



Newsletter # 1 2021

Dear WOOLUME-friends,

News from our Polish partners: At the moment we are involved in laboratory tests of wool, which we have collected during the last shearing. We collected a huge number of samples of wool sheared from sheep at different ages and five breeds. It will take time to obtain results of these investigations. The newest information from Koniakow, Beskid mountains: The lambing of sheep has begun, so in the second half of February many lambs are expected.

Papers

A short paper on pastoralism in Beskid mountains was written by Anna Salachna and presents short history and changes since the 1980s in the sheep grazing in these mountains. A pdf of the paper is included (it's been cleaned up a little). There are some questions that remain when it comes to the descriptions, some points are unclear, but this can be fixed through a zoom-meeting in the near future. Two abstracts for the ICNF conference have been submitted: *Coarse Sheep Wool as a Precious Raw Material for Production of Rug Yarns* and *Concentration of Selected Metals in (Polish) Sheep Wool*.

Meeting in Norway

A meeting was held in Norway with the Norwegian partners in December 2020, where new ideas for products were discussed, and some of the trial spinning and rug-weaving done at Selbu Spinning Mill. A summary of this meeting has been sent to partners earlier. If anyone would like to see this report, please send an email to tone.tobiasson@gmail.com to receive a copy. Some very concrete ideas were put forward.

Palgrave Macmillan book

The "local wool" book, which we are writing for Palgrave Macmillan and which will showcase WOOLUME and thus be a deliverable, has started up. We have received the contracts that need to be signed by all authors, and these will be sent shortly. Deadline for the manuscript is in June, and the first drafts of the chapters should be finished by mid-February.

Portuguese cooperation

Ingvild was approached by Portuguese researchers, who wanted to cooperate in the same call as WOOLUME, the EEA grants, with a project called hiWOOL. This application was submitted in Mid-

December. We are still waiting to hear the results from this, but the plan is for the Portuguese researchers to visit Norway (Oslo and Klæbu) this coming summer. This will be a good building-block for a later EU application.

Lamb Stand Virtual Table

Tone has been asked to participate in the *Lamb Stand Virtual Table* February 21st, which will be broadcast live at 7 PM Central European Time, and later be uploaded to YouTube. The idea is to cook lamb or mutton with a community in Connecticut, USA, while we talk about sheep and wool traditions tied to our cultural heritage. The #AmazingGrazing project has already decided to adopt this idea and do something similar in Norway for dissemination purposes. WOOLUME may consider this as well, as it is a very novel way of “spreading the news” surrounding the products that sheep and grazing practices give us.

EU Hearing for a Roadmap for Textiles

In connection with the EU hearing for a Roadmap for Textiles, we have made sure to mention that most wool in Europe represents a waste problem; and that this needs the attention of the Commission in a Roadmap for Textiles. This needs to be taken into consideration in the discussion surrounding the use of recycled and/or virgin materials in new textiles, and how this will be incentivized by f. ex. punishing the use of virgin fibers. The deadline for input is today, February 2nd. <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12822-EU-strategy-for-sustainable-textiles>

Wool2Yarn article

An over-view of the Nordic wool market has appeared in the latest issue of the trade magazine, Wool2Yarn, and this gives a snap-shot of products on this market as well. If you would like a pdf of the article, please send an email, and Tone will send this to you. The magazine has asked for more stories, so this may be an arena for dissemination further down the line, especially if we come up with innovative wool products!