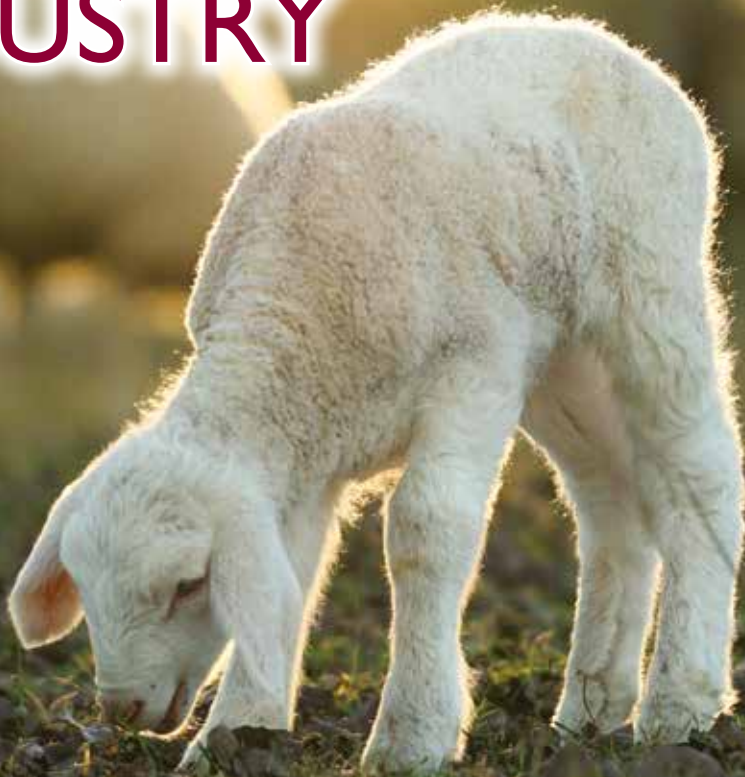


ONTARIO SHEEP NEWS

Vol. 41 - Issue 1 Spring 2023

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Features

- 9 2023 Fleece Assessment Workshop
- 10 2023 OSF Awards and Scholarships
- 22 Peterborough Country Farmers Receive Sheep Pasture Award

- 4 Chair Message

- 5 Executive Director Report

- 6 Editors Desk

- 7 Market Report

- 8 Fire Prevention Tips for Sheep Farmers
– Bruce Kelly Farm and Food Care

- 9 2023 Fleece Assessment Workshop

- 10 2023 OSF Awards and Scholarships

- 11 Hold the Date OSF AGM

- 11 Sheep Industry Highlights

- 14 Ontario Lamb Market Calendar

- 16 Artificial Lamb Rearing Project: Part 2 Producer Project
– Jillian Craig and Hillary Schneider OMAFRA

- 20 Reminder Federal Humane Transport Regulations

- 21 OSF Sponsors

- 22 Peterborough Country Farmers Receive Sheep Pasture Award

- 24 Using Genetics to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Sheep Industry

- 30 OSF Photo Contest

- 31 Association Directory

- 31 Producer/Sheep Owner License Fee Remittance Form

- 32 Genetic and Health Program Enrollment Listing

- 33 Auction Market & Abattoirs Listing

- 34 District Contacts

- 35 Classified Ads

- 38 Breeders Directory

- 40 Scotiabank Partner Sponsor Advertisement



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SPRING 2023

Date of Issue: Spring 2023

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:

Spring Issue - February 3rd • Summer Issue - May 4th • Fall Issue - August 3rd • Winter Issue - November 2nd

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Researching and Building a new Wool Plan

When our new Executive Director started in September, the board and our members prioritized a plan for marketing and new market development for Ontario wool. The board appreciates the support from producers and wool organizations in the process of researching and building a new wool plan. Early discussions have included organizations like the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers and Campaign for wool as well as farmers and wool processors in Ontario. We have also engaged wool marketers and our internal Wool Committee for guidance.

The goal of our research is to better understand the market for wool in Ontario, the barriers to improving the value of Ontario wool today and the opportunities for the future.

We have learned that the pandemic was not kind to the wool market according to Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers (CCWG). Most of the wool marketed by CCWG goes to China and during the pandemic, Chinese wool mills closed and have not re-opened with any capacity for Ontario wool since.

There is also a vibrant community of producers and consumers working together through the Upper Canada Fibreshed. Fibre mills in Ontario are too small for mass production of textiles from Ontario wool but are marketing and representing the high value of Ontario's wool products.

Unfortunately, Ontario has lost significant wool processing capacity for the amount of wool we produce, and the majority of larger wool product manufacturers are having wool processed mainly in Eastern Canada or overseas in the UK.

This puts OSF in the position to re-imagine the opportunities for wool in Ontario with our partners. The first step is working with our producers to quantify the wool produced in Ontario through a survey shared by the district committees and provide education on preparing the wool clip for higher value markets. This will include skirting demonstrations and plans for skirting tables added to our website.

The OSF board is also meeting with the wool organizations in Ontario including CCWG, Campaign for Wool and a mill planning to pelletize wool for fertilizer markets at our April board meeting. Our wool committee will follow up with these wool organizations to identify pilot projects to test market our wool with luxury product manufacturers. Our organizational partners are also working with shearers to identify opportunities to support their businesses.

At this point, we know we don't have answers, but we are doing our research, meeting with our partners and identifying opportunities. The next step, before the end of this fiscal year in August, will be communication back to our members on the feedback we have received through many sources and our approach moving forward. **OSN**



Photo Credit: QuintinMcEwen, Cook Family Farms

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 Research Questionnaire Results

Thank you for participating in the recent Research Questionnaire that was shared with producers through our district committees. We had a great response through the online survey and the districts.

The first question asked producers to rank OSF's role in research. Setting research priorities and funding projects were the clear winners. There were no votes for commercialization and the support for extension services and project management was quite low.

The second question was quite open ended – asking producers for current and future problems that should be solved through research. Here the results were also very clear. There is lots of support for research into animal health and marketing and economics. The other three categories in the top five are nutrition, genetic improvement and animal welfare.

The many comments also supported these top five priorities with suggestions for projects that touch on more than one area of research. Some examples include a review of wormers and vaccines to understand effectiveness and value for money, a plan for wool and hide marketing to improve producer returns and genetic improvements for better feed conversion.

When it comes to suggestions for new product innovations, the majority of responses highlighted a need to invest in wool marketing as a sector. Many responses requested research into various new uses for wool as well as lamb. These responses highlighted the importance of marketing and promotion as well as research and there were many examples of successful marketing campaigns shared in the comments for OSF to consider.

The fourth question asked about communication of research results and most of the responses supported email and the Ontario Sheep News as the most widely read resources. There was also great support for webinars and the Ontario Sheep website.

At the end of the questionnaire, there was an open-ended request for other ideas to consider. There are so many valuable responses in this section to be considered by the Research Committee. One theme that emerged is the importance of reviewing past projects to ensure research is not duplicated. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada has

been tracking sheep research across Canada for many years in a large spreadsheet so this will be possible. Additionally, participants highlighted the importance of working with other commodity organizations and research institutions in Ontario including at the University of Guelph, Ontario Veterinary College, OMAFRA and Agriculture Canada. OSF is a member of the Livestock Research and Innovation Corporation (LRIC) that brings commodity boards together to find collaboration opportunities for research. Our priorities will be shared with LRIC and we will work with them to find the best projects and partners to reach our research goals.

The next step is for the Research Committee to set priorities for the next 3-5 years and seek out partners from the research and funding communities to achieve results for sheep producers. There will be more information to follow through email and the OSN as we engage the research community and report our progress. **OSN**

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Ontario Sheep Farmers is Working to Connect Ontario Farmers to Processing Space

Welcome to the first 2023 issue of Ontario Sheep News (OSN). Let me begin by saying how nice it is to see a return to 'normal' since the onset of the Covid-19 Pandemic. It is encouraging to see OSF districts return to in person events after so much time being physically apart. The Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) team hopes that you enjoy the many advertisements, articles as well as information provided in the Spring publication.

When working on this issue I found myself reflecting on the many conversations and discussion with producers and processors. One topic that continues to come up when speaking with Ontario sheep producers is the access to processing space. OSF understands how vital the relationship is between the processor, producer, and customers and that is why OSF along with industry partners is working to improve process where we can.

Do you, as a farmer, find it difficult to book processing space? Do you want to contribute to an online tool that can make it easier to find available processors who are offering the services you need when you need them? Or on the processing side as a meat processor, do you find yourself spending a lot of time booking processing time with your clients? Do you want to participate and contribute to a solution that helps you, and your clients schedule and receive reminders to efficiently improve and use the skilled labour? If the answer is yes to either of these questions, there is a project to further assist you. Participation in the program is key to improving the process for the producer, processor and ultimately the consumer.

OSF along with Meat & Poultry Ontario (MPO) and AgSights have established a digital dashboard with availability across the province. By working together with abattoirs and farmers, there is an attempt to implement a centralized online booking system for Ontario abattoirs called Processor Links. This online system enables farmers to book appointments for livestock processing which will improve booking visibility, accessibility, and reduce manual administrative tasks which create unnecessary hurdles in the process.

Do you know that MPO and AgSights are looking to speak with producers who have recently had, or are currently having difficulty finding processing appointments? OSF is encouraging Ontario producers with this concern to match with an abattoir that aligns with their processing needs, while also gathering information for a long-term solution to this industry-wide challenge that we continue as an industry to face.

If you are interested in this program or would like more information, please email processorlinks@agsights.com or complete an intake form located at agsights.com/what-is-processor-links/. The project team also wishes to reminder those participating to discuss your end-product and packaging expectations to ensure you are both happy with the experience. As this project moves along, we will continue to provide updates and more information. Please take a moment to visit the processing links page and reach out with any questions or suggestions you may have.

In closing, please enjoy the warmer Spring weather, and please continue to take care of your self and each other. **OSN**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME

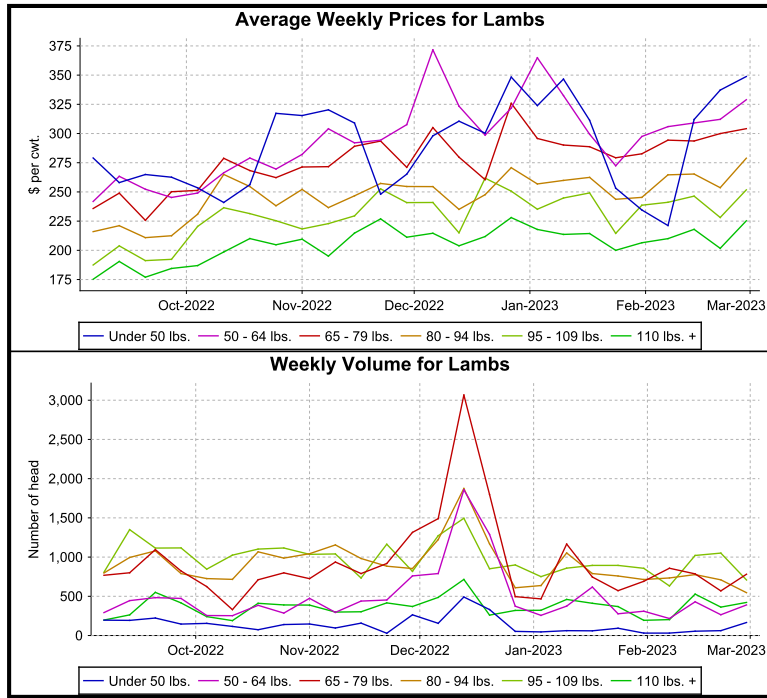
The OSN welcomes letters to the editor.

Please email: tlewis@ontariosheep.org or mail to:

Ontario Sheep News, 130 Malcolm Road, Guelph ON N1K 1B1.

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. **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.

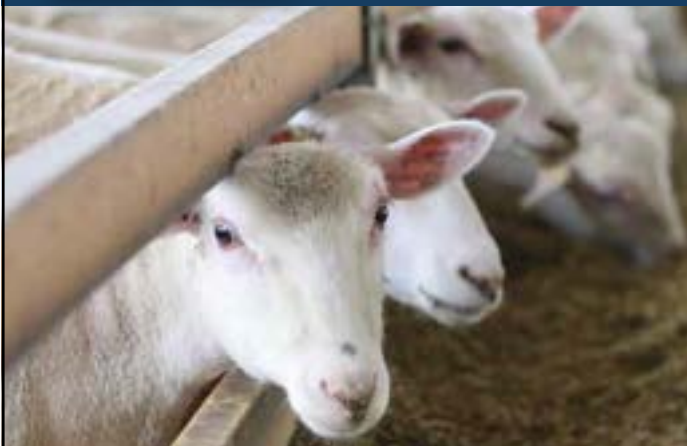
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Fire Prevention Tips for Sheep Farmers

Extension cords, heat lamps, damp electrical equipment are a major cause of farm fires.

By: Bruce Kelly, Farm & Food Care Ontario

As lambing season approaches, it brings with it a renewed risk of fires on farms caused by space heaters, heat lamps and extension cords as farmers try to create a warm environment for young animals. This column contains some tips to reduce risk on your farm.

1. Take special care to prepare lambing pens to ensure sure that they are fire-safe. Heat lamps, often with chains and dangling extension cords, are interesting to curious and energetic lambs. If you use heat lamps, use secure chains with S hooks to hang your lamps rather than twine which can come undone. Ensure extension cords are secured firmly and frequently fastened high up and out of the flightpath of young lambs and their ewes.
2. Preparing for lambing season before it gets really busy is a good investment is farm safety. A leaf blower is a great way to “dust” a barn while keeping it dry. A mild winter day is a great time to use leaf blowers to blow down the inside of barns and sheds to remove accumulated flammable dust and cobwebs, especially those near electrical heat sources.
3. One simple safety rule is that water and electricity don't mix. Winter brings challenges where space heaters, heat lamps and extension cords are concerned, because of the damp from snow. In cases where water and electricity are in close proximity, take extra precautions.
4. Humidity and heat in the barn causes condensation on cool surfaces like walls and ceilings and around windows and doors. Condensation can start to corrode electrical outlets which can cause rust and fires. In extreme cases, it can even electrify surfaces if they are damp and get near open or worn wiring.

What can be done to reduce the risks? Limit the amount of electrical outlets in a barn to key areas, use newer LED lighting that is cooler and less likely to blow or spark and replace outlets and plugs with newer NEMA 4 water proof options. A regular cleaning with a leaf blower to remove dust on lights is a good practice to reduce dust buildup. Careful use of extension cords and heat lamps and chains above livestock is key. Old extension cords are often cracked, undersized (16 gauge rather than 14) and can have bad ends. Investing in new cords is a good investment in safety.

Portable space heaters are a big fire risk. Ensure that water supply rooms are properly sealed against winter weather. If heaters are necessary to prevent freezing, ensure that they are clean, in good repair and monitored through the winter.



Photo Credit: Esther Kelly

Clean and inspect box heaters at the beginning of the heating season, blow out dust with a compressor and inspect weekly through the heating season to remove dust buildup. Do not leave a heater in a well or water pump room to run all winter without regular inspection and cleaning.

Electricity is also needed for winter storm preparation. In addition to regular building maintenance and repairs, ensure doors are secured before a storm and have back-up plan for power for at least the farm and household essentials such as water and heat. If a portable generator is part of your plan, consider a Generlink transfer switch connection or other approved method when connecting your portable generator to your electrical system. If PTO and pole top is your backup power source of choice, make sure it is accessible in the dark when needed and that connections are in good shape.

Taking the time to ensure the fire-safety of your operation is a great way to prepare for a busy lambing season and will serve you well throughout the winter.

Have a great lambing season.

For more information on Farm Fire Prevention and other livestock emergencies see <https://www.farmfoodcareon.org/livestock-emergencies/> **OSN**

2023 Fleece Assessment Workshop

Presented by Ontario Handweavers and Spinners

Workshop Leader: Harriet Boon, Certified Ontario Wool Judge
10:00am - 4:00pm on Saturday, April 29, and Sunday, April 30, 2023
Kimber Valley Farms, 236087 Beaver Valley Rd, Kimberley, ON N0C 1G0

This is the second OHS Fleece Assessment Workshop, following on the success of last year. Guided by Certified Ontario Wool Judge and long-time OHS educator Harriet Boon, participants will explore the characteristics of a wide range of fleeces – from Ontario and beyond. Both shepherds and spinners are invited, and an exchange of experiences and information is anticipated. This workshop will be primarily hands-on learning: our hands will be in the wool as we explore the qualities and challenges of each unique fleece.

The workshop will be held in a large, well-ventilated horse arena with a dry dirt floor. Participants are responsible for arranging their own accommodation and providing their own food. Drinking water and toilet facilities will be available.

Registration

<https://ohs.on.ca/events/>

OHS members \$200; non-members \$250

Maximum number of participants: 20



We are grateful for the financial support of Ontario Sheep Farmers and Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers. **OSN**




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2023 OSF Awards and Scholarships

Applications are now open!

Please see the list of awards/scholarships being offered by Ontario Sheep Farmers. Full details and applications/nomination forms can be found online by visiting www.ontariosheep.org/Awards%20Scholarships

Emerging Leader Award this award celebrates and recognizes distinguished younger members of Ontario Sheep Farmers who are socially responsible leaders and innovators, currently making notable contributions to the Ontario sheep industry with significant impact.

Outstanding Shepherd Award is awarded to an Ontario shepherd who has made significant contributions to the advancement of the Ontario sheep industry. This award is presented to an Ontario shepherd who exemplifies the values of leadership and responsible sheep husbandry.

Long Service Award is awarded in acknowledgment and appreciation of long-standing contributions to the Ontario sheep industry. Recipients of this award have demonstrated outstanding dedication, leadership, and an innovative spirit. This award is presented to an Ontario shepherd or industry service provider in recognition of their significant



contributions to the advancement of the Ontario sheep industry over many years of service.

Mapleseed Pasture Award, is sponsored in part by OSF, Mapleseed and the Ontario Forage Council, 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. The winner of the award receives a cash prize of \$250.

Ontario Sheep Farmers Memorial Fund - Industry Leader Award Funds for this award have come from donations made in memoriam of Ontario sheep industry leaders. This fund was started with donations that have been made in memory of the late Bob Irvine, an Ontario sheep farmer who was a strong supporter of continuous learning. He was a dedicated member of the industry, with a focus on sheep genetics and was a mentor to many. This \$500 cash award is open to applicants who are wanting to further their leadership development in Ontario's sheep industry. This award can be used by the successful applicant to participate in postgraduate or industry education opportunities and leadership courses.

Ontario Sheep Farmers Undergrad Scholarship This \$500 cash scholarship is open to applicants who are enrolled in their first or second year at an accredited university, college, or apprenticeship program. Applicants do not have to be enrolled in an agriculture program to be eligible for the award. Applicants must be 21 years of age or younger (as of January 1, 2022).

For additional details on the 2023 OSF Awards and Scholarships please visit www.ontariosheep.org/Awards%20Scholarships or call the OSF office at 519 836 0043. **OSN**



Hold the Date for the 2023 Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) Convention and Annual General Meeting

Plans are under way for a return to an in-person 2023 Ontario Sheep Convention & Annual General Meeting (AGM).



This year's event will be held on October 26th & 27th, 2023, at the Nottawasaga Inn Resort and Conference Centre in Alliston. Currently, the convention committee is discussing the theme, potential speakers/sessions, and the possibility of allowing for virtual as well as in person participation. More details will be announced in the coming weeks. We encourage you to watch for updates in The Messenger, Ontario Sheep News "summer publication", and on social media.

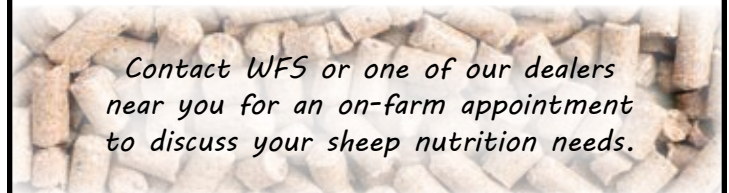
The OSF team looks forward to sharing the program/details with you once finalized and most importantly seeing all of ewe at the event this Fall! **OSN**



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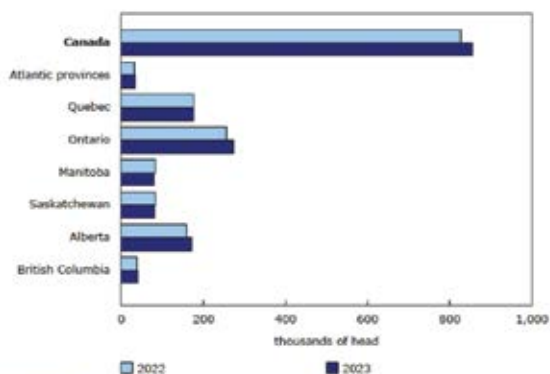


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Sheep Industry Highlights

Inventory: According to Statistics Canada's livestock inventories released on February 28, 2023, the January 1 Canadian inventory of sheep and lambs was 854,400 head, up 3.3 percent year from the previous January estimate.

Chart 3
Total sheep inventories, January 1, 2022, and January 1, 2023



Source(s): Table 33-10-0129-01

The national flock consists of 508.8 thousand ewes, 24 thousand rams, 95.9 thousand lambs for breeding and 225.7 thousand lambs for market.

Provincial flocks showing increased numbers include Alberta (+8%), Ontario (+7.4%), British Columbia (+0.8%) and Quebec (+0.3%). All other provincial flocks held steady or decreased according to the released data.

Breeding Flock: The national sheep breeding flock rose 0.6% year over year to 628,700 head, as increases in the number of ewes (+1.1%) and rams (+0.4%) more than offset a 1.8% decrease in replacement lambs.

Ontario's breeding flock at 211,200 head, increased 6.25% from January 2022 and comprises 172,800 ewes (+6.5%), 7,200 rams (+1.4%) and 31,200 breeding lambs (+4.7%). This is the largest breeding flock inventory since 2013. Ontario's breeding flock accounts for 33.6% of the national breeding flock, up from 31.9% at January 1, 2022. Quebec accounts for 21% of the national breeding flock, while Alberta accounts for 20%.

Market Lambs on Farm: Inventories of market lambs on farm rose 11.5% year over year to 225,700 head on January 1, 2023, primarily due to reductions in slaughter capacity in



Wellness check-in

As you prepare for the busy summer season, OFA wants to remind Ontario Sheep farmers to prioritize their mental health and well-being.



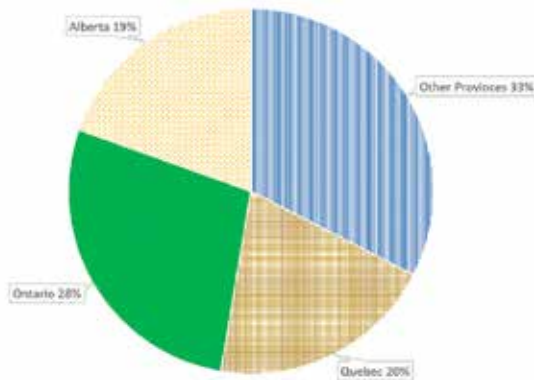
Think of mental health and wellness as a dashboard using these helpful tips:

- ✓ Check your own levels - are you close to 'empty' on energy, patience, sleep, hydration... or cruising close to burnout?
- ✓ Find ways to recharge - hobbies, staycations, breaks from everyday farm tasks.
- ✓ Do a circle check of your network - check in on neighbours, friends and family. When you ask how they are doing, really listen.
- ✓ Don't hesitate to reach out for help - some issues need outside expertise. Look for help from a specialist if the situation is overwhelming.

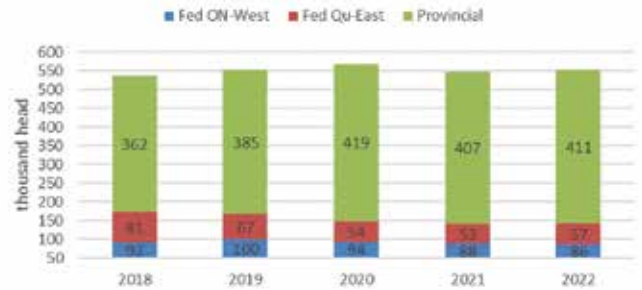
Just as you look out for the well-being of your flock, remember to look out for yourself and your community. For mental health resources and help lines, visit ofa.on.ca/mental-health.

OFA: Looking out for the farm's most valuable resource.... the farmer.

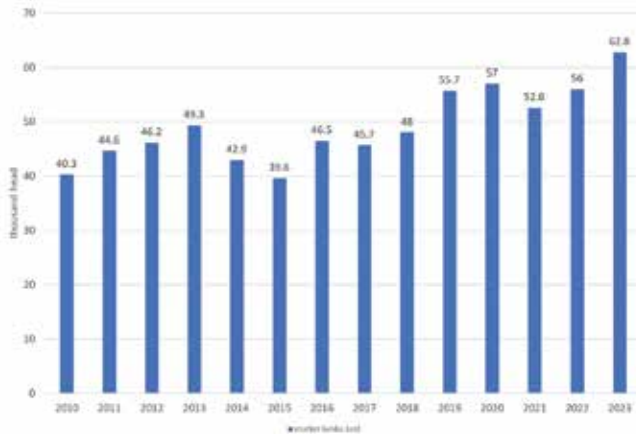
Market Lambs on Farm, January 1 2023



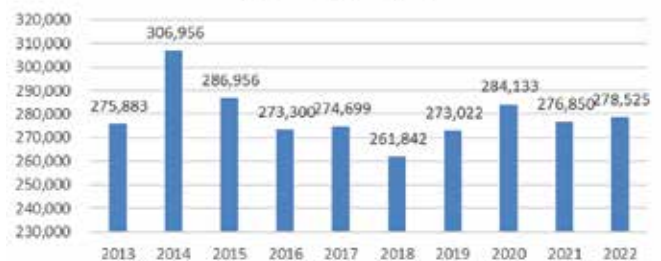
Canadian Sheep & Lamb Slaughter, inspected, federal, provincial



Ontario, market lambs on farm, Jan 1



Ontario Sheep & Lamb Slaughter, by year



Western Canada, according to the Statistics Canada report. Inventory of lambs for marketing on Ontario farms on January 1, 2023, was estimated to be 62,800 head. This is sharply higher (12.1%) than the January 1, 2022 estimate and has not been this high since 2003.

Slaughter: According to Statistic's Canada, total national slaughter (federal and provincial inspected) for 2022 increased 0.4 percent to 547,800 head. Federal inspected slaughter accounted for 25.7 percent of all sheep and lamb slaughter in 2022, down from 32.4 percent in 2018. Ontario's slaughter for 2022 totalled 284,300 head, an increase of 0.6 percent over 2021, but still lower than 2020.

Highlights on imports, exports and markets will be included in the Summer 2023 issue of *Ontario Sheep News*. **OSN**

Sources:

Table 32-10-0129-01 Number of Sheep and Lambs on Farms (x1000)

Table 32-10-0141-01 Sheep statistics, supply and disposition of sheep and lambs (x 1,000)

Red Meat Market Information <https://agriculture.canada.ca/en/sector/animal-industry/red-meat-and-livestock-market-information/slaughter-and-carcass-weights>

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THE 2023 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.
January 7	Orthodox Christmas	Lamb is featured in many celebration meals.	Recently weaned and milk fed lambs are preferred.	
January 22	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 5 to 12	Passover (Pesach) Jewish	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 9	Western Easter	Roast lamb is a main dish in festival meals for Mediterranean (Italian, Portuguese, and Greek) heritages	Healthy young lambs. (some preference for lambs under 60 pounds live weight; ideally milk-fed and fat). Number of lambs under 65 pounds begins to increase in the 3 weeks prior to Easter, and often peaks during the week before Easter. Number of 65-to-79-pound lambs will also increase during this time.	Higher market demand in the 2-to-3-week period preceding holiday. Check local auction schedules for "special" Easter sale dates. A peak sale period in the year.
April 16	Eastern Orthodox Easter			
March 23 to April 21	Ramadan (Islam) (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.
April 20 to 21	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.
May		Start of barbeque season which more frequently featuring Ontario lamb.	Moderate demand. Processors see an increase in BBQ lamb demand from May to August.	Commonly higher supply and slightly higher but still moderate demand.
June 28 to 30	Eid al Adha (Festival of Sacrifice, Eid)	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 pen wounds, torn ears, or any 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.
The Hajj (Islam) is June 26 to 28	A peak sale period in year.			
July 18	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 16 to 17	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 9	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 8 to 15	Hanukkah (Festival of Rededication) Jewish	Traditionally meats 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)	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. A peak sale period of the year.

This calendar and the 5 year calendar is also available on the OSF website at www.ontariosheep.org/religious-ethnic-market-calendar.

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Artificial Lamb Rearing Project: Part 2 Producer Project

Jillian Craig, Small Ruminant Specialist & Hillary Schneider, Small Ruminant Assistant, OMAFRA

From March to August 2022 an on-farm project examining artificial rearing systems specifically focused on milk machines and lamb performance was conducted on several Ontario farms. The project had three main objectives: lamb productivity, rearing cost, and producer labour. Six farms participated in the project. Two farms had Lac-Tek milk machines and four farms had Eco Feeders also commonly known as Förster-Technik and / or Grober.

The results will be presented in a series of articles; this article will focus on producer labour. A previous article can be found in the December 2022 Ontario Sheep News for context as well as information on farm specific set-ups, machine cleaning and milk replacer cost.

Producer Labour

Labour was the most variable factor on-farm due to different systems. In the project, trail cameras were set up to track on-farm labour related to the milk machine.

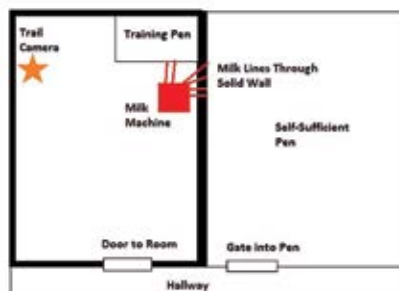
Four farms had a one-room milk machine system, the trail camera was able to be placed and all jobs related to the milk room were able to be recorded. See Figure 1A for an example system. Two farms had a split-room milk machine system, where one room housed the lambs, and a separate room housed the milk machine. Since there was only one trail camera available for each farm, not all of the labour data could be captured. Figure 1B is an example of a split-room situation where the milk machine and training pen were in one room and the self-sufficient pen of lambs was in another room. In this case, the trail camera was placed to view the milk machine and training pen. For Farm 4 and Farm 5, the overall producer time spent in the milk machine room is underestimated due to the split-rooms.

Over the course of the project, some of the trail cameras malfunctioned due to dead batteries, memory card issues or the trail camera getting washed too often. In these cases, the overall producer time spent in the milk machine room is underestimated.

Figure 1A: A one-room milk machine system



Figure 1B: A split-room milk machine system





Attention Ontario Sheep Farmers!

Ontario Sheep Producers without email now have more options to know what's happening in Ontario's Sheep industry:

OSF phone line now offers 2 NEW options to choose from:

NEW - Upcoming Events
(updated every Monday listing events for the week)

NEW - Industry News
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Market Reports
(updated every Wednesday)

Call OSF at 519-836-0043

press 5 for Upcoming Events
press 6 for Industry News
press 4 for Market Reports

An example of a typical trail camera picture taken from one farm with a one-room system can be seen in Figure 2, where the milk machine is in the warm room on the right. When the producer cleaned the machine or checked it, the door would be open, and it was easy to see and record their actions. Pictures were examined to record jobs in the room. Labour-intensive jobs included cleaning the machine, training lambs, pen clean out, etc.

Figure 2: A picture taken from the trail camera showing the one-room milk machine system

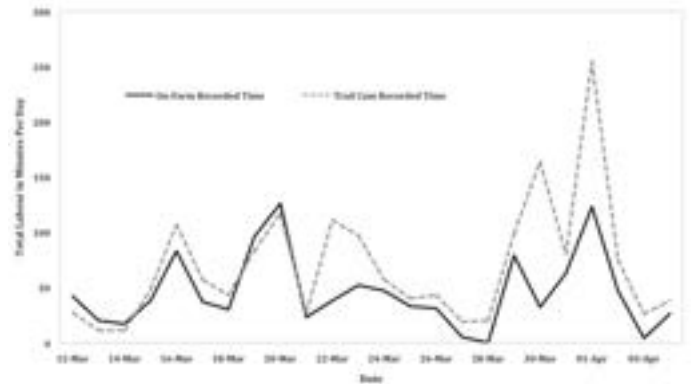


As part of the project, one farm tracked the time spent in the system manually on a clipboard and a trail camera was also placed in the room to compare the two time tracking systems. The comparison of the on-farm recorded time versus the trail camera recorded time can be found in Figure 3.

The average time spent in the artificial rearing system was 42 minutes per day while the average labour cost was \$14 per day across the six farms.”

The comparison ran from March 11 to April 3, 2022. The total on-farm recorded time was 18 hours and the total trail camera recorded time was 28 hours. There was a difference of 9 hours or \$188 more in labour costs captured on the trail camera versus the on-farm recorded time. Some of the larger spikes in the graph captured by the trail camera but not by the producer included medicating lambs and pen clean outs. This shows that typically on-farm labour is underestimated by producers, and small jobs can add up over time.

Figure 3: Labour per day spent in the milk machine system in minutes: farm 1



Trail camera footage was compiled on all six farms to calculate labour costs. The total number of lambs that were added to the milk machine, the average time spent in minutes per day and the labour cost per day on the milk machine lambs is reported in Table 1. The average time spent in the artificial rearing system was 42 minutes per day while the average labour cost was \$14 per day across the six farms. The labour rate was based on \$20 per hour.

Continued on page 18.



Table 1: Average time and labour cost spent per day with the artificial rearing system

	Farm 1	Farm 2 Group A	Farm 2 Group B	Farm 3	Farm 4	Farm 5	Farm 6
Total # of lambs to milk machine	105	125	60	18	85	13	13
Average time spent per day in the artificial rearing system (minutes / day)	69	93	26	35	40	19	10
Labour cost / day (\$) *	\$23	\$31	\$8.77	\$11.63	\$13.43	\$6.23	\$3.36

*Labour based on \$20 per hour

The total number of lambs on the milk machine, total time spent per live lamb from start to weaning in minutes and the total labour cost spent per live lamb is shown in Table 2. The total time spent in the system from start to weaning across the six farms on average was 26 minutes per live lamb, while the total labour cost was \$9 per live lamb.

In general, a higher number of lambs on the machine meant that the average time spent in the artificial rearing system per day and labour cost per day were higher than the systems with less lambs. However, the farms with more lambs on the system had a lower overall labour cost per live lamb. This can be seen in Figure 4. In the figure, the number of live lambs raised on the machine are in brackets above the labour cost per live lamb.

When using a milk machine in general, there are ‘sunk’ labour duties such as machine cleaning, pen clean out and repairs which happen regardless of the number of lambs on the machine.

Table 2: Total time and labour cost spent per live lamb from entry to weaning in the artificial rearing system

	Farm 1	Farm 2 Group 1	Farm 2 Group 2	Farm 3	Farm 4	Farm 5	Farm 6
Total # of lambs to milk machine	105	125	60	18	85	13	13
Total time spent / live lamb from start to weaning (minutes)	22	37	10	15	19	45	37
Labour Cost / Live Lamb (\$)*	\$7.45	\$12.27	\$3.31	\$5.09	\$6.37	\$15.07	\$12.33

*Labour based on \$20 per hour

Processor Links

Connecting farmers and processors

Important Update

Attention Farmers!

Don't miss out on free help to book processing services.

Ontario Sheep, AgSights and MPO have partnered with Beef Farmers of Ontario to share availability with farmers and help fill open spots efficiently.

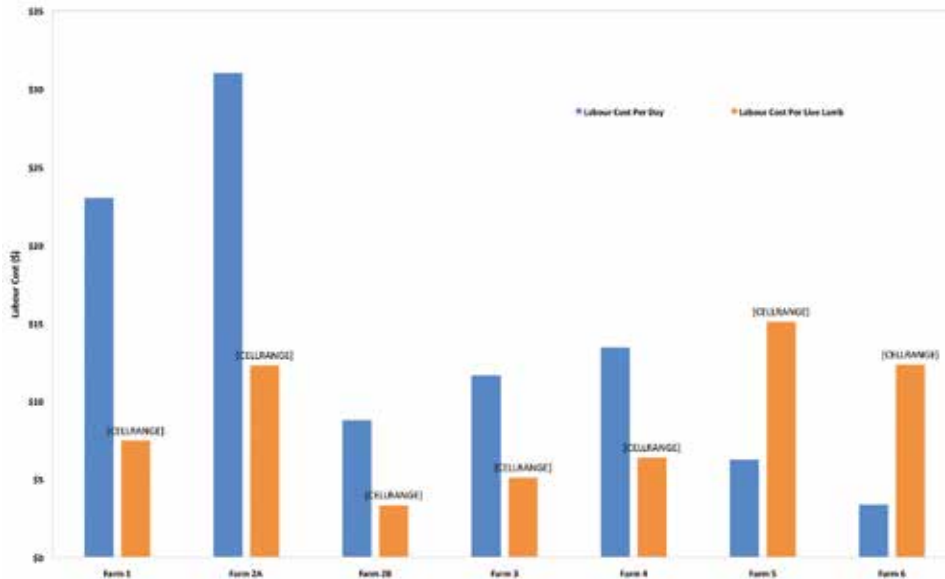
If you need to sign-up to take advantage of this free support, please contact AgSights today. This service is here to find efficiency in managing wait lists and filling space,.



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Figure 4: Comparison between the labour cost per day versus the labour cost per live lamb across the six farms



(#) – number in brackets represents the number of live lambs raised on the machine
 *Labour based on \$20 per hour

The total time spent in the system from start to weaning across the six farms on average was 26 minutes per live lamb, while the total labour cost was \$9 per live lamb.

Other Labour Findings

Four farms fully cleaned the machines regularly, either every day or every other day depending on the weather, number of lambs on the machine and work schedules. Two farms had Lac-Tek machines and spent 20 minutes and 20.3 minutes respectively cleaning the machines. The other two farms had Eco Feeders also commonly known as Förster-Technik and / or Grober machines. On these farms, producers spent on average 21 minutes and 17.7 minutes respectively on full machine cleans. The four farms had similar cleaning protocols. The farm that took 17.7 minutes to clean the machine, did not have as many milk lines as the other farms which led to the reduction in overall cleaning time. For cleaning recommendations please refer to Part 1 of the article series.

Pen clean outs and other jobs varied on farms due to different set-ups and systems. Two farms operated on a slatted floor system while the other four had straw or straw / shavings bedding system. The pen clean out time also varied based on the total area in the artificial rearing system and stocking density of the lambs. These numbers have not been reported due to the huge variability.


Observations / Key Findings

Labour was the most variable factor on-farm due to different systems. When using a milk machine or artificial rearing system in general, there are ‘sunk’ labour duties such as machine cleaning, pen clean out and repairs which happen regardless of the number of lambs on the machine.

1. In general, as the number of lambs increased in the system, the labour cost per lamb decreased. The average labour cost per day spent on the artificial rearing system was \$14 across the six farms. While the average labour cost per live lamb from the time they went on the milk machine to weaning was \$9 across the six farms.
2. As stated previously, the labour values are underestimated due to either trail camera failures for certain days or split-room milk machine systems on two of the six farms.
3. Labour per day should not necessarily be reduced dramatically as machine cleaning and lamb observation / management was an important factor to weaning healthy lambs off of the milk machine.

Thank you to the six farms who participated in the on-farm study. Your participation is greatly appreciated and allowed us to collect some meaningful benchmarks for lambs raised artificially on milk machines. **OSN**

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Reminder Federal Humane Transport Regulations

The requirements for the transport of all animals into, within and out of Canada are found in Part XII of the *Health of Animals Regulations*. All those involved in transporting animals either directly or indirectly have the responsibility to assess animals for fitness, then select, prepare and load only animals that are fit for the intended journey. If you are responsible for activities related to the loading, unloading, or transporting of animals, you must be familiar with – and follow – Canada’s transport of animals’ regulations.



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TRANSPORTER COMPANY NAME:					
Address			Premises ID		
Town	Province	Postal Code	Phone #		
Trailer Unit or License Plate		Driver			
Company/Year Last Cleared		Date	Time	Location	
OWNER NAME:					
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Town	Province	Postal Code	Phone #		
Individual CCA Tag Numbers Attached		Yes	No		
ANIMALS LOADED					
Last access to feed water and rest (FWR) prior to loading			Date	Time	AM PM
Loading Date (yy/mm/dd)			Loading Time		
			AM	PM	
Tag/Ear #	Head Count	Species	Gender Type	CCA tags	Marking Mark
Floor area available to animals (m ² / ft ²)			Estimated Weight (lbs or kg)		
All animals have been determined to be fit for transport			Yes	No	Number of compromised animals loaded
Compromised animals: description and resources taken					
If applicable, FWR was provided during transport			Date	Time	Location
<input type="checkbox"/> Animals unloaded for FWR			<input type="checkbox"/> FWR provided on board		
THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE RECEIVER (auction market / processor / pack / dealer / abattoir)					
Date Received/Unloaded			Unloading Time	AM	PM
All animals arrived in good condition			Yes	No	# of load received
If no, describe condition of animals upon arrival, including any dead animals, and actions taken to address prior to arrival					
Comments: If Shipper is not the Owner, please include name, full mailing address, premises identification and telephone number of the Shipper(s) here.					
Owner Signature		Receiver Signature		Driver Signature	
The transfer of care from the transporter to the receiver occurs immediately upon acknowledgement of the shipment and the accompanying documentation by the receiver.					
Copies: Receiver		Transporter		Owner Inspector	

Enforcement actions are proportional to the animal welfare situation and the seriousness of the non-compliance and can include notices (verbal or written) and penalties (monetary or non-monetary). The Canadian Food Inspection Agency, provincial governments, producers, transporters, industry organizations, and many others each have a role to play.

OSF developed a resource page to assist producers and those transporting animals in finding information to ensure compliance with the regulations including common questions and answers on the Humane Transport Regulations for the Sheep Sector as well as providing producers with a sample transport manifest and other resources such as a sample contingency plans and other suggestions for record keeping.

For more information on the regulation producers are encouraged to visit <https://www.ontariosheep.org/Transport> **OSN**

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Updated March 2023

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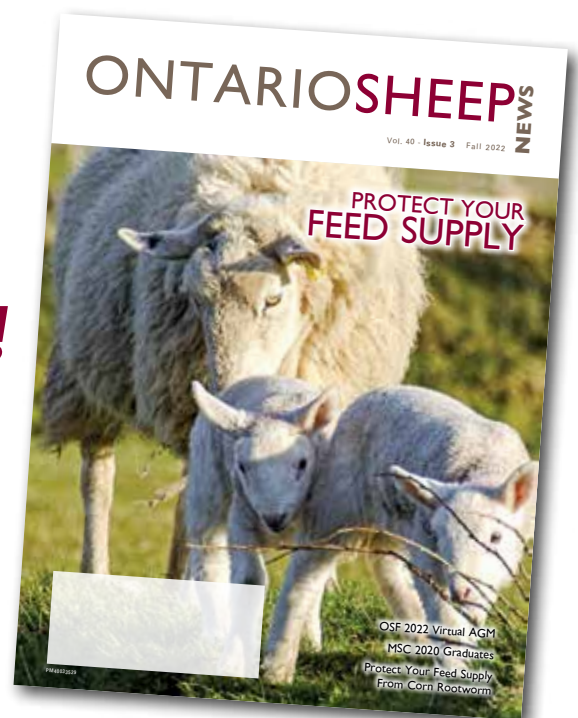
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For additional information please visit
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Peterborough County Farmers Receive Sheep Pasture Award



Ontario Sheep producers Todd & Jennifer Payne of Aspnodel Sheep Company in the Norwood area of Peterborough County are the recipient of the 2022 Ontario Sheep Pasture Award.

The award sponsored by MAPLESEED, the Ontario Forage Council and the Ontario Sheep Association, was presented February 3rd. For their environmental and pasture improvements and management, the recipients received \$250 and a bag of forage seed.

The Aspnodel Sheep Company operation includes a breeding flock of 800 and basically depend on nearly year-round pasture. The pasture utilization includes rough land pasture for the dry mature ewes which includes mostly orchard grass and the improved tillable pastureland for grazing replacement lambs contains a mix of orchard, perennial ryegrass, and alfalfa on the seeded acres.

As Todd comments, “We really pasture year around.” They strip graze corn and graze sorghum after last cut until frost



and have also grazed crop residue. Use of a bale-unroller with the ewes on corn stocks also works well. The Payne’s are strong promoters of rotational grazing and using portable net fencing with a solar energizer.

Todd emphasized, “It is very important to supply fresh water to the animals and he has a 1500- gallon portable water tank on a 10-ton trailer, which allows us to put sheep on land that would otherwise be unused.”

Environmental stewardship has always been top of mind for Todd and Jennifer, and they have participated in the Environmental Farm Plan Program. They are trying to incorporate grazing cover crops, that are planted after wheat harvest.

Please note: The deadline for applications for the 2023 MAPLESEED Beef Pasture Award is November 30, 2023. For details, call the Ontario Forage Council at 1-877-892-8663 or visit either the Ontario Forage Council website at www.ontarioforagecouncil.com or Ontario Sheep website at www.ontariosheep.org. **OSN**





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Using Genetics to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Sheep Industry

By Delma Kennedy Sheep Specialist Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs

For more than a decade there has been talk about how to feed the population in 2050, how ruminants are a big problem in global warming and that forests are being lost to agriculture. It is becoming clear that it is necessary for all industries and individuals to work toward a more sustainable future. So, what do we need to do in the sheep industry?

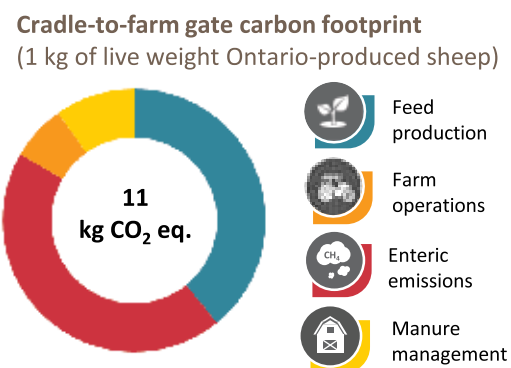
What is the global agriculture challenge?

The challenge is how to feed 10 billion people without using more land while maintaining or lowering greenhouse gas emissions. Ruminants contribute to greenhouse gas emissions because they produce enteric emissions mostly in the form of methane gas. Methane gas is produced by the rumen when ruminants digest feed.

What is the Ontario sheep industry situation?

In 2017, Ontario Sheep Farmers had the carbon footprint estimated for Ontario sheep farms. A carbon footprint is the amount of greenhouse gas that is generated for an activity. Figure 1 shows the estimated carbon footprint to produce Ontario lamb. It was estimated that 11 kilograms of carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalents are generated for every 1 kg of lamb produced live weight to the farm gate.

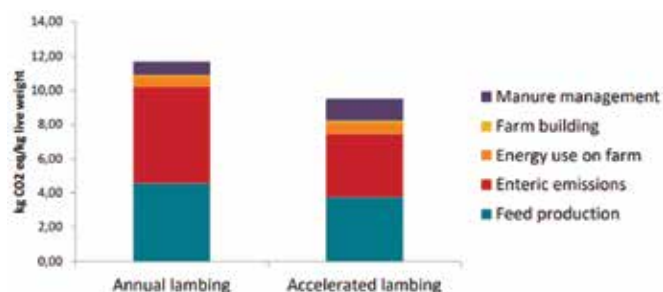
Figure 1. Estimated carbon footprint for Ontario lamb production.



Source: Groupe AGÉCO. 2017

The 11 kilograms is generated from four categories: feed production, farm operations, manure management and enteric emissions. You can see that producing feed and digesting that feed is where most of the greenhouse gas is produced in an Ontario sheep operation. The study also found that there was a difference in emissions between annual lambing and accelerated lambing production systems. Figure 2 shows the breakdown of emissions in kg of CO₂ equivalents per kg of lamb raised to the farmgate.

Figure 2. Estimated kg of CO₂ equivalents per kg of lamb raised for annual and accelerated lambing systems.



Source: Groupe AGÉCO. 2017

Eastern Sheep Expo

Saturday, April 15, 2023
9am – 4pm
\$10 Registration
Mountain Township Agricultural Hall
2967 Lough Rd, South Mountain, On.

9:30 am Flock Health Tips to Keep Your Profits in Check - Dr. Terri MacKenzie
11:00 am Strategies for Successful Sheep Grazing - Brian Maloney
1:00 pm Shearing and Hoof Trimming Setups that work - Ross Creighton
3:00 pm Does your Biosecurity Measure Up? - France Lanthier

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Accelerated lambing systems have a lower carbon footprint largely because of lower enteric emissions. Although ewes will eat more in an accelerated system, fewer ewes are needed to produce the same kilograms of product.

Using Genetics to reduce emissions

If you have been selecting sheep that produce more kilograms of lamb to weaning, you have already been selecting for reduced emissions indirectly. Genetics can be used to reduce methane emissions indirectly and directly.

- 1) Indirectly, by selecting for more production from existing animals
- 2) Directly, by selecting for reduced methane produced by each sheep

Selecting for more production from existing animals

Each breeding animal in the flock must maintain their body weight by eating. Sheep are ruminants that use a fermentation process to digest food. This allows them to convert plant matter to energy efficiently. But during the process, methane is produced. This means that larger animals produce more methane and producing more kilograms of lamb for each breeding animal results in less methane.

Research in Wales modelled the effects of using genetic selection to increase production on the amount of methane emitted per unit of product. Using the Wales lowland example, single trait selection can affect the total methane emissions per kg of carcass weight. Figure 3 shows the percentage change in methane emissions that could be obtained by selecting for individual traits for 10 years.

Figure 3. 10-year change in methane emissions per tonne of carcass weight by single trait selection.

Performance trait	Percentage change in methane emissions over 10 years
Ewe litter size	-5.3%
Lamb muscle depth and carcass weight	-2.7%
Lamb growth rate (with no change in mature ewe weight)	-2.3%
Ewe longevity	-1.3%
Lamb growth rate (with correlated increase in ewe weight)	-0.7%
Lamb survival	-0.6%

Source: Meat Promotion Wales, 2011.

Continued on page 26.



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Selection on any of the traits listed will reduce methane emissions. Selection for litter size has the largest effect followed by carcass weight and growth rate. Increasing the number of kilograms of meat produced per kilogram of ewe fed will result in smaller methane emissions. Using genetic selection indexes that balance selection for several traits is a better overall long-term solution that can be used industry wide. In Wales the use of improved crossbred ewes and performance tested terminal sires could reduce methane emissions by 1.8% over 10 years while increasing lamb weight reared by 4.5% and decreasing days to market by 2.5%.

Directly selecting for sheep that produce less methane

New Zealand researchers started measuring and selecting animals for methane production in 2011 and now have three generations of selection. On farm measurement started in 2017 with a portable respiration chamber trailer that can measure methane emissions in 10 sheep per hour. The trait has moderate heritability and genetic selection values have been developed and are being used by New Zealand farmers. New Zealand has sold the on farm measuring units to other countries including Norway, Australia, Ireland, Scotland and France. A New Zealand low methane sheep:

- Produces 11% less methane per kg of feed eaten
- Has a 20% smaller rumen with the same surface area

- Eats little and often
- Has different microbial fermentation
- Has a different energy profile
- Has more lean growth, less fat, more wool

New Zealand estimates that they will achieve a 3-7% reduction in methane emissions by 2030 and a 15% reduction by 2050 by selecting for animals with low methane emissions. More information on the methane selection program in New Zealand and what they are working on can be found in a presentation done by Suzanne Rowe in July 2021 and available on YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSg4sKn4FyE>

How does this apply to Ontario?

The methane emissions estimated for kilogram of Ontario lamb at farmgate are based on reasonable average commercial production performance. The reality of small flocks, owner turnover and a range of market lamb size means that estimated average carbon footprint may not be indicative of the total industry. Some of the basic production numbers used in the estimate are shown in Table 1.

Continued on page 28.



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Table 1. Selected production numbers used for life cycle analysis modelling.

Parameter	Annual Lambing	Accelerated Lambing
Adult Ewes	584	482
Lambs per ewe	1.4	2.0
Lamb mortality	10%	12%
Ewe replacement rate	19%	19%
Lambs to slaughter	703	871
Lamb slaughter weight	41 kg	47.6 kg
Adult Ewe weight	65.7 kg	71.6 kg
Electricity consumption (annual)	58 kWh/ewe	99 kWh/ewe
Heating fuel consumption (annual)	33 MJ/ewe	83 MJ/ewe
Diesel/oil consumption (annual)	114 MJ/ewe	185 MJ/ewe

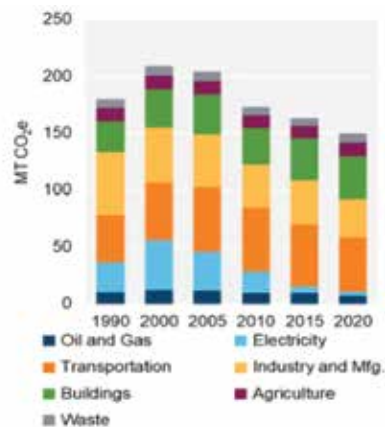
Source: Groupe AGÉCO. 2017

Although the full life cycle analysis is quite complicated, you can use these numbers to get a rough idea of how your


farm relates to the study done. In general, producing more liveweight of market lamb per unit of liveweight of breeding stock will reduce the amount of methane produced per kilogram of lamb.

Ontario sheep farmers need to consider reducing methane as part of their production systems going into the future. Agriculture is not the main source of CO2 equivalents in Ontario, but it is a significant contributor. Figure 4 shows the GHG emissions in CO2 equivalents by sector in Ontario.

Figure 4. GHG Emissions by Sector, Ontario




Source: Canada Energy Regulator, Provincial and Territorial Energy Profiles – Ontario.



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You can see from the graph that the estimated emissions for agriculture have been fairly constant over the past 30 years. Although this is a good sign, all industries will need to reduce emissions in order to meet our greenhouse gas reduction targets in the face of a growing population.

Conclusions:

Genetics is an important tool that can be used to improve the carbon footprint of the sheep industry. Changing genetics results in permanent change in the resulting animals that can be built on in future generations. This has the potential to make the change more cost effective over the long term. The main countries exporting lamb to Ontario are leaders in greenhouse gas emission reduction in the sheep industry. Greenhouse gas emissions are an issue to consider in farm operations and long-term production plans that can be improved with genetics. **OSN**

References:

Canada Energy Regulator. 2023. Provincial and Territorial energy profiles – Ontario. <https://www.cer-rec.gc.ca/en/data-analysis/energy-markets/provincial-territorial-energy-profiles/provincial-territorial-energy-profiles-ontario.html#:~:text=GHG%20Emissions,Ontario's%20GHG%20emissions&text=The%20largest%20emitting%20sectors%20in,7.6%20MT%20CO2e>

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Reisinger, A. et al. 2018. Future options to reduce biological GHG emissions on-farm: critical assumptions and national-scale impact. New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse gas research center.

Rowe, Suzanne. 2021. Low methane-emitting sheep are a reality. What's planned for the future? Beef and Lamb New Zealand Genetics. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSg4sKn4FyE>

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2023

OSF PHOTO CONTEST

IF YOU'VE GOT AN EYE FOR CAPTURING GREAT MOMENTS IN A PHOTO THIS CONTEST IS FOR YOU!

Entries are now being accepted for the 2023 Ontario Sheep photo contest. We are looking for photos of your flocks, activities around your sheep farm, and you, Ontario's sheep farmers. This contest is open to everyone. You do not have to be a member of Ontario Sheep Farmers to be eligible to enter.

Winners of the contest will be announced at the 2023 Annual General Meeting.

CATEGORIES

- Flock shots – a minimum of 20 sheep must be in the photo
- Around the sheep farm – farm landscapes, outside/inside your barn or pasture, shearing day, and more
- Sheep farmers – farmers at work, farm family life
- All about Wool - showing off Ontario Wool
- Fan Favourite - farm landscape, outside/inside barn or pasture, shearing day, and more

PRIZES

A \$100 cash prize will be awarded to the top photos in each of the categories. An overall grand prize award of \$250 is also available. All photo entries will be eligible to win the fan favourite cash prize of \$100.

SUBMISSIONS

Send pictures electronically to admin@ontariosheep.org in a jpeg format with the subject line 2023 photo contest. Photos submitted must be at least 200 dpi and a minimum of 1 MB in file size. Pictures submitted must be Canadian and international pictures submitted will not be entered.

The deadline for entries is September 7th, 2023.

Include the following information with your submission:

- Title of the photo (optional)
- Mailing address, phone number, and email address
- Name of the photographer if different than the person submitting the photo.
- The category you are submitting the photo for (see above for criteria and a list of categories)

CONTEST RULES

- Any photos received become the property of Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) and will not be returned. OSF reserves the right to use and/or reproduce the photos. Where possible, the credit will be given to the photographer.
- If the person who submits the photo to the contest is not the person who took the photo, the name of the photographer needs to be included with the submission.
- Only two (2) entries per photographer, per category, will be accepted.
- Entrants do not have to be involved in the sheep industry to be eligible to enter. OSN



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ASSOCIATION DIRECTORY

PRODUCER/SHEEP OWNER LICENCE FEE REMITTANCE FORM (PRIVATE TREATY SALES)

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.

Ontario Sheep Farmers 130 Malcolm Road, Guelph, Ontario N1K 1B1

SHEEP/LAMB: FEE IS \$1.80 PER HEAD PLUS 13% HST

Producer # _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov.: _____ Postal Code: _____

Date of Sale: _____ Date Remitted: _____

of sheep/lamb sold: _____ Lic. Fees (x \$1.80=) \$ _____

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TOTAL REMITTED \$ _____

Genetic and Health Program Enrollment Listing

If you have questions, concerns, or would like more information about these programs please contact the Ontario Sheep office at (519) 836-0043 or email admin@ontariosheep.org.

CURRENT PRODUCERS ENROLLED IN THE GENOVIS PROGRAM (AS OF MARCH 2023)

4S Maple Lane Farm • Kimberly Schneider • (905) 404-7811
5-Star Livestock and Farm Services • Jen & Chris Vervoort • (519) 993-6413
Allinbrook Farms • Neil Allin • (905) 983-5791
Asphodel Sheep Co • Todd Payne • (705) 875-5904
Bone Run Farm • Jana Vleuten • (519) 532-9901
Bonfire Hill Farm • Lisa Schultes • (902) 326-1195
Breezy Ridge Farm • Philip & Elizabeth Smith • (905) 478-4280
Brubacher Ovine • Earl Brubacher • (519) 323-4152
Burtwistle Sheep • Benjamin Burtwistle • (519) 280-0093
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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Codan Suffolks • Bill & Lynne Duffield • (519) 899-2663
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Cursio Farms & Arkell Valley • Frank & Ned Cursio • (519) 766-3378
Emke Livestock • Craig Emke • (519) 901-2519
Emily McKague • (519) 599-2348
Ewenique Farm • Nathalie Labelle • (613) 290-5405
Fare Vewe Acres • Mark & Betty Bearer • (519) 323-1760
Jim & Wendy Driscoll • (519) 638-5703
G & L Brien • Gary & Luanne Brien • (519) 674-3846
Gimlet Hill • Rob & Tracey Werry • (289) 385-6804
Gopher Broke Dorsets • Tania Lise • (519) 440-1076
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Halfway Farms • Hiske MacKay • (519) 281-3725
H D Livestock • Heidi Kristufek • (519) 803-4194
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Lush Acres • Jenean & Jason Lush • (519) 538-2753
Maderstone Farm • Courtney Mader • (705) 313-5882
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Rising Oak Farm • Laura Mosley • (705) 305-9275
Rocky Lane Farm • Allison Brown • (705) 308-3284
Shadow Ridge Acres • Zabrina Bielaskie • (613) 433-6199
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Kettle Crest Farm • Art & Sandra Alblas • (519) 637-0050

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Brussels Livestock Exchange	42857 Newry Road, RR 3	Brussels	(519) 887-6461
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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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* Bilal Farms – Always looking for quality lambs (70 – 80 lbs) and have a year round market. wzazay@hotmail.com or www.bilalfarms.com

District Contacts

Look for your district news and events in the Messenger or on the website.

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Vice Chair	Ed Post	519.280.4638
Secretary/Treasurer	Lisa Burks	519.671.2635

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Secretary	Romy Schill	519.699.4146
Treasurer	Bill McCutcheon	519.766.7905

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