



THE LIVESTOCK
CONSERVANCY™

NEWS

SPRING, 2018

VOLUME 35, ISSUE 2

Conserving rare breeds since 1977

Changes in the Conservation Priority List for 2018

By C.R. Couch, D.P. Sponenberg, J. Beranger, A. Martin and T. Coucher

The Livestock Conservancy has made several changes to the *Conservation Priority List* (CPL) in 2018. Many breeds of livestock, including rabbits, cattle and poultry remained at their previous conservation priority levels.

The greatest number of changes are among horses. The Conservancy completed a comprehensive equine census during preparation for the recent Endangered Equine Summit. With an international decline in horse populations in the last decade, heritage horses and donkeys have been especially hard hit and many breeds are less secure than in previous years. A new national initiative for equine conservation launched this year, the Endangered Equine Alliance, promises positive change for rare equines.

The **Dartmoor**, **Exmoor**, and **Fell Pony** moved from Watch to the Critical category based on global population numbers of less than 2,000 horses per breed. The **Gotland** moved from Watch to Threatened. The Mountain and Moorland ponies and other small breeds such as Gotland are strong animals and easy keepers, well suited to work on small acreages. On a positive note, the **Shire** was moved from Critical to Threatened as the global population estimate is now greater than 2,000. The United States has at least half of the world's Shire horses, and in addition to their traditional uses, Shire horses are finding popularity as mounts for jousting and Renaissance tournaments.

Wiltshire Horn sheep are few in numbers in the United States, and the global population has fallen below 10,000. They moved from Recovering to the Watch category. The **Romeldale/CVM**, on the other hand, moved up to Threatened from the Critical list, likely due to good promotion of the breed. These sheep are productive



Romeldale/CVM sheep, popular with handspinners and other fiber artists, have successfully moved from Critical to Threatened. Photo courtesy of Marushka Farms.

and appear likely to maintain their upward population trajectory.

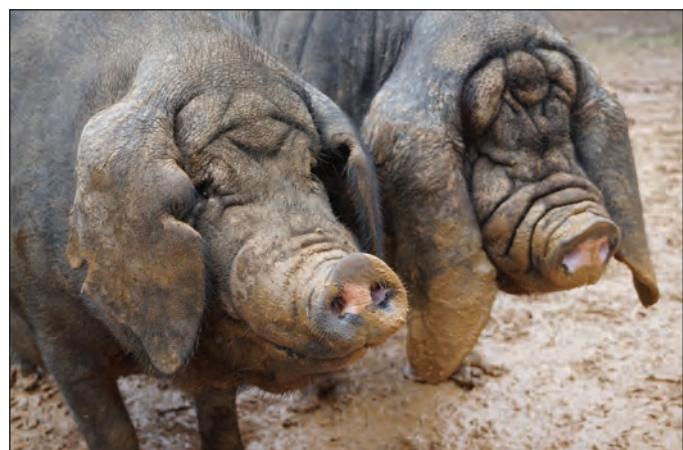
Cattle remain unchanged, despite several breeds being very well suited as family cows and for grass-fed beef and dairy operations. One such multi-purpose breed, the Milking Shorthorn, has a new name: **Heritage Shorthorn (Native)**. This new name more accurately reflects the breed's history in the United States and its value for meat, milk, and draft purposes. Heritage Shorthorns are registered by the American Milking Shorthorn Society where they are designated in the registry as Native.

One new addition to the 2018 CPL is the **Meishan** pig, now listed under Critical. The Meishan pig comes from an area

in China where swine have been domesticated for over 5,000 years. As such, it may be one of the oldest and most unique

Heritage breeds in the swine family. There may be at least 2,000 years of genetic separation between Meishan and European pigs. International numbers are relevant to conservation status, and a resource with Huazhong School of Animal Sciences reports that there are only 1,200 verifiable

continued on page 3



The ancient Chinese Meishan breed has been added to the Critical category of the Conservation Priority List. Photo by Jeannette Beranger.



THE LIVESTOCK CONSERVANCY™

Moving our Brand Forward

If you have been following the Conservancy lately, you may have noticed our new logo, above and on the front of this issue, showing up in many places. A generous member funded the creation by one of the country's leading marketing firms of a logo that could more easily and effectively be used in a variety of marketing applications for The Livestock Conservancy. The previous image, used for the Conservancy's logo since 1993, was a piece of hand-drawn and painted fine art that was scanned in order to use it in online and print applications. Although beautiful, it is not scalable and the large number of colors made it very difficult and expensive to use for things like embroidery and banners. This artwork will not go away completely and will be used in specific instances to market the Conservancy.

The new image allows much greater ability to consistently brand the organization and is scalable for modern online use, especially on mobile devices with their

smaller screens.

In addition to the new official logo, sub-logos (like the new one for the Endangered Equine Alliance on page 4) can be created for Conservancy programs that share the same design elements but focus on specific areas or species. To view and download the new logo, visit the "Promote Conservation" link from the Conservancy's website.



Donate Your Birthday!

If you have spent any time on Facebook recently, you may have noticed people "donating their birthday," or donating the dollar amount that corresponds to their age to their favorite nonprofit. Facebook now allows its users to create fundraisers for nonprofits and the Conservancy is now registered to receive donations through the platform. Several fundraisers have already been set up for the Conservancy – thank you to those who have donated!

To create a fundraiser for the Conservancy, visit www.facebook.com/LivestockConservancy and look for the "+Create" button to get started.

Editor's Note

In the last issue, we ran an article about Romeldale/CVM sheep but only one organization's contact information was listed at the end. Please note that there are two Romeldale/CVM organizations. Their contact information is as follows:

American Romeldale/CVM Association (ARCA)

Rocky Long
6414 Worline Rd
Bow, WA 98232-9628 USA
Phone: (360) 766-5021
americanromeldale@gmail.com
www.arcainc.org

National Romeldale CVM Conservancy

Treasurer: Marie Minnich
252 Frosty Valley Road
Danville, PA 17821 USA
Phone: 570-490-4759
mem@marushkafarms.com
www.nationalcvmconservancy.org

Stay Up-to-Date on Our Work.



Follow Us on Social Media!

The Livestock Conservancy News

PO Box 477

Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 USA

(919) 542-5704 • Fax (919) 545-0022

www.LivestockConservancy.org

rwalker@LivestockConservancy.org

The Livestock Conservancy News (ISSN 1064-1599) is published quarterly by The Livestock Conservancy. The Livestock Conservancy is a nonprofit tax-exempt corporation established to conserve and promote endangered breeds of livestock and poultry. The Conservancy is a membership organization that engages in research, education, and communication to promote these purposes.

Basic annual membership is \$45 and includes the quarterly *Livestock Conservancy News* and the annual *Breeders Directory*. We also accept unsolicited donations. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. Please send changes of address to the Conservancy.

The Conservancy welcomes articles, photographs, letters, and classified advertising for possible publication. Publication of articles or advertisements is not necessarily an endorsement by the Conservancy. Articles from this newsletter

may not be reprinted without permission.

© The Livestock Conservancy 2018.

Solicitation Disclosures

Colorado: Residents may obtain copies of registration and financial documents from the office of the Secretary of State, 303-894-2860, www.sos.state.co.us/ re:Reg No. 20133007164

Maryland: A copy of the current financial statement of The Livestock Conservancy is available by writing PO Box 477, Pittsboro, NC 27312. Documents and information submitted under the Maryland Solicitations Act are also available, for the cost of postage and copies, from the Maryland Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis MD 21401, (410) 974-5534.

North Carolina residents: Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 1-888-830-4989. The license is not an endorsement by the State.

Virginia residents: A financial statement is available from the State Office of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services upon request.

Washington: For additional information regarding the organization's activities or financial information, The Livestock Conservancy is

registered with the Washington State Charities Program as required by law and information may be obtained by calling 800-332-4483 or 360-725-0378.

Florida residents: (Registration # CH37293) A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

Livestock Conservancy Staff

Alison Martin, PhD, Executive Director

Jeannette Beranger, Senior Program Manager

Michele Brane, Donor Information and Research Manager

Dorothy Hammett, Administrative Assistant

Charlene Couch, PhD, Program Coordinator

Angelique Thompson, Operations Director

Ryan Walker, Marketing and Communications Manager

Advisors

D. Phillip Sponenberg, DVM, PhD, Technical Advisor



FROM THE SCIENCE – DESK –

Selection for Production or for Show Can Change Breeds

By D.P. Sponenberg

Breeds come to us through a variety of pathways. Most breeds were developed to suit varied purposes and environments, which shaped them into the wonderful array of breeds we have today. As breeds, especially rare breeds, become the target of more interest, most breeders want to select for either mainstream production or show. Either sort of selection changes the breed, and the changes can either be good or can be a challenge. Selection goals need to be chosen carefully and wisely!

Selecting for production sounds innocent enough, but *how to measure* that production is of key importance. In temperate environments setting priorities is pretty easy, because animal survival is not all that challenging. The more challenging the environment, the more necessary it is to place emphasis on survival as a target of selection. In the most challenging environments, animal survival is right at the top of the list for selection goals, with any

production secondary to that.

Production can be measured in different ways. If production (meat, milk, eggs) is ‘per individual animal’ the usual result is large, rapidly growing, or heavily producing animals. If production is ‘per unit of land area’ the result can be more moderate size, great fertility, and longevity. In some situations the outcome of selecting for fertility and longevity can yield smaller individual animals, but greater production per unit of area. This is a subtle sort of production, and is difficult to capture if one breed is compared against another strictly on early productivity.

When selection for production or show become intense, the result is change in the underlying genetic variability of a population. This needs to be done wisely, because selection goals can change over time and in some situations can reverse. Changes require modification of goals, measurements, and selection practices. As a breed moves through temporary fads in either production goals or showing traits, it loses variation. Eventually it can lose enough underlying variation that future response to selection is hampered. That then dooms the breed to becoming irrelevant and cast aside.

While showing can be productive and constructive, it often fails in both of these goals. Showing is an effort to predict overall merit, and this can be difficult to assess from a visual appraisal. For example, my students periodically come out to do ultrasound examinations of my own goat herd. Invariably they will manage to have two does side by side. One will be big, smooth, and lucky to raise a single kid. The other will be rough, moderate in size, and consistently producing twins or triplets. Asked “Which goat is better?” they usually respond that the larger one is. A herd of the smaller, rougher sort would out-produce those bigger ones every time!

Selection responds to goals, and goals therefore need to be set carefully. Breeders can shape and change breeds dramatically in just a few generations, so fads like blue eyes or specific color patterns really do need to take a back seat to issues like adaptation, productivity, and general utility. And, don’t forget temperament, which is highly heritable and either a source of joy or dismay!♦

CPL Changes

Continued from page 1

pure (Middle) Meishans left on conservation breeding farms in China. Ninety-nine Meishans were imported into the United States in 1989 and divided among three research facilities for study of their large litter sizes and early maturation. The pigs have since been dispersed, and the current U.S. herd consists of pigs descended from these three bloodlines.

Reporting from individual breed registries has been crucial to this year’s changes to the CPL. Good communication with breed associations and improved international consistency in “counting our critters” should make 2018 a positive year for livestock and poultry breed conservation.♦

INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE BREEDS WEEK

• 20-26 MAY, 2018 •

If you participate, let us know by using #HeritageBreedsWeek, email info@LivestockConservancy.org, or give us a call at 919-542-5704.



www.HeritageBreedsWeek.org

New Life Members

The Livestock Conservancy would like to give a special thanks to the following individuals who recently chose to support the Conservancy and its conservation programs by becoming life members. For more information on becoming a life member, please contact Ryan Walker at 919-542-5704, ext. 102, or rwalker@LivestockConservancy.org.

American Mammoth Jackstock

Association

Tyler, Texas

Dugan Tillman-Brown

North Stonington, Connecticut

Elyse Marie Grasso

Boulder, Colorado

Gabrielle Gordon

Fort Worth, Texas

Melissa Wubben

Norwalk, Iowa

National Endangered Equine Summit

By Jeannette Beranger, Senior Program Manager

Targeting issues and finding solutions

Thanks to the grant from the USA Equestrian Trust, the effort to stabilize equine breed decline and secure the remaining diversity can begin. It started with collaboration between Texas A&M University, Virginia Tech, and The Livestock Conservancy to bring together representatives from approximately 50 endangered horse breed associations and registries to participate in the first National Endangered Equine Summit. This group represented thousands of horse owners. Together with leaders of the scientific, rare breed, and horse communities, the group was tasked to identify what they believe are the leading causes of breed population declines, decide what actions may be taken to stabilize the loss of breeds, and develop a list of achievable and fundable action points. It was envisioned that attendees could work towards developing long lasting partnerships that would serve to strengthen and revitalize efforts long diluted by many small groups working independently, and the summit was structured to encourage networking.

Counting our equines

To begin to understand the full scope of the breeds' population status The Livestock Conservancy, Heritage Breeds Canada, and the UK's Rare Breeds Survival Trust collected the most up to date census numbers for each of the breeds we share in common. Participation by registries was nearly universal. As everyone had feared, many of the breeds have seen sharp declines.

Survey and pre-summit homework

Prior to the summit, a survey was distributed to the association representatives and used as a tool by the organizers for targeting the most pressing areas of concern among the breed associations. These ideas set the agenda for the summit. Eight issues were in the forefront of concern and these fell into three main categories:

Biological challenges: Addressing genetic diversity challenges within breeds; Improving availability of scientific advice for breeders and owners; Creating a national semen repository/collection program.



Breeder education and technical assistance: Improving member engagement within breed associations; Improving communication between and within breed associations.

Marketing assistance: Building interest/demand for breeds; Developing marketing skills for owners; Exploring collaborative marketing between breeds and associations.

Preparation for the summit continued with "homework" assignments for attendees so that upon arrival to the meeting, they would all have background and educational information on some of the more complicated topics to be discussed. A gathering the night before the summit broke the ice as people got acquainted and began to discuss the issues facing their breeds. The next morning, everyone was ready to get to work.

The expert panels

Three expert panels were assembled, including some of the best minds within their professions. The panelists were asked to give an overview of the work they do and how it pertains to helping solve the key problems within the panel's theme.

Biological - D. Phillip Sponenberg, Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Tech; Gus Cothran, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Science, Texas A&M; Leif Andersson, Swedish Univ. of Ag Sciences; Scott Dindot, College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M; Katrin Hinrichs, College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M; and Tullis Matson, Rare Breeds Survival Trust and Stallion AI Services/Cryogenetics Chapel Field Stud.

The biological panel discussion was a highlight at the meeting simply because recent technology advances in equines were previously not known by a majority of the audience. Assistive reproductive technologies and an explanation of how DNA testing can be more productively

utilized for conservation purposes were among the most exciting topics. The idea of establishing a national rare breed semen repository also generated useful discussion as we learned how such a collection is being utilized by our breed conservation counterparts in the UK.

Breeder education and technical assistance - Alison Martin, The Livestock Conservancy; Cliff Williamson, American Horse Council; Debbie Fuentes, Arabian Horse Association; Brian Larson, National Lincoln Sheep Breeders Association; and Patti Strand, National Animal Interest Alliance.

The second panel was another great discussion because many in the audience realized they share a good number of problems in common. Debbie Fuentes admitted that even registrations for the popular Arab horse are down. She summed it up best by quoting the registrar for the Paint Horse Association who said "Flat is the new up." This meant that maintaining annual registration levels is something to be happy about in the modern horse market. Good identification of horses (such as tattoos and microchips) was discussed as crucial to "recovering" genetically important horses back into a registry should their records be lost through multiple owners or sold without records. The American Horse Council's Unwanted Horse Coalition program helps groups organize microchipping and gelding clinics that the audience thought could be of great use to the breed associations. Dr. Larson discussed breeder education, while Patti Strand shared marketing tips and the audience discussed various ways to engage youth with horses.

Marketing assistance - Jeannette Beranger, The Livestock Conservancy; Ashlee Watts, U.S. Dressage Federation's Brazos Assoc. for Classical Horsemanship; Keith Yutzy, American Driving Society; Tim Jobe, Natural Lifemanship Equine Assisted Therapy; and Jas Shearer-McMahon, American Endurance Ride Conference.

This third panel took on the subject of finding new markets that perhaps many of the rare breeds had not considered. Using smaller breeds for competitive driving offers great opportunities for potential new owners wanting smaller, easier keeping horses. For draft horses dressage and

competitive jousting could be an option. Many breeds could be finding new jobs within hippotherapy and rare breeds are performing well in endurance rides for pleasure or competition. The points made were that there is a wide host of activities for which rare breeds are well suited and that may bring new attention to them. The other important issue is that owners need to know how to “work the crowd” so as to create interest and excitement for their breeds among both horse owners *and* non-horse owners.

Breakout work

The panel discussions were then followed by a 30-minute Q&A session with the audience. Using what was learned from panels and from the “homework”, the final exercise of day one was facilitated breakout groups each assigned several of the key issues for discussion. Each group outlined 2-3 possible solutions for each topic. The diversity of the attendees yielded a broad array of ideas and these were compiled that evening in preparation for day two. The following day participants once again broke out into facilitated groups, taking care to change the composition of the groups. This time each group was assigned only one of the eight key issues. Armed with the ideas from the previous day, the groups identified the top 2-3 solutions that had the best chances for success, and what would be needed to implement them.

The intense brainstorming of the summit accomplished what we all had hoped it would: 1) identify the major problems endangered equine breeds and their owners face today, 2) identify which of those problems we can actually do something about, and 3) identify the problems for which we could find resources to attain solutions. These are the ideas generated from the final discussions of the summit:

Ideas and solutions

Biological

Addressing genetic diversity challenges within breeds

Educate breeders and communicate the value of DNA testing. Many breeders and breed associations are unclear on both the benefits and

drawbacks of DNA testing for rare breeds. It can be a powerful tool, but as with all power tools, in the wrong hands it can be deadly (in this case to a breed!) Therefore breeder education on diversity management, genetic disease, etc. is a priority. Educational materials should be developed, and an action plan for the associations to promote the information.

Use DNA analysis to identify diversity and individual sources that could be important for a breed. This would be accomplished by sequencing a diverse cross section of mares and stallions from each breed. The effort would help target rare bloodlines or individuals within the breeds that are a priority for conservation.

Recruit new breeders and help them develop a breeding strategy for using and securing the remaining diversity in the breed herd. The 2017 equine survey showed that three quarters of horse owners are between the ages of 40-60 and many of the long time breeders are aging out. The associations need to actively engage all breeders along with the registry to develop a breeding plan that includes stallion swapping, artificial insemination, semen & germplasm banking, and possible outcrossing as a last resort for those breed in extreme danger of extinction.

Improving availability of technical advice for breeders and owners

Participants recommended that the Livestock Conservancy serve as a primary conduit for information by developing an equine resource webpage containing info

on breeding, training, events, and more. The Conservancy will also facilitate communication between breeders, outreach via multimedia, social media and/or hard copy. The list would be used to solicit input from breeders and the scientific community to share among all the breed groups.

There will be continuing need to identify and support the most pressing issues for the rare breeds through regional conferences and by more broadly promoting through organizations such as American Horse Council or the Equine Education Association. A free app similar to Texas Horse Help <https://spark.adobe.com/page/vEWBx0FVK9Ns/> but centered on rare breeds was also suggested.

Creating a national semen repository/collection program

A national repository of equine germplasm in the U.S. would conserve genetic diversity for the long term. This initiative would begin with a search for a national storage facility, identifying sponsor(s) for the program, and having the Livestock Conservancy provide logistical support. Zoos and Rare Breeds Survival Trust might offer useful examples of such collections. Optimally, a reserve would have three tiers – one available for immediate commercial use by the studs’ owners, one to be used when needed for conservation, and one reserved for breeds in serious trouble and facing a “doomsday” scenario. The model needs to be sustainable, transparent, and have a solid business plan in place.

An interactive database will be a crucial element for the repository so it can be effectively used by breeders. It should include a “universal database” with free access to all parties involved including universities, breed associations, and breeders. The purpose of the database should be clearly defined by determining how it will be used and by whom. Information in the database would include microchip id, genetic testing results, and pedigree. It would be maintained by a single organization that makes sure it is user friendly and

continued on next page



Shire horses' status improved from Critical to Threatened this year, and are finding popularity in niche markets as mounts for jousting and Renaissance tournaments. Photo by Jeannette Beranger.

Equine Summit

Continued from previous page
accessible for all.

Breeder education and technical assistance

Improving member engagement within breed associations

Communication can be improved by centralizing member information on a website and choosing appropriate social media means to convey current events and interests. Many breed groups have already taken steps in this direction.

Member support and recognition for volunteering is an important way to encourage members to be more engaged. Association leadership should develop and promote opportunities for members to participate in a broad array of activities and events. They also need to publicly recognize and reward those that do. Reward systems could encourage “outside the box” activities such as mentorship, participating in local historical field days, or hand-on youth activities.

Associations should consider opportunities to partner and the advantages of sharing resources with other breed groups. This “cross pollination” between associations offer a wider field of opportunities for each other’s members. The bottom line is to continually encourage participation, share experiences, and cultivate a culture of mentorship.

Improving communication between and within breed associations

Establish regional ambassadors within breed organizations and identifying two ambassadors within each association for regular communications between breed clubs and groups in the same region. This network of ambassadors will establish the best means of communication (telephone, email, print, etc.) and regular regional teleconferences. The ambassadors can then begin joint outreach to broader markets such as Pony Club, 4-H, FFA, heritage lifestyle enthusiasts, and historical societies.

Building interest/demand for breeds

Building demand means getting horses into public venues that showcase the breed’s best qualities. Each association should create a display and fund the cost of a booth at events. They should create incentives for owners who actively reach out to promote the breed and promote mentorship opportunities for those owners that are new to the breed.

Creating experiences for the “non-

horse” public to enjoy and appreciate the breeds is an important part of building demand. Owners should be encouraged to attend local/regional events for the general public that allow hands on experience (ex: “hook” for parents – “Are you tired of your kids being glued to their devices?”) Other opportunities can be found in leasing or donating to equine assisted therapy programs

Association members must learn how to “work the crowd”. Associations should develop promotional handouts and books, and provide marketing messages along with stories. Ideally there would be two sets of messages, one for horse owners (Why this breed? Cost comparisons, etc.) and another for the non-horse owners (passion/pride for the breed, history, safety, cost of ownership.)

Marketing assistance

Developing marketing skills for owners

The development of a database of skills and best practices will be useful for helping owners attain the skills they need to market and sell horses. This could include a series of tutorials for “DIY” social media such as the basics of how to find and use social media in a step by step format and how to use algorithms to target markets. Associations can also develop a media kit for owners to use at events including brochures, banners, flyers, and a media stick with quality photos.

Request and develop recommendations of professionals of marketing that may be found among the members within the breed associations. The associations should seek out “Spin doctors” or writers to help produce content to reach their targeted audiences. These professionals can also help identify social media outlets (Facebook, etc.), and ways to market the horses to the news to tell your breed’s story.

Exploring collaborative marketing between breeds and associations

Bringing a variety of breeds under a common banner for public venues (ex. Homesteader fairs, state fairs, etc.) could be a powerful promotional tool for all the associations. A master list of events could be created from individual input so as to highlight opportunities across the country. Reciprocal sharing of e-newsletters would further support an exchange of ideas between associations.

Regional or webinar clinics could be developed to help build marketing skills

for all breeds. Until those can be developed, a rare breed marketing campaign on social media and an online marketing hub for all breeds will help connect prospective new owners with the breeders.

Building awareness of non-traditional sport disciplines and associations will help expand the scope of opportunities for rare breeds. Associations should identify members within that may already be active in specific disciplines and provide ways for these members to share their experience.

In order to brand the rare breed cause, an endangered equine logo could be developed and used to create promotional materials (for example saddle pad patches, fly hoods, etc.) that identify the horses as rare breeds when they are out in public.

Summit participants also created a list of potential funding sources to assist groups in developing these ideas. There was a wide range of ideas including: donation of services, grants, Regional Association of Grantmakers (RAG locator site (www.unitedphilforum.org/find-your-regional-association) agricultural based community foundations, corporate sponsorship, universities (facilities and/or students to help with marketing, production, and media merge), private donations, online crowd sourcing, raffles, and fundraising campaigns.

Where do we go from here?

At the conclusion of the summit, it was clear that participants wanted to turn that one meeting into a longer lasting program to act on the ideas generated by the group. The Livestock Conservancy has committed to continue its leadership role and serve as the central hub for information and coordinate the programmatic ideas generated from the summit. The initiative, now known as the Endangered Equine Alliance, has become a collaborative effort including the groups that participated in the summit along with new partners that continue to come forward and want to be involved. A website is nearly complete, and social media content is being generated and will be launched once the website is complete in spring of 2018.

One surprising outcome of the summit came from our British counterparts. The leadership of Rare Breeds Survival Trust was taken by the energy and collaborative spirit of the summit and has now planned to mirror the effort in their own country later this year in October. They will bring

continued on page 11



THE LIVESTOCK CONSERVANCY™

Conservation Priority Livestock Breeds 2018

Critical: Fewer than 200 annual registrations in the United States and estimated global population less than 2,000. For rabbits, fewer than 50 annual registrations in the United States and estimated global population less than 500.

Threatened: Fewer than 1,000 annual registrations in the United States and estimated global population less than 5,000. For rabbits, fewer than 100 annual registrations in the United States and estimated global population less than 1,000.

Watch: Fewer than 2,500 annual registrations in the United States and estimated global population less than 10,000. For rabbits, fewer than 200 annual registrations in the United States and estimated global population less than 2,000. Also included for all livestock are breeds that present genetic or numerical concerns or have a limited geographic distribution.

Recovering: Breeds that were once listed in another category and have exceeded Watch category numbers but are still in need of monitoring.

Study: Breeds that are of genetic interest but either lack definition or lack genetic or historical documentation.

	Critical	Threatened	Watch	Recovering	Study
Cattle	Canadienne Dutch Belted Florida Cracker Kerry Lincoln Red Milking Devon Heritage Shorthorn (Native) ¹ Randall or Randall Lineback Texas Longhorn (CTLR) ²	Ancient White Park Pineywoods Red Poll	Ayrshire Galloway Guernsey	Ankole-Watusi Belted Galloway Red Devon Dexter Highland	Chirikof Island Criollo (North Central Mexican)
Goats	Arapawa San Clemente		Spanish	Myotonic or Tennessee Fainting Oberhasli	Golden Guernsey
Pigs	Choctaw Meishan Mulefoot Ossabaw Island	Gloucestershire Old Spots Guinea Hog Large Black Red Wattle	Hereford Tamworth		Saddleback
Rabbits		American American Chinchilla Belgian Hare Blanc de Hotot Silver Silver Fox	Beveren Giant Chinchilla Lilac Rhinelander	Crème d'Argent	Harlequin
Sheep	Florida Cracker Gulf Coast or Gulf Coast Native Hog Island Santa Cruz	Black Welsh Mountain Clun Forest Cotswold Dorset Horn Jacob – American Karakul – American Leicester Longwool Lincoln Navajo-Churro Romeldale / CVM St. Croix	Barbados Blackbelly Oxford Shropshire Tunis Wiltshire Horn	Shetland Southdown	

Breeds unique to North America are printed in bold.

¹ Milking Shorthorns that qualify for the "Native (N)" designation, identifying them as pure, old line, dual purpose Milking Shorthorns, as verified by the AMSS office.

² Cattlemen's Texas Longhorn Registry.



THE LIVESTOCK CONSERVANCY™

Conservation Priority Equine Breeds 2018

Critical: Fewer than 200 annual registrations in the United States and estimated global population less than 2,000.

Threatened: Fewer than 1,000 annual registrations in the United States and estimated global population less than 5,000.

Watch: Fewer than 2,500 annual registrations in the United States and estimated global population less than 10,000. Also included for all livestock are breeds that present genetic or numerical concerns or have a limited geographic distribution.

Recovering: Breeds that were once listed in another category and have exceeded Watch category numbers but are still in need of monitoring.

Study: Breeds that are of genetic interest but either lack definition or lack genetic or historical documentation.

	Critical	Threatened	Watch	Recovering	Study
Donkeys	American Mammoth Jackstock Poitou			Miniature Donkey	
Horses	American Cream Banker ¹ Canadian Caspian Cleveland Bay Dales Pony Dartmoor Exmoor Fell Pony Florida Cracker ¹ Galiceño ¹ Hackney Horse Marsh Tacky ¹ Morgan – Traditional ² Newfoundland Pony Suffolk	Akhal-Teke Clydesdale Colonial Spanish ³ <i>Strains:</i> Baca-Chica Choctaw Santa Cruz Sulphur Wilbur-Cruce Gotland Irish Draught Lipizzan Mountain Pleasure/ Rocky Mountain Shire		Belgian ⁴	California Vaquero ¹

Breeds unique to North America are printed in bold.

¹ Each of these has an independent, stand-alone registry and conservation program. In addition, each has contributed to the Colonial Spanish breed.

² Includes horses whose pedigrees are absent of outcrosses after 1930.

³ This includes several different registries, each with somewhat different goals (SMR, SSMA, SBBOA, AIHR, HOA). Under this umbrella some strains have independent conservation programs and those are noted individually.

⁴ Includes Brabant, the European ancestor of the American Belgian, with a distinct type. The Brabant is globally rare.



THE LIVESTOCK CONSERVANCY™

Conservation Priority Poultry Breeds 2018

Critical: Fewer than 500 breeding birds in the United States, with five or fewer primary breeding flocks (50 birds or more), and estimated global population less than 1,000.

Threatened: Fewer than 1,000 breeding birds in the United States, with seven or fewer primary breeding flocks, and estimated global population less than 5,000.

Watch: Fewer than 5,000 breeding birds in the United States, with ten or fewer primary breeding flocks, and estimated global population less than 10,000. Also included are breeds that present genetic or numerical concerns or have a limited geographic distribution.

Recovering: Breeds that were once listed in another category and have exceeded Watch category numbers but are still in need of monitoring.

Study: Breeds that are of genetic interest but either lack definition or lack genetic or historical documentation.

	Critical	Threatened	Watch	Recovering	Study
Chickens	Campine Crevecoeur Holland La Fleche Malay Modern Game Nankin Redcap Spanish Sultan Yokohama	Aseel Cubalaya Faverolle Houdan Icelandic Lakenvelder Old English Game Rhode Island White Russian Orloff Sebright Spitzhauben	Ancona Andalusian Buckeye Buttercup Catalana Chantecleer Cornish Delaware Dominique Dorking Hamburg Java Jersey Giant Langshan Minorca New Hampshire Phoenix Polish Rhode Island Red – Non industrial Shamo Sumatra	Australorp Brahma Cochin Leghorn – Non-industrial Plymouth Rock Sussex	Araucana ¹ Large Fowl American Game Manx Rumpy or Persian Rumpless Saipan
Ducks	Aylesbury Dutch Hookbill	Buff or Orpington Magpie Saxony Silver Appleyard	Ancona Campbell Cayuga Rouen – Non-industrial Swedish Welsh Harlequin	Runner or Indian Runner	Australian Spotted
Geese	Cotton Patch Roman Shetland Steinbacher	Pilgrim Pomeranian Sebastopol	African American Buff Chinese Toulouse (Dewlap)		Gray
Turkeys	Beltsville Small White	Black Royal Palm White Holland	Bourbon Red Bronze Narragansett Slate All Other Varieties²		

¹ Breed identity in poultry breeds is challenging. Many breeders of all kinds (exhibition, production, hatchery) are diligent in breeding standard-bred birds. Other breeders in each category resort to crossbreeding to achieve their goals, and yet promote their birds as standard-bred. The Livestock Conservancy is unable to validate each breeding program, but buyers are encouraged to ask if birds offered for sale are pure-bred and meet breed standards.

² Varieties that are distinct but not APA recognized include Chocolate, Jersey Buff, Midget White, Lavender, and a host of other distinct color varieties. Does not include broad-breasted varieties, because they are not endangered.

How 21st Century Technology Saved an Old Goose

By Denise Colombe-Frye

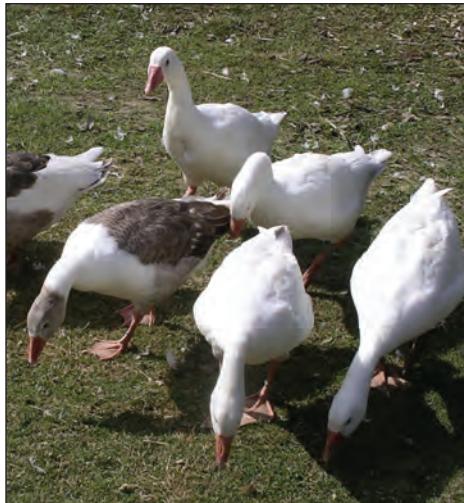
Sometimes it is only in retrospect that you realize something you've started was successful. That is certainly the case with the Facebook group, "Cotton Patch Goose Breeders."

In 2012, when I attended the Conservancy's conference in Durham, North Carolina, I made the acquaintance of Gus Richey, Sarah Howell, and her husband, Steven. What all of us had in common was ownership of geese that were purported to be Cotton Patch. This name is a modern one, given by default to an autosexing landrace that was for the most part just called "geese" by the homesteaders that used them for meat, eggs, down, and weeding mostly in the Southeastern part of the United States. There were most likely other colloquial names for them, including "cotton," "tobacco," "Choctaw," and another modern name, Old English, although that pre-dates Cotton Patch.

When we met, we were lamenting the lack of information available, and thus the direction to potentially take any personal breeding programs. I remember sitting at a table with other waterfowl breeders, including John Metzer, and laughing that this was probably the first meeting of the Cotton Patch Goose Club. To think that a decision that came out of that meeting would lead to the current status of these geese would have been just as laughable.

After leaving the conference, maintaining communication while simultaneously collecting information proved to be a challenge. At that time, the main "hangout" for group discussions of any kind was Yahoo, and indeed there had been a short-lived Yahoo group that only saw activity among six or so individuals. After trying a couple of dead-end ideas, I suggested using Facebook groups. While not particularly a fan of social media, it appeared as though the interface was simpler, and the options for sharing information better. Additionally, a lot of people were already using the platform on a personal level. With that in mind, I launched the group in December of 2012, using one friend as a guinea pig. I solicited the few individuals that had been active in the Yahoo group.

The initial plan was to network and share information but there was really nothing new to share between the first



Cotton Patch geese, commonly used to weed cotton and corn fields up until the 1950s, are currently listed as Critically Endangered by The Livestock Conservancy. Photo by Denise Colombe-Frye.

group members. What information existed then was scant, and was sparingly supplied by Tom Walker, of Bastrop, Texas. Although he is widely credited with being the sole savior of these fascinating geese, we had become aware of several other people that had either discovered some old isolated gaggles or were themselves long-time breeders of them.

We decided to open the group to a wider audience, and by magic, people started finding us, which I and my helper administrators discovered we were not really ready for. There is no textbook out there for what we were trying to do. We were essentially at ground zero.

When a couple of those long-time breeders joined the group, as well as others who had been searching for gaggles alongside Tom Walker, we were giddy, and it became obvious that this social media thing had value other than sharing memes and jokes. Finally, more information from a grassroots level began to filter in. The days of "someone told me this" started to fade. One of the advantages of sharing in this type of forum has proved to be the melding of historical information along with real-time unfolding events.

The next year saw a flurry of often confusing exchanges centering on just "what" Cotton Patch geese are, or "should" be. In a 2005 article published by the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy, Mark See wrote, "There is a relic landrace goose

in America. It is not a recent European import such as the West of England or the Shetland goose. It is not the standard Pilgrim goose either...although it *might* have played a role in the development of that breed (a subject for another article). This is an old American breed of goose."

With that as a basis for conversation plus an undercurrent of the desires of a few for standardization, some wrenching and ultimately hurtful discussions were fueled. As the group was essentially ground zero, and excited at the networking opportunities, sharing of stock began to occur, and one of the ugly side-effects of rare breed acquisitions started to crop up. Some of those early members had become involved, not in the name of conservation, but in the name of the almighty dollar sign. The final upshot was that poor practices, including the commingling of more than one breed, meant that stock from contaminated sources flowed into the gene pool.

To say that the will to continue after that first year was difficult to maintain is an understatement. However, there had been enough discoveries and enough committed people of integrity that it still seemed as if trying a while longer was the right thing to do. Eventually, the pressures of the community for integrity proved to outweigh those committed to the dollar signs and they slowly disappeared. With a mandate to continue piecing together the history of the geese and to learn just what we were working with, the top of the mountain seemed to be in sight. And, in fact, as of the writing of this article we are within reach of having 1,000 members. Astonishing really, given that this is a somewhat obscure breed of goose, an underappreciated member of the livestock complex to begin with.

An order of business, and one that is still ongoing, is writing the breed description. This has been at the heart of discovery, since we needed to describe "what is" as opposed to a standardized breed, where a standard is written *to be* achieved. We have used our Facebook networking capabilities to compare notes across a good cross-section of geese that trace back to verifiable old gaggles. It has been astonishing to find that these old autosexing homestead geese resemble each other to such an amazing degree – especially when

you consider the words in Mr. See's article, "these geese are not a created breed." There are variabilities in things like overall size, stature, number or size of lobes, and weight, to name a few. However, all are easily recognizable as the same goose.

There did not seem to be any information available in regards to the relationship between genotype and the expression of phenotypes in the female geese especially. Most of the standardized breeds are composed of females that express either a solid greyish feather pattern with some white particularly in the face, or a saddle-back pattern, which we have chosen to call "pied" after the European definition. The males matured to white, with variability in the amount and placement of grey on the body. Our landrace is composed of gaggles that have one or the other, and often both in the same group. Looking for patterns as opposed to eliminating individuals because they did not fit one or the other has given us an opportunity to explore.

Using several years of breeding trials that I took on and have documented, as well as networking through the group some surprises that we found might explain some of the mysteries of occasional anomalies in the standardized autosexing breeds. In particular, it became evident that although the ganders themselves turned white, they express similar patterns to the females while in the down stage. These patterns quickly disappear when they begin feathering out, and cannot with any degree of certainty be discerned after that. The heritability of the pied pattern and solid patterns mix when the two are interbred, and some indications of which geese possess genetic material that can be expressed in either pattern is being tied down. Some more breeding experiments need to be done in order to be more certain. We have developed a guide for goslings that provide visual information for the heritability we have documented/ this guide is available to anyone who belongs in our Facebook group.

To sum up, without the networking available through social media, the information we slowly uncovered would never have come to light. There is a lot to finish sorting and organizing so that we are not faced with answering questions on an almost daily basis that could be answered by having everything in one place. A boon of Facebook is the ability to often answer questions in real time, but the drawback

occurs when that isn't possible due to obligations, and having to wait is seen as a rebuff. Face-to-face or spoken encounters have more nuance than the typed word, especially if you are tired or in another time zone.

Despite that particular issue, we have been able to assemble a large group of people who are interested in conservation breeding for the right reasons. Our Mission Statement is to "Save America's Landrace goose – the perfect homestead goose." We emphasize that breeders preserve and promote the very characteristics that made them a recognizable landrace population despite geographical isolation. They are essentially a utility goose: small to medium in size, autosexing, gentle in nature yet protective of their brood. They display good parenting skills, are amazing foragers, have the ability to fly (which can be an advantage or a problem), and are excellent for culinary use. They are one of only three geese breeds listed with the Slow Food Ark of Taste. And, they are beautiful to see and enjoyable to watch.

As people have wandered in to the Facebook group, we have re-discovered remnants of some supposedly lost gaggles, discovered new ones, and sadly discovered some have been almost eliminated. Many gaggles are composed of individuals from several foundation gaggles and as such, possess a lot of genetic diversity. There are also individuals who have been able to maintain enough numbers of foundation gaggles that we hope to be able to maintain genetic diversity for the foreseeable future. Several people have recognized their utility value and are integrating them into rotational farming, permaculture, and orchard situations, where they excel. With green forage available, little to no additional feed is necessary.

Without the use of social media, this old landrace would most likely have fizzled away or been compromised. Without the ability to document and share, we would never have been able to define what we are working with. We don't ever know what the future will hold, but at least right now, thank you, Facebook. And that is a phrase I thought I would never ever say.❖

Denise Colombe-Frye owns Blackhorse Hill in Addy, WA with her husband, Roland Frye, and manages the Cotton Patch Goose Breeders Facebook Group, found at www.facebook.com/groups/CottonPatch-GooseBreeders/.

Equine Summit

Continued from page 6

together the leadership of their rare breed equine associations for a meeting that is set to accomplish similar objectives that were reached in Texas. A representative from The Livestock Conservancy will attend the meeting to help facilitate relationships between the associations that work with breeds that the U.S. and the U.K. share in common.

More exciting developments continue to arise from post-summit activities. Because the information on *assistive reproductive technologies* was so well received, a more detailed manual is now being developed through scientists at Texas A&M University and The Livestock Conservancy. The manual will be geared toward owners and veterinarians so that they can have an understanding of what technologies are available and how sometimes simple sample collections can be taken by local vets. Those samples can then be sent to specialized reproductive labs that are able to "work their magic" to secure the critical genetics within. The manual is set to be launched in time for the December 2018 American Association of Equine Practitioners annual conference and will be available at no cost on line.

One of the greatest accomplishments of the summit was in the gathering of a wide diversity of groups in one place and enabling them to see the great possibilities in unifying to conserve their breeds. Together the group generated a powerful list of ideas and action points and now gives us all a clear direction on next steps. Efforts are underway by the Endangered Equine Alliance to take on each of the suggested action points and find the resources to make them a reality. The objective for 2018/2019 will be to secure funding for the hiring of a program coordinator who can work to develop rare breed events, provide technical assistance for breeders and owners, and act on the ideas generated at the conclusion of the summit.

We sincerely admire and respect the remarkable group of people who came together at the summit. We thank them for their time and effort and hope that together, we will turn the tide for rare horse breeds in America.❖

BREED NOTES

Mid-Atlantic American Milking Devon Regional Show

By Richard Larson

All of us who spend time and effort conserving rare livestock breeds understand well that a critical component of conservation is educating the public about the importance of genetic conservation, and the unique and valuable attributes of a specific breed. My experience over the years has been that one of the most effective ways of educating the public and, at the same time, promoting a specific breed is by exhibiting our animals. Combining visuals, touch, smell, and sound with a simple narrative makes a compelling message that that will be long remembered and maybe, even acted on.

Where better to do this than at the Virginia State Fair with daily attendance of up to 50,000? The Fair is a strong supporter of rare breeds conservation with the inclusion of American Milking Devon (AMD), Jersey, and Brown Swiss cattle in its dairy show. The Fair also provides penning space, at no cost, for exhibition of heritage livestock for the full ten-day duration of the Fair.

For all of the above reasons, we are delighted that the Fair will be hosting the Mid-Atlantic AMD Regional Show, September 27-30, 2018. This will be the first regional AMD show anywhere in several decades. There are many powerful reasons for AMD breeders from across the mid-Atlantic region to participate.

- First and foremost, a rare opportunity to have your AMD cattle evaluated by a distinguished judge – Dr. Drew Conroy, Professor, Applied Animal Science & Integrated Agriculture, University of New Hampshire. Dr. Conroy has been judging cattle for more than 25 years and is a past AMDCA president.

- An unmatched opportunity to promote your farm and your breeding program to the public and prospective customers for future sales.

- A relaxed social setting to chat with other breeders, ask questions, and establish relationships.

- Supporting collective efforts to promote American Milking Devons as a superior tri-purpose breed and genetic conservation in general. The opportunity to have future AMD regional shows will depend, in no small part, on the success of our 2018 Gathering in Virginia.

For more information, please contact Richard Larson, 540-829-5683 or email oldgjerpenfarm@yahoo.com.

Rare Breeds Canada is now “Heritage Livestock Canada”

At the 2017 RBC Annual General Meeting it was decided and approved to change the name of Rare Breeds Canada. The Board of Directors is pleased to announce that the new name will be “Heritage Livestock Canada.” For Heritage Livestock Canada’s purposes, “Heritage” is defined as breeds that have been used in Canada for at least 50 years and are historically relevant in Canada’s agricultural history. With this name change it is hoped that more focus will be placed on livestock breeds that actually had a place in Canada’s agricultural history.

Virginia Zoo Receives Ankole-Watusi Steer

In 2014 the Virginia Zoo in Norfolk, Virginia purchased two Ankole-Watusi steers. As the steers grew, this exhibit grew into one of the most popular exhibits at the zoo. Unfortunately, in September 2017 one of the steers developed head tilt that progressed. The zoo veterinarian staff made the decision to euthanize the steer. Conservancy member Richard Broker, who owns and operates River Oaks Cattle Co., had stayed in touch with staff members at the zoo and read an article about the health issue and the decision. Richard called zoo director Greg Bockheim and discussed donating a replacement steer to the zoo. On December 27, 2017 Richard delivered a replacement yearling steer to the zoo. According to Richard, “Sometimes you do things just because it’s the right thing to do. What better way to promote this majestic breed than provide a zoo with these animals?”



Yesterday's Genetics for Tomorrow's Shorthorns

New: The Heritage Shorthorn Society

Heritage Shorthorns are exactly the same as Native Shorthorns, but given the current interest in all forms of Heritage livestock the name “Heritage Shorthorns” more easily captures the unique significance of these cattle. The Heritage Shorthorn Society (HSS) was launched in January, 2018 in order to have a central website where both prospective and current breeders of Heritage Shorthorns can access information, promote their herds, and connect with other Heritage Shorthorn breeders. If Heritage Shorthorns are to grow in numbers and relevance it is imperative to create prestige and breeding value, and ultimately find a niche in today’s livestock industry.

To further enhance the utilization of Heritage Shorthorns in the commercial cattle industry, membership in HSS is also open to Shorthorn breeders who use Heritage Shorthorn genetics in their breeding programs. Already there are many Shorthorn breeders with operations geared primarily to the commercial cattle market who are exploiting the value of Heritage Shorthorn genetics in their herds.

HSS will help in the preservation, promotion, and production of Heritage Shorthorns. We encourage anyone who has an interest in Heritage Shorthorns to become a member of this Society and to help spread the word about these important cattle. Currently Heritage Shorthorns are listed on the “Critically Endangered” list by The Livestock Conservancy. HSS intends to work with The Livestock Conservancy to publicize the importance of Heritage Shorthorns and explain how they fit into today’s cattle industry.

Visit www.heritageshorthorn.org to become a member and learn about the breed, and follow the HSS on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/ShorthornHSS](https://twitter.com/ShorthornHSS).

The Karakul's Journey to the United States

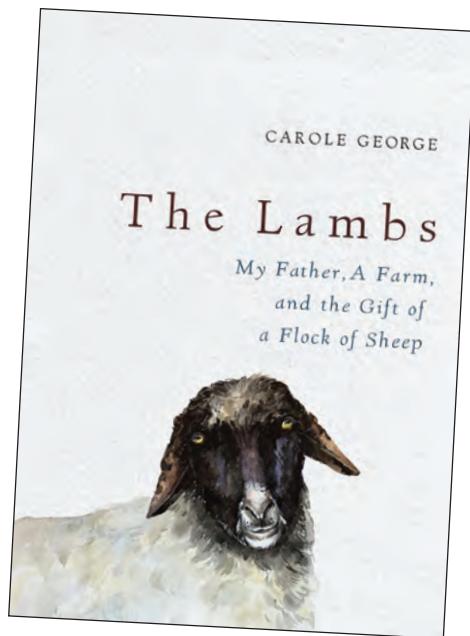
By Carole George

In our last issue, we offered a brief sketch of the history of the Karakul sheep in their native Central Asia homeland. Their entrance into the United States is similarly dramatic, and below is that story, as excerpted from *The Lambs*, which was just released by St. Martin's Press this spring.

When I go to visit the lambs, if the breeder is feeling generous, he might hand me a copy of an article about Karakul sheep. Today he produces a 1919 *National Geographic* feature entitled "The Land of Lambskins," which describes the origin of the these exotic sheep. The author states, "All camel trails in the Emirate of Bokhara, like the roads to Rome, lead to the marketplace in Bokhara City." There is an image of the Karakul bazaar, where piles of lambskins line one wall in stacks as tall as the men standing beside them.

One afternoon, he gives me a copy of an industry pamphlet that refers to the Karakuls' arrival in America in 1909. This inspires me to visit the library of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, where I find enough old newspaper articles to trace their introduction into this country.

Dr. C. C. Young, a Chicago dentist



whose father and grandfather had raised Karakuls in Bessarabia, decided that he wanted to raise the sheep of the Russian nobility on his Texas farm. Apparently he liked challenges.

In 1909 the emirate of Bokhara had been a semidependency of Russia for fifty years, and the Russian government, which controlled nearly the entire Karakul international fur trade, was fully aware of the value of the lambskins. One author states that a coat made of purebred Karakul pelts cost (in 1909) from \$500,000 to \$1 million.

Pure Karakul sheep were hidden on the farms of Russian noblemen and guarded by Cossacks. Foreigners could enter these fortresses only on permits granted by



Bach and Saint-Saëns, two Karakul sheep featured in *The Lambs*. Photo courtesy of Carole George.

the war minister. Moreover, as Dr. Young learned, the sheep were considered sacred by the local Islamic tribes. They were not available to the "infidel."

Dr. Young persisted. Through a congressman, he appealed to President Theodore Roosevelt. This connection produced a letter of introduction to the Russian czar. But what really mattered was his contact with the former minister of agriculture, who knew how the system worked. The process dragged on, but eventually, the Poltava Agricultural Society approved Dr. Young's request. He would be permitted to take his three rams and twelve ewes to America. This was just the beginning.

He had the sheep driven on foot, *one thousand miles* through the desert to Libau, their Baltic Sea port of embarkation. The two-week transatlantic voyage may have seemed like a rest. But then the fifteen sheep were refused entrance into the United States. They were from Asia; undoubtedly they carried "all kinds of Asiatic diseases."

So Dr. Young went back to his Congressional allies. Just hours before the Karakuls were to be turned back to Bokhara, they were allowed to enter the United States on the condition that they undergo months of blood testing and other analyses. They all managed to survive these ordeals and eventually arrived at Dr. Young's Texas farm. ♦

Help the Conservancy – Renew Early!

Want to help the Conservancy save a few bucks? Renew your membership early! The Conservancy sends up to three reminder emails and three letters to renew your membership when it expires, meaning an early renewal could save up to three email credits, three return envelopes, three outer envelopes, three printed letters, and three stamps. Renewing *before* the quarter your membership is due means no need to send these renewal notices. And whenever your membership is renewed, twelve months are added to the current expiration date, so you are not penalized for renewing early. Your membership expiration date is printed on the back of this newsletter – check the date and add a reminder to your calendar so you can help out!

CLASSIFIEDS

Advertise in The Livestock Conservancy News. See ad rates on page 16. For more info, call 919-542-5704.

Breed Associations

The Livestock Conservancy runs this advertising section as a service to its members. It accepts the ads in good faith and trusts that buyers and sellers will exercise their own good judgment in completing any transactions.



ACDHA
AMERICAN CREAM-DRAFT HORSE ASSOCIATION
Nancy H. Lively, Secretary
193 Crossover Road • Bennington, VT 05201
802-447-7612 • lively123@comcast.net

The "Cream" of Drafts
America's Only Native Draft Horse
Visit us at www.acdha.org

Our member advertisers help support this newsletter.



The American Romeldale/CVM Association, Inc.

For information on the sheep, wool and Breeder listing of this Critically Endangered Breed

www.arcainc.org

americanromeldale@gmail.com
registrar@glmregistry.com



Selecting a Breed Goes Beyond Color



American Red Poll Association
PO Box 847 | Frankton, IN 46044 | 765-425-4515
arpa@americanredpolls.com | www.americanredpolls.com

Shetland Sheep



A Hardy, Heritage Breed

Newborn Vigor • Great Mothers

Eleven Natural Colors of Soft Wool



North American Shetland Sheepbreeders Association

<http://www.shetland-sheep.org/>

Pineywoods

Landrace • Heritage • Cattle



Bred • to • Survive

Pineywoods Cattle Registry & Breeders Association

www.PCRBA.org

(601)795-4672

Spanish Goat Association



No Fees
No Politics
Just Breeders

www.spanishgoats.org
540-687-8871

Advertise in The Livestock Conservancy News. Email
rwalker@livestockconservancy.org or call 919-542-5704.

Horse of the Americas, Inc.

Colonial Spanish Horses



www.horseoftheamericas.com

Quarterly Newsletter

National Awards Program

2018 AIHR/HOA National Show



Gretchen Patterson, Registrar

601 S. Fredonia St.

Nacogdoches, TX 75961

glpatterson62@gmail.com



Spanish Barb Horse Association
www.spanishbarb.com

Dedicated to the preservation, perpetuation and promotion
of the Spanish Barb Horse

Discover the Horse that Discovered America

Contact us today to join and help preserve the Spanish Barbs
info@SpanishBarb.com 520-797-1882



MEISHAN PIGS

"From The Ming Dynasty to the American Homestead-
Perfection 5000 years in the making"

Join Online- Livestock Conservancy Members Use Coupon Code
Lc152018 for 15% off any membership level in the A.M.B.A.

info@meishanbreeders.com

www.meishanbreeders.com

Endangered • Docile • Pasture Friendly
Medium Sized • Delicious • Prolific • Distinctive

Our member advertisers help support this newsletter.

Karakul Shepherds Alliance
~where the flocks gather

info@karakulShepherds.org
Ads, Census, Open Flock Book & Sharing
Deborah Hunter, Registrar 206-371-0995, cell

Come Join Us!

67th Annual Gathering

June 22-23, 2018

Lake Geneva, WI

Pre-registration Required

AMERICAN HIGHLAND CATTLE ASSOCIATION

303.659.2399 • info@highlandcattleusa.org



www.highlandcattleusa.org



AD RATES

WORD ADS: 25 cents/word.

CAMERA-READY DISPLAY ADS:

(Dimensions width x height)

1/4 page (3-1/2" x 4-3/4"), \$96/issue.

Business-card size (3-1/2" x 2"), \$32 /issue.

Maximum ad size: 1/4 page.

Additional charges for typesetting and photos.
10% discount for full-year insertion (4x) of display ads.

To place an ad or for more information, email
rwalker@livestockconservancy.org

Advertise in The Livestock Conservancy News.



Breeders of the American
Rabbit N.S.C.

<http://www.americanrabbits.org/>
AmericanRabbits@yahoogroups.com

Stock available
nation-wide

Be Part of the American Story



JACOB SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Dedicated to conserving Jacob sheep
through registration and education.

Discover this majestic, heritage breed!

www.jsba.org

Bold
and
Beautiful

Barbados
Blackbelly
Sheep
Association
International



Barbados Blackbelly



American Blackbelly

www.blackbelbelsheep.org

Ruminants for a small planet

Sheep for all seasons and all reasons

Productive foragers and grazers.

Easy to manage with minimal fencing.

Distinctive wool to spin, weave and knit.

Very suited to sustainable farming on small
landbase and multi-species pasturing.

Lean, mild and tender meat.



For more information contact

The American Black Welsh
Mountain Sheep Association

www.blackwelsh.org

P.O. Box 534, Paonia, CO 81428

America's favorite
homestead hog



www.guineahogs.org

American Guinea
Hog Association

Advertise in The Livestock Conservancy News. For more info, call (919) 542-5704 or email rwalker@livestockconservancy.org.

The Dutch Belted Cattle Association of America has the original and only herdbook for Dutch Belted Dairy Cattle

Since 1886 the DBCAA has been continuously recording the royal lineage of this noble breed, preserving and carrying it forward from its origin in the pastures of the Netherlands to the pastures of America's dairymen.

THE SOURCE OF THE BELTED GENETICS FOR ALL OTHER BELTED CATTLE



1929: Gloria
A.R. Record 16,535M 720P
From the J.A. Wilson herd, Brunswick, ME

Cornell D. Upson, President
3724 County Hwy 33
Cherry Valley, NY 13320-3021
607-264-3108

www.DutchBelted.com



2005: Bernice-Nell
4-06 3874 11,426M 8.7% 57H 3.0% 47P
5-05 321H 14,309M 3.6% 520F 5.0% 44P
Bred by Vendembriks, owned by Bohmire



American Kerry Cattle Association

- ♣ Critical Endangered Breed List.
- ♣ Original Celtic Dairy Cow.
- ♣ Gentle Family Milk Cows.
- ♣ Milk ♣ Cheese ♣ Ice Cream.

<http://www.americkerrycattleassociation.com>



Visit us on



Preserving Breed Standards since 1983



- No Shearing
- Parasite Resistant
- Hoof-Rot Resistant
- Non-Selective Grazers
- Easy to Handle
- Fine-Grained Low-Fat Meat

Polled & White!

www.StCroixHairSheep.org



Since 1623
American Milking
Devon Association

John & Bonnie Hall, Westbrook, CT
(860)399-4611

johnandbonniehall610@comcast.net

THE MILKING DEVON

America's First Cattle

The sturdy "reds" provided the Pilgrims the meat, milk and oxen to clear the land, plow the fields, and build the walls to establish the Plymouth Colony.

NAVAJO-CHURRO SHEEP ASSOCIATION

Established 1986

Website: www.navajo-churrosheep.com

Registrar:
c/o Connie Taylor
P.O. Box 1994
El Prado, NM 87529
churrosheep@mac.com

Business Office:
c/o Bonnie Barcus
P.O. Box 190840
Boise, ID 83719-0840
spindanceacres@gmail.com



America's oldest domestic sheep breed
Great mothers, easy lambing, hardy
Lustrous double coated fleece

Livestock & Poultry

Peacock Hill Farm

Kangal

Livestock Guardian

Dog

Puppies &

Stud Service



Low Country Goats
Bucklings for sale
(Picture of Sire)



Heritage
Turkeys

Eleanor 770-860-8989

Eleanor@MeyerMedical.net

MEISHAN PIGS

Most Genetically Diverse Herd in North America
Pedigreed Registered*
* Breeder Pairs Available* We Ship*
We Mentor Our Customers

God's Blessing Farm LLC

Niota TN. 37826

www.godsblessingfarm.com

rico@godsblessingfarm.com

865-388-5712



GREENFIRE FARMS

PRESERVING THE WORLD'S RAREST CHICKENS



CHICKS SHIPPING EVERY WEEK, YEAR-ROUND
OVER 30 ORIGINAL IMPORTS INCLUDING:



CREAM LEGBAR - BIELEFELDER - AMERICAN BRESSE
AYAM CEMANI - SWEDISH FLOWER HEN - ISBAR

WWW.GREENFIRE FARMS.COM

850.574.0199

Advertise in The Livestock Conservancy News. For more info, call (919) 542-5704 or email rwalker@livestockconservancy.org.

El Campeon Farms

Hidden Valley
Thousand Oaks, California

Proudly preserving Santa Cruz Island Horses

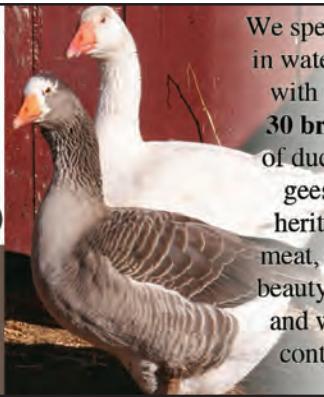
Contact: Christy Reich, Herd Manager
(310) 729-5105 ~ creich@elcampeonfarms.com

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @santacruzislandhorses



Gonzales, California
800-424-7755

Extensive website:
www.metzerrfarms.com
Nationwide Shipping



We specialize in waterfowl with over 30 breeds of ducks & geese - heritage, meat, eggs, beauty, pest and weed control.

Desert Weyr

Black Welsh Mountain Sheep



Our flock is US and UK Registered, Scrapie Program Export Qualified and NSIP Recorded

Ken & Oogie McGuire
16870 Garvin Mesa Road
Paonia, CO 81428

(970) 527-3573

www.desertweyr.com sales@desertweyr.com



Amber Waves
Registered African Pygmy Goats

We Ship Worldwide

Ph. (951) 736-1076

Fax (866) 302-2817

debbie@amberwaves.info

www.amberwavespygmygoats.com



www.heartlandhighlandcattleassociation.org

REGISTERED
HIGHLAND CATTLE

417-345-0575

HEARTLAND HIGHLAND
CATTLE ASSOC.

976 STATE Hwy. 64
TUNAS, MO 65764

HEARTLANDHIGHLANDCATTLE@GMAIL.COM

FREE INFORMATIONAL PACKET AVAILABLE

Miscellaneous



Animals Thrive
on Thorvin



Thorvin™
World's Finest Nutrients

100% Organic Kelp

- Nature's most complete mineral source
- Loaded with bioavailable nutrients
- For just pennies a day



www.thorvin.com

800.464.0417

Graze

The magazine that is 'by graziers, for graziers.'

Contact us for a free sample or to subscribe.

US rates: One year (10 issues) \$30 Two years (20 issues) \$54

Graze • P.O. Box 48 • Belleville, WI 53508

608-455-3311 • graze@grazeonline.com

www.grazeonline.com



Dodo.

The Rare Breeds Survival Trust was founded to protect the 70 breeds of poultry, cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, horses and ponies that are under the threat of extinction.

Many are on the critical list.

Together, we can save them from disappearing. Forever.

If you'd like to help, please contact us.

With your support, we can make extinction a thing of the past.



No no.



Rare Breeds Survival Trust

Making extinction a thing of the past

+44 (0)24 7669 6551

www.rbst.org.uk enquiries@rbst.org.uk

Rare Breeds Survival Trust, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2LG, UK. Registered Charity 269442.

Small Farmer's Journal

Defending Small Farms and Craftsmanship Since 1976.



a quarterly periodical for forty years and counting,
championing human-scale agriculture
and living as a natural act.

www.smallfarmersjournal.com

PO Box 1627, Sisters, OR 97759

800-876-2893 • 541-549-2064

The Livestock Conservancy
PO Box 477
Pittsboro, NC 27312 U.S.A.

Change Service Requested

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Pittsboro, NC
Permit # 50

DATED MATERIAL

CALENDAR

★★ denotes Livestock Conservancy event
★ denotes Conservancy participation
See the Conservancy website for a more extensive list of events. The Livestock Conservancy encourages event organizers to submit events related to conservation, farming, sustainability, rare breeds, and more to the Conservancy's Calendar. Send your submission to rwalker@livestock-conservancy.org or mail to PO Box 477,

May

May 5-6 – The 45th Annual Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival will be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, MD. Visit www.sheepandwool.org for more information.

May 20 – The Garfield Farm Museum Rare Breeds Show will be held in Campton Hills, IL from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Breeders from around the Midwest display rare and historic livestock. Individual breeders may offer livestock, poultry, and byproducts for sale. Visit www.garfieldfarm.org, email info@garfieldfarm.org, or call 630-584-8485 for more information.

★★ May 20-26 – International Heritage Breeds Week will be held worldwide to raise awareness of endangered Heritage breeds of livestock and poultry. Visit www.Heritage-BreedsWeek.org or call 919-542-5704 to learn more.

June

June 2-3 – The Flag Wool and Fiber Fest will be held in Flagstaff, AZ. Visit www.flagwool.com for more information.

June 6-8 – The World Pork Expo will be held in Des Moines, IA. Each year, 20,000 pork producers and other professionals make World Pork Expo the world's largest pork-specific trade show. Visit www.worldpork.org for more information.

June 9-10 – The Estes Park Wool Festival will be held in Estes Park, CO. Visit www.estesparkeventscomplex.com/wool-market.html for more information.

June 15-16 – Sheep is Life will be held in Tsailé, AZ. Visit <http://navajolifeway.org> for more information.

June 10 – The SVF Annual Visitors Day will be held in Newport, RI. Take free self-guided tours through the historic Swiss Village, peek into the state-of-the-art facilities and meet the SVF laboratory, veterinary, and animal care staff, visit Chip, a rare Tennessee myotonic goat born from a frozen embryo. Learn about other endangered breeds of livestock, attend live cryogenics and sheep shearing demonstrations, and shop SVF's selection of farm products and heritage breed meat. Visit www.svffoundation.org/news/2018-annual-visitors-day/ for more information.

June 29 - July 1 – The Black Sheep Gathering will be held in Albany, OR. Visit www.blacksheepgathering.org for more information.

July

July 10-12 & 24-26 – Garfield Farm Camps will be held in Campton Hills, IL from 9:00 am to noon. Children ages 8-15 will learn about 1840s farm and prairie life. Activities include feeding animals and museum tours. Reservations required. Visit www.garfieldfarm.org.

org, email info@garfieldfarm.org, or call 630-584-8485 for more information.

July 15 – The Exchange Place Farm

Fest will be held in Kingsport, TN. The Fest focuses on children's "play" and "chores" and demonstrations of summertime activities on a 19th century farmstead, which includes meeting the horses, cow, sheep, donkey and pigs who live at Exchange Place. Visit www.exchangeplace.info for more information.

November

★★ November 8-11 – The Heritage Livestock Conference will be held at Conner Prairie in Fishers, IN. Visit www.Livestock-Conference.org for more information.

Ayrshire Farm®

2018 Heritage Breeds Festival

Cows - Pigs - Horses - Donkeys - Rabbits - Sheep - Goats

October 6 & 7, 2018 ~ 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Upperville, Virginia

Exhibitors & Vendors Wanted

Don't miss this opportunity to display your heritage breeds & sell agricultural/heritage breed related merchandise to the public

Participate as an Exhibitor, Vendor, or both;
one or both days



Family-friendly event including demonstrations, hayrides, games, meat tastings, music, and more!

For more information contact Crystal Ritenour
540.905.9031 or critenour@ayrshirefarm.com

