

Winter 2022 – Volume 34, Issue 1

# *Hoof*Print

The Small Ruminant Magazine



**SAVANNA  
GOATS**

**MEMBERSHIP  
RENEWAL TIME**

**KENTUCKY NATURAL  
FIBER CENTER OPENS  
AT MUSTARD SEED HILL**





*Where There's a Will,  
There's a Wave.*



American Sheep Industry Association  
**ANNUAL CONVENTION**

[www.SheepUSA.org](http://www.SheepUSA.org)

**JANUARY 19-22, 2022**

**- San Diego, California -**

# Hoof Print Magazine

Published Quarterly

\$24 per year

Free with paid membership to one or more  
of our partner organizations.

**HoofPrint:** The Small Ruminant Magazine is a periodical to promote better animal health, husbandry, and knowledge among sheep and goat producers. **HoofPrint** is the joint effort of members of the sheep and goat industries and serves as a united voice for all small ruminant producers.

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Executive, Editorial & Advertising Sales  
directed by Kentucky Sheep & Goat  
Development Office: P.O. Box 4709  
Frankfort, KY 40604-4709

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# Save the Date

## April 30, 2022

### KGPA Field Day

#### Logan County Extension Arena



## JOIN or RENEW TODAY!

### KGPA Membership Application

#### Your \$30 membership includes:

- 4 issues of the *HoofPrint* Magazine plus the newly designed 2022 Sheep and Goat Management Calendar
- A unified voice for the goat industry on the state and national level
- Representation on important committees such as the Check-Off and the Animal Care Standards boards
- Support of various educational and youth activities
- Youth Membership forms can be found at [kysheepandgoat.org/KGPA.html](http://kysheepandgoat.org/KGPA.html)
- **And much, much more!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Lamb ☐ Fiber ☐ Dairy ☐  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Commercial ☐ Purebred ☐

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check for \$30 made out to KGPA and mail to:

Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office  
P.O. Box 4709, Frankfort, KY 40604-4709.

**Mail form or Visit [www.kysheepandgoat.org](http://www.kysheepandgoat.org) to join today!**



# Congratulations

to the newly elected  
officers and board members!

## 2022 Board of Directors

**Angie Downs, President**

kygirlfarm@gmail.com, Marion County

**Vicki Watson, Vice-President**

dvwatson@logantele.com, Logan County

**Beth Johnson, Secretary**

Bethc.johnson@ky.gov, Boyle County

**Kay DeMoss, Treasurer**

kaydemoss1@windstream.net, Jessamine Co.

## KGPA Directors 2022

**Christina Morris,**

Blessedacreskikofarm@gmail.com,

Christian County

**Jeff Royalty,**

dirtfopfarmboy@gmail.com, Oldham Co.

**Anita Vaske,**

4lclloverb@gmail.com, Grant County

**David Watson,**

dvwatson@logantele.com, Logan County

**Rochelle Boland-Heilers,**

rochbol@yahoo.com, Adair County

**Newly elected officers  
can be found at  
[www.kysheepandgoat.org/kgpa-annual-meeting](http://www.kysheepandgoat.org/kgpa-annual-meeting)**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JANUARY

- 7 Orthodox Christmas
- 10 graded sale Richmond
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- 16-17 UK Shearing School
- 16-17 Purim
- 17 KSU Third Thursday Field Day,  
no registration required
- 19 graded sale Springfield
- 24 graded sale Bowling Green
- 28 graded sale Richmond
- 29 graded sale Paris

# Greetings from middle Tennessee!

Welcome to 2022! Time for a lot of you to start lambing and starting over on a new set of genetics. What a great time to be in the sheep industry with the amazing prices we have been seeing over the last 6 months or so for market lambs. Most people I have checked with feel this will hold on through a good part of 2022 as well. Not sure how the new legislation allowing UK imports will affect us so time will tell on how that all plays out.

Update on our 2021 Annual Meeting in Lebanon, TN we have changed the date to January 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. I encourage you to set the dates on your calendar and plan to join us. Lebanon is just east of Nashville (about 30 minutes) and a great place to visit. Visit our website for meeting info and speakers.

Now is the time to renew your membership in your local state association for support of all the work that goes into promoting and educating people on the industry. The Tennessee Sheep Producers Association and KY Sheep & Wool also, we depend on membership and active members for growth in the association and within the industry we are involved in. To do that we need everyone's help as members to ask all your friends and people in the industry you come across to join and get involved. It is a thankless volunteer effort to continue to grow and push the industry and we can't do it alone. If you are interested in serving on some committees for Tennessee Sheep Producers.

The Tennessee Ag Enhancement Program (TAEP) opened October 1-7, 2021. This program is such a valuable resource for producers in our state. Now is a great time to look over what is available, do some

## TN Ag Enhancement Program

### 2021-2022 Important Dates and Deadlines

Event	Deadline
2021 Application Period	October 1-7, 2021
Approval Notifications- <i>to be mailed</i>	Mid-December 2021
Reimbursement Packets - <i>to be mailed</i>	January 2022
Decline Funding Deadline - <i>Hay Equipment &amp; Livestock Equipment</i>	March 1, 2022
Reimbursement Request Deadline - <i>Hay Equipment &amp; Livestock Equipment</i>	April 1, 2022
Decline Funding Deadline - <i>Genetics</i>	May 1, 2022
Reimbursement Request Deadline - <i>Genetics</i>	June 1, 2022
Decline Funding Deadline - <i>Dairy Solutions, Herd Health, Livestock Solutions, Permanent Working Structures, Row Crop Solutions, Poultry Grower, Producer Diversification</i>	July 1, 2022
Reimbursement Request Deadline - <i>Dairy Solutions, Herd Health, Livestock Solutions, Permanent Working Structures, Row Crop Solutions, Poultry Grower, Producer Diversification</i>	August 1, 2022

planning, and see what you need to help your operation. Also, great time to make sure your TAEP certification is still active. If you have never applied, contact your local TN Extension office and you will see the benefits of this program. The deadlines for making decisions within the program are listed below.

We will be doing some updates to our website and Facebook page for information that comes up or changes so visit often.

Good luck and hope everyone can stay safe, stay warm and dry during this exciting and stressful time.

Robert Walker,  
President  
Tennessee Sheep Producers

## Membership Application



**ANNUAL DUES: Adult: \$30.00 Junior \$10.00**

If you are interested in a committee please select below:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wool                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. Expo             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sale               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Production Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership/Revenue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity            | <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Meeting     |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Breed(s) of Sheep: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check for amount made out to TSPA and mail to:  
**Tennessee Sheep Producer's Association**  
 4233 Poplar Hill Road, Watertown, TN 37184

**JOIN ONLINE TODAY!**

Pay dues and join online at  
[www.tennesseesheep.org/joinonline.htm](http://www.tennesseesheep.org/joinonline.htm)

**Tentative Meeting Schedule**  
**Tennessee Sheep Producers**  
**Wilson County Fair Grounds, Q Barn**  
**Lebanon, TN**  
**January 7-8, 2022**

**Friday, January 7**

- 6:00 pm: Welcome – Robert Walker, TSPA President  
Meet & greet, hors d'oeuvres
- 7:00 pm: Marketing: Market Strategies for Sheep and Sheep Products
- 7:45 pm: Update – UT Master Small Ruminant Program
- 8:00 pm: Marketing: Using Social Media for Marketing Sheep and Sheep Products
- 8:45 pm: Update: Wool Pool

**Saturday, January 8**

- 8:00 am: Welcome – Robert Walker, TSPA President
- 8:05 am: What Works on Your Farm – Novel Hacks to Make Life Easier
- 8:30 am: Update- TAEP updates
- 8:45 am: Determining Sheep Age Using Dentition (Mouthing Sheep)
- 9:00 am: Break (Trade Show)
- 9:30 am: Update – Scrapie and Other Diseases
- 9:45 am: Annual Meeting of TSPA  
ASI representative report  
Make It With Wool Contest report  
Election  
Recognition of Sponsors/Trade Show
- 10:30 am: Break
- 10:45 am: Using NSIP for Flock Improvement
- 11:30 am: Performance of Hair and Wool Crossbreds
- 12:15 noon: Lunch and Awards Program



**2021-2022 TSPA Board of Directors**

**President/ ASI Rep.** – Robert Walker, Alpine, TN  
[robert.walker@westforkfarms.com](mailto:robert.walker@westforkfarms.com)

**Vice President** – Deborah Joines, Lebanon, TN  
[debbie@indigovalleyfarm.com](mailto:debbie@indigovalleyfarm.com)

**Secretary/ Treasurer** – Mark R. Powell, Watertown, TN  
[shepherdboy1@yahoo.com](mailto:shepherdboy1@yahoo.com)

**2021-2022 TSPA Board Members**

- Kevin Durett, Cottontown, TN – [kevin.durrett@ymail.com](mailto:kevin.durrett@ymail.com)
- Dennis Fennwald, PhD, TN Tech – [dfennwald@tntech.edu](mailto:dfennwald@tntech.edu)
- Thomas Greenlee, Rutledge, TN – [jgreenl4@utk.edu](mailto:jgreenl4@utk.edu)
- Dwight Loveday, Louisville, TN – [hloveday@tennessee.edu](mailto:hloveday@tennessee.edu)
- Mark Shedden, Knoxville, TN – [rmnps@bellsouth.net](mailto:rmnps@bellsouth.net)
- Scott Keeler, Columbia, TN – [scissortailfarmtn@gmail.com](mailto:scissortailfarmtn@gmail.com)
- Dee Wolters, Culleoka, TN – [twolters@bellsouth.net](mailto:twolters@bellsouth.net)
- Jessica Harris Shanks, Knoxville, TN – [jharri50@utk.edu](mailto:jharri50@utk.edu)

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I have received several calls from people looking for ewes. Some wanting to expand their flock and others wishing to start in the sheep business. It seems ewes are hard to find this year. I believe this is due to a couple of factors. First, there are more people realizing sheep can be a profitable enterprise, both on a smaller scale and as an addition to their cow operation, but also because market prices have been so good it is easier to sell lambs at market than deal with several individuals looking for 10 head. The scarcity of quality ewes and high market prices is good for those with sheep for sale but it does make it harder for the sheep industry in Kentucky to grow.

Many parts of Kentucky are not very conducive to row crop farming which is why we have been one of the largest cattle producing states east of the Mississippi. There is no reason we can't also be a major sheep producer. From the mountains of Pikeville to the river bottoms of Paducah, there is a place for sheep.

I believe sheep have a bright future in KY and nationally. However, we all need to do our part. There are local, state, national, and even international issues that can affect sheep producers. Some may not be aware of the opening of our market to sheep products from the UK. Over 50% of lamb is already imported and this could put more pressure on US producers. It is vital in this day and age that we have a united voice to address issues such as this. Most of us simply want to raise our sheep and that is precisely why we need organizations like KSWPA to speak for us and keep us informed. I know I am sort of preaching to the choir but we all need to become ambassadors for our industry. So, let's work together to support each other. Talk to others about sheep and the need for a strong KSWPA. A rising tide floats all ships.

Richard Popham  
KSWPA President



### KSWPA Officers 2021-2022

**President** – Richard Popham, Meade County – richard@circlepkatahdin.com  
**Vice President** – Harry Frederick, Monroe County – windingcreekfarmsKY@gmail.com  
**Secretary** – Sue Churchill, Woodford County – thistlesend@gmail.com  
**Treasurer** – Dorothy Vale, Jessamine County – valerdv@aol.com  
**ASI Director** – Jim Mansfield, Woodford County – jim@fourhillsfarm.com

### KSWPA Directors

- Matt Hamilton, University of Kentucky
- Warren Adcock, Henry Co. – wadcock6307@hotmail.com
- Kathy Meyer, Bourbon County – 1tkmeyer@bellsouth.net
- Carey Holton, Butler County – careyholton@gmail.com
- Patrick Angel, Laurel County – pangel9491@gmail.com
- Zack Schwartz, Bourbon County – z.m.schwartz@hotmail.com



### KSWPA Membership Benefits

- Quarterly issues of HoofPrint Magazine plus the newly designed 2022 Sheep and Goat Management Calendar
- A unified voice for the sheep industry and representation on important state and national committees
- Assistance with new marketing opportunities such as The Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival and HoofTrader.com
- Receive a membership to the American Sheep Industry, our national lobbying, marketing and promotional support system.
- Support of various educational and youth activities

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check for \$30.00 made out to KSWPA and mail to:  
 Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office  
 P.O. Box 4709, Frankfort, KY 40604-4709.

Breed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dairy ☐ Club Lamb ☐ Fiber ☐  
 Commercial ☐ Purebred ☐

**JOIN or  
RENEW TODAY!**  
 Visit [www.kysheepandgoat.org](http://www.kysheepandgoat.org)



*Congratulations*



With a new year comes new opportunities. Welcome to our newly elected association officers and board of directors. You can learn more about them online at [www.kysheepandgoat.org/kswpa-annual-meeting](http://www.kysheepandgoat.org/kswpa-annual-meeting)

The following people were elected for the 2022 Officer Slate for the KSWPA.

President: Richard Popham

Vice President: Harry Frederick

Secretary: Sue Churchill

Treasurer: Dorothy Vale

The following 3 people were elected to the board:

Carey Holton

Jim Mansfield

Zack Schwartz

*in remembrance*



Lauren and her favorite ewe, Lucy.

Lauren White was to be one of the new elected board members of the Kentucky Sheep and Wool Association. Tragically, she was killed in a car accident in her hometown of Winchester in November. She leaves behind a beautiful family including her husband and three young sons. She also leaves behind her beloved flock of sheep and a deep love of farming and tending to her land. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

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**"A pair of young Savanna kids showing the characteristic stocky build for which the breed is known."**

# Savanna Goats in the United States

*by Paulette Wohnoutka is the Executive  
Director of Pedigree International*

## Origin

The Savanna goat's origin began in the Savanna Veld of South Africa in 1957. Lubbe Cilliers (DSU farm) took his first stud buck and selected for all-white goats from the indigenous bush goats. He wanted hardiness, survivability, and adaptability as his primary traits. By 1993, the Savanna had distinguished itself as its own breed and the Savanna Goat Breeders Society (Association) was formed and developed breed standards in South Africa.

## Importation to the United States

In 1994 Jürgen Schulz (JCS farm) imported the first and only live Savannas into the United States. The

Savannas came in with the famous CODI/PCI Boer goat flight. Mr. Schulz kept and bred Savannas for several years, thus becoming the first Savanna breeder in the United States. In 1998, these 32 Savannas were sold to the public at his Kifaru dispersion sale. Each goat sold was given a certificate and pedigree of its breeding. These first buyers became the breeders of a new industry. In 2000 these breeders commissioned Pedigree International to track and maintain a herd book of these rare goats. In 2000, and 2001, Keri-Rose consulting (KRI) and Ms. Denise Peterson (Amore Arts Farm) imported frozen embryos from South Africa to help grow and diversify the Savanna genetics in North America with 8 more goats. In 2006, Mr. Kenneth Mincey commissioned frozen embryos to move from South Africa to Australia for implantation into recipient goats. The 21 Savanna goats would eventually be imported to his Georgia farm (MGF) in 2010. The





**"Y8 is an early genetics buck that was brought back through collected semen. Trevor & Jamie Ballif did the first embryo transfer program with the Y8 semen."**

Mincey's would perform embryo transplant programs to grow their numbers. These are the only sources of Savannas in North America. Any new genetic material is currently banned under international law.

**"A doe and her twin kids. Savannas are known for their excellent mothering instincts, often gently pawing newborn kids to make them get up and nurse."**



## Savanna features

- Exceptional mothering skills
- Parasite tolerance
- Aggressive foragers
- Very aggressive breeders
- Vigorous, fast-growing kids
- Less producer input
- Strong legs and hoofs
- Higher weaning weights
- Excellent for crossbreeding adding muscle
- Improved muscle carcass yields



**HLF Blitz, fullblood Savanna herdsire at Heiland Farms in Columbia, Kentucky.**

Visit Pedigree International website at:  
**[www.PedigreeInternational.com](http://www.PedigreeInternational.com)**  
 for more information and list of active breeders near you.



**Pedigree International**

Thank you to Paulette and Pedigree International for allowing us to reprint this article.



**RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP**



## It's Time to Renew!

Can you believe 2022 is here? Felt like it was never going to get here!

This means it's time to renew your association memberships! Your associations work hard to provide support to producers, promote the industry, and advocate for small ruminant producers. And we want to keep helping you begin and grow your operations.

Your association membership is a way to be connected with other producers who are growing, learning and working in your industry. Together we make our industry better! Plus, you get some great perks too:

- Receive the KY Sheep and Goat Management Calendar
- Free Standard Listing in Breeders Directory
- Membership to the American Sheep Industry Association and the ASI Newsletter (KSWPA & Dual)
- Become part of a unified voice for all goat and sheep producers
- Network with producers to gain access for information, breeding stock, etc.
- Be In-the-know for changes in the industry
- Be represented in the Kentucky Farm Bureau Small Ruminant Commodity Group, Agriculture Council, Livestock Improvement Association, and much more.

## What happens if you don't renew? You will lose...

- Email notifications of education and funding opportunities
- HoofPrint Magazines
- 2022 KY Sheep and Goat Management Calendar
- ASI Membership
- Breeder Directory listing
- Discount pricing on current and NEW educational courses offered by KSGDO, KGPA and KSWPA



**Dual KGPA &  
KSWPA Member  
\$50**



**KGPA Membership  
\$30**



**KSWPA Membership  
\$30**

# Want to Direct Market Your Farm Products?



Get Started Today at  
[www.kysheepandgoat.org/direct-marketing](http://www.kysheepandgoat.org/direct-marketing)



**Fiber and Meat Processing**



**Product Marketing**



**Economics**

# Kentucky AgVets

## Intern Host Responsibilities

### Goal of the Internship Program:

- To create a hands-on opportunity for active-duty military services members to learn more about production agriculture.

### Roles and Responsibilities Include:

- Host participant on farm or agribusiness at least four (4) days per week for at least eight (8) weeks;
- Serve as a resource for production and business questions;
- Provide opportunities for intern to participate in the day-to-day aspects of the operation; and
- Work with intern to understand key considerations and challenges that are associated with your business.

### Time and Financial Commitment:

Interns will not be paid by host and will hold their own insurance through the Army. Participants must receive a minimum of 80 hours of hands-on training over the eight (8) weeks. Work schedule will be season appropriate and will be reviewed by program manager prior to internship starts. Interns are required to provide their own transportation to the farm or agribusiness.

### Resources and Training

All hosts will be provided access to online and print resources to share with participants as needed. The Kentucky AgVets Program Manager will meet with each host prior to the beginning of the internship. Participants will submit weekly reports to receive credit for AGR 180 through Hopkinsville Community College system.

### Key Topics to Cover During Mentorship:

- Production cycle of current enterprise;
- Key production, technical or funding barriers mentor encountered and how they overcame them; and
- Other organizations or programs the mentor found helpful as they developed their business.



**The Connecting Kentucky Veterans to Agriculture Opportunities** (Kentucky AgVets) program is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). The Kentucky AgVets Program was one of 17 projects that are designed to help equip military veterans with skills, training, and experience for careers in food and agriculture. For more information, please visit [www.kcard.info/kentucky-agvets](http://www.kcard.info/kentucky-agvets).





# Become a Mentor

**R**emember your first couple of years in your sheep or goat operation? Ever have some nerve wracking experiences and times when you just really needed to talk to someone? Or, maybe you did have a mentor available that helped make the nerve wracking moments much easier to handle with just a simple phone call or email?



KSWPA and KGPA need your help! With the increasing population of goats and sheep in our state, there are lots of people who could benefit from your knowledge. Consider becoming a mentor so that we can continue to strengthen and grow our industries.

## **MENTOR JOB DESCRIPTION**

**A KSWPA and KGPA Mentor is a person who:**

- ◆ has a passion for the sheep and goat industries in the nation, and more specifically in Kentucky
- ◆ be a person that is willing to help other producers become successful in their operations
- ◆ will give time and talent to new producers to help the new producer implement management practices into his/her operation that will ultimately benefit the new producer

## **Qualifications:**

- ◆ Mentors must be a KSWPA or KGPA member
- ◆ Mentors must have been in the sheep or goat industries for a minimum of 5 years
- ◆ Mentors can have backgrounds in meat, dairy and fiber operations
- ◆ Mentors must be willing to provide contact information to new members seeking a mentor

**To become a Mentor, complete the application below and mail to KSGDO, PO Box 4709 Frankfort, KY 40604, or go to [www.kysheepandgoat.org/become-a-mentor](http://www.kysheepandgoat.org/become-a-mentor)**

## **Mentorship Application**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Operation (commercial, purebred, dairy, fiber, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Breeds: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Comments (anything else you want people to know): \_\_\_\_\_



# Kentucky Natural Fiber Center Opens at Mustard Seed Hill in Millersburg

## Non-profit Supports and Educates Kentucky Fiber Artists; Farmers

December 13, 2021, Millersburg, Kentucky

**T**he Kentucky Natural Fiber Center, a project of the Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office with funding by the Kentucky Office of Ag Policy, has opened in Millersburg on the campus of Mustard Seed Hill.

Launched officially on November 27 in conjunction with the opening of the 2021 Christmas at Mustard Seed Hill event, the KNFC is aimed at nurturing and promoting Kentucky fiber artisans and their works,

providing educational opportunities for those interested in learning fiber arts and connecting the artists with local farmers who produce the fiber they need in order to create.

"We would like to thank everyone who stopped by our open house this past month of December," said KNFC Director Sarabeth Parido. "Everyone enjoyed the demos done in conjunction with Kentucky Wool Works and others that allowed folks to see fiber artisans at work creating. Vendors—our affiliate Kentucky Fiber Trail artists and farmers—were also set up with their wares so those attending could finish up a little Christmas shopping while they visited. And children who attended had the opportunity to make a fun fiber themed Christmas ornament."



Beginning just after the first of the year the KNFC will host classes, trainings, conferences and vending events for both established and aspiring creators and crafters.

The first in a series of wool and shepherding courses called "Living Your Lamb-tastic Life" will kick off January 21st and 28th. These beginner's short courses—taken together or ala carte—will introduce attendees to the benefits of adding sheep for meat and fiber production.

A fiber retreat—Yarnia Unleashed—will also be held the first weekend of February with lodging available on the second floor of the newly restored McIntyre Hall at Mustard Seed Hill. This retreat will be a relaxing getaway for fiber enthusiasts and crafters to gather together and work on their projects, teach each other new techniques and just enjoy a respite from the winter doldrums. The exquisitely renovated B&B lodging provides ample but cozy communal space to interact in a building shared with the KNFC classrooms and studios where fiber activities will also be happening.

More information and registrations are available on the Kentucky Natural Fiber Center website at [www.kentuckynaturalfiber.com](http://www.kentuckynaturalfiber.com) under the workshops tab.

For more information, contact:

Sarabeth Parido at (859) 771-7442 or [sarabeth@kentuckysheepandfiber.com](mailto:sarabeth@kentuckysheepandfiber.com)



The poster for "Yarnia Unleashed" features a collage of fiber-related images: a green knitted piece, a woven basket, a piece of woven fabric, a spool of white yarn, a spool of orange yarn, and a small woven basket. The title "Yarnia Unleashed" is in a large, stylized, green font. Below the images, the text "A RELAXING FIBER RETREAT" is in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. Below that, "AT THE KENTUCKY NATURAL FIBER CENTER" is in a black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, "February 4-6, 2022" is in a large, black, cursive font.



The advertisement for Kevin Stewart Katahdins features a large, detailed illustration of a Katahdin sheep on the left. The text "Kevin Stewart KATAHDINS" is written in a stylized font, with "Science Hill, Ky" in a smaller font below it. On the right, the text "WE WILL BEGIN LAMBING MID DECEMBER WITH LAMBS FROM THE TWO FLOCK SIRES BELOW." is in a bold, sans-serif font. Below this text are two small photographs of sheep. The first photo is labeled "FFG 750" and the second photo is labeled "PDL 1905". At the bottom, the contact information "(606) 271-1812" and "KEVINSTEWART@REAGAN.COM" is on the left, and "3707 STILESVILLE RD" and "SCIENCE HILL, KY 42553" is on the right.



# KENTUCKY SHEEP & FIBER FESTIVAL



**MAY 21-22, 2022**

**SATURDAY, 9AM-5PM & SUNDAY, 10AM-4PM**  
**MASTERSON STATION PARK - LEXINGTON, KY**



**LEXINGTON**  
Parks & Recreation

[WWW.KENTUCKYSHEEPANDFIBER.COM](http://WWW.KENTUCKYSHEEPANDFIBER.COM)



# Kentucky Sheep and Goat Check-Off Program

## Report form for remittance of amount due for all sheep and/or goats

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The following is a report on funds collected on sheep and/or goats for the month(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Total # of Sheep Sold	Value of Animals	X Rate	Sheep Check-Off Due
		X .005	

Total # of Goats Sold	Value of Animals	X Rate	Goat Check-Off Due
		X .005	

<b>Total Remitted</b>	
-----------------------	--

**Send this report with a check made payable to:**

**KY Sheep and Goat Check-Off  
c/o KSGDO  
PO Box 4709  
Frankfort, KY 40604**

This report and assessments must be remitted monthly unless average gross sales of sheep and/or goats is less than \$1,000 per month, then reports and assessments may be remitted quarterly. Please return by the 15th of the month following the month or quarter of the remittance.

To the best of my knowledge the above information is correct and accurate. Under penalty of law, false information or failure to report my result in both civil and criminal penalties.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Reporters Name (print)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

Revised 1/3/2011



## Abortions in Sheep and Goats: What to Do and How to Protect Yourself

by Jessy Shanks,

UT Extension Specialist

*Small Ruminant and Youth Programs*

**B**reeding season is over for most and it's time to start preparing for lambing and kidding. Most producers prepare by gathering the needed supplies and getting areas of the barn ready for this exciting time of year. Lambing/kidding pens are constructed, medicines obtained, barns are cleaned out, and hopefully gloves are purchased. I say hopefully because some people tend to overlook the importance of personal protective equipment, or PPE for short, on livestock operations. Trust me when I say that you will want to wear gloves when assisting your sheep or goats with lambing/kidding after you read this article.

Late term abortions in sheep and goats are quite common, more so than in other livestock species. This is why sheep and goat producers must be vigilant in the detection of abortions, and in the control of such cases. There are many causes of abortion and several of these bacterial and viral agents can infect humans. Abortion rates for small

ruminants are usually in the neighborhood of 5%, with less than 5% being great, and more than 5% being cause for concern. An "abortion storm" is characterized by 20% or greater loss of the lamb or kid crop and can be quite devastating. Hopefully your rates never exceed 5%, but it is always best to be prepared for an increase. So as a producer if you have one to two abortions per year (under 5% of your flock or herd) there is not much cause for concern. If this number jumps above 5% then it's time to take action and find out what the cause is.

It is essential to work with your veterinarian to diagnose and treat causes of abortion. Early abortions may or may not be seen by the producer, so those often go undetected. You may never see anything except a return to estrus, or you might see bloody vaginal discharge. Late term abortions are most commonly detected because we can see the fetus once it is delivered (usually the final two months of gestation). It is important to have your veterinarian perform a necropsy on aborted fetuses and their associated tissues (placenta). There are also laboratories and veterinary schools that can perform necropsies also. This is a great way to determine what caused the abortion and to help develop the next steps to treat other females who may be affected. Results are not always set in stone, but it is definitely worth the effort

### The Kentucky Sheep and Goat Check-Off Program began

in 2010 and collects \$.50 for every \$100 worth of sheep and goats sold in the Commonwealth. According to Kentucky law, Check-Off funds must be used for the purpose of promoting the increased use and sale of sheep and goats.

#### TO DATE, CHECK-OFF HAS PROVIDED:

- **\$50,000 in New Farmer Recruitment loans** have been given to 25 new/beginning producers in Kentucky since 2012
- **\$50,000** given for special projects to help producers increase marketing efforts throughout the state since 2012
- **\$10,000** spent in promotion of sheep & goat products in 2018

#### **KY Sheep & Goat Check-Off Sponsors the Try Something Different Tonight marketing campaign**

# of people who tasted lamb and goat products: **26,000**  
# of people who have learned about products and cooking techniques: **5 million**

To learn more about the Kentucky Sheep and Goat Check-off Program visit

[www.kysheepandgoat.org/Check\\_Off.html](http://www.kysheepandgoat.org/Check_Off.html)



**KY Sheep & Goat  
CHECK-OFF**



to figure out what happened. If your veterinarian cannot perform the necropsy immediately it is best to put the fetus and any associated tissues in a trash bag and put it on ice. Never freeze these specimens and do not leave them outside (even in cold weather). Tissues like this can decompose quickly and this will make it harder to determine what bacteria or other agents might have been present in the uterus. So please do not take a carcass, or tissues for necropsy that have been sitting at the barn for several days. Your veterinarian will not be happy with decomposing tissues! Once your veterinarian determines the cause of abortion, or lack of cause, he/she can help you with the next steps to prevent further incidence of disease.

When handling aborted fetal tissues and the fetus itself you must be very careful and aware of the risk for zoonotic disease transmission. Wear appropriate PPE such as palpation sleeves, gloves (nitrile or latex), clothes such as coveralls you can easily remove and wash, and rubber boots. Eye protection and face masks are also good additions to help keep you safe. You may be exposed to various bacterial agents and viruses during your work at the barn, but in a concentrated area (placental tissues/aborted fetus) these same bacteria and viruses can become especially dangerous. Pregnant women and immunocompromised individuals (cancer patients, those on medication that suppresses the immune system, etc.) should never handle aborted fetuses or tissues. Children really shouldn't handle them either to keep them safe. Abortive agents in sheep and goats can cause abortion in humans as well so it is best to never expose pregnant women to these dangers. These individuals should also never handle

soiled towels, clothes, boots, etc. that could be contaminated.

If you do suspect that you have a female that is aborting or has aborted it is best to isolate her from the rest of the herd or flock. Any tissue or fetuses that are found should be submitted for necropsy as quickly as possible. I hope you never have to deal with these types of situations, but it is important to be prepared on the front end in case it ever does happen to you. So buy those gloves and any other items of personal protective equipment that you think you might need. Put those items to good use if you have to assist with lambing/kidding. At the very minimum please wear gloves to protect yourself! Frequent hand washing and not eating/drinking in the barn are also good practices that can help keep you, your family, and any employees you might have safe and healthy. It is easy to forget how vulnerable we are to the same diseases that affect our sheep and goats, but it is not a lesson that you want to learn the hard way. Contact your local county extension agent, your veterinarian, or myself ([jharri50@utk.edu](mailto:jharri50@utk.edu)) if you have further questions about abortions in sheep and goats or ways to stay healthy during lambing/kidding season.

---

*Jessy Shanks, is the Small Ruminant and Youth Programs Specialist at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Jessy raises Southdown and Dorper sheep with her husband and daughter just below Knoxville. Her background is in reproductive physiology and she enjoys teaching producers and youth about small ruminants in any way possible.*

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## Bluetongue

### What is bluetongue and what causes it?

Bluetongue is a non-contagious, viral disease spread by biting insects. It affects species of ruminants, particularly sheep. Bluetongue causes many different symptoms in affected animals, including ulcers, sores, painful hooves, lameness and reproductive problems. Affected animals can have swelling of the tongue ("bluetongue") which can cause breathing difficulties. The disease occurs worldwide. In the United States, the disease occurs in the southern and western states.

### What animals get bluetongue?

Bluetongue virus affects many domestic and wild ruminants. The disease is seen most often in sheep, occasionally in goats, and rarely in cattle. Severe disease can also occur in wild ruminants, such as white-tailed deer, pronghorn, and desert bighorn sheep.

### How can my animal get bluetongue?

Bluetongue virus is spread by insects called biting midges (*Culicoides* spp.). (**vector**). Other biting insects, such as ticks or sheep keds, may also transfer the virus. Bluetongue is not contagious and is not spread by contact between animals. However, the virus may be spread by contaminated objects (**fomites**), such as surgical equipment and needles. Bluetongue virus can be transferred from the dam during pregnancy to the fetus. The virus can be found in semen, but sexual transmission does not appear to be a major route of infection.

### How does bluetongue affect my animal?

Many animals infected with the bluetongue virus do not show signs of disease. Some animals, particularly sheep, can develop serious disease and may even die. Signs of bluetongue include fever, excessive salivation, depression, and difficulty breathing. Animals may have nasal discharge and reddened and ulcerated muzzle, lips, and ears. The lips and tongue may be very swollen, causing the tongue to stick out from the mouth; the tongue is often bluish in color, giving the disease its name. Pregnant ewes infected during the first trimester may have reproductive problems, such as resorption, abortion or birth of "dummy lambs". The hooves are often very painful, making animals reluctant to move, and in some cases the hooves may actually slough off. Sheep that do survive can lose some or all of their wool.

### Can I get bluetongue?

No. Bluetongue is not a significant threat to human health.

### Who should I contact if I suspect bluetongue?

**Contact your veterinarian immediately** if you suspect your animal has bluetongue. It is a disease that is monitored closely by veterinarians in the United States. Suspicion of disease requires immediate attention.

### How can I protect my animals from bluetongue?

Implement insect control and prevention measures to reduce the spread of disease by the vector. This may include destroying insect habitat, use of insecticides, or moving animals into barns during the vector's peak activity time (dusk until dawn).

Any needles and surgical equipment used with animals suspected of having bluetongue should be considered contaminated and disposed of properly.

Vaccines are available for animals deemed to be at high risk of contracting bluetongue, however, these vaccines are not without risk.

### For More Information

CFSPPH Technical Fact Sheets. Bluetongue at <http://www.cfspph.iastate.edu/DiseaseInfo/>

The Merck Veterinary Manual at <http://www.merckvetmanual.com/mvm/index.jsp>

United States Animal Health Association. Foreign Animal Diseases at [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/emergency\\_response/downloads/nahems/fad.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/emergency_response/downloads/nahems/fad.pdf)





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*Sheep and Goat Sale*

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 2:00 P.M.**

*State Graded • Animals in the barn by noon*

Contact Derrik Henry for more information 859-749-9918,  
or call the office 859-987-1977.

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# MARKETPLACE

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KY Sheep & Goat Dev. Office  
502-682-7780  
kyates@kysheepandgoat.org

## Kentucky Goat Producers Association

www.kysheepandgoat.org

## Kentucky Sheep & Goat Check-Off

www.kysheepandgoat.org

## Kentucky Sheep & Wool Producers Association

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## Tennessee Sheep Producers Association

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## United Producers, Inc.

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## University of Kentucky

www.uky.edu/AnimalSciences/sheep/sheep.html  
www.uky.edu/AnimalSciences/goat/goat.html  
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