



CHB FALL NEWS & UPDATES

Canadian Heritage Breeds Newsletter

Fall 2016

2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We have a lot in store for you in this issue of the CHB Newsletter! Read on and enjoy - and from all of us at CHB, we hope you have a wonderful and productive Fall!

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What is CHB?

We are about the preservation of genetic diversity, heritage breeds, networking, social gatherings, education, breed conservation, and fun. CHB offers a number of events and resources including poultry shows, seminars, breed displays, social gatherings & smaller events throughout the year.

Our membership includes every level of enthusiast from the first time urban coop owner to farmers with decades of experience raising heritage breed animals. CHB also encourages youth involvement with a developing Juniors program. Although CHB is based in Central Alberta we aim to create a resource for not just Alberta, but

for all of Western Canada and beyond! CHB publishes an online quarterly newsletter announcing upcoming events, articles by and about our members, breed introductions and information, and more.



MOVING? WE WANT TO STAY IN TOUCH!

If you have moved or changed your address, please let us know!

Email: canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com

Become Involved

CHB is always looking for members who want to become more involved! As we continue to grow, there are always opportunities open for YOU to become more involved with seminars, breed displays, sales, shows, get-togethers, newsletters, etc. If you are interested in volunteering for a specific event, are available for general assistance, have ideas for



advertising, or interesting things we should have at the show, we would love to hear from you! We will definitely need volunteers to help with the November show. Help with the fall show set up and tear down are the two biggest areas where we could use even just a couple of hours of help.

Become a Member

For only \$10.00 per year, you will receive or have access to:

- In-club Awards
- Discounts on CHB Club Events
- Early Registration for Seminars
- Advertising Opportunities
- Quarterly Newsletter

[Register online today!](#) Canadian Heritage Breeds is a Registered Non-Profit Society.

Note to CHB Members: Breeders Listing

Members of CHB are invited to become part of the website Breeder's Directory! For an additional \$10 per year, the Breeder's Directory can be viewed by anyone who visits the CHB website and is a great way for CHB members to promote and market their heritage breed animals. There is no limit to the number of heritage breeds that can be listed by each member.

For the first time in 2016, members are encouraged to list heritage breed meat, table eggs, and fibre products for sale.

Part of CHB's mission is to assist "the public, both rural and urban, to recognize the strengths, values and relevance that heritage breeds possess in today's marketplace". In order to more effectively support our members and help accomplish this mission, the board of CHB feels the Breeder's Directory should be extended to include not only heritage breed poultry and livestock but also the meat, table eggs, and fibre they produce.

To learn more about the Breeder's Directory please go to: <http://www.canadianheritagebreeds.ca>

Upcoming CHB Events and Programs

Heritage Harvest Dinner
September 17, 2016
Innisfail, AB

The Concept: When the CHB's mission statement was created the Board of Directors began to think of "how to join Producers of Heritage Stock to the Consumer." Brainstorming and dreaming was the creative essence. From this philosophy and vision the concept of the Heritage Harvest Dinner took shape.

Canadian Heritage Breeds Heritage Harvest Dinner 2016 Menu



~Appetizer~
Chicken pot pie

~Main Course~
Miniature ham served with laser potatoes, glazed carrots, mustard and pickles served with homemade bread

~Dessert~
Maple Chaumiere with Bourbon cream

The Event: In 2015 CHB decided to turn this supper into an annual fundraiser event, complete with a 3 course plated meal. In addition, the meal is sided with an outstanding selection of local beer and/or wine. Complete with candlelight, soft music, and great company, the Heritage Harvest Dinner is truly a unique, intimate, and special experience for those who attend.

The 2016 Dinner will again feature a delicious selection of locally sourced vegetables, fruits and heritage meats. This gourmet meal will be held at the **Innisfail Library Learning Centre** starting at **5:00pm** and will be prepared by chef Blake Anderson of The Good Stuff. The funds raised by this event will be used for events and programs designed to educate and inspire heritage livestock producers.

Be sure you purchase your tickets soon as they are selling fast! Tickets are ONLY available through eventbrite.ca. Prices are **\$55.00 per plate or \$300 per table of 6**. CHB hopes to see you there! Check out our [Facebook event page](#) and be sure to share with friends!

Canadian Heritage Breeds Photo Contest Deadline: September 30th, 2016



Take your best shot - Canadian Heritage Breeds is holding a Photo Contest! Photo entries should, of course, showcase heritage breeds of livestock and poultry. There is no limit to the number of entries each CHB member may submit.

Deadline for Photo Contest Entries: September 30, 2016

Email Photo Submissions to: canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com

Winning photographs will be used to create a **2017 Canadian Heritage Breeds Calendar** which will be available for purchase beginning at the 2016 Fall Show in November. Photo Contest winners will be the proud recipients of a free copy each of the 2017 Calendar.

CHB Photo Contest Guidelines

- Photos must be high-resolution and not appear pixelated when printed to wall calendar size
- Horizontal profile photos are recommended
- Consider all the seasons of the year when choosing your submissions
- Include the person photo credits should be given to for each photo submitted
- A photo caption indicating the breed(s) of livestock or poultry featured is recommended. If there's a story behind the photo we'd love to hear it too!



Please Note: by submitting photos to the Photo Contest you are granting permission for Canadian Heritage Breeds Association to modify, use, and redistribute the photos submitted for promotional and advertising purposes including, but not limited to, the 2017 CHB Calendar. Also remember you must have permission to submit photos of any people, especially children, captured along with the critters!

Canadian Heritage Breeds Prospective Youth Mentorship Program

Two of CHB's most important objectives are in the areas of education and youth. These topics continue to be at the top of YOUR list of priorities too, according to the feedback gathered through CHB member surveys. It seems that the next logical step for CHB then, is to look into developing a youth education program!

At this time the idea is still in the earliest stages, but we'll certainly keep you, our members, posted as things progress. The concept currently being explored is a youth program centered around heritage poultry keeping. The focus would be to provide education and mentorship to youth to help them develop a strong foundation in a specific breed of poultry that they have interest in. With their parent's consent and cooperation, they would agree to provide suitable housing and necessary requirements to raise a few chickens of their chosen breed.

Each child would be connected with an experienced breeder (who raises that particular poultry breed). Besides supplying the boy or girl with a few chicks to get them started, the breeder would also provide teaching, advice, and tips to help them make good decisions and avoid problems. By having access to lots of support and encouragement, the younger generation will have a greater chance of achieving success and finding enjoyment in raising healthy, high quality heritage poultry. Exhibiting and showmanship classes would also be components of the program.

CHB is currently exploring partnership options with other organizations such as 4-H and YEPA (Youth Exhibition Poultry Association). By linking with an already established club, CHB can be sure to offer a youth poultry program that is well organized and well prepared before its launch.



Watch future newsletters, the [CHB Facebook page](#), and check the [CHB website](#) regularly for news on this exciting new CHB endeavor!

Photo Credit: <http://simply-lally.blogspot.ca/>

Canadian Heritage Breeds 2016 Fall Poultry Show

The CHB Annual Fall Poultry Show is back for 2016, but with some exciting changes! This year's Fall Show will be held at the historic Livestock Sales Pavilion at Lacombe Agricultural Grounds. For those of you who have attended some of our seminars most likely enjoyed the history and nostalgia that the Lacombe Ag Grounds possess! Further information, entry forms, and Showbook will be posted on the [CHB website](#) soon.

Where: Central Alberta Agricultural Society 4200-58 Street, Lacombe, AB T4L 1V8

When: The date for the CHB Fall Show is **November 12th - 13th**. CHB is excited to have some amazing judges lined up for the show.

The 2016 show will feature:

- American Poultry Association and American Bantam Association Sanctioned poultry show
- Junior Competition
- Fancy Pigeon and Racing Homer show
- Displays and Information
- Animals and heritage livestock display
- Local farm and agricultural product vendors



If any volunteers available to lend a hand at the show, including set-up beforehand and tear-down afterward, please feel free to email Kyle Lawrence: heritagefarmerkyle@gmail.com or contact CHB: canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!



Feature: Heritage Breeds, It's About Much More Than Just Preservation

By Michelle Sulz, Norland Brae Farm norland.brae@gmail.com



This fall will mark ten years since we purchased our current home in north-central Alberta. Over time, little by little, we've expanded in terms of the land we own, the numbers and species of animals we raise, the pens and buildings for housing them, and the field and horticultural crops we grow. A few years ago Norland Brae Farm was officially born and we stopped calling our home an acreage and had to start calling it a farm.



Christie of Norland Brae helping out by picking up a dropped glove.



Basque Hen cockerels in the grow out pen.

sufficiency by spending less than \$20 per month on groceries (and no cheating by eating out!) and it was actually pretty manageable. The biggest challenge is finding time to do everything as, since we both work full time off farm as well, life is busy!

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The human members of Norland Brae consist of my husband, a professional engineer, and myself, a professional agrologist. Our animal menagerie includes registered highland cattle,

Ossabaw island hogs, Nubian goats, Ridley Bronze Turkeys, and Basque Hen and Belgian Bearded d'Uccle poultry. In all cases we have breeding stock and raise their offspring. We also grow our own hay and field crops (peas, lentils, camelina, wheat, rye, and hullless oats), have an ever expanding Zone 2 hardy fruit tree orchard, and several gardens for growing and preserving food for all the residents. Almost all the crops we grow, whether animal or plant, are heritage varieties. We also have a few honey bee hives and, for the first time this spring, we tapped our Manitoba maple trees and made maple syrup, now that's a labour of love! Although we are still grid tied, we generate most of our own electricity using solar energy and strive to use sustainable farming practices. Last January to April we tested our self



Our largest project so far, the construction of a gambrel roof barn, a heated winter home for the poultry flock.



The 2016 crop of sour cherries was fantastic!

The past three years I've enjoyed, and learned from, my time as a board member of Canadian Heritage Breeds. In many ways the mission and vision of CHB aligns seamlessly with my own personal values and so it's been a lot of fun (and let's be honest on rough days frustrating) having the opportunity to serve as a volunteer on the Board of Directors for CHB. Lots of CHB members enjoy showing poultry, which in many of ways is where the association's roots are, but over the past few years I've been privileged to assist as CHB has grown to still retain that aspect but to also be about much more.

Mission Statement

Canadian Heritage Breed Association, CHB, encourages the preservation, growth and overall welfare of heritage breeds. CHB is the vehicle that allows the public, both rural and urban, to recognize the strengths, values and relevance that heritage breeds possess in today's marketplace. CHB will demonstrate the benefits of heritage breeds through public awareness campaigns, which are designed to educate as well as offer the opportunity to become proactive in the conservation of heritage breeds.

Canadian Heritage Breeds mission statement probably resonates differently with each member. For Norland Brae, an important aspect of heritage breed preservation and growth is raising animals in a sustainable way and using them for their intended purpose. Our animals are well cared for, healthy, have great temperaments, and are productive. They do well on the pasture, hay, grains, and produce we grow and are a good "fit" for our farm overall providing us with meat, milk, and eggs. As an example, Ossabaw island hogs are hardy, grow slowly but very well on the grains and vegetables we can grow ourselves, and are a great charcuterie hog for making cured meats. If you haven't tried the ham or bacon from one of these hogs you're missing out! Those reading this might be thinking "But Ossabaw Island Hogs aren't a registered breed in Canada". Another important area to understand about CHB; their broad definition of a Heritage Breed.



Homemade Ossabaw Island Hog bacon

What is a Heritage Breed?

Giving a concrete definition of the term 'heritage' can be a difficult task. The broadest definition of a heritage breed of livestock is: a breed that was developed and used on farms, ranches and homesteads before the advent of modern industrial agriculture. With a few exceptions, they are breeds that thrive in outdoor situations, are able to forage for some of their own food and have a long reproductive lifespan. The history of our heritage livestock breeds ranges from mere decades to several centuries, but common among them all is a unique adaptation to both the farms they come from and the farmers who keep them.

Our current challenge at Norland Brae is deciding on a business model and marketing strategy. We've been selling farm fresh eggs now for a few years but, as our farm has grown, we now also have animals and meat in excess of our own needs.

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Our fear, if we can't find a cost effective market for these products, is that we will need to look at downsizing the number of heritage breeds we raise. Do people understand the value of sustainably raised heritage breed products? Is it worth the cost and hassle of taking our animals to government inspected facilities that will allow us to sell our products? How do people interested in heritage livestock or products find us and how do we find them?

This leads me to another aspect of CHB. In case you haven't heard, Canadian Heritage Breeds is hosting a Heritage Harvest Dinner on September 17th, 2016 in Innisfail, Alberta. This will be the second annual dinner and serves both as a way to celebrate the value and tastiness of heritage breed meats and other products and as a fundraiser for CHB to help finance events such as our annual fall poultry show. This year's menu will feature Berkshire pork from Irving Farms, artisan bread, and locally grown top quality produce from central Alberta. Prepared to perfection by a chef and served in style this will be a meal to appreciate, celebrate, and enjoy!

There are so many aspects of heritage breeds. First, they're beautiful, think poultry and livestock shows. Heritage breeds are also diverse and, as such, almost every farmer can find a breed that suits their farm and personal needs. They're also productive and useful providing meat, eggs, milk, and other products such as fibre. Put all those things together and you start to appreciate the whole value of heritage breeds. It's not just about preservation, it's about preservation for a purpose.



The 2016 chickens are already in the freezer and beef, pork, and turkey in limited quantities will be available later this fall.

Feature: Keeping Dairy Sheep

By Davina Daly

I became a sheep owner this last year. Since the acquisition of my cross bred hair sheep, I have been introduced to milk sheep and fibre sheep. In my journey and the research and discussions with practitioners, my eyes have been opened to a whole new facet of farming and nutrition. I will encapsulate the general points in this article and the references listed at the end of the article can be sources for your further research enjoyment. Just to set some perspective on various sources of milk production from around the world here are some statistics:

Cows produce 625,754,261 tonnes annually forming 83% of total milk production
Buffalo produce 97,417,135 tonnes annually forming 13.9% of total milk production
Goat produce 17,846,118 tonnes annually forming 2.4% of total milk production
Sheep produce 10,122,522 tonnes annually forming 1.3% of total milk production
Camel produce 2,787,382 tonnes annually forming .04% of total milk production

Cheese from the ewe, milk from the goat, butter from the cow...

Spanish proverb.

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Compared to cow milk, sheep milk is made up the highest percentages of milk solids, fat, protein, calcium, and calories. It is richer in vitamins A, B, and E, calcium, phosphorus, potassium, and magnesium, has a higher proportion of short and medium chain fatty acids which have little effect on cholesterol levels, making milk easier to digest and contain high levels of CLA which is a cancer fighting, fat-reducing linoleic acid. The fat globules are smaller and easily digestible.

Sheep are generally milked for 3 – 6 months of the year. Some farms allow the lambs to milk for 24 hours and then put them on milk replacer. The ewes are then milked for commercial production. Other farms share the mother's milk with the lambs until weaning time, generally around 3 months and yet others allow the lambs to milk until weaning and then milk for commercial/personal production.

Most of the sheep milk produced is used for cheese, but can also be used for yogurt and ice cream. Feta,

Ricotta, Pecorino Romano, and Roquefort are the most common types of cheese produced.

All sheep breeds come from the same genus and species but over the years some breeds have been specialized specifically for good milk production. East Friesian, Lacaune, Sarda, Chios, British Milkshopee, Awassi, and Assaf. These breeds will produce 400 to 1,100 lbs of milk per lactation cycle.

The market potential for sheep milk and by-products is growing each year as people are becoming more aware of its health benefits and the potential market. The addition of fibre and meat creates lucrative sources of income. The fibre comes in a variety of grades and can be used for many things including sweaters, hats, socks, insulation, weed barriers, and felting. The meat market is developing as people become aware of lamb as a food source.

Here are a few details about sheep and the cycles for breeding, gestation, and maturity:

- Mature ewes average 150 – 170 lbs (varies with breed)
- Attainment of mature size 2 – 3 years
- Productive Life span 6 - 8 years
- Wool production 6 to 10 lbs per year
- Reproduction for seasonal breeders September to December, 17 days between estrous periods
- Gestation 147 days
- Lambing months February through May depending on farmer's preference
- Puberty 7 – 10 months. There is evidence to show that breeding after 18 months ensures healthy and complete growth plate development creating a healthier ewe in the long term
- Lambs per birth: 1 to 3 (breed and genetic specific)
- Birth weight 7 to 10 lbs
- Lamb survival 85 to 95%
- Natural weaning is the ideal option. Early weaning should be dependent on minimum 30 lb size and thriving health of the lamb
- Lambing jug: 15 to 20 square feet per ewe with lambs if lambing under cover

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Fencing:

Barbed wire is not an option for sheep. The barbs catch in the fleece and with struggle it can create stress and injury to the animal as well as a potential target for predators.

Solid exterior fencing is important for protection from predators and containment of livestock. Electric fencing for interior paddocks is an excellent choice as it is affordable and flexible for rotation of pasture. Sheep can easily be trained to electric fencing and this will ensure containment and control of the livestock.

There are a number of supports for protection from predators. The use of llamas, donkeys, and guardian dogs separately or together offer selection that can be tailored to fit the needs of the producer. For larger flocks the use of a herding dog for movement and handling is a good option.

Feed and nutrition:

During lactation the feed provided is important for nutritional maintenance. Natural forage is ideal and should include a variety of legumes, grasses, brush, and herbals such as wormwood, willow, comfrey, and plantain. Keep in mind that the feed consumed can affect the taste of the milk.

Lactating ewes consume up to 3 gallons of water per day and is a requirement for healthy milk production.

Mineral sources are very important. The ewes' last month of gestation is the most important for supplementation of minerals. There is a lot of information available to help make an informed decision. Mineral supplied should be based on your specific feed and soil nutrient levels. Soil testing is an important factor in deciding what to supply as supplements for the good health of your herd.

Check with your local agriculture departments for resources and labs.

The Central Alberta area soils are deficient in selenium and iodine and these can be added to the mineral supplements. Some producers give additional mineral supplementation such as selenium in the last month of gestation and to the lambs at birth.

Copper is toxic to sheep. It is important that mineral supplementation is specific to sheep.

Health:

There are a number of schools of thought on vaccinations and parasite control. I am of the school of natural immunity through survival of the fittest, bio security, and alternative parasite control mixed with pasture rotation. Each producer needs to gather research and information and make an informed decision that fits their lifestyle and beliefs.

Milking your dairy sheep:

The general sheep milking method is quite simple. Using a stand with a pail for alfalfa pellets or grain and the head catch. The rest depends on how many sheep you would like to milk at one time and the height required for the producer. The method of milking is also quite simple. You can milk by hand or have an air assisted system. There are things to consider when milking ewes. Mastitis can be caused by over milking with an air assisted system. Milking and/or finishing by hand assures that you only milk as long as there is milk to strip, whereas using air assisted milkers can cause injury to the udder and care must be taken.

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Types of Dairy Sheep:



East Friesian



Awassi Ram

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Icelandic



Lacaune

Sheep are an excellent option in livestock production. They benefit from grazing in shrub, bush and treed areas. The need to provide cleared pasture is removed. The sheep and land both benefit from the relationship. Mixing cattle and sheep, one to one, is also beneficial for all concerned. The cattle provide protection for the sheep, the cattle and sheep browse and graze the land, fertilize naturally and it also helps with parasite control.

There is a huge market developing around sheep and as people are becoming more aware, it is developing into more than a niche market.

Sheep fibre is one of the most sustainable products on the planet. Wool is anti-fungal, anti-bacterial, it is naturally fire retardant and moisture resistant, and the sheep grow the fibre continuously. For those who are vegetarian or vegan, they can support the fibre industry as a sheep does not need to be pregnant to grow its coat and the males can be neutered and their wool processed as well.

Finally, the raising of sheep for meat, fibre, and milk can be a financially lucrative option for producers.

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CHB Westerner Days Summer Show Report

By Steven Vincent

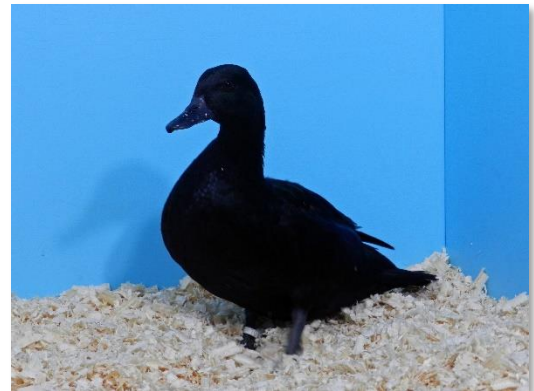
CHB was proud to hold their 2nd Annual Summer Show during Westerner Fair Days in Red Deer, July 22nd and 23rd. The weather might have been slightly rainy on Saturday but that didn't dampen anyone's spirits. The Westerner Fair brought in a total of 57,099 people this year, so we saw a large number of visitors through the poultry show.

The Junior Show was held on Friday and was judged by CHB President, Kyle Lawrence. Jillian Skeels won Grand Champion Junior with her Speckled Sussex Hen. Reserve Grand Champion and Champion Waterfowl went to Justin Skeels for his Pekin Drake. Champion Bantam went to Simon Carboneau for his Frizzled Cochin Hen.



The Open Show was held on Saturday and had a total of 51 birds entered. For the judging we were pleased to have APA Judge Rico Sebastianelli from Alberta. After he was finished judging he was there to help our exhibitors with plenty of one-on-one time. There was a very nice variety of birds at the show. Grand Champion of Show and Champion Waterfowl went to Kristen Stevenson for her East

Indies Hen. I was very honoured to receive Reserve Grand Champion and Champion Bantam for my Bantam Salmon Faverolles Cockerel. Champion American and Champion Large Fowl went to Mike Skeels for his Silver Laced Wyandotte Hen. Champion English was a Speckled Sussex Hen shown by Kyle Lawrence. Champion Asiatic went to a Blue Cochin Hen by Kathy Stevenson. Champion Turkey was a Narragansett Cock shown by Mike Skeels. Champion Guinea Fowl was a Lavender Cock shown by Mike and Kris Skeels.



The Egg Show was also held on Saturday and was judged by Kyle Lawrence. The Champion and Reserve for the Open Painted Egg Show was won by Kris Skeels. The Champion in the Junior Egg Show - under 6 years old was Jillian Skeels and Reserve Champion was Simon Carboneau. Champion and Reserve Champion - over 6 years old was Justin Skeels.

A big thanks goes out on behalf of CHB to all the volunteers and exhibitors who helped make this show a success. We hope to see everyone back next summer!

2016 Vermilion Fair Poultry Show Results

Large Fowl

Champion American - Dominique Cock owned by Callum McLeod
Reserve American - Buckeye Cockerel owned by Crystal McKinnon

Champion English - Black Orpington Hen owned by Yvette Franklin
Reserve English - Speckled Sussex Hen owned by Kyle Lawrence

Champion Continental – Black Copper Marans Cock owned by Yvette Franklin
Reserve Continental – Black Copper Marans Cock owned by Yvette Franklin

Champion Asiatic - Black Cochin Cockerel owned by Yvette Franklin
Reserve Asiatic - Black Langshans Hen owned by Callum McLeod

Champion AOSB - Sumatra Hen owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries
Reserve AOSB - Sumatra Hen owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries

Champion Large Fowl, Sumatra Hen owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries
Reserve Large Fowl – Black Orpington Hen owned by Yvette Franklin

Bantams

Champion Feather Legged - Black Belgian Bearded D'ucle Cock owned by Kyle Lawrence
Reserve Feather Legged - Bantam Salmon Faverolle cock owned by Steven Vincent

Best OEG - Wheaten Cock owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries
Reserve OEG - White Cock owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries

Champion RCCL - Quail Belgian Bearded d'Anvers Pullet owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries
Reserve RCCL - Quail Belgian Bearded d'Anvers Hen owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries

Champion SCCL - Light Brown Dutch Pullet owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries
Reserve SCCL - Light Brown Dutch Hen owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries

Champion Bantam - Light Brown Dutch Pullet owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries
Reserve Bantam - Quail Belgian Bearded d'Anvers Pullet owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries

Champion Landfowl - Sumatra Hen owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries
Reserve Landfowl - Light Brown Dutch Pullet owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries



Photo Credit: Jennifer Jacula



Photo Credit: Jennifer Jacula

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Waterfowl

Champion Duck - Welsh Harlequin Drake owned by Caitlin Jacula

Reserve Duck - Welsh Harlequin Hen owned by Caitlin Jacula

Champion Goose - Toulouse Gander owned by Yvette Franklin

Reserve Champion Goose - Toulouse Goose owned by Yvette Franklin

Champion Waterfowl - Welsh Harlequin Drake owned by Caitlin Jacula

Reserve Waterfowl - Welsh Harlequin Hen owned by Caitlin Jacula

SHOW CHAMPION - Sumatra Hen owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries

RESERVE SHOW CHAMPION - Light Brown Dutch Pullet owned by Silver Ridge Aviaries

Junior Show

Champion Junior - Welsh Harlequin Drake owned by Caitlin Jacula

Reserve Champion Junior - Partridge Chantecler hen shown by Sophia Jacula

Second Reserve Champion Junior - Laying Trio shown by Skylar Dary

Non-Standard Breeds Show

Champion Fancy Trio - Lesley Brooks

Best Meat Trio - Ralph Klinke

Champion Laying Trio - Skylar Dary

Egg Show

Champion 3 egg, Champion egg display - Lesley Brooks

Reserve Champion egg display, Champion 6 egg - Lesley Brooks

Champion and Reserve Painted eggs - Yvette Franklin

Junior Champion and Reserve Painted eggs - Grace Crundwell



Recap: Heritage Livestock Conference

Callum McLeod

On Saturday August 13th CHB hosted the Heritage Livestock Conference in Lacombe Alberta. This event built upon the successful 2015 Heritage Livestock 101 course, and this year certainly did not disappoint! We had a packed program for the day covering a wide range of topics with plenty of time to network and learn from the other attendees.

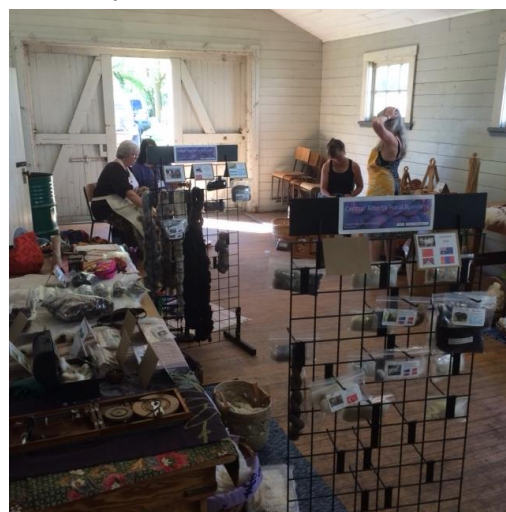
The day started off with an eye-opening session with Dr. Madhu Ravi, a poultry pathologist with Alberta Agriculture. In this session we learned about illnesses and parasites that are common to small flocks in Alberta. We not only learned about detecting and managing these risks, but also strategies to reduce these risks to the flock.

Following Dr. Ravi's main presentation there was a discussion period that was at least as helpful as the main session, if not even more so! At the same time as the discussion period, renowned dairy goat breeder Leila Cranswick lead an engaging session out in the sales ring. During the talk Leila discussed breed selection, milking doe management and nutrition, kid rearing, and home milk handling. Leila chose to keep this session fairly participant directed, so those in search of specific information could make the most of the time and have as many of their questions answered and concerns discussed.



Holmes Boyd finished off the morning talks with a fantastic presentation about farming with heritage breeds with a specific focus on sheep. Holmes' experience growing up in Ireland and perspectives on how livestock breeds have changed in his lifetime really highlighted that heritage livestock breeds still have a vital role to play on today's commercial farms. In addition to this, Holmes discussed the importance of good livestock husbandry and how low tech traditional methods of management could be used in synergy with high tech modern tools.

Our lunch period was a great opportunity to discuss topics brought up earlier in the morning, as well as to check out the fantastic fiber arts display put on by the Central Alberta Rural Spinners! Their displays and demonstrations not only showcased the wools of many heritage breeds, but also demonstrated tremendous skill and craft in the transformation of raw fibers to highly functional and beautiful pieces.



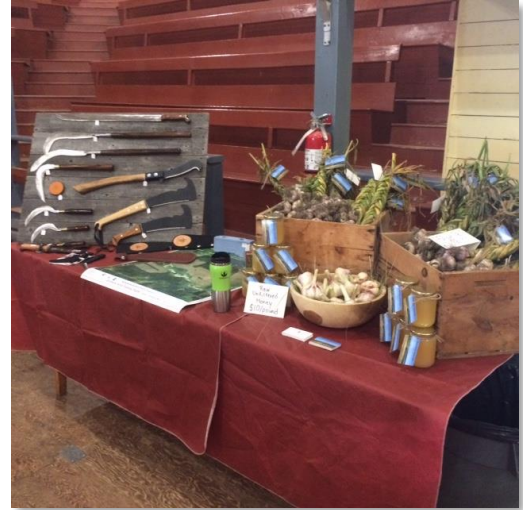
The afternoon sessions started with Nichole Boutilier from the SEEL Project with a very good presentation on home flock bio-security. Nichole did an amazing job taking this often daunting topic and presenting it in a way that was easy to understand and apply to home flocks. If all flock

owners even applied a few of Nichole's recommendations, I think that the overall health of home flocks on Alberta would improve.



The last two sessions of the afternoon went hand in hand nicely! First a quick presentation on the Slow Meat Campaign and how it can work with farmers and consumers to create a better, more clean and fair meat system. Following this presentation Takota Coen of Grassroots Family Farm held a fantastic session on Gardening with Livestock. In his presentation Takota discussed how multi-species livestock systems can be more productive than stand-alone enterprises, and how they can be

integrated into a larger agro-ecological system that includes many aspects of permaculture design and holistic management.



Overall the day was packed full of fantastic information and great discussions. I came away from it all inspired with a renewed energy and drive, a feeling that I hope many of my fellow participants shared!



Thank you to Peavey Mart for your ongoing support of Canadian Heritage Breeds!