712-476-5238. (6/10).

**To lease** - Ten registered Polypay ewes and one Polypay ram. **For Sale** - two registered Polypay yearling rams out of Wisconsin and West Cyclone bloodlines. Jeff Duefoe, 319-849-9443. Leave message if necessary. (6/10).

**Replacement ewe lambs** - Polypay, Finn, Suffolk cross. 115 Suffolk/Polypay ewes/ewe lambs weaned 197% lamb crop this year. Select using complete records for prolificacy and growth. Steve Bernhard, Algona, 515-679-4006. (5/10)

**Rams** - Four early December Dorset Suffolk cross speckled ram lambs. \$250 each or all for \$900. Scott Jakel, 4197 Hwy 218, Osage IA. 641-220-1388 sjakel@myclearwave.net. (5/10)

**Hampshire Yearling rams** - out of our Held (SD) buck. Large framed thick made rams ready to go to work for you. Dorset yearling rams and ewes - available from our Riverwood ram & "Highpower" daughters. Large growthy rams with plenty of muscle. QR or better. M.H.W. Farms Colfax, IA, Robert Maher, 515-674-3029 bnlmaher@aol.com, Monte Wilson 515-674-4217, mnkwilson@hotmail.com. (5/10)

**Columbia Ram Lamb** - Born 10/09. Tested QR. Peg Gannon, 515-386-2027. (4/10)

**Rams** - Dorper and White Dorper rams: registered and commercial, starting at \$300. Ile de France crossbred rams. All rams hardy/easy care, well muscled, out of season breeding, excellent growth on forage only. S A Mitcham, Crane Creek, 3061 160th St, Sumner, Iowa 50674, 563-578-5665, sam@netins.net. (4/10)

**Want to buy** - White faced commercial ewe lambs or yearlings for breeding. Lyndon Sutcliff, 21318 260th St, Mason City, IA, 50401, 641-424-0965, 247@netconx.net. (4/10)

**Working Livestock Guardians** - Two five-month-old Komondorok pups started on sheep. Melpport Meadows Farm, Larry and Lisa Anderson, 7808 Nebraska Ave, Cashton, Wisconsin 54619, 608-654-7999, landerson7808@gmail.com. More information at www.melpportmeadows.com. (4/10)

**Free to good sheep home:** Four female guard dog pups - six months old. 1/2 Spanish Mastiff and 1/2 Maremma. Have been with sheep whole life, including living in the lambing barn during early lambing season. Showing great characteristics. Todd Christians, Kanawha, Iowa, 641-762-3242, tdtj@comm1net.net. (4/10)

### 2010 IOWA STATE FAIR SHEEP SCHEDULE

	Tues., Aug. 10	Wed., Aug. 11	Thurs., Aug. 12	Fri., Aug. 13	Sat., Aug. 14	Sun., Aug. 15	Mon., Aug. 16	Tues., Aug. 17	Wed., Aug. 18	Thurs., Aug. 19	Fri., Aug. 20	Sat., Aug. 21	Sun., Aug. 22
<b>MAY ARRIVE</b>	8:00 a.m. FFA Columbia Corriedale Long Wool Ramb.		8:00 a.m. Cheviot Montadale			7:00 a.m. 4-H		8:00 p.m. Dorset Southdown	8:00 a.m. Hampshire Shropshire Suffolk Wether Sire/Dam		8:00 a.m. Oxford Down	8:00 a.m. Jackpot	
<b>MUST BE IN</b>	2:00 p.m. FFA	2:00 p.m. Corriedale Ramb.	8:00 a.m. Columbia Long Wool  11:00 a.m. Big Ram	8:00 a.m. Cheviot Montadale		Noon 4-H			8:00 a.m. Dorset Southdown  Noon Hampshire Shropshire	9:00 a.m. Wether Sire/Dam	8:00 a.m. Suffolk	Noon Oxford Down	8:00 a.m. Jackpot Lambs
<b>MUST BE CHECKED IN</b>		4:00 p.m. Corriedale Ramb.	3:00 p.m. Columbia Long Wool	Noon Montadale  2:00 p.m. Cheviot					10:00 a.m. Dorset  Noon Southdown  4:00 p.m. Hampshire Shropshire	2:00 p.m. Weigh Wether Sire/Dam	Noon Suffolk	2:00 p.m. Oxford	8:00 am – 10:00 a.m. Weigh Jackpot Lambs
<b>SHOW</b>		3:00 p.m. FFA Carcass Lamb Ultrasound Evaluation	8:00 a.m. FFA Mkt. 9:00 a.m. Corriedale Noon Big Ram 1:00 p.m. Ramb. 6:00 p.m. Wool Show	8:00 a.m. FFA Brdg. Long Wool  Noon Columbia 6:00 p.m. Montadale	8:00 a.m. Cheviot  11:00 a.m. Sheep Shearing Contest	10:00 a.m. Spin & Knit	7:30 a.m. 4-H Perf. 4-H Mkt.	7:30 a.m. 4-H Brdg.	2:00 p.m. Dorset  6:00 p.m. Southdown	8:00 a.m. Hampshire  1:00 p.m. Shropshire	8:30 a.m. Wether Sire/Dam  5:00 p.m. Wether Sire/Dam Sale	7:30 a.m. Suffolk  Suffolk Sale Follows Show	8:00 a.m. Oxford Down  1:00 p.m. Jackpot Lambs
<b>RELEASED</b>				4:00 p.m. FFA Corriedale Ramb.	4:00 p.m. Cheviot Columbia Long Wool Montadale			After Show 4-H		4:00 p.m. Dorset Southdown	4:00 p.m. Hampshire Shropshire  6:00 p.m. Wether Sire/Dam	After Sale Suffolk	3:00 p.m. Jackpot Lambs Oxford Down  6:00 p.m. Big Ram
<b>MUST BE OUT</b>				6:00 p.m. FFA	6:00 p.m. Cheviot Columbia Corriedale Long Wool Montadale Ramb.			3:00 p.m. 4-H					7:00 p.m. All Sheep

## Treating a urinary calculi problem in your flock

**SHORTCLIPS** *Continued from page 2*

Initial symptoms of urinary calculi would be reduced appetite. Frequent straining and many times there is a small, intermittent stream of urine. Muscle relaxers can be used to help expend the urinary tract to improve the odds of the stone passing. Merck Veterinary Manual suggests drenching the animal with 10 grams of ammo-

nium chloride per 50 pounds of body-weight daily for three days. Having a readily available supply of ammonium chloride is probably a good investment. Hopefully you will never need it. One could also treat with banamine for pain and administer fluids especially if the animal starts to dehydrate since dehydration could lead to even more stones forming since the concentration of min-

erals would be increasing with reduced urine output. One last item that could impact calculi formation is water quality. High calcium water could actually lead to calcium stones not phosphorous derived stones. Water quality issues would be consistent from year to year but also could show up when a new water source is put in use.

# ISIA Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Iowa Sheep Industry Association was held on June 12, 2010 at the Dallas County Fairgrounds in Adel, Iowa in conjunction with the Iowa Sheep and Wool Festival. President Steve Bernhard called the meeting to order at 3:44 PM. Board members present were: Steve Bernhard, Erlene Leonard, Jim Timmins, Gary Erickson, Ben Johnson, Chris Osborn, Leland Shipley, Dan Morrical, Executive Director Marsha Spykerman and future Executive Director Amanda Luitjens.

Erlene Leonard gave treasurers' report stating that the association is in good financial shape. Motion Made, Seconded and Approved (MM SA) the report as given.

Motion Made, Seconded and Approved (MMSA) the minutes as written in the newsletter from last year's annual meeting.

Marsha gave directors report, saying that she has been working on getting ready for the state fair. She announced that the attendance for Saturday at the festival was very good despite the inclement weather. The fiber classes were well attended and pay pal worked very well for getting people signed up for classes and purchasing feast tickets. Marsha announced that she will be retiring as Executive Director

for the association, but she will not be leaving the sheep industry. Steve thanked Marsha for her tireless work for the sheep industry and for taking Amanda under her wing to get her started on the right foot in her new position.

Dan Morrical gave the ISU report. He reported that there were fifteen students who attended the national scanning school held at Iowa State University on June 7th & 8th. These fifteen students were from all areas of the United States. At the school they developed national standards for meat scanning.

Bob Kimm, of the Iowa Sheep & Wool Promotion Board, said the promotion board money coming in is lower than normal due to lower sheep numbers and hair sheep.

Steve introduced Amanda Luitjens as the new executive director of the association. Iowa Sheep and Wool Promotion Board, Premier Sheep Supply, Kum & Go, Erickson Hampshires and Columbias, and Iowa Lamb Corporation were recognized as 2010 sponsors of the festival.

Marsha gave an update on fetal ultra sounding. Progress is still under way to get more answers on this topic. Motion Made, Seconded, and Approved (MMSA) for Marsha to continue work-

ing on the ultra sound issue as an ISIA representative and to reimburse her for her expenses. Amanda will also be attending these meetings.

Discussion on the sheep center, the purpose of the center will be to keep a core of sheep people in Iowa at Iowa State University to be a clearing house for information and be able to offer educational classes online.

MMSA to purchase an in home extended warranty for the laptop for one year for \$150.

The floor was opened for nominations for the open board seat. Margie Meehan was nominated. MMSA to cast a unanimous ballot. Margie Meehan will be the new board member.

The slate of offices was presented; President - Steve Bernhard, Vice President - Leland Shipley, Secretary - Gary Erickson, Treasurer - Erlene Leonard, At Large Directors - Chris Osborn, Ben Johnson, Jim Timmins, and Margie Meehan. MMSA to cast a unanimous ballot.

The 2010 Festival was dedicated to Jim Timmins. Industry award went to Daryl Mickelsen. Restaurant of the Year went to Trestle's Greenbrier Restaurant in Des Moines.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary M. Erickson, Secretary

## ISU Hosts Ultrasound Certification Course

Using ultrasound for carcass trait measurement is catching on in popularity in the sheep industry. With the success of ultrasound use in other species and research that has shown it can accurately predict characteristics and indicate carcass yield and value in live sheep, the industry is poised to profit from using the technique.

Results of previous research have shown that a trained technician can capture an ultrasound image in about 30 seconds with reasonable accuracy. Analysts can use the images to estimate traits that influence the carcass value of market lambs such as rib-eye area, rib-eye depth and back-fat thickness.

This could significantly improve the speed and accuracy of selective-breeding methods. Since carcass data is difficult for producers to obtain, many of them currently rely on visual appraisals to predict carcass traits

before choosing which sheep to breed. Ultrasound provides a faster, much more accurate alternative. The swine and beef industries have both used ultrasound measurements to rapidly increase the red-meat yield and quality of pork and beef carcasses, respectively.

Because of this potential, the American Sheep Industry Association through its Lamb Council sponsored the first national ultrasound certification course in conjunction with Iowa State University (ISU) in Ames, Iowa, in June.

"This can provide data to the National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) such that the buyers of those sheep with genetic information on back fat and rib eye are more confident in the data. Additionally, it will help us in terms of our selection process because we will be more accurate in measuring these lambs for fat depth and rib-

eye area with ultrasound," says Dan Morrical, Ph.D., ISU.

Fifteen technicians, most of whom were experienced and/or certified in ultrasounding cattle and/or swine, were given research and direction on scanning sheep, and U.S. sheep ultrasound certification standards were set in place by the group, as they have not previously existed.

"This is a move to get a stable plan in the long run," says instructor, Scott Greiner, Ph.D., professor and sheep extension specialist at Virginia Tech University.

In addition to certification for meeting these U.S. standards, technicians could also become certified during the course under the standards laid out by the Australia-based LAMBPLAN, the firm NSIP is now contracting with for genetic analysis of its participating

**ULTRASOUNDS** *Continued on page 6*

### Festival Highlights



Fiber Class – Rug Braiding



Fleece Judging at the Wool Show



Jacob Sheep Show



ICLA Jr. Sheep Show



Rock Anderson  
Demonstrating how to shear a sheep



Jacob Sheep on display in the hall  
of breeds.



Deb Meier, Iowa Herding Dog Assn,  
herding ducks.



Fiber Gilds on Display



Chef Ken Dunn, conducting a  
cooking demonstration.



Fleece to Shawl Demonstration



Beginning Spinners learning the trade.



Educational presentations.

# Ultrasounds improve carcass quality

*ULTRASOUNDS Continued from page 2*

flocks.

The course focused on assuring acceptable images were being forwarded to processing labs, helping scanners collect and trace their own images to certify and certifying processing labs by sending a set of images to trace.

Each technician scanned 40 lambs twice, to measure accuracy and repeatability. All lambs were then processed for carcass evaluation.

"The lambs will be hauled to processing, and then we will compare scanners' data to the carcass data of the lambs," says Morrical.

Technician Isaiah Shnurman, representing Hawkeye Breeder Service Inc. of Adel, Iowa, says that he sought certification because the demand for ultrasounding sheep is increasing. Hawkeye Breeder Service mainly focuses on collection and ultrasound service for bulls, but Shnurman says that sheep and goat producers in the area have approached the company for the ultrasound service.

"We just added ultrasound for the cattle customers, and this just makes us a little more full service. We have customers ask for it," he relates.

Cody Hiemke, Niman Ranch, has already seen the genetic benefits of ultrasounding. Niman Ranch actively employs ultrasound on the flocks that it works with.

"We focus primarily on the end product, which is the meat products," he says. "I work with a grower to produce a terminal sire, which improves the carcass for me. Ultrasound can be a valuable tool."

## LAMB COOK-OFF 2010 IOWA SHEEP & WOOL FESTIVAL

### Vietnamese Lettuce Wraps

Team Spykerman – 1st place



- 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 tablespoon chopped fresh ginger root
- 4 shallots, chopped
- 2 teaspoon chili sauce
- 4 tablespoons fish sauce
- 2 tablespoon five-spice powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 5 pounds boneless shoulder roast
- Crisp romaine lettuce leaves
- 4 sprigs fresh mint and cilantro leaves
- 1 cup matchstick carrots
- 1/4 cup Rice wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon sugar

Pound garlic, ginger and shallots into a paste (a pestle and mortar works well for this). Mix paste with chili sauce, fish sauce, five-spice powder, salt and pepper. Trim shoulder and cut into strips about 3/4 inch thick. Rub spice

mixture all over lamb strips and marinate for at least 3-4 hours or overnight if you have time. Marinate the matchstick carrots in the rice wine vinegar and sugar and refrigerate to be used later as a garnish. Pack meat, with marinade, in a heat proof dish or bowl and place in a steamer and steam over high heat for 2-3 hours. Remove meat strips from steamer and grill on a preheated grill for 3-4 minutes, turning frequently so they are slightly charred but not burned.

Using a fork, pull lamb into small shreds and place in lettuce leaves. Garnish with mint, coriander and marinated matchstick carrots. You may provide a variety of dipping sauces such as: soy sauce, sweet chili sauce or Sriracha sauce.

## Calendar of Events

**August 7** – 5th Annual Center of the Nation National Sheep Improvement Program (CNSIP) Seminar and Sale. Clay County Fairgrounds in Spencer, Iowa. For catalog and information contact: Conover Auction Service at conover@conoverauction.com or call 641-227-3537. Catalog online in mid-July at www.conoverauction.com.

**August 12 - 22** - Iowa State Fair Lamb Foodstand at the Iowa State Fair will be open all days of the fair. If you know which day you would like to help please contact Amanda Luitjens at 712-348-3158, aluitjens@

gmail.com or info@iowasheep.com. Don't let your favorite day be taken!

**November 5 - 7** - 2nd Annual Iowa Wool Gatherers' Retreat, Barn on the Bluff, Elkader, Iowa. Details will be posted at www.iowasheep.com as they become finalized. Contact Margie Meehan with questions at tipperaryfiberstudio@gmail.com or 563-926-2573.

**November 11-13** -16th Annual Great Lakes Dairy Sheep Symposium, Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Program includes presentations, a bus tour of sheep dairy farm, a cheese operation and the Spooner Ag Research

Station, the only dairy sheep research farm in North America. Final program and registration forms will be at www.dsana.org by the end of July. For more information contact Claire Mikolayunas at (608) 332-2889 or mikolayunas@wisc.edu.

Do you have an event that you would like to place in the Lamb & Wool newsletter? Please send information by the 15th of the month preceding publication date of newsletter. Submit via email at info@iowasheep.com or phone 515-924-3050.

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MID-STATES WOOL GROWERS WOOL MARKETER

## Sheep and Goat Auction

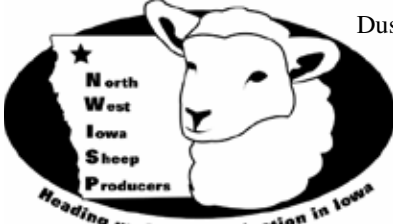
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