

Loco News

SPINNING BASICS

How to spin

Bring your carders, bring your flickers, bring your wheels, bring some wool you want to work on.

Barb Getty will teach spinning basics at the February LOCO meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Lorain County Parks Visitor Center on Diagonal Road.

Sara Twining will provide the fleece. She is bringing half of it in the grease and half of it washed so those who have not tried spinning in the grease can do so.

If you have not tried spinning in the grease, it requires different skills so come and add to your repertoire.

Workshop chairman Beth Hines is exploring the idea of a spring basket workshop and program chairman Elizabeth Yasaki is working on a dye program for April.

Lots of good stuff ahead.

Coming attraction

Fae Evans of Medina will present a program on fleeces, "Buy It On the Farm," at the March 14 meeting.



IS THIS YOU?

Borrowers-- Alert!

If you have a tape or book from our library, it is overdue. In fact, all the borrowed items currently out on loan are overdue. Someone else is waiting for it.

Dum, dah dum dum—This is your official notice to return them. (Hear the music of doom?)

Sara Twining is going to be upgrading our selections and getting them in order as fast as possible in the next few weeks and she needs help from all of us to locate and catalogue what we have.

When we return what is out we can get more goodies and there will be more to go around for all of us. Please help!



Calendar

- Feb. 8:** LOCO meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 22:** Spinning at Beth Hines' home.
- March 7:** Spinning at Rosie Hauff's
- March 14:** LOCO meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- March 15-17:** Annual retreat by Western Reserve Spinners & Weavers and North Coast Knitting Guild at Cedar Hills Camp in Painesville.
- March 16-18:** Cuyahoga Weavers Guild workshop by Connie Enzmann-Forneris on Blockweave Rugs. Ph: Jane Bode (216) 321-4306.
- March 28:** Spinning at Beth Hines' home.
- April 8:** Black Swamp Guild Market Day and Fiber Fair, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Center Twp. Fire hall in Bowling Green.
- April 8:** "A Knitter's Fantasy," by Western Reserve Knitting Guild of Canfield at the Trumbull County VoTech School in Warrne. Information: Mary Lou Katsas, (330) 392-5602 or Jo Reiter, (330) 759-9716.
- May 17-18:** Medina Spinning and Weaving Guild workshop on yarn design by Jane Fournier. Information: Vicky Bryg, (330) 659-2406 or brygv@ferro.com

May 27-28: Great Lakes Fiber Show in Wooster at the Wayne County Fairgrounds.. 10 a.m. -5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission free, food available. Workshop information and registration: Linda Reichert 2474 N. Firestone Rd., Wooster, 44601-9219. Ph: (330) 264-9665, e-mail don47linda@valkyrie.net

June 21-25: Convergence 2000 in Cincinnati.

July 7-8: Mansfield Quilters Guild show, Masonic Temple, 1250 Middle Belleville Rd., Mansfield, noon-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$2 admission.

July 13-18, 2001: Midwest Weavers Conference.

Standard wool grading samples

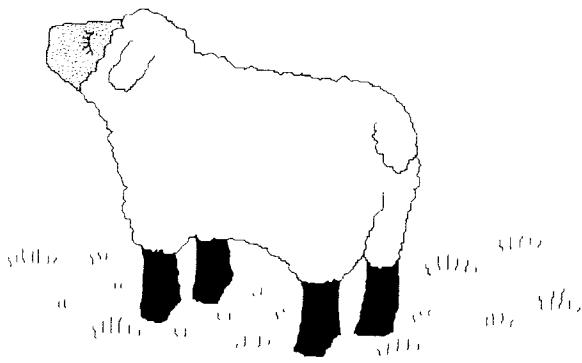
Here's where to get the kinds of standard samples for grading wool that USDA produces and sells. Keith Padgett is the maker who has been doing the work for a number of years..

Rita Kourlis-Samuelson, ASI's Wool and Pelt Marketing Director, says Keith Padgett is preparing the wool grades samples at a per-set price of \$100, which includes shipping and handling.

Checks and money orders should be made payable to Adams County Extension Fund and mailed to: Adams County Extensions Office: Attn: Carol: 9755 Brighton Road; Brighton, CO, 80601. The extension office phone number is (303) 659-4150.

The definition of a "fiber-holic is: Someone who stops to examine roadkill to see if the fiber is spinnable (or usable).

From Fiberfest Magazine, winter 94-95



Know your breeds

British Friesland

Animal size: rams 280 pounds
ewes 185 to 200 pounds

Fleece type: Coarse

Numerical Count: 29-33

Micron Count: 37 micron

Staple length: 4-6 inches

Fleece weight: ewes 11 pounds

Breed origins: East Friesland is a region located on the North Sea coast and includes parts of both Germany and Holland. The rich pastures in this area were home to the East Friesland (or Friesian) sheep prior to 1530, when they were mentioned in the Vatican archives as being "larger than other sheep and able to raise up to five lambs."

It is believed that the breed was originally evolved from sheep genes from various countries which were brought home on ships based in Friesland. They are called the Holsteins of the sheep world. The breed has now been exported to numerous countries and used as a purebred, as a component of new breeds and for commercial crossbreeding

purposes. They are used not only as milk sheep but to improve the size of the lamb crop, but also the size of the lambs.

Sheep Characteristics: In its native Germany there are herd books for both white and black strains. The latter is reputed to be hardier under adverse conditions. In climates with strong sunlight, the pink skin around the eyes and ears of the white Frieslands can be sunburned.

The head is polled, with a long face, slightly Roman nose and long forward pointing ears, with a woolless "rat tail" that is not docked.

The body is large (mature ewes weigh approximately 85 kgs) with better than average carcass quality. The ewes have a wide, well-separated udder with downward pointed teats. East Frieslands have a very quiet temperament, become easily used to human contact and prefer to graze in family groups. Problems can occur if they are included in large flocks of other sheep in aggressive grazing situations. In order to achieve best results, management has to be maintained at a high level, with particular regard to the Friesland's docile nature.

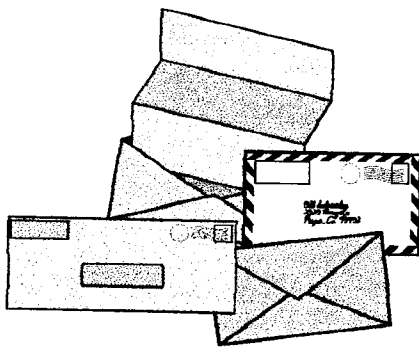
This breed lambs at about 230% on average, the lambs are large and active at birth and proceed to grow well with ewe and ram lambs reaching sexual maturity at about seven months.

The most important trait in East Frieslands is their milk production, which is greater than any other sheep breed. Purebred flocks in Germany can average 600 liters per lactation (about 240 days) with around 6% butterfat.

Breed Association: Jock Allison,
Silverstream Limited, 14 Bellvue St.
P.O. Box 5585, Dunedin, New Zealand.
Phone 64-3-477-6375 or Fax 64-3-477-
6376.

Sources: More on East Friesland Sheep, Ian L. Clark.
Eurosheep Ltd., Box 491, Bently, Alberta, Canada
TOL 020 Ph. 403-748-2624, The Shepherd Magazine,
July, 1994. East Friesian-The Holstein of Sheep
Breeds, The Shepherd Magazine, May, 1994.

Roni Rospert



From the mailbag

Cindy Bush sends a flyer from the **Lorain County Art Loop** with an invitation for all county artists—and that includes fiber artists-- to participate in the county's 2nd Art Loop by registering as an artist or gallery and welcoming visitors during the event June 3 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Forms to complete for participation can be obtained through Art Loop, 3/0 Artstown Studios, PO Box 299, Avon Lake, OH, 44012-0299. Deadline for registration is March 15.

The event is sponsored by Artstown Studios, Firelands Association for the Visual Arts (FAVA) in Oberlin, the Lorain County Visitors Bureau and Stewart Gallery of Elyria.

New categories for competition have been added by the **Ohio State Fair** for this year in the fiber categories.

There are now six classes of spinning and five for weaving. The spinning classes are 1) wool or wool blend, sport weight (current class); 2) wool or wool blend worsted weight (current class); 3) Any other fiber (cotton, silk, linen, etc); 4) Hats, socks or mittens in all the above classes; 5) Any other item made from handspun; 6) 3 skeins for a project.

Prize money for class 5 and 6 is \$20, 15, 10 and 8. Prize money for class 4 is \$15, 12, 10 and 8. Best of show is a \$25 cash price from Central Ohio Weaving Guild or from Ohio Fiber Network.

Weaving classes are 1) Garments such as jackets, vests, capes, coats, etc., with prizes of \$25, 20, 15 and 10 (change in current class); 2) Garment accessories such as shawls, scarves, jewelry, etc., (\$15, 10, 8 and 6); 3) Kitchen accessories—towels, placemats, napkins, etc. (\$15, 10, 8 and 6); 4) Home accessories—blankets, wall hangings, curtains etc (change of current class) for \$15, 18, 8 and 6 prizes and 5: Rugs (\$25, 20, 15 and 10) the current class. Best of show award will be \$25 from COWG or OFN.

The **Medina Spinning and Weaving Guild** will have a workshop by Jane Fournier, author of "In Sheep's Clothing" and many articles for "Spin Off," "Shuttle Spindle and Dyeplot" and other magazines, on Wednesday and Thursday May 17 and 18.

Cost is \$70 for members and \$80 for non-members. May be an additional fiber fee. It will be held at the Medina Townships Hall (corner of Fenn and Huffman roads

in Medina) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

The workshop, "Yarn Design: Spinning by Choice, Not by Chance" will explore how to gain control of the yarns you spin.

To register send checks to the Medina Guild to Laura Enoch, 6856 Ryan Rd., Medina, OH, 44256-7825.

The Weavers Guild of Greater Cincinnati is looking for any woven or colored cloth pieces a minimum of 1-2 foot square for the Big Pig project. They will not be returned but will artfully grace a porker this summer. Needed by Feb. 15. Send to Big Pig Gig Project, WGGC, 4870 Grad Rd., Cincinnati, OH, 45232-1512.

The **Ohio Fiber Network** has sent us material for our official notebook on Ohio sources for wool and other fibers. We now have the lists of shops, breeders and teachers in Ohio which we can all use. The latest copy of OFN News will be available at the meeting for those who are interested.

There are a total of 19 spinning and weaving guilds which now belong to the state organization. Our representative in north central Ohio is Betty White, 9755 Repp Rd., West Salem, OH, 44287-9215 or AGANDBJW@aol.com

The newsletter also lists the current textile exhibits in Ohio and many are well worth a day's travel.

OSU Historic Costumes are on exhibit until March 18 at Campbell Hall, 1787 Neil Avenue in Columbus. Phone (614) 292-3090 for more information.

From April 14 to Dec. 16 there will be an exhibit on fashion changes brought about during the period from 1850 to 1914.



Kent State University offers a wide range of programs extending all year long, some already under way. Phone (330) 672-3450 or www.kent.edu/museum

Convergence is coming

Convergence 2000 is set for Cincinnati June 21 to 25.

This huge national conference will not be likely to come so close to home for most of us for many years, so we should all take advantage of it.

Registration is already underway and classes will be filling up fast. They are being taught by some of the nation's top teachers.

To sign up, write to Convergence 2000 Registration, 4870 Gray Rd., Cincinnati, OH, 45232-1512. Or, you can go online www.weavespindye.org/convergence or even call (513) 591-2500.

The people working to put convergence together are asking us for some help on the visitor's goodie bag. Each guild is asked to provide some item (40 of them) to go in the teacher's bag as a "welcome to Ohio" from LOCO guild..

Instructions on how to participate are in the OFN news.