



Ontario Sheep Farmers
is proudly **different.**

Annual Review 2018-2019

WE DO Different

OSF - By Producers, for Producers

For thirty years, Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) has been an advocate for the 3,000 sheep farmers in the province of Ontario

As an organization, OSF uses license fees to support programs and deliver services that help sheep farmers, and to provide solutions to issues affecting the sheep industry.

Bringing **passion** and **wisdom** to the business of providing a voice for the 3,000 plus Ontarians raising sheep and lambs for a growing market.

Embracing **diversity** with a broad industry cross-section representation around the board table.

Progressively, finding new ways to help Ontario sheep farmers prosper.

Nurturing great **partnerships** to help grow our market.

Tenaciously, embracing the challenge of leading in a time of change.

Doing Things Different in 2019

Ontario Sheep Farmers moved forward with several industry leading initiatives.

- New animal welfare legislation
- The only livestock group working on a review of the national business risk management suite of programs
- Transportation regulations
- Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program
- Co-Chair position on EcoAg – a group of commodity organizations focusing on nutrient management and the environment
- Developed resources to help the industry respond and prepare the Ontario sheep sector for disease-related and sector-wide emergencies
- Continued support of industry programs – EweGrow, GenOvis, the Ontario Sheep Flock Health Program and the Ontario Maedi Visna Flock Status Program
- Partnered with Farm and Food Care to create an education video for the Real Dirt on Farming such as the benefits of sheep grazing

- Sharing the Licencing Relations Officer position with the Ontario Independent Meat Processors

The Ontario Sheep Farmers board has also taken strides to lead the industry in **leadership development**.

- Continued to build partnerships with Alberta and Quebec sheep farmers supporting the National Sheep Network

More Different...

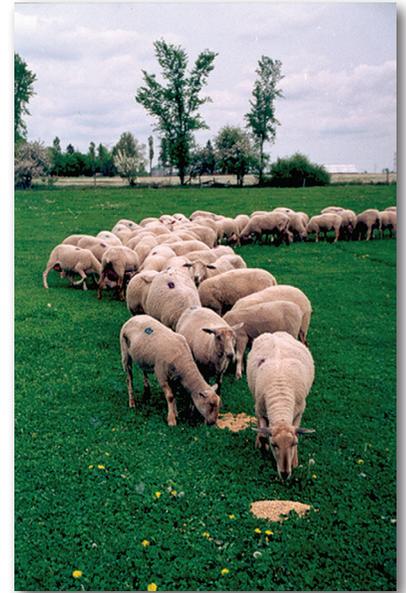
As we begin the 2019-2020 year the Board of directors are hard at work...

- On the creation of a board advisor position; a demonstration of the OSF's commitment to the highest standards of conduct amongst its members, and to the care and handling of the provincial flock. This is an industry first.
- Focusing on broadening the membership of committees and providing leadership opportunities.
- Investigating the feasibility of production insurance for the sheep industry

www.OntarioSheep.org • www.LambRecipes.ca
@OntarioSheep • @OntarioLamb

2018-19 By the Numbers

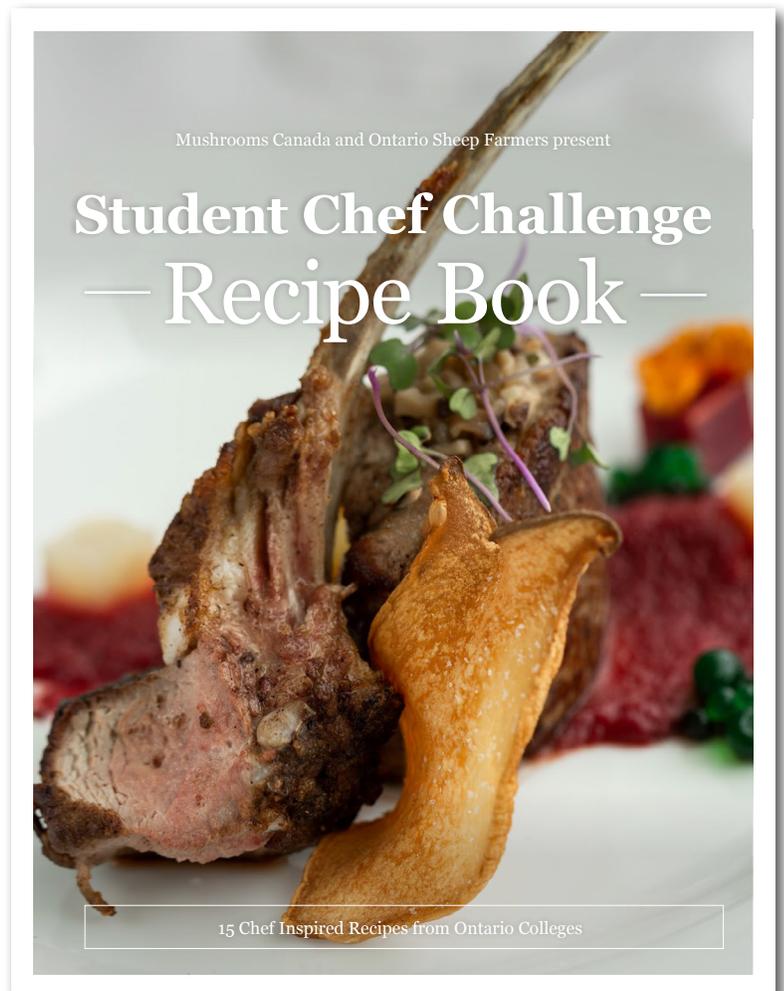
- Issued nearly 160 market reports by tapeline recordings, through the OSF website; links to the market reports are also provided in The Messenger (electronic newsletter).
- OSN circulation over 3,000 four times per year
- Messenger circulation to over 1,034 every two weeks
- @OntarioSheep followers over 2,187
- Invested over \$32,000 in memberships with industry organizations
- Invested over \$157,000 in industry focused research projects
- Served over 1,000 samples of Ontario Lamb at both Canada's Outdoor Farm Show and the Premier's Taste of Ontario event
- 42 farmers participating in the Master Shepherd's Course
- 45 attendees to the Ag Lenders Seminar
- 23 farmers attended fecal egg count training
- 42 participants in the Introduction to Small Ruminant Production course with OMAFRA



Communications

On the communications front, **Ontario Sheep Farmers** is working hard to find and develop news way to stay in touch including **Ontario Sheep News** and **@OntarioSheep**

- Developed new producer and mental health pages on the OSN website
- Created a new producer page on the OSN website
- Created educational resource page on the OSN website
- Hosted webinars on changes to the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program
- Hosted various producer education courses such as Fecal Egg Count and Intro to Small Ruminant
- Partnered with Mushrooms Canada and Various Ontario Collages for the Chef Challenge event



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