

TEXEL SHEEP BREEDERS SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 19, 2017

The 2017 TSBS Annual Meeting, held in Sedalia, MO, was called to order by President Judy St. Leger at 6:46 p.m., cdt.

TSBS Members and guests present:

Ron & Amy Wilcox BreAnn Connor	James & Erica Oller Tristin Tyler	Steve & Jen Iles Rachael Gately
Judy St. Leger & Marc Kratzschmar	Eugene & Niki Fisher Ammarae Kyran	Blake Campbell Brady Campbell
Bret & Donna Taylor	Gary Onan	Brady's guest
Fred Hemmerly	Austin & Crystal Retzlaff	
Tristin Lind Girlfriend Parents		

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mike Bokelman had emailed Judy a copy of the Treasurer's Report which she handed out to all attending. After reading the report, Rachael moved to accept it as written and Bret seconded the motion. Treasurer's Report accepted.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Between moving last year and a computer crash, Niki did not have a Report to share. Judy is hoping that she may have a copy at home.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

To normalize the rotation of TSBS Board of Directors, both Judy and Fred had submitted letters of resignation, effective at midnight tonight, which the Board had accepted at their last meeting. This way there won't be 4 or 5 Board Members going off the Board at one time.

Election Results: There were 40 ballots cast this year, with 3 spoiled ballots that could not be counted. The new TSBS Board of Directors are Don Heller and Brady Campbell. The new BOD will meet tomorrow, June 20th, at 8 a.m. to elect the 2017-2018 officers.

Web-site: A big THANK YOU to James Oller who spearheaded getting the new TSBS website up and going.

Membership Renewal dates are January 1-March 31, 2018.

University of West Virginia: Scott Bowdrige reported to Judy that Texel rams bred to Katahdin ewes in Ohio and Minnesota had a moderate variation in the two sites. Overall, Texel x Katahdin crosses are faring better than the Suffolk x Katahdins and the lamb weights are keeping up.

Grant: Judy moved to award a grant of \$2500.00 to UWV to help facilitate web page execution. This will allow them to publicize their finding on the above and the TSBS will be able to link to this study.

After some discussion, Judy withdrew her previous motion and restated it as: To give a grant of \$2500 to WVU to publicize their research concerning Texel sheep and their parasite immunity. Ron seconded this motion. The motion carries.

James will link the TSBS website to the UWV research findings.

Scanning: Gary Onan will start scanning at 8 a.m. in the morning at the Sheep Barn.

Texel Logo: Last fall, a request had been made to revise the current Texel logo. This request had fallen by the wayside in the following months. James says that he will contact someone to get this going and completed.

Breed Standards

Tail Docking

Crystal shared that in the past year, Wisconsin sheep growers have stepped up and asked that the state make a stand on the length of tail docks in order to move away from the extremely excessive docks.

Gary added that there is no reason to have a tail dock shorter than 1-1 1/2 ". Gary also shared that in 3 separate trials in 6 locations across the U.S., 2600 lambs were compared to test the occurrence of rectal prolapses between long, medium and short docks, there was substantially a greater occurrence of rectal prolapses in lambs with the short dock.

Gary also added that the feed, air quality and length of dock all play a part in rectal prolapses.

Bret & Fred both say that a dock at the end of the caudal fold is appropriate.

Tristin's mom says that it is hard to judge how long a tail will be when the animal is a year old.

Steve states that from a producer's perspective, severely docked lambs will have a much greater occurrence of rectal prolapse when pushed on feed.

Brady & Bret: Should be breeder discretion following ethical practices.

Rachael feels that since the TSBS does not tell breeders how to feed or take care of their animals then it shouldn't mandate the length of tail, but encourage breeders to use humane tail docking procedures.

James both agree that this should be a personal management preference. Noting that animal welfare should be top priority.

Erica suggests staying away from 'surgical procedure' wording as any form of docking could be classed as a surgical procedure.

Niki just prefers that the girls' "business" be covered up.

After all the discussion the question was raised, "Should the TSBS take a stand on extreme tail docking?" And the consensus is yes. This stand should also appear on the Breed Standards and Judges' Scorecard.

For now, no further action will take place. The newly elected BOD will deal more with this at their upcoming meeting.

Semen imports

This has been an on-again-off-again process. As of today, it's on.

Big Ohio Sale

This was the first year that Texels have been represented at the Big Ohio. Blake Campbell and Rachael Gately were both instrumental in making this happen. 2% of the sale proceeds will come to the TSBS.

There seemed to be a lot of interest in Texels and a lot of people looking who had never seen a Texel sheep before.

James made a motion that the TSBS provide a banner for the Big Ohio under the name of the Eastern Regional Texel Show. This also will be taken on by the Board of Directors at a later date.

Registration Percentages

15/16 % should be the standard to have a Texel ewe classed as Registered, not Recorded.

31/32 % should be the standard to have a Texel ram classed as Registered, not Recorded.

These were the standards before the Registrar's office moved from Iowa to Kansas. The Board of Directors will also visit this at a later date.

As there was no further discussion, Judy moved to adjourn the meeting and James seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m., cdt.

Respectfully submitted by,
Niki Fisher
TSBS Secretary