



## Attention Expanding Ontario Sheep Farms

- What are the building blocks for profitability?
- Where can you find the ingredients for success?
- How can you make your flock more productive?
- When will your operation start making profits?
- Who knows the answers to these questions?



## Announcing the Ontario Master Shepherd's Course

Applications are now being accepted for the updated Ontario Master Shepherd's Course. If your farm is business focused and you would like to improve profitability through further expansion, then this course could be for you. Twelve education modules of two days each will be starting in August 2014, covering such topics as business planning, genetics, nutrition, feeding systems, infrastructure, flock health management, lambing time, predation, marketing and future planning. Over a period of 14 months, you will hear presentations from leading experts, seasoned farmers and OMAF specialists such as Christoph Wand, John Molenhuis and Jack Kyle. A full list of guest speakers will be posted on the OSMA website as they become available. Also included is the opportunity to participate in practical demonstrations and farm tours.

Spaces are limited to 18 students for the full course of 12 modules, which are scheduled to begin in August 2014. Modules will be opened to extra participants who may wish to enroll in only selections from the course. The registration cost for individual modules is \$250 per person for two days of instruction. A late registration fee of \$350 applies to individual modules and the deadline will be 2 weeks prior to the start date of each module.

Registration cost for the complete course of 12 modules is \$2,400 with the added benefit that students may bring an additional 2 members of their family or employees to any module free of charge. A deposit of \$1,000 is required by July 1, 2014 to secure your enrollment, with the balance of \$1,400 due on December 1, 2014.

Ideally, the course locations will rotate around the province, but consideration will be given to the geographic location of the selected course participants. On-farm projects undertaken as a result of this course, may qualify for funding under the Growing Forward 2 program. Check with your local Ontario Soil and Crop Association Regional Program leader for more details.

Please send an email, with your expression of interest to [mastershepherdscourse@outlook.com](mailto:mastershepherdscourse@outlook.com) by May 30th, 2014. An application form will be sent to those wishing to apply for enrollment in the full course of 12 modules.

This project was funded in part through *Growing Forward 2 (GF2)*, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. The Agricultural Adaptation Council assists in the delivery of *GF2* in Ontario.

