U.S. Sheep Experiment Station - 100 years

The U.S. Sheep Experiment Station (USSES) was established as a sheep breeding and rangeland grazing research facility. To provide a natural resource base for sheep grazing research, lands were withdrawn from the public domain between 1915 and 1922 by Executive Order and purchased from the private sector between 1940 and 1942 by the USDA-Bureau of Animal Industry (predecessor to the USDA-Agricultural Research Service [ARS]). These lands contain subalpine meadow, foothill, sagebrush steppe, and desert shrubland ecosystems. This diversity provides unparalleled research opportunities. In 1949, the ARS and the University of Idaho entered into cooperative research MOU.

The USSES’ research goal since inception is to discover, develop, and deliver solutions that facilitate the responsible and sustainable management of rangelands as a critical resource for our Nation’s food-security. Sheep grazing provides a means to harvest forage from the landscape to be converted into nutritious and delicious meat protein. Accordingly, the research focus is to achieve the greatest practical production efficiency of rangeland sheep breeds, while protecting natural resources and enhancing rangeland health to improve the feeding quality of native range plants, mitigate catastrophic wildfires, reduce the spread of invasive weeds, and maintain quality wildlife habitat.

Since 1916, the USSES has developed and released the composite sheep breeds Columbia, Targhee, and Polypay, which are adapted to America’s western landscapes and have served the sheep industry well. Furthermore, the USSES has developed rangeland, fire, vegetation-recovery, and grazing management solutions that facilitate the sustainability of multi-use landscapes managed by the private sector, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and State Trust Lands in Intermountain West states. These science-driven products are only possible because of the complete integration of the rangeland and livestock science programs at the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station.

AREA LODGING

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<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dubois, Idaho (6 miles from U.S. Sheep Experiment Station)</td>
<td>Beaver Creek Inn (limited rooms)</td>
<td>(208) 374-5820</td>
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<tr>
<td>Idaho Falls, Idaho (55 miles south of Dubois)</td>
<td>Comfort Inn</td>
<td>(208) 528-2804</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Candlewood Suites</td>
<td>(208) 525-9800</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Best Western Driftwood Inn</td>
<td>(208) 523-2242</td>
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<td>Best Western Plus Cotton Tree Inn</td>
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<td>Fairfield Inn</td>
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<td>Shilo Inn</td>
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<td>Sleep Inn &amp; Suites</td>
<td>(208) 821-3647</td>
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<td>Rexburg, Idaho (50 miles East of Dubois)</td>
<td>AmericInn Lodge &amp; Suites</td>
<td>(208) 356-5333</td>
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<td>Quality Inn</td>
<td>(208) 359-1311</td>
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<td>Springhill Suites</td>
<td>(208) 356-3003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lima, Montana (40 miles north of Dubois of I-15)</td>
<td>Elk Late Resort</td>
<td>(406) 276-3282</td>
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<td>Mountain View Motel</td>
<td>(406) 276-3535</td>
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<td>Dillon, Montana (90 miles north of Dubois of I-15)</td>
<td>Best Western Paradise Inn</td>
<td>(406) 683-4214</td>
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<td>Comfort Inn</td>
<td>(406) 683-6831</td>
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<td>FairBridge Inn Express</td>
<td>(406) 683-3636</td>
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Meals catered by John and Julie Noh

U.S. SHEEP EXPERIMENT STATION 100th ANNIVERSARY

A three day event celebrating 100 years of sheep and range research at the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station

August 23 – 25, 2016
Dubois, ID

Pre-register by August 5, 2016

LOCATIONS:
Freeman Park ● Idaho Falls, ID
Dubois City Park,
Dubois Community Center
&
U.S. Sheep Experiment Station ● Dubois, ID
Program Schedule

Day One: August 23rd, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Freeman Park, Idaho Falls
Located on Science Center Dr, Shelter 1
Registration fee includes dinner
Bring your lawn chairs!

- Opening Dinner & Mixer
- Welcome & Historical Reflections

Day Two: August 24th, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Registration fee includes lunch & refreshments

8:30 – 9:45 am, U.S. Sheep Experiment Station
Session 1: 100 years of Sheep and Range Research
- Dawn of US Sheep Breed Development, Dr. Dave Notter
- The Founding Goal: Shedding Light on Rangelands, Dr. Steve Seefeldt
- Sheep Station Facility Tour (all morning)
- Interactive Wool Lab (all morning), Montana State University

9:45 – 10:00 am: Break

10:00 – 11:15 am, U.S. Sheep Experiment Station
Session 2: The Next 100 Years of Sheep and Range Research
- The Future of Sheep Production: Gene Editing and Other Genetic Technologies, Dr. Noelle Cockett
- The Future of Rangeland Management: Role of Grazing, Dr. John Walker

12:00 – 2:00 pm, Dubois City Park, Dubois, ID
Anniversary Luncheon
- Historical Reflections from Former Employees, Drs Pat Hatfield & John Walker
- Honored Acknowledgements

2:00 – 4:00 pm, Dubois Community Center, Dubois, ID
Session 3: Production Applications for Improving Sheep Production Efficiency
- Alternative Winter Grazing Solutions, Dr. Pat Hatfield
- Flock Improvement through NSIP, Dr. Reid Redden
- Vaccinations and Preparing for Antibiotic-Free Production, Dr. Jenni Dike
- Making Sure Great Wool Stays Great, Dr. Whit Stewart
- Ewe-Lamb Breeding Management, Dr. Bret Taylor
- Sheep Station Facility Tour (all afternoon)

Area Things to do:
- Opal Store & Mini Mine, Spencer, ID
- Dubois Heritage Hall Museum, Dubois, ID
- Nez Perce Historic Trail, Kilgore ID

Day Three: August 25th, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
U.S. Sheep Experiment Station
Registration fee includes lunch & refreshments

Tri-State Idaho-Montana-Wyoming Wool Growers Association Range Tour
Tour will focus primarily on policy and science that affects utilization of America’s rangeland as a food security resource. Topics include Bighorn-Domestic Sheep Issues, Grizzly Bear Delisting & Management, Sage Grouse Policy & Management, and Alternative Grazing Resources for Livestock.

Pre-registration for the range tour is required!
Space will be limited to the first 150 people.
Participants will meet at the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, ID. Participants will be divided into groups for the tour. Lunch and refreshments are included in the Range Tour registration fee, and lunch will be hosted at the USSES HQ.

U.S. SHEEP STATION 100th ANNIVERSARY REGISTRATION

Registration by Mail: Return this form with a check payable to The University of Idaho to:
University of Idaho
19 Office Loop
Dubois, ID 83423-5032
Pre-register by August 5, 2016

Name(s): ________________________________
______________________________
Ranch/Company: __________________________
Address: _________________________________
City/ST/Zip: ______________________________
Daytime Phone: ____________________________
Email: _________________________________

Check all that apply: □ Producer □ Education/Leader
□ Commercial □ Club Lamb □ Niche Market

The Anniversary is open to everyone. However, attendees that wish to eat meals at the Opening Mixer Dinner (August 23) and Anniversary Luncheon (August 24) will need to register and purchase meal tickets.

Tuesday, August 23, Opening Dinner & Mixer
$22 per person QTY_______ $__________

Wednesday, August 24, Anniversary Luncheon
$25 per person QTY_______ $__________

Thursday, August 25, Tri-State Range Tour
$40 per person QTY_______ $__________

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $__________

For questions or more information, please call 208-374-5306 or 208-374-5364