

The Messenger



May 24, 2017

In this issue

Upcoming events.....	2
Out and about.....	2
OSMA representation at national business risk management meetings.....	3
Help Team Ontario Sheep fill plates this summer with #everyplatefull campaign.....	4
OSMA District 10 Wool Day – this Saturday, May 27.....	4
New food safety and traceability online courses.....	5
New market lamb pen competition at Listowel Fair.....	6
2016 Census of Agriculture – sheep and lamb.....	7
Agricultural Excellence Conference.....	8
Last intake for <i>Growing Forward 2</i> cost share funding assistance.....	8
Upcoming environmental farm plan workshops.....	9
Other organizations and reference information.....	9

Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency

130 Malcolm Rd

Guelph, ON N1K 1B1

Phone: (519) 836-0043 Fax: (519) 836-2531

www.OntarioSheep.org

Please send all submissions to Heather Hargrave at hhargrave@ontariosheep.org, or call (519) 836-0043 ex. 29 with any questions.

Upcoming events

Have an upcoming event that you would like help promoting? Send an email to hhargrave@ontariosheep.org.

May 27	District 10 Wool Day http://bit.ly/2pBKPPz
June 1	OSMA board of directors meeting
June 1	District 2 meeting http://bit.ly/2pCs5S9
June 8	District 2 twilight farm tour http://bit.ly/2pcxPPH
June 9	District 5 meeting http://bit.ly/2nJWpa8
June 10	Sheep to Shawl event – St. Marys Museum http://bit.ly/2qgf7X2
June 24	Breakfast on the Farm – Shedden http://bit.ly/2os0bUY
June 30 & July 1	Holstein Agro Expo Sheep Industry Day http://bit.ly/2iG5huX
July 14	Listowel Fair Market Lamb Pen Show http://bit.ly/2re4p8u
August 1	District 5 family potluck and AGM http://bit.ly/2nDPRZF
September 7	District 11 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2qd3l0K
September 9	District 10 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2rdDiKQ
September 26 to 28	Sheep shearing school for beginners http://bit.ly/2jvlanJ
October 26 & 27	Ontario Sheep Convention http://bit.ly/2oCEaa1
October 30 & 31	Advancing Women in Agriculture conference – Niagara Falls http://bit.ly/2nXI8HT
November 21 to 23	Agricultural Excellence Conference – Ottawa http://bit.ly/2qDp6qY

Out and about

May 10	Meeting with Minister Macauley
May 12	Ag in the North meeting (Timmins)
May 15	Farms Forever event
May 16	Ontario Association of Food Banks donor reception
May 17	GenOvis meeting
May 17	PC Caucus breakfast with OASC
May 18	NDP Caucus breakfast with OASC
May 19	RMP Joint Reference Committee meeting

OSMA representation at national business risk management meetings

OSMA Chair Rob Scott recently travelled to Ottawa with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) to meet with Minister Macauley to discuss the need for a comprehensive review of business risk management (BRM) for Canadian producers. Market access was also on the agenda as the Standing Senate Committee of Agriculture and Forestry recently released a report – Market Access: Giving Canadian Farmers and Processors the World – which recognizes the importance of export markets for Canadian agriculture. The recommendations made in the report largely align with the positions advocated by CFA.

What does this mean for Ontario Sheep producers? The message has been that we need more market access to stimulate the confidence to invest in the industry, and now the Canadian government is stepping up to give the industry the tools to address international and domestic trade issues.



Help Team Ontario Sheep fill plates this summer with #everyplatefull campaign

OSMA is pleased to support the Ontario Association of Food Banks and Food Banks Canada by participating in a fundraising campaign to help fight hunger this summer.

The #EveryPlateFull campaign aims to raise awareness and funds for the issue of summer hunger. The goal is to raise 26 million meals across Canada. Any funds raised by **Team Ontario Sheep** will be directed towards funding OAFB's fresh food programs.

For every \$1 raised during this campaign, 3 meals will be provided.

Our goal is to raise \$3,000 – that's \$1 for every sheep farmer in Ontario. You can donate to **Team Ontario Sheep** by visiting <https://foodbankscanada.akaraisin.com/pledge/Team/Home.aspx?seid=14322&mid=10&tid=133870>. Note any donation in the amount of \$10 or more receives an automatic charitable donation tax receipt.

The campaign runs from May 23 to June 9.

Help us fill Canadians' hungry plates this summer.

OSMA District 10 Wool Day – this Saturday, May 27

OSMA District 10 Wool Day: Making Connections

May 27, 2017 1pm to 4pm
Glengarry Pioneer Museum
1645 County Road 30
Dunvegan, ON

Nicole Klerk - The Ontario Wool Book—marketing the qualities of wool produced in Ontario.

Jim McNeely - Wool grading and fleece preparation

Panel discussion - What do buyers want?

Open fleece marketplace - bring clean, skirted fleeces to sell

For more information contact Laurie Maus info@hawkhillfarm.ca 613-527-1897



New food safety and traceability online courses

Give your company a competitive edge – take free eLearning courses to learn more about industry best practices and to be more competitive in the marketplace!

Access the new Food Safety and Traceability eLearning courses online on the Agriculture and Food Education in Ontario online learning system (<http://agandfoodeducation.ca/>) through the University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus.

The new traceability eLearning courses show how good practices can:

- maximize productivity, improve business efficiency, reduce costs and improve business processes
- be used to increase competitive advantage by accessing new markets
- improve supply chain management

The new food safety eLearning courses will help you to:

- identify food safety hazards that can occur in your operation
- understand best practices and develop programs to control these hazards
- decrease the likelihood of food safety hazards that can lead to a foodborne illness outbreak or product recall

Visit the University of Guelph (<https://bdc.ridgetownc.com/takecourse/agriculture-and-food/agriculture-and-food-education-courses/>) website to register for a FREE account. Then simply log in and begin learning – wherever and whenever is convenient for you! Accessible versions of the courses are available. For more information, contact the University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus at rcagfood@uoguelph.ca or 519-674-1500 ext. 63295.

Do you prefer classroom-based learning? Food Safety and Traceability courses and workshops are still offered by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA). Visit their website for the dates and locations of upcoming in-person opportunities <http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/workshops-webinars/>.

Online course development was funded through *Growing Forward 2*, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative that encourages innovation, competitiveness and market development in Canada's agri-food and agri-products sector.

New market lamb pen competition at Listowel Fair

MARKET LAMB PEN SHOW



FRIDAY JULY 14, 2017

COMMITTEE: Jim Robinson, Lyle Buchanan, Alan Cleland,
Elizabeth Johnston, Penny Hawthorne, Quintin McEwen, Jason Follings

JUDGE: TBA

PAIR OF HEAVY WEIGHT MARKET LAMBS

PAIR OF LIGHTWEIGHT MARKET LAMBS

\$250 1st Prize in Each Category - \$100, 2nd Prize - \$50, 3rd Prize - \$25, 4th Prize - \$20 5th Prize - \$15; 6th - 10th Place



We're making it easy for you!

The lambs don't have to be shorn beforehand. Just pick your best ones, get them to the Listowel Fairgrounds by 9am and be back by 4pm to pick them up. They will be judged "in the pen."

One lamb from each pair will be shorn.

A great chance to network and exchange ideas with other producers!!!

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR THIS SHOW IS REQUIRED! DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS JULY 7TH. TO REGISTER CONTACT QUINTIN AT: mcewen.qqn@gmail.com or 519-949-4130

1. Entry fee of \$10 per pen.
2. All animals must be identified with an approved CSIP RFID ear tag.
3. Exhibitors are allowed only one entry per division.
4. All entries to be on the Listowel Fairgrounds **NO LATER** than 9am, Friday, July 14th, 2017.
5. All entries to be removed from the Listowel Fairgrounds no later than 4:30pm, Friday, July 14th, 2017.
6. Market lambs will be weighed upon arrival at the grounds and weigh scale at fairgrounds will be considered official weight.
7. Lightweight Market Lambs are categorized as 2017 crop ewe, wether or ram lambs under 80lbs with an ideal target weight of 60 to 72 lbs.
8. Heavyweight Market Lambs will be categorized as ewe, wether or ram lambs 80lbs and over with an ideal target range of 95 to 115 lbs, not over 12 months of age.
9. Judging will be based on 25% Uniformity of the Pair, 25% on meeting ideal Market Target Weight (and judge will assess dress carcass weight) and 50% based on Conformation and general appearance at the discretion of the judge.
10. For biosecurity, owners are responsible for supplying water pails for their own livestock. A show committee member will ensure adequate water is available to your livestock throughout the day and can feed hay at your instructions.
11. Lambs will be given an informal Animal Health check by the committee. No animals with open sores/lesions or visible illness that are deemed a threat to the health of other exhibitors will be permitted to stay and must be removed from the fairgrounds immediately.
12. Lambs are to arrive at the fairgrounds unshorn but please ensure they are relatively clean as one lamb from each pair will be shorn.
13. Winning entries be awarded ribbons as soon as judging is complete. Prize money will be mailed to winning entries.
14. All breeds show together.
15. Livestock exhibitors must carry a minimum of one million dollars liability insurance and may be asked for proof of insurance upon registration. All other general rules & regulations of the society apply.
16. Any type of abuse of animals at the show will not be tolerated and the exhibitor will be asked to leave by the Listowel Agricultural Society.
17. Penning will be provided for all entries. Exhibitors are responsible for removal of manure and bedding to a designated area. All garbage is to be removed from bedding.
18. Brussels Livestock will be onsite and is willing to tag and transport any entries to their sales yard to be sold at the sale the following week for those not wishing to take their animals back to their home farm. This will be at the discretion of the exhibitor and Brussels Livestock and is not the responsibility of the Market Lamb Show Committee or the Listowel Agricultural Society.

THANK YOU TO OUR MARKET LAMB PEN SHOW SUPPORTERS

BRUSSELS AGRI SERVICE
BRUSSELS LIVESTOCK LTD.
FLORADALE FEED MILL LTD.
LISTOWEL FARM SUPPLY

If you are interested in being a sponsor of this new, exciting event at the Listowel Fair, please e-mail listowelfair@gmail.com

SHEEP SHEARING DEMONSTRATIONS FROM 10AM TO 12PM!

Free for everyone to watch!

2016 Census of Agriculture – sheep and lamb

The 2016 Census of Agriculture was released on May 10. For more information visit <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/subjects/Agriculture?HPA=1>.

Below are some high level statistics about the Canadian sheep and lamb industry.

- When compared to 2011, total number of farms in Canada reporting sheep is down 7% from 10,111 farms to 9,390
- Total number of ewes decreased from 571,510 to 526,286; a decrease of 8%
- Ontario's ewe flock decreased by 9% from 184,626 ewes to 167,390
- The number of lambs reported in Ontario decreased 8% from 159,643 to 146,684

Canada stats

	# of sheep			# of farms		
	2011	2016	% change	2011	2016	% change
NL	1,102	1,211	10%	44	49	11%
PEI	3,830	3,821	-0.2%	68	63	-7%
NS	12,360	10,155	-18%	286	271	-5%
NB	4,219	3,346	-21%	128	111	-13%
QC	155,848	129,850	-17%	1,113	954	-14%
ON	184,626	167,390	-9%	3,374	2,969	-12%
MB	31,595	42,032	33%	499	491	-2%
SK	58,990	51,594	-13%	921	816	-11%
AB	92,427	90,281	-2%	1,625	1,546	-5%
BC	26,513	26,606	0.4%	1,469	1,540	5%

Ewe flock size in Ontario regions

	# of sheep			# of farms		
	2011	2016	% change	2011	2016	% change
Southern Ontario	31,394	25,387	-19%	697	587	-16%
Western Ontario	85,153	76,364	-10%	1,293	1,178	-9%
Central Ontario	32,325	36,553	13%	611	534	-12%
Eastern Ontario	27,628	21,976	-20%	594	498	-16%
Northern Ontario	8,126	7,110	-12%	179	172	-4%

Of note,

- Grey Country for having the most number of ewes – 15,285
- Rainy River saw the greatest increase in the number of ewes up 118% from 86 ewes to 188; followed by Peterborough, Nipissing, Prince Edward and Thunder Bay
- Hamilton saw the greatest decrease in the number of ewes down 68% from 1,948 ewes to 613; followed by Prescott and Russell, Essex, Oxford and Lanark

Agricultural Excellence Conference



Plan to attend



**FARMING FOR OUR FUTURE:
CANADA'S 150TH**
November 21 – 23 2017
Ottawa, Ontario

For More Info:
Visit www.fmc-gac.com
Email info@fmc-gac.com
Call 1-888-232-3262

Brought to you by



Last intake for *Growing Forward 2* cost share funding assistance

The last intake for applications for *Growing Forward 2* cost share funding assistance will be from May 12 to June 1, 2017.

Changes to the program were recently announced and a summary can be found here:

<http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/growing-forward-2/>.

Highlights of the changes include:

- There is no limit to the number of active applications a farm business may have open at any given time.
- Producers may submit up to two applications per application intake to any of the project categories.

GF2 funding can also be used for education and professional development purposes. If you are planning on attending an education event or conference in 2017, you should apply for *GF2* funding now. The Sheep Shearing School for Beginners (in late September) and the Advancing Women in Agriculture Conference both qualify for producers to receive some reimbursement for costs under the program.

For more information contact the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association by emailing gf2@ontariosoilcrop.org or visit www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/growing-forward-2/.

Upcoming environmental farm plan workshops

June 5 & 12 – Elmvale

June 7 & 14 – Listowel

June 8 & 15 – Chesley

July 5 & 12 – Kemptville

To register for the workshops visit: <http://www.ontarioprograms.net/>.

Other organizations and reference information

Victoria County Sheep Producers

Third Wednesday every month starting at 7:30 Oakwood Elevators (Taylor Road, Oakwood)
Membership is \$20 per farm per year. Contact: Peter Craig at pdcraig@outlook.com

Western Ontario Lamb Producers

District 2 and 3, for more information email westernontariolambproducers@gmail.com

Southwestern Ontario Sheep Farmers

Meetings 4th Thursday of the month: January to April
Coldstream Community Centre; 10227 Ilderton Road, 519-666-2423
Chair – Wendy McGowan, 519- 657-5197, Secretary – Geraldine Pennings, 519-764-2455

DISTRICT	CONTACT	INFORMATION
1	Dave DeKay at 519-666-0626 or dmdekay@isp.ca	http://osma_district_1.tripod.com/
2	Matt Zehr at 519-363-2029 zehr.matt@gmail.com	
3	Sandi Brock at 519-263-2325 brocksandi@hotmail.com	District 3 Facebook Page
4	Marusha Kostuk at 519-865-6874 or mushie.mk@gmail.com	Meetings tentatively to be held the 3 rd Wed. of the month at 7:30 at Ancaster Fairgrounds (630 Trinity Rd, Ancaster)
5	Lisa de Kleer at 519-994-1499 or lddekleer@gmail.com	Check out the District 5 Facebook Page!
6	John Hemsted at 705-487-2466 or sheep@vanam.com	
7	Jenny Carnaghan at 905-986-5120 or jenny@durhamlamb.ca	
8	Linda Huizenga at 613-477-2314 or huizenga@xplornet.ca	Meetings are normally held on the 3 rd Thurs of every month at 7 pm at Napanee High School. District 8 Facebook Page
9	Lyndsey Smith at 204-807-5897 or realloudlyndsey@gmail.com	
10	Christine Power at 613-686-1892 or christine.power@ic.gc.ca	Check out our Facebook page!
11	Amy Oriet at 705-563-8484 or gaoriet@hotmail.com	