



Ontario Sheep Farmers  
is proudly **different.**

# Annual Review 2018-2019

WE DO **Different**

## **OSF - By Producers, for Producers**

*For thirty years, Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) has been an advocate for the 3,000 sheep farmers in the province of Ontario*

*As an organization, OSF uses license fees to support programs and deliver services that help sheep farmers, and to provide solutions to issues affecting the sheep industry.*

Bringing **passion** and **wisdom** to the business of providing a voice for the 3,000 plus Ontarians raising sheep and lambs for a growing market.

Embracing **diversity** with a broad industry cross-section representation around the board table.

**Progressively**, finding new ways to help Ontario sheep farmers prosper.

Nurturing great **partnerships** to help grow our market.

**Tenaciously**, embracing the challenge of leading in a time of change.

## Doing Things Different in 2019

Ontario Sheep Farmers moved forward with several industry leading initiatives.

- New animal welfare legislation
- The only livestock group working on a review of the national business risk management suite of programs
- Transportation regulations
- Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program
- Co-Chair position on EcoAg – a group of commodity organizations focusing on nutrient management and the environment
- Developed resources to help the industry respond and prepare the Ontario sheep sector for disease-related and sector-wide emergencies
- Continued support of industry programs – EweGrow, GenOvis, the Ontario Sheep Flock Health Program and the Ontario Maedi Visna Flock Status Program
- Partnered with Farm and Food Care to create an education video for the Real Dirt on Farming such as the benefits of sheep grazing

- Sharing the Licencing Relations Officer position with the Ontario Independent Meat Processors

The Ontario Sheep Farmers board has also taken strides to lead the industry in **leadership development.**

- Continued to build partnerships with Alberta and Quebec sheep farmers supporting the National Sheep Network

## More Different...

As we begin the 2019-2020 year the Board of directors are hard at work...

- On the creation of a board advisor position; a demonstration of the OSF's commitment to the highest standards of conduct amongst its members, and to the care and handling of the provincial flock. This is an industry first.
- Focusing on broadening the membership of committees and providing leadership opportunities.
- Investigating the feasibility of production insurance for the sheep industry

**www.OntarioSheep.org • www.LambRecipes.ca**  
**@OntarioSheep • @OntarioLamb**

## 2018-19 By the Numbers

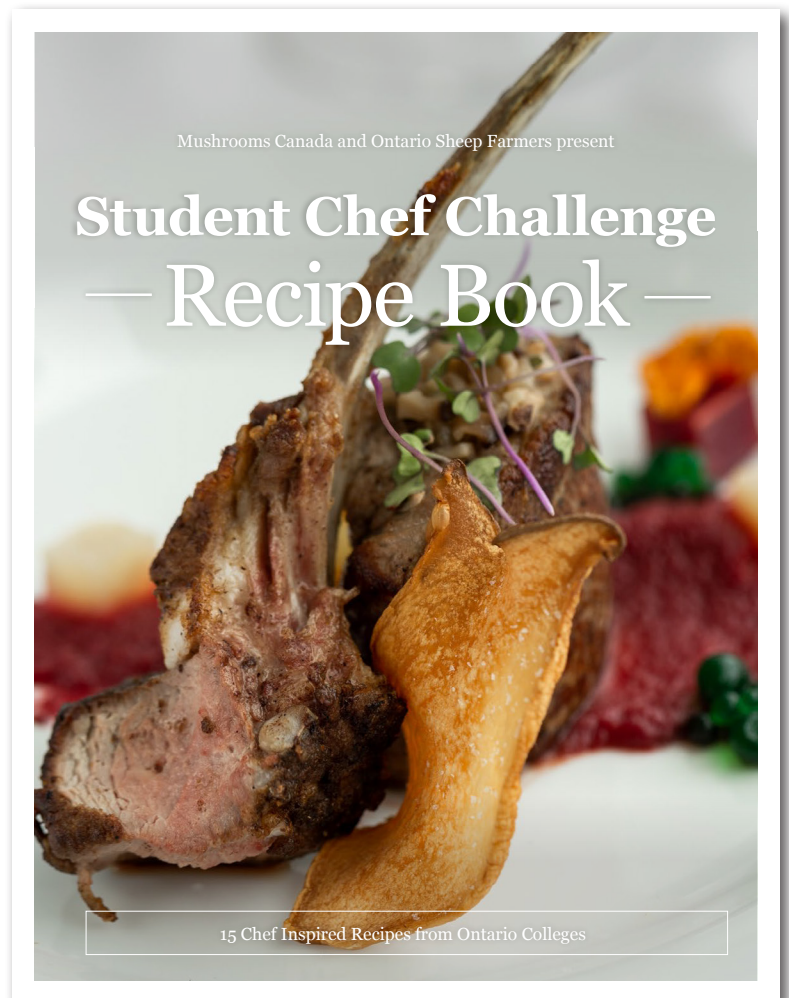
- Issued nearly 160 market reports by tapeline recordings, through the OSF website; links to the market reports are also provided in The Messenger (electronic newsletter).
- OSN circulation over 3,000 four times per year
- Messenger circulation to over 1,034 every two weeks
- @OntarioSheep followers over 2,187
- Invested over \$32,000 in memberships with industry organizations
- Invested over \$157,000 in industry focused research projects
- Served over 1,000 samples of Ontario Lamb at both Canada's Outdoor Farm Show and the Premier's Taste of Ontario event
- 42 farmers participating in the Master Shepherd's Course
- 45 attendees to the Ag Lenders Seminar
- 23 farmers attended fecal egg count training
- 42 participants in the Introduction to Small Ruminant Production course with OMAFRA



## Communications

On the communications front, **Ontario Sheep Farmers** is working hard to find and develop news way to stay in touch including **Ontario Sheep News** and **@OntarioSheep**

- Developed new producer and mental health pages on the OSN website
- Created a new producer page on the OSN website
- Created educational resource page on the OSN website
- Hosted webinars on changes to the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program
- Hosted various producer education courses such as Fecal Egg Count and Intro to Small Ruminant
- Partnered with Mushrooms Canada and Various Ontario Collages for the Chef Challenge event



**ONTARIO SHEEP FARMERS**  
130 Malcolm Road, Guelph, Ontario N1K 1B1  
Phone: (519) 836-0043 • E-mail: [admin@ontariosheep.org](mailto:admin@ontariosheep.org)  
[www.OntarioSheep.org](http://www.OntarioSheep.org) • [www.LambRecipes.ca](http://www.LambRecipes.ca)

