

ONTARIO SHEEP NEWS

Vol. 39 - Issue 4 December 2021

FARM ANIMAL THEFT FORCES OTTAWA VALLEY FARMERS TO FIGHT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

A group of sheep of various breeds are standing in a snowy field. In the background, there is a large white barn with a curved roof and a tall, cylindrical metal silo. The scene is set in a winter landscape with snow on the ground and rooftops.

2021 OSF AGM Highlights

Transition Period Impacts on
Ewe and Lamb Metabolites

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Photo submissions for use in publications (magazine, promotional/ education materials). Photo submissions are welcomed. Include the following information with your submission: name, mailing address, phone number, email address, expressed consent for Ontario Sheep Farmers to use the photo. If there are individuals in the picture, they should be identified and permission to print their picture must be secured either directly (if adults) or (if children) from a parent/guardian. Emailed photos must be a minimum of 300dpi and each photo should be clearly identified with the required information as outlined above. Photos will not be returned, and all submissions become the property of Ontario Sheep Farmers to be used or reproduced at the organization's discretion. Wherever possible, credit will be given to the photographer if used.

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DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING TO ONTARIO SHEEP NEWS:

March Issue - February 3rd • June Issue - May 4th • September Issue - August 3rd • December Issue - November 2nd

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Beyond the Farm Gate

I'm pleased to be starting my second stint as Chair of OSF (the first was from 2000-2006) as we begin the business of implementing our new strategic plan (*Building Strength for a Better Future*) and as Canadian agriculture deals with the lingering effects of the pandemic.

The ancient curse "may you live in interesting times" comes to mind as we all struggle with disrupted supply chains, rising costs and labour shortages. But then, farmers always live in interesting times.

As 2022 looms, your Board of Directors are preparing to execute the results of the Crossroads Challenge. Through that process, your input created the new five-year strategic plan. First up will be continuing to improve communications with our districts and finding ways to improve the market information we provide to Ontario producers.

As your Chair I am particularly focused on the view from beyond the farmgate – understanding the variables that influence our collective futures and the role of OSF within Ontario and Canadian agriculture. By understanding the big picture – the forces that drive agriculture – we are in a better position to shape our future.

Ontario is the primary market for Canadian lamb and OSF has a responsibility to enhance consumer desire and confidence in our products. Your Board of Directors has an obligation that stretches beyond the Ontario border and includes a value chain that serves our farms and our consumers.

Your Board is charged with setting the direction of OSF. Our attention is focused on the "what" and "why" of setting priorities and allocating resources. Concentrating on these issues and encouraging staff to engage the "how" and "who" of implementation will be key to making 2022 a constructive year.

I am looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead for our industry and OSF. Your Board is ready to work for you, keeping a broad perspective on issues beyond the farmgate and focusing resources on things that matter to your prosperity.

How can you help? By offering solutions to the issues, we will undoubtedly encounter. By encouraging leadership at all levels. And, if you can find something that is always in short supply, time, then try serving at the district level.

In closing, I am humbled to be your Board Chair, eager to get on with the work of supporting your farms and confident in the commitment and experience of the Board of Directors and District Executive. Lastly, best wishes for happy holiday season and new year! OSN

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Building on Our Foundational Progress

There's no doubt, 2021 marks another very memorable year for all of us. Words like pandemic, supply chain disruption, mental health and unease come to mind when I think about the past year. But so does perseverance, perspective, resilience and progress.

Everyone involved in Ontario's sheep industry can be proud of their role and contributions throughout 2021. As individuals, you've sustained your farms and businesses in one of the most tumultuous times. And together as an industry, we have made some of the greatest strides ever by engaging members to develop a new strategic plan.

As we look to the new year, there are three things I want our farming members to understand about what how Ontario Sheep Farmers will build on our foundational progress in 2021.

Why We Created a New Strategic Plan

Together, we set a new direction for our organization. The Crossroads Challenge process saw the development of our new five-year plan, *Building Strength for a Better Future*. We set aspirational goals that, while ambitious, will lay the foundation for growth in every part of our industry – from grassroots members right through to processing capacity. We identified five pillars that will focus our work – community, prosperity, mastery, invest and operations. And while we now have a written plan to work from, our approach is not a set path. The strategic plan will continue to evolve and change as we work towards some very big goals. To learn more about our strategic plan, visit our website.

What Grassroots Driven Really Means

Our strategic plan was truly grassroots driven. This approach sets us apart from any other strategic planning process OSF, or just about any other provincial agriculture organization, has ever followed. Being grassroots means OSF depends on member connections and engagement because

our members ensure we have such a strong, diverse and resilient sector.

Throughout the strategic planning process, we had 500 unique interactions from people across the industry, most were grassroots members. We didn't develop the strategic plan around a boardroom table. We created it from the discussions and insights provided directly from people who work in our industry every day. And we are going to keep this process of member engagement going. There is no time limit on your input, so please reach out with new ideas, suggestions or comments. Communications is one of our new strategic pillars, so watch for a renewed focus in member communications, starting with our communications survey on pages 23 and 24.

The Value of Ontario's Sheep Industry

Ontario is home to the largest market for processing lambs in Canada and the third largest market in North America. We're important, and our economic impact is huge. Ontario's sheep industry is a valuable and a critical piece of the larger agri-food sector. We can all be proud of our role in this industry. And as an organization, we have a lot of work to do to keep our industry strong. In 2021, OSF staff and board worked diligently, advocating and meeting with levels of government on issues that impact your operation – wildlife damage compensation, risk management programs, processor capacity. We've kept members informed on issues, ideas and activities that relate to the sheep industry, like webinars and education programs, and of course reporting market prices and information. OSF has also supported programs like GenOvis to ensure consistent, measurable genetic improvements for the industry.

I am so proud of our organization and members. We entered a year of uncertainty and are capping it off with a new path forward. As an industry, we came together and I'm optimistic for 2022. Have a safe and happy holiday season. I look forward to connecting again with many of you in the new year. OSN

Editorial policy: Ontario Sheep Farmers welcomes and encourages letters to the editor and article suggestions from farmers and industry partners as a means of communicating with the Ontario Sheep Farmers board of directors and other farmers on issues of importance. Letters may be on any sheep industry topic, including Ontario Sheep Farmers' policies, programs and procedure. Letters may address previous articles or letters to the editor, and the editor may comment on the accuracy of the information in letters. Letters should not exceed 300 words and may be edited for style and grammatical errors. When submitting a letter, please include the name of the author, address, phone number and/or email address (for verification purposes). Printed letters will include the author's name. Potentially defamatory or libelous material, or personal attacks on individuals will not be permitted. If an author feels that the editor has inappropriately edited or not print a letter, a written request can be submitted to the board of directors for review to determine if there has been a violation of *Ontario Sheep News'* editorial policy.



OSF Member Communications Survey

Producer feedback requested; we want to hear from you!

As I write this editorial, I keep thinking to myself where has the year gone? How could it possibly be December? Then I think about how far we have come in the last few years; the challenges we've faced, both personally and as a sector and the many things we must be thankful for. A lot has happened since the September issue of Ontario Sheep News, such as working on our consumer website (lambrecipes.ca), completing the Crossroads Challenge consultations, our Annual General Meeting, and launching the new OSF Strategic Plan.

The Crossroads Challenge process was about recognizing the changing dynamics in Ontario agriculture, the maturing of the sheep sector and allowing input early into the OSF Strategic Planning process. It was in many ways about taking the needed time to listen; whether it be via surveys, townhalls or independent interactions with producers and other sector stakeholders who told us about their vision for the sheep industry or spoke about the challenges to their farms/businesses and provided candid observations about OSF programs. Thank you for the meaningful feedback that you provided us to advance, grow and improve the Ontario sheep sector.

By listening during the Crossroads Challenges we gained a lot of insight from our members. You told us that communication is important to you. The OSF team wants to build on that, and we want to ensure that we continue delivering effective and helpful communications to our membership. That is why we are now asking producer members like you to take part in a short communications survey that is included in this publication on pages 23 and 24. You may complete it and mail back to us, fax it



or fill it out online version by visiting www.ontariosheep.org/Communication%20Survey on or before January 21, 2022. When filling out the survey we ask for your honesty, constructive suggestions, and ideas for how we can better improve our communications with you. We look forward to reviewing the feedback.

Producers who complete the survey will be entered into a draw for one of five \$50 gift cards for the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers. For more information visit www.ontariosheep.org.

In closing, we hope that you enjoy the many articles, advertisements, and updates in this publication of Ontario Sheep News. The team at OSF wish you, your family, and friends a Happy Holiday Season and all the best in 2022! OSN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME

The OSN welcomes letters to the editor.

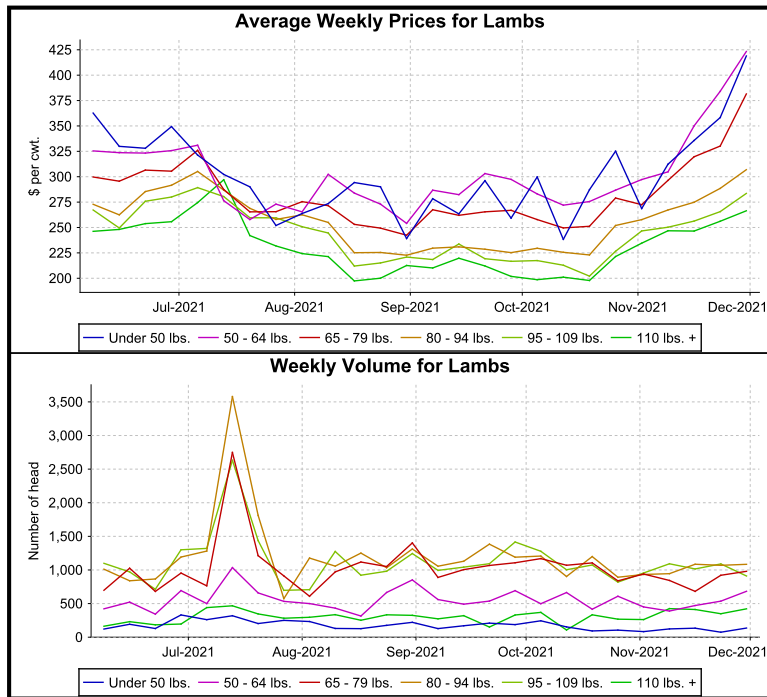
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The Ontario Market Report

Full market information can be found every week in the Ontario Farmer and online at www.OntarioSheep.org under "Market Information". The graphs here show the trends in pricing and volume of the last six months in Ontario
 NOTE: OSI did not submit numbers from September 15th to November 15. OSN



You can also listen to the weekly information by calling 519-836-0043 and press 4 to go to the market line.

Market information for OLEX, the Ontario Stockyards, Brussels and Embrun are recorded every week. You can also find archived weekly summaries on the Market page.

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2021 OSF Annual General Meeting Highlights

New Strategic Plan and Leadership Unveiled

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic the 2021 Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held virtually. Given the virtual format for this year's annual meeting we were able to bring in a guest keynote speaker from New Zealand to present. Melissa Clark-Reynolds ONZM, ChMInstD a futurist spoke about the Future of the Sheep Industry. If you missed the meeting the full presentation recording of Ms. Clark-Reynold's presentation can be found on the OSF YouTube channel located at www.youtube.com/OntarioSheep. We encourage you to watch her informative presentation.

New Leadership Unveiled at AGM

During the OSF Annual General Meeting we welcomed a new Board Chair and several new officers for 2021/2022. John Hemsted, Director for District 6, is the new Chair of Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF). He is joined by 1st Vice Chair Colleen Alloi from District 11 and 2nd Vice Chair Jay Lewis from District 2. OSF also welcomed two new directors to the board. Art Alblas is the new Director for District 1 and Ken Lamb for District 7. Both were elected at district meetings earlier this fall. The remaining board members include Keith Todd, Marusha Kostuk, Heather Little, Gary Fox, Reg Campbell, and Lee Brien. A special shout out to outgoing chairman Marc Carere and Director Ed Post for their years of service to the OSF board.

Building Strength for a Better Future – New OSF Strat Plan Launched

At the annual meeting, the new five-year strategic plan was launched - Building Strength for a Better Future. OSF incoming Chair John Hemsted provided an overview of the plan that was largely developed out of the Crossroads Challenge consultations. John commented that "Ontario's sheep industry has a renewed sense of energy and a great optimism for growth. This is an exciting time to be leading our sector with a refreshed vision for the next five years."

The new strategic plan "Building Strength for a Better Future" was created with grassroots input across the entire sheep value chain over the past 12 months. During the process Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) coined the Crossroads Challenge and sets a roadmap for the organization based on the needs and opportunities identified through the consultative process.



"Our new plan sets an ambitious and engaging path forward for the organization, and we are well positioned to seize the opportunities and address the challenges we heard directly from our members and industry partners," says Hemsted. "I would like to thank Marc Carere for his leadership through the challenging times we've all been through these last few years and for his guidance through this innovative planning process".

Five key deliverables are identified in the OSF strategic plan that are designed to build greater public trust, more dynamic market relationships, more effective business support, and a more robust system to identify leadership and support districts, and a more effective organization to support each member. A copy of the full OSF strategic plan is available at <https://www.ontariosheep.org/strategic-plan>

OSF Awards Recognizing Ontario Sheep Farmers

During this year's event several Ontario sheep farmers received special recognition at annual meeting, with the announcement of the organization's annual award winners. The annual awards program recognized a diverse group of individuals for their contributions to the Ontario sheep sector. "Our industry includes so many outstanding people and we are happy to showcase a few of them each year with our awards program," says John Hemsted, OSF Chair. "We are also excited to be awarding a new Emerging Leader Award for the first time this year to recognize younger producers who are taking a socially responsible approach to the industry." For more details on this year's OSF awards winner please visit pages X and X of this publication or visit www.ontariosheep.org/Awards%20Scholarships. OSN OSN

2021/2022 Ontario Sheep Farmers Board of Directors

The Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) elected its officers for 2021/2022 following its virtual Annual General Meeting.

John Hemsted director for district 6 was elected chair. Colleen Alloi from director from district 11 was elected 1st vice chair and Jay Lewis director from district 2 was elected 2nd vice-chair.

OSF welcomes the following new directors to the board, Ken Lamb and Art Alblas elected at district meetings earlier this fall.

The remaining board members include Keith Todd, Marusha Kostuk, Heather Little, Gary Fox, Reg Campbell and Lee Brien. OSN



2021 Genovis Awards Recipients

The Genovis Awards are given to the Ontario ram lambs in the categories of Dorset, Rideau, Suffolk and AOB (any other breed) born in 2020, completing test with 50- and 100-day weights with the highest growth and maternal growth indexes on October 20, 2021.

Highest Flock Improvement

Shelagh Finn, Lamb Lady Farm of Simcoe County

Dorset Category

Top Gain Index and Top Maternal Index
Jim and Wendy Driscoll of Wellington County

Rideau Category

Top Gain Index and Top Maternal Index
Shelagh Finn of Simcoe County

Suffolk Category

Top Gain Index
Keith Todd of Huron County

Top Maternal Index
Paul Dick of Grey County

Any Other Breed (AOB) Purebred Category

Top Gain Index
Irwin and Spencer Jackson Wellington County

Top Maternal Index
Todd Sheep Company Huron County

Any Other Breed (AOB) Commercial Category

Top Gain Index and Top Maternal Index
Mark and Betty Beringer of Wellington County

Congratulations to the 2021 Award Winners. OSN

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Total Livestock Marketing

2021 Ontario Sheep Farmers Awards

Several Ontario sheep farmers received special recognition at the Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) 2021 virtual annual meeting today, with the announcement of the organization's annual award winners. The annual awards program recognized a diverse group of individuals for their contributions to the Ontario sheep sector.

"Our industry includes so many outstanding people and we are happy to showcase a few of them each year with our awards program," says John Hemsted, OSF Chair. "We are also excited to be awarding a new Emerging Leader Award for the first time this year to recognize younger producers who are taking a socially responsible approach to the industry."

Emerging Leader Award was awarded to Quintin McEwen who received the inaugural OSF Emerging Leader Award for 2021. Quintin is building a reputable Dorset breeding flock together with his wife and two young children in Monkton. He is the current chair of the District 3 Ontario Sheep Committee, a full-time firefighter, a new board member of Farm and Food Care Ontario, and active online advocate for farming. Always the first to volunteer, Quintin leads by example with his infectious enthusiasm, kindness, community outreach and focus on social responsibility.



Outstanding Shepherd Award was awarded to Mark Ritchie and his late wife Cherry Allen were recognized with the 2021 Outstanding Shepherd Award from OSF. When Mark and Cherry bought Foot Flats Farm on Amherst Island in 1989, they set a course to create a genetic base in their flock that was capable of lambing on pasture and growing on grass, arguably shaping the course of what sheep farming now looks like in Ontario.



Long Service Award was awarded to Peter Kudelka who has been involved in the Ontario sheep industry for more than 40 years, earning him the 2021 OSF Long Service Award.

A sheep shearer from Mitchell, Peter grew up on a sheep farm outside of Newmarket and after attending the University of Guelph and working overseas, he bought a farm, his first sheep and a Sunbeam Shearmaster in 1976. That began his lifelong learning and travels as a shearer in Ontario, following all the changes in sheep farming through the years.



OSF Memorial Fund - Industry Leader Award was awarded to Valerie Higginson, a third-year student at the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC), received the 2021 OSF Memorial Fund Industry Leader Award. Raised on a sheep farm in Eastern Ontario, Valerie holds a MSc in animal science and is looking forward to continuing to make significant contributions to the Ontario sheep industry through 2 research. At OVC, Valerie is actively involved as co-president of the Food Animal Club and president of the Theriogenology Club. She's looking forward to travelling to New Zealand next summer to broaden her experience in small ruminant medicine, and further her career as a food animal veterinarian. Valerie's submission to OSF for the Memorial Award can be found on page x



Mapleseed Pasture Award

The Maple Seed Pasture Award is sponsored in part by OSF, Mapleseed and the Ontario Forage Council. This award recognizes individual sheep farmers who are doing an outstanding job of pasture management. The Mapleseed Pasture Award is a way of encouraging sheep farmers to implement pasture management strategies to maximize production per acre. This year's Maple Seed Pasture award went to Brad and Karen Davis of Leeds and Thousand Islands.



Congratulations to this year's winners!



Submission from Valarie Higginson Recipient of the 2021 OSF Memorial Fund – Industry Leader Award

Dear OSF,

From a young age, I have been immersed in agriculture. I was raised on my family’s sheep farm in Eastern Ontario where my passion for sheep, food animals and veterinary medicine began. Heading to the barn after school was what I looked forward to most. Fast forward to 2021, I am now a third year veterinary student at the Ontario Veterinary College, pursuing my childhood aspirations to become a veterinarian. Many years of 4H, undergrad, graduate school and hours on the farm have brought me here today.

Looking ahead to my 5 year goals, I intend to remain heavily involved in the small ruminant industry post-graduation. To obtain this goal, I will be travelling to New Zealand during summer of 2022 to shadow food animal veterinarians and gain experience with the industry in other areas of the world. This will be an invaluable experience as New Zealand has a prosperous and diverse sheep industry, one that I will have many learning opportunities with. I will bring back experience to collaborate with and help producers succeed in the future. Further, during my fourth year of the DVM program, I will be streaming the Food Animal stream, which has many opportunities to take sheep-specific rotations including a lambing rotation with Dr. Charlotte Winder on a local commercial farm.

With guidance from other veterinarians at my future practise, I will bring the knowledge gained during my food animal-focused rotations at OVC to producers. In addition to helping sheep farmers with medical issues, I also intend to assist them with production and reaching their farm’s best potential. Hosting talks to share current research and how it can be applied on farm is just one way that I will work to accomplish this goal. Further, I am passionate about motivating future generations of sheep farmers and veterinarians and would like to be heavily involved in local 4H groups in my community.

Beyond the next 5 years, looking ahead to 2031, I envision myself as an experienced food animal veterinarian, with a positive presence in the Ontario sheep industry. I currently hold a Master of Science degree in Animal Science and I remain passionate about research. Within the next 10 years, I would like to complete a Doctor of Veterinary Science or Residency degree that is focused on small ruminant medicine. There are many gaps in research for the sheep industry and completing further graduate school to tackle some of these is along term goal. By collaborating industry with research, I feel that I can make a significant contribution to the Ontario sheep industry through this role. I would strive to ensure the research done during this degree had practical implications, ones that could be directly applied to the Ontario sheep sector for meaningful and lasting positive impacts for animal health and welfare and viability of the farm.

Ontario sheep producers are among the most hard working individuals in the country. Farmers have shown their incredible ability to overcome challenges and remain resilient. It is their passion for their flock and pride in their product that motivate me to remain immersed in the sheep industry and devote my professional life to helping them succeed.

Valarie Higginson

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors of Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency (the "Organization"), which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at August 31, 2021
- the statement of operations for the year then ended
- the statement of changes in net assets for the year then ended
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- and notes and schedules to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies

(Hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at August 31, 2021 and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our auditors' report.

We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Financial Statements of
**ONTARIO SHEEP
MARKETING AGENCY**
(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)

And Independent Auditors' Report thereon
Year ended August 31, 2021

KPMG LLP is a Canadian limited liability partnership and a member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with the KPMG network, a Swiss entity known as the Swiss Group of Independent Member Firms ("KPMG Network"), a Swiss entity. KPMG Canada provides services to KPMG LLP.



- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

KPMG LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Waterloo, Canada
October 19, 2021



In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)

Statement of Operations

Year ended August 31, 2021, with comparative information for 2020

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|------------|------------|
| Revenue: | | |
| License fees (note 7) | \$ 692,094 | \$ 693,100 |
| Project and program revenue (note 9) | 263,840 | 210,098 |
| Toronto Stock Yards capital revenue | 155,994 | 151,164 |
| Industry programs (note 10) | 41,815 | 25,297 |
| Other income | 24,212 | 53,901 |
| Ontario Sheep News | 20,928 | 17,786 |
| Interest income | 15,394 | 17,732 |
| Annual general meeting | 9,491 | 29,019 |
| Memorial Fund income (note 12) | 3,293 | 517 |
| | 1,227,061 | 1,198,614 |
| General and administrative expenses: | | |
| Staff salaries, benefits and contracted services | 475,977 | 503,167 |
| Research projects and industry programs (note 9) | 251,661 | 286,197 |
| Board and committee | 68,508 | 80,048 |
| Promotion and advocacy | 46,406 | 31,218 |
| Office, Schedule 1 | 44,980 | 36,639 |
| Strategic planning | 40,000 | 980 |
| Industry programs (note 10) | 34,014 | 18,982 |
| Occupancy, Schedule 2 | 32,952 | 37,379 |
| Ontario Sheep News | 30,150 | 24,298 |
| Legal and other professional services | 21,245 | 6,024 |
| Membership fees (note 8) | 17,017 | 21,120 |
| Audit and accounting | 6,940 | 6,200 |
| District grants and education | 6,063 | 5,664 |
| Staff travel | 2,620 | 15,728 |
| Amortization | 2,492 | 2,491 |
| Annual general meeting | 1,976 | 45,510 |
| Bad debts | 890 | 1,269 |
| Memorial Fund payments (note 12) | 500 | 1,000 |
| | 1,084,391 | 1,123,914 |
| Excess of revenue over expenses | \$ 142,670 | \$ 74,700 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)

Statement of Financial Position

August 31, 2021, with comparative information for 2020

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash | \$ 372,063 | \$ 296,100 |
| Short-term investments (note 2) | 613,312 | 597,417 |
| Accounts receivable (note 3) | 330,238 | 268,552 |
| Prepaid expenses | 22,182 | 12,514 |
| | 1,337,795 | 1,174,583 |
| Capital assets (note 4) | - | 2,492 |
| | \$ 1,337,795 | \$ 1,177,075 |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 5) | \$ 139,789 | \$ 123,607 |
| Deferred revenue | 11,543 | 9,675 |
| | 151,332 | 133,282 |
| Long-term liabilities: | | |
| Long-term debt (note 6) | 30,000 | 30,000 |
| | 181,332 | 163,282 |
| Net assets: | | |
| Memorial Fund (note 12) | 17,312 | 14,519 |
| Research and Development Fund | 435,474 | 338,991 |
| Reserve Fund | 380,000 | 80,000 |
| Internally Restricted Fund | 210,380 | 80,000 |
| Operating Fund | 109,297 | 200,283 |
| | 1,156,463 | 1,013,793 |
| Commitments (note 11) | | |
| Impact of COVID-19 (note 15) | \$ 1,337,795 | \$ 1,177,075 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

 Director

 Director

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY
(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)
Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended August 31, 2021, with comparative information for 2020

| | Memorial Fund (note 12) | Research and Development Fund | Operating Fund |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Balance, beginning of year | \$ 14,519 | \$ 338,991 | \$ 200,283 |
| Excess of revenue over expenses | 2,793 | 100,483 | 39,394 |
| Interfund transfers (note 13) | - | - | (130,380) |
| Balance, end of year | \$ 17,312 | \$ 439,474 | \$ 109,297 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY
(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)
Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended August 31, 2021, with comparative information for 2020

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cash provided by (used in): | | |
| Operations: | | |
| Excess of revenue over expenses | \$ 142,670 | \$ 74,700 |
| Item not involving cash: | | |
| Amortization | 2,492 | 2,491 |
| Change in non-cash operating working capital: | | |
| Accounts receivable | (61,686) | (40,188) |
| Prepaid expenses | (9,668) | 13,013 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 16,182 | 5,835 |
| Deferred revenue | 1,868 | (18,746) |
| | <u>91,858</u> | <u>37,105</u> |
| Financing: | | |
| Advance of long-term debt | - | 30,000 |
| Investing: | | |
| Reinvestment of guaranteed investment certificates | (15,895) | (16,661) |
| Increase in cash | 75,963 | 50,444 |
| Cash, beginning of year | 296,100 | 245,656 |
| Cash, end of year | \$ 372,063 | \$ 296,100 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended August 31, 2021

Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency (the "Organization") is a not-for-profit organization incorporated without share capital, under the Ontario Farm Products Marketing Act. The Organization operates as a producer organization, representing all aspects of the lamb, sheep and wool industries in the Province, through marketing, information, advocacy and education. The Organization is a not-for-profit organization under the Income Tax Act and, accordingly, is exempt from income taxes provided certain requirements of the Income Tax Act are met.

1. Significant accounting policies:

The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada Handbook, Part III - Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The Organization's significant accounting policies are as follows:

(a) Revenue recognition:

The Organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are recognized. Deferred revenue represents that portion of revenue in respect of unperformed services at the financial position date.

Revenues and expenses related to the general operations of the Organization are reported in the Operating Fund, which are unrestricted.

The Research and Development Fund accounts primarily for special program activity of the Organization, which has been restricted by the Board of Directors.

Certain resources have been directed by the Board of Directors to be restricted in accordance with the Organization's reserve fund policy.

The Memorial Fund was established to recognize the contributors of past industry leaders and to fund sheep education and development, which has been restricted by the Board of Directors.

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended August 31, 2021

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(b) Contributed services:

A number of volunteers contribute a significant amount of their time each year. Because of the difficulty of determining the fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

(c) Equipment:

Purchased equipment is stated at cost, less accumulated amortization. Amortization is provided using the following method and annual rates:

| Asset | Basis | Rate |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------|
| Computer and office equipment | Straight-line | 33% |
| Leasehold improvements | Straight-line | 33% |

(d) Impairment of long-lived assets:

Long-lived assets, including equipment and leasehold improvements, are amortized over their useful lives. The Organization periodically reviews the useful lives and the carrying values of its long-lived assets for continued appropriateness. The Organization reviews for impairment of long-lived assets (or asset groups) to be held and used whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amounts of the assets may not be recoverable.

(e) Use of estimates:

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the year. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the carrying amounts of accounts receivable, equipment and leasehold improvements, deferred revenue and accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended August 31, 2021

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(f) Financial instruments:

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Freestanding derivative instruments that are not in a qualifying hedging relationship and equity instruments that are quoted in an active market are subsequently measured at fair value. All other financial instruments are subsequently recorded at cost or amortized cost, unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. The Organization has not elected to carry any such financial instruments at fair value.

Transaction costs incurred on the acquisition of financial instruments measured subsequently at fair value are expensed as incurred. All other financial instruments are adjusted by transaction costs incurred on acquisition and financing costs, which are amortized using the straight-line method.

Financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal year if there are indicators of impairment. If there is an indicator of impairment, the Organization determines if there is a significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future cash flows from the financial asset. If there is a significant adverse change in the expected cash flows, the carrying value of the financial asset is reduced to the highest of the present value of the expected cash flows, the amount that could be realized from selling the financial asset or the amount the Organization expects to realize by exercising its right to any collateral. If events and circumstances reverse in a future period, an impairment loss will be reversed to the extent of the improvement, not exceeding the initial carrying value.

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ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended August 31, 2021

2. Short-term investments:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|------------|------------|
| Guaranteed investment certificates - at fair value | \$ 605,411 | \$ 589,516 |
| 738 shares in Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Limited - at cost (restricted for scholarships) | 7,901 | 7,901 |
| | \$ 613,312 | \$ 597,417 |

The guaranteed investment certificates earn interest at rates ranging from 1.30% to 2.90% and mature in November 2021 through to December 2023. The guaranteed investment certificates include \$380,000 (2020 - \$380,000) representing cash that is restricted and is included in the Reserve Fund.

3. Accounts receivable:

At August 31, 2021, accounts receivable is net of an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$5,550 (2020 - \$5,550).

4. Capital assets:

| | 2021 | | 2020 | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Cost | Accumulated amortization | Net book value | Net book value |
| Computer and office equipment | \$ 67,322 | \$ 67,322 | \$ - | \$ 2,492 |
| Leasehold improvements | 22,132 | 22,132 | - | - |
| | \$ 89,454 | \$ 89,454 | \$ - | \$ 2,492 |

5. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities are government remittances payable of \$26,780 (2020 - \$38,033), which includes amounts payable for sales and payroll related taxes.

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ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended August 31, 2021

6. Long-term debt:

In 2020, the Organization received an advance of \$40,000 pursuant to the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) Loan Program.

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|------|------|
| | | |

The CEBA Loan Program provided a \$40,000 advance. If the Organization repays the balance of the advance on or before December 31, 2022, this will result in forgiveness of 25 percent of the amount repaid (up to \$10,000 if the maximum is received). The advance is interest free until December 31, 2022 with no set principal repayments. Unpaid balances as of December 31, 2022 will be converted into a three year term loan at 5% interest, with monthly interest payments only. Principal and any accrued interest is due by December 31, 2025.

| | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| | \$ 30,000 | \$ 30,000 |
|--|-----------|-----------|

Interest of \$nil (2020 - \$nil) relating to long-term debt has been included in interest expense.

In 2020, the Organization recorded a government grant for \$10,000 which is included in other income. The amount represents the maximum amount to be forgiven under the CEBA Loan Program.

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended August 31, 2021

7. License fees:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| Auction fees | \$ 418,027 | \$ 408,204 |
| Slaughter license fees | 250,507 | 268,139 |
| Direct license fees | 21,443 | 11,770 |
| Wool license fees | 2,117 | 4,987 |
| | \$ 692,094 | \$ 693,100 |

The wool license fees are included within the Research and Development Fund.

8. Membership fees:

During the year, the Organization paid the following industry membership fees:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| CanLead Solutions | \$ 150 | \$ 150 |
| Animal Health Initiatives | 950 | 1,583 |
| General Farm Organizations | 3,000 | 5,706 |
| Animal Care Initiatives | 7,800 | 4,200 |
| Provincial Commodity Discussion / Lobby Groups | 3,384 | 7,481 |
| Meat and Poultry Ontario | 1,483 | 1,750 |
| Livestock Research Innovation Corporation | 250 | 250 |
| | \$ 17,017 | \$ 21,120 |

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended August 31, 2021

9. Project and program revenue and expenses:

During the year, the Organization managed the following programs:

| | 2021 Revenue | 2021 Expenses | 2020 Revenue | 2020 Expenses |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Industry Research: | | | | |
| CAP Grasslands Project | - | - | - | 5,000 |
| R 21-5 Ovipast Vaccine | - | 25,000 | - | - |
| Pregnancy Toxemia | - | 6,200 | - | - |
| R 16-1 Gastrointestinal | - | - | - | - |
| Nematode | - | - | - | 6,569 |
| R 16-2 Prod. Mental Health | - | - | - | 2,500 |
| R 16-4 Fibre | - | - | - | 13,669 |
| Foodland Definition | - | - | - | 2,500 |
| Tech Transfer Project | - | - | - | - |
| (COVID-19) | 127,675 | 125,165 | - | - |
| Production Insurance | 40,641 | - | 82,339 | 125,977 |
| Coccidiosis Project | - | - | - | 2,500 |
| Testing Programs: | - | - | - | - |
| MAEDI-VISNA | 95,524 | 95,296 | 127,759 | 127,482 |
| | \$ 263,840 | \$ 251,661 | \$ 210,098 | \$ 286,197 |

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ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended August 31, 2021

10. Industry program revenue and expenses:

During the year, the Organization managed the following industry programs:

| | 2021 Revenue | 2021 Expenses | 2020 Revenue | 2020 Expenses |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Fecal egg count course | 1,950 | - | - | 1,637 |
| Master shepherd course | 36,641 | - | 17,890 | 14,846 |
| Introduction to small ruminant course | 2,841 | - | 1,949 | 1,108 |
| Lenders seminar | - | 34,014 | - | 41 |
| Euthanasia course | - | - | 4,000 | - |
| Parasite management | 383 | - | 708 | 1,350 |
| Support industry program | - | - | 750 | - |
| | \$ 41,815 | \$ 34,014 | \$ 25,297 | \$ 18,982 |

11. Commitments:

The Organization is committed to minimum annual operating lease payments of \$1,110 for 2022.

12. Memorial fund:

The Memorial Fund was established to recognize the contributions of past industry leaders as well as to fund sheep education and development. During the year, the following activity occurred:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Balance, beginning of year | \$ 14,519 | \$ 15,002 |
| Donations | 2,776 | - |
| Investment income | 517 | 517 |
| Memorial Fund payments | (500) | (1,000) |
| Balance, end of year | \$ 17,312 | \$ 14,519 |

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ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended August 31, 2021

13. Interfund transfers:

The Board of Directors approved a transfer of \$40,000 from the Internally Restricted Fund to the Operating Fund for government relations expenses in fiscal 2021. The Board of Directors approved a transfer of \$170,380 from the Operating Fund to the Internally Restricted Fund for planned initiatives in fiscal 2022.

14. Financial risks:

The Organization manages its investment portfolio to earn investment income and invests according to a Statement of Investment Policy approved by The Board. The Organization is not involved in any hedging relationships through its operations and does not hold or use any derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

Credit risk is the risk that other parties fail to perform as contracted. The Organization is exposed to credit risk principally through accounts receivable. Credit risk on accounts receivable arises from the possibility that the entities which owe funds to the Organization may not fulfill their obligation. Collectibility is reviewed regularly and an allowance for doubtful accounts is established to recognize the impairment risks identified.

The Organization believes that it is not exposed to significant market, or cash flow risk arising from its financial instruments.

Additionally, the Organization believes it is not exposed to significant liquidity risk as all investments are held in instruments that are highly liquid and can be disposed of to settle commitments. The short-term investments yield interest ranging from 1.30% to 2.90% and mature in November 2021 through to December 2023. The Organization is not exposed to interest rate risk on its long-term debt as long-term debt is at 0% interest and in future years at a fixed interest rate of 5%.

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY

(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended August 31, 2021

15. Impact of COVID-19:

In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak a pandemic. The pandemic has resulted in significant financial, market and societal impacts in Canada and around the world. The ultimate duration and magnitude of the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on the Organization's operations and financial position is not known at this time. There remains uncertainty for the upcoming year regarding the aforementioned items. These impacts could include a decline in future cash flows, changes to the value of financial assets and liabilities, and the use of accumulated net assets to sustain operations. An estimate of the financial effect of the pandemic on the Organization is not practicable at this time.

ONTARIO SHEEP MARKETING AGENCY
(OPERATING AS ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS)

Schedule 1 - Office Expense

Year ended August 31, 2021, with comparative information for 2020

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Computer maintenance and supplies | \$ 22,028 | \$ 11,658 |
| Supplies and rentals | 7,267 | 9,381 |
| Postage | 8,042 | 8,608 |
| Telephone | 3,735 | 3,496 |
| Miscellaneous | 2,545 | 3,040 |
| Bank charges and interest | 1,363 | 456 |
| | \$ 44,980 | \$ 36,639 |

Schedule 2 - Occupancy Expense

Year ended August 31, 2021, with comparative information for 2020

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Rent | \$ 21,590 | \$ 25,668 |
| Insurance | 6,823 | 6,872 |
| Building equipment and maintenance | 3,900 | 4,300 |
| Security | 539 | 539 |
| | \$ 32,952 | \$ 37,379 |

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Meeting the Chair

OSF has a new chair, John Hemsted. A new board chair is often introduced with a brief bio outlining past accomplishments, and John's list is extensive.

John has been around the livestock industry for a long time. He's been raising sheep for more than 40 years, is a 20-year member of OSF (including past chair) and has taken an active role in national, provincial and local agriculture.

We thought members might like to get to know more about John, beyond his bio. So, we asked OSF district executive what questions they have for John. We received 14 individual questions that ran the gauntlet from specific industry issues to the age of John's beard. Over the next few months, we'll be sharing John's answers to each question, starting with a few from the more personal "get to know you" category. Here are the first questions we put to John.

Q1. Please give us a good bio. How many sheep do you have? What breed? Annual or acceleration? How many years in the business? Do you have an off-farm job? Have you ever been part of any of the sheep health/genetic programs? If not, why not. How long

have you been a board member? What committees have you sat on in the past?

Let me start by saying that I'm on the backside of my career. We have transitioned to a small flock of 20 sheep. I once heard it said that the last thing an ag organization needs is to be run by a bunch of old grey-haired guys with no skin in the game.

I guess that describes me fairly well. But I do bring a few things with the grey hair, including more than 40 years in the business. That

experience, including involvement across the livestock spectrum, provides a perspective of the industry beyond the farm gate and an understanding of where and how our industry fits in the big picture of agriculture.



I have participated in some of the earliest genetics programs, including an on-farm program with my veterinarian. I've served on just about every committee from predation to finance and of course, I was an ex-officio member of every committee from 2000-2006 when I served as chair.

Q2. Since John raises British milk sheep, does he milk his sheep?

We are not currently set up to milk our sheep. We have milked sheep, primarily to validate production records for our ewes and rams.

Q3. Why should producers get involved in their districts?

Getting involved with your district allows gives you some measure of influence in your destiny. It is a great opportunity to get a better understanding of the industry and a chance to direct the future. The best reason to give time and effort to your district is you can be a shepherd. Shepherd's lead, sheep follow. Shepherd's can and do influence the future.

When I first began farming, I came to understand the contributions of people who gave their time to make sure people like me could farm. I decided then that when I had the opportunity to make a difference, I would do what I could to ensure future generations had the same opportunity. I'd encourage people to be a shepherd.

Honouring the efforts of those who came before us is not just a good thing to do. It's essential that we have a voice in our future instead of following the dictates of a nameless analyst in a government office.

Q4. How long have you had the beard?

Well, let me put it this way, my wife and my daughter have never seen my cleanshaven face. **OSN**

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OSF Member Communications Survey

Ontario Sheep Farmers wants to hear from members about the communication we provide to you. We have created a short survey you can complete and mail back or fill it in online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/OSFcommsurvey. Please complete the survey on or before January 21, 2022. We ask for your honesty, constructive suggestions, and ideas for how we can improve in communicating with you. Thank you for your time and interest, and we look forward to reviewing your feedback. *Please use a separate piece of paper if you need extra space for any of the questions.*

We're giving away **five \$50 CCWG gift certificates** - be sure to fill in your name and contact information to be entered in the draw.

Name _____

Farm name _____ **OSF number** _____

Phone number _____ **Email** _____

1. How do you currently receive information from OSF? Check all that apply.

- Weekly Messenger email (including printed copies at sales barns)
- OSF Twitter
- OSF Facebook
- ontariosheep.org
- Ontario Sheep News magazine
- Meetings/events - in-person or virtual
- Direct email from OSF
- District communications (please specify, i.e., email, mail, phone, etc.)
- Other (please specify) _____

2. Please rank the following OSF communication vehicles based on how you prefer to receive information from OSF. (1 is best route, 2 is second best, etc.)

- ___ Weekly Messenger email
- ___ OSF Twitter
- ___ OSF Facebook
- ___ ontariosheep.org
- ___ Ontario Sheep News magazine
- ___ Meetings/events - in-person or virtual
- ___ Direct email from OSF
- ___ District communications (please specify, i.e., email, phone call, mailed material, social media)

3. Please complete the following, considering the communications you currently receive from OSF.

| OSF Communication Vehicle | Frequency | | | |
|---|------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|
| | Not often enough | Just right | Too often | Not applicable |
| Messenger email | | | | |
| OSF Twitter | | | | |
| OSF Facebook | | | | |
| Ontario Sheep News magazine | | | | |
| OSF webinars | | | | |
| ontariosheep.org | | | | |
| District meetings/events/communications | | | | |



4. Are there any additional communication vehicles that OSF is not currently using that you would recommend as an effective way for OSF to communicate with members?

For example, other social media channels (Instagram, YouTube), or print media (regional and/or farm specific such as Farmtario or Ontario Farmer).

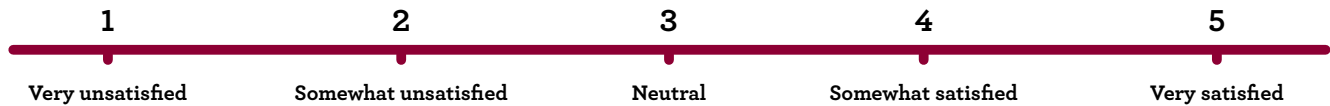
5. What type of information are you looking for from OSF?

- Market information
- Continued learning opportunities (e.g., Master Shepherd)
- Sheep industry news
- Board reports/governance
- Advocacy work
- Other (please specify) _____
- General Ontario agriculture news

6. Please provide any specific input, ideas, feedback for the following OSF communication channels.

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
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Farm Animal Theft Forces Ottawa Valley Farmers to Fight for Law Enforcement

By Jeanine Moyer

Farming within the Ottawa city limits means Lyndsey Smith and Chris Moore, owners of Shady Creek Lamb Co., are accustomed to farming in the public eye. The couple pasture their sheep all year long, including some off-farm solar grazing locations that border public areas and walking trails where their livestock are known to attract the attention of the local public and people passing by. But when one of their guardian sheep dogs was stolen in September 2021, they quickly received a crash course in dealing with the public and navigating the new trespassing regulations.

“Given our farm and grazing locations, I was mentally prepared for some type of incident to occur, like an unsolicited visitor, or people taking pictures of our sheep,” says Smith. “But I was caught off guard and shocked by the audacity of people when someone took one of our guardian dogs from a solar grazing site more than an hour’s drive from our home farm.”

In the weeks ahead of the incident, Smith was aware a photo of one of their dogs had been posted to a local Facebook page where questions and concerns about the dog’s wellbeing were expressed. “Our employee saw the post, but it was soon removed after the person realized the

Tips for protecting your farm from trespassing

Under the *Trespass to Property Act*, 1990, trespassing is defined as anyone who enters private property, including farmland, without the owner’s permission, or who is not acting under a right or authority conferred by law. That’s the legal definition, and while farmers should understand their rights and obligations under the regulations, preventing trespassing can be just as important. Here are some tips for protecting your farm, animals and property from unwanted visitors.

- Post “No Trespassing” signs and any necessary biosecurity signs around the property and on buildings to clearly mark private property
- Ensure any Category B animal protection zones are clearly marked with appropriate signage and that boundaries are designated
- Lock all building doors and vehicles, removing keys from machinery and store somewhere safe
- Monitor visitors and watch for suspicious vehicles or activities on or around farm property
- Consider adding video surveillance to barns or high traffic areas of the farm
- Train family and employees on how to respond to unwanted visitors and situations that would require calling the police

dog was meant to be in the pasture,” she explains. “But the post was up long enough for at least one person to, as our employee said, “get a little crazy” with the comments.” Smith and Moore quickly responded to the concerns by posting additional signage at the solar grazing site with their contact information, in an effort to direct any concerns directly to themselves rather than posting on social media. But that didn’t deter someone from leaving dog food along the outside of the fence, something that could have caused serious harm if their sheep ingested it. And then their guardian dog went missing.

Smith says the most frustrating aspect of the ordeal was their first interaction with law enforcement. The couple reported what they believed was the theft of their guardian animal to the OPP, only to be dismissed because the officer lacked any understanding of the provincial trespassing regulations that govern these types of situations. Moore explained to the officer that the missing dog was not a pet, but rather an integral part of their farm and the food system. In the end, the detective work was left up to Smith and Moore to find their guardian dog.

Continued on page 26.



What the officer didn't understand, was that under provincial regulations, guardian animals are considered farm animals and are protected under the *Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020*. "This act is specific to farms and other properties where farm animals are located," says Danie Glanc, Farm Policy Analyst with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. "It's a fairly new piece of legislation, protecting Ontario farm animals, farms, farmers and their families, agri-food employees, and the safety of the entire food supply by addressing the ongoing threat of unwanted trespassing and from unauthorized interactions with farm animals." Glanc also notes the *Trespass to Property Act, 1990* also applies to this situation, with regulations that protect farmers and landowners from unauthorized visitors.

What is an Animal Protection Zone?

The *Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act* establishes areas that are considered animal protection zones. It is within these "zones" that the act applies. An animal protection zone, with respect to a farm, animal processing facility or prescribed premises, means an area on the farm, facility or premises on which farm animals may be kept or located. There are three types of animal protection zones established under the act:

- Category A: An enclosure for farm animals (such as barns and fully fenced pastures)
- Category B: Areas signed as animal protection zones by the owner or occupier, which meet prescribed requirements in accordance with the regulations
- Category C: Other areas prescribed by the regulations as an animal protection zone

It's important livestock farmers understand how the *Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act* applies to their operation so they can properly report incidents and advocate for enforcement. "Knowing which areas of your operation – from farm to table – are considered animal protection zones is critical," says Danie Glanc, Farm Policy Analyst with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. "Farmers also need to understand signage requirements for these areas and what constitutes interference and interactions." For example, category B and C animal protection zones are not protected under the act when farm animals are not present in the area. Guardian animals, including dogs, donkeys and alpacas are considered farm animals under the act. And anyone found guilty of an offence under the act can be held responsible for any injuries, losses or damages that occur as a result of their actions. People are also prohibited from stopping, hindering, obstructing, or otherwise interfering with a motor vehicle that is transporting farm animals.



Understand Your Farm and Protection Laws

When Smith appealed to social media and local community groups for information about the lost dog, accusations and false claims that the dog wasn't being cared for were made on the public forum. The community did step up to help the couple source out who had taken the dog, and eventually the dog was returned to the solar grazing site. "We're grateful to the people who helped us find our dog," says Smith. "And we've learned a lot from this experience."

Glanc reminds farmers that, in situations like this, they need to know how trespassing regulations apply to their farm operations. "While there are mechanisms in place for local law enforcement to learn about these new laws, it's always important farmers know their rights and obligations under each of the trespassing regulations that apply to their

farms,” says Glanc. This includes familiarizing yourself with areas on your farm that are considered animal protection zones and where the *Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act* and *Trespass to Property Act* applies within your operation. “Farmers also need to be prepared to communicate this information to enforcement officers in the event of a trespass or theft incident,” says Glanc.

And, if farmers are concerned about the safety of their farm, family and animals as a result of social media discussions, and aren't in immediate danger, they can take these concerns to the police, using their non-emergency number, 416-808-2222. “Remember to always record any relevant information or take screen shots to provide to police. I also recommend farmers don't engage the (social media) posters in these kinds of discussion, but contact the relevant authorities if you are worried,” says Glanc.

Lessons Learned

Unfortunately for Smith and Moore, their trespassing problems didn't end with the return of their guardian dog. “We realized someone had cut the perimeter fence of our solar grazing site, so once again, we took our concerns to the police,” says Smith. This time the OPP took them seriously, and the solar company got involved, helping to raise the level of concern. Glanc points out that, under the *Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act* any interference or interaction with an animal protection zone is an offence, “and this includes leaving a gate open on purpose or creating conditions where farm animals can escape their enclosure,” says Glanc.

Three different types of signs are now posted at the solar grazing site to identify the pasture as a designated animal protection zone, recognize biosecurity and warn not to approach the working dogs, along with contact information for Smith and Moore to personally address questions or concerns.

“The first thing I've learned is that this type of situation is possible,” says Smith. “The second is we that should have been more proactive, and we need to make it easy for people to reach us by posting more signage.”

The couple are also in the process of increasing security on their home farm, installing a gate in their laneway and posting signage. Smith says it's been a wakeup call for them and she hopes her story can help other sheep farmers realize that the possibility of trespassing and theft is real. “It's been a learning experience for us and the local OPP,” she says. **OSN**

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Transition Period Impacts on Ewe and Lamb Metabolites

By Marlene Paibomesai, Dairy Specialist OMAFRA

The transition period between pregnancy and lactation is a time of high metabolic demand for dairy ewes. It is typically a time of low dry matter intake, which can increase metabolic challenges and results in negative energy balance. Negative energy balance is when an ewe is unable to consume enough energy to meet her current demands. In the diet, energy can come from different sources including carbohydrates, fat, and even protein. Some of these are easier to convert to energy used by the ewe, while others are more challenging to convert. Several weeks prior to lambing the ewe begins mobilizing fat and breaking down skeletal muscle for protein to increase energy availability for growing fetuses. Inadequate energy at this time can lead to lower birth weights and challenges with lamb production and health. It can also create challenges in early lactation when metabolic demand is high for milk production. This article will focus on results from a study completed in Spain on negative energy balance of dairy ewes.

This research was completed in Spain by Pesantez-Pacheco et al, 2019, and they wanted to know the impacts of maternal factors such as weight, parity, number of fetuses and body condition on circulating metabolites of transition Lacaune dairy ewes and lambs. The researchers sampled 426 ewes through lambing and the 584 lambs that were born to those ewes in two cohorts. The cohorts were an April/May lambing group and a December lambing group. The average production of these ewes was 1.71L per day with an average lactation length of 201 days and a dry off period of 64 days. The ewes were sampled 3 times over the production period, at mid-pregnancy (70-80 days pregnant), late pregnancy (138-146 days pregnant) and early lactation (48-57 days after lambing). On sampling days ewes were body condition scored and a blood sample was taken.



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The researchers found that first lactation ewes and multiple lactation ewes both lost body condition score after lambing in early lactation. The average BCS score during late pregnancy of mature ewes was 3.0 and first lactation ewes had a BCS of 2.5. In early lactation, after lambing, both first lactation and multiple lactation ewes had dropped condition, but multiple lactation ewes had lost almost 1.0 body condition score by 50 days in milk. Higher body condition score ewes (BCS ≥ 3.0) in late pregnancy and in early lactation had higher concentrations of triglycerides and cholesterol (an energy source) and increased urea concentrations (component of protein break down). Sheep with a lower body condition score (BCS ≤ 2.0) had lower concentrations of triglycerides, cholesterol and urea compared to the higher body condition score ewes.

The researchers also showed that all ewes were in negative energy balance in late pregnancy and early lactation, as shown by the increase beta-hydroxybutyrate (BHB), which is a key indicator of fat mobilization in the body. Low body condition scored ewes showed a peak in late pregnancy that rapidly decreased in early lactation. This was accounted for by the low milk volumes produced by low body condition score ewes the $1.4\text{L} \pm 0.53\text{L}$ compared to higher body condition

score (BCS ≥ 3.0) at 2.28 ± 0.73 L/day. The lambs from ewes with high body condition score showed increased lipid metabolism compared to lambs from low BCS ewes. This indicates that experience by the lamb during late pregnancy can influence early life metabolism.

Overall, the researchers found that ewes, regardless of parity and age, were subject to negative energy balance in late pregnancy and early lactation. Ewes that were coming into their first lactation were more challenged by negative energy balance than mature ewes. This indicates that we need to at least monitor body condition score and potentially separate first lactation ewes from multiple lactation ewes for improved nutritional management. Producers should aim for body condition score 3.0 at lambing. Monitoring body condition score through the production cycle gives producers key information that allow for more precise feeding which can improve metabolic health of the ewes and the lambs. **OSN**



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Ontario Sheep Farmers Professional Development Courses

Looking for ways to improve on farm production?
Sign up for one of our professional development courses today!

Ontario sheep Farmers (OSF) offers several online professional development courses aimed at assisting producers either looking to get into sheep production or are looking to tune up on their sheep production skills and improve their operation. Check out the courses below currently being offered by Ontario Sheep Farmers!

Online Introduction to Small Ruminant Production

Are you looking to get started in small ruminant production? To help facilitate education and knowledge transfer, Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) offer an online Introduction to Small Ruminant Production Course. Each online module covers both sheep (meat, fibre, and dairy) and goat (meat, fibre, and dairy) species, providing an overview of each of the sectors and introductory concepts. The online professional development course is designed for

individuals who are thinking about starting a sheep and/or goat farm and can be viewed at your own pace in the comfort of your home. Registrants are given 60 days to complete the course.

- The course fee: \$30 per participant.
- For more details visit www.ontariosheep.org/programs

Online Parasite Management Course

This new self-guided online course focuses on parasite management in Ontario. Parasite management is always a challenging topic for producers. This course is geared toward sheep and goat producers.

Each self-guided module will take approximately 75 minutes to complete which includes 50 minutes of presentation time and the module quiz. The course is broken down into 6 modules.

- The course fee: \$50 per participant.
- For more details visit www.ontariosheep.org/programs

Master Shepherds Course

Master Shepherd's Course is a wrap - almost!

As you read this issue of OSN, Module 11 of the Master Shepherd's Course will be complete. Students who have completed all modules will be presenting their business plans as part of Module 12 in the New Year.

We initially offered the course as in-person format but did not have enough registrants for it to go ahead. Concerns over covid (think back to July-August 2020) pushed us to offer the online format, and I must say, the online format has been a success. It enabled OSF to offer the course at half the price of the in-person format. That combined with each module being spread over 8 evening sessions and the ability of a registrant to start at any time, resulted in more producers participating. We started with 12 fulltime students in September 2020, quickly building to 27 by Module 4 and to 30 fulltime at the start of Module 11. As well, 20 additional producers registered for 34 single modules.

The success of a program like this depends heavily on people giving of their time, knowledge, and experience. To these folks, a heart-felt thank you from myself, OSF and the course registrants. OSN



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April 2, 2022

LOCATION
South Mountain Agricultural Hall
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We hope you will join us.
More details to follow in the March issue.

P.S. We are looking for advertisers for our booklet and vendors. Please contact Ghislain Mayer at **613-330-2856** or by email **ghislainmayer90@gmail.com** with any leads.



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M2 Reproduction - Chris Buschbeck, Markdale Veterinary Services; Delma Kennedy OMAFRA, Chris Clark, Western College of Veterinary Medicine; Anita O'Brien OSF

M3 Lambing & Lamb Rearing - Marlene Paibomesai, OMAFRA; Richard Ehrhardt, Michigan State University; Paula Menzies, Professor Emerita, Ontario Veterinary College; Heather Aitken, Rideau- St. Lawrence Veterinary Services; Delma Kennedy, OMAFRA; Eadie Steele, Norwood; Mark Ritchie, Footflats Farm, Stella; Anita O'Brien, OSF

M4 Business Planning - Erich Weber, OMAFRA; Delma Kennedy, OMAFRA; John Molenhuis, OMAFRA; Kate Henderson & Jason Emke, Farm Credit Canada; Earl Pollock, Farm Life Financial, Lyn ON; Ursina Studhalter, Farming Frontiers, Shawville Quebec; Anita O'Brien OSF

M5 Flock Nutrition - Paul Luimes, Ridgetown Campus, UofGuelph; Courtney Vriens, Vriens Nutrition Consulting; Delma Kennedy, OMAFRA; Dan Morrical, Premier1, Iowa; Joel Bagg, Quality Seeds; Vince Stutzki, Elmcrest Farms, Paisley; Anita O'Brien OSF

M6 Predation & Pasture - Patrick Hubert, OMNRF; Brent Patterson, OMNRF; Mark Ritchie, Footflats Farm, Stella; Owen Fraser, OMNRF; Alan Whitlam, Sand Bay Sheep Lansdowne; Christine O'Reilly, OMAFRA; Jim Johnston, Pasture Hill Farms, New Liskeard; Tim Campbell, Gallagher NA; Jake Munroe, OMAFRA; Anita O'Brien, OSF

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M10 Feedlot & Dairy - Phillip Wilman, OMAFRA; Chris Buschbeck, Markdale Veterinary Services; Paul Luimes, Ridgetown Campus, University of Guelph; Christoph Wand, OMAFRA; John Steele, Norwood; Anita O'Brien, OSF

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Next Offering - planning is underway for the next offering of the Master Shepherd Course. Target start is September 2022. Course details will be shared through the Messenger, future OSN issues and the course webpage <https://www.ontariosheep.org/master-shepherds-course>.

For more information visit www.ontariosheep.ca **OSN**

What is the Value of Culling Ewes for Production?

By Delma Kennedy, Sheep Specialist, OMAFRA

One of the most important decisions on your farm could be the decision to cull ewes. The reason for this is the cost of feed. Feed is one of the largest farm expenses and feeding a ewe that does not produce a market lamb can quickly make your operation unprofitable if that one unproductive ewe is actually several or many ewes. I'm not saying that any sheep farmers have ewes on the farm that didn't breed last year, I hope you don't. But what about the ewes that lambled but didn't have as many marketable lambs as most of the ewes?

Culling for Production Example

Assume that a group of 16 prolific crossbred ewes are all the same age and on average have had 35 lambs born and 29 lambs marketed per year over the past 3 years. Table 1 shows the average number of lambs born and marketed per lambing for each individual ewe. I have assumed that the number marketed is the same as marketable.

Table 1. Lifetime average number born and marketed for 16 individual ewes.

| Ewe Tag | Avg # Born | Avg # Marketed |
|------------|-------------|----------------|
| 2 | 1.67 | 1.67 |
| 9 | 1.33 | 1.33 |
| 11 | 2.50 | 2.50 |
| 17 | 3.33 | 2.33 |
| 36 | 1.75 | 1.00 |
| 37 | 3.00 | 2.25 |
| 68 | 1.50 | 0.75 |
| 72 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| 104 | 2.33 | 1.67 |
| 228 | 2.25 | 1.75 |
| 300 | 2.50 | 2.25 |
| 368 | 2.50 | 2.25 |
| 369 | 2.25 | 2.00 |
| 372 | 1.50 | 1.50 |
| 452 | 3.00 | 2.50 |
| 537 | 1.33 | 1.33 |
| Avg | 2.17 | 1.82 |

The average results have been very good with 2.17 lambs born and 1.82 lambs marketed per ewe. In culling for production, it isn't reasonable to cull everything below average, that would be half of the flock. Table 2 shows the same numbers sorted by average number born on the left and marketed on the right. It is much easier when the group is sorted to determine how many poor performers could be culled.

Table 2. Lifetime average number born and marketed for 16 ewes sorted by # born (left) and by # marketed (right).

| Ewe Tag | Avg # Born | Avg # Marketed | Ewe Tag | Avg # Born | Avg # Marketed |
|------------|-------------|----------------|------------|-------------|----------------|
| 17 | 3.33 | 2.33 | 11 | 2.50 | 2.50 |
| 37 | 3.00 | 2.25 | 452 | 3.00 | 2.50 |
| 452 | 3.00 | 2.50 | 17 | 3.33 | 2.33 |
| 11 | 2.50 | 2.50 | 37 | 3.00 | 2.25 |
| 300 | 2.50 | 2.25 | 300 | 2.50 | 2.25 |
| 368 | 2.50 | 2.25 | 368 | 2.50 | 2.25 |
| 104 | 2.33 | 1.67 | 72 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| 228 | 2.25 | 1.75 | 369 | 2.25 | 2.00 |
| 369 | 2.25 | 2.00 | 228 | 2.25 | 1.75 |
| 72 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2 | 1.67 | 1.67 |
| 36 | 1.75 | 1.00 | 104 | 2.33 | 1.67 |
| 2 | 1.67 | 1.67 | 372 | 1.50 | 1.50 |
| 68 | 1.50 | 0.75 | 9 | 1.33 | 1.33 |
| 372 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 537 | 1.33 | 1.33 |
| 9 | 1.33 | 1.33 | 36 | 1.75 | 1.00 |
| 537 | 1.33 | 1.33 | 68 | 1.50 | 0.75 |
| Avg | 2.35 | 1.92 | Avg | 2.32 | 2.00 |

In this example I decided to cull 3 ewes or the bottom 19%. In the table on the right, there is actually no difference between ewe #9 who is kept and #537 who is culled but culling 4 animals would be 25% of the flock, which was too many ewes. The last row of each chart shows the average number born and marketable if the bottom 3 ewes are not included. The average number marketable per ewe fed is better, if marketable lambs produced is tracked and used for culling. Although tracking number born is easier, using number marketable is more effective.

Table 3 makes it easier to see the consequences of culling or not culling. Culling on number born increases the number marketed by 5.5% and culling on marketable lambs increases the number marketed per ewe by 9.9%.

Table 3. Average number born and marketed, and total number born and marketed with no culling and culling scenarios.

| Scenarios | Avg # Born | Avg # Marketed | Total # Born | Total # Marketed |
|--|------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1 - No Culling | 2.17 | 1.82 | 35 | 29 |
| 2 - Cull 3 ewes on # Born | 2.35 | 1.92 | 31 | 24 |
| 3 - Cull 3 ewes on # Marketed | 2.32 | 2.00 | 30 | 26 |
| 4 - Cull 3 on Marketed, replace with 3 avg performance ewes | 2.32 | 2.00 | 37 | 32 |

Scenario 4 in table 3 shows the consequences of culling on number marketed and selecting replacement ewes. It is assumed that the replacement ewes will have a performance that is average, for the group of 13 selected ewes, after culling on number of lambs marketed. In this scenario, the same number of ewes are fed and there are 3 extra lambs (10 % more) that could be marketed.

To understand how this might work in a production cycle, assumptions have to be made:

- All 16 original ewes lamb in first 2 years for all scenarios
- In year 2, after the second lambing, production culling decisions are made
- Replacement ewes average 1 marketable lamb in year 3
- Replacement ewes average the same performance as the ewes in scenario 3 for the year 4 lambing.

Table 4 shows the results of four years based on the assumptions above and four different scenarios: no culling, culling 3 ewes based on number born, culling 3 ewes based on number marketed and culling 3 ewes based on number marketed and replacing those ewes with 3 ewes selected from the top ewes.

Table 4. Number of marketable lambs per year, in total, per ewe and average number of ewes fed per year for 4 scenarios.

| Scenarios | # Marketable lambs | | | | | Total per ewe | Ave # ewes fed/yr |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|---------------|-------------------|
| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Total | | |
| 1 - No culling | 29 | 29 | 29 | 29 | 116 | 7.25 | 16 |
| 2 - Culling # born | 29 | 29 | 24 | 24 | 106 | 7.31 | 14.5 |
| 3 - Culling # marketed | 29 | 29 | 26 | 26 | 110 | 7.5 | 14.5 |
| 4 - Culling # marketed +3 selected | 29 | 29 | 26+3 | 32 | 119 | 7.4 | 16 |

Culling clearly improves the number of marketable lambs by up to .25 lambs per ewe. Downsizing results in the highest number of lambs per ewe but the most common scenario will be to replace those culled ewes to maintain a consistent ewe flock size. If the replacements lamb at a year of age and produce an average of 1 marketable lamb, there will be no loss in number of marketable lambs compared to no culling. If replacements are kept from the best ewes in the flock, it is reasonable to assume that they will produce the average of the culled flock by their second lambing and hopefully their performance would be better than average in future years.

In this example, the value of the culling and selecting scenario is an extra 3 lambs to market in year 4 for the same ewe cost.

What Do You Do in Real Life?

The example illustrates that there is money to be made by culling the poorest performing ewes in your flock. However, the problem is always in the details and the situation is more complex on farm. How many poorer performing ewes should be culled? First ewes should be culled on:

- Reproductive problems or not breeding
- Health or structural problems
- Temperament problems

To decide how many ewes could be culled on production, you need to have some basic information on the cost of keeping ewes and lambs on a per ewe basis. From a culling point of view, it is important to know if the number of lambs produced covers the variable costs. The variable costs are those costs that rise and fall according to how many sheep you have. For example: feed, tags, mineral. Total expenses are made up of variable costs plus fixed costs. Fixed costs are those costs that don't change with the number of sheep. For example: mortgage, machinery payments, municipal taxes. It is these fixed costs that confuse the issue of how many ewes to cull because having more animals results in a smaller fixed cost per ewe. But for culling on production, it is clear that if a ewe does not produce enough to cover her variable costs she is not contributing to the payment of any fixed costs. As a result, figure out your variable cost per ewe and your average price per head for market lambs. Using table 5, find the average number of lambs that need to be marketed to cover variable costs.

Table 5. Number of lambs that need to be marketed per ewe to cover variable costs at different dollars per lamb marketed.

| Variable Costs per Ewe/Year | \$ per Lamb Marketed | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | \$160 | \$180 | \$200 | \$220 | \$240 | \$260 | \$280 | \$300 |
| \$140 | 0.88 | 0.78 | 0.70 | 0.64 | 0.58 | 0.54 | 0.50 | 0.47 |
| \$160 | 1.00 | 0.89 | 0.80 | 0.73 | 0.67 | 0.62 | 0.57 | 0.53 |
| \$180 | 1.13 | 1.00 | 0.90 | 0.82 | 0.75 | 0.69 | 0.64 | 0.60 |
| \$200 | 1.25 | 1.11 | 1.00 | 0.91 | 0.83 | 0.77 | 0.71 | 0.67 |
| \$220 | 1.38 | 1.22 | 1.10 | 1.00 | 0.92 | 0.85 | 0.79 | 0.73 |
| \$240 | 1.50 | 1.33 | 1.20 | 1.09 | 1.00 | 0.92 | 0.86 | 0.80 |
| \$260 | 1.63 | 1.44 | 1.30 | 1.18 | 1.08 | 1.00 | 0.93 | 0.87 |
| \$280 | 1.75 | 1.56 | 1.40 | 1.27 | 1.17 | 1.08 | 1.00 | 0.93 |
| \$300 | 1.88 | 1.67 | 1.50 | 1.36 | 1.25 | 1.15 | 1.07 | 1.00 |

If you know these numbers, it gives you a good rule of thumb to use on your farm for the number of marketable lambs a ewe should produce per year on average to cover her variable costs. If she markets fewer lambs, she is costing you money. The decision is actually more complex than just the number, as a decision to cull may be affected by her age, history, your vision of what you think she will produce next breeding, what market prices are doing and if variable costs are changing. A long-term objective would be to have all ewes producing more lambs than needed to cover total costs at moderate prices so that you have funds to pay yourself and make capital investments to your operation. Although generating the number is fairly simple, using it in the moving parts of an operation is a complex balance of cost control, animal performance and market prices.

Conclusions

Culling for production adds value to your operation. Over time, production culling improves the average genetics in your flock which will increase the number of lambs marketed per ewe. Knowing how many lambs must be marketed per ewe to cover variable costs is an important first step to culling for production. Good culling strategies will ensure animals in the flock are healthy, productive, and profitable. **OSN**



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Locally-Produced Clothing Proves the Potential of Canada's Wool Supply Chain

By Jeanine Moyer

There's no better way to celebrate Canadian Wool Month than sporting your favourite wool coat or sweater. The Campaign for Wool in Canada took that a little further by releasing a 100-mile blazer in October 2021, to celebrate wool month and demonstrate to the fashion industry that the Canadian wool clip can deliver high quality, local wool cloth for high-end fashion.

Expanding on their partnership with Holt Renfrew, Ogilvy and three Canadian fashion designers, Line, ça va de soi and Smythe, the Campaign for Wool created a limited-edition capsule collection in 2021. The centre-piece of the collection is the 100-mile blazer made by Smythe, that was created entirely within 100 miles of the City of Toronto.

"This is a true farm to closet blazer," says Matthew Rowe, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Wool Council. "But it wasn't easy. Traditionally, designers source their wool cloth from other countries like Italy or the United Kingdom. So, we set out to show that Canadian wool can provide a high-quality cloth, sourced right here in Canada."

What it Means for Canadian Wool Growers

The Holt Renfrew Campaign for Wool capsule collection is in its third year, but this is the first year that features Canadian wool, alongside Canadian manufactured and designed pieces. The 100-mile blazer in particular, shows the strength of what a complete wool value chain collaboration can achieve, pairing Canadian fashion designers with farmer, mill, dyeing, weaving and manufacturing partners. "Not only did we prove to the entire industry that sourcing quality Canadian wool for high-fashion is possible, but we also created a completely traceable item going back to a single flock," says Rowe. The wider collection also includes fully traceable knitwear from LINE that was made using RWS yarns, as well as a ça va de soi throw manufactured in Toronto using Italian yarn.

Sourcing Canadian wool hasn't really been an option in recent years for the Canadian clothing and design sector, because there hasn't been a reliable domestic value chain. Rowe explains that wool processing capacity has been bottlenecked, and is often unable to handle the fine wool required for higher-end applications. Combine those restrictions with the fact that fashion brands depend on consistent supply, and it's no surprise Canadian wool isn't being used in fashion clothing design and manufacturing. "Much of the finer wool processed domestically is available at the artisanal level because there is so little of it available. But we're trying to break through the value chain barriers to create a reliable source of Canadian fine wool alongside partners willing to use it, and this project proves we can do it," he says.

The greatest barriers to expanding Canada's wool into the fashion and design sector is the quality and current fragmented state of the supply chain. Rowe says it can be a challenge to source Canadian wool at the level of softness needed for clothing designers. "Canadian sheep farmers primarily breed for meat, not wool," he explains. "And while there are select breeds that produce finer wool that is ideal for clothing, most of the wool clip today is coarser and more suitable for upholstery and rugs. While we also created a Canadian wool wall-covering project this year, we wanted to show that Canadian wool could also be the star of a fashion story."

How the 100-Mile Blazer was Made

"The biggest challenge was sourcing enough fine wool to manufacture the cloth for the 100-mile blazer," explains Rowe. "But we had a team of partners that stepped up to help us make it all happen."

A farm to closet success story, the 100-mile blazer, passed through many hands along the wool value chain. While the collection was released in October 2021, the production process started much earlier in the year. Here's a look at process the wool went through, starting at the farm.



Wool

The 100-mile blazer, required a total of 105 lb of wool to produce 96 m of cloth (80 m after shrinkage and finishing). The wool was sourced from Pine Hollow Farm in Norwood, where owner, Allison Brown raises a flock of crossbred Norbouillet sheep. "My part of the project was growing the wool," says Brown, who started farming with dairy goats in 1982, and has been focused on raising sheep for wool production since 1988. The wool was a combination of fleeces from Brown's 2020 and 2021 shearing. "My focus has always been on finer wool production for smaller projects. I enjoyed being part of this, and anything that increases the awareness of wool is a good thing," she says.

Spinning

Donna Hancock of Wellington Fibres in Elora was approached to spin the wool for the project, and says this was one of her largest undertakings. Starting with the first batch of wool in February 2021, Hancock spun a small sample for testing at the next stages, dyeing and weaving. Over the course of four months, she spun all the wool, working with the team throughout the process to ensure quality and consistency.

“It was a true collaborative approach with a whole fibre team,” says Hancock. “We all worked to ensure the final product performed and looked the way it was desired, and I’m proud to be a part of this.” Hancock says working on such a large order demonstrates that this type of production can be achieved locally. “Wool production doesn’t have to be sourced from overseas, we can create a good, long-lasting products here too.”

Dyeing

The wool was hand-dyed over a period of nearly four weeks in 1.5 kg batches, requiring 22 lots in total. Liam Blackburn, owner of Iron Cauldron Colour Works specializes in small batch dyeing, natural pigment processing and marbling. Located in Toronto, Blackburn worked with the team to test the wool, fabric and colours. He was brought into the project in early 2021, dyeing wool in two colours, or shades of blue, using synthetic dyes. Blackburn delivered a total of 40 kg of finished product and says that since this was his largest project yet, it was a fantastic learning experience for him. “The team worked together, checking quality and consistency at every step along the way. And I was able to learn how to scale up my logistics too.”

Blackburn says the dyeing process is currently a missing link to the wool supply chain, explaining much of it is currently completed at a hobby level, making it hard to produce large quantities. “That’s why I started my company, to help fill a missing piece of the supply chain,” he says.

Weaving

Deborah Livingston-Lowe of Upper Canada Weaving was the chief collaborator through the supply chain process. She hand-picked her team and worked alongside each of them, checking on quality and consistency to deliver the final product.

“Mathew contacted me in October 2020, a year before we were to see the final results of our work. He connected me with Smythe, the designer who was looking for local wool material,” explains Livingston-Lowe. From there, she assembled the supply chain, sourcing the wool fibre, dyeing, spinning and finally weaving the cloth herself. “We may all be small scale, but together, our team creates a high-quality calibre product.”

The final woolen material also included 15% of Ontario Alpaca fibre. Livingston-Lowe explains that, since the material was destined for such a high-end market, they needed to blend the wool with another fibre to create a felting on the surface of the fabric to trap pilling. “The result was a beautiful, all-natural fabric that we are all so proud of.”



The final step in the production process, Livingston-Lowe wove the material in three 32 m installments. The weaving process started in March 2021, when she created the first sample for testing, with the final batch of cloth delivered to the designer in July 2021.

Livingston-Lowe says that when she saw the final blazer, she was taken back by the way the designer captured the beauty of the fabric. “They just made it sparkle,” she says. “We were all thrilled to be part of the journey to create such a beautifully crafted jacket that all started on the farm.”

Room to Grow

Opportunities like the Holt Renfrew collection and 100-mile blazer present the Canadian wool and sheep industry with a glimpse of what could be. Rowe expects that, with some supply chain management, we could expect to see sustainable growth in the domestic wool market. “We just need inspiration to see what’s possible and what Canada can provide to the marketplace. With the right business model and the right partners, we can do it.”

The Campaign for Wool in Canada will continue to champion projects like the 100-mile blazer, helping them to justify the need for the value chain to scale up and build a more robust wool industry. Rowe believes Canadian wool could be the next niche market, combining quality with a unique story that can compete, and command a premium on the global market. “Our recent strategic plan contains a vision for making that possible. What we need now is wider industry investment to help us reach the next level. We have some big announcements coming soon in this space so rest assured, this is only the beginning,” he says.

Learn more about the Campaign for Wool in Canada and the strategic plan here: campaignforwool.ca. **OSN**

What is Maedi Visna and Why Should I Worry About It?

Maedi visna (MV) is a debilitating viral disease that can undermine the economic viability of a sheep flock. MV is the Icelandic name for the disease used in most of the world; in the USA it is called ovine progressive pneumonia or OPP. It is often called an “iceberg” disease; while only a few sheep in the flock may appear affected at any one time, many more are infected with the virus and will eventually become ill themselves. In a typical flock with uncontrolled MV, 30-40% of the sheep are infected (seropositive) at any one time. The virus is very contagious, particularly when sheep are housed indoors, and prevalence of infection can reach well over 50%.

The most common signs of MV are chronic pneumonia with weight loss and hard udder with reduced milk production, and less commonly arthritis or neurological signs. Sheep can be infected at any stage of their life and remain infected as long as they live, however it takes one to three years for signs of disease to be noticed as MV virus is what is called a “slow virus” meaning that the effects of the virus accumulate over time until organ damage is severe. This means that sheep that still look relatively healthy, can be a source of infection to other sheep and a source of lost revenue to the producer.

Most of the economic loss due to MV is attributable to the ewe’s loss of productivity. A seropositive ewe produces less milk, it is more likely to fail to become pregnant and to lose her lambs if she does conceive. In one study, it was found that 66% of healthy appearing, MV positive ewes had udder lesions and their lambs had lower than average weaning weights. Lambs are also 1.65 times more likely to die if their dam is positive for the disease. Dairy sheep have been shown to produce 7 to 12% less milk if seropositive.

The effects of the disease manifest at the time when the ewe should be at her most productive, i.e., 3 to 5 years of age. Instead, she either succumbs to chronic pneumonia or is culled due to poor productivity, chronic wasting or arthritis. Regardless of how she leaves the flock, the disease is costing you money.

The udder is the most common organ to be affected by the virus. The udder may look normal at lambing but is very hard to the touch (hard bag), the milk will appear normal but the ewe produces less and their lambs are often hungry and may steal from other ewes or starve. The udder may soften later in lactation but still produces less milk. Normal feeling udders can also be affected by the virus. Mastitis can also be caused by bacteria but in those cases the udder is hot, swollen and the milk is abnormal in appearance (yellow to red in colour, watery with clots).

The second most common sign of MV is chronic pneumonia. The virus causes chronic inflammation of the lungs without a fever. The ewe will cough a lot, have difficulty keeping up with the flock but still may look bright. Eventually, her respiratory rate will get very high as the lung damage becomes severe and she has difficulty pushing the air out of her lungs. She becomes very thin and eventually is too weak to get up and then succumbs to the disease. There is no treatment that will change the course of disease. This usually happens in ewes and rams greater than three years of age. The lung damage can be very severe before it is noticed. Older ewes and rams will develop chronic wasting and will lose body condition; sometimes this is the only sign of the disease. The nervous system can also be affected, ewes will tremble and can become weak in the hind end and may go down. The joints can also be affected in mature sheep which results in arthritis. In this case stifles and knees can become stiff and swollen. Both of these presentations of MV are less common and could be mistaken for other diseases (e.g. polio or listeria for the neurological signs, footrot for arthritis).

How is the virus spread from sheep to sheep? Sheep can become infected at any point in their lives, and an infected sheep is infectious to other sheep for its entire life - not a great mixture when trying to control an incurable disease. The virus that causes MV, is shed in the colostrum and milk, and respiratory secretions (mucus from the lungs). This means that the virus is transmitted mostly by close contact with respiratory secretions (e.g. from coughing into the air or onto feed and water) or through drinking milk or colostrum. This is why we see that lambs born to infected ewes are more likely to get infected themselves - whether it is from the milk or from close contact with the dam’s respiratory secretions. Horizontal spread sheep to sheep is more important than through the milk. Sheep kept in the same barn or pastures are at high risk of picking up the virus from infected sheep. Close confinement and high stocking densities increase that risk. Rams have been shown to shed virus into their semen, although the risk from the ram’s respiratory secretions is a far more important source. Rams are more likely to be purchased than breeding ewes in most flocks; it is critical that the ram be tested negative for MV before entering the flock. More information on how this is done can be found in the OMVFSP protocols. While there is not a lot of virus in the circulating blood compared to udder and lungs, it is also possible that the virus can be transmitted by sharing blood contaminated equipment (e.g., ear taggers) or multi-use needles.

In short, maedi visna is a chronic, progressive, incurable disease that robs adult sheep of their productivity and you of your profits. So, should you worry about MV in your flock? Yes! **OSN**



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Online Resources for Ontario Sheep Farmers

Additional producer resources are only a click away!

Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) website hosts several wide-ranging online resources to support those looking to get into sheep production or those with established flocks.

These helpful resources are located under the resources tab found on the OSF website by visiting www.ontariosheep.org.

Resources include information on

- Animal Health
- Biosecurity
- Cost of Production
- Covic-19
- Environment
- Humane Transport of Animals
- New Producer
- On-Farm Emergency Planning
- Parasites
- Point of Sale Materials
- Predation
- Security from Trespass
- Student Teacher Resources
- And other links and additional resources.

To view some of the many online resources made available visit www.ontariosheep.org/resources.

In addition to online resources OSF also offers several Professional Development courses which are referenced on page 30 of this publication or by visiting <https://www.ontariosheep.org/programs>. Some of these courses are self-guided online while others like the Master Shepherd course are online and instructor led. Check them out! **OSN**



OSF YouTube Channel

Recordings from past webinars and other events posted online for viewing!

Did you know that Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) has a YouTube Channel? By visiting www.youtube.com/user/OntarioSheep you can watch some of our past event recordings such as the 2021 Fall Speakers Series with webinars like the Market Outlook, Improving the water cycle and drought-proofing your farm with Regenerative Agriculture and Selecting Ewes for Resilient Lamb Production.

There are also many other recordings from past OSF webinars and presentations. So, if you missed a webinar or online event hosted by OSF it very likely can be found here. **OSN**



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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Thank you to the Ontario Sheep Farmers for giving me this Lifetime Long Service Award

Looking back on my travels through the World of Sheep that I have travelled since 1977, I ponder the how, what, where and why of the Life that I have spent in this business. We work from our strengths and what we bring to our endeavors. Yet as I look back, the biggest influence has been the mentors that I found in the Sheep Business that stood me in good stead. I have a saying that I use often along the lines that 'there are 400 things to know; everyone tells you 3, you only hear one and you have to hear it from three different people before it becomes part of your vocabulary'.

Someone suggested that I connect with Russel Dow, who then connected me with many of the purebred breeders of the late seventies and that world of sheep ownership and care, showing sheep, sheep shows, sheep sales, sheep marketing, sheep breeding, sheep testing, that would lead to seeing the sheep industry around the world. I had many mentors: Les Jones, Doug Kennedy, Cy Lauden, and Bill Duffield, to name a few, and many more who all contributed to my education in the sheep world over my last 44 years.

With the help of the CCWG and Ontario Sheep Farmers (Ontario Sheep Association, Ontario Sheep Marketing Association, Ontario Sheep Farmers) and many individuals, I have spent those years helping at shows and sales, doing fall fair demos, running shearing schools for beginners and generally prodding the sheep industry to be better than itself. The education is endless and has not stopped.

The industry has changed - maybe not because of me but in spite of me! The sheep we see going through the sales rings in Ontario are very different that those we saw in the seventies, as far as quality goes.

I have a very positive outlook for the future of the sheep industry in Ontario, as I see a lot of new people coming forward in the industry who are putting modern ideas and data to good use to improve their production and sales.

For this Lifetime Long Service Award from the Ontario Sheep Farmers I say thank you with my whole heart and wish the industry the very best as it moves into a prosperous future.

Thank you,

Peter D Kudelka - Mitchell Ontario

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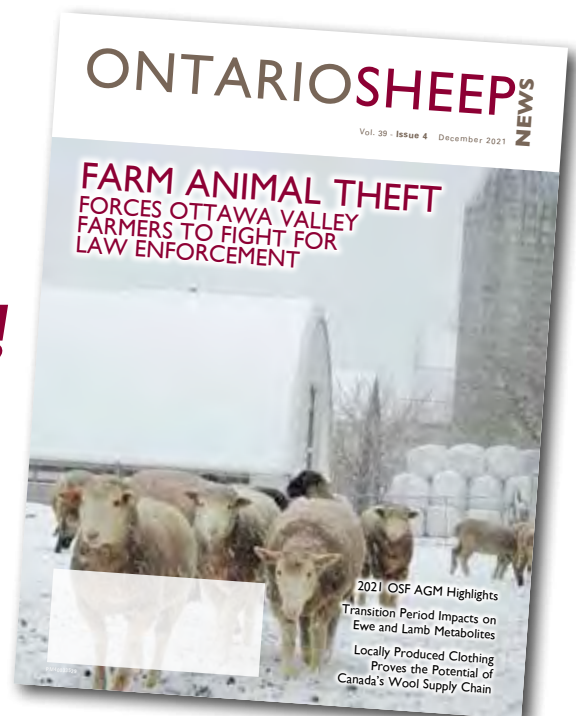
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For additional information please visit

www.ontariosheep.org/ontario-sheep-news-magazine

THE 2022 ONTARIO LAMB MARKET CALENDAR

| Year | Holiday | Consumption Preferences | Market Processor Needs | Public Auction Market Impact |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| January 6 | Epiphany (Christian) | Lamb is featured in many celebration meals. | Recently weaned and milk fed lambs are preferred. | Lower market volumes generally. |
| February 1 | Chinese (Lunar) New Year | Both mutton and lamb are used in a variety of dishes and is a favorite ingredient in hot pots. | | Lower market volumes. |
| March | | | Easter holiday inventory buildup. | Growth in supply following winter, with Easter demand increase. |
| April 15 to 23 | Passover (Jewish) 8 days | Traditionally must be processed under Kosher laws. | Healthy finished lambs. (up to 64 lbs live weight; ideally milk fed and fat) | Steady market. A limited influence. |
| April 17 April 24 | Western Easter Eastern Orthodox Easter A peak sale period for in the year. | Roast lamb is a main festive meal for European (Italian, Portuguese, and Greek) heritages. | Healthy young lambs. (under 60 lbs live weight; ideally milk fed and fat) Numbers of lambs under 65 lb begin to increase in three weeks before Easter, and peaks during the week before Easter. Numbers of 65-79lb lambs will increase during this time as well. | Higher market demand in 2 to 3-week period preceding holiday. Hint: check local auction schedules for 'special' Easter sale dates. |
| Apr 2 to May 2 | Ramadan (Islam) 1 month (daylight fasting) | Some celebrations will occur prior to start of Ramadan. | Weaned market lambs (60 – 90 lbs live weight) | A moderate market factor for week leading into Ramadan. |
| May | | Start of barbeque season which more frequently featuring Ontario lamb. | Mod demand. Processors see an increase in BBQ lamb demand from May to August. | Commonly higher supply and slightly higher but still moderate demand. |
| May 3 | Eid al-Fitr (Islam) Festival of Fast Breaking | Celebrations occur during the fast break period which will feature lamb products. | Weaned market lambs 60 – 90 lbs liveweight. Lower demand for heavy lambs. | A moderate market factor for the week leading into Ramadan. |
| July 9 to 10 The Hajj is July 7 to 12 | Eid al Adha (Festival of Sacrifice, Eid) (Islam) A peak sale period in year. | Eid, the festival of sacrifice, is one of the most important observances in the Islamic faith. (This may be referred to as Qurbani, though this refers to the actual act of animal processing.) | Lambs (70 – 110 lbs live weight) Desired weight differs across different communities. Lambs should be under a year of age and be unblemished. Blemishes may include open wounds, torn ears or other physical unsoundness. Wethers and lambs with docked tails may not be acceptable to some buyers. | High market demand in period leading up to holiday. Peak demand is in week preceding holiday. Note: There is a high activity level of private holiday sales sought by families for this important celebration period. |
| July 29 | Muharram (Islamic New Year) | The Islamic New Year is the first day of the Muslim calendar. Mutton is often served as the main course for this holiday meal. | There is no preferred weight for this holiday, although animals should appear healthy. | Steady market. A limited influencer. |
| September 25 to 27 | Rosh Hashanah Jewish New Year | Lamb is a tradition or symbol of a new beginning. | Forequarters from weaned market lambs (60 – 109 lbs live weight) | Steady market. A limited influencer. |
| October 10 | Thanksgiving | Lamb is an alternative to turkey. | Steady demand with slow year over year consumer demand increase. | Steady market. A limited influencer. |
| November | | Stew/casserole are growing in seasonal popularity | Lower but steady demand during transition from Thanksgiving into Christmas period. | Lower market volumes. |
| December 18 to 26 | Chanukah (Festival of Rededication) (Jewish) 8 days | Traditionally must be processed according to Kosher law. | Healthy heavy lambs. (up to 100 lbs live weight) | Usually occurs close to Christian Christmas which leads to high demand. |
| December 25 | Christmas Day to New Year (Christian) A peak sale period in year. | Lamb is a feature at Christmas parties (lamb-pops, spiedini, roasts). Leg of lamb, stews and curries are food staples. | Lambs should be freshly weaned (milk fed), up to 80 lbs, and not older than 3 months of age. Out-of-season breeding is required to produce the favoured type of lamb for this market. Cull sheep are popular for stew and curry. | Higher market demand in 2 to 3-week period preceding holiday. |

This calendar is also available on the OSF website at <https://www.ontariosheep.org/religious-ethnic-market-calendar>.

2021 Photo Contest Results

And the winners are!



Fan Favourite Category

Submitted by Melissa Frieman



Around the Farm Category

Submitted by Lynn Mckay



All About Wool Category

Submitted by Esther Kelly



Sheep Farmer Category

Submitted by Esther Kelly

Best Flock Shot Category

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Ontario's 3,000 sheep producers are represented by the Ontario Sheep Farmers organization. With a focus on profitability and sustainability, the organization works in the areas of advocacy, industry capacity, research and market development. The organization is funded through a check off (or licence fee) on lamb and sheep marketed in Ontario. Representing the sheep, lamb and wool industries, it was established in 1985 under the Ontario Farm Products Marketing Act. A compulsory check off (licence fee) of \$1.80 per head sold or slaughtered in Ontario is payable to the Ontario Sheep Farmers to fund projects and operations supporting the Ontario sheep marketplace. Visit our website (www.OntarioSheep.org) to see your licence fees at work.

Auction markets, livestock agents, and processors are to deduct the check off fee from the proceeds payable to a seller, and processors must also assess the licence fee in addition to the slaughter fee. This fee is applicable to each sale or slaughter transaction.

Private sales (i.e. a sheep owner to sheep owner sale, sales not done at an auction market, nor to an agent or processor) require licence fee self-assessment and reporting through this remittance form.

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Breezy Ridge Farm • Philip & Elizabeth Smith • (905) 478-4280
Brubacher Ovine • Earl Brubacher • (519) 323-4152
Cedar Creek Charollais • Ted & Joanne Skinner • (905) 263-2102
Cedar Grove Farm • Quintin Mc Ewen • (519) 949-4130
Century Lane Farm • Robert & Shirley Graves • (613) 791-2656
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FLOCKS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED "A" STATUS ON THE MAEDI VISNA PROGRAM (AS OF DECEMBER 2021)

4S Maple Lane Farm • Kimberly Schneider • (905) 404-7811
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Sisson Sheep Farm • Perry Sisson • (705) 277-1866
Stonehill Sheep • Paul Dick • (519) 794-3732
Trailblaze Farm • Perry, Sharon & Valerie Robinson • (519) 794-4837

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Allinbrook Farms • Neil Allin • (905) 983-5791
Bojudabrook Farms • Robert & Judy Pringle • (519) 794-2579
Brian Atkinson • (705) 924-3043

Cursio Farms and Arkell Valley Suffolks
Frank & Kaitlin Cursio, Ned Cursio • (519) 766-3012
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The Northern Sheep Company • Daniel Goodsman • (306) 570-6415

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DP Farms • Lorraine & Neil Post • 1 Certified
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Auction Markets and Abattoirs

| ABATTOIRS | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| NAME | CITY | PHONE NO |
| Abattoir Lefavre Inc. | Lefavre | (613) 679-4698 |
| Afghan Halal Meat Suppliers | Schomberg | (416) 894-1802 |
| Agram 2005 Meats Inc. | Georgetown | (905) 877-6082 |
| Al Madina Halal Meat Packers | Brinston | (613) 652-1301 |
| Aman's Abattoir | Wellington | (613) 399-2173 |
| Bachert Meats | Walton | (519) 887-9328 |
| Belle Vallee Meats & Abattoir | Belle Vallee | (705) 647-7419 |
| Bentinck Packers Ltd. | Hanover | (519) 364-3538 |
| Beverly Creek Farm | Hamilton | (905) 690-8111 |
| *Bilal Farms Inc. | Clarence Creek | (613) 488-2268 |
| Birch Lake Abattoir | Massey | (705) 865-3395 |
| Brian Quinn's Meats Ltd. | Yarker | (613) 377-6430 |
| Burt Farm Country Meats | Gore Bay | (705) 282-0328 |
| Caledon Halal Meat Packers | Bolton | (416) 999-9999 |
| Charles Quality Meats Ltd. | St. Agatha | (519) 886-7931 |
| Cloverbelt Country Meats Co-operative | Oxdrift | (807) 937-6716 |
| Cole Bros. Meat Processing | Picton | (613) 476-6955 |
| Country Fresh Packers | Tilbury | (519) 682-2222 |
| Creative Meats | Warren | (705) 967-2006 |
| Desormeaux Slaughter-house & Meats Inc. | Crysler | (613) 987-2148 |
| Dresden Meat Packers Ltd. | Dresden | (519) 683-2585 |
| Elora Road Meats | Mildmay | (519) 367-2261 |
| Ewe Dell Family Farm | Woodslee | (519) 723-4456 |
| Farmersville Community Abattoir | Athens | (613) 924-0400 |
| FGO Organic Processing Ltd. | Ingersoll | (519) 236-7717 |
| Gord's Abattoir Ltd. | Leamington | (519) 326-2503 |
| Green's Meat Market & Abattoir Ltd. | Wingham | (519) 357-2912 |
| Grey County Meats | Maxwell | (519) 922-2400 |
| Hank De Koning Ltd. | Port Dover | (519) 583-0115 |
| Hanson Meats | Cayuga | (905) 772-5053 |
| Harriston Packing Company Ltd. | Harriston | (519) 338-3330 |
| Hastings Meat Market | Stirling | (613) 395-0505 |
| Hay's Custom Cutting Ltd. | Campbellford | (705) 653-3388 |
| Highgate Tender Meats Ltd. | Highgate | (519) 678-3383 |
| Highland Packers Ltd. | Stoney Creek | (905) 662-8396 |
| Hilts Butcher Shop Ltd. | Norwood | (705) 696-2172 |
| Hunter's Dressed Meats | Dunnville | (905) 774-5900 |
| J.J. Meat Distributing Inc. | Schomberg | (905) 859-1540 |
| Joe Savage & Fils Abattoir Inc. | St. Albert | (613) 987-2070 |
| Johnson Meats | Aylmer | (519) 773-9208 |
| Julius Meat Packers Inc. | St. Anns | (905) 957-7162 |
| Kawartha Meats | Little Britain | (855) 786-9970 |
| Ken R. Mogk | Tavistock | (519) 462-2280 |
| L & M Meat Distributing Inc. | Beeton | (905) 729-2771 |
| L & M Meat Distributing Inc. | Gilford | (905) 775-6775 |
| Len and Patti Butcher Block | Lindsay | (705) 328-2100 |
| Matar Meats | Osgoode | (613) 821-7929 |
| McGarroch of Micksburg Custom Butchering | Pembroke | (613) 732-7181 |
| Miedema's Country Meats | Exeter | (519) 235-4978 |
| Miedema's Meat Market Ltd. | Embro | (519) 475-4010 |
| Millgrove Packers Ltd. | Waterdown | (905) 689-6184 |
| Mr. Beef Inc. | Pakenham | (613) 624-5222 |
| Mount Brydges Abattoir Ltd. | Mount Brydges | (519) 264-1873 |
| Newmarket Meat Packers Ltd. | Newmarket | (416) 364-2671 |

| ABATTOIRS | | |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| NAME | CITY | PHONE NO |
| Northern Meat Packers and Abattoir Ltd. | Trout Creek | (705) 723-5573 |
| Norwich Packers Ltd. | Norwich | (519) 468-3617 |
| Ontario Halal Meat Packers Inc. | Milton | (905) 875-0270 |
| Otonabee Meat Packers Ltd. | Peterborough | (705) 743-8547 |
| Palmateer's Abattoir Ltd. | Tweed | (613) 478-3801 |
| Parkhill Meats | Parkhill | (519) 293-3000 |
| Peel Sausage Abattoir | Drayton | (519) 638-3446 |
| Penokean Hills Farms | Bruce Mines | (705) 782-4224 |
| Rainy River District Regional Abattoir Inc. | Emo | (807) 482-3028 |
| Ralph Bos Meats Ltd. | Strathroy | (519) 245-1574 |
| Reiche Meat Products Ltd. | Pembroke | (613) 732-3773 |
| Rua Meats Ltd. | Foxboro | (613) 962-7915 |
| Simcoe Street Meat Packers | Oakwood | (705) 821-3151 |
| St. Helen's Meat Packers Ltd. | Toronto | (416) 769-1788 |
| Stayner Meat Packers Ltd. | Stayner | (705) 428-3006 |
| Taylor's Custom Meats | Roseneath | (905) 352-2367 |
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| Thunder Bay Meat Processing Co. (1986) Ltd. | Murillo | (807) 935-2911 |
| Tom Henderson Custom Meat Cutting | Chesterville | (613) 448-3471 |
| Townsend Butchers | Simcoe | (519) 426-6750 |
| Vanessa Meats & Deli | Vanessa | (519) 446-3897 |
| VG Packers | Simcoe | (519) 426-2000 |
| Walkerton Meat Market | Walkerton | (519) 881-0781 |
| Wallace Beef Inc. | Joyceville | (613) 536-6379 |
| Wall's Pork Shop | Oxdrift | (807) 937-4357 |
| Wayne's Meat Products Inc. | Hagersville | (905) 768-3633 |
| Weiland Meats Ltd. | Petrolia | (519) 882-1215 |
| Willie's Meats Ltd. | Troy | (519) 647-3160 |
| Windcrest Meat Packers Ltd. | Port Perry | (800) 750-2542 |
| Zehr's Country Market | Dashwood | (519) 237-3668 |

| AUCTION MARKETS | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Aylmer Stockyards Inc. | 8933 Walker Road, RR 1 | Aylmer | (519) 765-2672 |
| Brussels Livestock Exchange | 42857 Newry Road, RR 3 | Brussels | (519) 887-6461 |
| D.H. Hickson Ltd. | 2508 County Road 8, RR 5 | Campbellford | (705) 653-3660 |
| Denfield Livestock Exchange Inc. | 12952 Sixteen Mile Road, RR 2 | Denfield | (519) 666-1140 |
| Embrun Livestock Exchange Ltd. | 1643 Salebarn Road, | Greely | (613) 821-2634 |
| Hagersville Auction Centre | 97 First Line, RR 6 | Hagersville | (905) 768-5601 |
| Kawartha Lakes Community Sale Barn Inc. | 580 Woodville Road, RR 3 | Woodville | (705) 439-4444 |
| Keady Livestock Market Ltd. | 117012 Grey Road 3, RR 4 | Tara | (519) 934-2339 |
| Ontario Livestock Exchange Inc. | 856 Weber Street N, | Waterloo | (519) 884-2082 |
| Ontario Stockyards Inc. | 3807 Highway 89, | Cookstown | (705) 458-4000 |
| Renfrew-Pontiac Livestock Ltd. | 18156 Highway 17, RR 3 | Cobden | (613) 646-7335 |
| Temiskaming Livestock Exchange | 883006 Highway 65 E, RR 3 | New Liskeard | (705) 647-5415 |
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| Chair | Sandra Alblas | 519.637.0050 |
| Vice Chair | Ed Post | 519.280.4638 |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Lisa Burks | 519.671.2635 |

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| Vice Chair | Jason Emke | 519.379.8778 |
| Secretary | Olivier Garceau | 519.477.1305 |
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| Vice Chair | Susan Martin | 519.669.8066 |
| Secretary | Bonnie DeWeerd | 519.502.1389 |
| Treasurer | Rick Zimak | 519.284.0533 |

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| Vice Chair | Josh Groves | 519.761.1449 |
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| Secretary | Kim Schneider | 905.404.7811 |
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| Secretary/Treasurer | Jennifer Nash | 613.477.1908 |

District 9

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| Chair | Simon Deschamps | simcor.contracting@gmail.com |
| Vice Chair | Sarah Loten | 613.812.0438 |
| Secretary | Lyndsey Smith | 204.807.5897 |
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District 10

Counties of Russell, Prescott, Glengarry Stormont, Dundas and Grenville, and the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, except the Township of West Carleton and the City of Kanata

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| Vice Chair | Ghislain Mayer | 613.330.2856 |
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District 11

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Century Lane Farm Robert & Shirley Graves, 8647 Flewellyn Rd., Ashton, ON, K0A 1B0, 613-447-2656, rgraves@storm.ca Breeding & Performance. Geared for the Commercial Producer, Registering sheep since 1967, ROP Tested Flock since 1976, OSMA Maedi-Visna Flock Project - 'A' Status, Participants on the CFIA Scrapie Certification Program - Level 'A'. Visit us on Facebook at 'Century Lane Farm'.

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Duff Farms Glen & Sharon Duff, RR # 2, Rockwood, ON, N0B 2K0. 519-856-9935. rideausheep@sympatico.ca Top Genetic Selection - currently maintaining 3 ram lines, SFIP and ewebyte information-based. High Health Status - closed flock since 1995, maedi visna tested and participating in the Ontario Sheep Health Program.

Golden Fleece Farms Ruco Braat. 171 Lakeview Rd., Bailieboro, ON, K0L 1B0 705-939-2366. goldenfleece@nexus.net. Purebred Rideau Arcotts Closed Flock.

Mulmur Vista Farm Bill McCutcheon, R.R.#2, Grand Valley, ON L0N 1G0, 519-766-7905, Email: wmcutcheon@sympatico.ca. Purebred Rideau closed flock, SFIP tested, Scrapie level certified.

ROMANOV

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ROYAL WHITE

Proud Ewe Hair Sheep Patricia Skinner & Pat Curry, Monte Lake, BC. (250) 375-2528 proudewe@gmail.com. Closed healthy farm, clean genetics. A high-production cross breed (St Croix/White Dorper) featuring hardy, robust, fast-growing high meat yield lambs that make excellent market stock and breeders. Selling commercial lambs, and select breeding stock.

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TEXEL

Orchardview Farm Gordon Walker & Family, R.R.#2, Glencoe, Ont. N0L 1M0. 519-287-5085. Texel Rams and Ewes for sale. Maedi Visna Tested.

Mulmur Vista Farm Bill McCutcheon, R.R.#2, Grand Valley, ON L0N 1G0, 519-766-7905, Email: wmcutcheon@sympatico.ca. Texel Rams available from French and Dutch Bloodlines. Embryos available, closed flock, SFIP tested, Scrapie level certified.

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| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| HOG Tues, Feb 1 10:30am | DIGESTATE Tues, Feb 1 7:30pm | DAIRY Wed, Feb 2 10:30am | BEEF, SHEEP & VEAL Wed, Feb 2 - 7:30pm | POULTRY Thurs, Feb 3 1:00pm |
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This workshop is part of the Timing Matters Manure Education Project. The Project is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.



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