

# Short Tales

Published by the Finnsheep Breeders' Association

<http://finnsheep.org>

Serving Finnsheep from 1971—2014

Volume 82 , Winter

January—March, 2014



Barbara Kahl photo of a Stillmeadow ewe & new friend

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Shawna & Nels Bloom—Beau Peeps Sheep, Homeland, CA

Beth Fallon—Bare Feet Farm, Sterling, CT

Joanna Porter—Cabriole Farm, Plymouth, ME

Wendy & Scott Calhoun—Willow River, MN

Paul Mahin—Apple Haven Ranch, Bismark, ND

Sheila K. Warden—Sawyer Creek Farm, Gouverneur, NY

Charles Oakley—Campbell Spur Farm, New Delhi, NY

Janice Hamby—Fair Winds Farm, LLC, Quarryville, PA

Marvin Lowe—Huntsville, TN

Bridget Brown—Solarity Fiber Flock, Middlesburg, VA

Emily Tzeng—Bainbridge IS, WA

Anne-Marie Elkins—Muddy Pig Ranch, Ellensburg, WA

*If you know of new members who are not listed here, please forward their information to: [maire8797@yahoo.com](mailto:maire8797@yahoo.com)*

## Chief Shepherd's Message

Whenever I use the word shepherd, my imagination goes to the beautiful greens of Ireland, the rocky lands of New Zealand and the pine hills of Finland ... Me atop a huge rock with my staff and guardian dog (George) by my side, watching over the flock. But no, back to the frosty Midwest where we have barely risen above 0\* in two months. I hear a few have already started lambing, most successfully, I, however, will not start lambing until April.

The good news.... We are moving along now with our online registrations. I know we had planned on being online by the first of the year, but as with all good plans..... Very soon though, we will be able to use PayPal to register our sheep and to renew our membership. The Finnsheep Breeders Association is ready to move up to the next level, there are changes in the wind, I am sure we will have a few growing pains, but with our members we will achieve all we set out to.

Cheers to a successful 2014 Lambing season.

Fran Smith

Chief Shepherd, Finnsheep Breeders Association

[ziptyacres@gmail.com](mailto:ziptyacres@gmail.com)

217.375.4311

## Editor's Note:

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My goal this year is to make the ST encouraging, educational, and enthusiastically fun (as well as business minded). Ideas, articles, projects, photos etc., that you may have to meet this goal would be greatly appreciated.

We have done many things in the past...What did you enjoy or utilize? What would you like to see included this year? What would be helpful to you? What have you learned or used from past newsletters?

We also have enclosed a new Quarterly Question section that will help the FBA formulate future directions.

Answers and feedback on these and other question would be greatly appreciated and very helpful in making our newsletter better.

Please take the time to respond.

Send your responses to our newsletter coordinator, Mary Tucker at: [maire86797@yahoo.com](mailto:maire86797@yahoo.com) or call her at: 585.928.1721

## REMINDER

*FBA Annual Activity Fees (membership renewal) were due as of January 7, 2014*

*Forms can be located on page 15 within this Short Tale newsletter; or on the website:*

[http://finnsheep.org/membership\\_form.htm](http://finnsheep.org/membership_form.htm)

*or via email by contacting*

[FBAsecretary@finnsheep.org](mailto:FBAsecretary@finnsheep.org)

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12:16 PM  
02/10/14  
Accrual Basis

**FINNSHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2013

	<u>Dec 31, 13</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Cheque - BB&T	16,340.30
Petty Cash	23.26
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>16,363.56</u>
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	-178.59
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<u>-178.59</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	16,184.97
Other Assets	
Equipment	515.95
Franklin Templeton Fund	1,038.80
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<u>1,554.75</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>17,739.72</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	3,543.42
Retained Earnings	13,243.89
Net Income	952.41
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>17,739.72</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>17,739.72</u></u>

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10:23 AM  
01/23/14  
Accrual Basis

**FINNSHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION**  
**Profit & Loss**  
January through December 2013

	Jan - Dec 13	Jan - Dec 12
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Ad Income	0.00	0.00
Annual Dues		
2012	0.00	1,150.00
2013	1,250.00	0.00
<b>Total Annual Dues</b>	<u>1,250.00</u>	<u>1,150.00</u>
Breeders Directory Income		
2012	0.00	930.00
2013	750.00	0.00
<b>Total Breeders Directory Income</b>	<u>750.00</u>	<u>930.00</u>
Flock Prefix Income	490.00	310.00
Income (other- dup certs etc)	168.75	199.20
Membership Income		
Youth membership	40.00	25.00
Membership Income - Other	735.00	700.00
<b>Total Membership Income</b>	<u>775.00</u>	<u>725.00</u>
Registrations		
Finn Pedigrees	2,478.00	3,012.00
Non-purebred	36.00	48.00
Non mbr reg income	27.00	29.00
Pedigree o/12mth	1,176.00	1,404.00
Transfers	1,568.00	1,200.00
<b>Total Registrations</b>	<u>5,285.00</u>	<u>5,693.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>8,718.75</u>	<u>9,007.20</u>
<b>Expense</b>		
Advertising		
Web-page	300.00	0.00
Advertising - Other	1,773.30	2,657.30
<b>Total Advertising</b>	<u>2,073.30</u>	<u>2,657.30</u>
Bank Service Charges	0.00	14.00
Contract Labor	2,225.10	2,422.07
Data Base Maint	50.00	250.00
Meeting	49.79	108.66
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00
Postage and Delivery	401.22	280.06
Printing and Reproduction	1,374.33	462.88
Professional Fees		
Consulting		
Data Base	460.00	0.00
<b>Total Consulting</b>	<u>460.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Professional Fees</b>	<u>460.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Stipend	200.00	0.00
Supplies		
Office	0.00	10.87
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>10.87</u>
Telecommunications	180.00	75.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>7,013.74</u>	<u>6,280.84</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>1,705.01</u>	<u>2,726.36</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>1,705.01</u></u>	<u><u>2,726.36</u></u>

## Youth interested in applying for the 2014 Youth Conservationist Program

\* Must be between 9 and 18 years old.

\*Submit an application postmarked by April 1, 2014 that includes: An essay which introduces you, your experience with animals, if for any reason, the animal is not being kept at your own home, explain, in detail where it will reside and what exactly your responsibilities will be, your essay should explain your interest in sheep, and answers the question: "Why I would like to help preserve a heritage breed of sheep." The applicant should indicate if they wish to be considered for a particular breed or for any of the breeds available.

Each applicant must include a letter of recommendation from Their 4-H advisor, FFA advisor, veterinarian, teacher or clergy. The total application/essay should be no more that 2 pages in length. The application must include address, phone and if available, email address. Interested young people should contact Elaine for an updated list of breeds available, then submit their letter of application/essay to:

Elaine Ashcraft, 46118 CR 58 Coshocton, OH 43812

740.622.1573 [tankewe\\_cr58@yahoo.com](mailto:tankewe_cr58@yahoo.com) - please note the underscore between tankewe and cr58!

## ALL ESSAYS MUST BE MAILED, WILL NOT ACCEPT EMAILED ESSAYS!

### Requirements if selected:

Must be present to receive the ewe at the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival on Sunday May 4, 2014. Must exhibit the ewe at least twice in 2014 at: 1) a county fair or local sheep show and 2) the State Fair in the state where the recipient lives.

Must breed the ewe to a registered ram (of her breed) in the fall of 2014, should consult the donor breeder for their recommendations.

Must either use the ewe's fleece to personally make a wool item or sell the fleece to a spinner, felter or weaver.

Must submit an article the following Feb/Mar to their local newspaper covering their year and including information concerning the next year's YCP program.

Must submit a one to two page report, with pictures, to the Donor Breeder by April 30, 2015 and provide a scrapbook to be used at the Maryland Festival which is then given back to the youth.

Any questions please contact Elaine Ashcraft 46118 CR 58 Coshocton, Ohio 43812

1740.622.1573 [tankewe\\_cr58@yahoo.com](mailto:tankewe_cr58@yahoo.com) - please note the underscore between tankewe and cr58!

## Donors choose the recipients from the essays submitted by the youth

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**"Being a Donor-Sponsor** in the Youth Conservationist Program is a great opportunity to talk about Finnsheep, give hands-on encouragement to the young person who will be awarded an ewe while listening and learning what they dream of; why they were interested in a Finnsheep, how Finnsheep can help them reach their dreams and aspiration.

Some were interested in the fiber, some in showing, some others in the commercial aspect of Finnsheep, and I enjoyed discussing how Finnsheep can help them develop their dreams...fiber art, meat, dairy...it also helped them formulate steps they could begin to take.

While participating in the YCP during the Maryland Sheep and Wool festival, I spoke with the youths who were being awarded the ewes, their families, and many other people who were interested in sheep and were looking at the different breeds. Speaking about our breed, what makes them different, why they are special, why preserving and conserving this heritage breed is important was fun to me." Mary Tucker, Lighthouse Farm, NY [mair8797@yahoo.com](mailto:mair8797@yahoo.com)

We'd like to hear from the membership on all things related to raising Finnsheep. In each Short Tale, a few questions will be posted. Please take the time to email your response to Mary Tucker at [maire8797@yahoo.com](mailto:maire8797@yahoo.com) We'll compile the responses for the next issue.

In addition, send in your questions and they will be placed in a future "Quarterly Questions" section of the newsletter.

Set 1: How many breeding ewes and rams do you shepherd?

Are they all Finnsheep? If you have crosses, what breeds do you cross with? Why?  
What attracted you to Finnsheep?

Set 2: What is the primary market for your sheep? (breeding stock? ethnic market? freezer lamb?)

What value added items do you sell? (fleece, roving, crafts, dairy, other, etc...)  
How do you advertise?

Set 3: What do you feed your sheep?

What has been your biggest challenge in raising sheep in general and Finnsheep in particular?  
If you were to begin raising sheep (from the beginning) again, what would you do differently?

Set 4: Do you coat your sheep?

If you coat them, where have you purchased coats? or  
If you have made them, what pattern and materials have you used?

Mary Tucker, newsletter coordinator  
[maire8797@yahoo.com](mailto:maire8797@yahoo.com)

[Do you know of any upcoming events or webinars that can be placed into our newsletter.](#)

[Event information is helpful to breeders, youths, and producers in scheduling their upcoming family's year.](#)

### Finnsheep Projects for Feltmakers

from Stillmeadow Finnsheep

Have you ever tried your hand at making felt from Finnsheep fleeces? Using a wet felting technique combined with assistance from a clothes washer I enjoy blending colors into abstract designs for flat felt which can be made into sturdy bags. These have unisex appeal as I-pad or cell phone carriers, also as fashion statements by creative individuals. Finn fleece is particularly easy to use & gives terrific results.



**Finnsheep Projects:**

In this section of our newsletter, I would like to show projects made by our membership. Both adults and youths are welcome to enter items that they have made: Yarn spun, hand-dyed items, knitted, crochet, weaving, felting, sheep dairy projects such as soap or hand-lotions, even that "first ever-cooked myself" lamb meal! If a pattern was used, you may add it also. Photos of projects welcomed. Send to Mary Tucker, newsletter coordinator: [maire8797@yahoo.com](mailto:maire8797@yahoo.com)



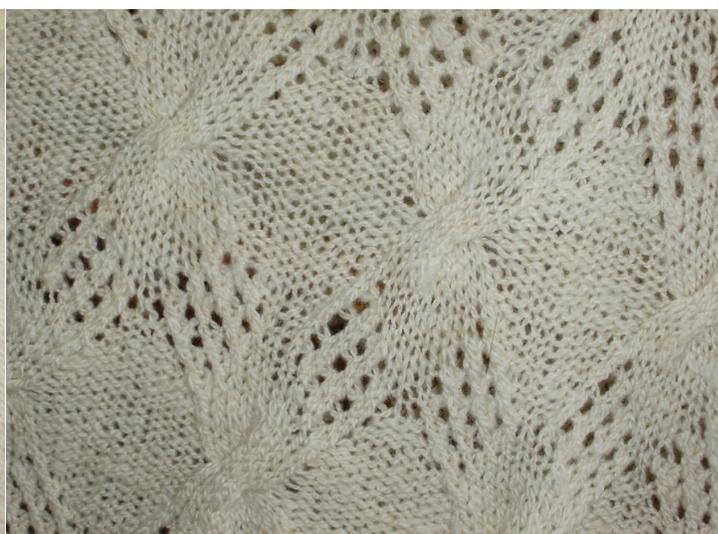
The baby blanket (close up), doll sweater (original design), and original design jumper "The Memory of Trees" by Joanna Porter.

The blanket pattern is free on Ravelry at <http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/cable-knit-throw>

"The jumper and doll sweater I made up on the fly and unfortunately did not write the pattern down (I might actually have written down the American Girl Doll sweater pattern quickly on note paper and have it someplace, if anyone really wants it).

The jumper though, I just drew a picture, did some math, and knitted it...so really no pattern for that, just basic instructions on method".

Joanna Porter, [joannaporter1@gmail.com](mailto:joannaporter1@gmail.com)



My recent project: Mittens!

I have been trying to felt mittens using the Scandinavian feltmaking technique described by Anne Einset Vickrey in her book: **The Art of Feltmaking**. I am also incorporating tips suggested by Sharon Costello in a workshop I attended a few years ago.

The mitten on the far left was the first attempt. The thumb was not defined enough and I did not felt the sides or "seam" area well. The second try fared a little better, but the thumb was still not defined enough and the "seams" are noticeable. I made a new pattern between the 2nd and 3rd attempt to define the thumb better. I was pretty happy with the third attempt, but I botched cutting open the mitten to remove the pattern. The fourth attempt, far right is the best yet, but where the thumb attaches still needs work. I hope to make a match soon, so I can wear them out.

Mary O'Malley, [johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com](mailto:johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com)

## Soil Affects Sheep & Wool

BY HENRY STEWART - From The Shepherd's Manual, 1879

**The selection of a suitable farm should be the first care of a person who intends to devote his time and capital to the rearing of sheep.**

To become a successful shepherd, requires that a person should have a liking for the business, and possess tact, patience, and perseverance sufficient to resist the temptations which may arise at seasons of depression to abandon it for some other temporarily more promising pursuit.

Having a determination to stick to his flock, he must have a farm suited to its special needs or it will not thrive.

Sheep cannot bear damp; and undrained pastures are fatal to their welfare. Luxuriance of herbage is not generally favorable unless the land is heavily stocked and the pasture kept short and closely cropped.

Old permanent meadows, in which a variety of grasses are found, are better than artificial meadows which form part of a rotation with other crops.

With a portion of such permanent meadow, there may be many cultivated crops grown upon the other portions of the farm-upon which the sheep may be folded-with benefit both to themselves and the land.

The land most suitable for sheep is one that is naturally drained, with a sandy loam or gravelly soil and subsoil, and which bears spontaneously short, fine, herbage, largely mixed with white clover. It should be rolling, and maybe hilly in character rather than flat and level.

Any low spots or hollows in which aquatic or marsh plants grow, are very objectionable, and should be thoroughly drained. One such spot upon an otherwise admirable farm may infect a flock with deadly disease. No domestic animal is more readily affected by adverse circumstances than the sheep, and none has less spirit or power to resist them. Virgil, the ancient poet, a close observer of such matters, says of them, "Oves semper infelix pecus," (Sheep are always an unhappy flock), and many shepherds since his day have found reason to hold the same belief.

But the experienced sheepmaster has no fear on this score. He knows that a reputation for success with sheep is "never gained without merit, nor lost without deserving," and that failure is not want of luck, as is so frequently declared, but the consequence of ignorance or bad management.

The careful shepherd will not wait to cure, he is prompt to prevent ; and every defeat is made a new lesson for study and an example for future avoidance. It is by long experience that shepherds have learned that the first requisite for success in their business is, the choice of a farm upon which their flocks will enjoy perfect health, and that dryness of soil and of air is the first necessity for their well being. By a careful and judicious choice in this respect, most of the ills to which sheep are subject, with all their contingent losses to their owners, are avoided.

### **Soils & Sheep Character**

The character of the soil upon which sheep are pastured has a great influence in modifying the character of the sheep.

Upon the kind of soil of course depends the character of the herbage upon which the flock feeds.

Certain soils, such as those consisting of decomposed granite or feldspar, and which are rich in potash, are not generally favorable for sheep. Even turnips raised on such lands sometimes affect the sheep injuriously, producing disease under which they waste away, become watery about the eyes, fall in about the flanks, and assume a generally unhealthy appearance.

## Soil Affects Sheep and Wool, cont.

Upon removal to a limestone, or a dry sandstone soil, sheep thus affected, improve at once and rapidly recover.

The lambs, as might be expected, are most easily affected, and many are yearly lost by early death upon lands of an unfavorable character.

As a rule, lands upon which granite, feldspathic or micaceous rocks intrude, or whose soils are derived from the degradation of such rocks, should be avoided by the shepherd. Such soils are, however, not without their uses, and fortunately are excellently adapted to the dairy.

The soils most to be preferred are sandstone and limestone lands, of a free, dry, porous character, upon which the finer grasses flourish.

The soils which are derived from rocks called carboniferous, which accompany coal deposits, or are found in the regions in which coal is mined, are those upon which sheep have been bred with the most success.

The original home of the Leicester sheep, as well as that of the famous Shropshires, is on the red sandstone; the Lincoln is raised on the alluvial soils based on limestone; the Cotswold has had its home for centuries on the limestone Cotswold hills; the Southdown, Hampshire down, and Oxford downs, are native to the chalk hills and downs of southern England; the Scotch Cheviot and the hardy blackfaced Scotch sheep thrive on sandstone hills and mountains of trap rocks which rise amongst them; the fine wools of Yorkshire are produced on magnesian limestone soils; and to come to our own soils, we find the American Merino reaching perfection on the limestone hills of Vermont, beneath which fine marbles are quarried.

Unfortunately this is the only instance we possess of having given a local habitation to a race of sheep in America; but how soon we shall have produced or acclimated several breeds of sheep, which will take their peculiarities from the locality in which they are bred and raised, is only a question of time.

Peat or marsh lands are unfavorable for sheep farms. Salt marshes near the coast, however, may be excepted from this general condemnation, as the saline herbage acts as a specific against some of the parasitic diseases-the liver-rot mainly-to which sheep are subject upon marshy pastures.

The Romney-marsh sheep of England are bred successfully upon the alluvial soils of reclaimed marshes, and produce good wool and a heavy carcass.

The gigantic Lincoln, the largest sheep bred, originated and thrives in perfection upon drained alluvial soils.

The dry, friable nature and porous character of the soil has as much to do with the health and growth of sheep as the geological character of the rocks upon which it is based, or from which it has been derived.

The census returns of England show that the highest percentage of sheep to the 100 acres, is found precisely where the soil is naturally drained and dry, and the lowest, where clay abounds and damp, cold soils with rank, coarse herbage are general.

In our own country, although the time has been far too short as yet for this condition to operate largely, we find the same fact curiously developed, and Ohio and western Pennsylvania, with their extensive coal bearing formations underlying dry rolling fields, possess more sheep than any other district, while New York, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan, which cover an extensive deposit of limestones and sandstones, with naturally dry soils, come next on the list.

The vast stretch of prairies in the Mississippi Valley, and of plains west of the Missouri to the Rocky Mountains, chiefly underlaid with limestones and sandstones, and especially remarkable for a dry, porous soil-which bears a rich carpet of the best sheep pastures in the world-have already proved themselves to be well adapted to the successful growth of flocks bearing fine and medium wools.

The rich alluvial valleys of the eastern rivers where naturally or artificially drained, have been found to be fitted for the production of large bodied sheep bearing the lustrous combing wools. All these localities with the hills and valleys of the Middle States will in course of time have their flocks suitable in character to the circumstances in which they are kept.

## **Soil Affects Sheep and Wool, cont.**

But it will only be in consequence of persistence in careful breeding and culture, that the final type for each locality will be reached; for while the effects of soil and locality are unavoidable and imperative, the shepherd must be able to discover these effects and aid in giving them their due development if early success is to be secured.

But in whatever locality it may be, if the soil is not naturally drained, profitable sheep farms may be sought in vain.

The profit from sheep raising as a special business will not permit of high-priced lands.

Where sheep are kept only as a branch of general farming, it may pay to drain the soil artificially; but without drainage, natural or artificial, sheep cannot thrive.

The sheep must have a dry foot or disease follows.

### **Weather Exposure**

The exposure of the pasture is another important consideration. Long continued cold winds are productive of great discomfort and sickness, and often cause serious loss amongst the flock.

On the sea coast, exposure to the moist sea breezes injures the quality of the wool, and renders it harsh and deficient in quantity.

Of two adjoining flocks upon opposite aides of a hill facing north and south, the sheep exposed to the north winds will be several pounds less in weight, and their wool will be whiter, harsher, more uneven, and less healthy looking, than those of the flock upon the south side.

This experience is very common.

The lambs will also be less thrifty. Of this, many notable cases occur every season where sheep and lambs are pastured and fed for the markets. The small size of sheep raised upon mountain pastures is a case in point.

### **Water Supplies**

The supply of water is of the greatest importance.

A living spring or a clear flowing stream with dry gravelly banks is the best source of supply.

Wells are better than ponds or pools.

Stagnant water is exceedingly objectionable.

Hard water is better than soft, and water containing much saline or other mineral matter, is a valuable help to the pasture as furnishing many necessary substances. When water is exposed to the atmosphere it deposits the greater part of any mineral matter it may contain, and becomes soft. It is then rendered of less value for stock purposes.

There are some waters that contain potash, lime, soda, magnesia, iron, and sulphur in combination with oxygen, carbonic acid, and chlorine to the amount of 15 to 20 grains per gallon, and such water is a source of nourishment to sheep.

Pond or marsh water is highly injurious, as is also running water in which aquatic plants are found. It is from drinking such water, as much as from pasturing on undrained soils, that the liver flukes, parasites always accompanying the disease termed the rot, gain access to the stomach and intestines of the sheep.

A deficiency in the necessary mineral matters may be obviated by giving the sheep stated supplies of a mixture of common salt, sulphur, saltpeter, sulphate of magnesia, (epsom salts), phosphate of lime, bone-dust, or fine bone, with a small portion of sulphate of iron, (copperas). A small teaspoonful of this mixture given once a week to each sheep will help greatly to a healthful condition, and resist the tendency to disease caused by inferior pasture or soft water.

The study of the plants suitable for a pasture, the character of soils, and the water, should be part of the education of every shepherd.

In accordance with the FBA Constitution “Article IV. MEMBERSHIP Section 1. Category 1. Voting Membership. Owners of flocks of registered Finnsheep or the duly authorized agents or representatives of such owners shall be entitled to membership. Upon payment of annual activity fees, such membership shall be entitled to vote in relation to the number of animals registered annually from said flock. The number of votes entitled to said flock shall be determined by the annual number of sheep registered as follows.

- 1 vote for 0 to 50 registered
- 2 votes for 51 to 100 registered
- 3 voted for 101 to 500 registered
- 4 votes for 501 to 1000 registered
- 5 votes for 1001 and over registered

The “annual number of sheep registered” shall be designated as the number of Finnsheep registered by the flock owner for the preceding calendar year prior to the year the vote is cast. For purposes of establishing the number of registrations the secretary shall publish as of January 1 each year, the total number of registrations made by each flock owner for the preceding year.”

We, the FBA board of directors, hereby submit the following report to the Finnsheep Breeders’ Association members.

### Finnsheep Breeders’ Association

Annual Registry Report of 01/01/2014

From: 01/01/2013 To: 12/31/2013

Member/Farm ID	Animals Registered	Member/Farm-ID	Animals Registered
Naomi Smith, House Mountain	102	Meg Shaughnessy, Devitt Valley Farm	4
Leanne Hughes, Triple L Finnsheep	46	LeMoyne Seamster, Glade Creek Farm	4
Dale Amendt	42	Mike Caskey, Pine Lawn Farm	3
Elizabeth H. Kinne-Gossner, Stillmeadow Finns	38	Alan & Christine Huffman, Huffman Farm	3
Dr. Jack Judy, DVM, Glen Avon Farm	29	Callie Welch	3
Terrie Godfrey, Eldorado Farms	26	Deborah Kirch, The Meadow’s Gate	3
Marvin Blair, BBG Sheep	23	Shawna Smith, Case Acres	3
Theresa Fallon, Ironwood Hill Farm	18	Kathleen & Ben Stern, Sweet Clover Farm	3
Laura Hauss, Borderhauss	15	Anna-Lisa Thayer, Hillside Farm	3
Clark BreDahl, Mormon Trail Farm	14	Tim Reese, Gale Woods Farm Park	2
Kathryn McMahon, Fossil Creek Farm	15	Rhonda Jaacks, Harlequin Farm	2
Tamara Myers, Medley Farm & Kennel	14	David & Pam Hoover, Rooster’s Run Farm	2
Gail VonBargen, Little Red Oak Farm	13	Halelujah Fish, Little Hills Sheep Ranch	2
Fran Smith, Zip Ty Acres	12	Karen Byron, Twin Brook Farm	2
Cara Leigh Wilson, Point of View Farm	11	Joanna Porter, Cabriole Farm	2
Sara Jane Rogers	10	Charles Oakley, Campbell Spur Farm	2
Colleen O’Connors, OK Acres	9	Marvin Lowe	2
Megan Pennington, Circle M Farm	9	Linda Witt, Misty Mountain Fiber	1
Mary O’Malley, Honeysuckle Farm	7	Brian Magee, Star Finnsheep & Dorset	1
Mary Scholfield, Hut on The Hill	7	Melanie Lainey, Summittview Farm	1
Adrienne Wolfe, Rolling Bay Farm	7	Robert & Sandra Willford, Solace Farm	1
Debra Perry, Dancing Waters Farm	7	Lori Moxley	1
Bridget & Doug Rightmire	6	Diane Lalomia	1
Amy Cook, Sweetland Hill Finnsheep	5	Brenda & Jeff Brendle, Blackberry Hedge	1
Mary Tucker, Lighthouse Farm	5	Bryan & Elizabeth Pullen, Walnut Springs Farm	1
Laura Moxley, Moxley Farm	5	Lynda West, West Heritage Farm	1
Amy Couture (Jr. Member)	5	Robert Rich	1
Jennifer & David Miles	4	Bridget Brown, Solarity Fiber Flock	1
Bobbie Peck, Counting Sheep Farm	4	Judy Ozmer, Mountain View Farms	1

By Dr. D. L. Thomas

Finnsheep were first imported into the United States in 1968 for one specific reason – to improve the productivity of commercial sheep in the U.S.

At the time, lambing rates nationwide were languishing below one lamb per ewe per year and crossbreeding programs utilizing highly prolific Finnsheep were seen as a quick way to revitalize the industry.

Progressive commercial producers who integrated Finnsheep into their operations found the Finn jumpstart to be a huge success. Researchers predicted and growers confirmed that each one percent increase of Finnsheep blood in the genetics of a crossbred ewe resulted in roughly a one percent rise in lambing percentages. The fact that Finnsheep transmit their prolificacy via multiple genes rather than just one or two allows commercial producers the luxury of essentially “dialing in” their desired lambing rate by controlling the amount of Finn blood in their ewe flock. Most commercial producers choose to maintain somewhere between 25 and 50 percent Finn breeding in their females. More lambs born means more total pounds of lamb sold and a better bottom line.

Today, the same numbers apply. The primary source of income for most commercial producers is still pounds of lamb sold multiplied by the selling price per pound. Finnsheep and their crosses excel in that regard better than any other woolled sheep in America!

Since 1972, more research has been conducted on Finnsheep than any other breed in the U.S. and that research says the benefits of Finnsheep to commercial producers go far beyond just added prolificacy. A recent Finn research summary by Dr. D.L. Thomas, University of Wisconsin-Madison concludes that *“Compared to several domestic purebreds and crosses, sheep with Finnsheep breeding have 1) a younger age at puberty, 2) greater fertility to autumn mating. 3) greater litter size, 4) greater survival to weaning, 5) similar growth rate and 6) similar subcutaneous fat thickness...”*\*

In addition, Finnsheep possess a long breeding season conducive to out-of-season or accelerated lambing schedules. They are noted for resisting ketosis (lambing paralysis) and rarely prolapse while carrying their large litters of lambs to term. And, when healthy and well fed, they frequently milk well enough to raise three or more lambs - a valuable asset not only to commercial producers but sheep dairies as well.

Finns stand apart from other prolific breeds in possessing lustrous, medium-fine, hair-free wool that can come in a variety of beautiful colors – though pure white remains dominant and the breed standard.

Finally, Finnsheep possess a mild temperament that lends itself to easy care – no more chasing animals to the far side of pens or pastures when you need to work with them.

As most veteran producers are quick to point out, “average” doesn’t cut it any more in the sheep business. If you plan to make your living – or a significant part of it – selling lamb AND wool by the pound into the commercial market, you should know that a percentage of Finnsheep breeding in your ewe flock isn’t just an option – ***it’s a necessity!***

**\*Dr. D.L. Thomas, University of Wisconsin, Madison – Performance and utilization of Northern European short-tailed breeds of sheep and their crosses in North America: a review, May 2010.**

Clark BreDahl, Finnsheep breeder and commercial producer, Greenfield, IA

The commercial sheep industry in the U.S. has been downsizing now for over 50 years. There were hopeful signs that the trend might be reversed in 2014, at least temporarily. But, government figures released at the end of January surprised many by showing another 2 percent across the board decline in numbers nationwide.

Selling lamb and wool into the commodity (generic) market is a tough business. Lamb prices have an extremely erratic history (witness: 2011 vs. 2012). Feed costs are highly dependent on weather conditions both locally and in major grain producing areas of the U.S. (\$8.00 per bushel corn a year ago vs. \$4.00 today). And, labor costs continue to rise. How many other businesses can weather a 50 percent decline in the price of their finished product with a doubling of costs – in the same year – and survive?

With all of that said, the rest of the story is that despite those challenges, many commercial producers manage to hang in there during the tough times and make some decent money when market conditions are good – but they don't do it by being "average!"

Though sheep are certainly dual-purpose animals, most farm flock commercial producers receive the bulk of their income from the sale of lamb. Profits, or lack thereof, are determined by pounds of lamb sold times price per pound. The single most important factor affecting pounds of lamb sold is number of lambs born – prolificacy. That is why I tell commercial producers who raise woolled sheep that they **must** include some Finn breeding in their ewe flock. Under today's economic conditions, it isn't just an option – it's a **necessity!**

The benefits of Finnsheep to commercial producers are many: high fertility rates and prolificacy, early sexual maturity, excellent post-natal survival, long breeding season, ample milk production, hair-free wool and quiet disposition – to name a few. But, despite those attributes, Finnsheep are generally not seen as an ideal stand alone breed for the commercial industry, for a couple of reasons.

Despite big improvements in the last 25 years, most pure Finns still lack ideal industry standard muscling and growth characteristics. These two shortcomings, however, are easily overcome by crossing with a high growth, meat breed terminal sire. Plus, crossbreeding tends to reinforce virtually all of the desirable traits Finns are already known for.

Research from several USDA and Land Grant university sources indicates that mating crossbred ewes to terminal sires of an unrelated breed can increase total pounds of lamb weaned by as much as 35 percent. Toss in the fact that those gains from heterosis (crossbreeding) come at no additional cost and it becomes apparent why most commercial growers today maintain crossbred ewe flocks.

There is only one other breed of sheep in the U.S. that can match Finnsheep in terms of prolificacy and that is the Romanov. Both breeds are thought to have descended from the wild Mouflon sheep of Northern Europe centuries ago. But, their paths have diverged since then.

Finns are definitely woolled sheep, possessing lustrous, medium/fine fleeces in a variety of colors, with pure white dominating (any trace of color is taboo for commercial producers selling wool into the generic market). Romanovs are actually hair sheep, though that fact is well camouflaged in F1 crosses with woolled breeds.

But, come shearing time, those F1 fleeces contaminated with hair usually carry heavy discounts from commercial wool buyers.

Starting in the early 1990's Romanov sires began making some serious inroads into the farm flock commercial market in the Midwest and East. Research done at USMARC, Clay Center, NE indicates Romanovs hold an advantage over Finns when it comes to prolificacy, mature body size, out of season breeding tendencies and growth. Plus, they appear to be somewhat more resistant (or at least tolerant) to ovine progressive pneumonia.

The trend away from Finns to Romanovs has now started to reverse itself again due to both the wool (or hair) situation and the fact that many commercial growers have become frustrated with the flighty disposition of Romanovs and their crosses. At best, however, wool has only been a fractional part of the income generated from most commercial flocks. More often, it has been a net loss to the bottom line. For that reason, some commercial growers have closed their eyes, bit the bullet and moved completely to hair sheep breeds or their crosses.

Finnsheep breeders must work hard to meet or beat the Romanov challenge for prolific breed supremacy in the commercial industry. I am more concerned with differences in out-of-season breeding success, survivability, growth and OPP resistance than I am the slight difference in prolificacy. Two things that can help quickly tilt the playing field in our favor are scientific genetic selection programs such as NSIP/LambPlan and widespread testing of all breeding rams to identify resistance to OPP. Maintaining an OPP-free flock is the gold standard in managing the disease, but most commercial producers still have not accepted that level of concern. Attempting to infuse a measure of genetic resistance to the disease may be the next best option.

As I begin my 40<sup>th</sup> year in the commercial sheep business, a few keys to success and longevity stand out:

- **A prolific ewe flock** – Anything less than a 200 percent lamb crop *marketed* will be tough sledding. 250%-plus is very doable and should be the goal.
- **An “easy care” ewe flock** – Easy care means different things to different people, but to me it means having sheep that will perform the way you want with as little human intervention as possible. Another way to quantify it is “hands free” sheep. Time spent working with *individual* sheep quickly limits the flock size you can manage.
- **A healthy ewe flock** – Unexpected health problems are the leading cause of disillusionment among newcomers to the sheep business. Buy healthy sheep. Ask for written guarantees or evidence to support health claims. Pay the price to get a healthy start and then maintain strict bio-security to keep your flock “clean.”
- **Great rams** – First and foremost, buy rams that will complement your ewe flock. The cheapest ram is rarely the least expensive. Ask to see production and performance records. And don't just evaluate the ram. Evaluate the person selling it as well.
- **Ask questions; find a better way** – Don't insist upon making all the mistakes yourself! Find trustworthy mentors and information sources and learn all you can from them. If you are a good learner and catch on fast, it will be a happy, life-long process.
- **Establish goals and keep records** - The old saying is “if you don't know where you're going, you won't know if you've arrived.” Likewise, “If you can't measure it, you can't make progress.” Unless yours is strictly a hobby, you at least need to know whether you work for the sheep or the sheep work for you.
- **Eat lamb and wear wool** – Promoting and selling your product always begins at home!



# Finnsheep Breeders' Association Membership and Breeder Directory Form

*Instructions: Print, Complete and mail this form and your payment to:*

**Finnsheep Breeders Association**  
PO Box 51 222 Main St. Milo, IA 50166  
PH: 641.942.6402

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

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

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Check All That Apply:**

- New Adult Member (\$ 35.00)                       Youth/Associate Member (\$ 10.00)
- Continuing Adult Member (\$ 25.00)                       Continuing Youth/Associate Member (\$ 15.00)
- Scrapie Flock ID (if participant): \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Voluntary ( ) Export ( ) Pending ( ) Enrolled ( ) Certified

*The FBA encourages breeders to participate in the program; however, participation is not required to become a FBA Member.*

Short Tale Newsletter **FREE** to FBA Members via Email unless requested to be sent hard copy via US Postal Mail.

Breeder Directory Listing (\$ 30.00): **FBA Members Only** (Entered into FBA Website, FBA On-line Database, and FBA newsletter). **Six (6) photos ( .jpg format preferred ) may be added to a listing by sending form and photo files by email to: [webmaster@finnsheep.org](mailto:webmaster@finnsheep.org)**

( ) Purebred Finnsheep ( ) Commercial Breeder ( ) Cross-Bred Finnsheep – List crosses \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Wool or Other Value Added Products – list \_\_\_\_\_

Breeder Directory Listing – Include a brief description of 20 words or less. There is an additional fee of \$ 1.00 /line (5 words = 1 line) for listings containing over 20 words. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Flock Prefix: (\$ 10.00/letter): \_\_\_\_\_

*The Flock Prefix enables **Exclusive** use of your name, flock, or farm on registrations and is a **One Time fee**. The Flock Prefix fits best if 10 letters or less...this gives space for the entire animal ID to fit in the space provided on the Certificate of Registry.*

**Total Amount Due:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Make check to: Finnsheep Breeders' Association)

Membership/Annual Activity Fees are due on or before January 7<sup>th</sup> of each year. Members receive a free yearly subscription to "Short Tales" newsletter via email (unless requested in hard-copy format), Access to the Finnsheep\_Breeders chat group on Yahoo for encouragement or help in your endeavor, A copy of meeting minutes, and an annual report. Members will receive copies of other pertinent mailings and/or emails.

I/we agree to be governed by the rules, regulations, constitution and by-laws of the Association as amended from time to time, and to keep written records of breeding, exact birth dates and litter sizes of Finnsheep, and further, that I/we will furnish promptly any information concerning same at any time when requested to do so by the Association.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised on: 03-21-13

Annual  
Mem

# FBA Breeder Directory

## California

### **Shawna & Nels Bloom, Beau Peeps Sheep**

PO Box 337

Homeland, CA 92548

951.928.6247

[shawnamariebloom@icloud.com](mailto:shawnamariebloom@icloud.com)

[www.beaupeepsbabydolls.com](http://www.beaupeepsbabydolls.com)

### **Tamera Myers, Medley Farm & Kennel**

13470 Alabama Road

Galt, CA 95632

209.748.5046

[medleyrn@yahoo.com](mailto:medleyrn@yahoo.com)

[www.MedleyFarm.com](http://www.MedleyFarm.com)

Flock Prefix: Medley

White, Black, Brown, Gray, Fawn, Piebald Purebred, Registered Stock. Fleeces available

Breeding stock & pets

## Colorado

### **Rebecca A. Colman, Beck's Place**

205 Walker Lane

Canon City, CO 81212

719.269.8950

[ridermom@gmail.com](mailto:ridermom@gmail.com)

Registered Finnsheep in the central Colorado mountains. Call for availability of livestock or wool for sale.

## Connecticut

### **Chris and Beth Fallon, Barefeet Farm**

459 Sawmill Hill Rd.

Sterling, CT 06377

860.774.5331

[mrsfbfallon@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsfbfallon@yahoo.com)

### **Rhonda Jaacks, Harlequin Farm**

132 White Hollow Road

Lakeville, CT 06039

860.435.9865

[rjaacks@att.net](mailto:rjaacks@att.net)

[HarlequinFarm.blogspot.com](http://HarlequinFarm.blogspot.com)

Flock Prefix: Harlequin

## Illinois

### **Cheryl Medlin & Frank Moore, Wolf Moon**

10304 Julie lane

Lebanon, IL

618.623.2628

[cherylmedlin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cherylmedlin@sbcglobal.net)

Purebred Finns

### **Bryan & Elizabeth Pullen, Walnut Springs Farm**

11111 W. Park School Road

Princeville, IL 61559

309.385.4637

[walnutspringsfarm@hughes.net](mailto:walnutspringsfarm@hughes.net)

[www.pullenfarms.com](http://www.pullenfarms.com)

Healthy rotational grazed registered Finn sheep, Cotswald, Finn-Shetland & Commercial Merino cross. Breeding stock, lambs, beautiful fleeces & rovings available.

### **Fran Smith, Zip Ty Acres**

7588 E. State Route 9

Rankin, IL 60960

217.375.4311

[ziptyacres@gmail.com](mailto:ziptyacres@gmail.com)

[www.Ziptyacres.com](http://www.Ziptyacres.com)

Flock Prefix: Zip Ty Acres

Purebred Registered Finnsheep, Finn-Southdown/Tunis cross, Angora goats, Pygora goats, & Angora rabbits. Breeding stock, fleeces, hand dyed wool & rovings. (\$2.00 fee)

## Indiana

### **Pamela K. Hoover, Rooster's Run Farm**

5197 SW Washington School Road

812.896.1223

[pam.hoover@rrfiberfarm.com](mailto:pam.hoover@rrfiberfarm.com)

[www.rrfiberfarm.com](http://www.rrfiberfarm.com)

Purebred Finnsheep, Finn-Shetland  
Enrolled Status: Mandatory Scrapie Program since 2002 Flock ID: IN 88035  
The Rooster's Run store selling yarn, rovings, fleeces, plus other wool products, Kromski spinning wheels, and Howard Brush carders. We also offer registered Angora goats.

### **Gerald & Paula Perron, J & P Heritage Farm**

6305 Bittersweet Road

Spencer, IN 47460

812.935.7424

[jerryperron@q.com](mailto:jerryperron@q.com)

Purebred Finnsheep, Crossbred Finnsheep (Finn/Gotland and Finn/Shetland).

## Iowa

### **Dale Amendt**

6815 Waterman Blvd.

Sutherland, IA 51058

712.446.3489

Purebred Finnsheep, Crossbred Finnsheep (Finn x Suffolk and Finn x Corridale)

### **Marvin Blair, BBG Sheep**

3402 Fletcher Avenue

Lake City, IA 51449

712.464.8153

Purebred Finnsheep and Crossbred Finnsheep (Finn x Hamp and Finn x Dorset)

### **Clark BreDahl, Mormon Trail Farm**

1911 290th Street

Greenfield, IA 50849

641.745.2323

[bredahl.mtfarms@gmail.com](mailto:bredahl.mtfarms@gmail.com)

Purebred White Finnsheep & Crossbred Finnsheep (Finn x Dorset x Ile de France) Foot rot free, OPP flock test negative

## Maine

### **Kathleen & Ben Stern, Sweet Clover Farm**

248 Belgrade Road

Mt. Vernon, ME 04352

207.293.2615

[sweetcloverfarm@roadrunner.com](mailto:sweetcloverfarm@roadrunner.com)

[www.sweetcloverfarm.weebly.com](http://www.sweetcloverfarm.weebly.com)

Registered purebred Finnsheep, Finn/Romney and Finn/Columbia crosses. Breeding stock, wool and meat available.

## Maryland

### **Mary & John O'Malley, Honeysuckle Farm**

1600 Ednor Road

Silver Spring, MD 20905

301.421.9420

[johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com](mailto:johnandmaryomalley@yahoo.com)

Purebred Finnsheep, Finn cross Tunis and Suffolk breeding stock, meat, and roving

### **Phil and Judy Osborn, Abundance Acres**

9713 Crystall Falls Drive

Hagerstown, MD 21740

Office: 240.556.027 or Home: 301.791.1110

[abundanceacres@myactv.net](mailto:abundanceacres@myactv.net)

[www.abundancefiber.com](http://www.abundancefiber.com)

**Michigan****Darren & Margaret Cole, Sable Forest Finnsheep**

2114 South Magruder Road  
St. Louis, MI 48880  
989.681.0024  
[sableforrest@aol.com](mailto:sableforrest@aol.com)  
[www.sableforestfinns.webs.com](http://www.sableforestfinns.webs.com)

Flock ID: MIF2042

White, Black, brown and badgerface. Fleeces available yearly; call to check prices and availability

**Bobbie L. Peck, The Counting Sheep Farm**

5709 E. 12th Street  
White Cloud, MI 49349  
231.429.3364

[john\\_330\\_live\\_it@yahoo.com](mailto:john_330_live_it@yahoo.com)

[www.thecountingsheepfarm.com](http://www.thecountingsheepfarm.com)

Registered Breeding stock, freezer lambs, fleeces and roving. Call, email or check us out on Facebook!

**Callie Welch, Bramble Berry Finnsheep**

6861 Old Pipestone Road  
Eau Claire, MI 49111  
269.461.4101  
[brambleberryfinns.blogspot.com](http://brambleberryfinns.blogspot.com)  
[callielw@gmail.com](mailto:callielw@gmail.com)

Registered Finnsheep and Finn x Corriedale

**Danielle & Andrew Wentz, Iron Wheel Farms**

4269 Roehre Road  
Beaverton, MI 48612  
989.859.5563  
[www.ironwheelfarm.com](http://www.ironwheelfarm.com)

Finnsheep and Finnsheep crosses, meat and fiber pets.

**Minnesota****Terrie & George Drimel, Roundabout Acres**

34435 Park Trail  
Center City, MN 55012  
651.257.4871  
[roundaboutacres@gmail.com](mailto:roundaboutacres@gmail.com)

[www.roundaboutacres.com](http://www.roundaboutacres.com)

Purebred Finnsheep, Blueface Leicester x Shetlands, Finn x Shetland, breeding stock, freezer lamb, fleeces, and roving.

**Minnesota, cont.****Tim Reese, Gale Woods Farm Park**

7210 County Road 110 West  
Minnetrista, MN 55364  
463.694.2002  
[treese@threeriversparkdistrict.org](mailto:treese@threeriversparkdistrict.org)

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

Flock Prefix: TRP Flock ID: MN43

SFCP Enrolled status since 2005  
Purebred Finnsheep, Crossbred Corriedale and Icelandic. Gale Woods is an educational farm. Products include wool, yarn, Pasture raised lamb, beef, poultry hogs and a vegetable CSA

**Gail VonBargen, Little Red Oak Farm**

14255 Jacob Street  
Hamburg, MN 55339  
Office: 952.467.2305 or Home: 952.564.9522  
[gvonbargen@aol.com](mailto:gvonbargen@aol.com)

[www.littleredoakfarm.blogspot.com](http://www.littleredoakfarm.blogspot.com)

SFCP enrolled in 2006 Flock ID: MN62  
Purebred Finnsheep & Shetlands in white, black, gray, brown, Badger and Piebald. We sell breeding stock, unregistered stock, raw wool and roving.

**Missouri****Laurie Moxley, Moxley Farm**

10510 Boulder Road  
Mountain Grove, MO 65711  
477.926.3618  
[mcwobbie@aol.com](mailto:mcwobbie@aol.com)  
Registered Finns black, white, chocolate, and Piebald in South Central Missouri. A healthy flock under rotational grazing management.

**New York****Amy Cook, Sweetland Hill Finnsheep**

64 Sweetland Hill Road  
Chenango Forks, NY 13746  
607.725.4811  
[cookamym@sunnybroome.edu](mailto:cookamym@sunnybroome.edu)  
[www.sweetlandhillfinnsheep.com](http://www.sweetlandhillfinnsheep.com)  
Purebred Finnsheep & Finn/North Country Cheviot crosses. Purebred Finnsheep in black, white and badgerface. Fleeces and hand dyed wool & rovings for felting and spinning for sale.

**Teresa Fallon & Andy Nageri****Ironwood Hill Farm**

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Newark Valley, NY 13811  
607.237.1788 or 607.972.1885  
[ironwoodhillfarm@gmail.com](mailto:ironwoodhillfarm@gmail.com)

[www.ironwoodhillfarm.com](http://www.ironwoodhillfarm.com)

Purebred Finnsheep in all colors. Raised naturally on our biosecure farm. Disease Free flock and tested annually for OPP

**Elizabeth H. Kinne Gossner****Stillmeadow Finnsheep**

5883 Randall Hill Road  
DeRuyter, NY 13052  
[stillmeadowfinnsheep@frontier.com](mailto:stillmeadowfinnsheep@frontier.com)

[www.stillmeadowfinnsheep.com](http://www.stillmeadowfinnsheep.com)

Flock# NY69-SFCP Certified Scrapie Free 2012  
Biosecure Closed Purebred Finnsheep Flock, OPP Negative. Bred for Maternalism and Fleece since 1994, white and colors.

**Deborah Kirsch, The Meadow's Gate**

3978 Pingrey Hill Rd  
Andover, NY 14806  
607-590-1605  
[kirschdeb54@yahoo.com](mailto:kirschdeb54@yahoo.com)

SFCP ID: NY 116

The Meadow Gate Finnsheep has Finns from well respected bloodlines. Dedicated to optimizing their desirable traits, while maintaining breed purity. Lambs, adults, wool available.

**Lisa Konnerth and Steffen Peabody****Bay Haven Short Tails**

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Brookhaven, NY 11719  
631-776-0279  
[bayhavenshorttails@hotmail.com](mailto:bayhavenshorttails@hotmail.com)

[www.bayhavenshorttails.com](http://www.bayhavenshorttails.com)

We are a small fiber farm located on the south shore of Long Island. We raise Finnsheep and Angora rabbits.

Space is available for your  
Finnsheep Breeder Directory Listing.

Cost is \$30.00 per year.

A Directory listing is also placed  
on the FBA Website  
and the FBA Online Database

New York, cont.**Brian Magee, Star Finnsheep & Dorsets**

1184 Harford—Slaterville Rd.  
Dryden, NY 13053  
607.844.9711

[brianmagee38@yahoo.com](mailto:brianmagee38@yahoo.com)

OPP Free Selected for accelerated lambing  
STAR Codn 171 R Heterozygous and Homozygous

**Richard Parsons, Jr. DVM & Marla Parsons  
Burnt Mill Farm**

174 Burnt Mill Road  
Churchville, NY 14428  
585.739.1460

[marla@burntmillfarm.com](mailto:marla@burntmillfarm.com)

[www.burntmillfarm.com](http://www.burntmillfarm.com)

Facebook: Burnt Mill Farm

SFCP ID: NY 111371 Flock Prefix: Burnt Mill  
Purebred Finnsheep. Breeding stock, meat  
and wool. Based upon God's design, sustain-  
able family farm. Pasture raised chicken,  
brown eggs, naturally grown vegetables, and  
hand-made soap. Facebook: Burnt Mill Farm

**Linda Porterfield, Green Acres Sheep Farm**

2230 Gridley Paige Road  
Deansboro, NY 13328  
(cell) 914.414.7872 (home) 914.301.5907

[lcarf@hotmail.com](mailto:lcarf@hotmail.com)

[www.gasheep.com](http://www.gasheep.com)

Flock Prefix: GA

Purebred white and colored Finnsheep and  
Commercial Finn x Dorset. We have an addi-  
tional location in Katonah, Westchester  
County.

**Mary & Herb Tucker, Lighthouse Farm**

PO Box 85  
West Clarksville, NY 14786  
585.928.1721

[maire8797@yahoo.com](mailto:maire8797@yahoo.com)

[www.lighthousesheepfarm.com](http://www.lighthousesheepfarm.com)

SFCP Flock ID: NY 103

Purebred Finnsheep & Finn x Dorset cross.  
Finnsheep white lines plus other color lines.  
Wide genetics. Selected for build, muscle,  
maternalism, fleeces. Lambs available year  
round. Scrapie QR and RR genetic lines.

**Sheila Warden, Sawyer Creek Farm**

80 California Rd.  
Gouverneur, NY 13642  
315.287.0437

[sawyerfm@northnet.org](mailto:sawyerfm@northnet.org)

**CaraLeigh Wilson, Point of View Farm**

PO Box 535  
Bangall, NY 12506  
845.868.4140

[finnsheep@me.com](mailto:finnsheep@me.com)

[www.pointofviewfarm.net](http://www.pointofviewfarm.net)

SFCP Flock ID: NY 120

Purebred Finnsheep raised all naturally on  
pasture, organic grains, minerals and herbs.  
Biosecure farm offering healthy breeding stock  
for sale including white, brown, fawn, black,  
and gray lambs. Entire flock tested for negative  
OPP status annually, Random flock testing for  
CL and Johnes. Flock goals are wide genetic  
variety, conformation, maternal traits, parasite  
resistance and high quality wool. Chemical  
free coated hand spinning fleeces, roving and  
yarn available in all colors. Come visit and see  
how we have an alternative Point of View at our  
farm following the traditions of family in Finland.

Ohio**Dr. J Mark Judy, DVM, Glen Avon Farm**

255 N. Cherry St  
Germantown, OH 45327  
937-855-1101

[steamboatinsnoopy@juno.com](mailto:steamboatinsnoopy@juno.com)

Purebred Finnsheep

Glen Avon Farm has a secondary contact at

**Alan Judy, Farm Manager**

8951 Browns Run Rd  
Germantown, OH  
937-855-6281 C. 937-241-8956

Continuous breeding purebred white Finnsheep  
**since 1976.** Descendants from the original  
"Aries" line imported from Prince Edward Is-  
land, Canada. Some colored Finnsheep. Raw  
and processed wool rovings and batts.

**Terrie Godfrey, Eldorado Farms**

10915 Main Rd  
Berlin Heights, OH 44914  
419-554-1069

[terrie@eldoradofinns.com](mailto:terrie@eldoradofinns.com)

[www.eldoradofinns.com](http://www.eldoradofinns.com)

**Gayle Workman, Meadowlark Farm**

20090 Fred-Amity Road  
Mt. Vernon, OH 43060  
954.290.0737

Flock Prefix: Meadowlark Flock ID: OH594  
Purebred Finnsheep and Finn x Dorset gently  
and organically raised, raw wool, fiber pets, and  
breeding stock.

Oregon**Jeri Gebelin**

9801 NE 13th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97211  
805.350.5009

[shepherdess@brandweinmeadows.com](mailto:shepherdess@brandweinmeadows.com)

[www.brandweinmeadows.com](http://www.brandweinmeadows.com)

**Meg Shaughnessy, Devitt Valley Farm**

20754 Summit Hwy.  
Blodget, OR 97326  
541.456.2266

**Shawna Smith, Case Acres**

19807 S Hwy 211  
Colton, OR 97017  
503.502.5614

[caseacres34@msn.com](mailto:caseacres34@msn.com)

[www.caseacres.com](http://www.caseacres.com)

Purebred Finnsheep & Finn x Suffolk commer-  
cial crosses. Carefully selected for high pro-  
duction and Finn attributes. White, Black,

Pennsylvania**Jan & Dale Hamby, Fair Winds Farm, LLC**

2 Fair Winds Lane  
Quarryville, PA 17566  
717.239.9215

[jan.hamby@gmail.com](mailto:jan.hamby@gmail.com)

[www.fairwindsfarm.com](http://www.fairwindsfarm.com)

White and colored Finnsheep. Breeding stock  
for fiber, roving and hand-dyed yarns available.  
Some Finnsheep blend Alpaca also available.

## **FBA Breeder Directory, cont.**

### **Rhode Island**

#### **Colleen & Daniel O'Connors, OK Archers**

843 Mooresfield Road  
Saunderstown, RI 02874  
401.789.0778

[cjo59@verizon.net](mailto:cjo59@verizon.net)

SFCP: Pending Flock Prefix: OKA

Small Family Homestead in South County, RI with Registered Finnsheep of various colors and bloodlines; scrapie free, friendly breeding stock available.

### **Tennessee**

#### **Megan Pennington, Circle M Farm**

204 Straight Fork Rd  
Hunsville, TN 37756  
423-215-2637

[megan@circlemfinnsheep.com](mailto:megan@circlemfinnsheep.com)

[www.circlemfinnsheep.com](http://www.circlemfinnsheep.com)

Flock Prefix: Circle M

Purebred Finnsheep; white with some brown or fawn possible. Raw fleeces. Lambs available and at times adults.

### **Virginia**

#### **Naomi Smith, House Mountain Farm**

1765 Jacktown Road  
Lexington, VA 24450  
840.463.6062

SFCP enrolled since 1999 Flock ID: VA 17  
Farm established in 1985 in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Purebred Finnsheep flock of 100 breeding ewes, mostly quads and quint. Bred for size, multiple births, mothering ability and structural correctness. Glen Avon & Root bloodlines. Rams available for cross-breeding

#### **Linda Witt, Misty Mountain Farm**

154 Quail Call Lane  
AMissville, VA 20106  
540.937.4707

[info@mistymountainfarm.com](mailto:info@mistymountainfarm.com)

[www.mistymountainfarm.com](http://www.mistymountainfarm.com)

SFCP Flock ID: VA 26

Purebred Finnsheep, Hand-spinning fleeces, roving and batts

### **Virginia, cont.**

#### **Will Stewart, Skyemoor Farm**

40101 Highland View Lane  
Paeonian Springs, VA 20129  
540.882.4872

[will.stewart1a@gmail.com](mailto:will.stewart1a@gmail.com)

[www.skyemoorfarm.com](http://www.skyemoorfarm.com)

Flock Prefix: SKY

Purebred Registered Finnsheep. Breeding stock (ewes & rams), wethers, fiber pets, Crossbred Finns also. Fleeces and rovings available. Colors in White, Black, and Badgerface.

### **Washington**

#### **Vicki Bratton, Tumbelle**

PO Box 1264  
Ephrata, WA 98823  
509.289.0922

[tumbelle@nwi.net](mailto:tumbelle@nwi.net)

#### **Dan & Leanne Hughes, Triple L Finnsheep**

89202 N. Harrington Road  
West Richland, WA 99353  
509.539.6745

[danlea23@msn.com](mailto:danlea23@msn.com)

[Leanne@TripleLFinnsheep.com](mailto:Leanne@TripleLFinnsheep.com)

[www.triplelfinnsheep.com](http://www.triplelfinnsheep.com)

SFCP: Certified Flock ID: WA2252

Flock Prefix: 3L

30 years of breeding Finns for size, productivity, wool, milking ability and temperament. White black gray brown fawn and peds. Lambing records available since 1982

#### **Ruth McCauley, Jeruth Farm**

30722 N. Monroe Rd.  
Deer Park, WA 99006  
509.276.7715

[rem68@aol.com](mailto:rem68@aol.com)

#### **Debra Perry, Dancing Waters Farm**

4925 163rd Lane SW  
Rochester, WA 98579  
360.273.9917

Flock Prefix: DWF

[mountaintrailwalker@yahoo.com](mailto:mountaintrailwalker@yahoo.com)

Facebook: Dancing Waters Farm

Purebred Finnsheep and Finn x Shetland. Breeding with an eye for Form, Fiber, Function, and Temperament. Wool and yarn available.

### **Washington, cont.**

#### **Emily Tzeng**

6522 NB Bay View Rd.  
Bainbridge, WA 98110  
443.350.7207

[emtzeng@gmail.com](mailto:emtzeng@gmail.com)

#### **Robert & Sandra Willford, Solace Farm**

30119 N. Spotted Road  
Deer Park, WA 99006  
509.276.7160

[solacefarmfiber@yahoo.com](mailto:solacefarmfiber@yahoo.com)

[www.solacefinnsheep.com](http://www.solacefinnsheep.com)

SFCP Flock ID: WA2167

Natural meat and fiber. Quality white and colored fleeces, rovings and hand-spun yarns.

#### **Adrienne Wolfe, Rolling Bay Farm**

7988 NE Lougreen Rd.  
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110  
206.855.1850

[rollingbayfarm@hotmail.com](mailto:rollingbayfarm@hotmail.com)

[www.rollingbayfarm.com](http://www.rollingbayfarm.com)

Flock Prefix: RBF

Breeding for the small farm. Emphasizing quality fiber, disposition, size and nurturing. Yarn and Lockerlamb available.

### **Wisconsin**

#### **Tracy Sengupta, Firefly Fields Finnsheep**

4110 W. Plymouth Church Road  
Beloit, WI 53511  
608.345.8555

[tracy@fireflyfields.com](mailto:tracy@fireflyfields.com)

[www.fireflyfields.com](http://www.fireflyfields.com)

SFCP: Certified Flock ID: WI1990

Flock Prefix: FF

Purebred Finnsheep. Authentic Finnish Landrace sheep as a heritage breed. High percent age Finnish genetics. All breeding stock micron tested. Jacketed Hand-spinning fleeces.

#### **Brian Stichter**

422 US Hwy 14  
Arena, WI 53503  
608.753.2713

[stichter@charter.net](mailto:stichter@charter.net)

VFCP Flock ID: WI456

Purebred Registered Finnsheep in white, black, and brown. Finn x North Country Cheviot commercial ewes and ewe lambs, fleeces and raw wool available.

## **FBA Registry Office**

PO Box 51  
222 Main Street  
Milo, IA 50166

Phone: 641.942.6402  
Fax: 641.942.6402

Come visit our website at

<http://finnsheep.org>

## **FBA Secretarial Office**

Callie Welch, FBA Secretary  
6861 Old Pipestone Rd.

Eau Claire, MI 49111

269.461.4101

[FBAsecretary@finnsheep.org](mailto:FBAsecretary@finnsheep.org)

## **Finnsheep Breeders' Association**

Finnsheep breeders are now found across many States producing purebred and crossbred Finnsheep. Breeders look to the Finnsheep Breeders' Association, Inc. to provide record keeping of registrations and transfers of the breed. Since the 1971 inception of the Finnsheep Breeders' Association, Inc. the organization has drawn on the expertise of leading research authorities to enhance the Finnsheep breed and provide leadership in promoting the Finnsheep qualities and characteristics.

### **Mission Statement**

The American Finnsheep Breeders' Association:

Provides a national pedigree breed recording system for Finnsheep  
Maintains the Finnsheep breed standard for the USA  
Promotes animal health within the breed and nationally  
Fosters and promotes the proliferation and marketing of Finnsheep within the national sheep industry and abroad  
Is a national focal point for Finnsheep Breeders  
Disseminates timely information to members on all matters relating to the breed.



### **Finnsheep Breeders' Association**

6861 Old Pipestone Rd..

Eau Claire, MI 49111