



The Messenger

OSMA and the Industry

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with any questions.

Out and About: May Recap

Wonder what OSMA gets up to in a month? Here are the highlights of where we were representing you!

- May 2 – ON Ag Sustainability Coalition Leaders meeting
- May 6 – GenOvis Steering Committee meeting
- May 9 – OSMA & BFO Risk Assessment Project meeting
- May 13 – ON Livestock and Poultry Council board meeting
- May 16 – Meeting with Minister Leal
- May 17 – Foodland ON marketing meeting
- May 17 – AgriRisk funding meeting

Board Notes: April Board Meeting

Mike McMorris was invited into the meeting to walk the Board through the first of three sessions to review the Strategic Plan. The Board talked about what they viewed the purpose of the organization which included providing producers favourable conditions to produce sheep/wool, stable pricing, advocacy, promotion, producer education and policy development.

The top issues that they believed were facing the industry today include: price instability; death loss (animal health issues and lack of access to medications); traceability; predators; processing capacity; producer retention; advocacy and communication to producers.

In terms of issues that the industry will be facing three years from now, the Board identified: trade; environmental regulations; animal activism; financial stability; supply; traceability; political profile; processing capacity and animal health issues.

At the last Board meeting, OSMA agreed to work with the Ontario Association of Food Banks (OAFB) and get information on how to donate lamb onto OSMA's website. This has been done and at this Board meeting, the Board decided to take their support of the OAFB's one step further and provide \$1,500 for them to be able to purchase lamb.

This year, 100% of producer need will be met with the RMP. Given this, there will not be a payout from the Farmer's Risk Management Premium Fund.

The Board was updated on the Governance Training session that two board members attended. Resolution protocol at the AGM was also reviewed which included the resolution process at the AGM. **Resolutions will now be required to come to the office 30 days prior to the AGM.** Staff will be able to connect with the mover and seconder of the resolution to discuss resolutions in instances when clarity is required.

A Social Media policy was written after an inquiry from a District that was putting together a social media page. This policy was accepted by the Board and will be made available to the Districts.

Politically the **Lake Erie phosphorus (P) issue** has picked up a lot of traction. This is an issue that is very important to the Minister and the Premier. The initial focus is on the Western Basin of Lake Erie and currently a domestic action plan is being developed that is supported by the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and the Canada Ontario Agreement. The Premier has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Ohio and Michigan which sets a goal of a 40% reduction in P. It is important to note that the domestic action plan will not set a different target than what is in the MOU with Ohio and Michigan. And this plan needs to be in place in 2 years.

While it is understood that there are multiple contributing factors to the increased levels of P in Lake Erie, the reality is that a new target has been set and agriculture land use makes up about 70% of the Lake Erie watershed in Ontario.

One of the key pressure points is the land application of manure or fertilizer P on frozen and snow covered ground. The action calls for effectively managing or restricting manure, fertilizer and biosolids applications under the following conditions: on frozen or snow-covered ground, on saturated soil, or when the weather forecast calls for a severe rain event.

From a policy perspective the industry could be looking at a province-wide ban from applying manure or fertilizer P on frozen and snow covered ground, or policies that target priority Lake Erie tributaries.

Historically livestock agriculture has taken the position that all programs and regulations need to treat all producers in the province fairly. However, the government is shifting towards regionalization in terms of program funding and standards.

While the OSMA Board continues to support having equal standards for all producers province-wide, it does recognize that when resources are limited there may be the need for targeted support for priority areas. To encourage producer engagement there also needs to be substantial cost share from the province and reasonable implementation timelines.

Alan Ker joined the Board meeting to walk through the **price predictability model**. The model has been updated to predict prices for both 65-79 lb weight range and the 95-109 lb weight range. There was a discussion on what impacts sheep prices, including religious holidays. The board suggested that producers be asked to provide:

- Lambs born/purchased be recorded
- Lambs on inventory
- Predicted market weight

Producers are being encouraged to get in and use the model as much as possible and provide the inventory information being requested in order to strengthen the model.

GF2 Webinars – How to complete an application

Participate in an information webinar to learn about the Growing Forward 2 Funding Assistance for Producers Program. Growing Forward 2 (GF2) is a five-year federal-provincial-territorial initiative designed to encourage innovation, competitiveness and market development in Canada's agri-food and agri-products sector through cost share funding opportunities. These webinars will provide an opportunity to learn about completing an online application using the GF2 Client Portal. Whether you wish to apply online or in person, these sessions will help provide guidance to ensure your application is complete.

To participate in a webinar, you need an internet connection as well as a telephone line. You must register for webinars as there are a limited number of participants per session.

- June 20th, 7:30 pm ENGLISH Workshop Leader - Robin Brown
- June 21st, 7:00 pm FRENCH Workshop Leader - Michel Champagne
- June 22nd, 12:00pm ENGLISH Workshop Leader - Robin Brown

Visit <http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/growing-forward-2/> to register. If you have any questions, please contact gf2@ontariosoilcrop.org or call 1.800.265.9751.

Antimicrobial Use Survey

As of January 2017 there will be federal requirements for enhanced veterinary oversight of the use of antimicrobials in feed and water along with greater documentation of both the use of antimicrobials and animal disease surveillance. These requirements are part of Health Canada’s initiative to align with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Veterinary Feed Directive which comes into effect as of January 1, 2017.

OSMA is wondering if you’d be willing to take a few moments to let us know what type of recording and tracking of antimicrobials is currently being done.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYHXX37>

OSMA Exclusive Offers at TSC Stores in May



20% OFF Behlen COUNTRY TUFF STUFF PRODUCTS

ALL STOCK TANKS, BUCKETS, PAILS, & POULTRY FEEDERS ONLY AT TSC STORES!*

Incredible News!
 Save 20% off all regular priced stock tanks, buckets, pails & poultry feeders as your OSMA Member Exclusive May Offer!
 To enjoy this special offer, simply show your card at the register when you visit TSC Stores before May 31, 2016.
*Offer applies to select in stock, regular priced items only. Excludes sale priced items, clearance priced items, hot buys, & gift cards. Offer not applicable to wholesale purchases. If a product is featured at a lower price in store, the lower price will apply. Card cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. Card is not redeemable for cash and has no cash value. Customer must show their OSMA Member Bonus Card to receive offer.

REMEMBER TO USE YOUR EXCLUSIVE OSMA MEMBER BONUS CARD AT TSC STORES EVERYDAY!

10% OFF | SELECT REGULAR PRICED ITEMS AT TSC STORES* WHEN YOU SHOW YOUR OSMA MEMBER BONUS CARD!



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Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd. receives approval for Metacam® 20* in sheep

Boehringer Ingelheim's Metacam® 20 has obtained approval in Canada for use in the alleviation of pain and inflammation in sheep. This is the first approval for Metacam® 20 in sheep worldwide.

The marketing authorization was granted based on Colditz et al. Efficacy of Meloxicam in Sheep: Determining the effective dose of meloxicam in a sterile model of inflammation in sheep (2011, unpublished). In sheep, Metacam® 20 (meloxicam) is given as a single subcutaneous injection of 1.0mL/20kg bodyweight.

The approval comes following a joint submission from Boehringer Ingelheim in Canada, Australia and New Zealand that saw regulatory agencies from each country participate in a collaborative review process. The regulatory agencies for each country maintained the right to determine whether a product was approved for its own market. The joint submission and simultaneous review mark an important achievement in international regulatory cooperation. Metacam® is non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug of the oxicam class. Following the joint submission and review process, it is now licensed for use in sheep in three countries. Metacam® 20 for use in sheep is a new indication for Boehringer Ingelheim's cattle product and demonstrates the company's commitment to animal welfare across a range of species.

Benefit more with the 2016 Species at Risk Farm Incentive Program

The Species at Risk Farm Incentive Program is back for 2016. The Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA), with support from Environment Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, is pleased to support producers who are enhancing farm habitat for species at risk across the province. With streamlined funding levels and new bundled application forms—and up to \$20,000 available per farm business—it's easy to benefit more with SARFIP.

“SARFIP is great for producers who are looking to make improvements on their farms while also supporting farm habitat for species at risk,” said Gord Green, President of OSCIA. “Through offering cost-share funding for these types of projects, both farmers and species at risk benefit from the same on-farm activities.”

Farm businesses in Ontario can access cost-share dollars for on-farm projects that implement a variety of Best Management Practices. With a diversity of project opportunities, eligible BMPs encompass activities around croplands, grasslands, shorelines, stream banks, wetlands and woodlands. Many opportunities are available to support critical habitat through SARFIP, including cross fencing for rotational grazing, watering systems for livestock, native tree planting, improved stream crossings, native grassland plantings, invasive species removal and erosion control structures, among others.

SARFIP 2016 is open to all agricultural landowners in the province. Projects that provide indirect benefits to species at risk are eligible for 50% cost-share, and projects that directly benefit species at risk are eligible for 65%. An additional bonus of 10% cost-share is available for direct benefit projects if the producer is interested in enrolling in SAR-Watch, a monitoring program that measures the impact of SARFIP projects on the ground for species at risk.

“Farmers have a unique opportunity to support species at risk alongside their farming practices,” expressed Christine Schmalz, Environmental Programs Manager at OSCIA. “Farmers are on the ground working hard to implement projects that improve on-farm habitat for species at risk; we’re working hard to improve access to the program.”

To find out if SARFIP is a good fit with your farm, consult the program brochure for complete and detailed program information. All program materials, including the brochure and application forms can be found on the OSCIA website. To be eligible to participate in SARFIP, Ontario farm businesses must have a completed 3rd or 4th Edition Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) workbook and Action Plan that has been verified and completed within the last five years.

Applications are now being accepted, and funding will be allocated to projects in the order in which they are received until fully allocated. Funding for this program is limited; if you have a project idea that fits, get your application submitted as soon as possible. Projects initiated on or after April 1, 2016 may be eligible.

For more information on eligibility criteria, the application process, and program deadlines, or to sign up to an upcoming EFP workshop in your area, visit the SARFIP page on the OSCIA website at www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/sarfip/ or contact OSCIA directly at 519-826-3035 or SARFIP@ontariosoilcrop.org.

Upcoming Events

For more information on any upcoming events please visit the OSMA website at: www.ontariosheep.org/Events.aspx or contact the OSMA Office at 519-836-0043.

May 26 – **OSMA Board Meeting**

June 2 – **District 2 Farm Tour:** more details to come!

Other Organizations and Reference Information

Victoria County Sheep Producers

Third Wednesday every month starting at 7:30 Oakwood Elevators (Taylor Road, Oakwood)
Membership is \$20 per farm per year. Contact: Peter Craig at pdcraig@outlook.com

Western Ontario Lamb Producers

District 2 and 3 area

For more information email westernontariolambproducers@gmail.com

Southwestern Ontario Sheep Farmers

Meetings 4th Thursday of the month: January to April
Coldstream Community Centre; 10227 Ilderton Road, 519-666-2423
Chair – Wendy McGowan, 519- 657-5197,
Secretary – Geraldine Pennings, 519-764-2455

DISTRICT	CONTACT	INFORMATION
Dist 1	Dave DeKay at 519-666-0626 or dmdekay@isp.ca	http://osma_district_1.tripod.com/
Dist 2	Matt Zehr at 519-363-2029 zehr.matt@gmail.com	
Dist 3	Sandi Brock at 519-263-2325 brocksandi@hotmail.com	
Dist 4	Jay Mycroft at jay.mycroft@xplornet.com or 905-957-1114	District 4 Meeting District 4 meetings tentatively to be held the 3 rd Wed. of the month at 7:30 at the Ancaster Fairgrounds (630 Trinity Road, Ancaster).
Dist 5	Dianne Orr at 519-928-5302 or orr7@sympatico.ca	Check out the District 5 Facebook Page!
Dist 6	Karen Harvey at 905-729-3196 or pkharvey@zing-net.ca	
Dist 7	Judy Dening at 705-324-3453 or theshepherdsgate@xplornet.com	
Dist 8	Michelle Voskamp at 613-848-8972 or secretary@osmadistrict8.ca	Our monthly meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of every month at 7 pm at Napanee High School, Napanee. For more information visit: www.osmadistrict8.ca/
Dist 9	Tyler Armstrong at 613-433-8255 or pinnaclehaven@gmail.com	
Dist 10	Christine Power at 613-686-1892 or christine.power@ic.gc.ca	Check out our Facebook website page: https://www.facebook.com/OSMAD10
Dist 11	Debra Garner at 705-563-2761 or bill.debgarner@gmail.com	