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An Interview with Charles Ross

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Illinois State Museum's *Oral History of Illinois Agriculture* project

Interview # AIS-V-L-2008-103

Charles Ross, a specialist in Montadale sheep, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the *Oral History of Illinois Agriculture* project of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and the Illinois State Museum.

Interview dates & location:

Date: August 12, 2008 Location: Illinois State Fairgrounds

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: Mike Maniscalco, Illinois State Museum

Technical Support: Robert Warren, recording engineer, Illinois State Museum

Transcription by: Tape Transcription Center, Boston, MA

Edited by: Michael Maniscalco and Christina Goings, Illinois State Museum

Video indexed by: James Oliver, Illinois State Museum

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Abstract

Charles Ross, *Agriculture in Illinois*, Oral History project

Biographical Information/Overview of Interview: Charles Ross, born and raised in Waverly, Illinois, has been showing Montadale sheep for the past 25 years. In the past, he attended the shows with his son, but now, while his son is in the service and deployed to Iraq, Ross shows sheep with his granddaughter. Ross shows how they hand-trim the sheep's wool to prepare it for the show ring, and explains the difference in the wool between a sheep bred for wool and one bred for meat. He also explains what a judge looks for in good sheep.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Waverly, Illinois; Montadale Sheep; Livestock; State Fair; Competition; Wool

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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