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OMAFRA Sheep Seminar and OSMA AGM

The OMAFRA Sheep Seminar and OSMA AGM will be held on October 29 and 30th, 2015, respectively. The venue and location have changed. This year the event will be held at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, Ontario. The format of the AGM will remain the same; OSMA will be partnering with OMAFRA once again.

OMAFRA Sheep Seminar: Thursday, October 29

Lamb Banquet: Thursday, October 29 in the evening

OSMA AGM: Friday, October 30

More information will be available on the OSMA website in the coming months.

Performance Testing Webinars

Delma Kennedy, OMAFRA will be running two webinars focusing on Performance Testing.

Performance Testing Webinar “EPD Basics”

Tuesday March 24, 2015 - 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Performance Testing Webinar “How to Use Performance Test Results”

Thursday April 9, 2015 – 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Contact delma.kennedy@ontario.ca for details on how to join the webinars.

New Canadians Prefer Taste, Quality of Ontario Meats

Study results show market opportunities for Ontario farmers

An extensive new study shows that new Canadians prefer the taste and quality of Ontario meat over imported product.

The study looked at the eating patterns, shopping habits, and taste preferences of new Canadians of African, Middle Eastern, South Asian, Southeast Asian, Caribbean, and European descent as they relate to the consumption of veal, goat, lamb and mutton, and rabbit.

The research was commissioned by the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency and the Ontario Livestock Alliance, which included current members Ontario Veal and Ontario Goat, and past member Ontario Rabbit.

“Although there are many differences between the various ethnic backgrounds, the one thing everyone shares in common is a preference for the taste and quality of Ontario-produced meats over those that are

imported,” says Dennis Fischer, Chair of Ontario Sheep. “This means there is a definite opportunity for market expansion for Ontario farmers.”

Study results show similarities in meat preferences related to freshness, quality and price, as well as differences in demand patterns, such as specific holidays, and whether they like to buy their meat from a butcher shop or a supermarket chain. Data indicated that religion, cultural preferences, education levels, household income, and family size also influence eating and shopping choices of new Canadians.

Veal was found to be the most commonly consumed meat by new Canadians, followed by goat, and lamb and mutton. Rabbit was the least consumed, due at least in part to lack of availability and visibility. By the year 2031, the population of new Canadians in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) is expected to grow to more than 4.2 million people. This will result in increased demand for Ontario-raised meat and more than half of veal, lamb, goat and rabbit consumption will come from South Asian, South East Asian and Middle Eastern immigrants.

“The changing demographics of the GTA mean that we will have a growing number of potential customers for our products beyond our traditional consumers,” says Judy Dirksen, President of Ontario Veal. “This provides opportunities to develop new marketing relationships with processors and retailers who service the ethnic markets.”

Recommendations from the study encourage producer associations to work with their members to grow their understanding of the demographics and preferences of the different ethnic markets, and to encourage more and better linkages between farmers and processors. The research shows that although farmers are interested in new market opportunities, they’re not sure how to take advantage of them, and feel that better communication is needed throughout the entire value chain.

“There’s a real need for better collaboration between the partners in the value chain so that we can better serve the needs of new Canadians,” says Anton Slingerland, President of Ontario Goat. “The research shows us there is potential for everyone – farmers, processors, and retailers – to grow their business by making more Ontario meats available to serve demand from ethnic markets.”

The study was carried out in the GTA, which is home to seven out of 10 Ontario immigrants, and included 700 consumer surveys, 42 focus group participants, and interviews with value chain participants such as farmers, retailers, and processors.

All three organizations will be reviewing the study results and recommendations carefully as they plan future marketing initiatives. This project was funded in part by Growing Forward 2 (GF2), a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. The Agricultural Adaptation Council assists with GF2 delivery in Ontario.

Backgrounder about the study:

- Six ethnic groupings were established for the purposes of the study:
 - African (Eritrea, Algeria, Morocco, Nigeria, Somalia, Ethiopia, and Cameroon)
 - Middle Eastern (Iran, Syria, Egypt, Turkey, Armenia, and Afghanistan)
 - South Asian (Bangladeshi, Bengali, East Indian, Guan, Gujarati, Ismailia, Kashmiri, Nepali, Pakistani, Punjabi, Sinhalese, and Sri Lankan)

- Southeast Asian (China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, and the Philippines)
- Caribbean (Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Dominican Republic, and Haiti)
- European (Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales, Russia, Ukraine, France, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Greece, Poland, and Switzerland)
- The study was conducted by Integrity Intellectual Property Inc. of Lethbridge, AB.

About Ontario lamb, veal, and goat:

- Lamb purchases in Ontario account for 57 per cent of total Canadian fresh lamb volume and 53 percent of frozen lamb volume. However, only 16 per cent of households in the province buy lamb during the year.
- In 2010, Canada produced approximately 310,000 grain and milk-fed veal calves. Farm gate value was estimated to have exceeded \$225 million. Approximately 70 per cent of Canadian veal is produced in Quebec, which has approximately 400 veal farmers. Ontario reports approximately 300 producers.
- Canada imports about 60 per cent of its national goat meat consumption, with the majority coming from Australia and New Zealand. Ontario's meat goat herd is growing, with more than 43,000 head being processed in 2014, compared to less than 30,000 in 2008.



Ontario

Canada

Ontario Animal Health Network (OAHN) – Small Ruminant Network

The Ontario Animal Health Network is a program focusing on early disease detection so as to identify trends in animal health issues. Information was obtained from a quarterly survey of practicing veterinarians and laboratory data from the Animal Health Laboratory. It is the intent of this program to improve the health of small ruminants in Ontario.

TOP 3 DISEASES / ISSUES OF CONCERN* (Q4 2014) *RESULTS SIMILAR FOR SHEEP AND GOATS

Young stock (<1 year old):

- pneumonia
- coccidiosis
- cryptosporidiosis

Adult stock (>1 year old):

- abortion
- caseous lymphadenitis
- listeriosis

SMALL RUMINANT INFECTIOUS ABORTIONS

Abortions in small ruminants can be due to either infectious or non-infectious causes. Results from a 2013 Ontario study most common causes of infectious abortion are listed below.

Sheep (in descending order):

- Toxoplasma gondii
- Campylobacter fetus or jejuni

- Chlamydia abortus
- Coxiella burnetii.

Goats (in descending order):

- Chlamydia abortus
- Toxoplasma gondii
- Coxiella burnetii

These agents not only cause abortion but also cause early embryonic death (females are open), mummified fetuses, stillbirths, and weak lambs/kids that rarely survive the first week of life. Sources of infection include: aborted fetuses, placenta, uterine fluids, vaginal secretions at estrus, milk, urine and manure. Rams/bucks may be temporarily infected depending on the organism and may transmit the infection between flocks/herds. Immunity following an abortion can be lifelong, partial (years) or immunity may not be complete, resulting in carrier females that appear normal but continue to shed organisms. The acceptable abortion level in a flock/herd is less than 5%, with the target in unaffected flocks/herds being less than 2%. There is concern if rates are greater than 5%, abortions are clustered, or if flocks/herds experience abortion rates of 2-5% every year.

Since many infectious abortion agents are zoonotic (can be transmitted from animals to people), care should be taken when assisting lambings/kiddings and handling aborted fetuses and placentas. Pregnant women, individuals with a compromised immune system, the very young or very old should not assist with lambings/kiddings and should avoid contact with sheep/goats during the lambing/kidding season.

Management of the immediate problem

Initially, consider all abortions as infectious and zoonotic. Aborting animals shed organisms, contaminating their environment and may continue to shed for weeks. Move pregnant females to a clean area and isolate aborted animals until discharges cease. Dispose of abortive materials (burial, compost) and remember to follow strict personal hygiene to lower chances of becoming ill. Decrease the stocking density of pregnant ewes/does if possible and keep pens well-bedded. Contact your veterinarian for further control measures.

Investigation of the cause of abortion

Contact your veterinarian to start the investigation process. If abortions have occurred in multiple years, do not assume the cause of abortion will be the same each year. It is important to submit both fetus AND placenta to a diagnostic lab. Do not freeze samples. The diagnostic rate is high, approaching 80%, provided placenta is submitted with the fetus/fetuses.

Control of abortion in the future

For more information about controlling abortions, contact your veterinarian. Depending on the cause, vaccination may be an option. Develop, follow or enhance flock/herd biosecurity plans. Sheep and goat producers are encouraged to review their National Biosecurity Standards and Producer Planning Guides at <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrialanimals/biosecurity/standards-and-principles/eng/1344707905203/1344707981478>

If you are concerned about your health, or the health of family members, please contact your family doctor.

Predation: Module Nine of the Master Shepherd's Course

Wednesday, April 1st, and Thursday, April 2nd, 2015
Travelodge Hotel LaSalle, Kingston, Ontario

A two-day predation module, part nine of the Master Shepherd's Course, will be taking place on Wednesday, April 1st and Thursday, April 2nd, 2015 at the Travelodge Hotel LaSalle, Kingston, Ontario. Lamb producers who wish to improve their predation prevention management will want to attend.

The objective of the module is to motivate and support producer learning and adoption of best management practices. The information and skills acquired through the module will help producers assess their own farm operation and determine its strengths, weaknesses and areas where improvement is possible. This program will be geared toward shepherds who are looking at lamb production as a financially sustainable farm business enterprise.

The curriculum has been developed to foster the cooperative work ethic of the participants and to demonstrate the beneficial sharing of agriculture management practices and innovations.

We have confirmed Anita O'Brien, Sheep Producer; Hugh Fraser, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs; Brent Patterson, Ministry of Natural Resources; Brian VanderKleyn, City of Kawartha Lakes; and Katie Nixon, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs as the speakers for this event. The following topics will be covered:

- Deadstock Disposal Options and Costs
- Management of Various Types of Guardian Animals
- Hunting and Trapping Regulations
- Predator Deterrents
- Predator Proof Fencing
- Livestock Compensation Program

The students will learn the key elements required to keep their flocks secure and how to prevent predation problems. Students will be encouraged to discuss predation issues with experienced shepherds and guest speakers. Farm tours are planned to two sheep farms on Amherst Island.

The registration cost for this module is \$250 per person for two days of instruction. A late registration fee of \$350 applies after the registration deadline of March 19th, 2015. Send your request for individual module registration to mastershepherdscurso@outlook.com. Don't miss this opportunity to take your farm business to the next level. Please make cheques payable to Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency, and mail them to 130 Malcolm Road Guelph, Ontario, N1K 1B1.

The overall goal of the Master Shepherd's Course project is to support growth of the Ontario sheep industry and to assist Ontario producers in running financially sustainable farming operations which can be competitive with imports. The full course is generously supported by the Canadian Cooperative Woolgrowers and Shepherd's Choice Breeding Stock. Individual modules are supported by Brodie Ag and Industrial Inc., Grober Nutrition, Bayer Health Care and Merial Canada Inc.



Investment in this project provided in part by *Growing Forward 2 (GF2)*, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. The Agricultural Adaptation Council assists in the delivery of *GF2* in Ontario.

Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Helping Ontario Farmers Keep the Great Lakes Healthy

The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing \$4 million annually over the next four years to help farmers improve soil health and promote environmental stewardship.

The Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative, targeted to the Lake Erie basin and the southeast shores of Lake Huron, will provide cost-share funding to:

- Identify ways producers can improve soil health, reduce run-off, and improve pollinator habitat
- Modify equipment to address risks related to manure application and pollinator health
- Adopt best management practices, including soil erosion control structures, cover crops, residue management, buffer and shelter strips

The program will also support demonstration farms and technical training for service providers, and education including local workshops.

The Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative is part of Growing Forward 2 (GF2), a comprehensive federal-provincial-territorial framework aimed at encouraging innovation, competitiveness and market development in Canada's agri-food and agri-products sector.

Supporting our agricultural industry is part of the government's economic plan for Ontario. The four part plan is building Ontario up by investing in people's talents and skills, building new public infrastructure like roads and transit, creating a dynamic, supportive environment where business thrives, and building a secure savings plan so everyone can afford to retire.

Soil Science Society of America Wants You to Know that "Soils Support Agriculture"

Soil is the ultimate source of the nutrients our bodies need

Feb. 23, 2015—In celebration of the International Year of Soil 2015 (IYS), the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) is coordinating a series of activities throughout to educate the public about the importance of soil. March's theme is "Soils Support Agriculture."

Here are a few facts about soils and agriculture:

1. Soils support agriculture by serving as the foundation of where we grow our food.
2. Virtually everything in our diets either directly or indirectly came from the soil.
3. The nutritious calcium found in broccoli is not only good for humans, but it was necessary for the broccoli plant to grow, too. Plants use calcium to help with cell division, and for getting other nutrients from the soil.
4. Some plants, like alfalfa, not only grow in the soil, but add nutrients back to the soil.

As part of their celebration of IYS, SSSA is developing a series of twelve 2-minute educational videos. March's Soils Support Agriculture video can be viewed at www.soils.org/iys/monthly-videos. The American Society of Agronomy co-sponsored the video. Educational materials can be viewed at www.soils.org/iys by clicking on the March tab.

Follow SSSA on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SSSA.soils>, Twitter at SSSA_Soils. SSSA also has a blog, Soils Matter, at <http://soilsmatter.wordpress.com/>. Additional soils information is on www.soils.org/discover-soils, for teachers at www.soils4teachers.org, and for students through 12th grade, www.soils4kids.org.

The Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) is a progressive international scientific society that fosters the transfer of knowledge and practices to sustain global soils. Based in Madison, WI, and founded in 1936, SSSA is the professional home for 6,000+ members and 1,000+ certified professionals dedicated to advancing the field of soil science. The Society provides information about soils in relation to crop production, environmental quality, ecosystem sustainability, bioremediation, waste management, recycling, and wise land use.

New "Cashcropper" App for Crop Rotations

Source: Mike Cowbrough, Weed Specialist, OMAFRA, February OMAFRA Connects

Crop prices are certainly more sluggish now than they have been over the past two seasons. Some farmers question whether they should tweak their cropping rotation in the short term or stay the course. Now there is a smartphone app, called "cashcropper" that will help you to evaluate:

1. The monetary value that different crop rotations bring to your operation.
2. How much phosphorus and potassium is being removed from the soil by each crop in a rotation
3. How much nitrogen is required to reach anticipated grain yield in each crop.

The Cashcropper app allows Ontario grain growers to compare the net profitability and fertility requirements for different crop rotations within a given field. This app is powered by over 30 years of rotational yield response data from the University of Guelph. It takes into account the user's location, soil type and tillage practices for corn, soybeans and wheat. The real costs of "yield driven" nutrient removal for each crop is included in the calculation. The app is pre-loaded with default OMAFRA yield values by county and township as well as input costs. Users can input their own data to assess real and hypothetical rotation decisions. Download the app at: www.cashcropper.ca

North Wellington Co-op Sheep Day: Saturday, March 14, 2015



Sheep Day
Saturday March 14, 2015

You are invited to join North Wellington Co-op's Animal Nutrition staff along side representatives from Masterfeeds for our 2015 Sheep Day.

Topics and speakers for the day will include:

- 8:30 AM:** Registration, Networking, Trade Show, Coffee and Donuts
- 9:00 AM:** Back to Basics: What you do, or don't do, will impact flock health - *Dr. Jocelyn Jansen, DVM, OMAFRA*
- 9:45 AM:** Feeding the Ewe Flock for Productivity and Profit - *Ken DeBoer, Small Ruminant Specialist, Masterfeeds*
- 10:15 AM:** Financing Programs for Sheep Producers - *Don LeDrew, Agricultural Credit Corporation*
- 10:30 AM:** Break and Trade Show
- 10:45 AM:** Production decisions for a large commercial flock - *John Steele, Sheep Producer*
- 11:30 AM:** Sheep Industry update - *Jen MacTavish, General Manager, OSMA*
- 12:00 PM:** Lunch
- 1:00 PM:** Alternative Strategies for Delivering Balanced Rations - *Ken DeBoer, Small Ruminant Specialist, Masterfeeds*
- 1:30 PM:** Replacement Ewes: Buy or Raise them? - *Delma Kennedy, Sheep Specialist, OMAFRA*
- 2:15 PM:** Dollars and Sense with Sheep - *John Steele, Sheep Producer*
- 3:00 PM:** Adjourn

Mount Forest and District Sports Complex
850 Princess Street, Mount Forest ON N0G 2L3

Please RSVP by March 10th to
North Wellington Co-op in Mount Forest:
by phone at 519-323-1271
by email at mountforest@northwellington.ca



PROUD DEALER OF:



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.

Have Something to Add?

Contact Jillian Craig at
jcraig@ontariosheep.org

Additions are due the
20th of the month.

- Mar 10-12 Ottawa Valley Farm Show. Location: Location: EY Centre, 4899 Uplands Drive, Ottawa, ON. Admission: \$10, kids under 12 free when accompanied by an adult.
- Mar 11 OSCIA Webinar: Pre and Post-Harvest Water. 7:00 pm, Eastern Standard Time (New York). Register at: http://registration.wildapricot.org/food_safety or contact 519-826-4707.
- Mar 12 District 8 Meeting. 7 pm at Napanee District Secondary School Room A1. Guest Speaker: Jack Kyle From more information contact Michelle Voskamp at secretary@osmadistrict8.ca or Al Whitlam at 613- 659-3987
- Mar 12 District 11 Sheep Information Session. 7 pm to 9 pm at Caldwell Township Building, Verner. There is no charge for this event. To register please contact: 1-877-424-1300 or email: ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca
- Mar 14 North Wellington Co-op Sheep Day. 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Mount Forest and District Sports Complex, 850 Princess Street, Mount Forest. Please RSVP by March 10th to North Wellington Co-op in Mount Forest: by phone at 519-323-1271 or by email at mountforest@northwellington.ca
- Mar 14 District 7 Car Tour. Start at 10 am. 1st farm: Traynor Farms, 2193 Country Road #2 Otonabee. Any questions please contact Kevin Hutchings 905-955-2388. An alternative date of March 21st 2015 in the event of bad weather.
- Mar 17 Profitable Pastures Conference. Elmwood Community Centre, Elmwood. To register please call: 1-877-892-8663. Tickets \$40 which includes a hot lunch. Pre-registration required by March 13.
- Mar 18 District 4 Meeting. 7:30 pm at Ancaster Fairgrounds, 630 Trinity Rd. Guest Speaker: Keith Reid.
- Mar 21 District 5 Car tour – “Investing in the Sheep Industry”. Start at 11 am. Refreshments and snacks provided at the three farms. For biosecurity reasons please wear clean clothes ... plastic booties will be provided. 11am – First Farm - Mark E. & Rosenna Martin, 7015 Sdrd. 18 (off 8th Line East of County Rd. 12) RR#2 Drayton. For more information contact Romy at 519-669-4146 or email circle.r.livestock@hotmail.com
- Mar 21 CSBA AGM. 10 am at Best Western Stoneridge Inn & Conference Centre, London, ON. For further information, please contact Stacey White at the CSBA at 1-866-956-1116.
- Mar 24 Performance Testing Webinar: “EPD Basics”. Time: 12:30pm –1:30pm. Contact delma.kennedy@ontario.ca for details on how to join the webinar.
- Mar 25 OSCIA Webinar: Recall and Traceability. 7:00 pm, Eastern Standard Time (New York). Register at: http://registration.wildapricot.org/food_safety or contact 519-826-4707.

- Mar 26 Western Ontario Lamb Producers Meeting. Speaker, Bethanee Jensen, presenting on Flock Size regarding Financing. Meeting to start at 7:30pm, followed by refreshments. For more information email westernontariolambproducers@gmail.com
- Apr 1 & 2 Master Shepherd Course: Module 9 – Predation. Location: Kingston, ON. Deadline to register March 19. Email: mastershepherdscourse@outlook.com or call 519-836-0043.
- April 9 Performance Testing Webinar “How to Use Performance Test Results”. Time: 12:30pm – 1:30pm Contact delma.kennedy@ontario.ca for details on how to join the webinar.
- April 11 District 8 Farm Tours. District 8 hits the road for a day of farm tours. We will be visiting the farms of Doug Savage and Colleen Acres. For more details and directions contact Michelle Voskamp at secretary@osmadistrict8.ca or Al Whitlam at 613- 659-3987
- May 7 District 2 Meeting. Location: Grey Ag Services, Markdale. Contact Kyle Harrison at 519-334-3928 for more information.
- June 25-27 All Canada Sheep Classic 2015. Winnipeg, Manitoba. Visit www.sheepbreeders.ca for more information.
- July 8 & 9 Master Shepherd Course Module 10. Lamb Feedlots and Dairy. Red Pine Inn in Alliston, ON. Deadline to register June 24. Email: mastershepherdscourse@outlook.com or call 519-836-0043.
- Aug 12 & 13 Master Shepherd Course Module 11: Marketing. Carleton Place location to be announced. Deadline to register July 29. Email: mastershepherdscourse@outlook.com or call 519-836-0043.
- Sept 17 District 2 Annual Meeting. 7:30 pm at Sprucedale Agromart. For more information contact Kyle Harrison at 519-334-3928.
- Sept 29–Oct 1 Shearing School for Beginners. For more information contact Peter Kudelka at 519-348-4266 or cell 519-274-2050 or email peter_kudelka@sympatico.ca
- Oct 29 & 30 OMAFRA Sheep Seminar & OSMA AGM. Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, Ontario.

District Information

Note: For further information and details about your District please contact your District Secretary

DISTRICT	CONTACT	INFORMATION
Dist 1	Marlene Raymond at (519) 683-6635 or triplerfarms@kent.net	<p>District 1 “Breakfast Connections” We are hosting a series of monthly “Breakfast Connections” around the District.</p> <p>These breakfast gatherings hope to connect producers and industry players for discussion and fellowship in an informal setting. For more information, please contact Dave DeKay at 519 666 0626. http://osma_district_1.tripod.com/</p>
Dist 2	Kyle Harrison at 519-334-3928 or kyleharrison22@hotmail.com	<p>Next Meetings: April 2, 2015 at 7:30 pm. Location to be announced.</p> <p>May 7, 2015 at 7:30 pm. Location: Grey Ag Services, Markdale.</p> <p>For more information contact Kyle Harrison at 519-334-3928.</p>
Dist 3	John Rock at 519-621-5776	
Dist 4	Jay Mycroft at jay.mycroft@explornet.com or 905-957-1114	<p>Wednesday, March 18, 2015 Time: 7:30 pm Location: Ancaster Fairgrounds, 630 Trinity Rd Keith Reid from Agriculture Canada is an expert in soil and crop management and will be our guest speaker. Contact Jay Mycroft for more information.</p> <p>District 4 meetings tentatively to be held the 3rd Wed. of the month at 7:30 at the Ancaster Fairgrounds (630 Trinity Road, Ancaster).</p>
Dist 5	Dianne Orr at 519-928-5302 or orr7@sympatico.ca	<p>OSMA DISTRICT 5 CAR TOUR – “INVESTING IN THE SHEEP INDUSTRY” March 21, 2015 start 11am Come out and join fellow sheep producers and see what is possible in the sheep industry with these modern facilities and set ups. Refreshments and snacks provided at the farms. For biosecurity reasons please wear clean clothes ... plastic booties will be provided.</p>

		<p>11am - Mark E. & Rosenna Martin 7015 Sdrd. 18 (off 8th Line East of County Rd. 12) RR#2 Drayton 200 ewes, milking 100-150 in a 2x16 parlour, lamb nursery with automatic milk feeder</p> <p>Willis Bowman 1170 Kenning Place Elmira ON, N3B 2Z1 400 ewes, built a 110x150 barn in 2013, TMR set up</p> <p>Lester Weber 2407 New Jerusalem Road (S. Field Dr./ Township Rd. 27, Tim Hortons on the corner) Elmira ON, N3B 2Z2 225 ewes, 80x140 barn built in 2013 with manure storage, TMR</p> <p>For more information contact Romy at 519-669-4146 or email circle.r.livestock@hotmail.com</p> <p>Or check out the District 5 Facebook Page!</p>
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	<p>OSMA District 7 Car Tour March 14th 2015</p> <p>10:00 am Traynor Farms Traynor Farms, our first stop has years of experience providing value added products through a number of different markets including their own on farm store. 2193 Country Road #2 Otonabee ON 705-931-0696</p> <p>10:45 am Ferdie Nel Ferdie Nel is a Keene area sheep producer with an open concept barn and a belt feeding system. 1300 David Fife Line Keene ON 705-295-6540</p> <p>12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Lunch and Travel. There are a number of lunch options in Hastings</p> <p>2:00 pm Albert Bothas</p>

		<p>Albert Botha and Jeffery De Jong run a commercial flock of over 800 ewes in the Grafton area. 317 Academy Hill Road Grafton ON 289-251-6872</p> <p>Any questions please contact Kevin Hutchings 905-955-2388. An alternative date of March 21st 2015 in the event of bad weather.</p>
Dist 8	Michelle Voskamp at 613-969-6553 or michellevoskamp@gmail.com	<p>March 12, 2015 Time: 7 pm Location: Napanee District Secondary School Room A1. Jack Kyle from OMAFRA will be with us to discuss pasture maintenance and care as well as answer any questions you may have. Spring is just around the corner! Everyone Welcome. For more information contact Michelle Voskamp at secretary@osmadistrict8.ca or Al Whitlam at 613-659-3987</p> <p>April 11, 2015 District 8 hits the road for a day of farm tours. We will be visiting the farms of Doug Savage and Colleen Acres. For more details and directions contact Michelle Voskamp at secretary@osmadistrict8.ca or Al Whitlam at 613- 659-3987</p> <p>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/</p>
Dist 9	Tyler Armstrong at 613-433-8255 or pinnaclehaven@gmail.com	
Dist 10	Christine Power at 613-816-0846 or msloboda2003@gmail.com	Check out our Facebook website page for details: https://www.facebook.com/OSMAD10
Dist 11	Debra Garner at 705-563-2761 or bill.debgarner@gmail.com	<p>Sheep Information Session Thursday, March 12, 2015 Time: 7 pm to 9 pm Location: Caldwell Township Building, Verner</p> <p>FEATURING: Dr. Olivia Stone - Springer Animal Hospital will discuss lamb survival techniques and the new Code of</p>

		<p>Practice for the Care and Handling of Sheep</p> <p>Nancy McMurdy - OSMA District 11 will provide an Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency update</p> <p>Julie Poirier Mensinga - OMAFRA will provide an update on OMAFRA resources.</p> <p>There is no charge for this event.</p> <p>To register please contact: 1-877-424-1300 or email: ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca</p> <p>For more information please contact: Julie Poirier Mensinga 705-594-2315 julie.poiriermensinga@ontario.ca</p>
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Other Organizations and Reference Information

Victoria County Sheep Producers

Third Wednesday every month starting at 7:30 Sunderland Co-op Boardroom at Oakwood Location (Taylor Road, Oakwood)

Membership is \$20 per farm per year. Contact: Peter Craig at pdrcraig@outlook.com

March 14th (Saturday) ----District 7 FARM TOUR

March 17th (3rd Wednesday in March) ----Victoria County Sheep Producers Meeting CANCELLED

April 15th (3rd Wednesday in April) -Guest speaker Terry McNeely - Bio Flock - Record Keeping, Production records, Calculation adjusted weaning weights, different software systems

May 20th (3rd Wednesday in May) -Guest speaker Jack Kyle - OMAFRA Grazing Specialist - Managing your sheep Pastures to maximize profits

June 17th (3rd Wednesday in June) -Guest speaker TBA

Western Ontario Lamb Producers

District 2 and 3 area

Western Ontario Lamb Producers will be hosting our next meeting on March 26, 2015. Our speaker, Bethanee Jensen, will be presenting on Flock Size regarding Financing.

Meeting to start at 7:30pm, followed by refreshments. 2015 Memberships are available at \$20.00 per family. For more information email westernontariolambproducers@gmail.com

Please contact Lisa Ernewein at l.sernewein@wightman.ca

Southwestern Ontario Sheep Farmers

Formerly known as Middlesex Sheep & Lamb Producers

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

Grey Bruce Sheep Management Club

Location: Grey Gables in Markdale

Ontario Suffolk Sheep Association

www.facebook.com/ontariosuffolk