

























Filling the Wool Bags













Wool was shipped to the Faribault Woolen Mill Americas 84th Oldest Family Business



The Faribo Woolen Mills is Minnesota's oldest private company. The mill sits in a modest brick building beside a waterfall, in Faribault, Minnesota. Faribo has been producing wool blankets for more than 130 years.



The Clean Wool is spun into yarn at S&D Spinnery in Milford, MA







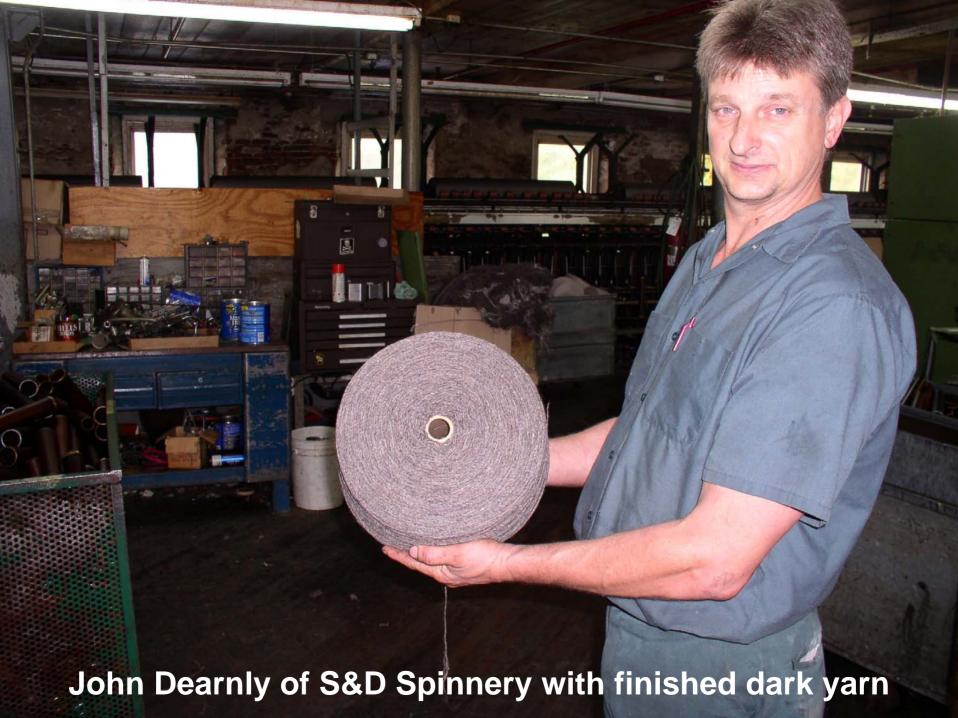














 Yarn is woven into blankets at Richmond Textiles in South Grafton, MA



Bolts of Woven fabric are shipped to West Warwick, RI to be fulled









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The Finished Blanket





RHODY WARM 2006

INAUGURAL EDITION

100% Local Wool



RI Sheep Cooperative President Irene Nebiker presents a Rhody Warm Blanket to RIDEM Director Michael Sullivan





Some Numbers

- 1400 pounds of raw wool collected
- 948 pounds of clean wool returned
- 371 blankets manufactured
- All have been sold!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Over 70 blankets ordered for 2007
- Beyond RI blankets have gone to Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, Mississippi, California, Washington, Nevada, and Vermont

Some Media Coverage

- Providence Business News
- Newport Daily Times
- Providence Sunday Journal
- RI Ag News
- East Bay Living Magazine (Fall 2007)

Looking Forward

- March 28, 2007 Blanket Presentation to Governor Donald Carcieri
- April (?) Skirting Workshop in South County
- May 19, 2007 Wool & Fiber Festival @ Coggeshall Farm, Bristol
 - Skirting Demonstration
 - Wool Collection
- June 16, 2007 Wool Collection @ Urban Edge farm, Cranston



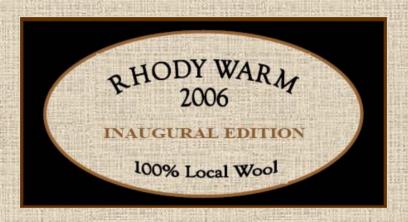


Photo (Left to Right): Chris Modisette, RC&D Coordinator, Barbara Thompson (RI Sheep Cooperative), Roylene Rides at the Door (USDA-NRCS, State Conservationist), Irene Nebiker, President, RI Sheep Cooperative), Michael Sullivan (Director, RIDEM), Governor Donald L. Carcieri, Robin Meek (RI Sheep Cooperative), Heather Minto (RI Sheep Cooperative), Kenneth Ayars (Chief-DEM Div. of Agriculture)

Presented to:

Governor Donald L. Carcieri

The Rhode Island Sheep and Wool Producers
March 28, 2007



In the spirit of giving and to help ensure that no Rhode Islanders suffer cold, members of the Rhode Island Sheep and Wool producers respectfully request that Governor Carcieri use this blanket at his discretion to help raise awareness and/or funds to assist needy Rhode Islanders struggling with heating costs. Rhode Island's sheep farmers, through years of wool production, have a strong history of warming the citizens of our state. The Rhode Island Sheep and Wool Producers strives to continue this tradition while preserving our rich farming industry.

With Thanks

- USDA Rural Development
- USDA-NRCS
- RI Sheep Cooperative
- CT Sheep Breeders Association
- DEM-Division of Agriculture
- RI Rural Development Council
- Rhody Fresh
- University of Rhode Island
- Southside Community Land Trust-Urban Edge Farm

And Finally

- The Rhody Warm Project Committee
 - Irene Nebiker, Barbara & Marcus Thompson, Heather
 & Don Minto, Martin Bide, Robin Meek, Polly Hopkins,
 Ken Ayars, Gerry Bertrand, Kathy Swann
- Others
 - Tony Donatelli
 - Strickland Wheelock
 - Bill Conoyer
 - Laura Judd
 - Michelle Belluci
 - & the husbands, sons, daughters and friends who "volunteered" their time at the wool collection day