



*PRODUCING...*

*Partnership =  
Progress!*

Alberta  
Lamb  
Producers 

# *Welcome!*

- Reasons for the ALP Annual report & Fall Round Up
  - Updates on the industry and the activities ALP undertakes for your benefit
  - Producer input for ALP
  - Networking and community
  - Elections for zone directors (zones 1, 2 & 3)
  - Accountability & Transparency

# *Alberta Team Successes*

*Things don't just happen, it takes a team  
- you are a key part of that team*

## Your partners in Building Better Lambs

- Alberta Lamb Producers – your advocate and representative
- Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development
- Our project funders: Alberta Livestock & Meat Agency & Growing Forward

# Industry Successes

Lets take a look at some of the successes this partnership has achieved this past year.

**Alberta Lamb Producers** *Alberta Team Successes 2010-2011*  
*These things don't happen by themselves - it takes a team!*

- ✓ **Alberta Lamb Producers is working for you** – Alberta producers. The Alberta team is getting results – which provide opportunities, improvements and benefits for members.
- ✓ Industry expansion, an increase in ewe numbers and replacement ewe lamb retention and new producers – to support infrastructure and market demand.
- ✓ Alberta producers are ready for traceability and are taking advantage of management benefits from RFID systems.
- ✓ Your check-off and ALMA and Growing Forward funding provides more projects to support producers in improved productivity and profitability.
- ✓ Alberta Sheep Electronic Identification Program, a tag incentive program for all producers, helps producers transition to RFID.
- ✓ Advertising is now available in Newsletters, including free classifieds for Alberta producers.
- ✓ Additional resources and tools for producers including Lamb Production 101: Getting Started new producers.
- ✓ Labour availability through the addition of shepherds to Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program.
- ✓ SheepBytes, a web-based ration balancing program, will be available shortly to maximise feed efficiency.
- ✓ January 2011 survey indicates producers recognise improvements to ALP in all areas.

**All these are new in 2010-11.**  
**Hats off to your directors who volunteer their time to improve your industry.**

**ALP Office**  
Margaret Cook, Executive Director (Rt) 403-948-8533 info@ablamb.ca  
Jill McInnis, Administration 403-948-1322 admin@ablamb.ca  
Address: Agriculture Centre, 97 East Lake Ramp NE, Airdrie, AB, T4A 0C3  
Fax: 403-912-1455 www.ablamb.ca www.albertalamb.ca

# *Your contribution of check off*

- Your check off pays for ALP operations and provides the infrastructure and some industry contribution for projects
- Project funding benefits you and your industry
  - every \$1 refunded means the loss of almost \$5 to the industry
  - reductions in check off contribution will negatively impact our ability to secure funding

# *Check off = producer benefits*

Strong relationship and reputation with Agriculture & Rural Development and funding agencies- 100% funding approval to date

**2010-11 - well over \$500,000 of funding for producer education, pilot projects and industry improvement**

**= over \$4.50 of funding for every check off dollar contributed by producers.**

- Negotiation of the Sheep Electronic Identification Incentive Program (RFID tags) – have you applied for your incentive payment?
- Lobbying for an RFID systems grant, eg readers and software

*Project funding provided by  
Alberta Livestock & Meat Agency,  
Growing Forward  
& Alberta Agriculture*

Lamb Production  
resources and tools

Precision Flock  
Management

Lamb Traceability Pilot

Industry  
Expansion

Information  
Management

Traceability  
Training for  
Producers

Illegal Lamb  
Trade



# *Industry expansion*

A key strategic priority remains to increase the production of market lambs, both by expanding and also increasing the productivity of current flocks and by encouraging the entry of new producers to the sheep industry.

Increased production is vital:

- to maintain and strengthen industry infrastructure
- to supply the ever-increasing domestic demand for locally-produced lamb
- to fill the void as imports are limited - world-wide lamb production is down

# *More ewes or better productivity?*

- 4.3% and 2.2% growth in the Alberta ewe flock since July 1, 2009
- increase in ewe lamb retention contributes to a shortage of market lambs in the short term.
- every operation could use better productivity and profitability - who doesn't want a healthier bottom line?

Now available – some new tools to help you. For starters....one of the LTP team will show you the Flock Snapshot later today.

Check the calendar – more workshops and courses to help you to Build Better Lambs



# *Building Better Lambs*

## *Workshops and courses coming up*

Shepherding 101 – Getting started

Lambing 101

Building Better Business 101 – business basics

Building Better Business - Flock Snapshot

Nutrition 201

Ration Balancing 201– SheepBytes

Health 201

Reproduction 201

# *Accountability and Transparency - the financials*

Our auditor for the past 10 years retired this year. The new auditors are Blakely Chartered Accountant in Airdrie.

All ALP transactions are shown in the audited financial statements but we have clearly separated the operational expenses from the project expenditure covered by external funding.

Review & **acceptance** of financial statements.  
Review of the 2011/2012 budget.

Questions?

# *Alberta Lamb Producers Regulations*

ALP exists and operates under the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act.

The mandatory five yearly review is underway and your board is recommending changes to a few of the rules.

We need to hear your views and comments on these proposals, to ensure they have your support.

Your package contains the proposals for change on zone areas and eligibility rules; let's take a look.

# *Accountability & Transparency*

So what have I been doing as a director to represent you - my fellow producers....

...and what have I learned as a board member?

- I want to hear from you!



# *Accountability & Transparency*

- 2010 Zone Resolutions outcomes
  - Summary sent out in June 2011 newsletter (grazing response in Oct)
  - Copy in your package

Questions?

Comments on

N'ewesletter and N'ewesline

# *What else is coming?*

- Alberta producers are prepared for traceability, non-RFID tags are no longer available for purchase in AB.
- Ketchum and Allflex dangle tags will be removed from the CSIP list of approved tags on January 1, 2013.
- ALP is lobbying for RFID systems grant
- Implementation of an extensive education program including new SGMA modules and workshops
- SheepBytes rations balancing program and training sessions will be available mid-2012.
- National bio-security protocol is being developed

# Opportunity for Involvement

- Elections in zones 1, 2 and 3:
  - Thank you to the retiring director
  - Nominations
    - Resident in zone
    - Eligible producer (paid check-off since Sept 1, 2010)
  - Nominees address electorate – 2 min. each re: who you are, experience, and why you want to serve
  - Voting slips filled out and given to returning officer. Vote (or acclaim if only one)
  - Votes tallied by officer and volunteer – results announced



# *Opportunity for Involvement*

- Your feedback – 2011 Zone Resolutions
  - Focus on: Solutions or suggestions for improving the industry

Process: Individuals make recommendation – if group approves it - becomes a resolution that is taken to the board. Board reports back on progress

# *“Worked for Me!”*

Opportunity to share briefly what worked for you at this zone meeting – what did you like, what did you learn, what was of benefit to you?

- Want to hear from a minimum of 10 people and ideally everyone
- Please complete your evaluation form before you leave

# *Thank You!*

- **Door Prize Draws!**
- Please stay in touch
- Thank you for participating!
- Please fill out the feedback form on today's meeting
- Enjoy the rest of your day, stay and visit a while

# *Building Our Community*

- Networking at your tables
  - # of years in Ag
  - # of years in Sheep
  - Favorite place to vacation and why
  - Any best practice tips you want to share
  - Anything to offer that others might need/want