



The Messenger

OSMA and the Industry

January 24, 2017

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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.

January 26	Middlesex Lamb and Sheep Producers meeting http://bit.ly/2iU4HgU
January 28	District 4 event – tour of Wellington Fibres Mill http://bit.ly/2jH0Imv
February 2	District 2 meeting – Sprucedale Agromart Hanover http://bit.ly/2k8Ykne
February 9	OSMA board of directors meeting
February 21	Districts 2 & 5 meeting – The importance of business planning http://bit.ly/2jj5kgX
March 1	Sheep & Goat Information Night – Verner http://bit.ly/2jTW5qm
March 11	North Wellington Co-op Sheep Day – Mount Forest Sports Complex
June 30 & July 1	Holstein Agro Expo Sheep Industry Day http://bit.ly/2iG5huX
September 26 to 28	Sheep shearing school for beginners http://bit.ly/2jvlanJ

Out and about

January 13	National Sheep Network conference call
January 16 & 17	Industry growth strategy meetings (Lindsay and Mount Forest)
January 19 & 20	Canadian Federation of Agriculture strategic planning session
January 20	Farmers' Risk Management Premium Fund meeting
January 20	Ontario Livestock and Poultry Council board meeting

Update from the Sheep Value Chain Round Table

In November the Canadian sheep industry met in Halifax for the Sheep Value Chain round table meeting. Using the materials provided in the updates, comments from the round table on the next Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) were compiled. Included in the round table comments on the next APF were suggestions that:

- Processor and producer-targeted programs be developed or provincially continued to help address social licence issues
- Programs related to professional development and knowledge and technology transfer be developed
- That the Pest Management Centre's mandate be expanded to include facilitating industry's access to minor use drugs for minor species and greater support of the Canadian Global Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database (<https://cgfarad.usask.ca/home.html>)

Updates were provided by the meat quality, market access, research, social licence, and health strategies working groups. As a result of the meeting there were eight action items for the working groups.

Meat and Carcass Quality

1. By early summer 2017, the meat and carcass quality working group will discuss various age determination approaches used in other countries to help finalize its statement to be submitted to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) as input towards potential changes to the current grading standards.
2. By late summer 2017, the industry co-chair will submit the meat and carcass quality working

group's finalized statement to CFIA regarding age determination as input towards potential changes to the current grading standards.

Health Strategies

3. By spring 2017, the health strategies working group will update its lists of priority drugs and vaccines to be assessed for approval that is routinely submitted to the respective regulator. Specifically, the working group will remove added hormones and hormone-like products from its lists as there is no support for the use of these products amongst industry members of the roundtable. However, there is continued support for the use of hormones used in reproduction.

Social Licence

4. By fall 2017, the social licence working group will explore the development of label claims in consultation with the CFIA in relation to humane treatment; and not using added hormones and hormone-like products.

Market Access

5. By summer 2017, the roundtable will receive the final results of the market access working group's survey intended to identify the main market access and trade issues to be addressed by the working group as part of its future activities.

Research

6. By December 2016, the roundtable will receive a copy of the Agricultural Institute of Canada's best practices with regard to research dissemination; further distribution amongst industry will be strongly encouraged.
7. By January 2017, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) will follow up with Agricultural Institute of Canada regarding the inclusion of sheep research projects already summarized within annual research list compiled by AAFC.
8. By spring 2017, the research working group will discuss possible priorities/projects for a cluster funding application on behalf of the entire industry under the next Agricultural Policy Framework (APF).

New name for the Quebec Federation of Lamb and Sheep Producers

From a press release issued January 17, 2017

On the occasion of the organization's 35th anniversary, the Fédération des producteurs d'agneaux et moutons du Québec (FPAMQ) has changed its name and updated the organization's branding.

Their new name is **Les Éleveurs d'ovins du Québec** (LEOQ) and the updated logo reflects a modern and current design. The new organization name better represents all Quebec sheep producers – both meat and dairy sheep production.

The decision to change the name was approved after a resolution was brought forward at the annual general meeting in November 2016 in Nicolet.

The name change was made official by the Registrar of Quebec on January 9, 2017.

For more information on Québec Sheep producers, please visit www.agneauduquebec.com.

Update your mailing address

Some of our members and industry stakeholders may not be receiving mail communications from us, primarily the quarterly Ontario Sheep News.

Canada Post has recently made changes and may no longer be delivering mail that has a rural route only address.

If this affects you, we would ask that you contact our office to update your mailing address. We can be reached by calling (519) 836-0043 or email admin@ontariosheep.org.

2017 Grasslands Stewardship Program open

Intake 1 of the 2017 Grasslands Stewardship Program (GSP) has opened and will accept applications until February 1, 2017. GSP provides funding to implement forage and pasture management Best Management Practices that support the conservation of bobolink and other grassland birds.

Applications are being accepted for projects to take place after April 1, 2017, with eligible invoice dates from April 1, 2017 to December 15, 2017. Eligible activities include:

- Control encroaching trees and shrubs through mowing
- Pasture rejuvenation
- Incorporating delayed grazing into rotational grazing systems
- Native grassland planting
- Forage harvest management (delayed haying)

The digital application form is accessible from the GSP page of the OSCIA

<http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/sarpal/gsp/>. Paper applications are also available upon request. For full program details, see the GSP 2017 brochure http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/GSP_brochure.pdf,

More opportunities to make farm improvements with Growing Forward 2 funding

The next intake for applications for Growing Forward 2 funding runs from February 3 to 23, 2017. To see what types of projects farmers can get cost share funding for, access their program guidelines book:

http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/GF2_Costshare_Producer_Guide_August2016.pdf.

A list of new eligible activities available under the GF2 cost sharing funding assistance program for producers was recently announced. For more information, see OSCIA's press release:

<http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/blog/2017/01/18/growing-forward-2-giving-producers-more-opportunities-to-make-farm-improvements/>.

Questions? Contact the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association at gf2@ontariosoilcrop.org or visit <http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/growing-forward-2/>.

Upcoming workshops – biosecurity and traceability

The next Growing Forward 2 intake for farmers is fast approaching (February 3 to 23, 2017). Below is a list of biosecurity and traceability workshops that are being offered by OSCIA.

After the February intake, there will be one remaining intake for farmers for GF2 funding (May 12 to June 1, 2017).

Biosecurity workshops

February 10	Livestock (Generic)	Lansdowne
April 4	Livestock (Generic)	Renfrew

The full times, and location information is available online, as well as the link to register, at <http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/workshops-webinars/biosecurity-webinar/>

Traceability workshops

January 31/February 7	Markdale
February 2/February 9	Casselman
February 28/March 7	Mindemoya
March 9/March 10	Bruce Mines
March 30/March 31	Emo

For full details or to register: <http://www.ontariosoilcrop.org/oscia-programs/workshops-webinars/traceability-webinar/>

Celebrate Canada's Agriculture Day – February 16, 2017



AgDay.ca | #CdnAgDay

Organic Council of Ontario survey

The Organic Council of Ontario (OCO) needs your input!

Ontario boasts over \$1 billion in sales of organic foods and yet only 2% of all agriculture in the province is organic. Why is the organic sector in Ontario growing so slowly in relation to demand? How can government and the industry help Ontario businesses capture this growth opportunity?

Help guide the future of organics in Ontario. Take the survey by January 28, 2017.

Non-organic producers

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nonorganicproducers>

Non-organic operators

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nonorganicoperators>

January offers from TSC for Ontario Sheep farmers

Please note: 2016 TSC cards for Ontario Sheep farmers are still being accepted at stores. TSC is currently redesigning their cards, and the 2017 cards will be distributed at a later date.

TSC Stores | **ONTARIO Sheep** MARKETING AGENCY | **OSMA MEMBER EXCLUSIVE JANUARY OFFER**

OFFER VALID JANUARY 1 TO 31, 2017 ONLY

25% OFF

TARTER FARM AND RANCH EQUIPMENT
TUFF STUFF PRODUCTS

ALL STOCK TANKS, DE-ICERS & HEATED BUCKETS ONLY AT TSC STORES!*

Incredible News!

Save 25% off all regular priced stock tanks, de-icers & heated buckets as your OSMA Member Exclusive January Offer! To enjoy this special offer, simply show your card at the register when you visit TSC Stores before January 31, 2017.

*Offer applies to select in stock, regular priced items only. Excludes sale priced items, clearance priced items, hot buys, & gift cards. Offer not applicable to wholesale purchases. If a product is featured at a lower price in store, the lower price will apply. Card cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. Card is not redeemable for cash and has no cash value. Customer must show their OSMA Member Bonus Card to receive offer.

REMEMBER TO USE YOUR EXCLUSIVE OSMA MEMBER BONUS CARD AT TSC STORES EVERYDAY!

10% OFF | **SELECT REGULAR PRICED ITEMS AT TSC STORES* WHEN YOU SHOW YOUR OSMA MEMBER BONUS CARD!**



TSC ONLINE BENEFITS CLUB

TSCCountry JOIN NOW! VISIT WWW.TSCSTORES.COM FOR DETAILS.

Other organizations and reference information

Victoria County Sheep Producers

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

Western Ontario Lamb Producers

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

Southwestern Ontario Sheep Farmers

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

DISTRICT	CONTACT	INFORMATION
1	Dave DeKay at 519-666-0626 or dmdekay@isp.ca	http://osma_district_1.tripod.com/
2	Matt Zehr at 519-363-2029 zehr.matt@gmail.com	
3	Sandi Brock at 519-263-2325 brocksandi@hotmail.com	District 3 Facebook Page
4	Marusha Kostuk at 519-865-6874 or mushie.mk@gmail.com	Meetings tentatively to be held the 3 rd Wed. of the month at 7:30 at Ancaster Fairgrounds (630 Trinity Rd, Ancaster)
5	Lisa de Kleer at 519-994-1499 or lddekleer@gmail.com	Check out the District 5 Facebook Page!
6	John Hemsted at 705-487-2466 or sheep@vanam.com	
7	Jenny Carnaghan at 905-986-5120 or jenny@durhamlamb.ca	
8	Linda Huizenga at 613-477-2314 or 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	