- March 21, 2017 -

Goats & Sheep: Raising Browsers & Grazers Webinar



Photo courtesy of The Lamb's Quarter

Presented by:

Jim Bourne (The Lamb's Quarter)

Tony Koch (Koch Ranches)

Hosted by:
Food Animal Concerns Trust
(FACT)

Introductions

Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT) is a national nonprofit organization that advocates for the safe and humane production of meat, milk, and eggs.

FACT's **Fund-a-Farmer Project** awards grants and facilitates peer-to-peer farmer education to increase the number of animals that are raised humanely in this country.





Our Presenters



Jim Bourne – The Lamb's Quarter

- Owings, Maryland
- 2014 Fund-a-Farmer grant recipient



Tony Koch – Koch Ranches, Inc.

- San Antonio, Texas
- 2013 Fund-a-Farmer grant recipient

Sheep

Reflections of a Novice



What is my Market?

- Who are my customers? What do they want?
 - Ethnic communities
 - Breeding Stock
 - Farmers Markets/Direct marketing
 - Sale Barn
 - Dairy
 - Wool/Pelts
 - Meat

Farmers Market...



Breed Selection

- Wool Sheep vs Hair Sheep
- Heritage Breeds
- Thriftiness and Frame

Katahdin – a hair-type breed



Clun Forest – a wool-type heritage breed



Stocking Rates

https://ag.umass.edu/crops-dairy-livestock-equine/fact-sheets/livestock-grazing-stocking-rates

Decrease Stocking Rate if:	Increase Stocking Rate if:
Poor pasture quality	Excellent pasture quality
No pasture rotation	Rotating several pastures
Stony, ledgy hillside soils	Well fertilized land with low erosion potential
Regrowth is abnormally slow	Animals are given supplemental feed
Low rainfall or excessively drained (i.e. dry) area	Animals are avoiding species you would like them to eat

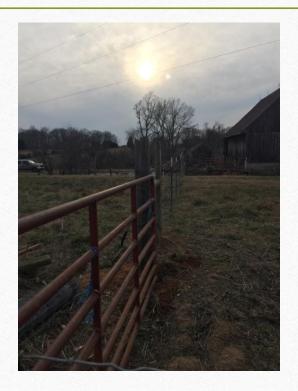
Fencing and Facilities

- Physical Barrier vs Psychological Barrier
 - Woven wire; Barbed wire; High Tensile Wire
 - Polywire; Netting fence; Low and High Tensile wire

Fencing and Facilities

- Intensive vs Extensive
- Barns, sheds, and run-ins
- Handling facilities
- Lambing pens

Fencing



Sheds



Pens



Working Sheep

- Is a dog in your future?
 - Guardian dogs
 - Gathering/Herding dogs

Parasites and General Health Issues

- Maryland Extension Small Ruminant Program FB page
- Parasites
 - To treat or not to treat
 - Dewormer resistance
 - Rotating pastures
 - Learn to recognize parasite-related health issues

Parasites and General Health Issues

- Grass, Legumes, and Grains Watch for Bloat
- Sheep are copper sensitive! Watch your minerals!!
- Vaccines
- An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure
- Cultivate a good relationship with a good vet
- Get yourself a library

Lambing







Education

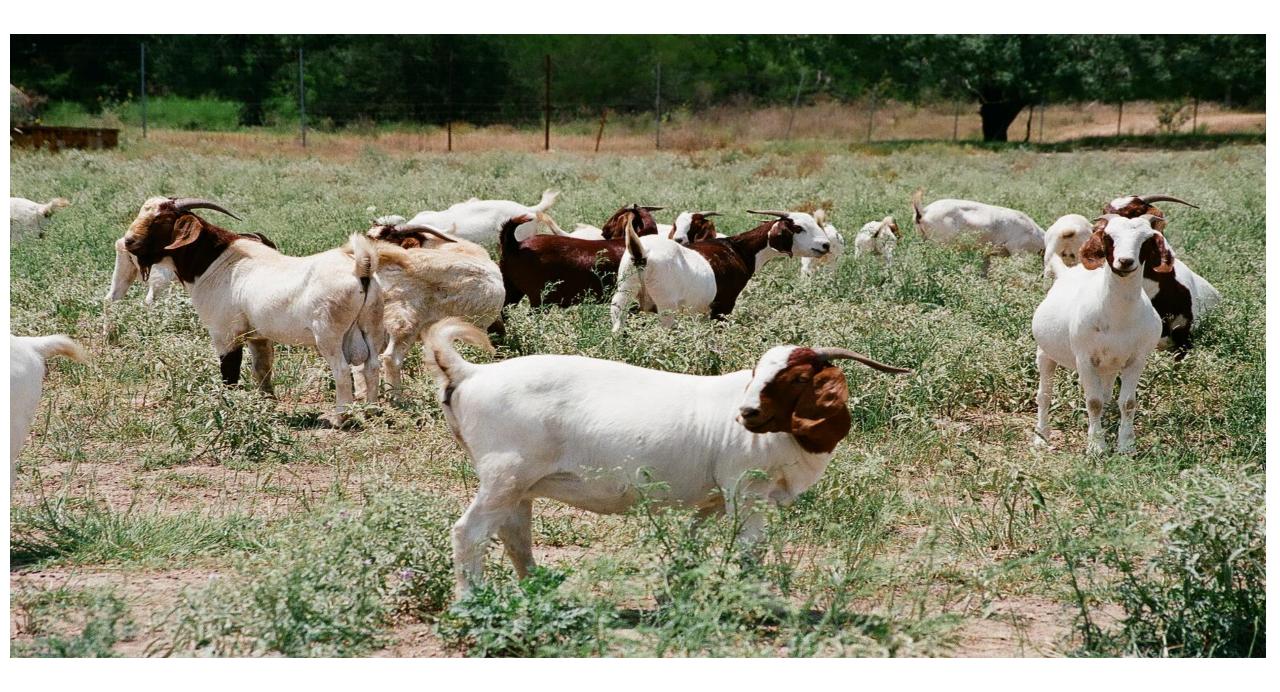
- Land-grant universities in your state
- Storey's Guide to Raising Sheep
- Local Extension Agent
- Stockman Grass Farmer



Koch Ranches







Please type your questions!

