

The Monthly Messenger



September 2014

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Board Notes

Highlights from the August, 2014 Board Meeting

The August Board meeting kicked off with a review of the Strategic Plan. The Board reviewed the progress on the plan to-date. Changes were made to reflect the issues that the industry is addressing and comments from producers. The Key Strategic Directions remain the same, Advocacy, Market Development, Industry Capacity and Organizational Capacity changes however, have been made to the actions and performance indicators within the document. To see an updated version of the plan please visit www.ontariosheep.org and click on Current Initiatives.



Predation, Risk Management Program (RMP), Ontario Sheep Finance (previously Ewe Finance), Traceability, Species at Risk and Animal Welfare remain priority advocacy areas. Activities under Animal Welfare have been expanded to include: ensuring that there is representation on the Animal Welfare Task Team; to continue the partnership with Ontario SPCA and; developing materials to help message to consumers that animal care and welfare is a priority for Ontario Shepherds.

OSMA's advocacy work will not be just provincial. National lobbying will focus on traceability, continued participation in the Sheep Value Chain Roundtable, investigating the formation of a promotion and research agency, providing comments on policy issues that impact Ontario producers (e.g., Zoning) and working to get more medications approved for use in sheep.

Other additions made to the plan include: research into the prevention or control of production limiting diseases and parasites; lobbying to restore AgriSTability to its original design; promoting an environment that encourages stable marketing and; revamping www.ontariosheep.org and www.lambrecipes.ca.

The Board began the process of their annual evaluation. The discussion will continue at the October Board meeting.

Receiving Delegation under the Agricultural Marketing Act would extend the authorities that the Farm Products Marketing Commission gives OSMA provincially. The Board has decided to move forward with an application for delegation and set up a Committee to investigate the logistics.

A final draft of the OSMA Emergency Leadership Plan was presented to, and accepted by the Board of Directors. This plan outlines the steps to take should there be a short or long-term absence of the General Manager.

OSMA has elected to provide support to shearing schools in the province, the Campaign for Wool and the World Young Shepherd Challenge. The Campaign for Wool is part of HRH The Prince of Wales Charities and the inaugural event in Canada is being planned for September 29th-October 4th in Toronto. The World Young Shepherd Challenge is being held in France. Canada was invited to send 2 young shepherds to this event.

The 2014-15 proposed budget was presented to the Board and a final budget will be ready for the October Board meeting. The OSMA Board is confident that a balanced budget will be presented to the delegates at the AGM.

During the update from the Canadian Sheep Federation, there was discussion around the frustration at the lack of any real progress from the federal government in relation to the implementation of traceability. The Board has instructed staff to register its concerns with the government.

Given that Advocacy is the first Key Strategic Direction in the OSMA Strategic Plan, the Board has elected to form a Government Relations Committee. All Committees will be reviewed at the October Board meeting.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 8th in Guelph.

OSMA will be Serving Lamb at the Outdoor Farm Show!

This year at the Outdoor Farm Show running from September 9 to 11, OSMA will be serving free samples of Ontario lamb across from the Sheep Pavilion or the OSMA booth. Free samples will be given away daily from 11 am to 1 pm. Staff will also be at the OSMA booth available to talk with you and have resources available for your operation.



More details:

Open Daily 8:30 am to 5 pm

September 9, 10 and 11, 2014

Canada's Outdoor Park, Woodstock, Ontario

744906 Oxford Road 17 at the corner of 11th Line

Admission: adults \$17; Youth (6-17) \$5 and Children under 6 are free. Parking is free.

OSMA AGM: Don't Forget to Register...

Register for the OSMA AGM and represent your District as a voting delegate. If you are not able to attend as a voting delegate attend the AGM to stay informed about your industry and what OSMA is doing for you. Join us for the lamb banquet dinner and network with other producers and the exhibitors.

Lamb Banquet

Thursday, November 6: \$50.85 (includes HST). Deadline is October 24th

OSMA AGM

Friday, November 7: Voting delegates are free. Non-Voting Delegates \$33.90 (includes HST). Deadline is October 24th

A complete agenda and registration form can be found on the OSMA website at www.ontariosheep.org

More details about the AGM: www.ontariosheep.org/2014OSMAAGM.aspx

Producer AGM Registration Form:

www.ontariosheep.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=4Qv0Rsygy6o%3d&tabid=186

OMAFRA Sheep Seminars information:

www.ontariosheep.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=So-pXOqw8zw%3d&tabid=62

For questions or to register for the OSMA AGM or sheep seminars please contact the OSMA office at 519-836-0043 or email admin@ontariosheep.org

Give Us Your Best Shot

Apply for OSMA's photo contest by September 30th for your chance to win a grand prize of \$250, two top prizes of \$100 each or a crowd favorite prize of \$100!



CATEGORIES

1. "FLOCK SHOTS" a minimum of 30 sheep/lambs are in the picture
2. "THE CODE OF PRACTICE...IN PRACTICE" i.e. Ear tagging, tail docking, vaccine administration, foot trimming, shearing, good handling/transportation, housing etc.

JUDGING CRITERIA

- clarity – quality of the picture
- content – how well the category is represented
- composition – visual appeal
- evidence of good husbandry practices is present

CONTEST RULES

- Photographs will not be returned, and all entries become property of OSMA to be used or reproduced at the discretion of OSMA (whenever possible, credit will be given to the photographer)
- Entries must be submitted in the name of the person who took the photograph
- Only two (2) entries per photographer, per category, will be accepted
- Only photographs taken after January 1st, 2013 are eligible
- The judges' decision is final

SUBMISSIONS

- Include the following information with your submission (please do not write directly on the back of the photograph)
 - Title of photo
 - Approximate location/date the photo was taken
 - Photographer's name, mailing address, phone number and e-mail address

- Photographs can be submitted one of two (2) ways:
 - By e-mail to admin@ontariosheep.org
 - Must be **high resolution**, 2 meg or more
 - Must be received by end of day, **Sept. 30, 2014**
 - By mail, to the OSMA office at **130 Malcolm Road, Guelph, ON N1K 1B1** :
 - Must be postmarked no later than Sept. 30, 2014
 - Must be printed on either 5” X 7”, or 8” X 10”, good quality photographic paper
 - Must NOT be mounted on cardboard or cardstock

Any questions? Please call the OSMA office (519) 836-0043 or e-mail admin@ontariosheep.org, with “Photo Contest” in the subject line.

OSMA Awards

Long Service Award

This award recognizes significant contributions to the advancement of the Ontario Sheep Industry over many years of service. It is given in acknowledgement and appreciation of long standing contribution to the Ontario Sheep Industry. Recipients of this award have demonstrated outstanding dedication, leadership and innovative spirit.

Outstanding Shepherd Award

This award recognizes significant contributions to the advancement of the Ontario Sheep Industry. It is presented to an Ontario Shepherd who exemplifies the values of leadership and responsible sheep husbandry.

Guidelines for Long Service and Outstanding Shepherd Awards:

1. Nominations must be received at the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency office no later than: **October 1, 2014.**
2. Only members of the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency will be considered as candidates.
3. Individuals or couples are eligible for nomination.
4. Candidates must have made a significant contribution to the Ontario Sheep Industry. Candidates will be selected for the award based on demonstrated achievements within the Ontario Sheep Industry.
5. Awards will be presented at the OSMA Annual General Meeting in November.
6. Please include 2-5 letters of support from associations or individuals.
7. Submissions that do not follow these guidelines may be returned to the nominator or not considered for the award.

To Nominate:

If you know someone who deserves to be recognized through one of these awards, please nominate them by **October 1, 2014**. Application forms can be found on the OSMA website at www.ontariosheep.org click on the 'About Ontario Sheep' tab and then choose the 'Awards' tab. Or call the OSMA office at 519-836-0043 or email jmactavish@ontariosheep.org

Farm Speakers' Bureau

Source: Farm & Food Care September 2014 E-News

In conjunction with the publication of a new edition of *The Real Dirt on Farming* booklet, Farm & Food Care will also be launching a farmers' Speakers Bureau program this fall.

Presentation skills workshops will be given across the province to farmers and agri-food industry professionals interested in learning how to give effective presentations on farm topics. The theory is that these speakers would then be equipped to give customizable presentations to local service clubs, school groups and other audiences. The speakers would also be given copies of the new *Dirt on Farming* booklet to leave with their audiences.

As a start, four workshops are being organized in the following areas of the province:

- November 18 - Ottawa area
- November 20 - Peterborough area
- November 25 - Chatham area
- November 27 - Guelph area

More courses will be offered in the winter months.

The day-long workshops will be free of charge although space will be limited to the first 20 participants in each. If you'd like to register or be put on a list for information about courses in your area, email info@farmfoodcare.org.

Performance Testing: Survey

Delma Kennedy, Sheep Specialist Genetics, Reproduction and Performance Programs, OMAFRA

I am interested in finding out if there is a group of Ontario sheep producers who would like to participate in an informal group to discuss performance testing.

It would be appreciated if you could take 10 minutes or less and answer a survey at the link below that will help determine if there is enough interest to develop this idea. The survey will be open until September 15, 2014.

The survey link is being distributed to email accounts via the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency, Ontario email addresses recorded with the Canadian Sheep Breeders Association and Ontario producers who participate in performance testing. If there is an Ontario producer who may be interested and has not received this link please feel free to forward it.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YG3Y7QG>

Farm Survey: Sponsorship Activity

The survey is 5 questions long and is part of my Masters Capstone research with McMaster University.

The purpose is to investigate the management of sponsorships within Canadian agribusiness. I hope to understand how agribusinesses can best communicate their sponsorship activity to farmer customers. The results will be reviewed for any themes and best practices.

For every farmer survey submitted, I will give \$1 to 4-H Canada, up to \$1000.

The survey will not ask for any personal information and participation cannot be tracked. Participants can stop or withdraw from the survey without responses being collected. Please note, however, that once the survey is submitted it will be impossible to withdraw survey answers since they will be submitted anonymously. This study has been reviewed and cleared by the McMaster Research Ethics Board.

If you have any concerns or questions about the rights of participants or about the way the study is being conducted you can contact:

The McMaster Research Ethics Board Secretariat
Telephone: (905) 525-9140 ext. 23142
c/o Research Office for Administration, Development and Support (ROADS)
E-mail: ethicsoffice@mcmaster.ca

Survey: http://fluidsurveys.com/s/Masters_FarmSurvey/

Clare Wooding
Masters Candidate in the Master in Communication Management program
McMaster University, Hamilton Ontario
Tel: 519-826-9794
woodinc@mcmaster.ca

Upcoming Events

For more information on any upcoming events please visit the OSMA website at: www.ontariosheep.org/Events.aspx

Have Something to Add?

Contact Jillian Craig at
jcraig@ontariosheep.org

Additions are due the
20th of the month.

- Sept 4 District 1 AGM. Dawn-Euphemia Township Fire Hall, Rutherford, ON (4596 Lambton Line) at 8 pm.
- Sept 4 District 3 AGM. Rostock Hall at 7:30 pm.
- Sept 4 District 6 AGM. Church's Farm Supply near Thornton at 7:30 pm.
- Sept 6 District 10 Summer Social, Tour and AGM. 21692 Conc. 10, Glen Robertson, ON. Tours begin at 11 am. RSVP to this event.
- Sept 10 District 11 AGM. Kearns Hall or by conference call, potluck at 6:30 pm and meeting starts at 7:30 pm.
- Sept 9 – 11 Canada's Outdoor Farm Show. Woodstock, ON.
- Sept 11& 12 Master Shepherd Course: Module 2, Guelph, ON.
- Sept 12-14 WOPA Bus Trip, New York State, USA.
- Sept 16-20 International Plowing Match. Ivy, ON.
- Sept 17 District 4 AGM. Ancaster Fairgrounds, Marriot Hall at 7:30 pm.
- Sept 18 District 2 AGM. Sprucedale Agromart, Hanover (24 Sideroad 25 North) at 7:30 pm.
- Sept 19 District 9 AGM. Nick Smith Centre Community Hall, 77 James Street, Amprior at 7 pm
- Sept 23 - 25 Sheep Shearing School, Alliston, ON.
- Sept 24 District 7 AGM. Oakwood Ag Centre, 981 Taylor Road, Oakwood at 7:30pm.
- Sept 25 District 8 AGM. Napanee Secondary School, room A1 at 7:00 pm.
- Oct 9 & 10 Master Shepherd Course: Module 3. Guelph, ON.
- Oct 10 Practical Farming Conference, Guelph, ON
- Oct 12 Norwood Fair, Norwood, ON
- Oct 18 Practical Farming Conference, Arthur, ON
- Nov 4 OMAF Sheep Seminar, Napanee, ON
- Nov 4 – 7 Dairy Sheep Symposium, Chehalis, Washington.
- Nov 6 OMAF Sheep Seminar, Holiday Inn, Guelph.
- Nov 7 OSMA AGM, Holiday Inn, Guelph.
- Nov 6 & 7 Master Shepherd Course: Module 4, Guelph, ON. (In conjunction with OSMA AGM and sheep seminars).
- Nov 11 – 16 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

NOTE: More detailed AGM information is available below under 'District Information'.

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>http://osma_district_1.tripod.com/</p> <p>September 4 – Annual General Meeting for District 1 OSMA at Dawn-Euphemia Township Fire Hall in Rutherford (4596 Lambton Line) @ 8.00 pm.</p> <p>October 2 - Dr. Paul Luimes speaks at University of Guelph, Ridgeway Campus @ 8pm.</p> <p>December 4 - Christmas potluck @ Christian Reformed Church in Wyoming (4524 Confederation Line) @ 7pm.</p>
Dist 2	Kyle Harrison at 519-334-3928 or kyleharrison22@hotmail.com	<p>Meetings: Sept 18 – District AGM at 7:30 pm. Location: Sprucedale Agromart, Hanover (24 Sideroad 25 North)</p> <p>For more information contact Kyle Harrison or Barb Zettler at 519-392-6549</p> <p>Meetings usually held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm</p>
Dist 3	John Rock at 519-621-5776	<p>AGM: September 4th at 7:30 pm Location: Rostock Hall Speaker: Dr. Charlotte Winder, speaking about vaccinating sheep and lambs Contact John Rock for more details.</p>
Dist 4	Sharon Petheram at 519-443-5844 or petherdale@gmail.com	<p>AGM: Wednesday, Sept 17 at 7:30pm Location: Ancaster Fairgrounds, Marriot Hall For more information contact Rob Scott at 519-209-3944 or bcf_222@hotmail.com</p> <p>Last Saturday of every month breakfast: It is a busy time of year so the monthly producer breakfast is temporarily on hold. Notice will be issued when the breakfasts begin again.</p>
Dist 5	Dianne Orr at 519-928-5302 or orr7@sympatico.ca	<p>Meetings are usually last Wed. of every month, Location TBA</p>

Dist 6	Karen Harvey at 905-729-3196 or pkharvey@zing-net.ca	AGM: Sept 4 at 7:30 pm Location: Church's Farm Supply near Thornton Contact Karen Harvey for more details.
Dist 7	Judy Dening at 705-324-3453 or theshepherdsate@xplornet.com	AGM: Wednesday, September 24 at 7:30 pm Location: Oakwood Ag Centre, 381 Taylor Road, Oakwood Speaker: Jennifer MacTavish will be presenting the year in review and the OSMA Strategic Plan For more information please contact Judy Dening.
Dist 8	Matt Fleguel at 613-961-9260 or mfleguel@gmail.com	AGM: Thursday, September 25 at 7 pm Location: Napanee Secondary School, room A1 Discussion: Information on the OSMA AGM and an update from the summer. Guest speaker: Fred Baker will be discussing the new Farm Animal Code of Practice published by the CFIA. For more information contact Matt Fleguel. Meetings: Our monthly meetings are normally held on the 3rd Monday of every month at Napanee High School, Napanee, at 7.30 p.m. For more information visit: www.osmadistrict8.ca/
Dist 9	Tyler Armstrong at 613-433-8255 or pinnaclehaven@gmail.com	AGM: Friday, September 19 at 7 pm Location: Nick Smith Centre Community Hall, 77 James Street, Amprior Guest Speaker: Dr. Donald Clarke of the Mississippi Animal Hospital and Renfrew Animal Hospital will be speaking on "Parasite Management Strategies and Treatment". For more information contact Chris Moore at 613-931-4994 or kinburncattle@yahoo.ca or Tyler Armstrong.
Dist 10	Christine Power at 613-816-0846 or msloboda2003@gmail.com	Summer Social, Tour and AGM Sept 6 at 11 am Location: Wendy Beswick's Farm 21692 Conc. 10 Glen Robertson Contact: 613-874-2726

		<p>11 am Tour of a Dairy Goat operation near Vankleel Hill</p> <p>1 pm Tour Beau's Brewery</p> <p>2:30 pm Tour Wendy and Bruce Beswick's Sheep Operation (21692 Conc 10, Glen Robertson, ON)</p> <p>3 pm Presentation by Christoph Wand, OMAFRA Livestock Sustainability Specialist "<i>Issues for the Ontario sheep sector to address to be sustainable</i>"</p> <p>5 pm Lamb BBQ & potluck</p> <p>7 pm AGM and Delegate selection for the OSMA AGM</p> <p>Please RSVP by Sept 1 to Wendy Beswick to get tour locations, and to ensure enough food is available. Wendy can be reached by email at newhorns@sympatico.ca or by phone at (613) 874-2726</p> <p>For more information visit: www.osmadistrict10.ca/</p>
Dist 11	Debra Garner at 705-563-2761 or bill.debgarner@gmail.com	<p>AGM Wednesday, September 10 at 6:30 pm Location: Kerns Hall, Milberta Road, New Liskeard Potluck dinner at 6:30 pm * Please bring a lamb dish for the main course and a salad or dessert. Meeting at 7:30 pm Guest Speaker: Stephanie Vanthof (Administrator for NOFIA) “Research and Innovation for Northern Ontario: How can NOFIA assist Northern Sheep Producers”</p> <p>The meeting will be available via conference call for outlying areas.</p> <p>For further details please contact Deb Garner; or Jim Johnston 705-647-7160; (wcook@ntl.sympatico.ca)</p>

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: Jillian Craig at jillian_stoneybrookfarm@hotmail.com

September 24th – District 7 Meeting and AGM. 7:30pm at Oakwood Ag Centre
Please note: the October 4th breeding stock sale has been cancelled.

Western Ontario Lamb Producers

District 2 and 3 area

The Western Ontario Lamb Producers Association will be travelling to New York State this September 12, 13 and 14.

Seats are available for Members of the Association for \$185.00 each, non-members will require to purchase a membership for an additional \$20.00/family. We will be travelling via coach to Kyle Farms, Cornell University, David Malcolm Farm, and James Leach's farm. Our tour will include a stop in Niagara Falls on our route home.

If you are interested in reserving a seat on the coach with WOLPA please contact Lisa Ernewein at l.sernewein@wightman.ca or 519-392-8624. Tour cost includes bus, biosecurity boots per farm. Cost does not include hotel and meal costs, we have a block of rooms reserved for the tour, when booking you will be given the information for booking your room.

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

<https://www.facebook.com/ontariosuffolk>