

Tentative Itinerary
Trip to New York
August 25 – 29, 2010

Wed Aug 25

10 a.m. Bus leaves Mt. Pleasant. Pick up in Lansing and other places as needed along I-69 / I-94 / M-23. Spend night in Rochester, NY

Thurs Aug 26

Morning – visit Kyle Farms near Rochester. Commercial operation

Lunch at Wagner Vineyards and Winery tour

Afternoon – Andy Alexander Farm where we will see pasture lambing and grazing program with low inputs. Andy is also a famous banjo player. He is an engaging fellow. We will see Agri-tourism at it's finest. Alexander farm is a working sheep farm that hosts a Bluegrass Festival – "Pickin in the Pasture" during this weekend. Plan to sit back and enjoy some fine music, visit the farm and enjoy the festival food. Go to www.pickininthepasture.com

Evening – 40 minute drive to Ithaca, NY

Fri Aug 27

Tour Cornell sheep farm

See some gorges and waterfalls around Ithaca

Potential visit to new commercial farm north of Ithaca with over 1000 ewes and milks 5000 cows. Owner was a professor at Cornell

Details to come later

Afternoon – Drive 4 hours to Albany

Sat Aug 28

Visit Old Chatham Farm – a spectacular farmstead with over 600 acres. It has over 100 East Friesian ewes that are raised for milking. They milk 300-400 ewes per day. They produce cheese and yogurt. Go to: blacksheepcheese.com

Will try to find another purebred farm or yarn product store to visit in this area.

Drive back to Elmira, NY – 3 1/5 hrs.

Sun Aug 29

Return to MI by way of Elmira, NY and visit the Mt. Savior Monastery where they raise 300 Scottish Blackface ewes on 250 acres. It is a working farm. There is also a book and gift shop.

Arrive home by 7 pm depending on where you board the bus.