

The Monthly Messenger

October 2015



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Board Notes

There are no board notes for this month; following the board meeting in October, notes will be published.

Highlight from September: Wool Week in Toronto

Friday, September 18, 2015 – Toronto: An installation of live sheep and a knitting circle in the Royal Ontario Museum's (ROM) Plaza played centre-stage to the 2015 Launch of Canadian Wool Week part of The Prince of Wales's Campaign for Wool.

Wool Chair and Canadian design icon Kimberly Newport-Mimran will be joined by Susan Horvath, President & CEO of ROM Governors, Alexandra Weston (Holt Renfrew), Arthur Potts, MPP (Government of Ontario) and Canada's Wool/Sheep Industry for the official "yarn cutting" launching a series of activities in Toronto and Montreal focused on educating Canadians about the many properties of wool and the local economies it supports.

Click here to read more:

<http://www.princescharities.ca/news-detail/wool-week-launches-in-toronto/>

Profitable Livestock: Tracked as Never Before

Go360|bioTrack Takes Livestock Data Collection to a Whole New Level of Simple

Elora, Ontario, September 21, 2015: Farming is changing. There is a new generation taking over and they are doing business differently. As in any other industry today, this generation is ready to adapt to the latest technologies out there that can serve them best. [Go360|bioTrack](#) serves notice that it is the go-to system with application for livestock farmers to easily capture and access decision critical data anytime and anywhere for optimal livestock production and management.

The time for this app is now. According to an online survey of over 200 cow-calf producers across Canada conducted in February and March (by three breed associations Canadian Angus, Canadian Herford Association and Canadian Simmental Association), over 90% say they are interested in using their smart phone to track cattle records. The top events for tracking include Calving 100%, Breeding 91%, Health 83%, Performance 77%, and Pedigree 65%.

"Farmers can expect to have to do more to meet buyer demands. McDonalds and Walmart are leading the inevitable charge toward verification of what you are doing on your farm and with your animals. Go360|bioTrack is simply the best way to make that chore easy," says Mike McMorris, General Manager at BIO.

Further substantiating the need for Go360|bioTrack is the just released report "Comparative Analysis of Beef Traceability and Practices in Australia and Ontario" (Value Chain Management Centre, May 2015) that states the lack of an effective beef traceability system in Canada is impeding the industry from benefiting financially and capturing new markets. Because the app can trace salient data 24/7, it is a [valuable management tool](#) that can jumpstart the process of standardizing mandatory reporting across the country.

“The Go360 technology is used widely in telecommunications, utility and security sectors. We are excited about our partnership with BIO to bring this technology to agriculture and make farming easier and more profitable,” says Chris Cameron, CEO of Angus GeoSolutions Incorporated (AGSI).

For a first-hand look at Go360|bioTrack in action, visit <http://bridgingintelligence.com/what-is-biotrack/>. For further information about the system, please call: 1 (855) 246-2333.

BIO Contact:

Mike McMorris, General Manager, BIO, mmcmorris@bridgingintelligence.com
519 767-2665 (301)

[Betty-Jo Almond, Business Development Manager, BIO, balmond@bridgingintelligence.com](mailto:balmond@bridgingintelligence.com)
[519-767-2665 \(316\)](tel:519-767-2665)

Ontario Helping Farmers Minimize Environmental Impact on Great Lakes



NEWS

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Ontario Helping Farmers Minimize Environmental Impact on Great Lakes

Province Supporting Educational Programs That Promote Nutrient Stewardship

September 28, 2015 12:00 P.M.

Ontario is working to improve and maintain water quality in the Great Lakes by supporting the development and implementation of a nutrient stewardship program for farmers.

As part of a recently signed [Memorandum of Cooperation](#), Ontario will provide \$50,000 to [Fertilizer Canada](#) and the [Ontario Agri Business Association](#) to develop educational programs for farmers about nutrient management based on the internationally-recognized [4R Nutrient Stewardship](#) system, which promotes efficient fertilizer application to improve profitability while reducing nutrient losses.

Ontario's farmers have already made significant contributions as stewards of the land, completing more than 23,500 on-farm environmental improvement projects since 2005, including grass buffer strips, wind breaks, cover crops, nutrient storage and structures to prevent soil erosion. The Memorandum of Cooperation will further support the province's farmers as well as protect watershed areas and prevent algae blooms.

Helping Ontario's agri-food sector continue its strong environmental stewardship is part of the government's plan to build Ontario up. The four-part plan includes investing in people's talents and skills, making the largest investment in public infrastructure in Ontario's history, creating a dynamic, innovative environment where business thrives and building a secure retirement savings plan.

QUOTES

" Ontario's investment in the protection of our agricultural lands and vital waterways continues to be a priority, and one shared by our partners in the agri-food sector. Our government sees this funding as yet another step on the path to more sustainable use of our agricultural lands, as well as the improvement and preservation of the Great Lakes."

- Jeff Leal
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

" Canada's fertilizer industry is encouraged by the Government of Ontario's endorsement for 4R Nutrient Stewardship as an important tool to meet the province's environmental stewardship goals. We look forward to working with the Ontario government and agri-retailers to improve practices that will ensure the sustainability of the agriculture industry while enriching the health of the Great Lakes."

- Garth Whyte
President and CEO, Fertilizer Canada

" Agri-retailers are well positioned to work with Ontario farmers to implement the 4R Nutrient Stewardship Program as a practical tool for enhanced environmental sustainability. The financial support and commitment by OMAFRA demonstrates the recognition within government that 4R can play a key role in achieving both environmental and farm sustainability."

- Dave Buttenham
CEO, Ontario Agri Business Association

QUICK FACTS

- The 4R Nutrient Stewardship system uses four key pillars for fertilizer application: Right Source, @ Right Rate, Right Time, Right Place®.
- On December 19, 2014, Ontario approved the new Canada-Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality. In that agreement, both Canada and Ontario commit to creating action plans to reduce the impact of excess nutrients on the water quality of Lake Erie.

LEARN MORE

- [Canada Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality and Ecosystem Health](#)
- ontario.ca/agriculture

SARFIP Funding is Still Available!

OSCIA is pleased to be delivering the Species at Risk Farm Incentive Program in 2015. Funding is available to landowners who are actively farming or own actively farmed land in Ontario and wish to implement a supported Best Management Practice (BMP) on their farmland. Projects must be completed between April 1, 2015 and December 15, 2015.

Funding can be used toward a variety of on-farm projects that enhance, restore, create and protect habitat, such as bat boxes, wetland & stream restoration, livestock exclusion fencing, tree planting, vegetated corridors to connect natural areas, livestock watering systems, and cross fencing for rotational grazing - to name only a few!

Cost-share is stackable with programs delivered through Conservation Authorities, Forests Ontario and other organizations. Funding is tiered, with an option for the farm applicant to provide additional information regarding on-farm SAR and habitat in order to elevate their cost-share level. 40-50% cost-share is available for all eligible projects across the province, regardless of if SAR are present and 60-80% cost-share is available for projects directly supporting SAR needs (SAR are expected to be on or adjacent to the property and/or appropriate habitat/geography for a SAR must be apparent).

The SARFIP 2015 Brochure (in english and french - the french version is exclusively available in digital form) is available for download from the SARFIP page on the OSCIA website; www.ontariosoilcrop.org/en/programs/species_at_risk.htm. The SARFIP webpage provides a breakdown of the eligibility criteria (also found in the brochure), forms required to complete an application, details on claiming, as well as examples of completed applications and some resources for implementing species specific projects (e.g. bat boxes, winter bird roosts, etc).

Applicants must have an Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) completed within the last 5 years (2010 or newer) in order to apply. However, if your EFP is older than 2010, you can still apply on the condition that you attend a workshop to update your EFP by the December 15, 2015 deadline (you will be asked to provide confirmation of your updated EFP upon claiming your project in December).

If you think you may have an eligible project, or have questions about SARFIP please don't hesitate to contact OSCIA at (519) 826-3035 or (226) 979-2465

OSMA AGM and OMAFRA Sheep Seminars

OMAFRA Sheep Seminar:

“Grow the Market with More lbs of Lamb - A Profitable Choice?”

The emphasis this year will be on encouraging sheep producers to consider whether they can expand the availability of lamb by growing lambs to heavier weights profitably. The seminar will challenge producers to consider if the market weight they are targeting is the most profitable weight and provide tools and information producers can use to make that assessment. Agenda and registration forms are available [here](#).

OSMA AGM and Lamb Banquet:

Register by Oct 9 by calling the OSMA office at 519-836-0043, by email at admin@ontariosheep.org, or the registration form is available [here](#). No cost for voting delegates, \$35 per person for non-voting delegates. The Lamb Banquet will be held the evening before the AGM (October 29). A full agenda for the day can be found [here](#).

OMAFRA Sheep Seminar in NAPANEE (via webex)	Thursday, October 29th
OMAFRA Sheep Seminar in Select Northern Locations (via Webex)	Thursday, October 29th
OMAFRA Sheep Seminar in ALLISTON	Thursday, October 29 th
OSMA Lamb Banquet in ALLISTON	Thursday, October 29 th
OSMA AGM in ALLISTON	Friday, October 30 th

****Registration Deadline is October 16th****

****Late registrations/walk-ins for the sheep seminars only****

****No Refunds on Cancellations after October 22nd****

ANY QUESTIONS? Email admin@ontariosheep.org or call 519-836-0043

Canadian Forage and Grasslands Association Conference



Canadian Forage and Grassland Association
Association Canadienne pour les Plantes Fourragères

6th Annual Canadian Forage and Grassland Association Conference
 November 17-19, 2015
 Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan *Capture the Intensity!*

Register Now

Save \$50 on your conference registration if you register [online](#) by October 5, 2015. Register now to join us in Saskatoon to *Capture the Intensity* of Canadian forage production opportunities from coast to coast.

Reserve Hotel Accommodation

Be sure to make your hotel reservation directly with the hotel before the cut-off date of October 16, 2015. [Click here](#) to go to the online reservation form or call the hotel directly and quote **group code CFGA**.

Sheraton Cavalier Saskatoon Hotel
612 Spadina Crescent East
Saskatoon, SK, S7K 3G9
North America Toll-Free: 1-800-325-3535
Local/International: 1-306-652-6770
Group Code: **CFGA**

Stay Connected

Don't miss out on the latest Conference news by [subscribing for updates](#), and follow us on Twitter [@CFGA_ACPF](#)

Questions?

If you have any questions about the Conference get in touch with us at conference@canadianfga.ca

[Click here](#) to access the 6th Annual CFGA Conference website.

CSBA Ontario Annual Meeting

**Canadian Sheep Breeders Association
Ontario Annual Meeting
October 29, 2015
4:00 – 5:45 pm
Nottawasaga Inn Alliston, Ontario**

4:00 Welcome and Introductions
4:00 - 4:20 Review of CSBA Activities 2015
4:20 - 4:40 Provincial Show and Sale reports

- ⤴ Royal Winter Fair
- ⤴ PSBO Sale
- ⤴ Ontario Suffolk Association
- ⤴ Junior Show, Ancaster
- ⤴ Other events?

4:40 - 4:50 Election
4:50 -5:15 Genovis – Delma Kennedy and Jennifer MacTavish
5:15 Health Programs and Genetics
5:30 Questions and Discussion
5:45 Adjourn

Note: All Ontario CSBA members with paid **2015** memberships are invited to attend and eligible to vote. One vote per membership.

CSBA members wishing to attend and participate in the OSMA AGM and Banquet should phone the OSMA office at 519-836-0043 to pre-register for these events. Registration fees apply.

North American Dairy Sheep Symposium

The 21st Annual Dairy Sheep Association of North America (DSANA) Symposium will be held in Madison, Wisconsin on November 5-7, 2015 with a pre-symposium sheep milk cheese-making course on November 4, 2015. Important deadlines are fast approaching: October 3 for reduced rates on hotel reservations and October 16 for early symposium registration at a reduced rate.

Twelve presentations by 16 animal scientists, dairy sheep producers, veterinarians, and sheep milk cheese makers and marketers will be held on November 5-6 at the Pyle Center on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus. A sampling of topics and presenters are: “Milking Machine Basics and Special Considerations for Small Ruminants” by Dr. Doug Reinemann, University of Wisconsin-Madison; “Impacts on Non-GMO Labeling on Artisan Cheese Production” by Cathy Strange, Global Cheese Buyer, Whole Foods Market, Austin, Texas; “Best Practices for Raising Lambs on Milk Replacer” by Dr. Tom Earlywine, Land O’Lakes, St. Paul, MN; and “Principles of Dairy Nutrition” by Dr. Michel Wattiaux, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Tour buses on Saturday, November 7 will take participants to Cedar Grove Cheese in Plain, Wisconsin operated by Master Cheesemaker, Bob Wills, and to Hidden Springs Creamery in Westby, Wisconsin where participants will visit the modern dairy sheep farm and artisan cheese plant operated by Dean and Brenda Jensen.

The pre-symposium sheep milk cheesemaking course will be offered on November 4 at the Center for Dairy Research on the UW-Madison campus for symposium participants and DSANA members for an extra fee.

The complete program and registration and hotel information can be accessed at the DSANA web site (www.dsana.org) or the University of Wisconsin-Madison Sheep and Goat Extension web site (<http://fyi.uwex.edu/wisheepandgoat/>) or by contacting Bill Halligan, DSANA Treasurer, P.O. Box 96, Bushnell, NE 69128 (308-235-5900, bill.halligan@hotmail.com) or Dave Thomas, UW-Madison, 1675 Observatory Dr., Madison, WI 53706 (608-263-4306, dlthomas@wisc.edu).

Mapleseed Pasture Awards: Call for Nominations



The Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency is pleased to partner with Mapleseed and the Ontario Forage Council in sponsoring the “Mapleseed Pasture Award 2015”. This is an excellent opportunity to recognize individual producers who are doing an outstanding job of pasture management. The Mapleseed Pasture Award is also a method of encouraging producers to implement pasture management strategies that maximize production per acre.

Mapleseed contributes a cash award of \$500 to the winner, \$250 to cover their accommodation plus a 25kg bag of their choice of a Mapleseed Forage Mix. The winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency in October, 2015.

To submit a nomination for this award, complete the application form which can be found at: <http://www.ontarioforagecouncil.com/programs/mapleseed-pasture-competition>
Feel free to include pictures and/or diagrams.

Application Deadline: October 1, 2015

Send completed applications to the Ontario Forage Council, PO Box 463, Markdale, ON, N0C 1H0. Or e-mail to: support@ontarioforagecouncil.com

OSMA Awards: Nominate a Deserving Individual

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 2, 2015.**
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 2, 2015.** 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

For the Foodies

HICKORY-MAPLE PULLED LAMB SHOULDER

Recipe and photo from: americanlamb.com

Ingredients

Lamb shoulder, bone-in 12 pounds
Onions, chopped 1 quart
Garlic, chopped 1/4 cup
Hickory barbecue spice blend 1/3 cup
Apple cider 2 cups
Reserved lamb juices 2 cups
Maple syrup 1/2 cup
Hickory barbecue sauce 2 cups
Cornbread, 3-inch square, split, 12 or hamburger buns, seeded, toasted
Sweet creamy coleslaw 3 cups



Directions

Spread onions and garlic in an even layer in a roasting pan. Place lamb shoulder on top of onion-garlic layer; pat spice blend onto the lamb to coat evenly. Cover tightly with foil. Bake in 275°F convection oven (or 325°F conventional oven) for at least 4 to 5 hours or until tender and falling off the bone; remove from heat. Let lamb rest 15 to 20 minutes.

Remove pan juices from pan and place in a container; cover and chill. Once cold, remove top layer of fat from juices. Discard fat and reserve juices. Pull meat from roasted lamb shoulder; roughly chop and place in a full-size hotel pan.

In a saucepan, add cider, lamb juices and syrup; heat to boiling. Lower heat; reduce mixture by half, about 15 to 20 minutes. Stir in barbecue sauce; simmer 6 to 8 minutes. Remove from heat; cool to room temperature (yields 1 quart). Pour 3 cups of the simmered sauce over top of pulled lamb and toss to coat well; cover and chill.

Cover and bake pulled lamb in 300°F convection oven (or 350°F conventional oven) for 25 to 30 minutes or until heated through.

To serve: For each serving, spoon 1 cup barbecue lamb shoulder onto a toasted piece of split cornbread or hamburger bun with extra sauce on the side; top with 1/4 cup coleslaw. Pulled lamb can be served over pasta or roasted vegetables if desired.

<http://www.americanlamb.com/consumer/hickory-maple-pulled-lamb-shoulder-2/#sthash.S9Kf3wmE.dpuf>

Messenger Circulation Survey

OSMA is working on a communications strategy and as a part of this we would like to know your thoughts on the best way to communicate with you as producers. There has been some feedback from the district meetings that producers would prefer what is known as “The Messenger” in smaller weekly emails rather than once per month. Please respond to the following question by email to mchan@ontariosheep.org.

Would you prefer to receive the information contained in the Messenger:

- a) Once per month, as it is currently circulated,
- b) Bi-weekly (twice per month), or
- c) Once a week.

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.

- Oct 17 **District 8 Farm Tour:** We will be visiting the farms of Roger Harley, Albert Botha and Jeff DeJong. Meet at 11 am at the farm of Roger Harley, Harley Farms farm shop, 1630 Heritage Line, Keene K0L 2G0. Lunch location to be determined; after lunch visit Albert Botha and Jeff DeJong, 317 Academy Hill Rd, Grafton K0K 2G0.
For more information and carpool locations please contact District 8 Secretary, Michelle Voskamp, 613-848-8972 or secretary@osmadistrict8.ca
- Oct 21 **District 4 Monthly Meeting CANCELLED for October!**

Victoria County Sheep Producers Meeting: 7:30 pm at the Oakwood Elevators (Taylor Rd, Oakwood)
- Oct 29 **OMAFRA Sheep Seminars:** Grow the Market with More Lbs of Lamb – A Profitable Choice? Live presentation at the Nottawasaga Inn Resort, Alliston; Presentation via Webex in Napanee and Northern Ontario locations. Contact OSMA to register at 519-836-0043 or admin@ontariosheep.org. Registration deadline Oct. 16, cost is \$58.50 per person.

OSMA Lamb Banquet: Enjoy a 3 course meal featuring Ontario lamb with complimentary wine and cash bar, \$50 plus HST per person. Contact OSMA office to register at 519-836-0043 or admin@ontariosheep.org; pre-registration required by Oct 9.

Canadian Sheep Breeders’ Association Meeting will be held at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston, and will run from 4-6 pm, between the OMAFRA seminar and the OSMA banquet.
- Oct 30 **OSMA Annual General Meeting** will be held at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston. Register by Oct 9 by calling the OSMA office at 519-836-0043 or by email at admin@ontariosheep.org. No cost for voting delegates, \$35 per person for non-voting delegates.

- Nov 3 **Kemptville biosecurity workshop:** learn more about on-farm biosecurity, best management practices, and key areas of their farm to evaluate when developing a biosecurity plan. Possible cost sharing opportunities will be discussed. To register go to www.ontariosoilandcrop.org or call Mireille at 613-218-6813.
- Nov 5-7 **Dairy Sheep Symposium:** This year’s symposium will be held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin. Visit www.dsana.org for more information.
- Nov 6-15 **Royal Agricultural Winter Fair**
- Nov 17-19 **Canadian Forage and Grassland Association 6th Annual Conference:** “Capture the Intensity”. This event will be held in Saskatoon, SK. For more information, contact conference@canadianfga.ca.
- Nov 19 **District 8 Monthly Meeting:** 7pm at Napanee District Secondary School, Rm. A1. More information to come.
- Nov 20 **District 5 Potluck and Social:** 7 – 10 pm, location to be determined, with more details to follow.
- Dec 11 **District 8 Christmas Social:** more information to follow.

District Information

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

DISTRICT	CONTACT	INFORMATION
Dist 1	Dave DeKay at 519-666-0626 or dmdekay@isp.ca	District 1 “Breakfast Connections” We are hosting a series of monthly “Breakfast Connections” around the District. 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/
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). October meeting is CANCELLED!
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 613-816-0846 or msloboda2003@gmail.com	Check out our Facebook website page: https://www.facebook.com/OSMAD10
Dist 11	Debra Garner at 705-563-2761 or bill.debgarner@gmail.com	

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

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