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August 11-21, 2005  
**See you at the Iowa State Fair**

Iowa Sheep Industry Association  
 % Marsha Spykerman  
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**LAMB & WOOL**

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# LAMB & WOOL

A Newsletter For The Iowa Sheep Industry / July/August - 2005

## Cost-Share for Ram Genotyping

The June *Lamb & Wool* newsletter featured an article from the February 2005 *Animal Industry News* where Dr. Pam Smith and Dr. Sharon Fairchild said, "... by promoting the use of RR rams we can continue to make progress toward eliminating scrapie in our Iowa flocks. We are very excited to announce that we have finally received funding approval from USDA for a program that will offer producers free genetic testing for up to ten rams per flock."

Iowa was one of the states with a State/APHIS cooperative program, but as this newsletter goes to press the Iowa/APHIS program has not been funded, as promised by USDA. It is still hoped that funding will be received.

In the meantime, if you are interested in getting your rams genotyped ASI has opened up the ASI/APHIS Cost-Share Program to all producers in all states. The cost share in this program is \$12/ram and producers are

allowed to test up to ten rams. A veterinarian needs to draw the blood and they sample needs to be sent to an APHIS approved laboratory.

Details on the ASI/APHIS genotyping program were in the July 2005 issue of *Sheep Industry News* (which all ISIA members should be receiving). Details can also be found on to the ASI Web site at: [www.sheepusa.org](http://www.sheepusa.org); click on the Ram Genotyping link.

## Festival Results



Nyle Sealine is conducting the Sheepdog Training Demonstrations. Winners in the Sheepdog Trials on Sunday were Curtis Dukes in the Open Class and Barb Buchmayer in the Ranch/Novice class.



Kathy Lansing is judging the Fleece Show. Dee Heinrich won Best of Show with her White Purebred Coarse fleece.



Travis Pullin with his Supreme Champion Hampshire Ewe. Wayne and Shelley O'Brien of West Union made the stain glass plaques for the two supreme awards.



Eric Bishop with his Supreme Champion Columbia Ram.

Complete results of the events can be found on ISIA's web site at [www.iowasheep.com](http://www.iowasheep.com).

## Barbecue Lamb Pita Pizza

Preparation time: 15 minutes  
 Cook time: 15 minutes

- 1 cup chopped bell pepper
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 pound ground American lamb
- 4 teaspoons garlic salt
- 2 cups bottled barbecue sauce
- 8 pita breads (5 -7 inch)
- 8 canned pineapple slices, cut in half
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

Spray a medium skillet with non-stick cooking spray. Add bell pepper and onion and cook over medium-high heat for 2 minutes. Add lamb, garlic salt and cook until brown, stirring to crumble. Drain well. Add 1 cup barbecue sauce to cooked lamb mixture. Spread 2 tablespoons remaining barbecue sauce on each pita bread. Top each pita bread with 2 pieces pineapple and 1/2 cup lamb mixture. Sprinkle each pita with 2 tablespoons cheese. Bake in 400°F over until topping is hot and cheese is melted. Cut each pizza into 4 wedges. Makes 8 entrées servings or 64 appetizer servings.



## ShortCLIPS by Dan Morrival

**Congratulations to ISIA on a very successful first Sheep and Wool Festival. Thanks to all the chair persons who organized various activities at the festival.**

### Breeding season preparations

Breeding season is rapidly approaching. Key management inputs need to be conducted to insure a successful, short and prolific breeding season. Ram care and management is more critical now because the process of semen production and maturation takes seven weeks. Sperm that begin to develop on July 1 will not be ready to fertilize the egg until August 19. This timeframe emphasizes the need for excellent care and management of the rams for two months prior to use.

Rams should be shorn to assist with maintaining a cool body temperature. Scrotal temperature is maintained five degrees cooler than body temperature so high heat index days can cause reduced semen quality to the point of temporary infertility. Hoof trimming to reduce the risks of toe injuries assists with keeping rams sound footed. Additional care is providing good nutrition to insure rams have some fat reserves they can use during breeding since some highly active rams do not eat. Semen testing is the last ram management. Breeding soundness exams should be done at least two to three weeks before breeding. This allows time for re-checks if there is a problem or to find a replacement. Semen needs to be evaluated for motility and morphology, with at least 70% normal sperm to pass. Using rams harder can reduce cost of production by \$2.00 to \$5.00 per ewe.

This cost savings is based on \$200 annual cost of owning a ram. Using a ram to ewe ratio of one ram per 50 ewes can save \$4.00 per ewe because fewer rams are needed than the traditional one ram to 25 ewe ratio. Highly fertile rams with high libido can handle close to 100 ewes in a 35 day breeding season. This level of ewe to ram ratio saves even more money on production costs. Breeding soundness exams cost \$20 to \$30 per ram and is much cheaper than feeding extra rams just in case one of them is not fully on his game.

Critical ewe management includes condition scoring ewes at six week pre-breeding. Thin ewes should be sorted off and flushed with better feed through grain supplementation or better forage quality and supply. At two weeks pre-breeding all ewes should be flushed with extra feed and be exposed to teaser rams if breeding in August to early September. Flushing can be discontinued three weeks after breeding starts. However, continued grain feeding can help stretch fall pasture supplies and is generally cheaper than haying at this time of year.

Ewe lambs respond to teaser ram introduction by accelerating puberty. Teased ewe lambs have improved conception rates and more lambs born per ewe lambing. Ideally, ewe lambs should be bred in a separate pen from mature ewes. This is primarily to allow better nutrition control to insure ewe lambs continue to grow and mature. Ewe lambs which lose weight during breeding have a difficult time continuing to cycle and conceive. Ewe lambs should be expected to reach sexual maturity their first fall and lamb by 12-14 months of age.

### National Sheep Improvement Updates

I recently spent four days in Virginia at research meetings and a hair sheep workshop. The NSIP technical committee meets annually at these research meetings since the majority of technical committee members are members of the sheep research committee. Dave Notter, Virginia Tech, oversees the genetic evaluation work for NSIP. Big news included a ewe productivity trait going online for Katadin sheep. Continued efforts for an accelerated lambing trait for the Polypay genetic evaluation is hoped to be added as soon as summer of 2006.

The greatest single highlight to NSIP success were graphs of genetic improvement for various traits for Polypay NSIP flocks. Dave reported annual percent improvement for weaning weight, maternal milk and 120 day weight were greater than the six major beef breeds doing genetic evaluation. Polypay breeders who have stuck with NSIP should be congratulated. The charts are available at the following web site <http://www.fmctc.com/gallery/wcfarm/sire-sum.html>.

Other NSIP news was that several additional breeds have begun processing sire summaries. These include Dorset, Columbia, Romney and Rambouillet along with Boer goats. Lastly, Hampshires hope to start processing in 2006. For more information on NSIP contact this website: <http://www.nsip.org/>.



## Commercial Breeding Stock for Sale

**Suffolk and Polypay cross ewe lambs.** Rams from NSIP flocks. Prolificacy and growth records used in selection for 14 years. 26 ewe lambs this year dropped 204% and raised 192%. Select on the records. Steve Bernhard, 2003 190th St, Algona, IA 50511, 515/679-4006, Email: [brnhrd@ncn.net](mailto:brnhrd@ncn.net).

**February born ram lambs and ewe lambs.** 1/2 Romanov X 1/2 primarily Dorset. Accelerated lambing, high prolificacy, records available for selection. Ram lambs have Breeding Soundness Exam. Tom Metzger, 1136 Chestnut Ave., Larchwood, IA 51241, (712) 477-2613, Email: [tom.metzger@novartis.com](mailto:tom.metzger@novartis.com).

*\*Note: This is a free listing for ISIA members. ISIA members are encouraged to submit breeding stock for sale along with name and contact information (address, phone, email) to the ISIA office at 5771 230th St., Sibley, IA 51249, (712) 736-2109 or [iasheep@iowatelecom.net](mailto:iasheep@iowatelecom.net).*





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**Let Polypays add maternal traits to your flock without sacrificing performance!**  
 We have over 15 years of combined NSIP records stressing milk, milk and growth, and number born.  
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**For Sale:** Wethers, Rams, Ewes and Aged Ewes  
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**FLOCK TALK** *Continued from page 4*  
Margaret Wolf, Ron Kilstrum, Paul Amundson, Dr Suelee Robbe-Austerman, ISU Senior Vet students, and The Little Sioux Spinners Guild.

We all would like to issue a special thank you to Iowa Lamb in Hawarden for their donation to the Festival; it was greatly appreciated.

We do have some Festival Booklets left that we handed out at the

gate. If you would like to have a copy, I will have them at the State Fair or contact me and I will mail one to you.

Speaking of volunteers and the State Fair...by the time you receive this newsletter I will have started my phone calling for help at the Foodstand at the State Fair which runs August 11-21. I am looking forward to seeing many of you again.

One last item is a reminder about

Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI). Any time sheep change ownership a CVI is required by Iowa law. When sheep are sold through an auction market a veterinarian inspects them and signs the bill of sale, which satisfies the requirement for a CVI. Animals being sold to slaughter do not need a CVI but please remember that any private sale of sheep in Iowa does require a CVI.

## Make It Yourself With Wool Contest

Now is the time to start making your garment for the next "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest. The competition is fun and the prizes are great! The Iowa contest will be held Saturday, October 29, 2005 at the Merle Hay Mall in Des Moines. Iowa will no longer have district competitions, only a state contest. Anyone can enter as stated in the national brochure. Entries must be post-marked by October 8, 2005 so request your registration form and start your sewing machines.

The contest is held to promote wool and generate new interest in sewing with wool among young people. The women's auxiliary of the National Wool Growers' Association originated the "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest in 1947. In 1960, the American Wool Council took over

active sponsorship of the contest in cooperation with the auxiliary. In 1961, the contest expanded from 20 states to a nationwide competition based on the area sheep councils of the American Sheep Producers Council. The contest was opened for males in 1972.

In 2001, a "Fashion/Apparel Design" category for college-enrolled fashion/apparel design students was added. This is a special segment of the contest supported financially by the American Wool Council. This category makes it possible for fashion/apparel design students from every state to compete. It also gives "Make It Yourself With Wool" and opportunity to influence the retail market.

The "Make It Yourself With Wool" competition is currently sponsored by

the American Sheep Industry Association with the American Sheep Industry Women. The program remains as one of the last means of promotion for the wool industry. Sponsorship has remained strong with support from the sheep and wool industry - producers, feeders, and woolen mills. Also supporting the competition are the sewing and fashion industries - sewing machine, thread and fabric companies, fashion magazines, as well as individuals and organizations interested in agriculture and youth.

For more information and registration forms Contact Sandi Bolton, Iowa State MIYWW director at [bolton@hickorytech.net](mailto:bolton@hickorytech.net) or (712) 568-1062. Information may also be found on ISIA's website at [www.iowasheep.com](http://www.iowasheep.com).

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- August 9** A Sheep Pasture Walk will be held at the Iowa State University Sheep Teaching Farm, Ames Iowa beginning at 6:00 p.m. See article elsewhere in newsletter. For more information contact Dan Morrical, 515-294-0847 or [morrical@iastate.edu](mailto:morrical@iastate.edu).
- August 11-21** Iowa State Fair. Iowa Sheep Industry Association Foodstand will be open all days of the fair. If you know which day you would like to help please contact the ISIA office at 712-736-2109 or Email: [iasheep@iowatelecom.net](mailto:iasheep@iowatelecom.net). Don't let your favorite day be taken!!!!
- August 22** Tear down Foodstand.
- August 23-24** ISIA Office will be closed for "After Fair" clean-up and wind-down.
- August 22-25** US MARC Surplus Breeding Sheep Sale by Internet Messenger Auction. The auction site will be accessible at the MARC home page: [www.marc.usda.gov](http://www.marc.usda.gov) Information about the sale and the sale sheep will be on the web site August 17, 2005. Bids will be accepted from August 22, 2005 until August 25, 2005. For more information contact: Mike Wallace [WallaceWallace@email.marc.usda.gov](mailto:WallaceWallace@email.marc.usda.gov) or phone: 402-762-4137.
- September 3-5** Twenty-sixth Annual World Sheep & Fiber Arts Festival, Bethel, Missouri. [www.worldsheepfest.com](http://www.worldsheepfest.com) or call: (573) 439-5035 or email: [waterboy@missvalley.com](mailto:waterboy@missvalley.com).
- September 7-11** Meeker Classic Sheepdog Championship Trials, Meeker, Colorado. <http://www.meekersheepdog.com/>
- September 10-18** Clay County Fair, Spencer, Iowa. [www.claycountyfair.com](http://www.claycountyfair.com)
- September 15** Deadline for submitting funding requests to the Iowa Sheep and Wool Promotion Board to be reviewed at their October 13, 2005 meeting. For more information contact: Jean Van Houweling, Executive Secretary, PO Box 35633, Des Moines, IA 50315. Email [j.vanhouweling@mchsi.com](mailto:j.vanhouweling@mchsi.com)
- September 14-21** The United States Border Collie Handlers Association National Finals, Sturgis, South Dakota. [www.sturgis-sd.org/main.asp?SectionID=39](http://www.sturgis-sd.org/main.asp?SectionID=39)
- October 15** Iowa Sheep and Wool Promotion Board meeting will be held at the Iowa Farm Bureau Conference Center in Des Moines.
- October 29** Make It Yourself With Wool State and District contest, Merle Hay Mall, Des Moines, Iowa. Deadline for Registration: Entries must be postmarked by October 8, 2005. For information and registrations forms contact: Sandi Bolton, Iowa State MIYWW director at: [bolton@hickorytech.net](mailto:bolton@hickorytech.net) or call (712) 568-1062. Information may also be found at [www.iowasheep.com](http://www.iowasheep.com).

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 [iasheep@iowatelecom.net](mailto:iasheep@iowatelecom.net) or phone 712-736-2109.

### IOWA STATE FAIR 2005 SHEEP EVENTS SCHEDULE

	Tues Aug 9	Wed Aug 10	Thurs Aug 11	Fri Aug 12	Sat Aug 13	Sun Aug 14	Mon Aug 15	Tue Aug 16	Wed Aug 17	Thur Aug 18	Fri Aug 19	Sat Aug 20	Sun Aug 21
<b>MAY ARRIVE</b>	8:00 am FFA Sheep, Rambouillet, Corriedale, Long Wool, Columbia	8:00 am FFA Sheep	8:00 am Cheviot, Montadale			6:00 am 4-H Sheep		8:00 pm Dorset & Southdown	8:00 am Hampshire, Shropshire, Suffolk, Wether Sire/Dam		8:00 am Oxford Down	8:00 am Jackpot Lamb	
<b>MUST BE IN</b>		10:00 am FFA Sheep 2:00 pm Rambouillet, Corriedale	8:00 am Columbia, Long Wool 11:00 am Big Ram	8:00 am Cheviot, Montadale		11:00 am 4-H Sheep			8:00 am Dorset, Southdown NOON Hampshire, Shropshire	9:00 am Wether Sire/Dam	8:00 am Suffolk	NOON Oxford Down	8:00am Jackpot Lamb
<b>MUST BE CHECKED IN</b>		4:00 pm Rambouillet, Corriedale	3:00 pm Columbia, Long Wool	NOON Montadale 2:00 pm Cheviot					10:00 am Dorset NOON Southdown 4:00 pm Hampshire, Shropshire		NOON Suffolk	2:00 pm Oxford Down	
<b>SHOW</b>			8:00 am FFA Market & Carcass 9:00 am Corriedale NOON Big Ram 1:00 pm Rambouillet	8:00 am Long Wool, FFA Breeding Sheep NOON Columbia 6:00 pm Montadale	8:00 am Cheviot 11:00 am Sheep Shearing Contest	3:30 pm 4-H Premier Sheep Exhibitor Contest	7:30 am 4-H Performance Lamb followed by Market Lamb	7:30 am 4-H Breeding & Showmanship	2:00 pm Dorset 6:00 pm Southdown	8:00 am Hampshire 1:00 pm Shropshire	8:00 am Sheep Dog Trials (W.A.) 1:30 pm Wether Sire/Dam (Sale 6:00pm)	7:30 am Suffolk (Sale following show)	8:00 am Oxford Down 1:00 pm Jackpot Lamb
<b>RELEASED</b>				4:00 pm Rambouillet, Corriedale, FFA Sheep	4:00 pm Long Wool, Cheviot, Montadale, Columbia			After Show 4-H Sheep		4:00 pm Dorset & Southdown	4:00 pm Hampshire & Shropshire After Sale Wether Sire/Dam	After Sale Suffolk	3:00 pm Jackpot & Oxford Down 6:00 pm Big Ram
<b>MUST BE OUT</b>				6:00 pm FFA Sheep	6:00 pm Rambouillet, Corriedale, Long Wool, Montadale, Cheviot, Columbia			3:00 pm 4-H Sheep					7:00 pm All Sheep

The full livestock schedule can be viewed at [www.iowastatefair.org/livestockbydate.html](http://www.iowastatefair.org/livestockbydate.html)

