

THREE RIVERS FIBERSHED REGIONAL FIBER SOURCEBOOK



CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION PAGES • PAGES 3 - 12

- What is a fibershed and who is the Three Rivers Fibershed?
- What is a Regional Fiber Sourcebook and how do you use it?
- Who should use this book and why?
- What is a local fiber timeline?
- How does fiber become fabric?
- A note on natural dyeing
- Acknowledgments

PRODUCER PAGES • PAGES 13 - 37

Autumn Larch Farm
Jane Hansen
Prentice, WI 54556

A Woolen Forest
Alejandra Sanchez
Edina, MN 55436

Dresow Family Farm
Stacy Dresow
Lonsdale, MN 55046

Get Bentz Farm
Theresa Bentz
Northfield, MN 55057

Holly Ridge Farm
Patti Dougherty
Ellsworth, WI 54011

Namekagon Valley Farm & Studio
Kelly Nechuta
Hayward, WI 54843

Priory Farm
Beth Ivankovic
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Wool and Feather Farm
Melissa Todd
Colfax, WI 54730

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS A FIBERSHED AND WHO IS THE THREE RIVERS FIBERSHED?

A fibershed is a regional fiber system that builds soil and protects the health of their ecosystem. Founded by Rebecca Burgess in 2010, Fibershed envisions a different way to make textiles, one in which the impact of our textiles are considered from a soil-to-soil perspective--meaning how they are grown to how they breakdown at the end of their life cycle. These soil-to-soil systems create local economies that honor all who participate, centering on local labor, local fiber, and local natural dyes. Local economies serve as the basis for a thriving regional fiber system.



Soil to Soil illustration by Andrew Plotsky

The Three Rivers Fibershed became an affiliate branch of Fibershed in Northern California in early 2016. The Three Rivers Fibershed is developing regional fiber systems that build soil health and protect the wellbeing of our ecosystems here in Minnesota. While our strategic geography is centered in Minneapolis, it extends out in a 175 mile radius, including portions of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and South Dakota.



The Three Rivers Fibershed seeks to be a resource to our fiber community by providing opportunities for connection and community building among farmers and mills, artists and makers, consumers and everyone in between. All are welcome to participate in our fibershed allowing for our local community to take full responsibility for our garments' life cycle. It is our mission to abolish unjust textile systems and create in their place strong, decentralized textile economies that build from the resources within our own communities.

The fiber you will see in this resource has been ethically grown and raised by environmentally responsible producers who seek to be stewards of the land and animals they tend. These producers utilize regenerative agricultural practices which meet a key point of Fibershed's mission of creating 'climate beneficial' clothing as a way to heal the land and ourselves.

WHAT IS A REGIONAL FIBER SOURCEBOOK AND HOW DO YOU USE IT?

A regional fiber sourcebook is a living resource which features producers from within a fibershed's strategic geography. A regional fiber sourcebook addresses local timelines, current availability among producers, pricing, examples of local fiber prototypes, with sourcing details that make the process straightforward and clear for all who want to incorporate local fiber into their offerings. There are illustrated timelines to help viewers better understand the typical flow of fiber production and processing within the strategic geography.

The Three Rivers Fibershed sees this sourcebook as a way to promote, connect, and give producers equal access to opportunities, particularly with makers and brands. Three Rivers Fibershed organizers have found it difficult to show the full potential of using a local supply system when there are few samples and no unified format for displaying the story of our producers. Inevitably, this gap of understanding and opportunity leads to a gap in connecting our producers to the makers and designers who are interested in the narrative of local, climate-beneficial fiber.

To use this resource begin by considering what type of product is desired and the potential fiber qualities that would best suit the needs of the product. Many producers have listed micron counts and/or end use suggestions to give parameters for the best application of their fiber. As a simplified explanation of micron count, a fiber with higher micron count creates extremely durable, long lasting outerwear while a fiber with lower micron count creates soft, next to skin appropriate textiles, especially for more sensitive areas of the body like the neck. This resource can also be used to aid in combining more than one producer's fiber to create a unique blend of yarn to best serve the desired outcome. For further questions about fiber, each producer's contact information can be found on their producer page.



We recommend consulting *The Fleece and Fiber Sourcebook* by Deborah Robson and Carol Ekarius for detailed descriptions of each breed/fiber type.

Included in the book there are different species of fiber animals that bring unique fiber properties like micron count, color, warmth, luster, etc. The major types of fiber animals include:



SHEEP

With an estimated 1,400 sheep breeds in the world, each breed has distinct fiber properties such as crimp, luster, fineness, durability, elasticity, color, staple length, and dyeability. In this sourcebook you will see samples from multiple sheep breeds which highlight their unique properties.



ALPACAS

A part of the camelid family, alpacas are either huacaya or suri. Fiber from alpacas have excellent drape, are very soft, have good thermal properties and come in 22 natural shades.



ANGORA RABBITS

Major angora breeds found in North America include English, French, German, Giant, and Satin Angoras. Angora fiber is known for its loft, softness, incredible warmth, great color variation, and angora's ability to blend with other fibers and impart its unique properties to the final blend.



WHO SHOULD USE THIS BOOK AND WHY?

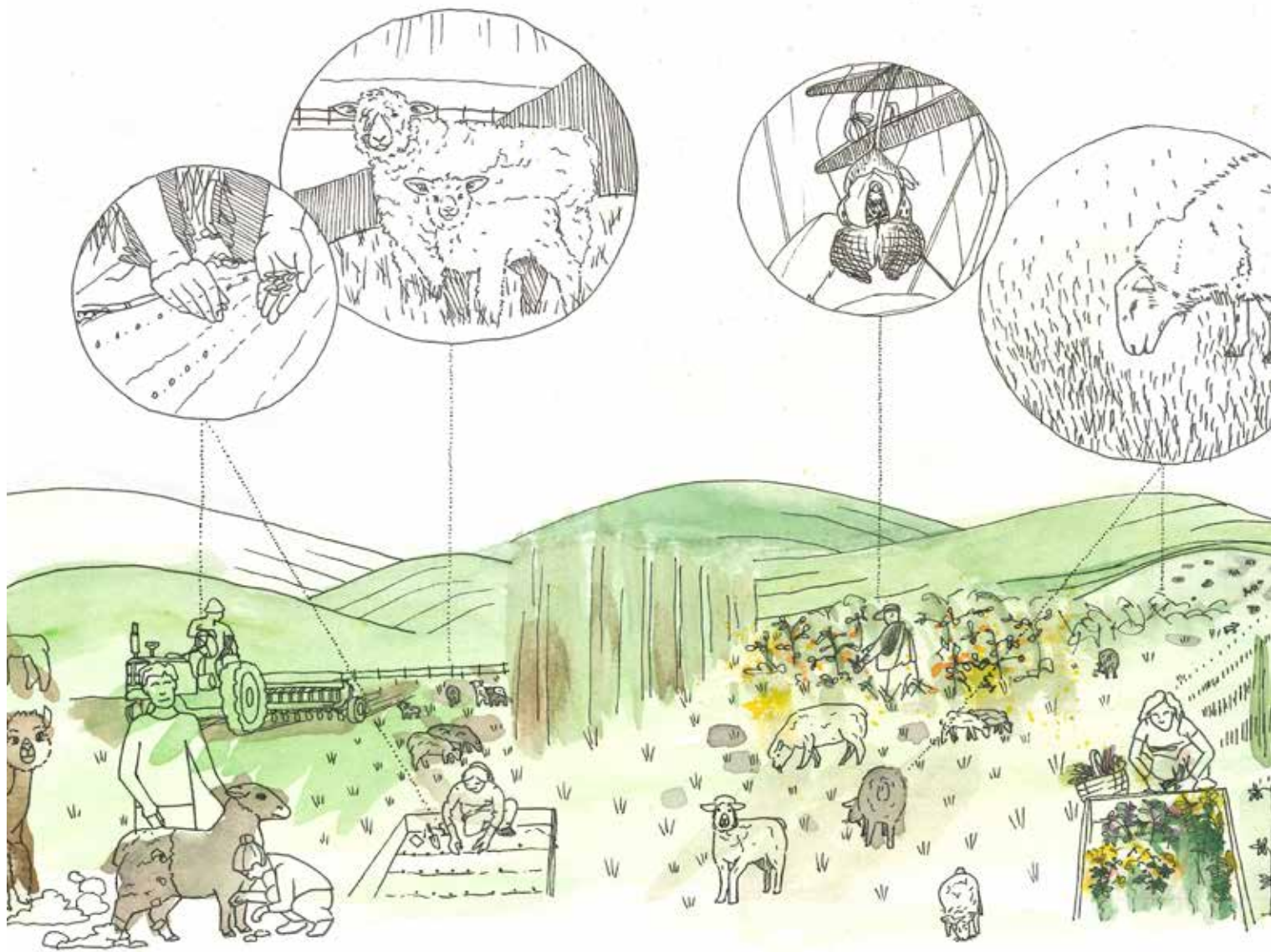
Knitters, spinners, designers, brands and consumers seeking to source ethical, sustainable materials that strengthen our decentralized fiber system will find this book most helpful. Because the book can be updated year to year, it will continue to serve as a relevant resource for individuals looking to collaborate with producers within the Three Rivers Fibershed regional fiber system.

A regional fiber sourcebook supports future efforts in prototyping, development of local textiles and products, and greater understanding and transparency of producers within the Three Rivers Fibershed strategic geography. Through these connections, greater visibility will create new market opportunities allowing for increased financial support for producers to pursue endeavors such as climate-beneficial certification, regenerative agricultural implementation on farms, cooperative fiber opportunities, further research and prototyping, and strengthen our textile supply system in the face of continued climate change.

In a previous microgrant award, the Three Rivers Fibershed identified market accessibility and consumer education as two of the top three needs of our producers. Using this resource allows us to address both needs and create a strong decentralized community-led fiber system.

WHAT IS A LOCAL FIBER TIMELINE?

The following graphic gives a simplified illustration of what occurs within the Three Rivers Fibershed strategic geography from season-to-season. Because each fibershed is unique, this timeline takes into account the distinct properties of our biosphere within a 175 mile radius of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

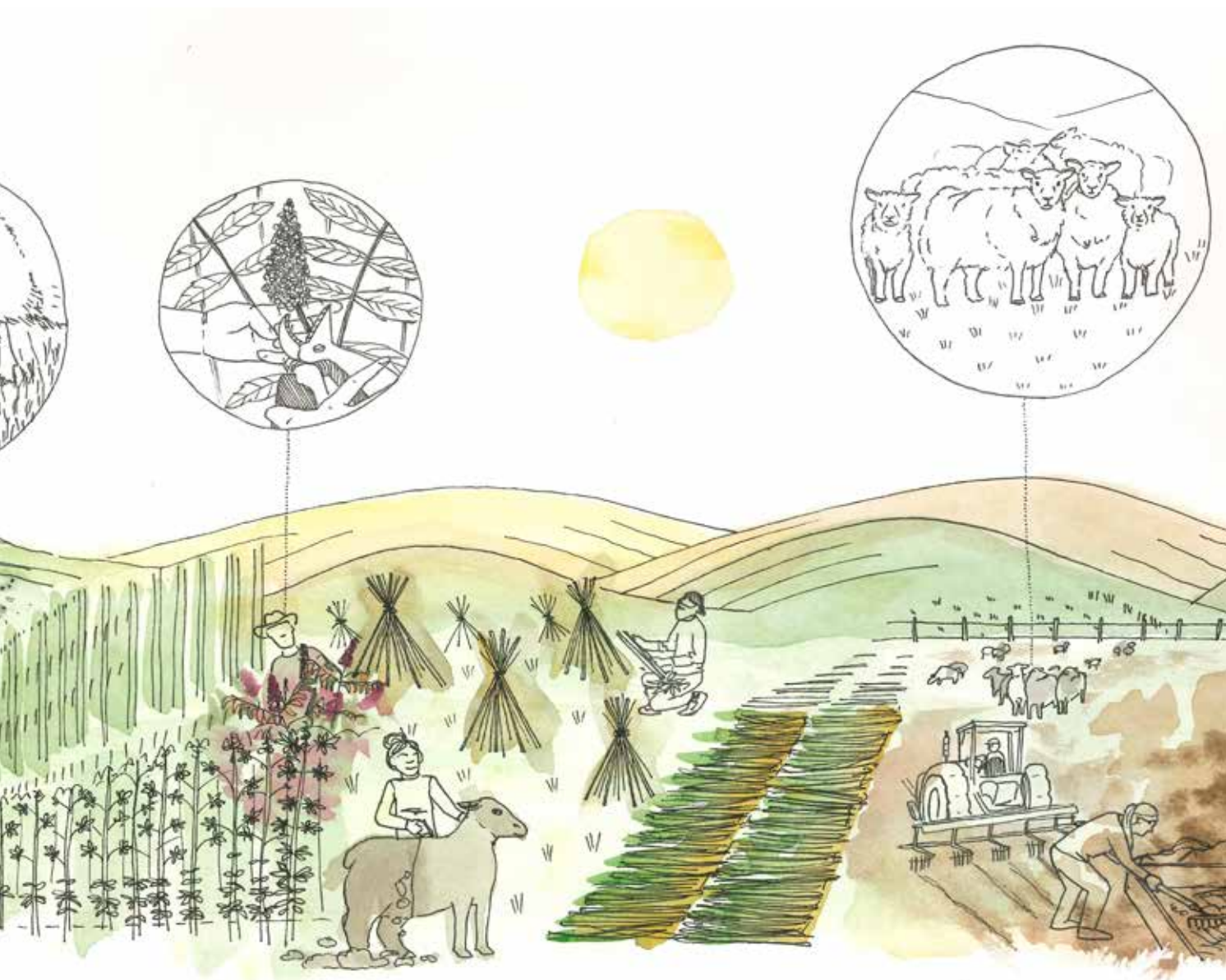


SPRING

- Fiber animals like sheep and alpaca are shorn
- Lambs are born
- Planting of natural dyes and fiber plants like flax and hemp occurs in rural and urban gardens and farms
- Dormant winter pastures reawaken

SUMMER

- Sheep, alpacas, and other fiber animals graze in pastures
- Natural dyes from gardens and wild foraged species like jewelweed are harvested
- Hemp and flax continue to grow

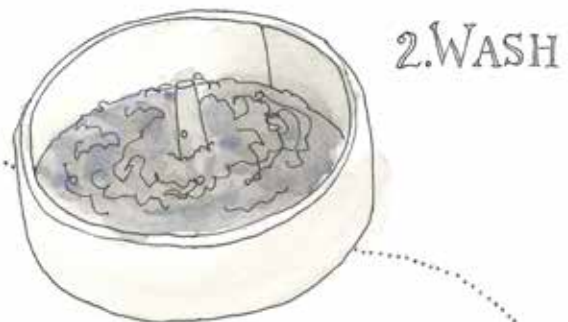


FALL

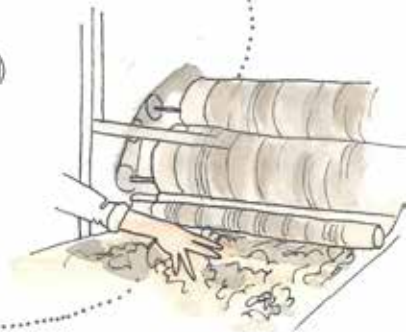
- Sheep breeds that require a second shearing are shorn
- Natural dyes from gardens and wild foraged species like sumac are harvested
- Hemp and flax are harvested and retted to separate fiber from the rest of the stalk

WINTER

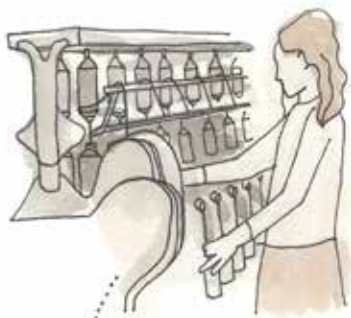
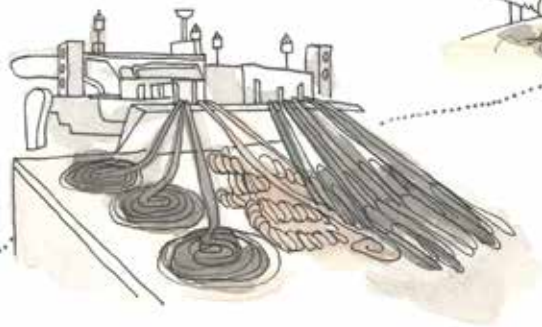
- Sheep are put into breeding groups
- Gardens and fields are put to bed for the year using cover crops, compost, and mulch



3. CARD

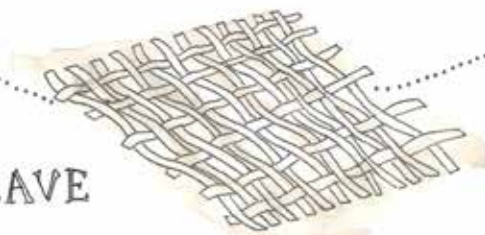


4. DRAFT



5. SPIN

6. WEAVE



7. USE



HOW DOES FIBER BECOME FABRIC?

1. Fiber animals are shorn and fleece is collected
2. Fiber is washed to remove dirt, lanolin, and other impurities
3. Clean, dry fiber is sent through a carder which separates and aligns fibers into even layers, creating roving or batts
4. Carded roving may go through an additional step on the pin drafter which further aligns fiber for spinning
5. Roving or pin drafted roving is spun by a spinning machine into the desired yarn weight and plies
6. Yarn is woven on a loom to create fabric
7. Fabric is finished and ready for use

A NOTE ON NATURAL DYEING

All the fiber in this book is undyed. That is not to say that the producers listed do not dye their fiber or have naturally dyed fiber available. Many producers within this resource offer naturally dyed fiber goods.

Dyes are derived from natural or synthetic substances and are used to add or change the color of something. Synthetic dyes are man made and use refined coal tar in their manufacturing. As you can imagine, the chemicals that come from the creation and use of synthetic dyes are often toxic, leading to devastating impacts on ecosystems through pollution to air, water, and soil. Natural dyes have the capacity to reduce our impact on the environment while yielding a fantastic spectrum of color. The majority of natural dyes, including select metallic or plant-based fixatives, are safe and nontoxic. This is an important consideration because dyes, whether natural or synthetic, interact with our largest (and porous) organ, the skin. Natural dyes move with the cycles of our ecosystems rather than against it. Color can be found in everything from food waste to garden-grown or foraged native plant species, which protect and bolster our local environment. Natural dyes invite us to slow down and interact with our ecosystems and textiles in regenerative, mindful ways.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Maddy Bartsch

Executive Director, project management, content creation, book assembly

Stacy Dresow

Producer Outreach Coordinator, producer outreach coordination

Alejandra Sanchez

Community Experience Director

Becka Rahn

Graphic design

Jaclyn Charais

Illustration

Beth Kamienski

Swatch knitting

Heather MacKenzie

Swatch weaving

A big thank you to Fibershed for the microgrant that allowed the Three Rivers Fibershed to create this resource, Kyle Hunueke and Lynn Hoffmann at Riverland Community College for the Fiber Portfolio course, and to all the producers who participated in this first iteration of the regional fiber sourcebook.





PRODUCER PAGES



ANNUAL QUANTITY, BREED, COLOR, PRICE LIST

JANUARY 2020

PLEASE CONTACT PRODUCERS DIRECTLY TO CONFIRM ALL INFORMATION AS PRICES AND QUANTITIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

PRODUCER	ABOUT THIS FIBER	PRICE & PRODUCTS FOR SALE
Autumn Larch Farm Jane Hansen autumnlarch@gmail.com 715-767-5958	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breed- Coopworth, Romeldale CVM • Colors- White, Silver, Gray, Brown (Coopworth); Oatmeal, Reddish Brown, Gray (Romeldale CVM) • Annual Quantities- 70 pounds raw • Staple Length- 5" - 8" (Coopworth), 3" - 6" (Romeldale CVM) • Micron Count- 30 - 39 microns (Coopworth), 21 - 25 microns (Romeldale CVM) 	<p>Retail Worsted and Sport Weight Yarn: \$25/4 oz. skein undyed colors; \$30/4 oz. skein naturally dyed</p> <p>Roving: \$3/oz. undyed colors; \$4/oz. naturally dyed</p> <p>Wholesale Worsted and Sport Weight Yarn: \$65/pound undyed colors; \$80/pound naturally dyed. Minimum 5 pounds and Maximum 10 pounds</p> <p>Roving: \$40/pound undyed colors; \$52/pound naturally dyed</p> <p>Products for sale- Roving, yarn, finished goods, limited amounts of raw fiber</p>
A Woolen Forest - Fiber Farm and Studio Alejandra Sanchez awoolenforest@gmail.com 510-504-5721	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breed- Angora rabbits and Soay sheep • Colors - White, Chocolate, Brown, Black, Grey, Lilac • Annual Quantities- 20 pounds raw (angora), TBD (Soay sheep) 	<p>\$32/4 oz. skein batts \$8-10/oz, no wholesale</p> <p>Products for sale- Yarn, roving, batts, fleeces, natural dye stuffs</p>

PRODUCER	ABOUT THIS FIBER	PRICE & PRODUCTS FOR SALE
Dresow Family Farm Stacy Dresow dresowfamilyfarm@lonstel.com 612-325-3015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breed- Cormo and Cormo cross, Corriedale and CVM x Corriedale cross • Colors- White, Oatmeal, Brown • Annual Quantities- Approximately 150 pounds raw; Approximately 75 pounds finished yarn & roving • Staple Length- 3" - 5" (cormo), 3" - 6" (other breeds) • Micron Count- 17 - 23 microns (cormo), 21 - 25 microns (other breeds) 	<p>Retail: Natural/Dyed 400 Yard Fingering \$28/\$30 200 Yard Sport \$21/\$26 200 Yard Worsted \$25/\$34 100 Yard Super Bulky \$50/\$60 \$1 yard for core spun natural or dyed</p> <p>Wholesale: 10% price break for orders of 5,000 yards or more of same weight yarn</p> <p>Products for sale- Raw fiber, roving, yarn, felted sheets and various finished goods</p>
Get Bentz Farm Theresa & Jake Bentz getbentzfarm@gmail.com 651-271-5142	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breed- Icelandic • Colors- Brown, Black, Gray, White, Silver • Annual Quantities- 100 pounds raw 	<p>Prices vary depending on current market trends</p> <p>Products for sale - Yarn: Handspun single, two ply Icelandic in natural colors (cream, brown, black, and white) bulky and worsted.</p> <p>Fiber: Raw fleeces, roving, batting. Lambs wool is available in September.</p> <p>Other: Finished goods</p>
Holly Ridge Farm Patti Dougherty hollyridgefarmwi@gmail.com 651-343-4321	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breed- Leicester Longwool • Colors- Grey, Black and White • Annual Quantities- 100 pounds raw • Staple Length- 5" - 14" annually • Micron Count- 32 - 38 microns 	<p>Pricing will vary depending on product and availability</p> <p>Products for sale- Raw fleece, roving, yarn (both natural and plant based dyed), pelts and breeding stock</p>

PRODUCER	ABOUT THIS FIBER	PRICE & PRODUCTS FOR SALE
Namekagon Valley Farm & Studio Kelly Nechuta namekagonvalley@gmail.com 715-558-8774	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breed- Gotland • Colors- Grey • Annual Quantities- 100-120 pounds raw • Staple Length- 3" - 6" • Micron Count- 24 - 34 microns 	Products for sale- Raw fleece, roving, yarn, pelts, locks
Priory Farms, LLC Beth Ivankovic sbivankovic@charter.net 715-829-5384	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breed- Cotswold • Colors- White • Annual Quantities- 90 pounds raw, however flock size is growing • Staple Length- 7" - 10" • Micron Count- 38 - 44 microns 	Products for sale- Raw fleece (contact by May to reserve), roving, 2 ply sport weight and 3 ply worsted weight, curls

AUTUMN LARCH FARM

CONTACT

Jane Hansen
Prentice, WI 54556

autumnlarch@gmail.com
715-767-5958
autumnlarchfarm.wordpress.com
IG: autumnlarchfarmllc

Autumn Larch Farm LLC is a very small farm operated by Jane Hansen with just 6 acres of north-central forest region pasture in Wisconsin. She has a small flock of registered Coopworth sheep and pure bred Romeldale CVM wethers.

As a very young child, Jane's gram taught her to knit and then her Norwegian roommate in college taught her to appreciate natural fibers. This love of fiber arts eventually led to raising her own wool after relocating to their northern Wisconsin farm with her husband Chris.

Jane uses outwintering, management intensive rotational grazing, FAMACHA, pastured poultry for parasite control and other regenerative agricultural techniques in pursuit of well cared for sheep, high quality wool, careful stewardship of the environment and a commitment to the regional economy. By raising both Coopworth and Romeldale CVM sheep, she is able to provide both long, lustrous, sturdy wool, and, bouncy, soft enough for against the skin wool.

In addition to producing and locally milling sheep-specific yarn and roving, Jane is also committed to sharing her love of local fiber with others and therefore she coordinates and hosts the North Central WI Fiber Guild, teaches knitting through a group that formed at WI Concrete Park, is an active member of the Three Rivers Fibershed and recently joined the Duluth Fiber Handcrafters Guild.



ABOUT THIS FIBER

PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Roving, yarn, knit and felted items, limited amounts of raw fiber

RETAIL PRICING

Worsted and Sport Weight Yarn:

- \$25/4 oz. skein undyed colors
- \$30/4 oz. skein naturally dyed

Roving:

- \$3/oz. undyed colors
- \$4/oz. naturally dyed.

Current pricing is subject to change.

WHOLESALE PRICING

Worsted and Sport Weight Yarn:

- \$65/lb undyed colors
- \$80/lb naturally dyed

Roving:

- \$40/lb undyed colors
- \$52/lb naturally dyed

Open to discussing custom blending orders. Current pricing is subject to change. Min. 5lb and Max. 10lb

CAN BE FOUND AT

- On farm by appointment
- Fiber festivals
- Online at squareup.com/store/autumn-larch-farm-llc

ANNUAL QUANTITIES

70 pounds raw

BREED

Coopworth, Romeldale CVM

STAPLE LENGTH

5"- 8" (Coopworth)

3"- 6" (Romeldale CVM)

MICRON COUNT

30 - 39 microns (Coopworth)

21 - 25 microns (Romeldale CVM)

COLORS

White, Silver, Gray, Brown (Coopworth)

Oatmeal, Reddish Brown, Gray (Romeldale CVM)



GENERAL SHEARING MONTH

April

END USE SUGGESTIONS

Outerwear, weaving, furnishings, blankets, sweaters (Coopworth).
Next to the skin clothing and light outerwear (Romeldale CVM)

A WOOLEN FOREST - FIBER FARM & STUDIO

CONTACT

Alejandra Sanchez
Edina, MN 55436

awoolenforest@gmail.com
510-504-5721
www.awoolenforest.com
IG: [awoolenforest](#)

Alejandra Sanchez is the fiber artist and educator behind *A Woolen Forest*, whose focus is the preservation of wool crafts and textile arts through education and through the conservation of heritage sheep breeds.

Alejandra is dedicated to the lore and practice of working with wool, plants, and animals in a harmonious and compassionate manner.

A Woolen Forest consists of three herds of Angora rabbits who live in colonies, a practice in which the rabbits live together in large communal spaces built to resemble a natural environment. In late 2019, *A Woolen Forest* expanded to include a flock of rescued Soay sheep, a very rare breed from the British Isles known as the most primitive sheep currently in existence.

Alejandra and her rabbits are involved in various classes and educational events, teaching folks of all ages about the nuances of raising wool animals and the steps involved in processing their wool. Alejandra uses the wool humanely collected from the rabbits to specially curate yarns and roving blended with breed specific wool.

A Woolen Forest focuses on rare and heritage breed sheep and highlights the various natural colors produced by the rabbits. Various yarn collections are also hand dyed using botanical pigments, extracted from local flowers, leaves, and other plant materials.



ABOUT THIS FIBER

PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Yarn, roving, natural dye stuffs, batts, fleeces

PRICING

\$32/4 oz. skein
\$8-10/oz batts, no wholesale
Pricing subject to change.

CAN BE FOUND AT

Craft shows
Northfield Yarn
Online via website

ANNUAL QUANTITIES

20 pounds raw (Angora)
TBD (Soay sheep)

BREED

Angora rabbits and Soay sheep

COLORS

White, Chocolate, Brown, Black, Grey, Lilac

GENERAL SHEARING MONTH

3-4 times/year (Angora)
April/May (Soay Sheep)



DRESOW FAMILY FARM

CONTACT

Stacy Dresow
Lonsdale, MN 55046

dresowfamilyfarm@lonstel.com
612-325-3015
www.dresowfamilyfarm.com
FB & IG: dresowfamilyfarm

Dresow Family Farm is tucked away in the rolling hills of Lonsdale, MN.

We raise white and colored Cormo, Corriedale x cross bred sheep for their butter soft fiber qualities. Our fiber is dyed using plant fibers grown on the farm, purchased from local growers or food compost.

We sell raw fleeces, roving, yarn and finished goods.

Our farm is a Minnesota Water Quality Certified Farm by the MDA. I am the Producer Outreach Coordinator for the Three Rivers Fibershed and a member of Sustainable Farmers Association – Cannon River Chapter, Sustainable Sheep and Fiber Community of Northern Minnesota, and Cannon Valley Grown.



ABOUT THIS FIBER

PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Raw fiber, roving, yarn, felted sheets and various finished goods

RETAIL PRICING

Natural/Dyed:

- 400 Yard Fingering \$28/\$34
- 200 Yard Sport \$21/\$26
- 200 Yard Worsted \$25/\$30
- 100 Yard Super Bulky \$50/\$60
- \$1 yard for core spun natural or dyed

Pricing may vary each year.

WHOLESALE PRICING

10% price break for orders of 5,000 yards or more of same weight yarn.

CAN BE FOUND AT

Faribault Winter Farmers Market
Various fiber festivals in MN, WI, MT, ID, IA

ANNUAL QUANTITIES

Approximately 150 pounds raw fleece
Approximately 75 pounds finished yarn & roving

BREED

Cormo and Cormo cross, Corriedale and CVM x Corriedale cross

STAPLE LENGTH

3"- 5" (Cormo), 3"- 6" (other breeds)

MICRON COUNT

17 - 27 microns (Cormo), 21-25 microns (other breeds)

COLORS

White, Oatmeal, Brown

GENERAL SHEARING MONTH

March and April



END USE SUGGESTIONS

Cormo is the best choice for next to the skin clothing and blankets. It is buttery soft and springy. The natural white and cream colors take dyes well. It is also a good choice for felting.

GET BENTZ FARM

CONTACT

Theresa & Jake Bentz
Northfield, MN 55057

getbentzfarm@gmail.com
651-271-5142
www.getbentzfarm.com
FB: GetBentzFarm
IG: farmerbentz

Get Bentz Farm is a 40 acre farm situated outside of beautiful Northfield MN, that overlooks the Cannon River Valley, and is owned and operated by Theresa and Jake Bentz, and was purchased in 2016.

The farm is composed of 11 acres of hayfield and prairie restoration, which was conventionally cropped prior to 2016, and 30 acres of woods. Theresa and Jake knew they needed small ruminants to help restore and manage the prairie and wooded area, and after researching sheep breeds they decided on a flock of Icelandic sheep because of their triple purpose, their high quality meat and wool products, and their hardiness and ability to thrive in cold climates and on lower protein forage.

They started with a small flock but have quickly grown to a medium size flock, which enjoys browsing and grazing on lush wooded area and restored prairie. They found a local market for the high quality meat, and enjoy offering natural wool bedding products to customers, along with a variety of yarns, felted art, and pelts.

They have loved watching their farm return to a haven for pollinators and birds, and see their farm as an island surrounded by conventional farming.



ABOUT THIS FIBER

PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Yarn: Handspun single, two ply Icelandic in natural colors (cream, brown, black, and white) bulky and worsted.

Fiber: Raw fleeces, roving, batting. Lambs wool is available in September.

Other: Sheepskin pelts, hand felted shawls, wool bedding (comforters and pillows)

PRICING

Prices vary depending on current market trends

CAN BE FOUND AT

Faribault Farmers Market
Riverwalk Farmers Market

ANNUAL QUANTITIES

100 pounds raw

BREED

Icelandic

COLORS

Brown, Black, Gray, White, Silver

GENERAL SHEARING MONTH

April and September



HOLLY RIDGE FARM

CONTACT

Patti Dougherty
Ellsworth, WI 54011

hollyridgefarmwi@gmail.com
651-343-4321
hollyridgefarmwi.com
IG: hollyridgefarmwi
FB: facebook.com/
Holly-Ridge-Farm-113856703318024/

Our 40-acre Farm sits on a beautiful hilltop in western Wisconsin. After 10 years of making the 1 hour drive between St. Paul, MN and Holly Ridge Farm and back, mostly on weekends, we made the decision in 2017 to move to the country. With this move we started raising Leicester Longwool sheep and a couple of Toggenburg goats.

The Leicester Longwool is a heritage breed sheep with fleece prized by hand spinners for its curl and lustrous beauty. We shear our sheep twice a year and offer raw fleece, roving, yarn and pelts along with breeding stock. The Toggenburg is a handsome and social goat and one of the first breeds to be formally registered.

Along with our sheep we keep bees and hens that generously provide honey and eggs throughout the year. Our organic orchard of antique fruit trees and two acres of native prairie grasses and wildflowers provide a wonderful habitat for bees, butterflies and birds year round.

We are also members of the Livestock Conservancy and believe in the importance of raising our animals in an ethical manner.



ABOUT THIS FIBER

PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Raw fleece, roving, yarn (both natural and plant based dyed), pelts and breeding stock

PRICING

Pricing will vary depending on product and availability

CAN BE FOUND AT

- North Star Farm Tour
- On-Farm visits
- Via our website

ANNUAL QUANTITIES

100 pounds raw

STAPLE LENGTH

5" - 14" annually

MICRON COUNT

32 - 38 microns

COLORS

Grey, Black and White

GENERAL SHEARING MONTH

Late September and April

END USE SUGGESTIONS

Strong durable wool, great for outerwear, takes dye well, makes terrific rugs and is exceptional warp for weaving



NAMEKAGON VALLEY FARM & STUDIO

CONTACT

Kelly Nechuta
Hayward, WI 54843

namekagonvalley@gmail.com
715-558-8774
namekagonvalleyfarm.com
FB & IG: namekagonvalley

Namekagon Valley Farm & Studio is a small diversified farm located near Hayward, WI. We raise Gotland sheep, pastured poultry, and grow seasonal cut flowers.

Gotland Sheep are known for their soft, lustrous curls in natural shades of grey, from silver to charcoal.

We offer Gotland wool products such as yarn, roving, pelts, raw wool, and gorgeous curly locks on our online Market Shop.

Our “Studio” refers to the fiber, flowers, and photography from the farm. Kelly is a Conservation Specialist, and Mike is a Science Teacher, and the farm is based around our ecological values. Our pastures were planned with the natural community in mind by leaving edge habitats for wildlife, birds, and pollinators.

More than a just a beautiful pasture ornament (which they are!), our sheep are also helping us manage invasive weeds and improving soil health with rotational grazing practices. As stewards of our farm, diversity, connection to the land, and the health of the natural cycle as a whole is at the heart of our small operation.



ABOUT THIS FIBER

PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Raw fleece, roving, yarn, pelts, locks

CAN BE FOUND AT

Website
Farmers Market
Events/Festivals
By appointment

ANNUAL QUANTITIES

100-120 pounds raw

BREED

Gotland

STAPLE LENGTH

3" - 6"

MICRON COUNT

24 - 34 microns

COLORS

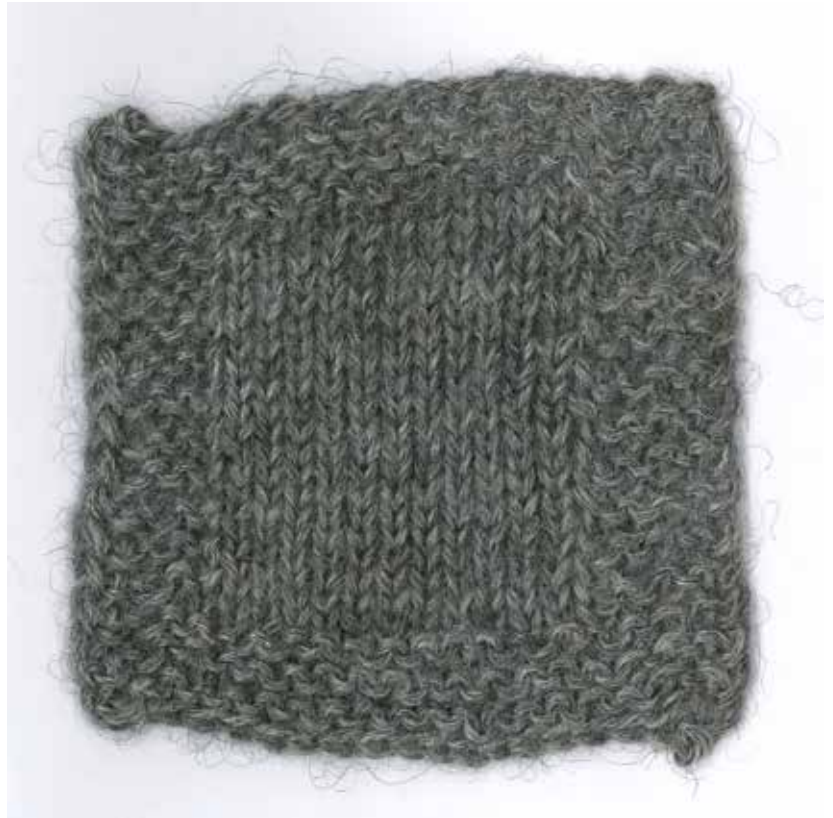
Grey

GENERAL SHEARING MONTH

April & September

END USE SUGGESTIONS

Hats, mittens, sweaters, shawls, blankets,
weaving, rugs, handspinning, felting, crafts,
home decor



PRIORY FARMS, LLC

CONTACT

Beth Ivankovic
Eau Claire, WI 54701

sbivankovic@charter.net
715-829-5384
IG: Prioryfarmscotswolds
FB: Priory Farms Cotswolds

Beth and Slavko Ivankovic, owners of Priory Farms, have fallen in love with the “Cotswold Lions,” a threatened heritage sheep breed with a long history of making beautiful woolen goods. These gentle giants have a lustrous, long staple length which provides many options for the hand spinner, fiber artist, crafter, and knitter.

Cotswold wool is known as the whitest natural wool and takes dye beautifully. It also has a fun history, as it is claimed to be the wool used in the “Golden Fleece” of antiquity. Cotswold wool is a great choice for use in outerwear, blankets, socks, and rugs. It can also be mixed with other fibers to increase strength and versatility.

Priory Farms is a participant in The Livestock Conservancy Program “Shave ‘Em to Save ‘Em”.



ABOUT THIS FARM

PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Raw fleece (contact by May to reserve),
roving, 2 ply sport weight and 3 ply
worsted weight, curls

PRICING

Please contact for updated price lists

CAN BE FOUND AT

Please see current listings on Facebook or
contact Beth

ANNUAL QUANTITIES

90 pounds raw, however flock size is
growing

BREED

Cotswold

STAPLE LENGTH

7" - 10"

MICRON COUNT

38 - 44 microns

COLORS

White

GENERAL SHEARING MONTH

April

END USE SUGGESTIONS

Strong fiber and length work well for
outerwear, socks, blankets, and rugs.
Easy to blend with fine wools for a very
soft yet strong product. Known as whitest
wool and takes dye beautifully. Fun for the
handspinner.



WOOL AND FEATHER FARM

CONTACT

Melissa Todd
Colfax, WI 54730

woolnfeatherfarm@yahoo.com
715-338-0362
www.woolnfeatherfarm.etsy.com
FB & IG: woolnfeatherfarm

Wool & Feather Farm is a small fiber farm located just east of Colfax Wisconsin. Our farm is currently home to a flock of 37 Shetland sheep. We raise our Shetlands as naturally as possible. They are rotationally grazed on pasture during the summer months and enjoy hay during the winter. Access to mineral blocks and dried sea kelp help ensure they are growing the best quality fiber. We truly see that the healthier our sheep are, the more fabulous their fiber.

Wool & Feather Farm offers yarns, hand woven goods and finished fiber products; all finished goods are made here on the farm. Known for their colorful fiber and patterns, our sheep produce a wide range of natural colors in rich blacks, browns, grays and creams. No dyes are used, just the wonderful colors of our sheep.

Our little sheep are currently on The Livestock Conservancy's recovering list. We participate in the Shave 'Em to Save 'Em program and are members of the North American Shetland Sheep breeders Association Flock #1669.



ABOUT THIS FIBER

PRODUCTS YOU SELL

Yarn, dryer balls, upcycled finished goods

PRICING

No wholesale, retail items vary, skeins of yarn start at \$15 for 150 yards

CAN BE FOUND AT

Etsy
Blue Boxer Arts
The Local Store
Tangled Up in Hue

ANNUAL QUANTITIES

30 pounds raw

BREED

Shetland Sheep and Cashmere Goats

STAPLE LENGTH

3" - 6"

MICRON COUNT

We do not test for micron, we concentrate on single fleeced Shetlands

COLORS

Gray, Black, White, Brown

GENERAL SHEARING MONTH

March

END USE SUGGESTIONS

Weaving, knitting, felting



WOVEN SWATCHES UTILIZING TWO PRODUCERS YARNS



HARVEST HILL ACRES
AND PRIORY FARM LLC



PRIORY FARM LLC
AND GET BENTZ FARM



A WOOLEN FOREST AND
NAMEKAGON VALLEY
FARM AND STUDIO



AUTUMN LARCH FARM
AND SUNRISE RIVER
ALPACAS



DRESOW FAMILY FARM
AND WOOL AND FEATHER
FARM



NAMEKAGON VALLEY
FARM AND STUDIO AND
WIBOTAWOT FARM



WOOL AND FEATHER FARM
AND HOLLY RIDGE FARM