



N'ewesletter

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Table of Contents

Alberta Lamb Producers

Message from the Chair	1
ALP Report to Members	2
Fall Round-Up Meetings	4
A Chat with Phil from Fairview	7
Elections in Zones 2, 4, 5 and 7	8
ALP Director Nomination Form	8
Am I an Eligible Producer?	9
Which Zone Do I Live In?	9
Your Check-off Is Your Investment	10
Filling the Gap in Producer Education	12

Producer Management Resources

Chlamydial Abortion	13
MGA to Synchronize Estrus	14
Increasing Production in the Flock	14

Traceability

How Will RFID Change My Operation?	16
Embracing Traceability	16
RFID Ear Tags	17
Decommissioning of Non-RFID Tags	18
Making It Pay	19
Finding the Worst Sheep in Your Flock	21
Welcome to SheepCentral	22

Industry Update

Scrapie Canada's New Project	23
Canadian Sheep Federation AGM	23
Lamb Producer Profile	24
Fibre Week	25
ASBA News	25
The Ultimate Sheep Seminar	25
ALP Fall Round-Up 2010	26
Pembina Sheep Grazing Symposium	26
CFS Round Table, Symposium, AGM	26
Sheep Events	27

ALP Contacts	28
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Message from the Chair

Norine Moore

Alberta Lamb Producers Chair and Zone 1 Director
 403-549-2464 wnsheep@explornet.com



Greetings from southern Alberta.

This is my last message from the Chair as my term is over in November. It has been both a pleasure and a privilege to serve as the Chair of ALP. The last two years have been exciting, challenging, sometimes frustrating and always busy. I have had a lot of rewarding experiences and the opportunity to meet some great people while representing all of you.

Thank you to my wonderful husband for holding down the fort on the numerous occasions when I've been away from home. Thanks for your support and your patience, Honey.

The other person whose support has been so incredibly important is Margaret Cook, our Executive Director. She is knowledgeable, dedicated, creative and very patient. Thanks, Margaret, for all of your help and understanding.

The StatsCan statistics for July 2010 have been released and Alberta is the only major sheep producing province that increased its numbers. Both our ewe flock and the number of replacement ewe lambs increased. ALP has been encouraging current producers to increase their flock numbers, and new producers to join our industry. The statistics indicate that perhaps producers are listening and recognizing the opportunities.

Canadian Sheep Federation made the decision to support the retirement of the pink metal CSIP tags, and the adoption of mandatory RFID tags, effective January 1, 2012. This means that all lambs tagged after that date must be tagged with RFID tags. Complying with regulations will mean using different tags; it will not require you to purchase any additional equipment. If you determine that RFID would assist you in your management program, there is software and equipment you can use in conjunction with the RFID tags. ALP has been collaborating with Alberta Agriculture on year three of the Lamb Traceability Pilot Project. The objective of this project is to identify advantages for producers using RFID technology in flock management, and determine which equipment and software is most suitable for various parts of the value chain.

The arrival of fall means ALP is holding our annual Zone Meetings, which we have re-christened Fall Round-Up. I encourage everyone to attend. This is your opportunity to express your opinions, give us direction and put forward any ideas you have for Alberta's sheep industry. We've expanded our meetings to include an educational component and a meal.



This year there are director elections in Zones 2, 4, 5 and 7. If you're interested in becoming involved and making a difference, I encourage you to submit your nomination. I believe in the potential of our industry and I plan to continue working on your behalf in my last year as a director. I think that my time and energy are a good investment in moving Alberta's sheep industry forward.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the Fall Round-up meetings that I'm attending this fall. Remember – this is your industry. If you don't care about it no one else will do it for you.



Alberta Lamb Producers report to members

More brainstorming – five new key strategies for 2010

In 2008, Alberta Lamb Producers met to brainstorm the needs of the industry and to determine how to best provide benefit and value to Alberta producers. When we revised the plan again in June 2010, over 80 percent of the 2008 business plan had been fully achieved or projects were well underway. One key project was to encourage industry expansion; in July 2010, Statistics Canada reported a 2.3 percent increase in ewe numbers and significant ewe lamb retention over the last year. See *Making It Pay* on page 19 for more statistics.

Alberta Lamb Producers needs to be flexible and dynamic in allowing shifts in strategic goals to reflect the needs of producers. Therefore, in June 2010, ALP talked to producers, reviewed members' needs and determined five key strategies:

1. Empower producers to improve production efficiencies and profitability to increase the quality and quantity of lamb produced in Alberta.
2. Engage producers.
3. Collaborate with government on behalf of producers to advance the industry.
4. Continue to develop a strong, cohesive organisation that works efficiently and effectively.
5. Finalise outstanding projects.

There are some huge hairy monsters we need to tame...

1. Empower producers - producer education and information

While the implementation for technology is exciting and beneficial, we must continue to support the operational needs of producers. The lack of extension services is a major problem. Consequently, ALP will be seeking funding for a new educational project to help producers improve productivity and management, profitability. Our exceptional financial control and responsibility in the last couple of years have enabled Alberta Lamb Producers to bring its reserves up to the level required by our auditor. **A further year of financial restraint, together with a higher than forecasted check-off income in 2009/10, and successful funding of projects, has enabled the Alberta Lamb Producers Board to allocate \$30,000 to producer education.** This will be the industry's contribution to attract funding approval for a specialist and approval for an education program to empower producers to improve production efficiencies and profitability. Particular focus will be on those who are expanding or new to the industry. A funding application will be prepared in the next few weeks and we will move ahead as quickly as possible.

2. Engage producers

We need members to take ownership of Alberta Lamb Producers. The Alberta Lamb Producers Board is a dedicated team of producers who volunteer a great deal of time and expertise to advance the sheep industry. Input and direction are needed from the grass roots to ensure both board and staff maximise resources to provide leadership and advocacy, and communicate members' needs.

3. Collaboration with government

It is important to support producers in implementing new programs, but equally important to ensure that the new requirements do not overwhelm or overburden producers with increased costs and administration. For this reason, we must maintain good communication with the government and its agencies to make sure that a producer perspective is included in all decision-making.

2 September 2010

Traceability

The sheep industry is working to create a provincial and national traceability system which will meet national standards, be affordable and sustainable for the lamb supply chain stakeholders, and more importantly, provide a benefit to their business operations. Alberta Lamb Producers is a partner in the Alberta Lamb Traceability Pilot Project; see our new traceability section, starting on page 16, for information on this topic. This proactive approach is benefiting producers and industry; we have seen sound financial investment made in the sheep industry by both Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) and Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency (ALMA) as a result of this initiative.

To meet legislated traceability requirements, the Canadian Sheep Federation (CSF) is committed to the introduction of mandatory Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) for sheep on January 1, 2012. ALP has a key role to play in communicating the legislated requirements and the processes to all sheep producers.

In order to fully develop and implement a functional traceability program, to test electronic systems and gather data across the supply chain, ALP has made a request to the Alberta Minister of Agriculture for an tag incentive program. The program should encourage producers to learn to use RFID tags and technology, and encourage the move to electronic data management systems. An incentive program would be an efficient and effective way to encourage sheep industry traceability development. This would follow the precedent set in the beef industry. Provincial legislation will assist Alberta in maintaining its leadership role in animal traceability.

4. Develop a strong cohesive organisation

Any organisation needs to constantly look at its processes and policies to ensure they are meeting the needs of its members. Alberta Lamb Producers will continue to make reviews and improvements in order to offer a high level of service.

5. Finalise outstanding projects

The current projects to be finalised are:

- Alberta Lamb Traceability Pilot Project.
- Alberta Lamb Producers information management system.
- Zone realignment. We have a plan for some rationalisation and changes. Look for more details later this year in the newsletter and on www.ablamb.ca
- Canadian Sheep Identification Program. We will continue to ensure that producers are provided with the best option for the purchase of CSIP tags.
- Illegal lamb trade. The interim report is posted on our website, www.ablamb.ca. A joint-communications plan with other species groups will be available soon.
- Alberta Lamb. Our consumer website, www.albertalamb.ca will be updated. Promotional materials will be provided to members while stocks last.
- Our promotion project for industry opportunities and communication will be completed early in 2011. We will participate in **Farmfair, Amazing Agriculture** (both in November at Edmonton), **Agritrade** (in November at Red Deer) and the **Western Canadian Grazing Conference** (in December at Vermilion) this year. Since the first three events take place at the same time, we really do need many volunteers. See Industry Events on page 27 for more information.

We encourage producers to send us comments and suggestions, to call for a chat or ask for more information. **Please note, we do need your volunteer help at one of the above mentioned shows to promote your industry and your product.** Alberta Lamb Producers is working for you!



ALBERTA LAMB PRODUCERS FALL ROUND UP 2010



MAKE A DATE TO ATTEND YOUR ALP FALL ROUND-UP MEETING

There will be a free seminar (various production topics) as well as

"Electronic Identification (EID) and Traceability – a co-operator’s experience."

Zone	Date and Time	Location and Seminar Information
Zone 1 403 549 2464	Monday, November 1, lunch noon, meeting 1p.m.	Fort Macleod Auction, Fort Macleod <i>Traceability – How Will It Affect Your Operation?</i>
Zone 2 403 381 4881 ELECTION	Saturday, October 30, lunch noon, meeting 1p.m.	South Country Kitchen, Lethbridge <i>Traceability – How Will It Affect Your Operation?</i>
Zone 3 403 443 7220	Saturday, October 23, lunch noon, meeting 1p.m.	Alberta Sheep Centre, Agriculture Centre, Airdrie. <i>RFID, Rams and Records</i>
Zone 4 403 948 8533 ELECTION	Thursday, October 28 3 p.m. followed by a light supper	Stettler, Battle River Research Sheep Seminar, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. See details on page 25. 3 p.m., ALP Fall Round-Up Meeting and <i>Traceability – How Will It Affect Your Operation?</i>
Zone 5 780 995 6398 ELECTION	Saturday, October 23, 10:30 a.m. meeting, lunch noon, 1 p.m. seminar	Craigend Hall, Craigend <i>Traceability and Keeping Wile E. Coyote Out of Your Wallet</i>
Zone 6 780 674 4050	Saturday, October 30, 10:30 a.m. meeting, lunch noon, 1 p.m. seminar	Belvedere Hall, 8 miles south of Barrhead <i>Traceability and Ewe Nutrition and Feeding Management</i>
Zone 7 780 835 2112 ELECTION	Saturday, October 30, 10:30 a.m. meeting, lunch noon, 1 p.m. seminar	Clairmont Seniors Centre, 9801-100 Ave., Clairmont <i>RFID, Rams and Records</i>

More details are included in the following messages from your directors.
Don't forget to call your director to reserve your meal.

Fall Round-Up Meetings

Zone 1 Invitation

from Norine Moore, Zone 1 Director

Our meeting will be held on **November 02 at Fort Macleod Auction**. Join me for lunch at noon before the meeting.

I've invited Tony Stolz to give you some information on the advantages of using RFID as part of your flock management program. The ALP business meeting will follow. I value your ideas and input, so it's important for you to invest a few hours of your time to help me represent you.

If you usually attend I'm looking forward to seeing you; if you haven't been before, please come and enjoy some good food, learn some new things and visit with fellow producers.

This is your industry – get involved!



Zone 2 Invitation

from John Haarman, Zone 2 Director

To All Zone 2 Fellow Sheep Producers; John Haarman here. I have represented you for the last six years as your Alberta Lamb Producers Director in Zone 2. It is time to step down after serving the maximum of two three-year terms. Please consider filling this position for the next three year term... Or do you know someone who is interested? Alberta Lamb Producers is vital to the well-being of our industry; we all need to step up and provide some support by attending the meeting and electing a new director.

By representing and assisting fellow lamb producers, you will receive personal gratification. See the "Chat with Phil" on page 7 for more details of what is involved.

I am also a member of the Southern Alberta Sheep Breeders Association, a producers group in the south;



new members are always welcome. We have regular meetings and organize producer days. We are keen to work with the new director. The election will be held at the **ALP Fall Round-Up Meeting**, which will begin at **noon on October 30, at the Country Kitchen, 1715 Mayor Magrath Drive South, Lethbridge**. We will be giving you some information on the new requirements for traceability and Tony Stolz, from the Alberta Traceability Pilot Project, will be speaking on using RFID to benefit your operation. For more information, you may call me at 403-330-9087. So I can make sure we have enough lunch available, please give me a call to let me know you plan to be there.

Hope to see you all there.

There will be an election this year in Zone 2 as John Haarman's term as an ALP Director comes to an end. For the last six years John has selflessly represented the sheep industry locally, provincially and federally. John takes dependability to a whole new level; rarely has he missed a meeting or failed to meet a commitment. He will be missed as a board member but we look forward to his continued participation in the industry.

Zone 3 Invitation

from Kathy Parker, Zone 3 Director

ALP Fall Round Up Meeting

October 23, 2010

Alberta Sheep Centre, Airdrie

Something new this year for Zone 3 is that ALP will be hosting lunch before the meeting . Lunch starts at noon with the meeting set to start at 1 p.m.

The agenda will include speakers on:

- Ram selection.
- Prescription drugs and why there is no easy answer.
- How electronic records will simplify your life.
- Release of a management calculator as a decision making tool.
- And finally, the annual ALP report.

For lunch planning purposes, please let me know if you are planning to attend; I sure would hate to run out of food! You can call me at 403-443-7220 or e-mail me at parkerstockfarm@explornet.com to make sure you are counted in.

I look forward to seeing you there; it should be fun.



Zone 4 Invitation

from Irene Rutledge, Zone 4 Director

ALP Fall Round Up Meeting

Be sure to attend the **Sheep Seminar** being held at **Stettler Ag Society Pavilion on October 28**, and I would like to invite you to attend the **ALP Fall Round-Up at 3 p.m.** (formally called the Zone Meeting) **immediately following the Seminar, same place, same location.** We will be giving you some information on the move to RFID tags, followed by *Traceability – How Will the Requirement Affect Your Operation?*

As I am stepping down as your zone director, due to health reasons, there will be an election for a director for Zone 4. See page 8 for notes on what is involved. Come with ideas or concerns that you have, and to provide support and direction for your new representative. Hope to see you there.

Irene Rutledge has served on the board of Alberta Lamb Producers for the last five years and has decided to step down at the end of this year.

She took on the job of Chair with only one year's experience on the board, handled the position with grace and made it look easy – which at times it was not. She capably represented the sheep producers on a number of committees and lobbied with government on behalf of our industry.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve on the board with Irene and we're going to miss her. Thank you Irene for your contribution and we wish you a speedy return to good health.



Zone 5 Invitation

from Bryanna Kumpula, Zone 5 Director

Fellow Lamb Producers,

I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to attend the **Zone 5 Fall Round Up Meeting**. This meeting will be held on **October 23 at Craigend Hall, Craigend**. The **Meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m.**, followed by lunch and a guest speaker. Inspector Dennis Urban from Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development will provide us with some tips and tricks to keep Wile E Coyote and his friends from taking a bite out of your profits. You will also have the opportunity to learn more about Electronic Identification / Traceability and what it can do for you.

If you are planning on attending, please email me bkumpula@gmail.com or give me a call at 780-995-6398



so that we can plan for the lunch. If you can't attend, but would like to know more, or have questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

See you soon.



Is Wile E. Coyote busy on your farm?

Bryanna Kumpula is the newest (and youngest) member of the Alberta Lamb Producers board. She was appointed last year by Alberta Lamb Producers as Zone 5 was without a representative. The Regulations state that someone can be appointed to serve until the next opportunity for election – the Fall Round Up. She has a clear picture, now, of what is involved and has accepted a nomination for a three year term as your representative. The position is open for further nominations.

Zone 6 Invitation

from Ronald den Broeder,
Zone 6 Director

I can't believe that the summer is already gone, the year is already winding down, and that we are starting the combining season already.

I hope you all had a good summer, and that your flock did well for you this spring and summer.

It is time again to invite all the Zone 6 producers, and anybody interested in learning more about the sheep industry, to attend our **Annual Fall Round-Up Meeting**.

This year we picked a different location, and are having our meeting during the day. We will be arranging a complimentary lunch, so please give me a call to let me know if you plan to attend. With nutrition as a topic, we need to make sure we have enough food!

We will be going through our ALP meeting as usual, but also explaining what it takes to comply with the new mandatory RFID rules, and what RFID can do for you on the farm and in the supply chain.

After lunch, we have Ruminant and Specialty Livestock Nutritionist Gary Chang from Westlock Champion Feed



Zone 7 Invitation

from Phil Kolodychuk, Zone 7 Director

Hello to all Zone 7 Lamb Producers, You are all invited to our **Fall Round Up Meeting this October 30, 2010 at the Clairmont Seniors Centre, 5 km north of Grande Prairie.** The meet-

ing will begin at **10:30 am** with an important traceability discussion including what RFID technology can do for you, followed by lunch at 12:00. At 1:00 pm we will have a presentation by ALP director, Dr. Kathy Parker; on *Helping Producers, Help Themselves*. She will cover such topics as:

- What is the big deal about writing a prescription anyway?
- A management calculator to help with vaccination protocol decisions.
- Why you should not assume that the ram is "all there".
- Questions and Answers

As I have reached the end of my first term as Zone 7 director, nominations are open for candidates for the next three-year term. I will be letting my name stand again as I value Alberta Lamb Producers both as my industry



representative to government and as a leader in advancing my industry.

I hope to see you on 30th. Please RSVP to me at philk@abnorth.com or at 780-835-2112 so I know how many lunches to book.

Phil Kolodychuk has completed one term as Alberta Lamb Producers director for the Peace Country and is currently the Alberta Lamb Producers vice-chair. He is a real advocate for producers; his comments are always well thought out and we have all come to recognize his dry sense of humour. Phil has been nominated for a further term. The position is open for further nominations.

A chat with Phil from Fairview

Why am I an ALP director?

I have chosen to be a part of the sheep industry in Alberta and I want it to be the best it can be. I believe I have some experience and ideas to put forward which might help to make a difference, to make some progress. I have completed my first three-year term and I have been nominated for a second term. I live in Zone 7, the Peace Country; we have particular conditions, opportunities and challenges here which need to be taken into account. There are seven Alberta Lamb Producers zone directors, which ensures all areas have representation. Alberta Lamb Producers works for all producers. I am just doing my bit to provide some input and direction, especially at a time when the government is making some big changes in agriculture.

What do I have to do?

The ALP board has four face to face meetings each year and about five or six evening conference calls. Otherwise, most things are done by e-mail; I don't think we could cope without that. We are often asked to "Reply to All" so that there can be some discussion on the topic, and everyone gets a chance for input. There's quite a bit of reading to do; each director takes special responsibility for areas he is interested in. I am into production and economics, so I am on the flock management committee. Being on some committees means attending meetings with government, industry groups, etc. but Alberta Lamb Producers is very selective about attending meetings to conserve both expenses and the time of the representatives. This last year, I have been representing Alberta on the board of the Canadian Sheep Federation, which involves looking at the industry nationally.

What do I get out of it?

Well, I'm certainly not in it for the money, although I do receive a per diem and fair reimbursement of expenses for meetings I attend. I have learned a lot about looking at the "big picture," about what happens outside my farm gate, and trying to implement a plan that works for the industry as a whole, just not for a particular sectors. For a healthy and prosperous industry, all stakeholders need to be viable and willing to cooperate in order to give consumers what they want. I also get to hear the latest news on things that will affect my business, and I have a chance to contribute my ideas and concerns on government initiatives.

Who can be a zone director?

Any eligible producer can be a zone director, i.e. anyone who paid check-off during the last year, when they bought CSIP tags or sold wool. If you aren't sure which zone you are in or when you last paid check-off, call Margaret or Jill at the office; they will be pleased to check it out for you. There is a list of areas in each zone on page 9. You don't need any special skills or qualifications, just a real interest in seeing progress in the industry and a willingness to share ideas and participate in board activities. All the board members are busy people, and some have off-farm jobs, but we arrange board meetings to suit the group. The past couple of years, they have been on Fridays or Saturdays, so it has meant taking a few odd days off work. By far, the majority of the work takes place at home at a suitable time; I have a full-time job, a flock of sheep and a family. You know the deal – if you need something to be done, always ask a busy person.

If there's an election in your zone, think hard if you can step up and be the rep for your area. There is a lot more information on the website www.ablamb.ca if you want to find out more about the projects and work Alberta Lamb Producers is doing for us all.

Check out page for details of the Fall Round-Up.

Phil Kolodychuk, Zone 7

P.S. Hope to see you on 30th at our meeting; don't forget to order your lunch!

A big thank you to all the zone directors and the event volunteers who have worked hard this past year to make a difference – you are appreciated.



ELECTIONS IN ZONES 2, 4, 5 AND 7

Am I director material?

Without doubt, there are some good candidates out there who could bring their own skills and personalities to the ALP board and make a name for themselves in their particular areas of interest. We need to hear from you right away if you live in zones 2, 4, 5 or 7. Some details about the role of a director are given below and there is a nomination form on page 8. If you have more questions, call Norine on 403-549-2464 or the office (Rite310-0000) 403-948-8533. The dynamics of any board are constantly changing as new people bring new experience and ideas for the development of the industry. The first year is a well-supported learning curve, but always central is the well-being and improvement of the industry at large. We can promise you an interesting time – as you help to progress the sheep industry beyond your own business and farm gate.

The first year is a well-supported learning curve, but always central is the well-being and improvement of the industry at large.

What is involved?

Meetings—Four meetings each year, usually for a day and a half; dates and locations for 2010/2011 will be decided at the meeting on 4th and 5th November, in Airdrie. This follows the CSF AGM which all Alberta Lamb Producers directors should plan to attend. (See page 23 for CSF AGM details.) There are also five or six evening conference calls during the year, as required. We realize

that the November meeting is on a very tight timeline for the new directors, but we urge you to allocate time for these meetings on your calendar, if you are planning to run as an ALP director. This year, Alberta Lamb Producers is minimising board time and expense by having the directors attend the CSF AGM followed by the ALP board meeting.

Expenses

- Per diem: \$100 for each board meeting and any other meetings representing ALP (chair receives \$120).
- Travel: \$0.48 per km return journey plus \$10.50 per hour travel time.
- Hotel and meals: Reimbursed as policy guidelines.

Each year, two additional per diem are paid in appreciation of work done outside the meetings eg conference calls and reading/response time.

The term for a director is three years, with a maximum of two consecutive terms.

It is important to understand that Alberta Lamb Producers has a working board and your involvement will be requested on a number of topics and projects over the year. You will help to implement and update the business plan and policy of Alberta Lamb Producers and provide advocacy on behalf of Alberta sheep producers. To make communications as efficient as possible, we rely heavily on e-mail and the web, so an internet connection is vital.

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ALP DIRECTOR NOMINATION FORM

made in accordance with the Alberta Lamb Producers Plan Regulation (AR 263/2001 Consolidated up to 11/2009)

I hereby nominate _____ as a candidate for director to represent Zone # _____.

NOMINATOR

I declare that I am a resident of Zone # _____ and an eligible sheep producer.

SIGNATURE _____ **NAME** (please print) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTION _____ **DATE** _____

DIRECTOR NOMINEE

I declare that I am a resident of Zone # _____ and an eligible sheep producer. I consent to the nomination.

SIGNATURE _____ **NAME** (please print) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

LEGAL LAND DESCRIPTION _____ **DATE** _____

Please return to Alberta Lamb Producers by fax 403 912 1455

or mail to Alberta Lamb Producers, Agriculture Centre, 97 East Lake Ramp, Airdrie, Alberta T4A 0C3

This form will also be available at zone meetings which include a director election.

Am I an eligible producer?

You are an eligible producer if:

1. You own sheep, and
2. You have paid check off, since September 1, 2009, when purchasing Canadian Sheep Identification (CSIP) tags or by selling wool.

Eligible producers can vote at their home zone meeting (primary residence) if there is an election for a director.

This year, producer-director elections will take place in zones 2, 4, 5 and 7. We welcome all producers to attend any convenient zone meeting, but only zone residents may vote in an election for a director.

If you have paid the service charge since September 1, 2010, it may have been too late to include your name on the eligible producer list. In this case, you will be asked to sign a declaration stating that you are an eligible producer. You will need to bring your tag invoice or wool sales receipt as verification.

A producer who is not an individual, e.g. a corporation or Hutterite colony has one vote and must appoint a representative to cast its ballot.

Which zone do I live in?

Zone 1

Cardston County; Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9; Municipal District of Willow Creek No. 26; Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66; Improvement District No. 4 (Waterton); any urban area that is totally surrounded by one or a combination of two or more of the municipalities referred to above.

Zone 2

Cypress County; Municipal District of Taber; County of Warner No. 5; County of Forty Mile No. 8; County of Lethbridge; any urban area that is totally surrounded by one or a combination of two or more of the municipalities referred to above.

Zone 3

Kananaskis Improvement District; Improvement District No. 9 (Banff); Municipal District of Bighorn No. 8; Municipal District of Foothills No. 31; Municipal District of Acadia No. 34; Rocky View County; Starland County; Kneehill County; Special Area No. 2; Special Area No. 3; Vulcan County; County of Newell No. 4; Wheatland County; Mountain View County; any urban area that is totally surrounded by one or a combination of two or more of the municipalities referred to above.

Zone 4

Municipal District of Provost No. 52; Clearwater County; Special Area No. 4; Ponoka County; County of Stettler No. 6; County of Wetaskiwin No. 10; Lacombe County; County of Paintearth No. 18; County of Camrose; Red Deer County; Flagstaff County; any urban area that is totally surrounded by one or a combination of two or more of the municipalities referred to above.

Zone 5

Improvement District No. 24 (Wood Buffalo); Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo; Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61; Municipal District of Bonnyville No. 87; Beaver County; Smoky Lake County; County of St. Paul No. 19; County of Two Hills No. 21; County of Vermilion River No. 24; County of Minburn No. 27; Lamont County; Improvement District No. 13 (Elk Island); Lakeland County; any urban area that is totally surrounded by one or a combination of two or more of the municipalities referred to above.

Zone 6

Improvement District No. 12 (Jasper); Improvement District No. 25 (Willmore Wilderness); Woodlands County; Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17; Brazeau County; Sturgeon County; Westlock County; Yellowhead County; Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124; County of Thorhild No. 7; County of Barrhead No. 11; County of Athabasca No. 12; Strathcona County; Leduc County; Lac Ste. Anne County; Parkland County; any urban area that is totally surrounded by one or a combination of two or more the municipalities referred to above.

Zone 7

Municipal District of Greenview No. 16; Birch Hills County; Saddle Hills County; Clear Hills County; Municipal District of Northern Lights No. 22; Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23; Municipal District of Smoky River No. 130; Northern Sunrise County; Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133; Municipal District of Peace No. 135; Municipal District of Fairview No. 136; Municipal District of Big Lakes; County of Grande Prairie No. 1; any urban area that is totally surrounded by one or a combination of two or more of the municipalities referred to above.

Note: In the future, Alberta Lamb Producers will be consulting producers on realignment of zone boundaries to address inequities in producer numbers, sheep numbers and geographical area. The ALP Plan Regulation is available in full at http://www.qp.gov.ab.ca/documents/Regs/2001_263.cfm?frm_isbn=9780779723645.



Your **check-off** is your investment in your industry

Producing value

As the voice of the Alberta lamb industry, Alberta Lamb Producers is doing everything in its power to make an already strong industry even stronger.

Check-off (service charge) dollars are not only an investment in our future, but in yours too. In addition to enabling Alberta Lamb Producers to advocate for producers on issues like traceability and biosecurity, service charges (check-off) strengthen every aspect of your industry, and allow us to leverage more government funding for your industry and benefit. But with fewer check-off dollars, many of the services, opportunities and benefits Alberta Lamb Producers provide simply wouldn't exist. If we want the future of the Alberta lamb industry to be sustainable and gain momentum, we all need to support it.

In Alberta, a service charge of \$1.50 is paid by producers at the same time they buy Canadian Sheep Identification Program (CSIP) tags. This is not a tag cost; it is a very simple and efficient way of collecting the check-off. Also, a check-off of one cent per pound of wool marketed, will be deducted and remitted to Alberta Lamb Producers. It is the payment of these service charges that make you an eligible producer, able to give direction to Alberta Lamb Producers and to participate in the election of your representatives and other important industry decisions.

Now is the time to step back and look at the big picture.

What you see

- **Six newsletters** mailed to you each year, full of updates and information.
- **N'ewesline**—E-mail news service in between newsletters to keep you right up to date on events, programs, funding and industry news.
- **Websites**—www.ablamb.ca provides information on your industry including education materials, news and events, industry links, program information and many other useful articles. www.albertalamb.ca provides information to the consumer on where to buy Alberta product including a directory of producers, as well as recipes and other information.
- **Information source**—Your directors and the office answer many questions each week from producers who need to find out industry information. We may not always have the answers ourselves, but we know who can help you in your quest.
- **Access to external funding** for projects such as the Lamb Traceability Pilot Project, the Sheep and Goat Management in Alberta modules. A strong industry organisation is necessary to obtain and manage these projects. No organisation = no funding = no projects.
- **Delivery of programs** such as On-Farm Food Safety by providing training workshops and information on enrolment which enables improved management practices and access to funding.
- **Media features**—Raising awareness of the industry and its opportunities, gaining respect. If you haven't seen the nine-minute industry DVD, go to our website or call the office for a copy.
- **Annual meetings and director elections**—A fresh look for this year's annual meetings now known as "Fall Round-Up," including features on traceability and other educational topics.
- **A strong voice for sheep producers to be included** in programs such as the 2010 Canada, Alberta Pasture Recovery Initiative (CAPRI); participation in the cash advance program through the Manitoba Livestock Producers.
- **Opportunity to have a say in the future of your industry by speaking to your representatives and volunteering as a director to represent your fellow-producers.**

What you don't always see but it goes on ALL the time

Advocacy

Alberta Lamb Producers is the voice of the Alberta sheep industry to the Alberta government and the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency. It represents you in the Canadian Sheep Federation to the federal government and in national programs. To be a serious, respected and well-organised industry, you need strong representation that listens to producers and is a two-way conduit for information.

In early September, the Alberta Lamb Producers board was in Edmonton for a meeting. To gain maximum opportunities from the visit, additional meetings were scheduled with ALMA and ARD. Once or twice each year, we meet to update them on the industry and to talk about future activities and plans. It was an intense couple of days but was time very well spent. Both ALMA and ARD are very supportive of the sheep industry and are keen to collaborate in achieving its aims.

September 1 Meeting

Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency

Norine Moore (chair) and Margaret Cook (E.D.) met with four senior ALMA personnel, including Gord Cove the CEO. They were all very supportive and impressed with the sheep industry plans, initiatives and opportunities. The Alberta Lamb Traceability Pilot Project is certainly receiving lots of attention; lamb leads the way in traceability and is being held up as an example to other industries. We discussed two main focus areas for this next year – traceability and producer education. A project will be developed to advance and build on the current traceability pilot; to support both the existing co-operators and all lamb producers in their adoption of RFID.

Recognising the need for producer education and support, particularly for expanding and new producers, the ALP board has committed \$30,000 to leverage ALMA funding. Gord Cove and his staff were very supportive of the ALP education commitment and a funding application will be submitted soon. If the application is successful, this funding will be used to contract specialized services to create and deliver a full education program for sheep producers. See page 12 for more details.

September 2 Meetings

1. Alberta Agriculture staff at the J.G. O’Donoghue Building in Edmonton

Alberta Lamb Producers was invited by Agricultural Products Marketing Council to provide a presentation to the staff. We included the industry DVD in the presentation, thanks again to our industry stars! The presentation is available at www.ablamb/news.



The presenters - Everyone had a part, Ronald's turn (left). Smiles for a job well done! (right).

Overall comments on our presentation: Very informative • Excellent presentation • Great video • Great idea to have many directors present

Specific comments: Presentation from the Board members was excellent • Good dynamic • Really appreciated so many directors coming and letting us know their industry a bit more



2. Deputy Minister of Agriculture, John Knapp and Assistant Deputy Minister, Jason Kripps

As part of our ongoing contact strategy to maximise the benefit of every travel expense, Alberta Lamb Producers met with the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and the Assistant Deputy Minister after meeting with the Alberta Agriculture staff. The same projects, traceability and education, were discussed and again, there was great willingness for collaboration and support. ALP has made a request to the Minister of Agriculture for a producer incentive program to support the use of RFID tags to meet the new traceability legislation. See page 3 for more details.

It is an exciting and proud time for the sheep industry. The collaboration of ARD and ALP, and the commitment of the co-operators are both receiving much attention and kudos; no other industry or project has achieved quite this collaborative success.

Both the Alberta Government and ALMA need projects and advancements that are industry-driven. ALP provides that driver. We represent you and initiate these projects. Without a strong infrastructure and a sound business plan, ALP could not participate to this level and be able to leverage this kind of funding.

In compliance with the changes required by Bill 43, a refund request may be submitted for check-off payments made after September 1, 2010.

1. A refund request must be received by Alberta Lamb Producers by the 25th of the month following purchase, e.g. if tags are purchased in January, the refund request must be received by Alberta Lamb Producers (postmarked or fax-dated) no later than February 25th – the same date the remittance is received from Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers (CCWG). No extenuating circumstances will be considered.
2. All refund requests must be submitted on the form provided by Alberta Lamb Producers and made available on www.ablamb.ca or from the office, upon request. The refund request must be in the same name or names as the service charge was paid. If the purchase was recorded in two names, those same two people must sign the request for a refund and the refund cheque must be made payable to those two people. A copy of the CCWG invoice must be included (Canadian Cattle Identification Agency tag numbers to be omitted).
3. Alberta Lamb Producers will refund the service charge to the producer annually within 30 days of the Alberta Lamb Producers year end.
4. Each producer will have the option of requesting a refund of the entire service charge or a portion thereof.

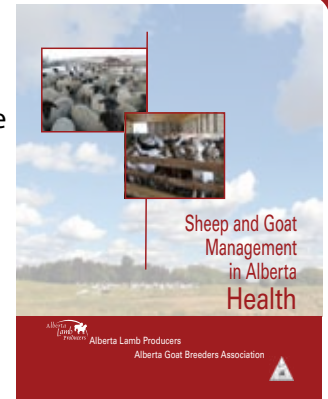
If you need more information please call your zone director or the office.

Filling the gap in producer education

While the implementation for technology is exciting and beneficial, we must continue to support the operational needs of producers. Since Agriculture and Rural Development withdrew its specialists, the lack of extension services is a major problem. In the interests of improving productivity and management, ALP will be seeking funding to make education available. Exceptional financial control and responsibility in the last couple of years have enabled Alberta Lamb Producers to bring its reserves up to the level required by our auditor. A further year of restraint,

coupled with a higher than forecast check off income in 2009/10 and successful funding applications has enabled the Alberta Lamb Producers board to allocate \$30,000 to producer education. This will be industry's contribution to a funding proposal for a full education service to all producers, with particular focus on those who are expanding or new to the industry. A funding application will be prepared in the next few weeks and we will move ahead as quickly as possible.

The following article is taken from Sheep and Goat Management in Alberta (2009) Health which is available for download at http://www.ablamb.ca/producer_mgmt/sheep_goat_mgmt.html. CDs and hard copies also available on a cost recovery basis. Contact the office for details or to place an order - email admin@ablamb.ca or phone 403-948-1522.



Health module
pages 69-70

Chlamydial Abortion (Enzootic Abortion of Ewes, EAE)

Cause

The cause of this disease is *Chlamydomphila abortus* (previously known as *Chlamydia psittaci*). This is the most commonly diagnosed form of abortion in sheep and goats; it is also the most difficult to control because of the organism's complex life cycle.

If a ewe/doe is infected with EAE in late pregnancy there will be no effect during that pregnancy. However, she will likely abort at the end of the following pregnancy. This can cause significant problems when you come to purchase new stock. A ewe/doe may be bought with no history of abortion, yet she may be carrying chlamydia. She will abort her next pregnancy and contaminate the rest of flock, leading to a serious abortion storm the following year.

Abortion commonly occurs in the last two weeks of pregnancy. The fetus looks normal or lambs/kids may be born prematurely and be very weak.

In some cases the region of the placenta between the cotyledons (buttons) can appear yellowed and thickened.

Abortion rates may reach from one-third to one-half of the flock.

A ewe/doe aborting from chlamydia will shed the organisms in the fetus, placenta and all vaginal discharges for up to one month. Other animals that lick contaminated areas will develop an infection. Another way to spread this disease is to pile old bedding from the lambing barn in a place where other females will be exposed to it and come in contact with the microorganism.

After an abortion the animal develops a strong immunity that should last at least three years.

Diagnosis

This requires laboratory analysis of the aborted placenta and fetus.

Treatment

Chlamydomphila abortus is susceptible to oxytetracycline antibiotics. It may be possible to treat the herd with a long acting product or use a medicated feed before the birthing period begins. Consult with your veterinarian.

Considerations for Management Team

Real care must be taken when purchasing replacement ewes/does. If the abortion history of the seller's flock is not known, purchase with extreme care.

Consider housing such animals separately from the rest of the flock.

Vaccines are available to help manage this disease. The first dose is given two months prior to breeding and the second dose one month prior to breeding. Annual vaccination at one month prior to breeding is also required. If you consider your flock to be at risk you should discuss vaccination with your veterinarian.

Zoonosis Alert: *Chlamydomphila abortus* can be transmitted to humans and can cause abortion in pregnant women.

The use of MGA to synchronize estrus in sheep is cheap but ...



Jasmine Dhillon, DVM
 Consultant, CgFARAD Western Centre
 Western College of Veterinary Medicine

A search of PubMed, AGRICOLA, and CAB Abstracts did not yield any information about residues following melengestrol acetate (MGA) administration in sheep. In the US, this use of melengestrol (the active drug in MGA) would be illegal on two counts, as they do not allow extra-label drug use in feed nor for production purposes (only therapeutic purposes). There has also not been an approved maximum residue limit (MRL) in Europe, so we cannot access any data from the European Medicines Agency. There is an MRL in Canada of 6 ppb in liver and 14 ppb in fat for cattle, and we know the CFIA has a very accurate and active detection program for MGA. So without depletion data in sheep and with the knowledge that there is a great likelihood of the animals being tested by the CFIA, we recommend that MGA not be administered to sheep.

Therefore, the Canadian gFARAD is unable to make a recommendation sufficient so that detectable residues are not found. Because the Canadian gFARAD withdrawal recommendation is not an official withdrawal time and is based on data that has not been reviewed nor approved by the Veterinary Drugs Directorate or the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, responsibility for residue violations rests with the attending veterinarian.

When veterinarians are faced with prescribing extra-label pharmaceuticals for food producing animals, Canadian gFARAD provides critical information to be considered when the prescribing veterinarian recommends a withdrawal time. It is all about informed consent and knowing what the residue risks are.

Fortunately, the gFARAD service is available for use by veterinarians free of charge but it does take some time to get recommendations back. So be patient when your vet says, "it may take awhile" to get a prescription ready for you. When using pharmaceuticals extra-label it is always best to proceed carefully and to not be in a hurry. By giving your veterinarian the time to investigate the consequences and limitations of a prescribing a particular drug you will go a long way towards protecting yourself from drug residue risk.

Dr. Kathy Parker, Zone 3 Director

14 September 2010

Points of View

CANADIAN SHEEP FEDERATION
 June 2010 VOLUME 4 • ISSUE 6



PART FOUR: INCREASING PRODUCTION IN THE CANADIAN SHEEP FLOCK

"If Canadian producers don't realize and/or take advantage of our wonderful market someone sure as hell will!"
 - Jim Purdy

MYTH: The only way to increase my production is by increasing my number of ewes.

Case Study

Bill and Lorna Gibson, Windpatch Farm

Increasing the number of sheep in your flock isn't the only way to increase production on the farm. In fact, there are many ways producers can build up their operation without purchasing new animals. Bill and Lorna Gibson, who own Windpatch Farm located 45 minutes north east of Red Deer, Alberta, are a good example of this. They've spent the past few years fine tuning their management skills, increasing production and learning how to work smarter – not harder.

The Evolution of a Farm

Growing up in Alberta and working on his uncle's sheep farm from a young age taught Bill a thing or two about the sheep industry. So by the time he and Lorna purchased their first flock of 100 sheep in 1977 he was well on his way.

Both Bill and Lorna worked full time off the farm for the majority of their farming career but over time, Bill says he's been able to reduce his off-farm labour. Lorna continues to work full time off the farm and has been a Research Biologist with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for the past 33 years.

Today, the Gibsons run a 200 head flock of cross-breeds (half Dorset, half Friesian). Their main sales are ewe lambs for breeding stock and Bill says they concentrate on making a good maternal ewe. Their goal is to market 500 lambs per year and they plan on adding another 50 ewes to their flock when Lorna retires next year.

Breeding and Genetics for Improved Production

Windpatch has experimented a lot over the years figuring out the best way to increase production, while continuing to raise strong healthy sheep. Focusing on breeding and genetics has been an important component to this plan.

Bill says the usage of heterosis – producing genetically superior offspring by mixing parental genes – has been successful in improving productivity. It didn't happen overnight though. The Gibsons worked with other breeds in the past but they just weren't the right fit for the farm. "You need to determine which traits you're looking for and pick the breeds that will give you those," says Bill.

Getting a better handle on flushing in the fall has made a big difference. Using a teaser ram has proved beneficial, too.

"Flushing gives us an extra half lamb per ewe, which equates to an extra 40 or 50 lambs per year," Bill says.

The farm used to rely mainly upon sponging but once a teaser ram was brought in things really turned around. This was amply noticed this year when the Gibsons' teaser ram died. "We didn't replace our teaser ram, thinking it wouldn't make much of a difference, but we were wrong. Not having a teaser ram really affected our lambing and the timing of it," says Bill.

Finally, Bill says he's also had to pay attention to when he breeds. "Our sheep are strongly seasonal breeders. We've learned that if we breed too much out of season we end up losing lamb production," he says. "It increases productivity by a large percent to breed in season."

Record Keeping for Improved Production

Increasing production on the farm doesn't just happen in the barn. Having organized flock records is another valuable factor in advancing productivity. The Gibsons have been using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags and FarmWorks Software for the past two years. The technologies work together in this way: RFID tags in the sheep's ear are read by a handheld reader. The data is then automatically transferred from the reader into an electronic database stored on the home computer. Once in the system, data can be filed and sorted to the meet the operator's needs and preferences. "The new system is so much better," Bill says.

Lorna used to spend hours going through papers and using Excel. Now, with the click of a button most of the work is done for us.

Animal Health for Improved Production

Improved animal health has a positive correlation with improved production on the farm. The healthier your animals are, the better they'll work for you and the more they'll produce. Bill says sheep farmers should focus on their flock's overall health status, keeping information on each sheep. Monitoring for disease is important too, especially when it comes to internal parasites and coccidiosis. "People don't pay as much attention as they should to coccidiosis," says Bill. "In some cases it's even hard to convince producers it's not just parasites. Coccidiosis can be a really big problem; it's endemic and an outbreak can be detrimental to your animals."

Making Labour Work

Often times when producers consider increased production they think increased labour, which then leads to thoughts of increased costs. But it doesn't always have to be that way. To reduce labour costs during the busy lambing season, Bill turned to an exchange program run through a local agricultural college. The program arranges for agriculture and veterinarian students to be brought up from Mexico and Ecuador to gain practical experience on the farm. "Working with the students is a fantastic opportunity. They're extremely knowledgeable and very keen to help out," Bill says. The students fund their own trip to Canada and in return the Gibsons' offer a fair wage, room and board and on-farm experience.

You too can make a difference.

Please take an active role in your industry.

Take part in your zone meeting.

Speak to your zone director.

ALP is your organisation representing you. The zone directors are all producers who have accepted the challenge of giving direction to their industry – your industry. It is easy to be supportive or negative at the auction market, in the coffee shop or in your kitchen – share your thoughts with your organisation and other industry members. Take the time to attend a zone meeting and offer your ideas for advancing the industry.



As traceability is such a hot topic right, we have dedicated a section of the newsletter to providing information and updates. Alberta Lamb Producers is spending many hours working to achieve a system that meets legislative requirements but is also practical, affordable and sustainable for the producer.

How will mandatory RFID change my operation?

At the end of June, the Canadian Sheep Federation announced that RFID would become mandatory for the Canadian sheep industry beginning January 01, 2012.

This means that from January 01, 2012, all new CSIP tags applied to sheep or lambs must be RFID—at this time, either Shearwell SET tag or Allflex button tag.

This does not mean that you have to buy software, a reader or any other equipment. If required you can manually read the RFID tags.

The whole system is still being created, always with the producer's interests in the forefront. It is vital that ALP continues to confer with CSF and governments to ensure that your interests are represented.

Your part in this is to keep up with developments and to bring us your questions, comments and concerns to enable efficient and accurate representation. Your part also involves your investment through check-off – to enable Alberta Lamb Producers to act on your behalf and provide vital communication and education.

A reminder of the timeline

We have provided this now to enable you to manage your stock of CSIP tags, as they are non-returnable.

July 01, 2011: Ketchum Kurl lock and Allflex dangle tags will no longer be available for sale to sheep producers as Canadian Sheep Identification Program (CSIP) tags.

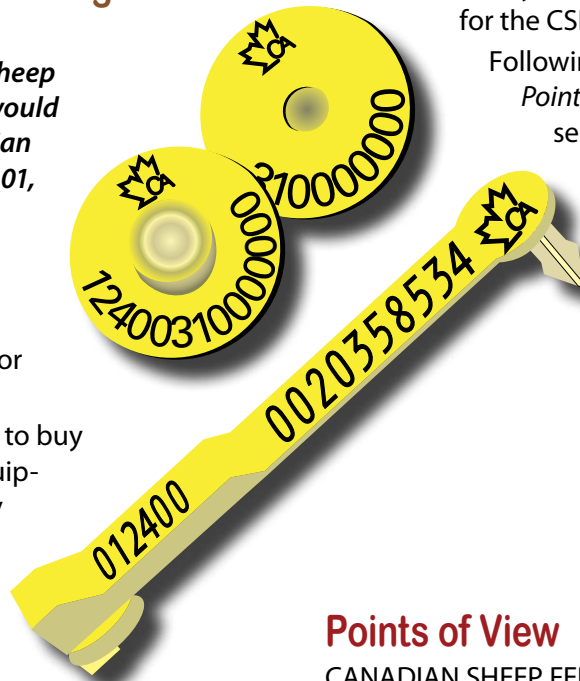
January 01, 2012: All animals born or tagged after this date must be tagged with CSIP RFID tags.

January 01, 2012: CSIP approved tags will include the Allflex RFID tag and Shearwell RFID tag.

After December 31, 2012: The Ketchum Kurl lock and Allflex dangle tags will no longer be accepted at sales, abattoirs or by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) for shipping, transfer or sale of sheep in Canada. At this time, the Kurl Lock #3 and the Allflex Panel tag will be

officially removed from the list of approved tags for the CSIP.

Following is an article from the CSF's July *Points of View*. For the rest of this feature, see http://www.cansheep.ca/User/Docs/POV/POV_07-2010.pdf



Points of View

CANADIAN SHEEP FEDERATION
July 2010 VOLUME 4 • ISSUE 7



Myth: The Canadian sheep industry is sustainable and will grow without embracing traceability.

Traceability is no longer optional for the Canadian sheep industry. We must adapt to the changing requirements of an evolving food production system to sustain current markets, remain viable and realize our immense potential.

Mandatory Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags are a tool needed to deliver traceability. RFID is the best system currently available to provide traceability and it will deliver benefits for producers and stakeholders.

The CSF Board of Directors' decision to decommission all other tags in favour of RFID tags has been the subject of much deliberation and many factors have been considered. To date, other options such as group lot identification have been explored, but given the small number of lambs in the industry, we can't make it happen. We need more lambs if we're going to start looking at group lot identification.

One of the most significant challenges we continue to face as a national industry is how to effectively prioritize issues and decisions. Quite simply, not all decisions that

support the sustainability of our sheep industry benefit each and every producer in Canada.

In making this decision, CSF consulted with the entire value chain – from producers and their provincial organizations to buyers, processors and retailers. For some individual producers, there is a limited perceived value in the investment in RFID technology. However, the ability to function as a business within this or any industry will be limited in the future without the use of technology.

The choice of not accessing or adopting technology is the producer's choice, but as an industry we can't function even at a basic level without it.

Preliminary information we have on RFID presents a compelling case for adopting the technology. As that research is finalized, CSF will be sharing it with producers in the coming months in the *From The Flock* newsletter and other communications. When it comes to the cost of RFID technology, producers are urged to consider it more of a tool for sustaining their business and making it more profitable by identifying profit leaks and providing the information to remedy those losses.

When it comes to supporting RFID adoption, we do recognize the need to make workshops and tools as easy to access as possible. You'll also be hearing more on that in the future.

Send your comments to pointsofview@cansheep.ca, or contact Jennifer MacTavish directly by phone at 1-888-684-7739 or jennifer@cansheep.ca.

Jennifer MacTavish
Executive Director
Canadian Sheep Federation

Refundable check-off consequences

It is an exciting time for the sheep industry and demands on ALP resources increase yearly. The introduction of refundable check-off will present some problems and probably some limitations on activities and communications. The external funding available for research, industry development etc. is greatly appreciated; a strong infrastructure and the ability to provide some matching funds are essential to enable us to access it.

In addition to an overall reduction in services for producers, those members seeking refunds may experience greater cuts.



Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Ear Tags

What you need to know

Electronic identification (EID) of livestock is based on low frequency radio signals from an RFID tag transmitted to various kinds of readers. These frequencies pass through living tissue and there are no harmful side effects to the animals.

Microchips

A microchip for an RFID tag is pre-programmed at the factory with a 64-bit code that is unique (can't be duplicated). It contains the manufacturer's code and the country code where the tag will be used, plus a 16-digit number that will be the animal's identification.

Transponders

Every RFID tag contains a transponder, which is a microchip and an antenna enclosed in a miniature water-proof container. RFID transponders are programmed at the factory and inserted into the ear tags. This is a passive, read-only device that has no internal source of power (no battery) but is energized by the signal received from the reader. When it's activated, it sends back the animal identification code.

In Canada, the 16-digit electronic number programmed inside the tag must also be printed and readable on the outside of the tag. If the microchip is somehow damaged and can't be read electronically the animal's identification will not be lost.

Tag types

Currently there are two types of RFID tags approved for use on the Canadian Sheep Identification Program. From Jan 1, 2012, you will need to use one of the following RFID tags:

- Allflex button tag: two disks with a central pin that passes through the ear. One of the disks contains the RFID transponder. When applying a button tag the part with the transponder goes inside the animal's ear. A visual number is usually printed on the other disk. Follow the tag manufacturer's recommendations for correct tag placement.
- Shearwell loop tag: a single piece that folds over the ear to give a D shape, with the straight part being the pin that passes through the ear. The transponder is in a molded compartment on the underside of the tag. A loop tag is applied to the top of the ear. When a loop tag is applied, the part with the transponder goes in-

Continued on next page

September 2010 17



side the animal's ear. A visual number is usually printed on the top side of the tag. Follow the tag manufacturer's recommendations for correct tag placement.

The current prices for these tags are \$2.85 for the Allflex button tag, and \$1.80 for the Shearwell loop tag. You will need to have the correct applicator for the tags you select, either the \$37.95 Allflex or the \$20 Shearwell applicator.

From January 01 2012, you will need RFID tags and an applicator – you will not be required to buy a tag reader, software or other electronic equipment.

A note of caution to producers looking to buy equipment —do your homework. The experience of the traceability pilot project is that sales claims for RFID technology is frequently overstated, unproven or unknown, particularly with regard to compatibility between different manufacturers. SheepCentral.ca provides details of the equipment selected for the pilot project, the result of extensive trials.

FARMWORKS was determined to be the best management program available and is in use on the Traceability Pilot Project. In addition to co-operators, some producers have already purchased this software. There will be a FarmWorks basic training course held in Airdrie in November. It will be a refresher for co-operators, and also open to any producers who have purchased FarmWorks. Call Alberta Lamb Producers at 403-948-8533 to book your place.

GROWING FORWARD TRACEABILITY FUNDING FOR PRODUCERS – there is a program slated to help producers with the cost of implementation. There are few details and it is currently not open for application. Alberta Lamb Producers is lobbying Agriculture and Rural Development to make this available. You will hear it first on N'ewesline (e-mail admin@ablamb.ca to sign up). Register now for Growing Forward at www.growingforward.alberta.ca or call 310-FARM (3276).

Check out the other Growing Forward programs available for primary producers at the website.



Decommissioning of Non-Radio Frequency Identification Animal Tags

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why are we moving to mandatory Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags for sheep and lambs?

To meet the requirements set out for a national traceability system, the Canadian Sheep Federation (CSF) has investigated a number of tracking options that would best suit the unique size and structure of our industry, with RFID systems and electronic RFID ear tags emerging as the best option of those currently available.

There is increasing demand by major Canadian processors for traceability. These processors have a significant investment in Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP), and they have identified risk in the industry's lack of traceability.

They have indicated that they will not be willing to buy Canadian lamb in the future without the tracking and tracing ability an RFID system provides.

2. What tag choices do I have?

The Allflex RFID button tag or the Shearwell Data SET tags are approved for use as official Canadian Sheep Identification Program (CSIP) tags.

3. I have already purchased enough CSIP Ketchum Kurl-lock or Allflex dangle tags to last until 2014. Will I be allowed to use up this inventory?

Producers have only until the end of 2012 to use non-RFID tags. Animals bearing non-RFID tags will be accepted by abattoirs or the CFIA as official tags until December 31, 2012. After this time, all sheep and lambs must bear one of the two official CSIP RFID tags – the Allflex button or Shearwell Data SET tag.

4. Can I return unused tags to the point of purchase?

No, they cannot be returned.

Canadian Sheep Identification Program rule:

CSIP tags are non-returnable – once bought they are for your sheep only.

Making It Pay



photo credit: Tracy Hagedorn

A question Alberta shepherds are asking these days is what will be the costs and the benefits of the coming national traceability program (2012 CSIP RFID Program) and of using RFID for flock management on the Alberta sheep industry? To answer these questions, the lamb supply chain is working with the Alberta Lamb Traceability Pilot project (LTP). One of the projects goals is to develop RFID traceability systems that help producers meet the requirements of the 2012 program and to look for any benefits these systems may have for flock management. Well, we are happy to report that the work we have been doing on this through the LTP, while not complete, is starting to hint at some answers.

Without going into too much detail, it looks like medium to larger size flocks may be able to benefit from using RFID management systems and may potentially see a net value of as much as \$7.00/lamb or more. Small flocks, on the other hand, will likely see a small cost increase.

Medium and larger flocks may benefit because RFID tags and management systems are tools that can help producers become more efficient. These tools also help producers to increase their flock's performance since RFID systems make flock analysis so much easier. Smaller flocks simply do not produce enough lambs to justify the cost of the equipment. Fortunately, the 2012 CSIP RFID program does not require farms to buy equipment.

Before we go any further, what do we mean by big and small flocks? Based on Statistics Canada information, the current Alberta flock profile is what you see on the table below.

Alberta Flock Profile – 2010*					
Flock Type	Micro	Small	Medium	Large	Total
Flock Size	1 to 47	48 to 177	178 to 1127	1128 +	NA
Number of Flocks	1,104	438	210	21	1,772
Percent of Flocks	62.27%	24.71%	11.83%	1.19%	100%
Average Ewes	7	43	193	813	48
Average Lamb crop (estimated)	10	60	271	1,139	67
Total Sheep	17,416	40,209	86,647	36,728	181,000
Percent of Industry	9.62%	22.22%	47.87%	20.29%	100%
Total Ewes	8,150	18,816	40,547	17,187	84,700

* Created using 2010 Statistics Canada sheep numbers and 2006 Census data

The things that really stand out in this table are that:

- 68% of Alberta’s lamb is produced by 13% of farms that average 193 or more ewes.
- 32% of Alberta’s lamb is produced by 87% of farms that average 43 or fewer ewes.

This table suggests that the industry may see a net benefit (since most lambs are raised on medium to large farms). At the same time however, the table suggests that most farms (since most are very small) may see their costs go up.

While the small increase in costs will not be enough to drive small flock owners out of business, it does not drive costs in the right direction. Fortunately there is some good news. The cost/benefit work has found a few common “problems” that if resolved could help farms make more money. In fact, it turned out these “problems” can make a big difference to farm profits – especially for smaller sheep farms. Some of the key issues in lack of profitability for sheep operations include:

- Feed is the single biggest cost on most sheep farms; testing feeds and balancing rations to know what you are feeding and how much you should be feeding has a dramatic effect on profitability. Losses of \$6-\$12/lamb marketed/weaned were typical for operations over-feeding by as little as 10-20%.
- Labour is the second biggest cost on sheep farms. Co-operating farms on the LTP keep track of their hours and how they make use of their time. By spending time deciding what needs to be done more efficiently, or maybe even eliminated, labour costs can be lowered. Very efficient operations only spend 2.5 hours per lamb sold/retained, while less efficient operations can spend six hours or more per lamb. At \$15.00/hr. this is a \$52.50 difference in cost!
- Marketing lambs efficiently means lambs are managed so the largest number of lambs possible are shipped at targeted weights. Efficient shipping doesn’t just happen. The table below gives a rough summary of the cost to ship lambs from different size flocks. It is based on shipping 100km (one way).

Shipping Cost Summary					
	Micro	Small	Medium	Large	Feedlot
Shipping interval (weeks)	7	4	3	2	1
Load Size (average number/load)	4	12	35	80	100
Total lambs to market	10	60	270	1140	3500
Cost/lamb to ship	\$53.75	\$18.92	\$6.94	\$3.54	\$3.23
Ave value of lamb	\$126.34	\$134.88	\$137.72	\$140.56	\$143.41
Lost value vs best rate (Feedlot)	\$67.58	\$24.22	\$9.40	\$3.15	\$0.00

The main thing that stands out on this table is that the cost to ship and the cash value of lamb changes based on farm size. This is because larger operations can market lambs at the right target weight (they are not too fat or too skinny). Larger operations are more efficient – especially those using RFID management systems. While Micro and Small operations cannot market lambs efficiently on their own, these farms can lower their shipping costs by joint marketing, or by selling/consigning their lambs to a feedlot.

The project will continue to work on financial analysis over the coming year using more co-operating farm data. It will take time to clearly identify the impact of RFID management systems and the 2012 CSIP RFID program. What is becoming clear is that RFID may become an important tool to help the Alberta and Canadian lamb supply chain become more efficient overall. Greater industry efficiency is key to being competitive in the lamb market.

Tony Stolz
AB Lamb Traceability Pilot Project

Traceability software can find the worst sheep in your flock

Tracy Hagedorn, AARD

Some lambs just won't grow. Runts, scrubs, bummers, tail-enders – whatever you call them - every farm, every year, has at least a few. They hang around for months on end, not sick but not really healthy either; not dying, though you might wish they would! The software program used on the Lamb Traceability Project can help find the source of those miserable runts that are hiding out in your feedlot. Never mind identifying the best sheep in your flock, imagine the improvement to your bottom line if you could get rid of the worst?

Good records can expose the biggest losers on your farm, as well as the innocent victims. What if you knew a certain ewe had twins every year but one was always a runt - would you keep that ewe? Or maybe that lamb had a difficult birth – can you look it up? Was he a normal-sized lamb at birth or a tiny triplet to start with? What was his mother's udder like? Did he get enough colostrum? Did he get any?

Was it genetics, nutrition or management? Would you make changes if you knew where to start?

The biggest benefit of computers is being able to analyse any information you care to record. RFID ear tags and readers make collecting that data fast and accurate. You can find those sheep in your flock that are costing you money, not making it, because an EID system gives them nowhere to hide.



Electronic identification can help you keep better records to weed out the worst sheep in your flock.

ALBERTA LAMB PRODUCERS is a producer directed and funded organization that represents the interests of Alberta sheep and wool producers to help build a sustainable, thriving sheep industry for all stakeholders. **ALP provides every member with the opportunity to have a positive influence on the industry as a whole.** ALP is responsible for a variety of programs all aimed at supporting producers and ensuring the continued growth and profitability of the industry.

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES ALP MAKE?

The world is changing. With new livestock legislation in development, a lot of the work being done right now by ALP staff and directors is focused on developing a framework for the environment sheep producers will have to operate in. **ALP is producers. Your representatives are producers.** We know that systems have to be practical, affordable, and sustainable while meeting the needs of legislation.

When you sell breeding stock to a new producer, please ask them to get in touch with Alberta Lamb Producers, so we can make sure they are aware of the services and information available, and we can add them to the newsletter and N'ewesline lists.



Welcome to SheepCentral

Go take a look!

Sheep Central is now open to all.



Go to www.sheepcentral.ca for information on ID and traceability. SheepCentral was built in 2009 by Drever Technical Solutions for the Alberta Lamb Traceability Pilot Project. It was developed as a data storage repository and information exchange for the pilot project. As information and experience has been gathered the website has become an information source on electronic technology, traceability and animal identification systems.

SheepCentral was developed to:

- Provide information to help co-operating farms make decisions about available technology.
- Provide information and discussion forums on how to use electronic technology and systems.

- Provide information on costs and benefits of the new electronic systems.
- Provide a communication link between co-operating lamb processors and their producer suppliers.
- Be a source of information on provincial, national and international traceability and animal identification.

It is now open for everyone to take a tour and derive benefit. It was developed in an open format to allow linkages to other databases for such things as tag retirement, as well as to other industry sites that provide information to the lamb supply chain. It is also the portal to MeatCentral where pilot project co-operators can access carcass data for their lambs. When producers make the change to RFID tags, they will also be able to access their carcass data.

The availability of RFID technology and the information it generates, open a wide range of opportunities for management improvement.

On the public area of SheepCentral, the equipment which has been tested, recommended and approved for use on the project is featured with a note of **caution** to producers looking to buy equipment. **The experience of the Traceability Pilot Project is that sales claims for RFID technology are frequently overstated, unproven or unknown, particularly with regard to compatibility between different manufacturers.**

A group composed of Alberta Lamb Producers, Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board, Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency and the Canadian Sheep federation, has been investigating the development of an electronic communications pathway to manage data and to link production programs. SheepCentral is the recommended base for this framework, but the CSF directors will make a final decision in early November. Alberta is acknowledged as the national leader in sheep traceability. Alberta Lamb Producers appreciates the collaboration and investment from Agriculture and Rural Development; Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency and the pilot project co-operators.

N'ewesletter is an important communications tool, which is mailed six times each year to all the producers in our information management system. (The system was recently upgraded thanks to funding from ALMA.) It provides you with information about **your** industry and **your** organisation, as well as Producer Management Resources, Traceability and Industry Updates. We will be reviewing the mailing list in the next couple of months, with the intention of only sending newsletters to current producers. If you have not purchased CSIP tags or sold wool since September 01, 2007, we question if you are still in the sheep business, and propose to stop sending you newsletters. Of course, if you still have sheep, please let us know and we will continue to send you your copy. With so many opportunities and changes, it is truly in your best interests to stay up-to-speed.

Sign up for **N'ewesline** by e-mailing admin@ablamb.ca No junk, SPAM or jokes, just timely industry information.

It is recommended that you buy only enough CSIP tags for the current year's lamb crop plus any mature animals you may need to ship.

Scrapie Canada's New Project

Courtney Denard,
National Scrapie Coordinator

The goal of National Scrapie Prevalence Study is to determine scrapie prevalence in the Canadian sheep flock. The national goat herd is not included in the prevalence portion of study at this time but project developers are working with the industry to ensure their inclusion at a future date.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) - which is a partner in the project - will collect and test 15,000 brain and lymph node samples from mature sheep slaughtered in abattoirs across Canada. This sample size was based on a statistically valid percentage of the Canadian ewe flock as of 2008. The intention is to accurately represent the geographical distribution of the sheep population in Canada; therefore, all large, and most medium, adult sheep slaughtering facilities are included in the project. Samples will be collected from different abattoirs on different days, which will be determined randomly. Final results of the study will be compiled by CFIA and ana-

lyzed with assistance from experts from the University of Guelph.

With the completion of the prevalence study, the Canadian Sheep Federation (CSF) anticipates the establishment of a clear time frame in which scrapie can be eradicated from Canada. Once eradication has been achieved, the OIE requires a further seven-year scrapie free monitoring period prior to Canada being able to declare itself free from scrapie.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has already conducted a national slaughter surveillance study and established national and regional scrapie prevalence. The U.S. implemented the first phase of their accelerated national scrapie eradication program in 2001 and is working to be recognized as scrapie free by 2017.

The Canadian sheep and goat industries have been working to harmonize with the U.S. on scrapie related issues to remove trade barriers that currently exist. Completing the scrapie prevalence study and working towards scrapie eradication is in line with the strategy currently undertaken by the U.S.



Canadian Sheep Federation

Calgary, Alberta Chosen for Annual Meeting

In early November, the Canadian Sheep Federation will hold their AGM at the Radisson Hotel *Calgary Airport*, 2120-16th Ave., Calgary NE

Tuesday, November 2nd – Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada will co-host a Sheep Industry Roundtable discussion focussing on increasing flock productivity and producer profitability. A group of industry people has been invited – all are welcome to attend and listen, and participate if time allows. While attendance is free, if you are planning on attending the Roundtable discussion you must register with Jennifer MacTavish at jennifer@cansheep.ca.

Wednesday, November 3rd – Producers are encouraged to attend the free symposium. Presentations include:

Impact of Neo-natal lamb loss on production, *Paula Menzies*

Predator management, *Gordy Klassen*

Role of genetics in increasing production, *TBA*

Domestic supply and demand, *Anita O'Brien*

Canadian Lamb Company, *Terry Ackermann*

RFID system benefits, *Susan Hosford, AB Lamb Traceability Pilot Project*

Discussion time for breakout groups will include: other factors influencing financial returns; the role of provincial and national organisations.

A complimentary lunch will be provided if you register by October 18th. To register: e-mail info@ablamb.ca or call 403 948 8533; e-mail jennifer@cansheep.ca or call 1-888-684-7739.

Thursday, November 4th – CSF AGM - Open meeting but resolutions must be provided in advance. Details available from e-mail jennifer@cansheep.ca or call 1-888-684-7739.

If you need a room at the Radisson Hotel *Calgary Airport* you can reach the hotel at 403-250-6054 and let them know that you are with the CSF AGM, to get the room rate of \$114/night.



Providing locally-grown lamb to meet consumer demand

This article is one in a series of profiles of lamb producers across the province. In each issue we will look at what makes different producers successful, and what challenges they feel the industry faces as it grows.

Gerrit Van Hierden spends a lot of time in his truck. The Ft. Mcleod-area producer needs to keep moving in order to keep selling his flock. He markets his flock directly to farmer's markets and restaurants, so for him that face to face contact with his customers helps keep his operation thriving.

"Of course I spend time on the farm, but a lot of my time is spent marketing," he says. "My daughter and son-in-law pretty much manage the farm these days and I keep moving to help make sure I have a profitable venture for them to take over one day."

Together with his wife Janet, Gerrit started out as a dairy farmer in the late 1970's. His wife brought one ewe into the marriage, and eventually that number began to multiply. Gerrit says that one day they had to make the decision, do they stay hobby sheep farmers or do they grow their flock to commercial levels? They were able to purchase a flock from a neighbour and the business has grown from there.

Today, on top of the 750 head mixed breed flock, his son-in-law Bert runs 160 pure-bred sheep on their farm. They also have a few cattle, and grow hay and silage for feed. With almost 20 years as commercial producers, they've been in business long enough that they've had their share of challenges, but they've always managed to weather them. In their early years, they sold primarily to eastern Canadians, and they had to tailor their breeding program to meet that market. Then they had to change their mix for U.S. customers. That came to an abrupt halt when the U.S. closed the border.

"The bottom line is that you have to be flexible," says Gerrit. "You have to be prepared to tailor what you do for the market that can make you the most money. And if that market changes, you have to be prepared to change with it."

Almost ten years ago, they made another change. Instead of looking at export markets, they decided to respond to demand closer to home. As Canadian consumers in general became more aware of what they were eating, Gerrit saw a rise in demand for locally produced lamb. He says he saw two reasons for the shift. First people are choosing support local businesses and are willing to pay more as it can be more expensive to produce food locally, and second, local customers want to know where and how their food is produced, and have shown an increasing interest in food produced more naturally.

"People today are more interested in where their food comes from than they used to be, and quality matters," he says. "So we started selling into farmer's markets in Calgary and Millarville. We also started approaching chefs to provide our product to their restaurants. Today we sell our lamb into more than thirty restaurants throughout southern Alberta."

He says he has always enjoyed his business, and he likes the challenge that comes from knocking on doors and letting people know what he can provide. He says today there's plenty of demand for everything he can raise, and he hopes that will help him meet his biggest challenge – keeping the business profitable for the next generation.

"Things look great right now but there are so many things that are out of your control," he says. "Land prices, government regulations and international competition are things you can keep aware of through groups such as Alberta Lamb Producers. But you have to be prepared to keep changing as circumstances change."

He says that for now, as long as he's able to provide people with what they want and need, and at the same time maintain a profitable family-run business, he's happy. And he's content to keep putting mileage on his truck to keep it that way.



Dear Producers,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you very much for, once again, supporting the Wool Show at Fibre Week this year. We have had outstanding success and each year the show gets bigger and bigger.

One of the special events that we offer is a silent auction of the fleeces entered into the show; they are purchased by those attending Fibre Week who came from all over North America. This year, a total of \$1815.00 was paid for these fleeces, and all monies went directly to the breeders. The highest selling fleece was from Linda Wendelboe (Blue Faced Leicester) and it went for \$80.00. The Wool Show is a wonderful opportunity to show and sell good quality fleeces to savvy handspinners and weavers.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like a full list of class winners.

Sincerely,

Donna M. Rudd
Wool Show Co-ordinator
dexters@telusplanet.net



Alberta Sheep Breeders Association News

Hello to everyone and I hope you all have your hay up dry and have your rams bought for the upcoming breeding season. Haying has been a challenge this year but at least we had some hay to put up.

The ASBA annual meeting will be held on Saturday, October 16th, at 11:00 a.m. at the Sheep Centre in Airdrie. A complimentary lunch will be served and we will be having a speaker. On the agenda this year is a review of the ASBA bylaws which was a massive project and the proposed change will be mailed out this week to ASBA members. Please take the time to review these changes as this will be a complete overhaul. The board of directors welcomes all present and prospective members to attend this meeting and hope for a good turnout. Hope to see you there!

Glen Parker, President
Alberta Sheep Breeders Association
parkerstockfarm@xplornet.com
gkparker@xplornet.com
403-443-7220 home, 403-443-0401 cell

The 3rd Biennial Ultimate Sheep Seminar

October 28th, 2010

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Stettler & District Agricultural Society Pavilion

4615-52 Street Stettler, AB

\$20/person
Lunch Included

Zone 4 Meeting of
Alberta Lamb
Producers to follow
at 3 p.m.
immediately after
seminar



For more information or to register by October 21, 2010 contact,
Kimberly Will, Battle River Research Group @ 1-866-828-6774





ALBERTA LAMB PRODUCERS FALL ROUND UP 2010

MAKE A DATE TO ATTEND YOUR ALP FALL ROUND-UP MEETING

FREE SEMINAR

COMPLIMENTARY MEAL

SEE PAGES 4 TO 6 FOR DETAILS

photo credit: Ian Clark

Pembina Sheep Grazing Symposium



October 29, 2010

10am to 4pm
\$30 per person
Lunch Provided

Ramada Inn
3301-43Ave
Stony Plain AB



- Beth Burritt-(Behavioral Education for Human, Animal, Vegetation, & Ecosystem Management)- Influences in Grazing Behavior
- Lee Sexton-Choosing a Guardian Dog for Your Operation

West Central Forage Association
Box 360
Evansburg AB
T0E0T0

Pre-register by calling:
780-727-4447



Canadian Sheep Federation



Round Table Discussion
Free Symposium
AGM

Calgary, Alberta

Tuesday, November 2nd

Sheep industry round table discussion

Wednesday, November 3rd

Free symposium with complimentary lunch

Thursday, November 4th

CSF AGM

See page 23 for details.

For some producers, a lack of summer grazing pasture holds back expansion and in some cases, reduces flocks. ALP has made approaches to a number of grazing associations for sheep to be included - so far without success. ALP discussed this limitation with John Knapp, Deputy Minister on September 02, and he will request that Public Lands contact us to investigate this issue, especially as we see a reduction in cattle numbers and increased opportunity for sheep industry expansion.



Sheep Calendar

What	Where	When Plus Other Information
Alberta Lamb Producers Workshops	Producer input requested	Producer input requested admin@ablamb.ca or Tel: 403 948 1522
Alberta Sheep Breeders Association AGM	AB Sheep Centre, Airdrie	October 16
Battle River Sheep Seminar	Stettler	October 28 Contact: Kim at 780-582-7308
West Central Forage Association Symposium	Stony Plain	October 29 Contact: Carla at 780-727-4447
ALP Fall Round Up Meetings	All 7 zones	October 23 to November 1
Canadian Sheep Federation Round Table, Producer Symposium and AGM	Radisson Hotel <i>Calgary Airport</i> Calgary, Alberta	November 2, round table • November 3, symposium • November 4, AGM. Contact: jennifer@cansheep.ca Tel: 1 888-684-7739
ALP Directors Meeting	Calgary/Airdrie	November 5
AMAZE-ing Agriculture	Edmonton	November 4 and 5. Volunteers needed. Contact 403-948-1522 or admin@ablamb.ca
Farmfair	Edmonton	November 5 to 14. Volunteers needed. Contact 403-948-1522 or admin@ablamb.ca
Agri-Trade	Red Deer	November 10 to 13. Volunteers needed. Contact 403-948-1522 or admin@ablamb.ca
Farmworks Sheep Management Software Beginner Workshop	To be decided	November Call ALP to advise us of your interest 403-948-1522
2010 Western Canadian Grazing Conference	Vermilion	December 1 to 2. Volunteers needed.
2011 Alberta Sheep Symposium	Leduc	October 22 to 24, 2011



Alberta Lamb Producers 2010

Zone #1 – Norine Moore (Nanton, Pincher Creek, Cardston, Fort Macleod)

Address: Box 203, Stavely, Alberta T0L 1Z0

Cell: 403 625 6119

Phone: 403 549 2464

Fax: 403 549 2465

Email: wnsheep@xplornet.com

Zone #2- John Haarman (Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Manyberries, Milk River)

Address: Box 106, Diamond City AB T0K 0T0

Cell: 403 330 9087

Phone: 403 381 4881

Fax: 403 381 0288

Email: couleviewtixel@caylix.com

Zone #3 – Kathleen Parker (Olds, Calgary, Vulcan, Brooks, Drumheller)

Address: Box 338, Three Hills, AB T0M 2A0

Phone: 403 443 7220

Fax: 403 443 2153

Email: parkerstockfarm@xplornet.com

Zone #4- Irene Rutledge (Wetaskiwin, Red Deer, Coronation, Rocky Mountain House)

Address: Box 61, Monitor, AB T0C 2A0

Cell: 403 575 1454

Phone: 403 577 2382

Fax: 403 577 3348

Email: prutledge@xplornet.com

Zone #5- Bryanna Kumpula (Wainwright, Vegreville, St. Paul, Lloyminster)

Address: Box 1868, Lac La Biche, AB T0A 2C0

Phone: 780 995 6398

Email: bkumpula@gmail.com

Zone #6- Ronald den Broeder (Thorhild, Edmonton, Drayton Valley, Whitecourt)

Address: RR # 3, Barrhead, AB T7N 1N4

Phone/Fax: 780 674 4050

Email: broeder@eronafarms.ca

Zone #7- Phil Kolodychuk (High Level, Grande Prairie, Valleyview, High Prairie)

Address: Box 197, Bluesky, Alberta T0H 0J0

Phone: 780 835 2112

Fax: 780) 835 2181

Email: philk@abnorth.com

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Fax: 403 912- 1455

www.ablamb.ca

www.albertalamb.ca

Call your director or the office to tell us about the workshop or information you need – help us to help you.

Please let your director know you plan to join him/her
for a meal at the ALP Fall Round Up.



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