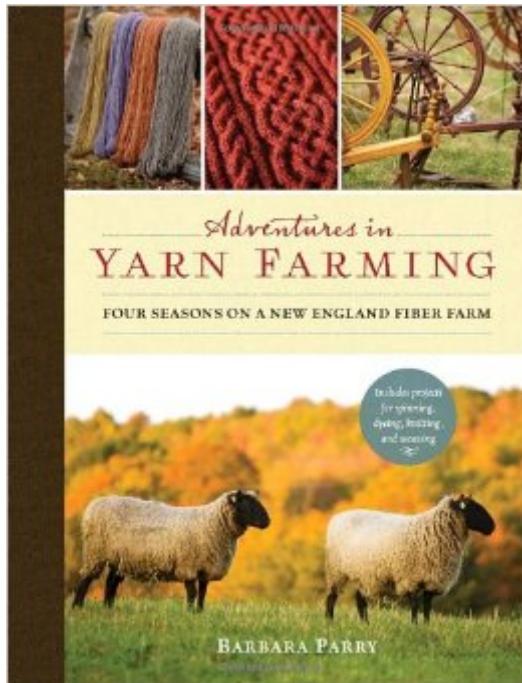


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# Adventures In Yarn Farming: Four Seasons On A New England Fiber Farm



## Synopsis

A knitting book focusing on the sheep-to-shawl process by a well-known knitter, shepherd, and artisanal yarn producer. Gain an insider's view on fiber farming and yarn craft, from sheep to skein, all told through the eyes of shepherd and textile artisan Barbara Parry. Follow her flock over the course of a year and discover all the facets of life with sheep: from shearing day and lambing season, to preparing fiber for yarn. Along the way you'll find projects for the fiber obsessed by top knitwear designers, essays on country life, and over 100 stunning photographs. With the growing locavore movement, the rising trend in sustainable farming, and the ever-increasing interest in crafting, this book is perfect for those who yearn for a closer connection to a rural lifestyle and who enjoy making things by hand.

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #120,500 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 inÂ Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Rural Life #35 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts > Weaving #148 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Animal Husbandry

## Customer Reviews

I knew I was going to like this book from my first glance at the contents list. Someone who can come up with Good Fibrations, Lamb-pedes ad Hay-lelujah is my kind of author â “ clearly imaginative and with a fine sense of humour. And, as a sheep, alpaca and llama owner myself, the subject matter of these cleverly named chapters fascinated me. The author Barbara Parry tells us about four seasons on her New England farm. She also tells us how she tends to take âœan awfully long and complicated way around most thingsâ •, but most definitely not with her writing. The book is succinctly written, full of absorbing detail about the life of a small-scale sheep farmer, and Barbara Parry outlines why she embraces this fascinating but formidable lifestyle. And thereâ™s plenty of

humour, as I expected. You pick up lots of interesting facts about the various different breeds of sheep, how and why they differ with regards to their wool type and yield, and the author explains how she made her own choices. Being a llama farmer, I was delighted to see that she added llamas (one of whom shares my daughter's name!) to her menagerie to act as bodyguards, a role these camelids perform brilliant as I know from experience. The author shares with us how she processes the fibre, from shearing to spinning; it's a veritable goldmine of information. There's hands-on advice, workable tips and hints, not just about yarn processing, using and storing dyes, but also about lambing, stock health maintenance and running a farm. Throughout there are fabulous photos. There are even knitting patterns too and a glossary. This is such a well planned and executed book but most of all it's so readable. Barbara has a wonderful, welcoming conversational style. Any yarn lover will surely adore this book.

This is a lovely book that has the story of a yarn farm in all its glory and seasons. It also includes patterns for knitting along with delicious recipes. The book is divided into seasons with each season having its share of dyeing, combing, spinning and weaving. While I had thought this book would have more patterns, the narrative is excellent and the reader learns what it's like to have a yarn farm.

This is a sweet, fast-reading book with lovely photos and a good introduction to the shepherding life. As a "yarn farmer" myself, I really would have enjoyed hearing more from the author about her day to day experiences with her flock. Still, it's a nice book for the armchair sheep enthusiast. I am more a yarn-maker than a knitter, so I can't speak to the quality of the patterns included in the book, but the projects (there are 8 knitting patterns included, plus a weaving project, a couple of spinning projects, a clutch of recipes and some tutorial information on dyeing), look lovely and appealing.

I just received this book yesterday, The pictures are wonderful and the projects are lovely. I will probably keep this book close at hand as it is a great reference as well. From sheep to shawl, the book explains all of the steps. I love this book.

I LOVED reading this book! I too have a Yarn farm and was delighted at the tails from the shepherd! Barbara truly is an entertaining writer who has a pleasant use of words. I couldn't put it down, reading from cover to cover as if I was feasting on the most scrumptious dessert! I'm now searching for another real life farm(her) book that will entertain my senses!

I have not read this entire book yet, but I have to say that I have really, really enjoyed what I have read. I am a spinner, knitter and sometimes weaver and my husband and I raise llamas. I can appreciate her love of the animals and fiber and only wish that I had the opportunity to be a full time farmer and live even a small part of her joy in the life she has. My hat is off to Ms. Parry, her joy, her hard work and this wonderful book she has produced.

I wanted info on raising sheep for the wool and found this book. The reviews were the reason I bought it. If you are looking for specific info on different breeds of sheep there are other books for that. This is just the experience of this woman. Very interesting read. If you are thinking of or just want to know more about raising sheep this is a great book. There is also great info on things you wouldn't think of. She uses little coverings on the sheep after sheering to keep the wool clean as it grows in. Which makes perfect sense but not necessarily something you would think about when deciding on whether to go into this life. It's definitely not a lifestyle you go into without thinking about all that goes into it. Lambing is a no rest period so if you don't like not sleeping don't do this.

Farming in any capacity is not an easy life, but it seems to be a rewarding one. I also looked at this type of sheep raising because I would definitely name the sheep and it would be too traumatic to name something that was going to be on someones plate. Now I do like lamb to eat I just can't know it personally.I don't know if I'd ever get into raising sheep either on this scale or a smaller one, but if I do at least I have a pretty good idea of what I'd be getting into.I'd definitely recommend this book to anyone thinking of raising any livestock. The animals may be different, but the basics would be the same. It's not an easy lifestyle and definitely not for anyone who can't commit, it's not a 5 day a week job.

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