



Texel Times

October 2020

Brady Campbell President Ohio	James Oller Vice President Tennessee	Niki Fisher Secretary Idaho	Austin Brown Treasurer Pennsylvania	Ron Wilcox Director Michigan	Dr. Walter Threlfall Director Ohio	Kenan Davila Director Puerto Rico
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Reagan Schnipke, age 9, with her 5-month-old purebred Texel ewe lamb.

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Note from the President:

Hello Texel Sheep Breeder Enthusiasts! I hope this letter finds you well and your flocks happy this breeding season. For us at home, our breeding season has about wrapped up according to the ram breeding marks. We have also been busy keeping a close eye on our fall lambing ewes and our AI bred ewes. In a few weeks' time we will see how one of our newest sires mixes with our flock as well as how many ewes stuck with this year's AI. Although we have not been able to connect with you all like we have had in the past, your TSBS board of directors have had a full plate in front of them as we continue to improve our association for you!

One of the biggest successes we had this year was being able to provide Texel sheep virtually as both the Eastern Regional and National Texel Sales were hosted online. Thankfully, sale prices did not seem to be affected by the virtual sale options. We are thankful for our volunteers and online sale companies that worked diligently with us to ensure that we had an outlet to provide quality breeding stock for sale this year! In addition to our sales being online, we also held our first Annual meeting online via Zoom. Although it would have been better to have met in person, our meeting went very well. I believe that we had more people attend in the online format than we have ever had in person before! It was great to see so many new faces to our breed! For those that missed our meeting some of the highlights included the announcement of our 2019 Futurity Program winners and participants as well as the election of officers. As always, minutes from previous monthly and annual meeting can be found on our webpage. Aside from these events, the board has also been working on improving the inner workings of our society as we review and revise our associations by-laws as well as giving our brand a new facelift! Our newest board member Kenan Davila has taken full charge in improving the presence of our brand on both social media and printed press and we thank him greatly for his work in these areas. We would also like to thank all of you that have shared your personal testimonies on your successful use of Texel sheep. Please keep these stories coming, we love to hear how the sheep we all love improve your bottom line!

As always, if there is anything that we can do to help better promote and support our breed, please share your comments with either myself or any of the board of director members. We have a strong passion for this special breed, and we enjoy seeing our membership and registration numbers grow. Also, if you have not followed our Facebook or Instagram pages yet, be sure to do so by searching for Texel Sheep Breeders Society – USA. Until we are all able to meet at our sheep events in person again, Happy Shepherding!

Brady Campbell
TSBS President

Our Coincidental Discovery



A simple comment is what sent me in search of my future ram. One . . . Simple . . . Comment.

Our oldest grandson was showing his market lamb at the county fair and the judge said “if you bulk that lamb up she would be perfect.” That comment stuck with me – hard. I knew our carcass quality was not what it had been. But what ram would take me to the level I wanted to be? While recovering from surgery, I utilized that time to do research. That is when I found it – found HIM - - The Texel Ram! I called for my husband to come see this magnificent creature I had stumbled across and just had to have him to use on our flock. He agreed that the structure was nice and if I could find one for sale I could buy him. I finally was able to locate one fairly close that I was able to purchase and when I laid my eyes on him it was true love - he was totally impressive!

That fall he went to work when we turned him in with our Suffolk and Hamps. His first breeding season was equally impressive, his offspring carried the heavy muscling characteristic. When that first batch of lambs went to market the buyers liked what they saw and the bidding skyrocketed – we were in awe!

I was glad I kept one back to enter in our open carcass class at the county fair. Again, I was not disappointed, it placed fifth in the live placing and second on the rail. The next year, we had our crossbred lambs participate in 5 different counties' carcass class shows – 4 grand champions and a 3rd. Ours even earned the title of ‘Prime’ quality across the board.

SO - Why should you choose a Texel ram for your flock?

Their remarkable muscle development and they produce the leanest of meat. Texel sired lambs have up a 10% advantage in the loin-eye area. When you look over one of these lambs you can actually see the loin-eye definition. They also show an advantage of one full leg score and less overall carcass fat.

We were also able to get away from the grain fed aspect of raising lambs to market and found they are a true forage breed. In fact, they would rather stay out on pasture than come in for grain like the Suffolk or Hamps. At dusk, they tend to saunter in to bed down for the night – their calm demeanor truly is a blessing when it comes time to handle them.

Their rate of gain is phenomenal – even without grain or pellets! Our average ROG is .0976 ppd and are quicker to market than our standard flock ever was. These thick bodied lambs are desired by our customers in both the meat and carcass show sales. Each year they will ask us to save them one or two for the year and the word continues to spread.

When we first started this venture, our true intent was to improve our market lambs for our grandkids to show but what we improved our entire crossbreeding division. Crossbreeding with a Texel Ram improves productivity, with a greater weight at birth and at slaughter and a greater average daily gain. The Texel/Suffolk lambs had a better conformation, less carcass fatness, and higher content of muscle. Regarding meat quality, crossbreeding with Texel provided a meat of Prime quality and very pleasing to the palate. And, the number one reason, using a Texel Ram in our Crossbreeding program is the best way of increasing the profitability of the farm.

Try a Texel today – you won't be sorry!!

A Note from The Associated Registry Staff

Here is a little something from Associated Registries letting us know what's been going on with memberships, transfers and new registrations.

These numbers are 2020 year to date:

Registrations 687

Transfers 285

Senior members 62

Senior new members 15

Junior members 39

These boys really love each other. Too bad we could not have had more shows to show off at! 'Nitro' and Ehren Boes of 419Texels, Arcadia, Ohio



Although we didn't bring home any banners we made a good showing. 'Pink' a yearling ewe loves to show and got 2nd in her AOB class. 'Hope' was not as cooperative and placed 3rd in the ewe lamb class. Shown by 419Texels/Ehren Boes, Arcadia, Ohio

Why Didn't My Vaccine Work this Year?

Brady Campbell, Program Coordinator, OSU Sheep Team

I'm sure that many of you are familiar with the old adage of "if it's not broke, don't fix it." In general, this piece of advice can be misleading as change is needed and certainly essential when trying to improve the efficiency of your operation. However, when it comes to vaccination programs on your farm, this piece of advice fits perfectly. Vaccines are administered as a means to control an underlying issue within your flock or herd. It is recommended to not vaccinate for a specific disease unless you currently or suspect that you will have issues. This is in part due to the nature of the vaccines. Vaccines contain the organism in which create disease. This organism is modified so that the host is able to mount an effective immune response without becoming ill from the disease. As a result, producers willingly give their flock or herd a specific disease; but if your operation does not have issues with it, it is not recommended that you give the vaccine if it is not needed. However, there is one exception is this rule. It is highly recommended that each operation vaccinate with CD&T. The CD&T vaccine is used to protect against *Clostridium perfringens* types C and D (overeating disease) as well as *clostridium tetani* (tetanus). For those interested in learning more about this vaccine, check out the Ag-note: Vaccinating with CDT on the OSU Sheep Team webpage at sheep.osu.edu.

Now you maybe thinking, why are we still talking about CD&T? This past spring I have received more questions than ever regarding sick and/or compromised lambs. By sick lambs, I'm not talking about those that have a cough or elevated temperature, I'm talking about those lambs that seem to be acting abnormally. According to the producers, all vaccination protocols that are commonly followed on-farm where adhered to. So, what went wrong this year?

Before we get into the details of vaccination protocols, we need to understand what was happening on-farm. Of the producers that I talked with, they described a set of lambs that demonstrated clinical signs of the inability to use a set of joints, rear legs, and overall stiffness of the body. For those that have experienced these issues, you know exactly what I'm talking about – tetanus. When talking with the producers, they explained that they had followed protocol and administered two rounds of CD&T per label requirements. These lambs were not demonstrating signs of lockjaw and were able to function regularly with the exception of stiff joints and legs. However, the stiffness of joints and legs is a classic sign of tetanus. So, why was the vaccine that was previously given ineffective?

To address this, we need to dig a bit deeper and determine when this vaccine was administered. According to the manufacturers label, the CD&T vaccine must be given at least twice to an individual, as the second round serves as a booster vaccine to build titre levels. Boosters can be given 4-8 weeks apart from the initial dose. However, the label does not state when the first vaccine should be given. In addition, it is recommended that this CD&T vaccine be given once annually. Therefore, getting two birds with one stone, producers can vaccination their ewes and does approximately 30 days prior to lambing and kidding. In doing so, this will allow for the

antibodies to be present in the colostrum, thus serving as the newborns first vaccine. However, what happens if you don't give this vaccine to the females?

It is recommended that this vaccine be given prior to processing of lambs and kids (i.e. castration, tail docking, dis-budding). As these are considered painful procedures, they should be performed as early as possible. Lamb and kid processing most commonly occurs within the first 96 hours of life as this is when all animals are removed from the jugs. Therefore, it makes sense that since you are already handling the lambs and kids that you should be giving them their vaccine, especially if you are creating an open wound. However, this attempt will directly result in a failed attempt to mount any type of immune response as young lambs and kids still have a naive immune system. According to Dr. Bret Taylor, a project conducted at the USDA Agricultural Research Station in Dubois, Idaho outlined that vaccines should not be administered to lambs until they are 14-17 days of age. Vaccines given prior to this age resulted in non-detectable levels of an immune response, thus indicating that the vaccine was ineffective. Therefore, if one of the vaccines that you give occurred in the first two weeks of life and the booster was given around 4 weeks later, you have only truly given one effective vaccination and thus your lambs or kids will require another booster to be fully covered. If you are interested in understanding more behind the science of this vaccination strategy, I highly encourage you to check out Dr. Taylor's presentation by either viewing the slides or watching the recording that can be located on the American Sheep Industries Let's Grow Programs webpage page.

For those that commonly give their vaccines at birth, you may want to reconsider implementing a different strategy as this vaccination protocol is not considered an effective treatment. This is not to say that the vaccine itself is not effective, because it is, but only when given at the appropriate day of age in which the body is able to develop an appropriate immune response. Although your management practices have worked previously, the weather patterns continue to change. I believe that as our lambing and kidding seasons continue to become warmer, we will continue to see more issues than ever before. Therefore, it is essential to understand what your flock or herd needs to be vaccinated for and when the vaccine should be administered to ensure the greatest level of protection.

Texel Sheep - The world's most expensive sheep!



By Kenan D Davila - Prime Texels Puerto Rico - The most expensive sheep in the world is a Texel ram worth \$490,000 USD. Almost half a million dollars for a Texel lamb that is only 6 months old!! He was recently sold (August 27, 2020) at an auction in Scotland at the **Scottish National Texel Sale** in the city of **Lanark**.

The Texel lamb, named **Sportsmans Double Diamond**, comes from a well respected flock in the UK, **Sportsmans & Mellor Vale Pedigree Livestock**, owned by the Boden family located in the town of Stockport about 7 miles from Manchester and was purchased by a consortium of 3 Texel breeders.

News quickly spread around the world with national news media in the United States and internationally quickly sharing the news. We sheep breeders were incredulous by the world record sale set by this Texel lamb. The Texel sheep breeders community worldwide is not small and in many daily conversations related to sheep farming, the sale of this Texel lamb has been one of the favorite topics for the past few days. Each sheep farmer has a different opinion about this event that made history in the sheep farming world.

To learn more about this Texel lamb called **Sportsmans Double Diamond**, we contacted our fellow Texel sheep breeder, Dr. Javier Plumet from "Cabaña EPU CLA" in Argentina. Javier shared the following information after a quick look at the history and pedigree of **Sportsmans Double Diamond**.

Sportsmans & Mellor Vale Pedigree Livestock has worked with about 130 sheep since 1975. The **Sportsmans Double Diamond** pedigree line has more than a dozen animals from Sportsman & Mellor Vale Pedigree flock, most from the maternal line. They have worked for many years to achieve this. It was no accident. We are talking about generations-15 to be exact! **Sportsmans Double Diamond** was born as a result of artificial insemination. His sire was 2019 champion **Garngour Craftsman (CJN 19-06202)** who sold for \$ 102,376; and, his dam was **Sportsmans (BGS 19-03669)** selling for \$ 54,759.

The first pedigree **Sportsmans** is from 1978, about 3 sires at the beginning and then 12 dams. They have strategically chosen males from other flocks. **Sportsmans Double Diamond**, comes from a very respectable lineage in the sheep world. Supporting the idea that to breed the best you have to buy the best! Well, the news behind the news is that due to the Boden family's hard work, **Sportsmans & Mellor Vale Pedigree Livestock**

sold 5 of the 13 highest priced Texels sold at this auction. 1) **Sportsmans Double Diamond** - \$350,009 3) **Sportsmans Dirty Harry** - \$50,000 9) **Sportsmans Deal Breaker** - \$28,000 11) **Sportsmans Dream Big** - \$24,000 13) **Sportsmans Desert Star** - \$17,000. This is undoubtedly one of the most historic flocks in Texel breeding in England. In this auction a total of 54 females were sold at an average price of \$1,553 and 284 males at an average price of \$5,597

Another piece of information, Mr. Boden, who sold **Sportsmans Double Diamond** for \$490,000, bought another Texel ram lamb for \$30,951 for genetic improvement at the same auction. Sell high and buy low applies! Undoubtedly the work of years with a clear objective on their maternal lines and supported by males from other flocks paid off!



This is not new for the Boden Family, they are known for selling the sires of the sires! **Sportsmans Scout** - \$11,904; **Sportsmans Supreme** - \$23,808 parent of **Cambwell Trademark**, **Sportsmans Batman** - \$119,043; and, **Sportsmans Star** - \$154,755. How is this related to the United States? Back in 2017, Texels Breeders in US imported Texel semen from the UK and one of the rams that was collected was Cambwell Trademark (Cambwell Texels - UK) whose sire is Sportsmans Supreme as we mentioned earlier in this note. Cambwell Trademark was a triplet. He is now a 4 shear ram and has 350 offspring in the UK. His index is 450 with a 99% accuracy. Semen has been sold to Sweden, Brazil and Belgium where he has made an impact. Offspring have been sold to Holland, Switzerland and Italy. His mother is a massive, full sister to the 40k Cambwell Robroy and 28k Cambwell Socrates and a half-sister to the outstanding breeder Cambwell Taurus.

In the **United States**, **Trademark's offspring** have become very popular. When we reviewed some of the selling records we noticed that the Reserve Grand Champion - Reserve Sr. Champ at Sedalia in 2019 was a Trademark Sire owned by **Portland Prairie Texels** and bought by **Harmony Hills Texels**. In the same sale, Portland Prairie Texels sold another Trademark's son to **Fisher Texels**. This ram was one of the top 2 highest prices in this sale. Finally it is worth to mention that another Trademark's son was the highest sell price during the 2020 Texel Sheep Breeders Society's online sale. Trademark's offspring have been sold to many flocks in the United States including Puerto Rico. It is fascinating to be able to tie this story with Texels breeders in the United States.

Here are some comments that we were able to capture from Mr. **Jeff Aiken**, owner of the **Procters Farm** and one of the three owners of the most expensive lamb in the world. The three-way association was between Alan Blackwood, Auldhouseburn, Maybole; Procters Farm, Procters, Lancashire; and Messrs Teward, New View, Darlington Cottages.

@**CNN** - "It's just like every other business -- horse racing or the cattle business," Jeff Aiken, one of the winning bidders, told The Guardian

@**The South African** - "He was just an outstanding animal, backed up by all the best genetics," buyer Jeff Aiken later said. "There were about seven or eight people who really, really wanted him and that's what led to the price."

@**The Guardian** - "Don't get me wrong, it is an obscene amount of money to pay for a sheep, and it definitely should not be a reflection on the farming community."

@**NY Daily News** - "In the pedigree breed you start looking at the smaller characteristics of the sheep —the hair, the color, the shape of the head," Aiken told the BBC. "We had to pay that amount of money to get the genetics."

@**News.com Australia** - "Every once in a while something special comes along and yesterday an extra special Texel turned up. Everyone wanted a piece of it." - Jeff Aiken

@**Fox News** - "We had to pay that amount of money to get the genetics," - Jeff Aiken

@**Periódico "El Español"- España** - "Para empezar, la Texels es la mejor raza en el Reino Unido y su pedigrí es cada vez más grande. Si quieres lo mejor, debes probar y comprar lo mejor. Es un animal excepcional y el mejor cordero Texels que he visto. Es el mejor cordero que he visto en mi vida, tan correcto en sus piernas, brillante, con una gran lomo. Con suerte, hará un buen trabajo en las tres granjas", ha asegurado Jeff Aiken, propietario de la finca Procters Farm

Definitely the news quickly spread around the world!

Texel sheep originate from the island of Texel, the biggest and most populated of the Frisian Islands. Texels are recognizable by their distinctive, short, white faces, with a black nose and widely spaced ears. Unlike many breeds, they have no wool on their heads or legs. Texel sheep are heavily muscled and they produce a lean meat carcass and will pass on this quality to crossbred progeny. They produce a good fleece with high loft and a staple of medium length which is highly crinkled. Fibers are classed as medium, 34 microns and less. It was introduced to the United States via import in 1985 by US MARC.

Texel Sheep Breeders Society-USA currently have members in 26 states across the USA. Please use the following link to access our web directory and contact them. <https://www.usatexels.org/breeders-society/directory/>

What data are you collecting? The benefits of Texel NSIP

Brady Campbell, Program Coordinator, OSU Sheep Team

Data collection. Seems pretty simple right? Most of you are probably reading this and thinking, “we already collect data on our flock, what else could he be talking about?” Like most purebred producers, you are probably recording the basic information such as sex, birth date, birth type, dam, sire, and individual identification on each newborn in your flock. Some of you may even be collecting birth and weaning weights to gather a better understand on the performance of your flock in the short term. However, I will venture to say that not many are collecting additional information that will benefit your flock in the long term such additional body weight measurements, fat depth measurements, or loin eye muscle depth measurements to mention a few.

Today, genetic selection, whether you are considering to buy a male or female to add to your flock, is no longer determined by physical appearance and the information found within the individuals pedigree. Genetic parameters estimated by collecting and recording information with the National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP) in the form of Estimated Breeding Values (EBV's) have changed the game. Estimated Breeding Values are used to quantify the genetic merit of breeding sheep, based on phenotypic traits, by evaluating an individuals genetics in conjunction with the environment in which it is raised.

Founded in 1986, NSIP is not a new program that shepherds are being exposed too, but it is a program that has shown a significant amount of growth and value being added to sheep over the past decade. NSIP focuses on combining genetic assessments and visual observations as a means to select for the most desired breeding stock for the producers specific needs. Understanding the genetic history of an individual animal provides valuable insight for future breeding plans and offspring.

In a way, the Texel Sheep Breeders Society has been providing some of this valuable information at the National Sale as all animals entered are measured for fat depth, loin eye area, height, width, and much more. This information is beneficial as buyers are able to compare individuals based on a selected criteria, however, this does not tell the whole story. As mentioned above, environment can play a huge role in the performance of an individual. For example, you may be selecting a ram based on loin eye muscle depth as you would like to increase the size and value of your lamb carcasses. The measurements that you see on the day of the sale only reflect the one individual that the measurements were taken on, not taking into account the environmental conditions it was subjected to and not compared to the other lambs or yearlings that it was housed with. Furthermore, your selected ram with a sizable loin eye may have been influenced by nutrition, as it may have been fed more than the others available at the sale. This is not to say that the ram you selected is not the ram for you, but it make you stop and think about if the measurements from one time period on one individual really reflects the genetic potential of that selected individual. Who knows, perhaps a ram that has a slightly smaller loin eye measurement may actually have a better genetic standing amongst the breed

and have a greater potential to positively influence your flock. This is the beauty of genetics!

So now that we have introduced you to the benefits of NSIP, you may be thinking, what EBV's should I be measuring or looking for when selecting animals to add to my flock. This is a difficult question to answer as everyone has a different goal in mind. Some may want to focus on fat depth, while others are more concerned about maternal characteristics to improve their ewe base. All are great parameters to focus on, but remember, do not focus on just one selection criteria. When we become extremely focused on one parameter that we desire, we lose focus on other important features. For example, if we are only focused on increased weaning weight, this may result in heavy birth weights. This isn't always bad, but this intense selection criteria may lead you to having more issues with dystocia amongst your ewe flock and in the long run require more labor to assist your ewes. Every decision that we make has tradeoffs and it is up to you to decide which is worth the investment for both the welfare of your animals and you.

Now that I have mentioned some traits above that you may be interested in, let us take a moment to outline those that apply to terminal breeds. Of course, those that are related to weight traits and are applicable to all sheep breeds are Birth Weight (BWT), Maternal Birth Weight (MBWT), Weaning Weight (WWT), Maternal Weaning Weight (MWWT), Postweaning Weight (PWWT). Birth Weight and Weaning Weight makes the most sense here as it estimates the weight of the offspring at birth and weaning. As we discussed earlier, if you were interested in decreasing issues associated with dystocia and changing your feeding program did not help, perhaps negatively selecting for birth weight (smaller birth weight) could aid in this management decision. Postweaning Weight is an additional weight that can be collected after weaning weight in which is used to describe the performance of lambs without the influence of their dam.

The other two remaining weight parameters are a bit different from what you may expect for a terminal breed of sheep, but nonetheless are important as we considered the longevity and performance of our ewes. Maternal Birth Weight estimates the effects of the ewe on the lamb(s) growth potential. Ewes with a positive Maternal Birth Weight estimate would be more favorable for producing lambs. In the same regard, Maternal Weaning Weight estimates overall mothering ability, such as ewe behavior and milk production. However, for the purposes of our breed, some of the most important weight parameters to focus on would be the Weaning and Postweaning Weights. These genetic parameters meet the goals of our breed as we are focused on producing fast growing and efficient lambs.

For the purpose of our superior terminal breed, in my opinion if no other data parameters are collected on your flock, I would suggest at least collecting the parameters that are related to body composition such as Postweaning Fat Depth (CF), Postweaning Loin Eye Muscle Depth (EMD), and Carcass Plus. Simply stated, Postweaning Fat Depth is an indicator of genetic differences in carcass fat depth whereas Loin Eye Muscle Depth is an indicator of genetic differences in muscling. Both of these parameters are crucial to our breed as we strive for heavy muscled, lean carcasses. These measurements are adjusted to a standard weight of 110 lbs. In addition, Carcass Plus, which is a combination of Postweaning Weight, Postweaning Fat Depth,

and Postweaning Loin Eye Muscle Depth, provides a nice estimate for terminal sires. This EBV is beneficial as it encompasses three different EBV's and allows for you to compare one EBV rather than three. IN the sense of comparing sires, this makes the process a bit easier.

Although you may not initially consider this with a terminal breed, collecting data on reproductive performance and tolerance to parasitic infection may also be beneficial to your operation. Number of Lambs Born (NLB) and Number of Lambs Weaned (NLW) are great estimates used to determine the overall reproductive performance of your ewes. Although not currently available for terminal breeds, Scrotal Circumference (SC) is an important measurement to take. Regardless if you are recording data for NSIP or not, I would highly recommend taking several Scrotal Circumference measurements on your males. These measurements can help identify rams that have the potential to be more reproductively sound and be used to identify ewe lambs that should be retained in the flock from specific males as it may also influence their reproductive performance.

Finally, parasite resistance estimated by Worm Egg Count (WEC) EBV is not only reserved for hair sheep anymore. Recent research has indicated that Texel sheep have the ability to resist parasitic infection in the same manner as do hair sheep. Including this EBV to your overall genetic assessment of your flock may serve as beneficial as many hair sheep producers are seeking to add value to their lamb carcasses. With the addition of the Worm Egg Count EBV, this would allow hair sheep producers to maintain their parasitic resistance while increasing the value of their grazing lambs.

I realize that all of this information can be a bit daunting at first, but trust me, its well worth the investment. Having a better understanding of the genetic potential of your flock and those that you intend on purchasing from will allow you to make the soundest buying and breeding decisions. Adding value to your flock by recording the genetic potential of your animals seems like a win-win situation to me. Yes, there are still and always will be sheep purchased based on their physical appearance, but when it comes to consistent performance and gaining the greatest return on investment, I'll leave that to science and the data collected through NSIP.

NOTE: Explanations for the description of EBV's comes from the NSIP EBV Notebook written by Dr. David Notter. This notebook can be found online at <http://nsip.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/NSIP-EBV-Descriptions-FINAL-1.16.15.pdf>.

Texel Sheep more than Meat Production

By Kenan D Davila Prime Texels Puerto Rico

Texel sheep are primarily known for meat production, but as a whole, the wool can be just as valuable. Texels can produce quality fleeces and their wool can't be beat for felting and needle felting. Texel's produce a long 1/4 - 3/8 staple fleece that is uniform, dense, and free of black hair combination. This is an added bonus to the great quality of the Texel meat.



We are Texel Sheep breeders located in Puerto Rico. One hundred percent of the Texel wool that our sheep produce in our flock is wasted. But this is not the case with other Texel breeders in the US, South America and UK who have found ways to market the wool that their Texels produce. With this in mind, I wanted to test the versatility of the Texel wool on my own and generate my own opinion.

A couple months ago I had the opportunity to visit a good friend who happens to be a Texel Breeder in Georgia, Patrea Pabst. She breeds Texels in north GA on her Beaver Creek Farm - Beaver Creek Texel. She had pure, 100% organic British Texel wool for sale. Washed, spun and some of it dyed the original old fashion way at an old New York Mill. I bought all the natural Texel wool yarn that she had available and some Texel wool yarn that was already dyed. At the moment of the transaction I didn't know much about Texel wool, didn't have a plan for it, just took advantage of its availability.

Among all the Texel wool yarn that I bought, I ended up with 50 hanks of natural wool Texel yarn. I knew, based on my preliminary research, that hand dyed yarns could be an interesting option to transform these natural yarns. I proceeded to contact several Professional Artists of Hand-Dyed Yarn, and was able to establish communication with Jessica Goodbred-Warren - Professional Artist - Hand-Dyed Yarn and owner of Into the Warren. Jessica had worked in the past with Blue Face Leicester and Merino wool, this is why we knew that she had the experience and skill to work with our pure organic British Texel wool.

We sent her all the natural Texel wool yarns that we had available. She immediately started working on them. She taught us a lot about the yarn that we had acquired. Each hank had around 222 yards; and, according to the Craft Yarn Council's Standard Yarn Weight System, this yarn is classified as DK or weight 3, meaning it is a "light yarn" and is suitable for projects that require a light knitting yarn. During the hand dye process Jessica noticed that the Texel wool doesn't have a strong odor like other wools and they absorb a ton of water. Texture of the yarn was described as so nice and this is because it was spun in an old mill. The yarn was 2 ply (plied) or folded, composed of two or more single yarns twisted together. This gave that cool and rustic texture, and this wool does not pill like other wool. And is durable according to Jessica.

She hand dyed 9,990 yards of natural wool Texel yarn. It was her first experience with Texel wool and the wool didn't disappoint her. Her hand dyeing skills took this Texel yarn to the next level. We learned there is definitely a market for Texel wool. Texel wool has been described by the professional artist as a sturdy, medium micron wool. The fiber is hard wearing and not considered next-to-skin soft for most. Texel wool fiber would be a great choice for knitted outerwear, rug weaving, or other use where a good rugged wool is required.

We held a live interview with Jessica Goodbred-Warren - Professional Artist - Hand-Dyed Yarn and owner of Into the Warren which can be watch at: <https://youtu.be/q3IqWMEtL2A> You can also follow Into the Warren on Facebook and Instagram - @intothewarren



The Texel sheep originate from the island of Texel, the biggest and most populated of the Frisian Islands. Texels are recognizable by their distinctive, short, white faces, with a black nose and widely spaced ears. Unlike many breeds, they have no wool on their heads or legs. They produce a good fleece with high loft and a staple of medium length which is highly crinkled. Fibers are classed as medium, 34 microns and less. It was introduced to the United States via import in 1985 by US MARC. Texel Sheep Breeders Society-USA currently have members in 26 states across the USA. From the west coast to the east coast. Please use the following link to access our web directory and contact them. <https://www.usatexels.org/breeders-society/directory/>

Where We Began

TEXEL SHEEP BREEDERS SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

June 25, 1998 at 4:00 p.m.

The first Annual Meeting was called to order by President, Paul Nelson, with 17 people in attendance.

The Financial Report was reported by Secretary, Bonnie Davis. We presently have a balance of \$279.95. Ron Luginbuhl made a motion to raise the transfer fee to \$5.00 under 60 days and \$10.00 over 60 days effective the first of August. Gary TeStroete seconded the motion. The motion carried. It was suggested that all members send their membership dues directly to Bonnie Davis in order to omit the processing fee of \$2.00 that Karey charges.

Karey Claghorn then gave her report. She said that getting a copy of the certificate for sire and dam is very helpful, but not necessary. She has started to get some cross-breeds as of June. It was suggested that she go to different colors of registration papers for different percentages and even possibly for ram papers and ewe papers. Everyone felt that she was doing a good job and thanked her for her work.

Bonnie Davis then gave the Secretary's Report. We presently have 30 members. It was also reported that we have many inquiries each week that need a response. There is definitely an interest out there in our breed. She also stated that if anyone wants to help on any articles or other newsletter work that it would be helpful. Bonnie was thanked also for the work she has been doing.

The By-Laws was the next item of business. The following were the motions made in regard to the By-Laws:

- Paul Nelson moved to delete the membership sentence, "Any application could be disqualified by the Board of Directors". Ardis Anderson seconded the motion. After discussion the motion carried.
- Paul Nelson moved to delete the whole member paragraph, "Members will be dropped for non-payment of dues/failure to return signed application. Membership applications available

upon request. Any application could be disqualified by the Board of Directors". Ardis Anderson seconded the motion. After discussion the motion carried.

- Paul Nelson moved to delete the phrase under Director meetings, "made directly to the Secretary". Ardis Anderson seconded the motion. After discussion the motion carried.
- Paul Nelson moved to delete the phrase under Membership meetings, "and all members" in the sentence "A special meeting of the members will be called by the Board of Directors or by not less than fifteen members presenting a signed petition to the Secretary and all members" and to add the phrase "of the meeting" after "Notice of date, time and location will be given twenty days in advance". Betty Rosenau seconded the motion. After discussion the motion carried.
- Paul Nelson moved to add to the Pedigrees paragraph, "or tattoo" to the sentence "Papers will list: owner tag number;". Velsie Vest seconded the motion. After discussion the motion carried.

The purebred issue was discussed regarding country to country. The association discussed that they would not dictate how you register your sheep. If you want to go by name of sheep that is fine, but would not be a mandatory requirement for the association to do.

Paul Nelson then made a motion to approve the By-Laws with the changes made and with Gary Onan putting them in final format. Gary TeStroete seconded the motion. The motion was discussed and the motion then carried.

Old Business:

The Director's terms was the first item of Old Business. Charles Wray requested that he be on the one-year term. Paul Nelson and Jim Davis then requested the two-year terms. Andy Wells and Ron Luginbuhl will then be on three-year terms. Any elections following will be for three-year terms. An application or nomination for director will be sent out in the fall with the election being held the first of the year.

Dues will expire on January 1 of each year. A renewal notice will be mailed out so that all members are aware of when dues are owed.

New Business:

Advertising Committee - This committee needs to work on listings in new magazines. The Small Farm Journal was an example. It was also noted that free advertising is to write an article and put in magazines. Magazines are always wanting a filler for some space.

Velsie Vest brought up that she is wanting the number of head of Texels that people are raising. She wants to begin a show in Texas and she needs this information.

We then asked for three volunteers to be on the Advertising Committee. They are as follows:

Paul Nelson

Gary TeStroete

Velsie Vest

The Advertising Committee could also use "cute" pictures that would catch the eye in the ads. When children are in the picture it seems to draw attention. Anyone coming up with these pictures can mail them to Gary TeStroete.

Sale Committee - The Sale Committee needs to decide where next year's sale will be. The directors have looked into several possibilities and the Sale Committee needs to sort some of these options out. Since this meeting was held prior to the sale, it could not be discussed how well this year's sale went. People did bring up their displeasure at having to spend so many days at the sale.

We then asked for three volunteers to be on the Sale Committee. They are as follows:

Jim Davis

Gordon Niswender

Paul Nelson

Sale location will be decided by the Sale Committee.

Budget was the next item of new business. There is none that is needed. We will continue to spend within our boundaries.

The dues will remain the same at \$25.00 for one year. They will expire on December 31, 1998. A notice will be mailed out at the end of November letting all members know when dues are owing.

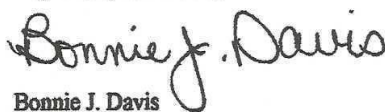
Junior Association - A Junior Association is a thought for the future. It was encouraged that we all help out the youth who want to get started and in the long run they will help out our association. It can be used as a great way to advertise our Texel breed. Kathy Bounds and Betty Rosenau will look into this.

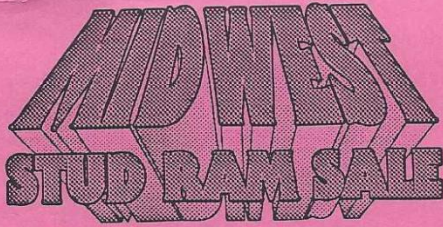
Ron Erdman will be attending the World Sheep Congress in California in July. He is going to set up a Texel booth that is going to cost him \$350.00 for rental. It was decided that we would take a donation to help cover his expense of the booth. What the donations do not come up with the association will cover to pay him \$350.00. The association thanked him for doing this.

It was brought up that our association could use an "education display board" that could be set up at sales and various other events. It seems that individuals would like to purchase some type of display items that could be set up at local events. This was tabled as an idea to think about and possibly the advertising committee could be looking into this.

With there being no other items of business, Jim Davis moved to adjourn the meeting. Jody Niswender seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Bonnie J. Davis



1998
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TEXELS

National Texel Sale

YEARLING RAMS

Lot	Consignor	BF	Ribeve	Price	Buyer
GRAND CHAMPION					
1341	Arlo Farms (Te Stroete)	.27	3.85	_____	_____
RESERVE CHAMPION					
1347	Aurora Texels	.23	4.50	_____	_____
1342	Arlo Farms (Te Stroete)	.25	4.25	_____	_____
1340	Arlo Farms (Te Stroete)	.20	4.00	_____	_____
1346	Aurora Texels	.20	3.10	_____	_____
1302	Jim & Harold Davis	.24	3.45	_____	_____
1303	Jim & Harold Davis	.16	4.15	_____	_____
1314	Niswender Texels	.32	4.15	_____	_____
1301	Cornerview Farm (Persinger)			_____	_____
1315	Niswender Texels	.23	3.85	_____	_____
1316	Niswender Texels	.22	4.20	_____	_____
1330	Lone Star Ranch (Vest)	.25	4.25	_____	_____
1331	Lone Star Ranch (Vest)			_____	_____
1326	Eastern Texels (Luginbuhl)	.12	3.10	_____	_____

FALL RAM LAMBS

Lot	Consignor	BF	Ribeve	Price	Buyer
1306	Jim & Harold Davis	.14	2.85	_____	_____
1307	Jim & Harold Davis	.14	3.75	_____	_____

SPRING RAM LAMBS

Lot	Consignor	BF	Ribeve	Price	Buyer
1310	Jim & Harold Davis	.18	3.65	_____	_____
1309	Jim & Harold Davis	.24	2.85	_____	_____
1308	Jim & Harold Davis	.14	2.65	_____	_____
1351	Aurora Texels			_____	_____
1336	Lone Star Ranch (Vest)	.17	3.05	_____	_____
1339	Uphoff's Double U Farms			_____	_____
1335	Lone Star Ranch (Vest)			_____	_____
1322	Pelican Valley Farm	.20	2.75	_____	_____
1323	Pelican Valley Farm	.13	2.35	_____	_____

YEARLING EWES

Lot	Consignor	BF	Ribeve	Price	Buyer
GRAND CHAMPION					
1343	Arlo Farms (Te Stroete)			_____	_____
RESERVE CHAMPION					
1344	Arlo Farms (Te Stroete)			_____	_____
1305	Jim & Harold Davis			_____	_____
1345	Arlo Farms (Te Stroete)			_____	_____
1304	Jim & Harold Davis			_____	_____
1318	Niswender Texels	.38	3.30	_____	_____
1319	Niswender Texels	.40	3.65	_____	_____
1349	Aurora Texels			_____	_____
1334	Lone Star Ranch (Vest)			_____	_____
1320	Niswender Texels			_____	_____
1317	Niswender Texels			_____	_____
1327	Eastern Texels (Luginbuhl)	.30	3.50	_____	_____
1332	Lone Star Ranch (Vest)			_____	_____
1333	Lone Star Ranch (Vest)	.33	3.21	_____	_____
1328	Eastern Texels (Luginbuhl)	.28	3.75	_____	_____
1348	Aurora Texels			_____	_____
1329	Eastern Texels (Luginbuhl)	.16	2.60	_____	_____

SPRING EWE LAMBS

Lot	Consignor	BF	Ribeve	Price	Buyer
1311	Jim & Harold Davis			_____	_____
1312	Jim & Harold Davis			_____	_____
1337	Lone Star Ranch (Vest)			_____	_____
1338	Lone Star Ranch (Vest)			_____	_____
1313	Jim & Harold Davis			_____	_____
1321	Moe - Eken Texels (Wells)			_____	_____