2009 Ontario Sheep Producers Survey

Talk about results

Look at 5 KPI's

Make suggestion for OSMA

Make suggestion for producers

### & Information from 33 surveys

### & Data from everyone is "ALL"

### & The ten most profitable "HP"

## & The nine least profitable "LP"

Weaned Lambs per Ewe				
LP ALL HP				
1	1.79	1.71	1.74	
2	2.04	1.98	1.96	
3	1.77	1.55	1.53	

Total # Ewes					
LP ALL HP					
1	213	315	408		
2	164	146	161		
3 129 142 159					
Total 506 603 728					

% Respondents Selecting Criteria				
When Selecting	LP	ALL	HP	
Lambs Born/Ewe	56%	70%	90%	
Lambs Wean/Ewe	56%	58%	70%	
Record On Own Flock	LP	ALL	HP	
Lambs Born/Ewe	78%	70%	80%	
Milking Ability	33%	48%	60%	

#### Three lessons

1.Increasing lambs weaned per ewe doesn't automatically increase profit

2. There are efficiencies in size

3.Selection pressure appears to reduce costs

A Flock Large Enough To Capture Efficiencies Of Scale Made Up Of **Performance Tested** Animals

## Programs to help producers increase flock size

# Emphasis on maternal record analysis

## Expansion of flock if possible

Maintain and use a good records based selection program

#### **Pasture Value and Rental Rates**

	LP	ALL	HP
Value/Acre	\$2,383	\$3,426	\$3643
Rent/Acre	na	\$53	\$71

Pasture Utilization				
	LP	ALL	HP	
Density/Acre	35	79	110	
Time/Rotation	2	7	12	
Days Winter Feed	217	183	158	
%Days Pasture	41%	50%	57%	

Lessons

## Ontario pastures have wide range of use

## Maximum use of farm pasture resource is important

Producer fully utilizes their pasture resource

Producer feeds harvested feed as few days as possible

Pasture Management Education Programs

Strong Emphasis on Importance of Grazing

### Implement Strong Grazing Program

#### Pasture Record Keeping Program

Lambing Management System				
	LP	ALL	HP	
Annual Pasture	11%	27%	30%	
Accelerated	44%	61%	70%	
Annual Winter	56%	21%	0%	

### Lambing frequency and timing

## Training and support for transitions to accelerated lambing

#### Explore accelerated lambing

Do enterprise analysis by lambing group

If annual winter lambing consider changing to pasture

#### **Using Data to Make Selections**

	LP	ALL	HP
Genetic Ram	67%	71%	90%
Physical Ram	55%	70%	80%
Own Flock	44%	55%	70%

### Use genetic and performance data in replacement selection

#### Programs, training and support for both genetic and performance testing of both ewes and rams

Make objective data a part of every replacement decision

Implement a performance testing system in own flock

Time Allocation				
	LP	ALL	HP	
Budget/Bank	21%	12%	9%	
Feed/Pasture	23%	27%	32%	
Hands-on	31%	25%	22%	
Employees	0%	4%	6%	

# Proportion of time spent on management details

# Programs to develop skilled farm labor

### Allocate time to most profitable tasks—use hired labor where appropriate