

FACT OR FICTION? WERE REAL SHEEP DROPPINGS EVER EATEN BY HUMANS?

The Isle of Sheppey is famous for its sheep.

Sheppey is derived from the ancient Saxon "sceapig", meaning isle of sheep.

Recently, an obscure legend has emerged, and startling new unproven evidence has been found that people once may have bred sheep, not for their wool and meat.... but for their droppings!

A local historian told us that he heard an old man drone on and on about this at his local pub. Apparently during the old man's drunken murmurings he was thought to have said that "*many people, especially the aristocracy, used to eat sheep droppings as a delicacy in the olden days*".

An eminent professor in agricultural science, outstanding in his field, also told us that he had heard the same tale. This also adds some degree of credibility to this interesting subject.

The following pictures and information are based on the drunken man's strange story. A story that was to inspire a local company to replicate sheep droppings using high-quality chocolate coated raisins.





The Isle of Sheppey has lots of sheep and apparently, many years ago, the main reason for breeding them was not for their wool or meat, but for the small brown spheroid droppings that would fall from the backend of these amazing creatures. Millions of these would decorate the moist grasslands of Sheppey.



In olden days groups of people could be seen collecting thousands of sheep droppings in the early evening...backbreaking work!



Mechanical methods were introduced to speed up the picking process.



A specialised 'Dropping Riddle' was used to sieve out the larger droppings. This expensive piece of equipment is similar in size, colour & construction to a standard plastic garden riddle found in Aldi.



"The bigger the dropping, the bigger the taste!"
This was believed to be a popular saying in days-gone-by.



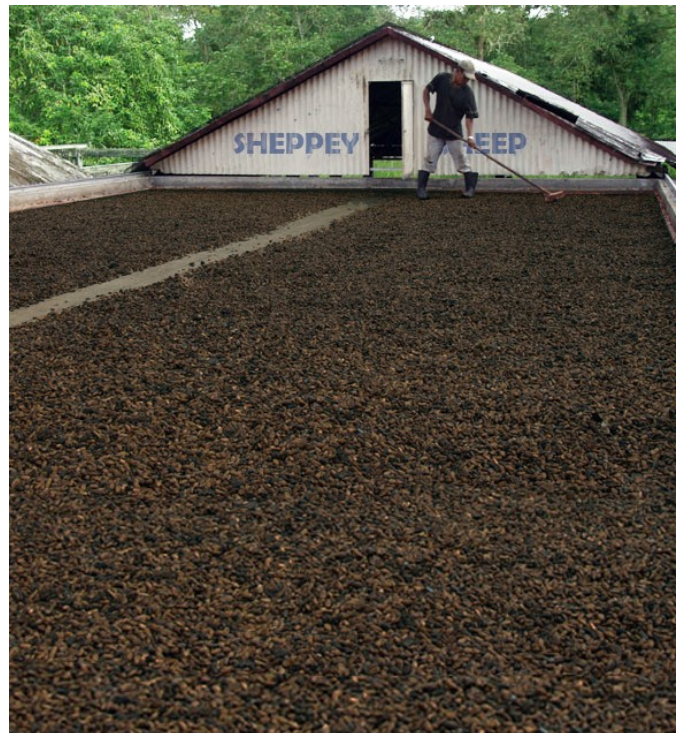
Sheep droppings were collected and air dried as soon as a sunny day occurred on Sheppey.



The droppings were frequently 'turned' using a cheap old wooden rake.



The droppings were then expertly washed by highly trained and diligent workers. The workers were known as '*Wiffy Washers*'.



The droppings were then spread for air drying using a rather more expensive rake, presumably for health and hygiene purposes.



When dry, the droppings were then put in sacks by trained '*Poo Packers*' ready for distribution to the waiting public.



According to the man in the pub, sheep droppings were sent all over the world. However, we do not know how many people ate them ...or if anyone ever ate them at all!

THIS STORY IS PURELY A FICTIONAL TALE

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