

Blackbelly Barbados Sheep



Association International Newsletter



1st Quarter 2001

www.blackbellysheep.org

(972) 551-7090



2000 SHOW RESULTS

by Tina Hatley



Ray Palmer asked me to do a write up on how we did at the fairs this year. But after reading Tony Bruno's piece in the October newsletter I thought I would go into how we went about getting in the shows first. At our county level it was very easy. Our fair book states: classes will apply to any recognized breed shown separately. The ewes without papers/registration show as commercial ewes. So you should call your county extension agent and ask how your county fair works. I bet it will turn out to be easier than you think. Now your state fairs may be a little different. We got in under the AOB (all other breeds) class for both AR/OK and the AR State. Then they split us up as AOB-meat & AOB-wool. To get a breed show in the Open division there must be a minimum of 20 animals shown by at least 3 exhibitors. For the JR division a breed show must have a minimum of 10 animals by at least 2 exhibitors. Now the problem comes in, the judges had never seen or judged Barbados before. So they really didn't know what they were looking at or for. But we did have a couple tell us they would study up on our breed. The best news came when the superintendent told us he is going to try to get

us an AOB-hair class. What a dream come true! The best will be when we have enough Barbados to have a breed show every year. For information on the AR State Fair in Little Rock you can call 501-372-8341 or check them out on the web at www.arkansasstatefair.com. AR/OK Fair in Ft. Smith call 501-783-2393 call them now and tell them you want a fair book for next year and make plans to join us.

As far as shows go, this year Kodie Hatley & Nicole Young did very well. Nicole received Grand & Reserve Champion Rams at AR/OK (Ft. Smith) & AR State Fair. She also won Grand Champion Ewe at AR/OK & Grand & Reserve Champion at AR State. Kodie won Reserve Champion Ewe at AR/OK State Fair. At the AR State Fair Kodie was awarded Premier Exhibitor, receiving a really nice director's chair from the AR State Sheep Council.

As an added note the ewes Kodie showed are the ewes Mr. Charles Beam gave her last year, & the ram of Nicole's was also bought from Mr. Beam. Thanks for your help in getting these 2 girls started in sheep

Mark Your Calendar And Plan To Attend The BBSAI Annual Meeting & Conference October 2001

The BBSAI Officers have started planning the 2001 BBSAI Annual Meeting. It will include time to meet other Blackbelly breeders, seminars on topic of interest to members, vendor booths, annual meeting, and much more. We will be working with local hotels for a special discount for conference attendees. It will be October 25th, 26th and 27th, 2001. It will be held at Paul and Lynn Magedson's Good Earth Organic Farm in Celeste, Texas. Celeste is about 75 miles northeast of Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. Let us know what you would like to happen at the conference.

**Please let the association office know if you change
address, phone number, or email address**



ROASTED LEG OF LAMB "A LA KEAZY"

By: Claude Bailles, Regional Director, Tennessee

Preparation:

If the lamb has just been harvested, we let it rest in the refrigerator for two or three days before cooking it. That makes it tenderer. When using frozen meat, we put it to thaw in the refrigerator at least one day before cooking.

When the meat is ready to be cooked, with a sharp pointed knife we cut 4 or 5 slits in the thicker parts of the leg and insert, in each slit, one peeled clove of garlic. When the cloves are too big we slice them in half. If the leg is really lean we rub a little olive oil (always virgin olive oil) all over the leg. If you do not like olive oil, butter will do the job as well.

Then we sprinkle the leg with rosemary (that we grow organically), about a teaspoon of dried rosemary. When available, in season, we use fresh rosemary, using about twice as much as the dried rosemary. We sprinkle a little salt (we use sea salt only) and a little freshly ground black pepper.

Cooking:

After adding about half a glass of plain water in the roasting pan we put it in a preheated oven, and cook the leg at 350° F for about 18 minutes per pound of leg. To

ensure its tenderness we baste the leg often, with its own juice, and we make sure not to overcook it.

When the leg is about halfway cooked, we add diced potatoes (about 1 inch cube) into the pan around the leg and let it finish cooking. We do not add the potatoes from the beginning because, if we did, they would absorb all the juice during cooking.

Serving:

After taking the pan out of the oven we let the meat rest for a few minutes, just on top of the stove. Then, with a sharp knife, we cut the meat into thin slices, cutting parallel to the bone to get beautiful slices. We serve the potatoes, sprinkled with some chopped fresh parsley, for taste and color, and the meat in its own juice.

We like this dish served with a glass of red wine from Bourgogne (such as Beaune or Savigny) or a glass of California red burgundy. Then we remember that wine is mentioned, 500 times, in the Bible and we praise God.

That is how we like our roasted leg of lamb with herbs; we are no cooking or health professionals, just gastronomes enjoying the natural products of Keazy Hollow Farm.

Creep Feeding Considerations

J. L. Goelz, D.V.M., Pipestone Veterinary Supply
www.pipevet.com

Getting lambs to market as fast as possible directly impacts profitability in a typical Midwestern sheep flock. Rapidly growing lambs start in the beginning, with the creep. Locally, we see many well-designed creep areas and some poor ones. Producers with well designed and managed creeps consistently get lambs on feed sooner and therefore market lambs at an earlier age.

Purpose of the creep - First of all, creep feeding introduces lambs to the feed that they will consume to market. The earlier that we can encourage lambs to consume creep the faster they will convert to getting the majority of their nutrients from grain rather than from the ewe. Secondly, creep feeding provides a protected area for the lambs to loiter or sleep. This area should be cleaner, warmer and more enticing than the ewe pen, thereby protecting the lambs from injury and exposure to weather and pathogens. Thirdly, creep feeding begins the weaning transition. If we can encourage gradual transition to weaning we will avert some of the stress to the lamb that is present at weaning.

Creep construction - Creep construction should be well planned in advance. The creep should be located in the most draft-free portion of the pen. Ideally the creep should allow access from all four sides. This is of course challenging to engineer and most people will compromise by attaching the creep to one wall for support. We need to make certain that the creep is inviting to the lambs. Hanging a low wattage light

bulb or heat lamp over the pen will help entice lambs to enter the creep. The light is far more important than heat so the light can be raised high. There should be as many holes as possible in the gating to allow lambs to feel that they are not trapped. A horizontal bar or board that can be adjusted is a must. This will keep ewes from trying to get into the creep. The horizontal bar can be placed low when the lambs are young and raised as they get older. The horizontal bar should not rub the back of the lamb as it runs in and out of the creep. If it does, it needs to be adjusted. The bottom line is that we want to make the creep easily accessible, bright and enticing. If the lambs spend more time in the creep they will consume more feed.

Creep Feed - The primary requirement of creep feed is that it needs to be palatable. If the lambs don't eat the feed, it does no good. Some producers have successfully tried offering soybean meal as an initial creep feed. It is expensive, however the lambs consume a small amount. These producers will move very quickly to a 20% protein creep ration immediately after the lambs start to consume the soybean meal. A 20% protein ration is great until about 40 days of age. The feed should be crumbled or texturized, not pelleted. Coccidiostats need to be incorporated in creep rations as these young growing lambs are at high risk for acquiring coccidiosis. Deccox is the coccidiostat of choice in creep rations. Because Deccox has a high safety index it fits in well to creep diet.

GET TO KNOW YOUR REGIONAL DIRECTOR

In each newsletter we will be profiling one of the regional directors to let you get to know them a little better.

We chose Lynn Magedson of Celeste Texas because Lynn and her husband Paul are hosting the 2001 Annual Meeting in October. Visit their web site at <http://www.goodearthorganicfarm.com>



Paul and Lynn Magedson farm 200 acres of mostly Blackland Prairie soils in Northeast Texas near Greenville. Good Earth Organic Farm has 25 certified organic acres for vegetable production. The farm produces and sells produce, eggs, lamb and poultry.

Our farm first purchased Blackbelly around 1992. The original flock consisted of 6 ewes and a ram. They were brought in for pasture improvement. The control of undesirable pasture plants and water plants was excellent. The flock has expanded since then and so has the use of the sheep. The sheep provide lamb sales, meat, pasture improvement and they make our compost in the winter months.

Katahdin and Mouflon sheep are also raised on our farm. They are both hair sheep breeds. We maintain about 125 sheep total, in several different pastures. Great Pyrenees or Anatolian Shepherd dogs are kept with our sheep and other livestock. We sell guard dogs

and pups and do rescue work for these two breeds.

We use an organic or sustainable production model for our lamb production. Lambs from a conventional production model are not in great demand for food by our customer base. It appears anthelmintics (wormers) and antibiotics are becoming less effective in some operations. We select for parasite resistance in our breeding program.

We have our own sheep pellet manufactured by a local feed mill. Diatomaceous earth and sea kelp meal are added to the feed and are easy to feed in this pellet form. We do not add any medications or animal byproducts to our feed. We supplement at a rate of one-quarter pound per head per day when needed. We prefer a 100% forage based program whenever possible. We offer salt, mineral and hay free choice most of the year.

As a regional director for BBSAI, I wish to increase the awareness of the Blackbelly both commercially and for hobby owners. Potential new owners need good information to get them off to a successful start and avoid or minimize common problems. As an organization we can provide a collective database of ideas and experiences for new owners and members. As an individual breeder, I work on raising the value and quality of my sheep, not just the quantity

Association News

The association has added 4 new members and registered 35 sheep in the 4th quarter of 2000.

New Members This Quarter:

Cesar and Martin Sandoval lifetime
Rancho El Atoron
Reforma 242, Centro
Jalpa, Zacatecas 99600 Mexico
(4) 955-2011

Bruce & Jean Brumley lifetime
313 L. Miller Rd.
Edmonton, KY 42127
270-432-4158
Email: vector72@webtv.net

Bob D. Chambers lifetime
Creekhouse Ranch
2875 Slater Rd.
Gatesville, TX 76528-4720
512-768-3499
Email: trangerbob@aol.com

Carol Smith 2001 regular
Llama Smith Farms
P.O. Box 3302
Jacksonville, OR 97530
541-846-1300
<http://www.llamasmith.com>

Address Corrections:

Ben Cushman
7900 Scotts Terrace
Sebastopol, CA 95472
(707) 829-2662
Email: bcushman@pobox.com

Dodie Green
The Sheep Camp
P.O. Box 250
Sonoita, AZ 85637
(520) 455-5398
Email: dodie@dodiegreen.com
<http://www.dodiegreen.com>

Fundraiser for BBSAI

Good Earth Organic Farm is providing an incentive for those wanting to help BBSAI and needing a Great Pyrenees guardian dog. We have two 9-month-old AKC male Pyrenees that have been with sheep and/or goats. We are offering these dogs for sale at a great price of \$350.00. These guys are large and familiar with coyotes. If these dogs are purchased by a BBSAI member or a referral from same, we will donate \$100.00 per dog to the BBSAI. Of course, shipping and transport if needed is the responsibility of the buyer. Good Earth Organic Farm must approve buyer. Contact us for more information about the dogs. Mail@goodearthorganicfarm.com
903-496-2070
Paul and Lynn Magedson

Incentive Program For Members Who Refer New Members To The Association

If a member refers a new member who joins as a lifetime member the original member would receive 3 free pedigree registrations. If someone refers a new member who joins as a regular member the original member would receive one free pedigree registration to be redeemed within one year of the new membership joining.

Classified Ads

Classified Ads Guidelines are:

- Members may place ads up to 15 words free of charge and \$.10 for each additional word. Must be for selling (For Sale) or purchasing (Wanted):
 - o BBSAI registerable Blackbelly Sheep
 - o Guardian or herding animals, for example: donkeys, dogs
 - o Sheep related items, for example: handling equipment, books, feed, etc.
- Display Ads with a 2" height and 3.5" wide cost \$10.00. Must be to advertise sheep related items.
- The secretary of the association has the right to refuse ads at her discretion.
- Deadline for receiving ad is the 10th of the month of the next newsletter published quarterly in January, April, July, and October.
 - o Members must email ad wording to info@blackbellysheep.org or by postal mail to BBSAI, 2050 Griffith Ave., Terrell, TX 75160.
 - o Advertisers must email display ad (art ready) to info@blackbellysheep.org or by postal mail to BBSAI, 2050 Griffith Ave., Terrell, TX 75160.

FOR SALE

Blackbelly Barbados Sheep, for meat, dog training, trophy hunting, weed eating or breeding.
4khf@netease.net, (931) 722-3080 (Tennessee)
2 polled rams; 2 ewes (horned stock); all registerable.
\$100 ea., celkins@awrittenword.com (Colorado)
Breeding Rams and Butcher Lambs, (972) 524-8771
info@palmerfarm.com, www.palmerfarm.com (Texas)

WANTED

Large, Good Boned, Young, Blackbellied Barb Ewes,
dodiegreen@theriver.com, Dodie Green, (520) 455-5398, PO BX 250 Sonoita, AZ 85637 (Arizona)

Hair Sheep Orientation 101 (for New or Pending Shepherds)

Hands on class about our sheep program. Demonstration of hoof trimming, ear tags and aging by teeth. Basics of feeding, fencing, handling, selection and breed traits. The class address issues helpful to the new flock owner or those wanting more information before purchasing hair sheep. This is not a veterinary class.

Location
Good Earth Organic Farm
Celeste Texas

Thursday, April 12th OR Saturday, April 14th
Cost \$45.00 per person

Call or email for a signup form and more information. 903-496-2070
Mail@goodearthorganicfarm.com

GOOD EARTH ORGANIC FARM

Registered Blackbelly Sheep Selected Rams
Great Pyrenees and Anatolian Shepherd Dogs

50lb bag Diatomaceous Earth \$17.00
50lb bag Sea Kelp Meal \$40.00
50lb 18% Sheep Pellet with DE and kelp
\$8.00 (a custom ration for our farm)

8629 FM 272 Celeste TX 75423 903-496-2070
www.goodearthorganicfarm.com

Blackbelly Barbados Sheep Association International Officers

Charles R. Beam, President, Oklahoma (405) 360-5187
Janet Palmer, Secretary/Treasurer, Texas (972) 551-7090

Regional Directors

Anthony Bruno	Arizona	(520) 398-9635
John W. Taylor Sr.	California	(909) 676-3269
Carol Elkins	Colorado	(719) 948-3773
Jenifer Bane	Missouri	(660) 291-8692
Lewis Kiffer Sr.	Pennsylvania	(814) 563-4754
Claude Bailles	Tennessee	(931) 722-3080
Lynn Magedson	Texas	(903) 496-2070
Jane Mullen	Ontario, Canada	(705) 295-4916

CORLIS RESIGNED AS REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Due to restrictions on her time, Kerry Corlis resigned as Regional Director December 29, 2000. She remains a supportive member of the Association. We appreciate her service to the Association.