



*Note: dates of sessions are subject to change. Refer to www.OntarioSheep.org/master-shepherds-course for the most up-to-date information.

	Module theme – key topic areas	*Date Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 – 9:15 pm starting with Module 3
Module 1 Industry dynamics and governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lamb industry overview – Global, North American, Ontario perspectives Lamb production systems Lamb supply and price cycles Sheep industry governance Sustainable sheep production 	Tuesday & Wednesday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm September 22, 23, 29, 30, and October 6, 7, 13, 14, 2020
Module 2 Flock productivity and reproduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reproduction, seasonality of estrus, conception rates Optimizing out-of-season breeding programs ram management for optimal reproductive success Culling strategies for improved productivity 	Tuesday & Wednesday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm November 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, and December 1, 2 2020
Module 3 Lambing and lamb rearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimizing lamb mortality – causes, prevention Management tips and protocols (confined and pasture) Artificial rearing systems Managing health issues – abortion, mastitis, vaccination 	Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm December 15, 17, 2020 and January 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 2021
Module 4 Business planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing business plans Cost of production and key performance indicators Production monitoring and record keeping Financial monitoring and record keeping 	Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm January 26, 28, and February 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 2021
Module 5 Ewe flock nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutritional demands throughout the production cycle Monitoring response to feeding programs How ruminants utilize protein and carbohydrates Impact of genetics and production systems Effectively using feed analysis and ration balancing 	Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm March 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, and April 1, 2021
Module 6 Predation & Pasture Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coyote behaviour and biology; raven behaviour and biology Options for managing predation / what can I do legally? Deadstock disposal methods Wildlife Damage Compensation Program Pasture management / pasture infrastructure Extended grazing options Managing pastures to manage parasites 	Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm April 20, 22, 27, 29, and May 4, 6, 11, 13, 2021

	Module theme – key topic areas	Date
Module 7 Genetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritability of economically important traits • Genetic selection principles • Crossbreeding schemes • Hybrid vigour & inbreeding • Genetic improvement programs 	Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm June 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24 2021
Module 8 Infrastructure & Feeding systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning efficient farmstead layouts • Ventilation, watering systems, supplementary heat • Handling systems, sheep behaviour • Nutrient management • Feed storage, Feed delivery systems and infrastructure • Pasture Infrastructure • Feed delivery machinery 	Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm July 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29 and August 3, 5, 2021
Module 9 Effective flock health management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flock health programs, using vet diagnostic services • Avoid production limiting diseases • Vaccinations and immunity • Role of nutrition in flock health • Parasite Management • On-Farm Euthanasia 	Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm August 24, 26, 31 and September 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 2021
Module 10 Lamb feedlots and dairy sheep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamb feeding rations, feed delivery systems • Feedlot health, monitoring growth, carcass quality • Dairy sheep industry outlook • Dairy flock health, regulatory requirements 	Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm October 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 and November 2, 4, 2021
Module 11 Marketing and wool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing principles • Marketing methods - live auction, private sales, direct to consumer - farmers markets, online • Product branding • Marketing costs, product shrink, marketing risks • Fit for transport 	Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm November 23, 25, 30 and December 29 7, 8, 14, 16, 21, 22, 2021
Module 12 Business plan wrap up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full course participants only. 	Tuesday & Thursday evenings 7:30 pm – 9:15 pm January 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27 and February 1, 3, 2022

Questions?

Contact the Master Shepherd's Course Program Manager

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