

The Messenger



June 15, 2017

In this issue

Upcoming events.....	2
Out and about.....	2
May board of directors meeting notes.....	3
Provincial director elections information.....	4
District annual meetings information.....	5
New market lamb pen competition at Listowel Fair.....	6
Thank you for supporting #everyplatefull.....	7
Agricultural Excellence Conference.....	7
Have your say about Canada's National Food Policy.....	8
Opportunity to participate in study of adult small ruminant mortalities on-farm.....	8
Holstein Agro Expo – June 30 & July 1.....	9
Looking for producers who have transitioned to organic production and certification.....	9
Other organizations and reference information.....	10

Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency

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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.

June 17	Lambs Down Park Festival – Carleton Place http://bit.ly/2ssulrr
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 5	District 3 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2rktfQo
September 6	District 4 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2ss64an
September 7	District 11 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2qd3l0K
September 9	District 10 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2rdDiKQ
September 11	District 6 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2s4C18i
September 13	District 7 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2s4z738
September 14	District 8 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2rjVI9e
September 14	District 2 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2rkoZAs
September 25	District 9 annual general meeting http://bit.ly/2rzE0xl
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 31	OSMA board of directors meeting
June 1	Feast On Pop Up Picnic at Yonge Dundas Square
June 2	National Sheep Network conference call
June 2	AgGrowth Coalition steering committee conference call
June 5	Ontario Agriculture Sustainability Coalition (OASC) meeting
June 5	Interview for World Food consultation – a report to be presented next month at the United Nations Forum on Sustainability Goal Developments
June 6	Campaign for Wool conference call
June 6	Meeting with Minister Leal's policy advisor
June 7	AgGrowth Coalition leaders conference call
June 7	Ontario Agriculture Sustainability Coalition (OASC) conference call with Deputy Minister Meredith
June 7 & 8	Canadian Animal Health Coalition board meeting
June 8	Interview about Ontario Sheep's involvement with #everyplatefull food bank fundraising campaign
June 9	Sheep Value Chain Round Table research working group conference call
June 12	Ontario Agriculture Commodity Council (OACC) meeting
June 12	Presentation to the Ontario SPCA new inspector training
June 12	Sheep Value Chain Round Table health strategies working group conference call
June 14	Agricultural Adaptation Council reception
June 14	Canadian Animal Health Coalition emergency preparedness resources workshop

May board of directors meeting notes

The OSMA board of directors met on May 31.

OSMA's political profile has been increasing over the past year which has increased the workload of the organization. There was a discussion on the need for more board engagement and board succession planning. It's important for the industry that board members get involved, especially as the conversations start to focus on the importance of agriculture to both the Ontario and Canadian economy, and the development of a national food strategy.

Northern Expansion pilot project

The board discussed the sheep industry involvement in the Northern Expansion pilot project (for more see: https://news.ontario.ca/omafra/en/2017/05/ontario-expanding-agriculture-opportunities-in-the-north.html?_ga=2.241000896.23827937.1496886288-1017958927.1479148997) that the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) announced in Timmins in May. There were some ideas floated around having sheep graze cut blocks, or selling lambs into the southern Ontario feedlots instead of paying to bring the grain north. The board discussed the need to engage those already farming in the north to get their perspective. OSMA staff have been instructed to start investigating engaging in a Northern Expansion project for the sheep industry.

AgGROWTH Coalition update

Rob Scott had a meeting with Minister MacAulay with the AgGROWTH Coalition. The Coalition is requesting a comprehensive review of the Business Risk Management (BRM) programming under the next policy framework. The BRM programs have not been reviewed in 15 years. The Coalition is not asking for new money, but more efficient use of existing money. The Coalition was looking for commitment from the Federal Provincial Territorial agricultural ministers in time for their meeting in July.

Growing Ontario Together (GOT)

Growing Ontario Together (GOT) was formed by the Beef Farmers of Ontario, the Grain Farmers of Ontario, Ontario Pork, the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Grower's Association, the Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers, and the Ontario Processing Vegetables Growers to identify public issues and address them at the grassroots level. The impetus was to address the issue phosphorus run-off into Lake Erie. OSMA was not asked to be a member when GOT was formed, but given OSMA's increased profile and the move of GOT into the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, OSMA has been approached to become members. The board agreed to join GOT.

Strategic plan update

The strategic plan was reviewed and the board was updated on the work done to-date. The only notable change made was to ensure that wool was explicitly mentioned in the plan.

Board committee updates

Governance committee

- With the agriculture census data released, staff will be reviewing the number of ewes per district and prepare for a discussion on board size.

Traceability committee

- Traceability regulations are going forward and will be published in the Gazette in August and there is concern that the industry is not in the position to meet traceability requirements.

Programs committee

- A meeting is being organized in a few weeks to discuss the May GenOvis meeting.

Predation committee

- OSMA has not been hearing from producers with concerns over denied claims. There has been communication to OMAFRA to provide producers and valuers with more valuable feedback when denying a claim that can help them better meeting program requirements, for example what do they consider to be a standard of proof. Questions were also raised as to whether catching a claim on camera (i.e., game camera) would suffice instead of a carcass

Royal Winter Fair

The Royal Winter Fair sheep committee met last month and asked Lene Band and Chris Kyle to come in to speak to the board about funding for the 4H sheep show. The board still has concerns over how the Codes of Practice, especially in relation to the tail docking requirements, will be enforced and declined support for this year.

The next OSMA board meeting will take place July 12 & 13.

Provincial director elections information

Elections for provincial directors for the OSMA board will take place in districts 3, 6, and 9 in 2017.

The provincial directors are elected to three year terms on OSMA's board of directors. The role of the provincial director is to promote the best interest of Ontario's sheep industry and work to fulfill the mission statement of OSMA.

If you would like to submit a nomination of an individual to fill the position and sit on the the OSMA board of directors:

- 1) Contact Jennifer MacTavish at the OSMA office by emailing jmactavish@ontariosheep.org or by calling (519) 836-0043, AND
- 2) Contact your district secretary (see page 10 for contact information)

Nominations must be received no later than 15 days prior to your district annual general meeting.

District annual meeting dates and details can be found below, in the June issue of the Ontario Sheep News, and in the calendar on the OSMA website (www.OntarioSheep.org).

District annual meetings information

District	Date	Location	Meeting topic	Contact
1	To be announced			
2	September 14, 2017 7:30pm	Sprucedale Agromart (between Walkerton and Hanover)		Barb Zettler (519) 392-6549
3	September 5, 2017	To be announced		Sandi Brock (519) 263-2325 brocksandi@hotmail.com
4	September 6, 2017 7:00pm	To be announced		Jay Mycroft (905) 957-1114 jay.mycroft@xplornet.com
5	August 1, 2017 6:30pm	The Raven's 072484 10 th Line East Garafaxa, ON	Includes a family potluck	Romy Schill (519) 669-4146 circle.r.livestock@hotmail.com
6	September 11, 2017	To be announced		Grant Cowan (705) 436-2236
7	September 13, 2017	To be announced		Kevin Hutchings (705) 437-4441
8	September 14, 2017 7:00pm	Napanee Secondary School	Ontario Sheep Update Guest Speaker: Rob Scott, OSMA	Linda Huizenga (613) 477-2314 fhuzenga@xplornet.ca
9	September 25, 2017 7:00pm	Rocky Mountain House, Renfrew		Lyndsey Smith (204) 807-5897 realloudlyndsey@gmail.com
10	September 9, 2017 7:00pm	Grenville Mutual Insurance Board Room 380 Colonndade Dr, Kemptville	Digital wiring for barns (tentative)	Laurie Maus (613) 527-1897 Lauriemaus@xplornet.com www.facebook.com/OSMAD10
11	September 7, 2017 7:30pm	Kerns Township Fire Hall 279279 Milberta Rd, New Liskeard		Amy Oriet (705) 563-8484 Jim Johnston (705) 647-7160

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!

Thank you for supporting #everyplatefull

Thank you to those who supported Team Ontario Sheep in the #everyplatefull campaign, in support of the Ontario Association of Food Banks and Food Banks Canada. Our team raised over \$1,500 to help provide over 4,500 meals to those in need this summer. Overall, the campaign collectively raised 27,972 meals.

Thanks to the following people who made a donation during the campaign:

Meggy Chan
Heather Hargrave
Bert & Sharon Henderson
Jennifer Johanson
Sally Jorgensen
Jennifer MacTavish
Laurie Maus
Ruth & Don Murray
OSMA District 2
Rebecca Parker
Courtney Racher
Romy Schill
Rob Scott
Jan Smith

Agricultural Excellence Conference



Plan to attend


AGRICULTURAL EXCELLENCE CONFERENCE

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



Have your say about Canada's National Food Policy

Food matters. The decisions we make as individuals and as a country about food have a direct impact on our health, environment, economy, and communities. Working together, we can put more affordable, safe, healthy, food on tables across the country, while protecting the environment.

The Government of Canada is asking Canadians for their views on what should be included in A Food Policy for Canada.

What is a food policy?

A Food Policy for Canada will set a long-term vision for the health, environmental, social, and economic goals related to food, while identifying actions we can take in the short-term.

A food policy is a way to address issues related to the production, processing, distribution, and consumption of food.

For more information and to participate in the survey visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/campaign/food-policy/have-your-say.html>.

Opportunity to participate in study of adult small ruminant mortalities on-farm

Distance Support for On-Farm Investigation of Adult Small Ruminant Mortalities



The Animal Health Laboratory (AHL), the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) and OMAFRA have received funding to conduct a study investigating adult small ruminant mortalities on-farm. Adult sheep and goat mortalities are rarely sent to a laboratory for a complete post-mortem and veterinarians infrequently perform post-mortems on-farm. However, there is value in knowing why an animal died (chronic wasting diseases, metabolic/nutritional diseases, neurological disorders, parasite problems), so that changes can be

implemented to help prevent on-going disease. This project seeks to improve the practice of on-farm post-mortems, and improve information flow among producers, veterinarians, and pathologists. **The cost of laboratory testing and the post-mortem fee will be covered by the project!** In order to learn the most from this project, **the project will be requiring a Premises Identification (PID) number on all submissions.**

The objectives of the study are:

1. To determine why adult sheep and goats are dying on-farm;
2. To determine if technology (smart phones, tablets, digital cameras) can be used to increase the accuracy and usefulness of on-farm post-mortems; and,
3. To determine if better disease diagnoses can increase discussions between producers and their vets, so that they can create sound flock/herd health and biosecurity plans that will increase on-farm productivity.

The project will begin mid-April 2017. Details of the project can be found at <https://www.uoguelph.ca/srmort>.

Please note that only veterinarians licensed to practice in Ontario and who provide veterinary services to Ontario sheep and goat farms are eligible to enroll in the project. The farming operation must be raising animals for meat, milk or fibre, i.e. pets and hobby farms are not eligible. **Please contact your veterinarian for more details and to ensure that they have requested a project account.**

This project has been funded by the Agri-Food and Rural Link KTT Funding Program, part of the OMAFRA-U of G Partnership; and the Ontario Animal Health Network.

Holstein Agro Expo – June 30 & July 1

Holstein Agro Expo International Sheep Shearing Competition and Sheepdog Trials

Friday June 30

8:00 am – 5:30 pm Sheep Shearing Clinic
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Judges Seminar

Saturday July 1

8:00 am Sheep Dog Trials start
9:30 am Industry Showcase Opens
9:30 am Eastern Canadian Sheep Shearing Competition starts
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Sheep Dog Finals & Awards
4:00 pm Intermediate Sheep Shearing Finals
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Dinner Hour
7:00 pm Competition Open Finals “20 sheep “Shear-Off”
Hourly Tours 9 – 4pm Sheep Solar Orchard
Sunset “Canada 150” Gigantic Fireworks

Grey Road 109 Village of Holstein, Ontario

For more information visit <https://www.holsteinagroexpo.com/>.

Looking for producers who have transitioned to organic production and certification

The Canadian Organic Value Chain Roundtable's Agririsk project is looking to identify producers who have transitioned to organic production and certification since 2009. They are seeking producers who would be willing to work with risk management consultants to develop a benchmark tool of transitioning producers. They are specifically looking for information on yield, costs of production, and revenue before and during transition.

For more information contact Carolyn Young, Consultant with the Organic Council of Ontario at carolyn@organiccouncil.ca.

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 dldekleer@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 fhuzenga@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	