



The North Dakota Sheep Industry Newsletter

A joint publication brought to you by the NDSU Extension Service and the North Dakota Lamb and Wool Producers Association

Reid's Remarks

Reid Redden, Newsletter Editor

I write this column with very mixed emotions. The short-term outlook for the sheep industry is very positive, while recent events instill concern that some very historic and influential segments of the industry may be lost.

First, we should start with the good news. Prices for finished lamb are quite good, and feeder lamb prices are excellent. Feeder lambs are high due, in part, to lower feed costs, mainly corn. However, I also suspect that the ethnic lamb market is funneling off the lighter-weight lambs that have some finish to them. Lower feed prices not only make feeding lambs more cost effective but lower flock maintenance costs.

Wool prices are fairly strong, with a few exceptions. And in contrast to two years ago, replacement ewes are reasonable, which also means that cull prices are marginal. This is a good scenario for the 2014 U.S. sheep industry.

Now for the bad news.

The U.S. Sheep Experiment Station (USSES) in Dubois, Idaho, is subject to closing. This research station is a U.S. Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Research Service facility and has been a core research facility for the sheep industry for many decades. This facility has been used by many different universities, including NDSU, for collaborative efforts.



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Photo courtesy of the NDSU Extension Service

The research station has multiple public lands grazing permits, which makes it very representative of Western sheep production; however, it also poses potential conflicts with protected species, such as the grizzly bear, and wolves. The facility has been fighting to remain on these lands, which may be a part of why it is closing.

After the Payette decision (based primarily on bighorn sheep) and the potential closing of the USSES, the special-interest groups appear to be winning the fight to remove sheep from public grazing permits. This would not affect many North Dakota sheep producers, but it would have a large impact on the supply of lambs to support our national infrastructure. An estimated 40 percent of sheep in the U.S. use public lands.

Epictetus, a Greek philosopher, said, "It is not what happens to you but how you react to it that matters." I don't have the answers to what is best for the industry in the short or long term, but I do know that we need to start doing things differently if we want to improve the conditions of the sheep industry for the next generation of shepherds.

Maybe you are different than me, but in the past, I always was apologetic for being a sheep producer. The nostalgic thing to do where I grew up was to be a cowboy, and

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■ Message From the Association

By Nathan Robbins, President

Time flies when you are having fun! Summer is here and, for my family, that has meant a great deal of work, catching up on some fencing projects, haying, working and hauling ewes to grass, feeding lambs, and the highlight, preparing animals for our daughters to show at several fairs.

This last one seems like a frivolous task to some, but for us, it is good family time, a chance to travel and visit with fellow producers, and an opportunity to show off our genetics another year. I watch the growth my daughters have shown through these events and I am thankful to provide them the opportunity.



Photo courtesy of Nathan Robbins

Opportunity is abounding in the animal agriculture business, lamb prices are very good and our colleagues in the beef business are seeing phenomenal prices. Whether you sold lambs as feeders or have committed to finishing them, it appears that either will be a financially rewarding experience for 2014. The only negative currently is the salvage price on culls. Seeing a more established and sustainable price would encourage many more producers into upgrading genetics and improving their existing flock by getting rid of the less than productive sheep we all deal with.

As far as upgrading genetics, there are two great opportunities coming up to do so. The Jamestown Ram and Ewe Sale held in August and the Hettinger Ram Sale held in September will be showcasing great genetics from our region ready to go to work for you. Whether you are looking for your next stud buck or injecting some quality females into your flock, both sales will have a lot to offer. Catalogs will be posted to the website.

Other events of interest and opportunities to visit with fellow producers are the North Dakota State Fair and Jamestown Sheep Field Day held in conjunction with the sale, as well as the Fargo Fiber Arts Festival. Details can be found on the Web or Facebook page. I would encourage you to attend as these events are wonderful learning and social opportunities.

Finally, the board has some exciting news. A committee assigned to the task of seeking out a qualified candidate for the position of executive secretary has done a stellar job in finding David Brown from Tower City to take on the role. We believe this is a good step forward for the association to

keep our professional organization moving forward. His introduction is following in the newsletter. Please welcome him and offer him support as he learns our organization.

■ New Executive Secretary Selected

Hello, I am David Brown, the new executive secretary of the North Dakota Lamb and Wool Producers Association. I would like to thank the board and nominating committee of Wyman Scheetz, Brad Gilbertson and Lyle Warner for taking the time to listen to me talk about sheep and myself, as well as answer my questions. After all that, they still decided to choose me as the new executive secretary and I am grateful.



Photo courtesy of David Brown

My background in the sheep industry includes raising a small flock of Columbias and a few Suffolk ewes south of Tower City. My goal is to produce sheep that have excellent maternity instincts and can work for a variety of producers throughout the state and country. I take pride in the fact that my flock is deep-rooted in North Dakota bloodlines, with the base of my breeding coming from Steve Kitzan, Fred Eagleson, the Bredahl family and NDSU herds.

Through the years, I have been a member of the organization and attended various NDLWPA-sponsored events such as the Jamestown and Hettinger ram sales and the annual convention, in addition to the State Fair, and would hope to convince the members of the importance of our State Fair as a gathering and fellowship event for the membership.

What do I bring to the table for the organization as executive secretary? First and foremost, I believe in the sheep industry and have a passion for it. I have worked in the corporate world for more than 15 years in human resources and management, which has taught me how to deal with a variety of people at all levels and work in a timely and efficient manner. In addition, I believe my listening, organizational, attention to detail and communication skills, combined with my technical knowledge and social media understanding, will make me very successful in this role.

I see the importance of this role to manage the Starter Flock and youth shows/programs, promote the sheep industry, be involved with legislative matters, reach new members and reconnect with past members in order to move the organization forward.

In addition, I feel there is a huge need to supply our members, especially new sheep producers, with tools and contact information on how to be successful at raising sheep and promoting wool. I know this firsthand because I had no clue where to find a shearer or a company to deliver feed last year.

Finally, I work for you, the members, and am ready and here to do so. I can be reached anytime at (701) 840-7598 or ndlwpa@gmail.com.

■ Flock Health

Johne's Disease

Gerald Stokka, NDSU Extension livestock stewardship specialist and veterinarian, and Neil Dyer, director of the NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Johne's (pronounced as yo-nees) is a fatal intestinal disease of sheep, goats and other domestic and wild ruminants. It is caused by a bacterium known as *Mycobacterium avium paratuberculosis*. This infectious disease, which also is called paratuberculosis, is contagious (spread from animal to animal) and can spread within and to other herds and flocks.

The bacteria is found in the manure of infected sheep and is spread primarily to others in this manner.

Manure-contaminated water, feed and soil are sources. In addition, infected ewes will have the organism on their hides and teats, which facilitates its spread to newborns. Some evidence also indicates that lambs can be infected in utero and via colostrum.

Newborn and younger lambs are the most susceptible to the infection. The incubation period (time from exposure to the organism until signs of the disease are noticed) can be quite variable. In cattle, this may be from one to five years or longer. In sheep, the incubation time is shorter and may be months to a year or more.

The signs of infection and disease in cattle are usually quite obvious. Signs and symptoms usually are observed in cattle from 2 to 5 years of age. Loss of weight while maintaining a good appetite can be evidence of infection. Ultimately, a severe watery diarrhea develops, and the animal continues to lose weight and will die from lack of nutrient absorption. In sheep, diarrhea is not common, and the obvious signs are a rapid weight loss with no response to parasite or antibiotic treatment.

No vaccine is available in the U.S. to prevent this infection, and no cure has been found. Prevention can be achieved only through culling of infected animals and raising lambs on clean grounds.

Diagnostic testing to identify infected sheep is done through finding the DNA of the bacteria in the manure of infected sheep (PCR testing). Pooled samples from small groups of animals (up to five) can be used to decrease the cost of herd testing. If a pooled sample is positive for the organism, then all animals in in the pooled sample are tested individually to find the infected animal or animals.

The cost for individual testing is \$45 for the first test and \$25/test for additional tests. Pooled sample testing is \$50/pooled sample.

Reference:

www.nd.gov/ndda/files/resource/JohnesQABookletSheepOwners.pdf

■ Reid's Remarks

continued from Page 1

sheep farming always played second fiddle. I have great admiration for the beef industry. We have a lot to learn from how it promotes its products and way of life. However, we have a good story, as well, and I suggest we better tell our story.

Sheep are a kind and gentle livestock species that produces a premium food and fiber product. In the U.S., we can produce only half the national demand for our products. To me, not producing our own food is un-American. Moreover, we have access to under-utilized resources that can be converted to a premium product. Plus, the sheep industry creates great jobs, protects the rural way of life and maintains the open spaces for our future generations.

The NDSU Extension Service encourages its employees to have a "30-second elevator speech" to describe what we do. The sheep industry needs a 30-second elevator speech, too, so if you ever have the opportunity to be stuck in an elevator with a very influential person, such as a governor, you can be prepared to deliver a 30-second speech to share your story. We likely won't have this opportunity to speak with the governor, but you never know when you might have a very influential impact on a person, community or industry just by expressing conviction in what you believe. What is your 30-second speech?

Happy shepherding!!!

Reid

Starter Flock Profile

Colter and Cauly Ellingson

Q: What prompted you to apply for a starter flock?

A: Cauly – I was told about the starter flock program by my parents, and since I have always enjoyed livestock, I thought it would be a good way to earn some extra money and have fun at the same time.

A: Colter – I applied for a starter flock because I wanted to raise my own livestock and learned about the Starter Flock program through my parents, who heard about it from Nathan Robbins. Nathan is now my mentor.

Q: What has been the most rewarding thing to come from your flock?

A: Cauly – I really enjoy seeing the lambs running and playing. They bounce around and run and jump everywhere. It's fun to watch.

A: Colter – The most rewarding thing to come from my starter flock has been watching my flock double in size.

Q: What was the one thing you did not expect to happen, and how did you deal with it?

A: Cauly – We purchased two donkeys to protect the sheep from predators. I was surprised at how quickly they bonded with the ewes. They were unsure of each other for a few days but eventually started to travel together.

A: Colter – One thing I did not expect to happen was when I was checking for new lambs one morning and I found a group of six lambs and four ewes all together. Figuring out who belonged to who was quite a chore, but I got it done.



Colter holding a couple of crossbred lambs.



Cauly



Colter



Cauy feeding ewes.

Q: Who's your mentor and how have they helped you?

A: *Cauy* – My mentor is Nathan Robbins. He has been helpful in countless ways, but the most helpful was when he advised us how to take care of a lamb who wasn't feeling well. The lamb recovered and is healthy again.

A: *Colter* – My mentor, Nathan Robbins, has been there for anything we need, from letting us use his bucks, answering nutrition questions and giving suggestions, lambing, to advice for looking after lambs that weren't feeling well.

Q: What advice would you give someone who was thinking of applying for a starter flock?

A: *Cauy* – My advice to anyone thinking of applying for a starter flock would be to make sure you have a knowledgeable mentor and to go ahead and apply. It is one of the best experiences I have ever had. It teaches you responsibility, and you get to enjoy yourself, too.

A: *Colter* – I would advise anyone thinking of applying for a starter flock to be ready to work. Sheep are not maintenance-free livestock and require hard work before seeing the payout. In my opinion, it is worth it.

(All photos courtesy of Stacey Ellingson)

■ Producer Profile

Addison Hofmann

Q: In a paragraph, describe yourselves and your sheep operation.

A: We live near Medina, N.D. and I'm currently operating and managing the family farm. My fiancée, Hannah Olson, graduated from Jamestown College last spring and is currently a registered nurse at the Sanford Medical Center in Bismarck, N.D. My family had been in the cattle business and farmed for many years. My dad passed away in 1999 at a young age and it greatly impacted our family farm, making it difficult to operate. A few years after, his dad and mom (my grandparents) decided to retire, and my mom also sold her share of the cattle. The land was then rented out except for a small portion that my brother and I used for our small and growing herd of Simmental and Red Angus cattle.

Presently, Hannah and I took over renting the family pasture, hay and farmland. We run a herd of purebred cattle offering forage-raised 2-year-old bulls annually and a bred-heifer operation, farm a small amount of acres and, last but not least, we have our sheep operation! Our sheep operation currently consists of 80 crossbred ewes. Still being quite new to the sheep industry, we have been experimenting with a few of the breeds to find what works best for us. Currently, the ewes are Dorset/Rambouillet and Dorset/Polypay, and a very small portion consists of some Hampshire.

We have found the white-faced ewes to work best for our operation, being the more maternal and easier-keeping ewes in the flock. In particular, the Dorset/Rambouillet cross has worked very well for us because, while continuing to increase our flock, they have provided us with very productive females, yet keep adequate frame on our feeder lambs.

Our flock is lambing out in two groups, with the start of the first group in mid-March. After weaning, we keep back our top-quality ewe lambs. We have been feeding the rest of the lambs to finish. We have been very fortunate to be included in a group of area producers who put semiloading of lambs together that go straight to slaughter from the farm. Last year, we also started selling some of our finished lambs privately to customers who wanted to fill their freezer with a half or whole lamb. We followed up and received great feedback on the quality of lamb meat so will continue to push that more in the future.

Q: Why did you decide to get into the sheep industry?

A: Quite honestly, I would have to say if it wasn't for my brother Camden, I probably wouldn't have sheep. In high school, he wanted to get out of cattle and try something new. Sheep sparked his interest and I, as well, became interested. After Camden graduated from high school and, with college starting in the fall, I decided to purchase his ewes. I quickly saw the way they would help diversify my existing operation.

Q: As a new commercial producer, what have been the most encouraging and discouraging things you have encountered?

A: The most encouraging thing for me when starting out and coming from an all-cattle background was sheep seemed much more affordable to get started in, compared with farming and cattle. They can make you a quick return, which is especially important to someone starting out and having to make a payment. Sheep equipment is a much cheaper investment than that of other ag equipment, and it doesn't take much to get started. The multiple births make it much easier to increase your numbers and not go backward when it's time to cull unproductive ewes, and the amount of land it takes these days to run cattle or successfully farm is much greater than that of a flock of sheep.

Presently, the most encouraging thing for me and, I know, all other producers, is the much lower feed costs and what seems to be a more stable lamb market. I also feel a profitable lamb market will outlast that of other commodities. Being diversified is huge in my eyes when it comes to running a profitable business. I feel our sheep operation has brought a lot to the table. My main focus is to do everything I can possibly do to be sure our farm is here for the next generation. I believe that our flock is going to be a big part of making that happen.

A couple downsides I have found have been the sheep are much more labor-intensive than the rest of our operation. The other would be the quality of fence needed to graze our flock during the summer months, and not being able to utilize our already existing cattle fences. Currently, we have been drylotting the sheep year round. The most discouraging thing for me personally has been battling my allergies and asthma. There are a lot of sleepless nights during the lambing season, but my passion for the sheep keeps me going.

Q: What one thing could be improved about our industry that would make your operation remain sustainably profitable?

A: The first thing that comes to mind for me, after first selling some of our finished lambs into the community last year, was the continued negativity from some about eating lamb. There is still such a misunderstanding about lamb from mainly the older generation who remembers eating mutton. I don't hear much from the younger generation other than they have never tried it. I think it's very important for us, as producers, to continue to raise the best quality lamb and not to overfeed. I've tried to help promote lamb by giving a pack of ground lamb burger to people who haven't tried lamb but are interested. I decided on doing lamb burger in hopes of keeping the cooking part of it simple for people who hadn't had experience with cooking lamb. It really went over great, and the burger was very much enjoyed, to their surprise.

Q: Who has helped you with your sheep business plan and what did they encourage you to do that has been most helpful?

A: There have been a number of very helpful people, but Brent and Codi Kuss have been the biggest part of our sheep operation. I really couldn't stress that enough. Without all their knowledge and support along the way, we probably wouldn't even be in the sheep business today. Brent and Codi had been mentoring my brother when he got started with sheep and then have continued to help me. The Kusses have become good friends and people I really look up to. They are such great managers of their own operation and have set a great example of where I'd like to be with my operation in the future.

The list would go on and on of all the encouraging things that have been most helpful in my operation. One of the most important things for me and for others starting out would be starting with high-quality sheep. It's so important to get on the right track from the beginning, and we were very fortunate to have a great start with sheep from the Kusses. They have also taught me so much about good management practices and preventing problems before they start. A few of the crucial areas were proper nutrition, vaccination, proper handling and facilities, recordkeeping and only keeping young, productive females in the flock.

All of our lambs are weighed at weaning and recorded to help cull off less-productive ewes. I think the key for anyone starting out is to find an experienced producer to help guide you along the way. There was a lot more to sheep than I would have expected and I am so thankful that I have had Brent to call for any questions or doubts. I am very happy that sheep have been the reason for getting to know Brent and Codi.

Q: How can the sheep industry attract more young adults to sheep farming?

A: I think our sheep industry has already done a great job by having the Starter Flock Program. The Starter Flock Program had been a big part of helping my brother get started in the business, and some of those ewes still remain in my flock today.

I have found since being in the sheep business that most young adults in our area just aren't familiar with sheep. People always seem so surprised when visiting that I have sheep. I guess I don't have an exact answer, but I do know that many young adults in our area just aren't as familiar with running sheep as cattle and grain farming.

Sheep would be a great way to diversify family farms, and I think there would be more interest if people knew more. It's hard to compete when so many young farmers and ranchers returning to family farms in the area are so much more familiar with farming and cattle. If we could get more information about sheep into some of the other popular farming and ranching magazines and write ups, I think they would draw some curiosity and interest.



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or
North Dakota Lamb and Wool Producers Association

timely tips

1

Protect sheep from heat stress

High temperatures and high humidity can add stress to sheep that will impact productivity and animal health negatively. The main effect normally seen is reduced feed intake, which reduces the rate of gain. Hair sheep tolerate heat better than wooled sheep. Additionally, wooled sheep with 1 inch of wool tolerate heat better than freshly shorn or full-fleeced animals. Males and overly fat animals are more affected by heat. Heat stress also can increase the rate of pregnancy loss in ewes. Sheep can tolerate heat stress better if they have access to shade, wind and fresh water.

2

Manage pastures

Grazing management can have large impacts on forage production and forage quality. Too much grazing pressure too early can reduce forage production; however, allowing grass to get too mature can reduce forage quality. Generally, sheep should be allowed to graze after the grass reaches 8 inches in height, and the sheep should be removed when grass is grazed below 3 inches. Management strategies to encourage sheep to graze pastures uniformly should be implemented. Fencing, location of water/minerals/supplements, short-duration grazing practices and herding can alter sheep grazing patterns to better manage pastures.

3

Protect sheep from parasites

Similar to heat stress, high temperatures and humidity are ideal conditions for the barber pole worm, which is the most destructive internal parasite. Keep a close watch for bottle jaws, anemia, weight loss and other signs of parasitism. Internal parasite management normally requires multiple management efforts to maintain good animal health, so review your worm management plan.

External parasites also can be problematic during the summer. Flies can deposit eggs in open wounds (injuries, tail docks, etc.) and wet, soiled skin, which results in fly strike. Fly strikes must be shorn and treated with an insect repellent. Treating fly strikes early greatly increase the chances of a full recovery.

Mosquitoes are likely to be problematic in wet years. They are typically only a mild irritant; however, they often transmit diseases that cause serious effects on animal health, such as Cache Valley Virus or West Nile. To protect sheep from mosquitoes, spray low-lying wet areas, apply permethrins to sheep or provide sheep with areas that do not harbor mosquitoes so that sheep can seek refuge when mosquitoes are most active.

4

Plan lamb and wool marketing decisions

Often, sheep farmers work hard at improving flock management practices, such as by using high-quality genetics, formulating high-quality diets and maintaining good animal health. However, shepherds do not always work hard at marketing lambs or wool. We often expect that we'll receive top dollar for the products we produce. However, the sheep industry is small and subject to relatively large swings in market price.

Prior to marketing your lambs and wool, a good practice is to check with multiple buyers well in advance of when you plan to market the lambs and wool. This will allow you to better understand the markets and likely will better prepare you to get the most value out of the products you produce.

5

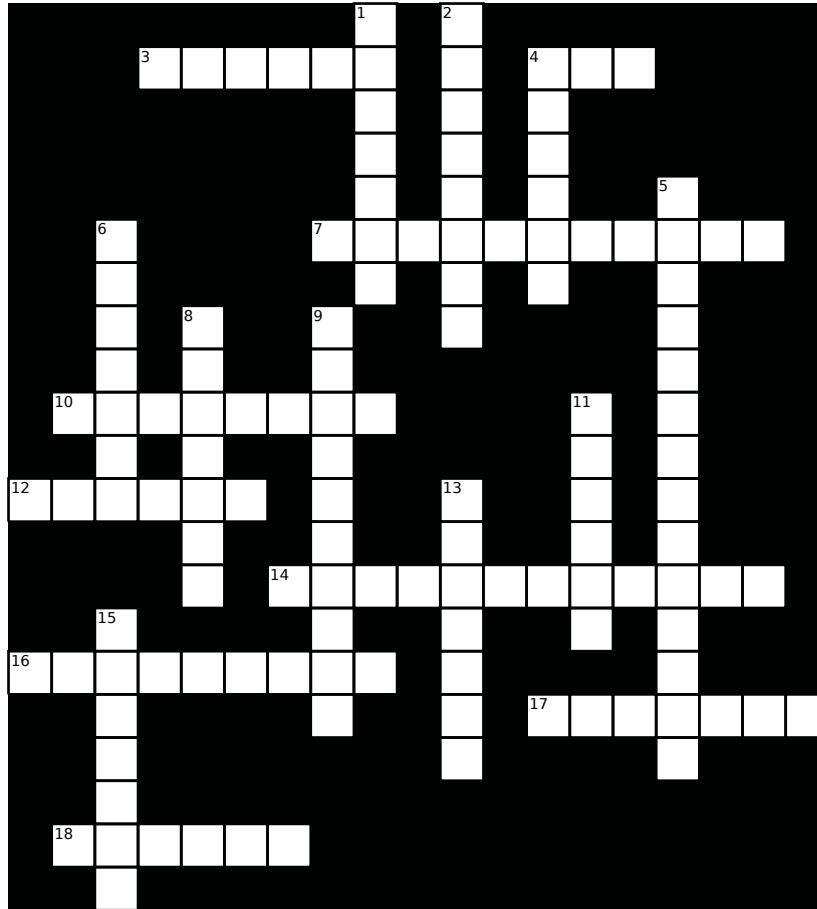
Test hay

One of the most important and variable resources that sheep farmer use in this region of the U.S. is harvested forage. Typically, weather causes hay quality to vary because of too much rain delaying cutting, rain falling on hay or drought. Regardless, you can collect a simple hay sample from a few hay bales from each cutting, which will provide the needed information to balance and efficiently utilize hay during the winter.

Now may seem too early to test hay; however, test results will alter the quality and amount of grain or supplement that you need to meet the animal's needs. Knowing what you need early in the year can allow you to find a source for the grain while it is less expensive.

History of Sheep

Alison Crane



Across

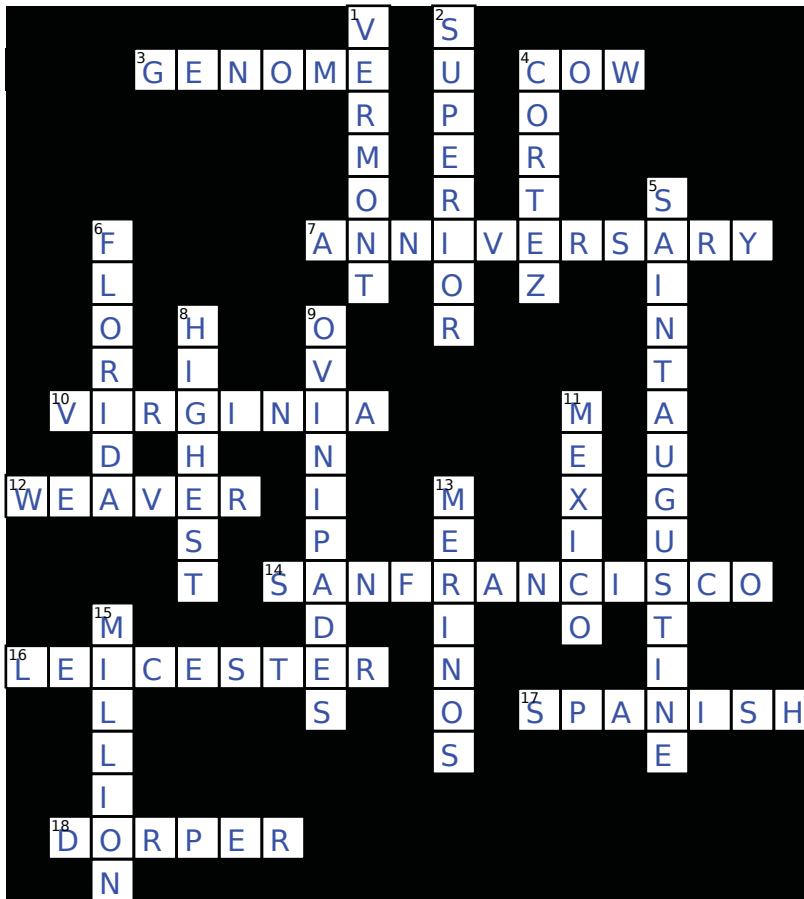
- 3 As seen in the July Sheep Industry news, a U.S. group recently completed sequencing the sheep
- 4 _____ Settlers in New England were actually required to have five or six sheep to every _____.
- 7 This year is ASI's 150th
- 10 In 1657, transportation of sheep out of this colony was forbidden.
- 12 Christopher Columbus was what profession?
- 14 This city in California only allowed Merinos to be raised for quite some time.
- 16 Most of the sheep in the early days of the American colonies were influenced by this breed.
- 17 In 1609, Santa Fe was founded with all _____ origin sheep.
- 18 What breed most recently joined the NSIP efforts?

Down

- 1 The genetic base for many Texas and Australian Merinos began in which state?
- 2 This lamb processor recently broke ground on a new facility.
- 4 This conqueror and explorer introduced sheep to Mexico in 1521.
- 5 This Spanish colony had 6,000 sheep and lambs in 1565.
- 6 The first sheep recorded in the U.S. were in which state?
- 8 In 1860, the five _____ sheep producing states were Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, New York, and California.
- 9 Two young Americans will be representing the U.S. in the upcoming 2nd World _____ challenge.
- 11 The second wave of sheep into the U.S. came from where?
- 13 Columbus was responsible for bringing hair sheep to Haiti and Cuba, but also for bringing _____ in 1493.
- 15 In 1882, sheep numbers reached their peak at 52 _____.

History of Sheep

Alison Crane



Across

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Calendar

- **North Dakota Lamb and Wool Expo**
Aug. 1 in Jamestown, N.D.
- **Jamestown Ram and Ewe Sale**
Aug. 2 in Jamestown
- **Fargo Fiber Arts Festival**
Aug. 9-10 in Fargo
- **Hettinger Ram Sale**
Sept. 17 in Hettinger
- **Starter Flock Sheep School**
Sept. 20 in Hettinger
- **NDLWPA Board Meeting**
Sept. 30 – TBD
- **NDLWPA Annual Convention**
Oct. 10-11 in Bismarck

NDLWPA Membership Form

This form is a membership application for the North Dakota Lamb and Wool Producers Association (NDLWPA) and American Sheep Industry (ASI) Association.



Please print clearly

Name _____

Street address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____

Email _____

Number of sheep/goats _____

Please check all that apply: Commercial Purebred Club lamb Dairy
 Lamb feeder Shearer Allied industry Business

Please check membership type:

- NDLWPA annual membership – \$20
- NDLWPA annual junior membership (under 18 years of age) – \$5
- ASI annual membership – \$.04/head or \$25 minimum (whichever is greater)
- Joint NDLWPA/ASI annual membership – \$40
- Printed copy of the ASI Weekly Newsletter – \$10

Note: ASI annual membership will entitle you to an email copy of the ASI Weekly Newsletter.

Total \$ _____ Please make checks payable to **NDLWPA**

Send this application and your payment to: Julie Mangnall, NDLWPA Treasurer
11936 79th St. S.E.
Stirum, ND 58069

For more information, call (701) 678-2168 or visit www.ndlwpa.com.

Thank you
for taking
an active
interest in
your industry!



LAMB SATAY

By Savuer (<http://bit.ly/1IXC1Og>)

- 1 tbsp. tamarind paste
- 1 tbsp. dark brown sugar
- 2 tsp. peanut oil
- 1½ tsp. ground coriander
- 1½ tsp. ground turmeric
- 1 tsp. kosher salt
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 3 large shallots, chopped
- 1 2-inch piece ginger, chopped
- 1 lb. lamb shoulder, cut into 1-inch-wide and ¼-inch-thick slices

Photo credit: Todd Coleman



6 x 4" clip-and-save recipe card.
Cooking instructions
on following page.

North Dakota State University
Agriculture Communication
NDSU Dept 7070
PO Box 6050
Fargo ND 58108-6050

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Instructions

1. Stir tamarind paste and 3 tbsp. boiling water in a bowl until dissolved; pour through strainer into a food processor. Puree with sugar, oil, coriander, turmeric, salt, garlic, shallots and ginger. Combine paste and lamb in a bowl; chill four hours.
2. Build a hot charcoal fire in a grill. Thread two pieces of lamb each on 16 skewers; grill, turning, until lightly charred, about four minutes.