WOOL& FINE FIBER BOOK

tactile perspectives from our land



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Why Would You Use This Book?

This book is designed to foster relationships between farmers & ranchers and those that use their fiber, including hand-spinners, knitters, designers and brands. It is less a document to 'place a yarn order from'—instead it illuminates what is growing in our own communities and it stands as an invitation for you to make that call or email to those producers whose material and story you find yourself drawn to.

Directly supporting local fiber farmers and ranchers is good for our overall community health in these three basic ways:

- 1) Together we are ensuring continued access to local fiber and food supplies and the skilled land-based jobs associated with their production
- 2) We increase on-farm income and directly protect lands from being sold and developed. (For example, 40,000 acres of agricultural land is paved over in California each year.)
- 3) When we create what we need from local landscapes we are drastically lowering travel miles of imported goods and the associated greenhouse gas pollution; simultaneously we retain local landscapes for biological diversity.

We've already begun to see improvements to both the fiber quality and the local textile creation processes in our region due to the increased occurrence of designers communicating and building relationships with those on the land. This book is an invitation to continue to refine our collective creation processes.

When we pave over living soils that exist as the foundation of our ranches, farms, gardens and open spaces, we cut off the soil's ability to sequester and cycle carbon. Ameliorating the climate crisis is contingent on both protecting our existing soils, as well as improving our land management to enhance the soil's ability to cycle and hold permanent forms of carbon.

The fiber producers illuminated in this book are part of our regional Soil-to-Soil System. What grows from these lands can be returned via composting. All of these materials come from and return to the earth—and thus exist in harmony with the carbon cycle. We admonish those of you who choose to work with these producers to tell the story of local natural fiber and its connection to carbon and climate. The work to regionalize and regenerate fiber systems is a team effort—we invite your participation as an individual artisan, design house or brand. We are grateful for your creativity and look forward to see how you interpret the language of the land in the garments and goods you produce with these materials.

Who Might Use This Book?

Hand-spinners: You could choose your own fleece at shearing time (direct from the farm), or you can purchase washed and carded roving from many of the producers listed in this book.

Knitters: Many producers offer their own yarns direct from the farm or ranch. You can search for producers who have mill-spun yarns on their product page. Yarn batches will vary in gauge and quantity year to year. Prices also change, contact the farm directly for details.

Designers & Brands: If you operate a small business or work for a large brand, this book will allow you to maximize the one-of-a-kind nature of your pieces, and provide you an opportunity to tell a unique story about soil-to-soil textile systems. Fibershed will be issuing a *National Mill Inventory* mid-way through 2016 (with domestic recommendations from scouring to sewing), which will support you in finding a mill that can help you create your own blends of yarn. In the meantime, if you need a mill to work with or have questions about how to process your fibers, feel free to contact us at office@fibershed.com.

Climate Beneficial: One of the largest producers in this book is now producing certified 'Climate Beneficial Wool,' meaning they've started large-scale compost operations and have designed an entire carbon farm plan that includes windbreaks and creek side restoration. If you have questions about Climate Beneficial fiber, feel free to contact our non-profit for more details by emailing office@fibershed.com.

Pricing: Fibers in this book range in price from \$1.90 per pound to \$4 per ounce. The Annual Production Quantities & Colors page at the back of this book lists pounds of fiber produced per year. Large-scale producers tend to have lower pricing than small-scale producers.

How Might You Use This Book?

One way to use this book is to blend fibers from several producers to create your own unique yarn. Considering what kind of textile you are making is the first step in choosing your fibers. High micron count fibers are perfect for creating hearty long lasting outerwear and durable goods. Fine micron count fibers can be used for goods that are next to sensitive parts of the skin, like the neck or wrists.

Different animal fibers carry different properties:

- ~ **Alpaca** is known to enhance drape (it has no crimp); many alpaca producers in this book have herds with a diversity of colors and generally very fine fiber.
- ~ **Wool** has crimp (less drape), and there is much variety between the breeds, each genetic type offering different virtues. We recommend *The Field Guide to Fleece* by Deborah Robson and Carol Ekarius for more on fiber qualities of various breeds.
- ~ Mohair (from angora goats) is known to enhance luster. It can shine and reflect light like silk, and is also a very fine fiber.
- ~ **Angora** (from rabbits) is known to be one of the warmest and softest fibers available. It tends to be in shorter supply, thus it makes an excellent addition to a yarn blend at a low percentage.

Purchasing existing yarn from a farmer is another way to use this book, however gauges of yarn will vary year to year. It is best to contact the producers directly to get details regarding gauge, color and quantity.

Examples of Blending

Mary Pettis Sarley's Twirl Blends (Mill spun blend of wool, mohair and alpaca)

Marnie Jackson's Handspun (Handspun blend – one strand of angora plied with one strand of wool)



Natural Dyes ~ Creating Another Layer

This book shows the natural color of the fiber as provided by the animals themselves. Below are examples of how very different fibers take natural dyes. (We are showing native California plants as dyes here.)

There are many natural dye books that provide great instruction on their use, and if you are looking for natural dye stuffs there are purveyors who sell extracts online. We 100% recommend biosphere based color (from plants) for your dyeing practice. (Synthetic dyes are derived from fossil carbon and heavy metals.)

Kim Bethel's 100% White Mohair Dyed in Toyon

Kim Bethel's 100% Gray Mohair

Dyed in Toyon

(This is a luster rich fiber—note the variation of gray and white fiber using the same natural dye plant.)





Jean Near's 100% MerinoDyed in Toyon

Jean Near's 100% MerinoDyed in Coyote Brush

(Merino has little luster—it is more well known for having very good crimp.)





Annual Production, Quantity, Color and Price List

Contact producer to confirm all details — prices and quantities vary year to year with environmental effects.

PRODUCER	BREEDS, COLORS & ANNUAL QUANTITIES	PRICE FOR MATERIALS
Alexis & Gillies Robertson Skyelark Ranch farmhouse@skyelarkranch.com	Processed fiber: California Red (90 lbs) Color: cream	Wholesale: Worsted weight double-ply yarn, Single-ply bulky yarn: \$12/skein
		Retail: Worsted weight double-ply yarn, Single-ply bulky yarn: \$16/skein
		Roving: \$16/ball, 4 oz
		Batting: \$25/lb
Amanda, Ed & Gabrielle Mann Mann Family Farm	Raw fiber: Corriedale/Wensleydale	Worsted and sport weight yarn: \$25/undyed 4-oz skein; \$30/ naturally-dyed 4-oz skein
events@mannfamilyfarm.com	cross (200 lbs)	Roving: \$16/ball, 4 oz, cream or brown
	Colors: white/cream, silver, black	Wholesale: Roving: \$10/ball, 4 oz, cream or brown
Ariana & Casey Mazzucchi Casari Ranch & Wool Mill	Raw fiber: Dorset (500-1000 lbs) Romney (50 lbs) Navajo-Churro (200 lbs) Shetland (25 lbs)	Wholesale: Navajo-Churro yarn: \$16.50/skein
ariana@casariranch.com 707-882-1885		Retail: Navajo-Churro yarn: \$24/skein
	Colors: white, cream, grays and browns	
Audrey Adams	Raw fiber: Shetland (150 lbs)	Raw fleece (40+ fleeces currently): \$10.00/lb
Tombstone Livestock K9S4EWE@aol.com 559-349-3208	Colors: white, black,	Mill processed roving: \$3.00/oz (black, brown or white) Mill spun Shetland yarn: \$13.00/skein, approx. 4 oz
337 317 3200	shades of brown	Trin span offetiand yarn. \$15.007 skem, approx. 1 02
	Other fiber: Pygora goat	
Barbara & Ron Fiorica Caprette Cashmere rbfiorica@frontiernet.net 916-687-6406	Raw fiber: Cashmere (5 lbs);	Cashmere yarn: \$50/skein, 250 yards, brown, lace weight Note: Inventory varies each season. Yarn runs tend to be one-
	white, light gray, brown Angora goat (40 lbs);	of-a-kind lots.
	white, brown, black	
	Other fiber: Mohair/wool blend	
Beverly Fleming Ewe & Me 2 Ranch bfllamamama@yahoo.com 530-301-3154	Raw fiber: Romaldale and Merino for fine wool; Romney, Cotswold and crossbreds for medium and long wool (215 lbs)	Roving: \$2.50-\$3/oz, varied natural colors
	Angora goat (18 lbs)	
	Colors: white, tan, brown, grays, black	

PRODUCER	BREEDS, COLORS & ANNUAL QUANTITIES	PRICE FOR MATERIALS
Bodega Pastures pasture@sonic.net 707-327-6816 (Hazel Flett)	Raw fiber: Columbia, Corriedale, Romney, Suffolk & Navajo-Churro (800-1000 lbs) Colors: white, gray, brown	Yarn: \$13/skein undyed white, light gray, or dark gray; in sport weight, worsted, bulky and rug (3 ply) Roving: \$3/oz Batting: \$12/lb
Carrie Sparrevohn & John Ham Kirabo Pastures carrie@kirabopastures.com lmmidwife@gmail.com 707-275-9252	Raw fiber: Merino (150-200 lbs) Colors: white, black, gray, many shades of brown	Roving: \$5 for 1 oz, \$15 for 4 oz, \$25 for 8 oz, \$40 for 16 oz Raw fleece: prices vary
Catherine Lawson Blue Barn Farm catherine_lawson@sbcglobal.net 530-957-7000	Raw fiber: Merino (100 lbs); Cashmere (3-4 lbs), white and various shades of taupe and tan	Merino fleeces: \$17-\$19/lb for white, \$19-\$22/lb for colored; pricing depends on staple length, crimp style, lamb or adult Merino roving, colored: 4 oz for \$12, or 1 lb for \$44 Merino roving, white: 4 oz for \$10, or 1 lb for \$37 Batts for spinning or felting: please inquire for price.
Dan Macon Flying Mule Farm flyingmulefarm@gmail.com	Raw fiber: Blueface Leicester x Cheviot (200 lbs); lambswool (50 lbs) Blackface (Shropshire and Suffolk) (125 lbs) Dorper (50 lbs)	Raw wool: \$1.90/lb (except Dorper, which is \$1/lb) Free delivery up to 150 miles from Auburn for buying the entire lot
Dana Foss Royal Fibers 06foss@gmail.com 707-249-3276	Processed fiber: Guanaco (10-15 lbs; approx. 100 lbs in storage from past years) Raw fiber: Alpaca (100 lbs) Colors: white and cream, silver-gray, tan and brown (light to dark) Other breeds: CVM and Karakul sheep	Roving: Adult guanaco is \$15-\$20/oz; baby guanaco is \$30/oz; royal baby guanaco (15-17 microns) can be \$30-\$40/oz Raw fiber: \$15-\$30/oz Handspun yarn available upon request. Wholesale: 1 pound minimum, 20% discount.
Deb Galway Menagerie Hill Ranch deb@menageriehillranch.com	Processed fiber: Huacaya alpaca roving and yarn (100 lbs) Raw fiber: Huacaya alpaca fleece for hand spinners (20-30 lbs) Colors: brown (light and dark), black, fawn, rose gray, white	Assorted colors, blends, grades. Fingering yarn: \$23-\$26.25/skein, 4 oz Sport weight yarn: \$15-\$28/skein (varying weights) Roving: \$4.50/oz Batts: \$27/7 oz, brown Note: Prices and selection can vary each year. Custom blending and special orders upon request. 15% off roving if you buy the whole lot.

PRODUCER	BREEDS, COLORS & ANNUAL QUANTITIES	PRICE FOR MATERIALS
Dru Rivers Full Belly Farm produce@fullbellyfarm.com 530-796-2214	Processed fiber: Merino, Rambouillet, Lincoln, Suffolk (300-400 lbs, spun weight) Colors: white, gray, brown and twill	Yarn: natural colored wool in 4 oz skeins: \$10/skein or \$9/skein for 10 or more skeins
Erin Maclean Bungalow Farm Angora angora@bungalowfarm.com	Raw fiber: 1-10 lbs German Angora rabbit fiber generally available; contact directly if purchasing more than 5 lbs Color: white	Raw prime German angora wool: \$8/oz Roving and batting: \$7-\$10/oz. Roving and batting are usually a 50/50 blend of German angora and Merino, Cormo or Merino/Fine Corriedale cross. Angora pencil roving, regular roving and battings at various availability. Wholesale: Raw prime German angora wool: \$100/lb
Hopland Research and Extension Center Jim Lewers: jelewers@ucanr.edu 707-744-1427 ext. 110	Raw fiber: Targhee	Raw wool by the bale: Commodity price, check Roswell Wool for reference. Usually between \$1.25-\$1.50/lb
Janet Heppler Nebo-Rock Ranch & Textiles nebo-rock@saber.net 707-983-9147	Raw fiber: Merino (550 lbs skirted) Angora rabbit (30 lbs) Other fiber: Angora goat (mohair) Colors: light gray, black, light tan to dark brown, white	Merino wool handspinner covered fleeces & raw skirted wool: prices start at \$17.00 per pound to \$30.00 per pound. Depends on fineness and color. Must buy whole fleece, average weights 6-8 lbs. Natural colors and white. Roving: Merino, Mohair/Merino blends, and Merino/Angora rabbit, one-of-a-kind batches. Prices start at \$4.00 - \$5.50 per ounce and are based on quantity and the blend. Merino 2-ply yarn: white, 1100 yards to the pound, 4 oz skeins milled by Mt. Meadow Wool Mill. Currently have 50 pounds. Prices are \$26.00 - \$28.00 depending on the amount ordered. Merino/kid Mohair yarn: 50/50 blend, white, approx. 1300 yards to the pound, 4 oz skeins milled by Mt. Meadow Wool Mill. Currently have 50 pounds. Prices are \$26.00-\$28.00 depending on amount ordered. 100% Mohair 2-ply yarn: gray, 1100 yards to the pound. Currently have 30 pounds. \$30.00 per 4 oz skein. Handspun yarn in different blends: custom orders, limited by quantity and time factor. Mohair lock yarn, 100% Angora rabbit, or Merino/rabbit. Prices are \$9.00 per oz and up. Angora rabbit fur: \$8.50 per oz Note: All prices are subject to availability and change. Some of the runs are one time only. Contact us for more information.

PRODUCER	BREEDS, COLORS & ANNUAL QUANTITIES	PRICE FOR MATERIALS
Jean Near Utopia Ranch	Raw fiber: Merino (560 lbs)	Merino wool roving (quantities as of June 2016): Copper (tan): one 1-lb bag @ \$84 per bag
jeannear1914@gmail.com	Colors: white, midnight black, misty gray, rich brown	Duchess (dark gray): four 15-oz bags @ \$78 per bag
		Harvey (black): five 1-lb bags @ \$94.55 per bag
		Heather (white): nine 1-lb bags @ \$94.80 per bag; ten 8-oz bags @ \$45 per bag
		Raven (oxford gray): four 1-lb bags @ \$84 per bag
		Snow (white): five 1-lb, 7-oz bags @ \$120 per bag; one 1-lb bag @ \$84 per bag
		Stormy (white): eight 1-lb bags @ \$84 per bag; one 1-lb, 7-oz bag @ \$120 per bag
		Tracy (oyster): three 14-oz bags @ \$74 per bag
		Note: Shipping and handling costs will be added to final price.
Jim Jensen Jensen Ranch ijensen@malt.org 707-888-9922	Raw fiber: White face Columbia/ Dorset/Suffolk sheep	Raw wool: \$1.90/lb, sold by the bale or by the pound
Julie & Ken Rosenfeld	Raw fiber: Huacaya alpaca (200 lbs) Colors: brown, rose gray, fawn, black, white	Raw premium alpaca fleece: \$25/pound
Renaissance Ridge Alpacas byjules67@gmail.com		Mill spun premium alpaca yarn: \$8/0z
415-663-8354		Handspun premium alpaca yarn: \$10/oz
		Premium alpaca batts \$6/oz
		Alpaca full fleece naturally tanned hides, when available: \$450/adult and \$250/cria
Katie & Sascha Grutter	Icelandic (20-30 lbs)	Worsted yarn: \$25/skein, 100 yards, double ply
GC Icelandics kcaggiebiz@gmail.com 530-949-1370	Colors: white, cream, light gray, tan, caramel, milk chocolate, silver, dark chocolate, dark gray, to jet black	
Kelli Dunaj	Raw fiber: Navajo-Churro fleece and Jacob, alpaca, and llama fleece for blending (250 lbs, or 150 lbs washed fiber and yarn) Colors: white, cream, shades of brown to black	Churro/alpaca blend yarn: \$22.50/4 oz skein, 1/750 weight
Spring Coyote Ranch		Churro/mohair blend yarn: \$22.50/4 oz skein, 1/750 weight
kadunaj@springcoyoteranch.com 415-663-8354		Churro lambswool yarn: \$22.50/4 oz skein, 1/750 weight
		Churro adult yarn: \$18.50/4 oz skein, 1/750 weight
		Churro adult yarn: \$18.50/4 oz skein, 1/400 weight
		Churro sabanilla (lace weight) yarn: \$10/2 oz ball
		Washed fleece: \$5 per ounce
		Raw unwashed churro or alpaca: price varies by color and softness

PRODUCER	BREEDS, COLORS & ANNUAL QUANTITIES	PRICE FOR MATERIALS
Kim Bethel Downhome Handspun Fibers downhomefibers@gmail.com Lani Estill Estill Ranches, LLC & Lani's Lana lani@lanislana.com estillranch@att.net 775-333-0882 or 775-722-8173	ANNUAL QUANTITIES Raw fiber: Angora goat fleece (150 lbs) Other breeds: Pygora goat Colors: gray, white, shades of brown; naturally dyed colors available Raw fiber: Rambouillet Please inquire; the scale of this Rambouillet wool pool most appropriate for brand development work.	Raw fiber: \$64/lb Locks: \$4/oz Naturally dyed locks: \$5/oz Hand spun yarn: \$30/skein, 80 yds Hand spun, naturally dyed yarn: \$40/skein Mohair roving: \$12/oz (Note: If people buy in bulk I do give them perks, but nothing is set.) Wholesale: White sport weight yarn: \$22/4 oz skein White dk yarn: \$21/4 oz skein White worsted yarn: \$13/4 oz skein White fingering yarn: \$41/4oz skein
	Colors: white, gray, black	Black dk yarn: \$25/4 oz skein Gray dk yarn: \$24/4 oz skein White/gray/black combed top: \$10/4 oz Retail: White sport weight/dk yarn \$33.50/4 oz skein White worsted yarn: \$22/4 oz skein White fingering yarn\$50/4 oz skein Black/gray dk yarn: \$33.50/4 oz skein Black/white combed top: \$18/4 oz Gray combed top: \$19/4 oz
Leslie Adkins Heartfelt Fiber Farm info@heartfeltfiberfarm.com 707-585-2841	Raw fiber: Icelandic sheep, Ouessant/Shetland sheep, Angora goats, Cashgora goats, Suri alpaca, and llama (70-80 lbs total from all animals) Colors: white, gray, shades of brown and fawn	Specialty blends and limited runs. Prices vary each year.
Lynn & Jim Moody Blue Oak Canyon Ranch lynn@blueoakcanyonranch.com	Raw fiber: Santa Cruz Island sheep (120 pounds)	Raw wool: \$15-\$20/lb
Marcia Barinaga Barinaga Ranch lists@barinagaranch.com	Raw fiber: East Friesian (300 lbs)	Sport weight 2-ply yarn: \$15/skein, 200 yards, natural colors white and brown Grease wool for hand spinners: \$10/lb

PRODUCER	BREEDS, COLORS & ANNUAL QUANTITIES	PRICE FOR MATERIALS
Marie Hoff Capella Grazing Project capellagrazing@gmail.com	Raw fiber: Ouessant (20 fleeces that weigh about 2 to 2.5 lbs, every 6 months for the next year or two) Colors: shades of brown and black	Raw ewes wool: \$20/lb or \$3.50/oz Raw lambswool: \$25/lb or \$3.50/oz
Marlie de Swart Bo-Rage Yarn bma@sonic.net 415-663-9130	Processed fiber: Local blend of Corriedale/Finn cross, Wensleydale, Huacaya alpaca (75-100 lbs mill- spun yarn); please inquire for hand-spun quantities Colors: white, brown/black	Mill spun yarn: \$25/skein, 4 oz, 200 yards each Handspun yarn: \$30-\$40/skein, 4 oz on average
Mary Pettis-Sarley Twirl Yarn twirlyarn@wildblue.net	Processed fiber: Sheep, alpaca, Angora goat, Angora rabbit (700-800 lbs, conservative); yarns are blended in 30 lb lots Colors: white, gray, black; naturally dyed colors	Single ply yarn: \$15/skein, 50 grams Indigo-dyed: \$25/skein, 50 grams
Maureen Macedo Macedo's Mini Acre macedosminiacre@gmail.com	Raw fiber: Alpaca, llama, lionhead rabbit (240 lbs) Colors: brown (light and medium), white, gray	Rovings: \$5/oz, natural. Currently have 15 total pounds in varying color combinations. Yarn: \$25/skein, 200 yards dk and lace weight: fawn, beige, dark brown and black, about 10 skeins of each color lace weight: light gray, 15 skeins sport weight: two-color combinations of brown/black, white/black, gray/brown. limited quantities Fleeces: Prices range from \$30 to \$125. Variety of color, weight and microns. Limited quantity.
Nancy Fleenor Thompson Tolenas Mohair Farm nancyfleeny@gmail.com	Angora goat	Washed mohair fleece: \$40/lb
Peggy Agnew Red Creek Farm agnew.peggy@gmail.com 707-743-1295	Raw fiber: Lincoln/Merino/Cormo/ Wensleydale cross (300 lbs)	Fleeces: \$20-\$25/lb, generally 6-9 lbs each Roving: \$4.25-5.00/oz, white and natural colored. Most is Merino cross, some is blended with other fibers White worsted yarn: \$100/lb, Merino cross, limited run, milled at Moro Wool Mill in Moro, NM

PRODUCER	BREEDS, COLORS & ANNUAL QUANTITIES	PRICE FOR MATERIALS
Robin Lynde Meridian Jacobs robin@meridianjacobs.com 707-688-3493	Processed fiber: Jacob wool yarn (50 lbs) Raw fiber: inquire for whole fleeces Colors: white, black, gray	Jacob yarn: \$30/skein Limited runs, pricing subject to change.
Sally Fox Vreseis Limited sally@vreseis.com	Raw fiber: Organic Merino wool (1500 lbs, or approx. 700 lbs when cleaned and processed into yarn and roving) Colors: white, light brown, dark brown, light silver, dark silver and black	Yarn: \$20/2 oz skein, sport weight or worsted weight in natural colors (white, light brown, brown, steel gray, black) Roving: \$5/oz in natural colors (white, brown, gray and black) Raw fleece: \$24/lb and \$2/oz, by the dirty weight. Note: People can buy oz, pounds or tons. Wholesale price breaks at 100 lbs and 1000 lbs.
Sandra Charlton Sheepie Dreams sheepiedreams@gmail.com 415-734-1663 (text)	Raw fiber: Organic Romney x Wensleydale fleece (50 lbs) Other fiber: 150 lbs of washed and unwashed wool, 50 lbs pin drafted roving, 50 lbs washed locks in storage	Locks: \$1.5/oz washed, \$1/oz unwashed Fleeces: \$15/lb washed, \$10/lb unwashed Roving: \$2.50/lb Yarn: \$3.50/oz or \$15/skein Batts: prices vary by size
Sandy Wallace Alpacas of Marin info@alpacasofmarin.com 626-818-3148	Raw fiber: Huacaya alpaca (200 lbs), white Suri alpaca (150 lbs); white, some black, a small selection of brown	Fleeces: \$10-\$15/lb (Usually sells per fleece, \$30-\$100 each)
Sarah Keiser Wild Oat Hollow sarah.keiser@gmail.com	Raw fiber: Romney (30-35 lbs); Wensleydale/ Wensleydale-Cormo- Merino-Lincoln Cross (15 lbs) Colors: white, gray	Fleeces: \$10/lb wholesale, \$13.50/lb retail
Susan Timm Timm Ranch ranchtimm@gmail.com	Raw fiber: Targhee x Rambouillet (1200 lbs)	Yarn: \$70/lb, sold by the cone, average 1.8 lbs Raw wool: \$4/lb

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Alexis & Gillies Robertson

Skyelark Ranch Brooks, CA

Skyelark Ranch is a pasture-based livestock ranch in the Capay Valley of Yolo County and is a family business operated in partnership by Alexis and Gillies Robertson. After several years working in environmental conservation, Alexis and Gillies followed their passion for combining local, high quality food production with sound environmental stewardship. Their goal is to raise livestock in a way that is at once humane and in balance with the land and community. Early in their ranching education, Alexis and Gillies quickly realized that they wanted to raise sheep, but it took several years of searching and preparation before a fateful and timely phone call from a nearby friend alerted them to the opportunity to acquire an entire flock of California Red sheep. The California Red breed was developed at UC Davis, and is known for rich naturally colored fleece in shades of cream and oatmeal.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: California Red, 2-ply or single-ply bulky yarn

Fiber: Raw fleeces, roving, batting

Other: Sheepskin rugs

Raw fleeces, yarn, roving, and batting are available year round. Sheep are sheared in May or June.

MICRON DATA

California Red: 27.1 (2014 test)

SALES

Davis Farmers Market Jack London Farmers Market

CONTACT

Email: farmhouse@skyelarkranch.com

Website: skyelarkranch.com

Facebook: facebook.com/SkyelarkRanch



Alexis & Gillies Robertson

Skyelark Ranch Brooks, CA

SAMPLES

California Red:

- 1. 2-ply yarn, milled at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)
- 2. Single-ply bulky yarn, milled at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)
- 3. Machine felted wool
- 4. Washed wool

CONTACT

Email: farmhouse@skyelarkranch.com

Website: skyelarkranch.com

Facebook: facebook.com/SkyelarkRanch









Top photo, clockwise from lower left: Amanda, Bella, Paul, Gabrielle, Ed and Sadie, with their dogs Tule and Hazel. Photos by Kalie Ilana Cassel-Feiss

Amanda, Ed and Gabrielle Mann

Mann Family Farm Bolinas, CA

The Mann family are relative newcomers to raising sheep, but their 64-acre former dairy farm is a historic property with a 19th Century barn on the rolling hills of seaside Bolinas. Ed and Gabrielle Mann were both born in Bolinas and are proud to be continuing in the area's rich and diverse agricultural heritage. The Mann family practices rotational grazing on lush, pesticide-free, coastal pastures with their mixed-breed herd that includes Corriedale, Wensleydale, Leister, and CVM. Their wool is spun locally into soft yarn available in natural colors and naturally dyed.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: 2-ply worsted Corriedale in all natural colors: cream, black and silver. Spun at Yolo Wool Mill.

MICRON DATA

Corriedale-Finn cross: 30.3 (2014 test)

SALES

Online: etsy.com/shop/MannFamilyFarm

CONTACT

Email: events@mannfamilyfarm.com

Website: mannfamilyfarm.com





Amanda, Ed and Gabrielle Mann

Mann Family Farm Bolinas, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. & 2. 2-ply Corriedale yarn, milled at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)
- 3. Washed wool

CONTACT

Email: events@mannfamilyfarm.com

Website: mannfamilyfarm.com









Photos by Paige Green

Ariana & Casey Mazzucchi

Casari Ranch Point Arena, CA

Ariana and Casey Mazzucchi are sheep ranchers at Casari Ranch, a 532-acre Ag Preserve. Their flocks include Dorset, Rambouillet, Shetland, Romney and Navajo-Churro sheep. They specialize in locally grown, milled and made wool bedding, custom rugs, blankets and artisan crafted home accessories, all of which are available at their new store: Casari Mercantile in Point Arena.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Dorset and Navajo-Churro yarn, milled at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)

Other: Wool bedding, fabric, rugs, blankets, home accessories (dryer balls, wool scrubbies, dish mats), custom pillows and matts, custom feltings

SALES

Online: casariranch.com

Phone order: 707-882-1885

Store: Casari Mercantile, 264 Main Street,

Point Arena, CA 95468

CONTACT

Email: ariana@casariranch.com

Website: casariranch.com

Phone: 707-882-1885





Ariana & Casey Mazzucchi

Casari Ranch Point Arena, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. Dorset yarn, milled at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)
- 2. Navajo-Churro yarn, milled at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)
- 3. Wool batting, milled at Casari Ranch

CONTACT

Email: ariana@casariranch.com

Website: casariranch.com

Phone: 707-882-1885









Photos courtesy of Tombstone Livestock

Audrey Adams

Tombstone Livestock Sanger, CA

Audrey Adams raises Shetland sheep and Pygora goats near the Kings River in Fresno County. Shetland sheep are a conservation breed with a long history of adaptation to the British Isles; they are hearty yet praised for fine fiber in a rainbow of natural colors. Pygora goats are a breed created by crossing Mohair and Pygmy goats, creating a natural color gradient from blue-gray to tan with the lustrous, soft, and warm qualities of Mohair. Tombstone Livestock offers Shetland yarn suitable for lace and fine knitting, and raw fiber for a world of possibilities.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: sport weight Shetland yarn, spun at Mill Creek Fiber Works (Oakhurst, CA)

Fiber: Shetland roving and raw fleeces; ocassionally angora and pygora fleece.

Sheep are professionally sheared at the end of March or first part of April each year.

MICRON DATA

Shetland: 33.2 and 35.0 (2015 tests)

SALES

Online: http://www.ravelry.com/groups/it-had-to-be-ewe Ranch visits can be scheduled either by phone or email

CONTACT

Phone: 559-349-3208

Email: k9s4ewe@aol.com



Audrey Adams

Tombstone Livestock Sanger, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. Shetland sport weight yarn, milled at Mill Creek Fiber Works (Oakhurst, CA)
- 2. Machine felted Shetland wool
- 3. Shetland wool (washed)

CONTACT

Phone: 559-349-3208

Email: k9s4ewe@aol.com









Photos courtesy of Caprette Cashmere

Barbara & Ron Fiorica

Caprette Cashmere & Love Spun Homespun Wilton, CA

Barbara and Ron Fiorica run a Cashmere and Colored Angora tribe of goats as well as assorted sheep in almost all wool types on just less than 2 acres in rural Sacramento County. Cashmere goats originated from Inner Mongolia, China, and produce naturally colored fiber in white, lightgray, and brown, while Angora goats produce a lustrous fiber called Mohair. Caprette Cashmere has been raising goats for 15 years on their small family farm, and they have been taught to judge Cashmere quality by one of the foremost experts in the field. Barbara is starting a small lot processing business with a Patrick Green Cottage Industry carding machine, which so far can process wool into batts, and will soon process roving, and ultimately Mohair and Alpaca as well.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Cashmere yarn; mohair-wool blend fingering weight yarn, spun at Heart & Soul Spinnery (Penn Valley, CA); other handspun depending on availability

Other: raw fiber, roving, and handcrafted items

February is fleece harvest time for sheep and Angora goats. Angora goats are also sheared again in August. The Cashmere goats are combed as they shed, and the fleeces are kept for processing.

MICRON DATA

Corriedale/Wenslydale ewe: 36.5 (2013 test)

Shetland/Lincoln/Wenslydale wether: 35.2 (2013 test)

Rambouillet wether: 20.2 (2013 test)
Corriedale ewe: 28.6 (2013 test)

Colored angora goat buck: 26.7 (2013 test)

Cashmere goat doe: 17.6 (2013 test) Shetland sheep: 37.6 (2013 test)

SALES

Online: caprettecashmere.com

Selected trade shows

CONTACT

Email: rbfiorica@frontiernet.net

Website: caprettecashmere.com

Phone: 916-687-6406







Photos courtesy of Bev Fleming

Beverly Fleming

Ewe & Me 2 Ranch Cotati, CA

Ewe & Me 2 Ranch raises Romeldale, Cotswald, Romney sheep, and red Angora goats in Sonoma County, California. Beverly Fleming has owned and operated Ewe & Me 2 Ranch for nearly two decades, and offers raw fiber and finished yarns in a selection of natural colors. Romney sheep are in the English Longwool Family and produce wool with a wide range of characteristics and applications. Romney fleece yields diverse yarns and offers the opportunity to try many different approaches when handspinning, and can be knit into warm outerwear layers.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: processed roving; fleece from white and natural-colored sheep: Romeldale and Merino for fine wool, Romney, Cotswold, and crossbreds for medium and long wool.

The best time to buy raw fleeces is at the shearing in March (call for dates). Availability varies at other times.

MICRON DATA

Romney: 28.1, 30.9, 33.8, 34.5, 38.9 (2015 tests)

SALES

Farm:

Call or email me to come out to the farm in Cotati.

Fiber events:

Sacramento, Livermore, Boonville Fair and Sonoma County local events.

CONTACT

Phone: 530-301-3154

Email: bfllamamama@yahoo.com







Photos by Paige Green

Bodega Pastures

Bodega, CA

Bodega Pastures is a beautiful 1000-acre sheep ranch located in west Sonoma County just outside of Bodega, California. Bodega Pastures manages sheep in an organic and humane way; they research and utilize grazing and management methods that protect both sheep and the native coastal prairie ecosystem. The flock is rotated to avoid damage to land, maintain healthy pastures, and avoid predators, and the sheep live a good life on pasture, eating grass and drinking spring water that flows from high ridges. Bodega Pastures practice natural, ecological, ethical, sustainable ranching with a mixed flock of Corriedale, Romney, Navajo-Churro, Suffolk, Border Leicester, and Wensleydale breeds selected for wool color and texture, hardiness and meat quality. Their wool is prized by handspinners, knitters and weavers.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Worsted weight, sport weight, and bulky, milled at Bartlett Yarns (Harmony, ME)

Fiber: Roving, batting, and fleeces (greatest variety available shortly after shearing)

Other: Hand-loomed socks, hand-knitted hats and mitts, and sheepskin vests. New products in development

Sheep are usually sheared in early May.

BREEDS

Corriedale, Romney, Navajo-Churro, Suffolk, Border Leicester, Wensleydale. Many of the sheep are colored.

MICRON DATA

Navajo-Churro: 30 and 31.1 (2013 tests) Corriedale: 28.5 and 29.3 (2015 tests)

SALES

Farmers' markets: Sebastopol – year round; Occidental and Bodega Bay – June to October. Temescal – at the Fibershed Marketplace booth

Festivals: Valley Ford Wool Festival, Heirloom Expo, Fibershed events

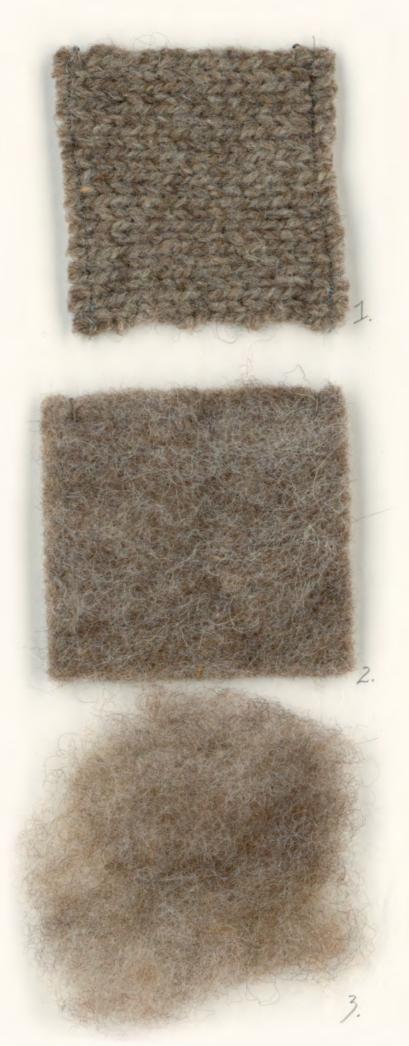
Store: Artisans' Coop in Bodega (for yarn)

Online stores: bodeganet.com/BodegaPastures and fibershedmarketplace.com

Ranch: Visitors are welcome to our ranch outside Bodega, but please call 707-327-6816 to arrange a time.

CONTACT

Phone: Hazel Flett, 707-327-6816 Email (slower): pasture@sonic.net



Bodega Pastures

Bodega, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. Wool yarn, milled at Bartlett Yarns (Harmony, ME)
- 2. Machine felted Navajo-Churro wool
- 3. Romney wool batting
- 4. Corriedale wool, hand spun by by Heather Podoll

CONTACT

Phone: Hazel Flett, 707-327-6816

Email (slower): pasture@sonic.net









Photos courtesy of Kirabo Pastures. Top photo: Carrie and John with John's mother, Jean Near (center), who celebrated her 100th birthday in 2014.

Carrie Sparrevohn & John Ham

Kirabo Pastures Upper Lake, CA

Kirabo Pastures is a 250-acre ranch in Lake County, California, raising organic walnuts and a variety of livestock, including Merino sheep. John and Carrie began their sheep business together in 2014 when John's mother, Jean Gowan Near of Utopia Ranch, gifted them eleven ewes. The 2016 flock consists of thirty-five animals and is growing rapidly! Their farming practices encompass organic methods throughout, though the sheep are not certified organic. Kirabo Pastures sells soft-to-the-touch Merino wool as naturally colored, raw (unwashed from blanketed animals) fleece and processed wool roving appropriate for hand spinning, in lustrous white or exciting natural colors: midnight black, misty gray, and many shades of brown. All Kirabo Pastures products are carefully stored in an insect and smoke-free environment.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Merino roving for spinning and felting in felting white and natural colors, milled at Morro Fleece Works (Morro Bay, CA); raw Merino fleeces from blanketed sheep in white and natural colors

Other: Merino sheepskins

Shearing is in April, so May is the best time to find the widest selection of raw fleece

MICRON DATA

Moorit merino ewe: 27.9 (2016 test) Black merino ewe: 25.1 (2016 test) White merino ewe: 23.4 (2016 test)

SALES

Online: kirabopasture.com/shop

Events: California Wool & Fiber Festival, Boonville CA

CONTACT

Email: carrie@kirabopastures.com, LMMidwife@gmail.com

Phone: 707-275-9252

Website: kirabopastures.com facebook.com/kirabopastures/







Photos courtesy of Blue Barn Farm



Catherine Lawson

Blue Barn Farm El Dorado, CA

Nestled in the gentle rolling hills of El Dorado County, Blue Barn Farm is a small farm run by Catherine Lawson, raising merino sheep and cashmere goats. Blue Barn Farm offers white and naturally-colored raw fiber, roving, and batts, which are all popular as a medium for fiber artists including dyers, spinners, and felters. Products are available on-site locally, or at fiber events in Northern California and Oregon.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Merino roving (Morro Fleece Works), batts, and raw fiber in white and natural colors; raw and cloud cashmere in white and shades of taupe and tan

Sheep are sheared between April and May and raw fleeces are available beginning in late May to early June.

MICRON DATA

Merino ewe: 22.1 (2016 test)

SALES

Farm: Schedule a visit for on-site pickup

Events: El Dorado County Fair, Pacerville CA; Black Sheep Gathering, Eugene OR; Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival, Canby OR; Lambtown Festival, Dixon CA; Fiber Fusion, Chico CA

CONTACT

Email: catherine_lawson@sbcglobal.net *Phone*: 530-957-7000

SAMPLES

- 1. 2-ply Merino yarn, hand spun by Robin Pilatti
- 2. Merino wool (washed)







Photos courtesy of Flying Mule Sheep Company

Dan MaconFlying Mule Farm Auburn, CA

Flying Mule Farm is a partnership between the Macon Family and Roger Ingram. The small-scale commercial flock grazes on foothill rangelands and irrigated pastures near Auburn, California. Focusing on public and sheep producer education and the demonstration of grass-based production practices, Flying Mule Farm is committed to the development of a genetic base designed to optimize low-input grass-based production (with little or no supplemental feed inputs); production of a high-quality wool clip and flavorful, tender grass-fed lamb; the use and demonstration of low-stress stockmanship techniques and handling systems, as well as guardian and stock dogs in a small-farm flock; modeling water-efficient irrigation technology for foothill ranchers and nonlethal predator management systems; and support for other local sheep producers.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Raw fleeces from Blueface Leicester and Cheviot cross sheep, Shropshire and Suffolk sheep, Dorper sheep, and mule lambs

MICRON DATA

Ewe: 34.7 (2016 test)

SALES

Contact Dan for purchasing info before spring shearing in May.

Complimentary local delivery (within 150 miles of Auburn, CA) for whole clip sales.

CONTACT

Email: flyingmulefarm@gmail.com

Website: facebook.com/flyingmulefarm/

Dan MaconFlying Mule Farm

Auburn, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. Suffolk wool (washed)
- 2. Mixed breed wool batting
- 3. Felt (white, mixed breeds)

CONTACT

Email: flyingmulefarm@gmail.com

Website: facebook.com/flyingmulefarm/





Photo courtesy of Royal Fibers





Photos by Paige Green

Dana FossRoyal Fibers Dixon, CA

Royal Fibers Farm raises Guanacos, Alpacas and Sheep for their fiber, which is processed, used and/or sold to fiber enthusiasts worldwide. Guanacos are very rare; there are only about 300 in the United States and about 200,000 left in South America. Their fleece is softer than Cashmere, but must be dehaired to remove the long course guard hairs that protect the animals from the harsh conditions they face in the wild. Royal Fibers Farm also oversee The Columbine Spinning Company, purchased by Dana and Ed Foss in 2011. Originally brought to the market in 1971, this versatile wheel was the first all metal spinning wheel, and remains the favorite metal wheel internationally. With self-lubricating bearings, sturdy powder-coated steel frame and ergonomic light-weight design, the Columbine Wheel is easy to use, travel with and won't warp, split, or swell with changes in external environment. They are manufactured in Dixon, CA at the Royal Fibers Farm.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Alpaca, Guanaco, and Wensleydale fiber and fleece Other: Alpaca, Guanaco, Wensleydale breeding stock

MICRON DATA

Yearling guanaco "Fingon": 17.7 (2015 test, sample on following page)

SALES

Online: royalfibers.co

Online: etsy.com/shop/royalfibers

Store at the ranch opening for Christmas

CONTACT

Email: 06foss@gmail.com

Phone: 707-249-3276



Dana Foss

Royal Fibers Dixon, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. 2-ply 90% Guanaco/10% Superfine Merino yarn
- 2. Yearling guanaco fiber (dehaired and picked) "Fingon"
- 3. Adult guanaco fiber "Moon Child"

CONTACT

Email: 06foss @gmail.com

Phone: 707 249-3276







Photos courtesy of Menagerie Hill Ranch

Deb Galway Menagerie Hill Ranch

Vacaville, CA

Menagerie Hill Ranch is a full-service Northern California alpaca ranch, located in the English Hills area of Vacaville, California. Deb Galway and Kirk Howard have raised a menagerie of animals but now focus their care on alpacas, for their easy-going nature and luxuriously soft fiber. Menagerie Hill Ranch alpacas are bred for breeding stock and for fiber, and their focus is on continuous improvement in color vibrancy, fineness, density, and staple length, while maintaining excellent conformation and peaceful personality.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: alpaca yarn milled at Mill Creek Fiber Works (Oakhurst, CA)

Fiber: raw alpaca fiber, foving, and fleeces

Other: alpacas for sale to breeders and others who want fiber animals and pasture pets

Shearing is in April. After sorting and grading, the nicest fleeces are set aside to sell raw. The rest gets classified and packaged with like quality fiber for processing over the next several months. Special requests can be accommodated.

MICRON DATA

Grade 3, Fine: 23-25.9 microns Grade 4, Medium: 26-28.9 microns

SALES

Online: MenagerieHillRanch.com (please note inventory changes constantly; email for additional and new products).

CONTACT

Email: deb@menageriehillranch.com Website: menageriehillranch.com

SAMPLES

- 1. 2-ply sport weight alpaca yarn (grade 3), milled at Mill Creek Fiber Works (Oakhurst, CA)
- 2. Black alpaca roving (grade 4)









Photos by Alycia Lang

Dru RiversFull Belly Farm Guinda, CA

Full Belly Farm is a 350-acre certified Organic farm in the Capay Valley, producing an amazing diversity of vegetables, herbs, nuts, flowers, and fruits year-round. The farm also has a flock of chickens, a herd of sheep, a tribe of goats, and several cows. Full Belly Farm sells naturally colored yarn, roving, and sheepskins from their organically raised sheep; their herd is a blend of Rambouillet, Lincoln, Suffolk, and Merino. Full Belly Farm is committed to environmental stewardship, has been using Organic farming methods since 1985, and is certified by California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF). The farm is well known for its many outreach and educational activities including the annual Hoes Down Harvest Festival celebrating rural life and sustainability.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: 3-ply yarns (250 yds./4 oz. skein) in natural colors including white, gray, dark brown, and twill, milled at Green Mountain Spinnery (Putney, VT) where the workers take care that all processes are Organic. Samples available upon request.

Fiber: Roving and batting in natural colors including white, gray, dark brown, and twill.

BREEDS

Rambouillet, Lincoln, Suffolk and Merino

SALES

Online store: fullbellyfarm.com

By phone: 530-796-2214

Farm: Call for an appointment

Markets: Yarn available at farmer's markets throughout the San Francisco Bay Area and at various local stores; please call

for a list.

CONTACT

Email: produce@fullbellyfarm.com

Phone: 530-796-2214



Dru Rivers

Full Belly Farm Guinda, CA

SAMPLES

1., 2., 3. & 4. 3-ply yarn of mixed breeds (Rambouillet, Lincoln, Suffolk, Merino), milled at Green Mountain Spinnery (Putney, VT)

CONTACT

Email: produce@fullbellyfarm.com

Phone: 530-796-2214







Photos courtesy of Bungalow Farm Angora

Erin Maclean Bungalow Farm Angora Sacramento, CA

Bungalow Farm raises top quality German Angora rabbits bred with high quality lines for outstanding wool production. German Angora coats are dense and matt free, and at Bungalow Farm they are raised humanely and shorn gently. The angora wool from Bungalow Farm is made into roving, felting, batting, and yarn. Bungalow Farm practices selective and intentional breeding using the set goals established by the International Association of German Angora Rabbit Breeders standard. Most of their animals are IAGARB registered meaning they have met the IAGARB Standard of the German Angora for body type, wool type, and wool production.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Angora-blend yarn (wool used for blending is locally sourced).

Fiber: Angora and angora-blend pencil roving, batting, and roving. Pure white, prime German Angora may be available upon request.

Other: Knitting pattern kits.

MICRON DATA:

German Angora: 15.725 average (1-year-old doe) (2015 tests)

SALES

Online: bungalowfarm.com

CONTACT

Email: angora@bungalowfarm.com

FIBER SAMPLE

German Angora rabbit, prime adult.



Photos by Paige Green



Hopland Research and Extension Center Hopland, CA

The Hopland Research and Extension Center (HREC) is the University of California's principal field research facility for agriculture and natural resources in the North Coast region. A diversity of soils, plant and animal communities, and elevations makes HREC representative of many parts of the Coast Range in northwestern California. In 1951, the University purchased the 4,630-acre Roy L. Pratt Ranch in Hopland, California to use as a site for long-term, controlled research on native rangelands, watersheds, and wildlife. Most of the acreage is rangeland of rugged topography, situated in the foothills of the Mayacamas Mountains, part of the Coast Range. The Center maintains a research sheep flock of 600 to 1,000 breeding ewes that graze the majority of the Center's rangelands. Lambing generally occurs between November and February, and shearing takes place in April. Many of the Center's sheep are involved in animal science or veterinary research projects.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Raw fleece available by the bale

MICRON DATA

Targhee sheep: 22-23.0 (average)

SALES

Farm: Inquire about baled wool purchases prior to shearing

CONTACT

Email: jelewers@ucanr.edu (Jim Lewers)

Phone: 707-744-1427 ext. 110

SAMPLES

- 1. 2-ply Targhee yarn, hand spun by Valerie Yep
- 2. Targhee wool (washed)







Photos courtesy of Nebo-Rock Ranch & Textiles

Janet Heppler

Nebo-Rock Ranch & Textiles Covelo, CA

Nebo-Rock Ranch & Textiles is located in beautiful Round Valley in the northeastern part of Mendocino County, close to the small town of Covelo. The Ranch is home to both White and Natural Colored Angora Goats, White and Natural colored Merino Sheep, Angora Rabbits and a variety of other farm animals (chickens, horses, a pig, dogs and cats). All the fiber animals produce multiple shades of natural colored handspinning fiber. Janet Heppler has over 33 years of fiber experience, from animal husbandry and ranching to fine fiber arts. Janet is an avid spinner and weaver and knowledgeable about each aspect of fiber processing; she shears her own animals, washes the fiber, spins it into yarn, and weaves the yarn into garments and homegoods. Nebo-Rock Ranch produces award-winning fleeces and attends fairs and gatherings throughout the west coast. Nebo-Rock Ranch is a two-time winner of the Black Sheep Cup at the Black Sheep Gathering.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: handspun Merino yarn, Angora rabbit yarn, and novelty yarn in limited quantities (one of a kind); mill-spun Merino yarn, in natural colors and dyed; Mill-spun yarn of 50% Angora goat and 50% Merino, spun at Mountain Meadow Wool Mill (Buffalo, WY).

Fiber: Merino roving for both spinning and felting; Merino-Angora rabbit-blend roving; raw (unwashed), covered, hand spinner Merino wool fleeces, in both natural and white; Mohair fleeces from Angora goats; Angora rabbit fur in white and natural colors; Mohair locks.

Other: Merino sheep skins and goat skins.

MICRON DATA

Mohair: 19.3 (2014 test) Merino: 18.4 (2014 test)

SALES

Website: nebo-rockranch.com

Events: Black Sheep Gathering – Eugene, OR / Valley Ford Wool Festival – Valley Ford, CA / Conference of Northern California Handweavers (CNCH) / Natural Fiber Fair – Arcata, CA / Mendocino County Fair and CWFF – Boonville, CA / Lambtown – Dixon, CA / Oregon Flock & Fiber Festival – Canby, OR / Monterey County Fair / Humboldt County Fair

CONTACT

Email: nebo-rock@saber.net Phone: 707-983-9147









Photos by Paige Green

Jean Near Utopia Ranch Redwood Valley, CA

Born and raised in Mendocino, California, Jean Near has a 96-year history in her region in the Potter and Redwood Valleys. Jean's Utopia Ranch raises some of our region's pre-eminent merino sheep, with more than 40 years' worth of award-winning fleeces coming from the flock. The small herd is just over a few dozen mature sheep that were all born and raised on the ranch; always with careful attention to their well-being and the quality of their wool.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Merino and Merino-cross spinning wool, in lustrous white or exciting natural colors: midnight black, misty gray, rich brown, and some exotic variegated blends.

MICRON DATA

Merino ewe: 22.1 (2013 test)

Merino wether: 24.3 (2013 test)

SALES

Online: jeannear.com

fibershedmarketplace.com

CONTACT

Website: jeannear.com

Email: jeannear1914@gmail.com





Jean Near

Utopia Ranch Redwood Valley, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. Merino 2-ply yarn, hand spun by Jenifer Dyer
- 2. Merino roving
- 3. Merino wool (washed)

CONTACT

Website: jeannear.com

Email: jeannear1914@gmail.com







Photos by Paige Green (top & center), bottom photo courtesy of Jensen Ranch

Jim Jensen Jensen Ranch Tomales, CA

Jensen Family Ranches was established in 1856 and represents six generations of livestock production and land stewardship in northern Marin County. Their philosophy focuses on low input land stewardship and grazing management to improve and reintroduce natural nutrient cycling and vegetation management with grazing animals, and results in seasonally available lamb for local restaurants, and durable wool for use in bedding, batting, and felted projects. Jim is a Stewardship Field Associate with the Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT), where he assists in the monitoring of conservation easements as well as with partner agencies on a variety of conservation projects and programs, including soil health.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: raw fleece from white-faced Columbia-Dorset-Suffolk cross sheep

MICRON DATA

Suffolk cross ram: 31.6

Suffolk cross ewe: 31.3 (2016 test)

SALES

Farm: Contact Jensen Ranch to inquire about purchasing information prior to spring shearing.

CONTACT

Email: jjensen@malt.org

Phone: 707-888-9922



Jim Jensen

Jensen Ranch Tomales, CA

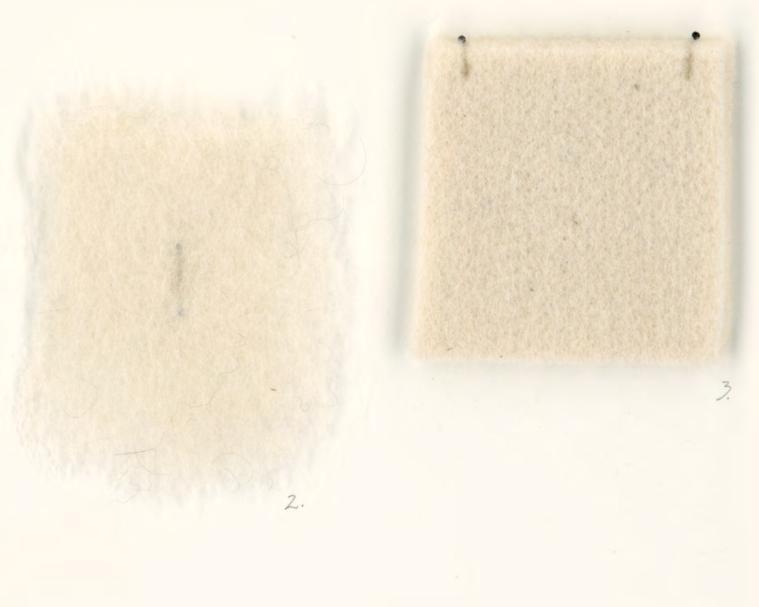
SAMPLES

- 1. Columbia-Dorset-Suffolk cross wool (washed)
- 2. Batting (white) from Columbia-Dorset-Suffolk cross sheep
- 3. Felt (white) from Columbia-Dorset-Suffolk cross sheep

CONTACT

Email: jjensen@malt.org

Website: 707-888-9922









Photos by Paige Green

Julie & Ken Rosenfeld

Renaissance Ridge Alpacas Mount Aukum, CA

Renaissance Ridge Alpacas was born when Julie and Ken Rosenfeld left hectic city lives in Boston to live off the land in the Sierra foothills of California. Julie and Ken steward an extraordinary flock of alpacas on a solar-powered ranch in Mt. Aukum, along the easternmost stretches of our Fibershed. They breed with a purpose — to breed fiber to its fullest potential, improving every generation. Each breeding is made with that goal in mind, while honoring the overall health of the animal. Through hard work and dedication, Renaissance Ridge Alpacas have created a nationally recognized award-winning herd of alpacas producing elite fiber. Their luxurious fiber comes in a stunning array of natural colors in shades of cream, brown, gray, and black.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: premium alpaca yarn, handspun or mill-spun at Heart & Soul Spinnery (Penn Valley, CA)

Fiber: alpaca roving and batts

Shearing is in April and fiber may be requested and reserved ahead of time.

MICRON DATA

Alpaca: 17.0 (2014 test)

SALES

Website: RenaissanceRidgeAlpacas.com

CONTACT

Email: byjules67@gmail.com





Julie & Ken Rosenfeld

Renaissance Ridge Alpacas Mount Aukum, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. Undyed, unblended brown Huacaya yarn, milled at Heart & Soul Spinnery (Penn Valley, CA)
- 2. Undyed, unblended rose gray Huacaya yarn, milled at Heart & Soul Spinnery (Penn Valley, CA)
- 3. Medium fawn Huacaya alpaca (washed fleece)

CONTACT

Email: byjules67@gmail.com







Photos courtesy of GC Icelandics



Katie & Sascha Grutter

GC Icelandics Palermo, CA

In the small, rural town of Palermo, CA, husband and wife Sascha and Katie Grutter, along with their young children, raise a small flock of Icelandic sheep for meat and wool. The sheep graze on a mixture of pasture and hay throughout the year, and lamb in the spring, which works out well for California's mild spring weather. Much of the raw wool is taken to Yolo Wool Mill for local processing, allowing the Grutters time to learn how to process their own wool and also do some felting and crafts with their wool. The Grutters are members of Icelandic Sheep Breeders of North America, and have been raising this breed since 2011. Icelandic sheep are a heritage breed that is relatively new to the United States, imported in the mid 1980s, and the dual-coated fleece and hearty, heritage qualities make the breed special. They have to be sheared twice a year, in both the fall and spring, producing a large amount of wool per ewe, and the markings and coloring of the sheep also provide an amazing rainbow of color. They are the sheep of the Vikings.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Natural colored Icelandic yarn, spun at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)

Fiber: Icelandic fleece and roving in natural colors

MICRON DATA

Icelandic: 34.2 (2016 test)

SALES

Farm: Schedule a visit

CONTACT

Email: kcaggiebiz@gmail.com

Phone: 530-949-1370

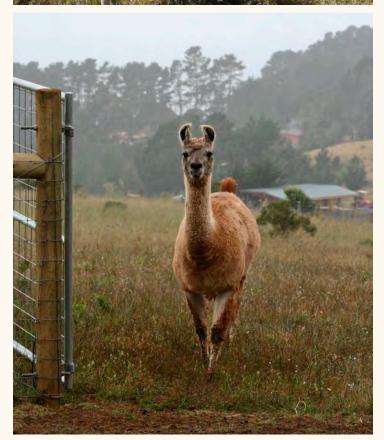
Website: facebook.com/GcIcelandicSheep

SAMPLES

- 1. 2-ply Icelandic DK weight yarn, milled at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)
- 2. Icelandic wool (washed)







Photos by Alycia Lang (top & bottom), center photo by Kelli Dunaj

Kelli DunajSpring Coyote Ranch Marshall, CA

Spring Coyote Ranch raises Navajo-Churro and Jacob sheep, llamas, alpacas, Wagyu cattle, heritage poultry, and 5 acres of olives in West Marin County. Overlooking Tomales Bay, the hillside pasture is perfect for sustainable grazing. Spring Coyote Ranch is a proud member of The Livestock Conservancy, a nonprofit dedicated to saving endangered livestock breeds and encouraging diversity on the American farm. The Navajo-Churro is considered a "threatened" breed, and Kelli not only cares for and breeds the sheep, but produces Navajo Churro yarn to preserve the associated artisanal weaving culture.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Navajo-Churro fleece, fiber, raw and washed; Jacob, alpaca, and llama fleece for blending

Shearing takes place twice per year (February and late August). Fleeces are available year round, however softer fleeces and specific color choices please contact right after shearing.

Yarn: Navajo Churro wool yarn and wool-alpaca blend yarn is available in beautiful shades of cream, gray, golden brown, black and deep chestnut, and well suited for natural dyeing.

MICRON DATA

Navajo-Churro: 30.3 "Chelaya" (2015 test, sample on following page)

SALES

Email: kadunaj@springcoyoteranch.com or make an appointment to visit the farm.

Market: Point Reyes Farmers Market (June-November) in Point Reyes Station

CONTACT

Email: kadunaj@springcoyoteranch.com

Phone: 415-663-8354

Facebook: facebook.com/springcoyoteranch

Website: springcoyoteranch.com





Kelli Dunaj

Spring Coyote Ranch Marshall, CA

SAMPLES

7. & 8. Machine felted Navajo-Churro wool (natural colors)

9. Navajo Churro yarn, hand spun by Valerie Yep

CONTACT

Email: kadunaj@springcoyoteranch.com

Phone: 415-663-8354

Facebook: facebook.com/springcoyoteranch

Website: springcoyoteranch.com









Photos by Alycia Lang

Kim Bethel

Downhome Handspun Fibers North Fork, CA

Kim Bethel follows the cycles of nature, growing nourishing food, using astonishing dye plants, and raising animals with love and admiration. Kim tends a herd of angora goats that produce luxurious fiber which is milled into roving onsite. Situated on the edge of the Upper San Joaquin River, Downhome Fiber Mill specializes in angora and pygora goat fleece processing, and produces roving of unparalleled quality. The magic of the mill machines cuts down the laborious chore of picking, cleaning and carding fiber. Kim also spins by hand in the early morning when she can meditate and listen deeply. From all of this and her imagination are blended the elements to create wearable, usable and beautiful items. You too can use her fiber for your own treasures.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Handspun Mohair in natural colors and naturally dyed; rug yarn

Fiber: Mohair fleeces and roving processed on-site; naturally dyed Mohair locks

Other: Hand-knit and hand woven finished products

MICRON DATA

Angora goat kid: 21.4 (2013 test)

Angora goat old doe: 38.1 (2013 test)

Angora goat: 24.5 (2014 test)

SALES

Online:

downhomehandspunfibers.com

fibershedmarketplace.com

Craft fairs: email for current schedule.

CONTACT

Email: downhomefibers@gmail.com

Website: downhomehandspunfibers.com



Downhome Handspun Fibers North Fork, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. & 2. Mohair yarn, handspun by Kim Bethel
- 3. Raw mohair fiber

CONTACT

Email: downhomefibers@gmail.com
Website: downhomehandspunfibers.com











Photos by Paige Green

Lani Estill

Estill Ranches, LLC & Lani's Lana Eagleville, CA

Estill Ranch raises Rambouillet ewes on range land in the High Desert Area of the Great Basin. The sheep constantly move under the watchful eye of a full time sheepherder and range from fall alfalfa fields, to winter open range sage steppe, to lambing areas also in sage steppe range lands, and then raise their lambs in the Warner Mountains of Northeast Lassen County. Some ewes lamb in the lambing barn and then graze on permanent pasture fields before heading to the Mountains for the summer. Estill Ranch is a family ranching business and the fourth generation is now involved full-time in the ranch. Estill Ranch is currently implementing a Carbon Farm Plan and scaling up their compost operation. By the 2016 wool clip, they hope to be fully certified as a Climate Beneficial Farm. Estill Ranch is excited to be marketing wool products in their home region in Northern California and Nevada.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Superfine Rambouillet in sport, DK, worsted, and fingering weights in natural white. Natural gray and black available in DK weight.

Fiber: Superfine Rambouillet combed top roving available in white, gray, and black; raw wool sold in bulk to one primary buyer each year. If you are interested, please call early in the year.

Shearing is in May.

MICRON DATA

Ranch micron average: 22.3

SALES

Online: lanislana.com fibershedmarketplace.com

Stores:

Warner Mountain Weavers in Cedarville, CA

CONTACT

Email: lani@lanislana.com or estillranch@att.net

Phone: 775-333-0882 or 775-722-8173









Photos by Alycia Lang



Leslie Adkins Heart Felt Fiber Farm Santa Rosa, CA

Heartfelt Fiber Farm is a mini eco farm in West Sonoma County with a small spinning herd producing diverse luxury fibers for spinners, knitters, felters and weavers as well as finished natural fiber products. Their spinning herd includes Icelandic, Shetland, and Ouessant sheep, Angora/La Mancha goats, Suri Alpaca, and Llama, and produces fibers in 11 natural colors. Leslie is passionate about Heartfelt Fiber Farm's primitive sheep species, meaning that they are hearty and adaptable, and they produce a beautiful, highly spinnable fiber. Leslie's background in environmental science drives Heartfelt Fiber Farm to minimize its environmental footprint, and to be a "no-kill" farm: animals are not produced for the meat market., but rather the farm production is based on "continuous harvest" which involves sustainably and humanely harvesting fibers throughout the natural life of the animal. Heartfelt Fiber Farm animals live in a healthy "forever" home and are only bred if the offspring can stay at the farm or go to another farm with a similar philosophy.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Unique handspun and mill-spun blends

Fiber: Custom batches of roving

Other: Handmade knitted and felted housewares and wearables from roving and yarn, available year round

New lots of fiber are produced in both spring and fall as many of the herd are sheared twice yearly. Raw fleeces are sold occasionally; please inquire to request on-demand custom woolly products.

MICRON DATA:

Icelandic: 33.9 (2014 test)

Ouessant (black): 29.7 (2014 test)

Icelandic purebreds: 30.5 and 52.3 (2013 test)

Fiber goats (50% Angora, 50% LaMancha): 18.2 and 23.4

(2013 test)

SALES

Online: heartfeltfiberfarm.com, fibershedmarketplace.com *Markets and fairs:* Please check website.

CONTACT

Email: info@heartfeltfiberfarm.com

Phone: 707-585-2841

Website: heartfeltfiberfarm.com









Photos courtesy of Blue Oak Canyon Ranch



Lynn & Jim MoodyBlue Oak Canyon Ranch San Miguel, CA

Blue Oak Canyon Ranch is a beautiful ranch ten miles north of San Miguel, along the inland Coast Ranges, managed by Jim Moody, a retired clockmaker, and Lynn Moody, a mostly-retired college professor who taught (and conducted research in) soil science, geology, and earth science. Blue Oak Canyon Ranch raises Santa Cruz Island sheep, the rarest breed of sheep in the United States, and a "Critical" designated breed as listed by the Livestock Conservancy. Named for an island off the California coast, their earliest ancestors arrived on Santa Cruz Island in 1850 and the breed is nearly indigenous to California and well suited to drought tolerant landscapes. When considering sheep, Lynn and Jim Moody figured they might as well get sheep that need to be preserved - an endangered breed, in other words. They started with Navajo-Churro sheep, and in 2010 acquired a starter flock of nine sheep of the even rarer Santa Cruz Island sheep. Blue Oak Canyon Ranch now hosts a flock of Santa Cruz Island Sheep and works on improving wool quality through management and breeding, while still preserving the unique qualities of these sheep.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Santa Cruz Island raw fleeces; Navajo Churro roving; Llama roving. Fiber is stored in a good facility and available year round.

MICRON DATA

Santa Cruz Island ewe: 26.2 (2016 test)

SALES

Online: etsy.com/shop/blueoakcanyonranch and albcusa.org/classifiedsection/

CONTACT

Email: lynn@blueoakcanyonranch.com Website: blueoakcanyonranch.com

SAMPLES

- 1. Santa Cruz Island yarn, hand spun by Lynn Moody
- 2. Santa Cruz Island wool (washed)







Photos by Paige Green

Marcia Barinaga Barinaga Ranch Marshall, CA

At Barinaga Ranch, Marcia Barinaga and her husband, Corey Goodman, are continuing the ancient shepherding and cheese-making traditions of her Basque family and ancestors. Their very friendly flock of East Friesian dairy sheep graze year round on over 100 acres of hilly, certified Organic pastures overlooking Tomales Bay in Marin County; Barinaga Ranch is also certified Animal Welfare Approved. The Barinaga family began sheep ranching in this country in the early 1900s, when Marcia's paternal grandfather, Valentin Barinagarrementeria, traveled from the Basque village of Markina to Mountain Home, Idaho, to become a sheepherder. Inspired by this ancestral tradition, Marcia maintains her flock so that she can be involved in all aspects of the operation, like the Basque shepherds who care for their sheep, do the milking, and make the cheese. In addition to producing milk for Basque-style cheese, the East Friesian ewes grow a medium-coarse wool that is praised by spinners and especially good for weaving, felting, or knitting.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: 2-ply East Friesian sport weight yarn in brown and white, spun at Creekside Fiber Mill (Lebanon, OR), and gray, and black, spun at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)

MICRON DATA

East Friesian: 34.1 (2014 test)

SALES

Email: lists@barinagaranch.com; contact to inquire about current products or a tour of the ranch.

CONTACT

Email: lists@barinagaranch.com

Website: barinagaranch.com







Photo by Paige Green (top) and Alycia Lang (bottom)

Marie Hoff Capella Grazing Project Bodega, CA

Capella Grazing Project is an initiative to link land stewardship with local agriculture. We work with vineyards, orchards, farms, and landowners to put the holistic benefits of grazing animals into action. In so doing we are able to preserve and continue a rare, heritage breed of sheep: Ouessant island sheep from l'Isle de Ouessant off the coast of Brittany, France. The project consists of 28 Ouessant sheep, who can be found grazing and nibbling their way through Sonoma County vineyards and rangeland. Ouessant sheep are a primitive breed, very hardy and adaptable: they produce a beautiful, highly spinnable fiber, and are the smallest breed of sheep in the world. Ouessant sheep are of particular interest to California agriculturalists because their adaptable and versatile nature makes them good candidates for vineyard grazing practices. If we can give these Old World sheep a job, we can prevent them from dying out increasing genetic diversity and strength, while at the same time using their grazing work to reduce reliance on synthetic herbicides, fossil-fuel mowers, and monoculture farming.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Handspun Ouessant yarn

Fiber: Raw Ouessant wool

Other: Sheep sponsorships

MICRON DATA

Ouessant black ewe lamb: 32.3 (2016 test)

Ouessant black ewe inner coat: 28.5 (2016 test)

Ouessant black ewe outer coat: 42.2 (2016 test)

SALES

Online at capellagrazing.com or by email.

The best selection of fleece is the day of shearing, in September or March. You can be notified of shearing day by emailing Marie at capellagrazing@gmail.com.

CONTACT

Email: capellagrazing@gmail.com

Website: capellagrazing.com

Instagram: @stargrazers



Marie Hoff

Capella Grazing Project Bodega, CA

SAMPLES

Ouessant 2-ply yarn, hand spun by Marie Hoff

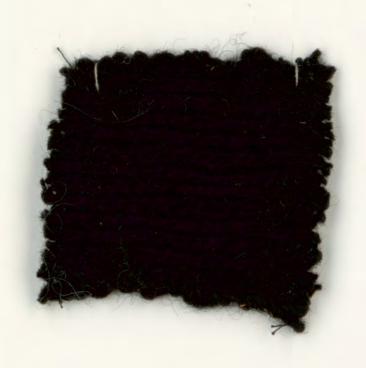
These samples are just two of an array of different colors and textures. Ouessant is a primitive fleece that is dual-coated in the adult ewes, with a downy undercoat and strong outer coat.

CONTACT

Email: capellagrazing@gmail.com

Website: capellagrazing.com

Instagram: @stargrazers









Top: Marlie de Swart, center: part of the flock at Starbuck Station Wools (photos by Paige Green). Bottom: sheep at Windrush Farm (photo by Robin Lynde).

Marlie de Swart

Bo-Rage Yarns & Designs Bolinas, CA

Marlie de Swart of Bo-Rage Yarns & Designs is an artist trained in Holland, Paris and Los Angeles, who specializes in hand spun yarns and hand made garments. The yarns are made from local wool, alpaca, mohair or Angora rabbit fur, sourced within 50 miles of her home and studio in Bolinas, California. Marlie believes that combining excellent design with locally sourced materials provide a strong alternative to imports. Marlie also owns and manages a brick and mortar store, Black Mountain Artisans in Point Reyes Station, just north of San Francisco. For 25 years it has been run as a cooperative for local fiber artists who represent the best in their technique, be it spinning, knitting, felting or any other art form where fiber is used. As a knitwear designer and hand spinner, Marlie is an experienced artisan who can provide excellent consultation on combining local materials to produce high quality garments.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Handspun local wool and alpaca, mill-spun local wool

Other: Hand-knit and hand-loomed sweaters, cardigans, vests, hats, and other garments

Books: Forthcoming book of patterns specifically designed for local fibers

SALES

Store:

Black Mountain Weavers & Artisans 11245 Main Street, Point Reyes Station, CA

Online stores: fibershedmarketplace.com

borageyarn.com

CONTACT

Email: bma@sonic.net

Phone: 415-663-9130



Marlie de Swart

Bo-Rage Yarns & Designs Bolinas, CA

SAMPLES

Wool-alpaca blend yarn, milled at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)

- a. Windrush Farm Corriedale/Finn cross (50%)
- b. Starbuck Station Wensleydale (30%)
- c. Alpacas of Marin Huacaya alpaca (20%)

CONTACT

Email: bma@sonic.net

Phone: 415-663-9130







Photos by Alycia Lang

Marnie Jackson Black Mountain Farm Nicasio, CA

Marnie Jackson fulfills her dream of simple living off the land on the slopes of Black Mountain in West Marin, caring for horses, turkeys, chickens, dogs, cats, Wensleydale sheep and Angora rabbits. Each season, the sheep and rabbits are sheared for their own comfort and care. Marnie cleans and spins this fiber into yarn and plies the two types of fiber together, combining the strength of the wool with the softness and warmth of the Angora. When her daughter wanted to learn to knit this yarn into hats and sell to fundraise for her small town school, Marnie began making hats by hand; the fiber is perfect for warm, soft, fluffy, comforting knitwear. Black Mountain Farm offers farm tours and fiber spinning demonstrations with the picturesque backdrop of the Nicasio Reservoir.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: German Angora fiber, Wensleydale wool

Other: hats made of Wensleydale wool and German Angora fiber; handbags made of Wensleydale wool.

Angora fiber is harvested year round, and the Wensleydale sheep are sheared in the spring, but there is always some wool on hand.

SALES

Store: Bloom Consignment store in Point Reyes Station

Farmer's Markets: Fibershed Marketplace at various Bay Area markets: Fibershed.org/events

CONTACT

Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/BlackMountainFarm.Marnie/

Phone: 415-662-1050

Website: http://marniejksn.wix.com/black-mountain-farm

SAMPLE

German Angora fiber







Photos by Paige Green

Mary Pettis-Sarley Twirl Yarn Napa, CA

Mary Pettis-Sarley is the fiber producer and creator of Twirl Yarn. Her educational training in textile and visual design combined with thirty years of ranching experience produces an exceptional line of yarn. She manages a large parcel of land in Napa with 50 goats, 200 sheep, 200 alpaca, 9 llamas, 150 pairs of cattle and 10 guardian dogs. Mary observes these responsibilities in a beautiful expression of ecological awareness: "I don't own the land," she says. "I don't own the animals, they own me! How could I own them?" Rather than mastering the land and animals—as civilization is wont to endeavor—she simply tries to fit herself into the play of the land as deeply and smoothly as possible. Mary constantly experiments to create new fiber blends and additions to the naturally colored and naturally dyed Twirl Yarn rainbow

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Twirling Petals, a sport weight alpaca, mohair, and wool blend, spun at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA). Single ply and 2-ply, spun at Mystic Pines Fiber Processing (Williams, AZ).

MICRON DATA

2014 tests:

Alpacas: 16.6, 18.1, 22.1

Angora goats: 21.9, 22.1

CVM lamb: 25.4

CVM sheep: 31.7

BFL ewe: 27.6

SALES

Online:

knitterly.com

imagiknit.com

toltyarnandwool.com

fibershedmarketplace.com

Events:

Email for current schedule of events

CONTACT

Email: twirlyarn@wildblue.net

Website: twirlyarn.com



Mary Pettis-Sarley Twirl Yarn Napa, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. & 2. Twirling Petals yarn (alpaca, mohair, wool blend), single, milled at Yolo Wool Mill (Woodland, CA)
- 3. Black 2-ply yarn (80% alpaca/20% shetland blend, plied with wool/alpaca/mohair blend), milled at Mystic Pines Fiber Processing (Williams, AZ)
- 4. White 2-ply yarn (50% alpaca/50% kid mohair blend, plied with wool/alpaca/mohair blend), milled at Mystic Pines Fiber Processing (Williams, AZ)

CONTACT

Email: twirlyarn@wildblue.net

Website: twirlyarn.com









Photos courtesy of Macedo's Mini Acre

Maureen Macedo Macedo's Mini Acre Turlock, CA

Maureen and Larry Macedo shared a lifelong dream of a ranching lifestyle and are fulfilling that dream at Macedo's Mini Acre in Turlock. Maureen's degree in genetics and Larry's degree in accounting provide a unique dimension to the ranch, which is home to alpacas, llamas, and lionhead rabbits, as well as mini horses. Macedo's Mini Acre sells raw alpaca fiber, handspun yarn, and milled products from a local mini mill, in an array of natural alpaca colors. Macedo's Mini Acre also offers educational programs such as talks or clinics, which can be tailored to your goals and needs.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Alpaca fleeces, roving, batts, and yarn. Raw fleeces available at spring shearing

Other: Dryer balls, socks, hats, gloves, scarves

MICRON DATA

Huacaya alpaca "Navarro": 16.2 (2015 test, sample on following page)

Huacaya alpaca "Ellie": 23.7 (2015 test, sample on following page)

SALES

Online: www.etsy.com/shop/macedosminiacre

Other: At our ranch by appointment

CONTACT

Email: macedosminiacre@gmail.com

Website: macedosminiacre.com









Photo by Alycia Lang (top), and photos courtesy of Tolenas Mohair Farm (center and bottom)

Nancy Fleenor Thompson

Tolenas Mohair Farm Fairfield, CA

Sustainability and water conservation are a primary focus of the land ethic at Tolenas Mohair Farm. Angora goats graze each day on 2.5 acres of traditional ranch land in Solano County, and their diet is supplemented with grain and hay. Nancy Thompson is a retired forester from USDA Forest Service, and is learning holistic management of her tribe of goats, with advice and mentorship from the Fibershed producer community. Tolenas Mohair Farm began in 2014 when Nancy purchased several goats from Sonrisa Farms: Margurite, who is registered with the Colored Angora Goat Breeders Association; and Francisco and Leonardo, two young wethers. Nancy recently grew her tribe with two rescued dwarf Angora does, Pearl and Lily. Tolenas Mohair Farm adheres to organic agriculture principles to sustain the health of soil, ecosystems, and people, and promote fair relationships and good quality of life for all involved. The tribe's mohair fiber is available in silver, taupe, and white.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: raw and washed mohair locks

MICRON DATA

Angora goat does: 26.7-28 (2015 tests)

Angora goat sires: 30.5 (2015 tests)

SALES

Farm: please schedule a visit

CONTACT

Email: nancyfleeny@gmail.com

Website: tolenasmohairfarm.com









Photos by Alycia Lang

Peggy Agnew Red Creek Farm Potter Valley, CA

Red Creek Farm is a small family-run sheep farm in Mendocino County specializing in fine hand-spinning fleeces. Tucked away in a corner of Potter Valley, California, the flock of over 30 sheep spends its summers on irrigated clover pasture, winters on grass and alfalfa hay, and springs ranging in the hills. Red Creek Farm raise Merino, Cormo, and Wensleydale/Cormo/Lincoln/Merino-cross sheep, and regularly receive ribbons for fine fleeces at Black Sheep Gathering in Oregon and the California National Wool Show.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Merino-cross yarn in natural colors, natural and acid dyed, spun at Mora Valley Spinning Mill (Mora, NM)

Fiber: roving processed at Morro Fleece Works (Morro Bay, CA), hand-carded batts, and raw fleeces from Wensleydale/Cormo/Lincoln/Merino crosses

Other: Lambskins and breeding stock.

Shearing is in April and is the best time to purchase fiber.

MICRON DATA

Lincoln-Merino-Cormo-Wensleydale cross ewe: 32.5-32.6 (2016 test)

SALES

Farm: please schedule a visit

Online: redcrkfarm.com/wool-for-sale

Events: Casari Ranch Wool Festival; Retzlaff Winery Spinning Day; Black Sheep Gathering, OR; California Wool and Fiber Festival at the Mendocino County Fair; Lambtown; Fibershed Wool Symposium

CONTACT

Email: agnew.peggy@gmail.com

Phone: 707-743-1295

Website: redcrkfarm.com



Peggy Agnew Red Creek Farm Potter Valley, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. & 2. 2-ply Lincoln-Merino-Wensleydale-Cormo cross yarn, hand spun by Robin Pilatti
- 3. & 4. Lincoln-Merino-Wensleydale-Cormo cross wool

CONTACT

Email: agnew.peggy@gmail.com

Phone: 707-743-1295

Website: redcrkfarm.com







Photos by Paige Green

Robin Lynde Meridian Jacobs Vacaville, CA

Robin Lynde grazes a flock of Jacob's sheep on 10 acres of irrigated pasture in Solano County. Through rotational grazing and a series of carefully designed pasture management techniques her sheep have access to healthy forage and thus they produce high quality colored fleeces. Depending on the proportion of black to white that the sheep produces, the yarns are a blend of the black and white, and they become a varied hue of deep and light toned gray. Robin is a talented artisan and understands yarn quality, she works with mills throughout the state to create yarns that will perform well in our knitting or weaving projects.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Jacob yarn, milled at Mill Creek Fiber Works (Oakhurst, CA); coned yarn from other Solano County flocks.

Fiber: Jacob wool in the form of raw fleece, carded fiber (sliver or roving).

Other: Hand woven fabric, horn buttons, lambskins.

MICRON DATA

Jacob: 23.2, 30.3, 31.5 (2013 tests)

Jacob: 28.2 (2014 test)

SALES

Farm:

Call 707-688-3493 for an appointment

Online stores:

meridianjacobs.com

fibershedmarketplace.com

Other

Finished woven goods at the Artery in Davis

CONTACT

Email: robin@meridianjacobs.com

Phone: 707-688-3493

Website: meridianjacobs.com



Robin Lynde

Meridian Jacobs Vacaville, CA

SAMPLES

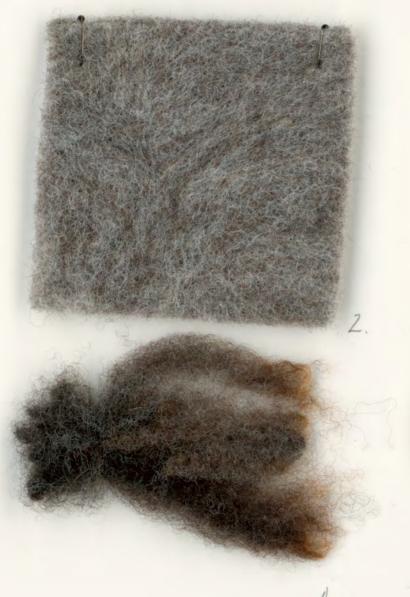
- 1. Jacob yarn, milled at Mill Creek Fiberworks (Oakhurst, CA)
- 2. & 3. Machine felted Jacob wool (white sample is britch wool, which is generally coarser)
- 4. & 5. Jacob wool (washed)

CONTACT

Email: robin@meridianjacobs.com

Phone: 707-688-3493

Website: meridianjacobs.com











Photos by Paige Green

Sally FoxViriditas Farm Brooks, CA

Sally Fox has 30 years of experience as a scientist breeding naturally colored cotton. Alongside the cotton breeding plots at Viriditas Farm in the Capay Valley, Sally raises a flock of Merino sheep on certified Organic pasture. The 140 sheep graze and add fertility to the soil, contributing to Sally's journey toward biodynamic farming practices. Viriditas Farm produces some of the finest Merino wool in the state, and it is available in natural colors and in the form of roving, or various yarns. Sally's care for the land and animals are evident in her humane, sustainable practices, and the high quality of fibers and food that Viriditas Farm produces.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Organic Merino yarn in fingering, sport, worsted, and bulky weights in natural colors

Fiber: Organic Merino wool, raw by the pound or by the fleece; pin draft roving in natural colors

MICRON DATA

Merino: 18.1-24.7 (2013 test range)

SALES

Website: vreseis.com

Store: Pioneer Yarn available at A Verb for Keeping Warm in Oakland, CA

CONTACT

Email: sally@vreseis.com

Website: vreseis.com







Photos courtesy of Sheepie Dreams Organics

Sandra Charlton

Sheepie Dreams Organics Santa Cruz, CA

Sheepie Dreams Organics is a small family farm caretaking 5 certified Organic acres in Santa Cruz. Sheepie Dreams Organics has been raising pasture grass for CCOF Wensleydale and Romney sheep who graze peacefully alongside chickens under orchards of heirloom fruit trees pollinated by bee hives for over twenty years. Sheepie Dreams honors age old traditions by using handtools when possible and offering positions to volunteers who wish to gain practical and valuable experiences in the lost tradition of homesteading.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Washed and unwashed fleeces; washed locks; pin drafted roving, processed by Morro Fleece Works (Morro Bay, CA)

MICRON DATA

Wensledydale cross: 31.1, 31.4, 35, 38.2, 39.5, 41.2 (2015 test)

SALES

Farm: Please schedule a visit

Online: goodeggs.com

CONTACT

Email: sheepiedreams@gmail.com

Phone (text): 415-734-1663









Photos courtesy of Alpacas of Marin

Sandy Wallace Alpacas of Marin

Nicasio, CA

Sandy Wallace raises Suri and Huacaya alpacas on a ranch along the main road to Point Reyes National Seashore and nestled into the heart of Marin's historic agricultural land. While working in Southern California, Sandy boarded the alpacas at ranches throughout the West coast, creating strong ties to breeders and farmers throughout the region, and even throughout the country. This offered the advantage of learning different approaches to alpaca husbandry and sales from a spectrum of successful alpaca ranchers. Now settled in Nicasio, Alpacas of Marin breeds and sells both Suri and Huacaya alpacas, sells alpaca fleece, and offers boarding for alpacas.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Raw Suri and Huacaya fleeces and yarn (sometimes blended)

Other: Breeding stock/fiber animals; alpaca compost (free)

Shearing takes place in April; best selection of fleeces available shortly after. Alpaca fleeces and yarn are very stable for years, so they can be purchased year round.

MICRON DATA

Suri alpaca: 18-30

Huacaya alpaca: 15-29

SALES

Online: alpacasofmarin.com

Farm: Contact for an appointment

Events: Fibershed Wool Symposium; Farmer's Markets

(contact for dates and locations)

CONTACT

Email: info@alpacasofmarin.com

Website: alpacasofmarin.com

Phone: 626-818-3148









Photos courtesy of Wild Oat Hollow

Sarah KeiserWild Oat Hollow Penngrove, CA

Wild Oat Hollow is a small hobby farm with Romney sheep, dairy and Angora goats, and chickens. Romney sheep do very well in the lush Penngrove pasture at Wild Oat Hollow, and by limiting the number of sheep, they can stay completely on pasture 75% of the year. In the dry months, their diet is subsidized with hay, but the sheep never receive grain. With this method of animal husbandry the sheep fluctuate with the weather, growing chubby in the lush winter months and the lambs grow quickly on their mother's milk and the green pastures, while in the summer the sheep lose some of their excess weight and lean down. Wild Oat Hollow Romney have beautiful fleece which are a dream for the hand spinner; both novice and experts will enjoy this wonderful long fiber.

PRODUCTS

Yarn: Handspun and mill-spun yarn.

Fiber: Raw fiber, pin draft roving.

The greatest variety of fiber is available after spring shearing, around April.

MICRON DATA

Wensleydale ewe: 29.3 (2016 test)

Wensleydale ram: 27.9 (2016 test)

Romney ewe: 37.0 (gray) (2016 test)

Romney ewe: 34.0 (dark gray) (2016 test)

Wensleydale-Cormo-Lincoln-Merino cross ewe: 28.8 (2016 test)

SALES

View products online: wildoathollow.weebly.com or facebook.com/wildoathollow

CONTACT

Email: sarah.keiser@gmail.com

Facebook: facebook.com/wildoathollow

Website: wildoathollow.weebly.com



Sarah Keiser Wild Oat Hollow Penngrove, CA

SAMPLES

- 1. Romney 2-ply yarn, hand spun by Elizabeth Bates
- 2. Romney wool (washed)

CONTACT

Email: sarah.keiser@gmail.com

Facebook: facebook.com/wildoathollow

Website: wildoathollow.weebly.com







Photos by Paige Green

Susan Timm Timm Ranch Vacaville, CA

Timm Ranch lies on the east side of the Vaca Mountains in Solano County, California. Susan Timm's grandfather bought the ranch in the early 1900s and although much of the ranch is leased to a cattle rancher, Susan runs about 85 ewes there. Susan's father started with Targhee sheep and then added Polypay and Rambouillet rams to the flock. Susan's sheep are descendants of this blend of breeds and produce a fine, soft wool.

PRODUCTS

Fiber: Contact the Timm ranch in early April for their shearing schedule, as raw wool is available at the point of shearing. Arranging purchase after the sheep are sheared is the primary method of working with the Timm Ranch wool. The wool is baled at the ranch and can be shipped to any mill or processor you prefer.

Susan's neighbor Robin Lynde has produced a fine weaving yarn with some of the wool from this ranch that can be found online: www.meridianjacobs.com/shopping/product_info.asp?id=552

MICRON DATA

Targhee-Polypay-Rambouillet cross ewe: 21.8 (2015 test)

CONTACT

Email: ranchtimm@gmail.com

SAMPLES

- 1. Targhee-Rambouillet cross wool (washed)
- 2. 2-ply Targhee-Rambouillet yarn, hand spun by Marie Hoff and Bonnie Reardon

