



# THE LINCOLN LETTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL LINCOLN SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOC.

SPRING

2007

## LINCOLN BRIDGE BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND AMERICA

The following communication was received from the Zeberio Family, Lincoln sheep breeders of Argentina. My response to them follows the letter from the Zeberio Brothers. The photo of their supreme champion ram is reproduced in this newsletter. During the last several years I have been able to make personal contact with the Lincoln breeders in the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Argentina, and Australia. I do not know what all will come of these contacts in the future, but certainly being in communication with them should be a plus. Everyone around the world is interested in sharing Lincoln genetics, the tough part has been and will continue to be working out the export/import complexities, distribution, and financial details. Now, the letter from Argentina:

### To the United States Lincoln Breeders:

The objective of this message is to promote the contact of Argentina's Lincoln breeders with other breeders in the world. Lincolns were imported to Argentina beginning in the late 1800's and were concentrated in the region of La Pampas H $\square$ meda, where most production is still centered. We currently have an organization (Association Argentina de Criadores de Lincoln) of 15 major breeders who promote the breed and improve its genetics. The great benefits in the evolution of this hardy breed are meat quantity & quality and maintaining the traditional characteristics of wool that is lustrous, uniform and heavy. Also, in Argentina, we rigorously emphasize maternal fertility where we achieve high production of Lincoln lambs in our country.

The property "La Reforma", operated by the Zeberio family, was established in 1903 with a flock of English Lincolns and by 1925 it was operating as a full-fledged purebred seed stock producer. Today, the fourth generation of Zeberio's are working on the improvement and preservation of this breed. La Reforma is located on Route 74, 20 kilometers from Ayacucho in the province of Buenos Aires. Throughout the years, the Zeberio family has been honored to win numerous awards and highest prices for both their breeding Lincolns and meat market lambs. Among the most significant awards for the Zeberio family have been the 11 titles of "Supreme Champion Ram" during last the 16 years at the Palermo exhibition, the premier show in the country, held in Buenos Aires. Currently, La Reforma is stressing very functional Lincolns and one of its highest aspirations is to be in contact with Lincoln breeders of other countries to expand knowledge of the breed and enable integration and interchange genetics with that of other Lincoln breeders.



*Attached is a photo of the Zeberio brothers with their 2005 Palermo Supreme Champion Ram.*

With great expectations of exchanging greetings,  
Lincoln breeders of "La Reforma", the Zeberio Family

### Greetings to the Zeberio Family,

On behalf of the Lincoln sheep breeders in the United States, I bring greetings to you in Argentina. Our association is active and strong with 80 adult Lincoln breeders plus many junior members. Annual registrations and transfers of ownership of Lincolns have been strong where two thirds are white fleeced and one third are natural colored. Natural colored Lincoln sheep are very popular with wool fiber and craft artists. We sponsor several Lincoln shows (youth and adult) and one national show and sale each year. The Lincoln breed national show at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky is a large breed show with over 150 Lincolns entered each year.

You will find that United States Lincoln breeders are willing to use or exchange genetics with Lincoln breeders from around the world. Individual Lincoln breeders have imported semen from the United Kingdom and New Zealand recently to diversify the genetics of the Lincoln breed. Several rams have been imported from New Zealand in the past ten years. Based on my observations and conversations with UK breeders, United States Lincoln sheep have a less course fleece than Lincolns in Argentina or the United Kingdom.

You are welcome to continue your communication with me on behalf of the United States Lincoln sheep breeders. We will be having our annual national membership meeting, show and sale in Springfield Illinois 22-23 June 2007. I will bring your greetings to our members at that time.

I am also sending this message to Robert Watts, Chairman of the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders Association in the United Kingdom, Gillian Reed of the Australian Lincoln Society, Ltd., and Ike Williams, New Zealand's largest Lincoln breeder to further coordinate the Lincoln breed around the world.

Best Regards,

*Brian Larson, President*

*National Lincoln Sheep Breeders Association*

Visit the Lincoln Association Website for Updates and Information

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

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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by Brian Larson, President NLSBA

Our newsletter is a bit late due to some extracurricular activities of our newsletter crew! Donna Lein has been holding down the fort at their Iowa flock location during lambing season while Jim is recovering from a couple surgeries. Jim is doing well and hopes to be back to work before crop season this spring. Donna has been the spark behind the newsletter for ~25 years! You will see from the next paragraph that Jennifer and I have been up to our nomadic shepherd routine again!

As of December 31st, I bring you greetings from the state of Michigan! Jennifer and I took on new roles with the Kellogg Company in Battle Creek and we live in rural Dowling. We had to part with a lot of our flock in the move and our friends in five states helped us out with providing new homes for all of our natural colored sheep and most of our white flock. We kept ten bred ewes and some ewe lambs to rebuild upon. I have been reunited (grew up and started Lincoln flock in Minnesota) with 'real' winter. Snow shovel still fits my hands! Jennifer, on the other hand, has had an 'awakening', having grown up on Kentucky – Tennessee border and never lived in the 'cursed' north until now.

We are in the process of getting **2007 NLSBA directories** assembled. If you have mailing address and telephone number changes or e-mail address to add to the directory, please contact Secretary / Treasurer Roger Watkins ASAP at [Watkins@mhtc.net](mailto:Watkins@mhtc.net) or 608-437-5086 or 1152 Cty Hwy H, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572.

The **2007 NLSBA show, sale and biennial membership meeting** will be held in Springfield Illinois June 22 & 23rd. More information will be sent to each active NLSBA member regarding entries and show / sale details. The show and membership meeting will be on Friday. Greg Deacon and his Banner Sale Management will be shepherding the Saturday sale with the skills they have demonstrated in our recent past events in Springfield, along with many other breeds' events. The membership meeting and dinner at the Northfield Inn is always a good feed & get-together. We will be electing officers and some of the directors, plus discussing association activities to be held during the next two years. Proposals for location of the 2008 NLSBA show and sale will be discussed. Recall that on even-numbered years the show, sale and membership meeting rotate around the country. Preference in the last six years has been for a location where well-attended sheep events are held. Twice (2002 & 2004) the event has been held at the Estes Park Wool Market and last year at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival. The rotating location NLSBA event has increased in popularity and attendance each year. If you cannot attend our Springfield meeting, but want to propose a sheep event and location for our **2008 NLSBA show and sale**, please contact an officer or board member and share details such as dates, facilities and event particulars. It is most helpful if Lincoln breeders in proposed locations take responsibilities as local contacts with the event officials and help with some of the preparations should the site be selected.

An immediate advantage of our living in Michigan will be our close proximity to Lansing and the Michigan State University campus where the **All America Junior Sheep Show** will be held. The NLSBA is sponsoring a Lincoln show there on the July 4th weekend. I hope to see a good number of Lincoln Junior members and their families at the show in July.

Last year at Maryland, then via NLSBA newsletter, and again at NAILE I discussed with the membership the possibility of taking a **US Lincoln Breeder tour group to the United Kingdom** to attend the Lincolnshire show in June 2007. Unfortunately, the 2007 Lincolnshire show and our own Springfield show occur at the same time. I alerted Robert Watts a couple months ago of the conflict and he invited us to the 2008 event. I will again start working on enough details to give everyone an idea of a prospective itinerary and cost estimate for planning. Lincolnshire is north of London and Cambridge. The Lincoln-watching there is magnificent and the Lincoln breeders are absolutely wonderful people! My initial plans, other than the Lincolnshire show, are to visit a number of breeders (hundreds of Lincolns within an hour radius of Lincoln), there is also some interesting site seeing in and about Lincolnshire. Not being a great fan of London and its busy environs, I will essentially be planning an 'English rural countryside' adventure. Many folks have indicated an interest in being on a list of 'prospective' English Lincoln tour participants. It would be a good idea if you would drop me a note, send an email, or make a phone call to be sure that I get you on the prospect list and to fill you in on the details.

Finally, **2006 was an exceptional year for Lincolns in the United States**. We had a great event at Maryland with lots of Lincolns shown and a superb silent-bid procedure and bid-off auction. Thanks to the Mullinix and Klingelhofer families for their local support. Thanks again to the Klingelhofers for donating a yearling ewe to the Youth Conservation Program recipient (article last year in newsletter). The east region also hosted their regular eastern junior Lincoln show and a Lincoln show at the All-American Junior Sheep Show within a two-week period. Our thanks to the Haddocks for their many years of making the eastern junior members and the junior shows such a success. The many state fairs around the country were well-represented with Lincolns. We had the largest NAILE National Lincoln show ever and had both the white and natural colored classes and champions at the same event. We learned a bit about having a large show at NAILE and will get even better at it in 2007. Our thanks to Susan Hanks for all her excellent efforts as superintendent of the Lincoln show.

**Let's keep the momentum in 2007!**





# 2006 NAILE NATIONAL LINCOLN SHOWS WERE A SUCCESS!

Lincolns had a good beginning of a new show format of having both white and natural-colored sheep in the same NAILE show. The National Lincoln Junior Show completed its third successful year. Classes and champions were separate as our bylaws specify, but both shows were powerful displays of the strength of the Lincoln breed in the U. S. All totaled, 170+ head walked into the show rings for evaluation – 100 whites and 73 natural-colored. In addition to the successful National Lincoln Show, one of our own, Beverly Boersma, was awarded the 2006 NAILE “Shepherd Award”.

## **Congratulations Bev!**

The following is a list of the exhibitors of Show Champions and winners of special awards from the Lincoln Show.

### 2006 National Junior Lincoln Show

#### **White Lincoln Show**

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Grand Champion Ram   | Jonathan Kruse – IL   |
| Reserve Champion Ram | Jonathan Kruse a – IL |
| Best Fleece Ram      | Kayli Mohr – IL       |
| Grand Champion Ewe   | Kayli Mohr – IL       |
| Reserve Champion Ewe | Jonathan Kruse – IL   |
| Best Fleece Ewe      | Kayli Mohr – IL       |

#### **Natural Colored Lincoln Show**

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Grand Champion Ram   | Jonathan Kruse – IL |
| Reserve Champion Ram | Kayli Mohr – IL     |
| Grand Champion Ewe   | Kayli Mohr – IL     |
| Reserve Champion Ewe | Jonathan Kruse – IL |
| Best Fleece          | Kayli Mohr - IL     |

### 2006 National Lincoln Show

#### **White Lincoln Show**

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Grand Champion Ram   | Richard Crome – IL   |
| Reserve Champion Ram | Beverly Boersma – IL |
| Best Fleece Ram      | Stanley Jackman – MI |
| Grand Champion Ewe   | Beverly Boersma – IL |
| Reserve Champion Ewe | Jonathan Kruse – IL  |
| Best Fleece Ewe      | Mike Clifford – CA   |
| Premier Exhibitor    | Beverly Boersma – IL |

#### **Natural Colored Lincoln Show**

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Grand Champion Ram   | Penny Dodds – OR       |
| Reserve Champion Ram | Penny Dodds – OR       |
| Best Fleece Ram      | Sharon Pribbernow – WI |
| Grand Champion Ewe   | Penny Dodds – OR       |
| Reserve Champion Ewe | Roger Watkins – WI     |
| Best Fleece Ewe      | Penny Dodds – OR       |
| Premier Exhibitor    | Penny Dodds – OR       |

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