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## N'ewesletter

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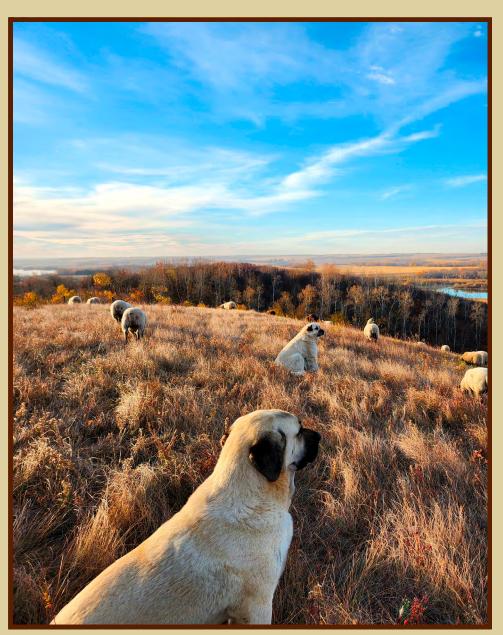


Photo Credit: Ilona Franklin PM#40050072

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## September 2023

Classifieds

**ALP Contacts** 

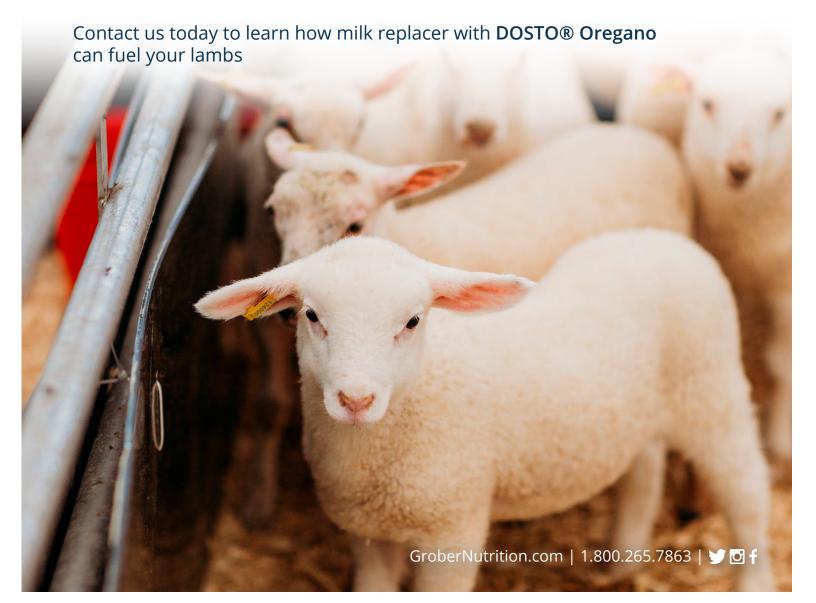
**Sheep Calendar** 



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#### **Alberta Lamb Producers**





Phone: 403-948-8533 Email: info@ablamb.ca Websites: www.ablamb.ca and www.albertalamb.ca



Cover photo: Ilona Franklin

#### N'ewesletter Policy

Hard copies of N'ewesletter will be mailed to all producers who have purchased CSIP tags and paid check-off within the last two years. Producers who have not purchased tags within the last two years will be removed from our mailing list, but may continue receiving hard copies in the mail for \$25 + GST, paid annually. Please contact the office for an invoice. ALP offers each issue of N'ewesletter on our website for free access: link: https://ablamb.ca/index.php/ *news-advertising/n-ewesletter* . ALP continually strives to responsibly use check-off dollars to benefit Lambs producers in Alberta.

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#### Message From the Vice Chair

It's been quite a summer here in Alberta, with lots of rain in the north and not nearly enough in the south. Although we've had rain in our area, the spring drought and wildfires caused hay crops to suffer and will drive up feed prices again, making it another challenging season for producers. On our farm, we tried a summer lambing group which went smoothly, so I'm taking the win, when so much else in farming is out of my control.

This summer I had the good fortune to attend the Summer Synergy Provincial Sheep Show and it is wonderful to see so many youth dedicated to and excited about their sheep. Many of these 4-H kids are the future of our industry and they are exceptional young people. It is very encouraging to see them strive for success.

In ALP news, The Government of Alberta and Agri-Good Canada have reopened the AgriStability program. Until September 29, 2023, Alberta producers can sign up



and access the benefits of AgriStability through AFSC to help manage the effects of the droughts and wildfires this spring and summer. There is more information about the AgriStability program on the ALP website home page. Another support available for producers is AgTalk which is a peer-topeer support platform provided by Do More Aq. Producers needing someone to connect with can receive support from a community of peers who understand the challenges we face and the stress these challenges can cause. AgTalk is available 24/7 and is safe and anonymous. To register or learn more about AgTalk, please visit domore.ag/agtalk.

Producers are also encouraged to register and attend our educational conference and AGM at the Red Deer Resort and Casino on Saturday, November 18, 2023. Because the conference is a paid event, any producer may attend. There are no eligibility requirements for this portion; however, the AGM is for eligible producers only, meaning you must have purchased CSIP tags within the last two years from our August 31 fiscal end.

There will also be a networking event the evening of Friday, November 17, 2023 which is free to attend, but you need to register for it at info@ablamb.ca. This fun event has a fantastic line-up of interesting speakers. We hope to see you there.

Jordan Allen

## From Your Director - Judy Buck

Greetings to all you hard-working sheep producers in Alberta. This will be my last address as my term on the ALP Board is up this fall and I am also retiring from the sheep industry, having reached that magic age of 65. It has been a pleasure to sit on the Board—I have met so many wonderful people and developed relationships that I will always treasure.



During my time on the Board the sheep industry has seen so many challenges, most completely out of the control of producers—drought, floods, feed shortages, drastic increases in feed/equipment costs, depressed lamb prices, plant closure and market uncertainties. Many have faced these challenges stoically but can only endure for so long before a decision has to be made either to downsize or get out of sheep altogether. Kudos to all of you who choose to ride out the storm and continue on—I think someday the sheep industry will be stronger for it.

I'm sure at times it seems like the ALP organization isn't doing much for producers but ALP faces its own challenges; funding is the biggest one as we rely on check-off dollars from tag sales to fund the programs we have in place. As producers continue to leave the industry, ALP income declines and unfortunately the day may come when program cuts will need to be made but we are an innovative bunch and over the years have learned, like producers, to do more with less, and we will continue to support all producers as best we can through the good and the bad. We are proud of what we provide for producers: education (through our YouTube Sheep Central, webinars and all the resources on our website), research (ongoing projects to provide producers with better means to look after their flocks and make day to day operations easier), and advocacy—government bureaucracy is a big challenge. The wheels turn so slowly and the levels of red tape seem to stack up higher with every government change; developed relationships disappear and we start back at square one. There are so many agriculture related organizations (lots that I had never even heard of before I joined the Board) and many meetings are attended by either Board members or our Executive Director on behalf of ALP where we do our utmost to have the voice of the sheep industry heard. We do work hard on your behalf and truly appreciate your support and input. Please remember that we are there for YOU so let us know what you need/want and we will do our best to make it happen if it is within our power to do so.

As I retire and leave the sheep flock behind I wish you all the

very best over the coming years, including lower feed costs, 250% lambing rates and higher lamb prices!

Best Regards, Judy Buck

#### From Your Director - Nicole Schieck

Greetings fellow sheep producers. What a year it has been, full of ups and downs for everyone, but for many struggling in a hard economic situation, there have been some difficult decisions having to be made. I don't think there is one of us who hasn't been impacted by challenging weather, taxes, serious increases to the cost of production, fluctuating lamb prices,



and concerns over feed costs and availability. At the end of the day, there is no shame in saying that something has to change in order to keep you afloat, and for many producers this year, that means either dispersing or downsizing.

For my family and operation, we have decided to put our expansion plans on hold for a few years until feed prices come down again, and cull out hard anything that doesn't fit with our ideal standard of what we want in our flock. Finally, although we will be keeping our best commercials (Dorset and Dorset cross ewes), we will be mostly maintaining our purebred Southdowns since it would be impossible to regain our bloodlines and style that have taken years to build. I've never not had sheep in my whole life, and plan on doing everything in my power to ensure that my farm always has some woolly headaches on four legs kicking around, making me smile and driving my husband crazy!

Looking at the big picture, I personally think that we can expect a few more hard years which will lower our provincial and national ewe flock, but hopefully within the next three to five years things will rebound and those who have had to sell out can get back in the industry, and hopefully bring in a new generation of sheep producers.

Now, to change gears, this will be my last letter here in the *Newesletter* as I will be leaving the board after the AGM in November, after serving as a director for the past four years. It has been an amazing experience, and if any of you have ever thought about expanding your knowledge, meeting an amazing group of people, making a change in the industry, and creating lifelong connections, then I highly recommend joining the board. A two year term flies by, and I can honestly say that when I joined the board in 2019, I had no idea what I was in for. Although it is a volunteer position, it takes everyone to be dedicated to meetings, committees, and events to help move the organisation forward. However, it is worth it to help steer the ALP in the

#### Alberta Lamb Producers



direction it is going, as well as be among the first people to find out about many things such as research opportunities, funding, politics and more.

As my parents told me when I was young, you can't complain about the government if you don't vote, and I believe the same applies to volunteer organisations as well—if you don't think the board is going the right direction, then you should try stepping up to volunteer before you throw stones.

I have been blessed with the connections I have made through ALP and will maintain and keep them, as well as the friendships I have made, for many years to come. Hopefully I will join the board again in the future, but in the meantime, I hope that if you see me judging a 4-H show, at a ram sale, the auction mart, or feed store, you will stop by and say hi. For anyone who has met me, there is nothing I love more than to talk about sheep, and I'm not one to 'pull the wool over your eyes' on any topic!

I wish the best of luck to the incoming board of directors. May you make great strides in pushing the industry forward, and I hope that producers will recognize the great commitment you have made to them and to the future of sheep farming here in Alberta and across the country.

Sheepishly yours, Niki Schieck



#### Alberta Lamb Producers Annual General Meeting

All eligible Alberta Producers are invited to attend the AGM and will be entitled to one vote per producer at the meeting.

ALP is your organization and the AGM provide you with:

- A full transparent review of ALP activities, financial statements and the 2023-24 budget.
- An opportunity for producers to discuss resolutions (brought forward by the deadline of September 15, 2023) and direct ALP activities.

Date and Time: Saturday, November 18, 2023 at 3:00pm

Location: In-person at the Red Deer Resort and Casino, Red Deer, Alberta OR Virtually on the Zoom Platform.

There is no charge to attend ALP's AGM; however, registration is required.\*All of the documents needed for the AGM will be emailed to all registrants and posted on the ALP website when they become available. These documents will include: AGM Agenda

- 2022 AGM Minutes
- 2022-23 Annual Report
- 2022-23 Financial Statements
- Acclaimed Directors Bios

\*AGM Meeting Package will be uploaded to the ALP website when its available.

ALP is hosting our 2023 Annual General Meeting in conjunction with an educational conference for producers at the Red Deer Resort and Casino on Saturday, November 18, 2023.

ALP's 2023 educational conference is a paid event, has no eligibility requirements and is open to anyone to register for and attend. Only eligible Alberta Lamb Producers can register to attend ALP's Annual General Meeting. To be an eligible Alberta Lamb Producer, you need to have purchased CSIP tags within the last two years from our fiscal year end (Aug 31).

There is no registration cost to attend ALP's Networking event (Friday evening) and AGM for our eligible producers; however registration is required. To confirm your eligibility or to register, please email: info@ablamb.ca by November 1, 2023.

For those who wish to register for and attend the educational conference component, you will find the registration form to download, fill out and send in to the ALP office on our website under the "About" heading, and selecting "ALP AGM and Annual Report."

For more information or to register please email info@ablamb. ca or call 403-948-8533.

## Alberta Lamb Producers

## Acclaimed Lamb Producers Director Acclamation for 2023-2024

There were four Director-at-large positions open on the 2023/24 ALP board. Three eligible producers submitted valid nomination forms before the July 31, 2023 deadline to be entered as candidates in the 2023 election. As we received three valid nomination forms for the four Director-at-large positions, no election needs to be held this year. The three nominated producers will be acclaimed to the board at the ALP AGM on November 18, 2023.

Due to Alberta Lamb Producers Plan Regulation AR 263/2001, s. 34 Election of directors, it is clear that the authority for nominations is once a year, so an additional call for nominations in the 2023 calendar year is not aligned with the regulation. Subsection (9) states that if a position is vacant (after following the nomination process), the Commission must, in accordance with section 20, move forward with filling the position by appointment from among eligible producers. ALP followed due process for nominations and would be adhering to our regulation by appointing, as per s. 20 of the regulation, to fill the one vacant position.

ALP will have one Interim Director-at-large position available and will be recruiting to fill the position after the AGM, as per our Plan Regulation.

As mentioned above, ALP is pleased to announce that Jordan Allen and Martin Winchell, who currently sit on the board, and Darlene Hawco will be acclaimed to the board at our AGM on November 18, 2023. Their profiles are below.

Please help us welcome our acclaimed directors to the board.

#### **Acclaimed Directors**

#### Jordan Allen

Contact: 403-923-4858, jordan@ablamb.ca

Jordan Allen, along with her husband Dustin and their three children, own and operate ClaireLee Ranch. Jordan grew up on a cattle ranch/grain farm south of Cochrane. When Jordan and Dustin bought their home and land in 2015, the plan was always to have livestock, but cattle weren't a possibility at the time. In January 2020, their daughter got her first 4-H lambs and they decided that they would like to start a flock. In March 2020, they purchased 30 bred commercial Rambouillet ewes and prepared for lambing that spring. Even though that first lambing was a steep learning curve and very hard work, they loved every minute of it. Now, two years later, they have 120 ewes, have added Suffolk, Ile de France and Rideau Arcott to the flock, and plan to expand their operation over the next few years. Jordan is honoured to sit on the Alberta Lamb Producers Board of Directors and looks forward to meeting other producers as well as acquiring the knowledge she will gain from being in this position.

## Martin (Marty) Winchell Contact: 403-845-2577, martin@ablamb.ca

Marty Winchell is the newest interim board member with ALP. He has been raising, wrestling, fighting, and swearing at sheep since the age of 15. He grew up on a broiler farm in Rocky Mountain House, attended the U of A in Agriculture, and has been working in the ag industry his entire professional life, with stints in the lower mainland and Edmonton before returning to the family farm. Currently working in municipal government, Marty and his wife Cindy (of 25 years) have four kids and a hodge-podge of recreational not for profit animals.

In addition to sheep, the Winchells also have a cow herd, put up hay, and often have a few pigs roaming around.

Always trying to adapt, they have recently made the transition to lambing indoors and have yet to lose a lamb to ravens this year! With the recent improvement in facilities, there is hope they will increase frequency of lambing as well as lambing percentage.

## Darlene Hawco Contact: 780-292-4607, darleneh@ablamb.ca

"I am excited to join the ALP Board and have the opportunity to represent fellow producers here in our amazing province of Alberta.

I feel there is an amazing wealth of knowledge in our industry that we can continue to tap into, to keep supporting and advocating for lamb producers in our province as well as offering opportunities for improvement and innovation.

"My background has not always been in agriculture, as I was born and raised in the City of Edmonton; however, I have always felt that it was in my blood, and I just needed a place to make that magic happen. I have been involved in the agriculture industry through my day-job at UFA in St. Paul for over four years now.

Agriculture has grown from a "job" into a passion. My sheep obsession all began when I had the opportunity to purchase two bottle babies 'Lamb Chop and Molly'. From there, as many others can relate, it just took off, with our flock expanding to approximately 120 breeding ewes. I farm with my boyfriend Vern, who looks after a lot of the tractor work (a skill I am working on). I also have a small cow herd, pigs, horses, and a team of guardian dogs to help me with the sheep.

"The ALP has always been a great source of information for me as I have been learning and expanding my knowledge from my early days to present. I continue to see an ever-growing interest in the lamb industry, and I often find myself turning to ALP for information which I share with other new producers. I have met some amazing people in this industry so far, people who have also been wonderful mentors and have inspired me to be a resource and mentor to others.

#### **Producer Resources**



"I am really looking forward to having a chance to meet with more producers in the industry and see from your perspectives where we, as the ALP, can better serve to make an improved impact on the lamb industry through partnerships, advocacy and advertising. I also see opportunities to collaborate with our industry partners in other provinces that can be of benefit to us all.

"I look forward to gaining your valuable feedback and encourage you to keep taking part in any webinars and seminars offered by ALP and I would also like to invite all of you to our AGM this fall. There are so many ewe-nique ways to be involved in raising sheep; whether you have a herd of 10, 100 or 1000 we can all learn from each other, and I look forward to hearing your comments and ideas."

#### **Lamb and Sheep Update**

Ann Boyda, Provincial Livestock Market Analyst

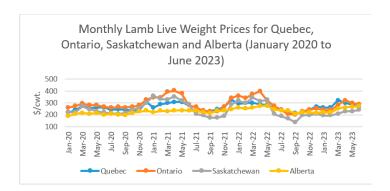
Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation

August 18, 2023

This update looks at sheep and lamb prices, slaughter numbers, and global and U.S. sheep market developments.

#### **Lamb Prices**

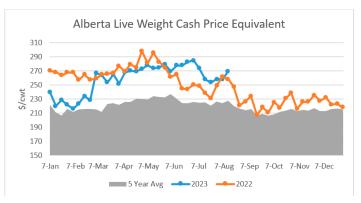
Alberta and Ontario live weight lamb price spreads are narrowing. Alberta live weight lamb prices as reported by Statistics Canada for the period January through June 2023 were \$249.37 per hundredweight, down 4.7 per cent from the same period in 2022. The average June Alberta lamb live weight price has increased by 24 per cent since the start of 2023 and 11 per cent over June 2022. Ontario and Quebec lamb prices were \$277.64 per hundredweight and \$283.51 per hundredweight, respectively, for the same period. These average live lamb prices for Ontario and Quebec represented a drop of 19.5 per cent and 1.3 per cent from the same period in 2022.



Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0077-01 Farm Product Prices, Crops and Livestock

The average year-to-date (January to August 11, 2023) live weight cash price for slaughter lamb was \$258.07 per hundred-

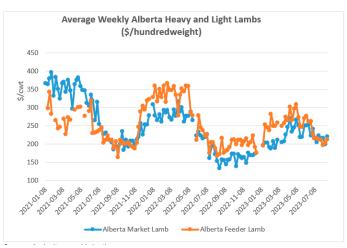
weight, 2.3 per cent lower than that of the same period last year but 15.6 per cent higher than the five-year average. Since May 2023, weekly live cash prices have surpassed prior year weekly



prices.

Source: Agriculture and Irrigation

Price volatility remains at the auction markets. Average weekly auction market prices for the period January 1 through June 9, 2023, were \$222.45 per hundredweight for market lamb and



\$262.07 per hundredweight for feeder lamb, both showing a decline of nearly 20 per cent over the same period last year.

Source: Agriculture and Irrigation

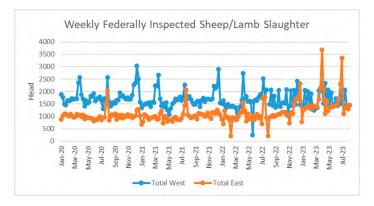
Federal and Provincial Slaughter

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) reports 50,276 lamb and sheep slaughtered in Western Canada (B.C. to Ontario) year-to-date (January 1 through August 4, 2023), an increase of 5.7 per cent compared to the same period in 2022.

Eastern Canada reports an increase in slaughter numbers of 57.5 per cent over the same period. Much of the increase in Eastern slaughter is attributed to spikes in the last weeks of March and June, corresponding with festive celebrations.

Source: CFIA (Image on following page)

### Alberta Producer Resources



For the first six months of 2023, provincial slaughter of 13,821 head was just over 41.8 per cent higher than the same period 2022 and nearly 20 per cent higher than the three-year average.



Source: CFIA and Agriculture and Irrigation

#### **The Global Situation**

The June 2023 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations' Food Outlook report forecasts a marginal increase in global meat production in 2023, led by poultry meat. Ovine meat is forecast to reach 16.8 million tonnes (carcass weight equivalent) in 2023, representing a 1.0 per cent increase over 2022. Global ovine meat production is expected to increase in Australia, China, Turkey and the United Kingdom, and drop in the European Union.

According to the United Nations Statistics Division, China's sheep population is estimated at 175 million head (13.7 per cent of the global total) and continues to grow. It is more than twice that of the second largest producing country, Australia, which has an estimated 75 million sheep. India is estimated to have 54 million sheep, followed by Sudan at 52 million head.

As of August 18, 2023, China was experiencing devasting floods in the central province of Henan, while some areas in the north were gripped with excessive heat and drought. China is also dealing with deflation, which incents the public to save and ultimately slows consumption.

Because of extreme weather vulnerability, the U.S. announced a \$3 billion climate plan that pays incentives to farmers to adopt voluntary climate-friendly farming methods. Although some

supporters say there is an emerging market for climate-smart products, critics argue there is no workable plan to measure and verify the impacts.

R-CALF USA (Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund United Stockgrowers of America), a lobby group, is pushing back on Australian and New Zealand lamb imports and asking for tariffs on lamb imports to help the American sheep industry compete. Their petition claims U.S. domestic production has declined by 60 per cent since the early 1990s. Today, 74 per cent of the lamb consumed in the U.S. is imported.

Recent indicators point to an improvement in U.S. lamb supply. U.S. domestic slaughter is up from a year ago and imports are down. This may provide support for better prices going forward. Even with the Easter season over, U.S. lamb slaughter is up 5.5 per cent compared to last year. USDA has reported lamb and mutton June production at 10.9 million pounds, down five per cent from June 2022. Slaughter for June was at 177,300 head, up two per cent from last year, while the average live weight of 122 pounds was down nine pounds from a year ago. U.S. slaughter is expected to decline seasonally.

Prices for U.S. three-market (Colorado, South Dakota, and Texas) slaughter lambs (100 to 150 pounds) showed an upward trend through 2023. Prices climbed to US\$208 per hundredweight by the first week of July and are at US\$183.60 per hundredweight in mid-August.

The U.S. Livestock Marketing Information Center (LMIC) forecasts stronger prices, with feeder lamb prices about three to four per cent higher and slaughter lamb prices up 30 per cent.



Source: Livestock Marketing Information Center

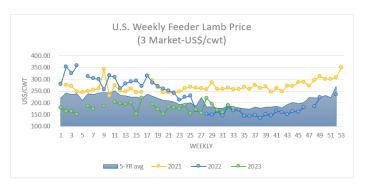
U.S. weekly feeder lamb prices show comparable trends. Although the year-to-date (January 1 to August 18, 2023) average feeder price of US\$179.56 per hundredweight is nearly 30 per cent lower than the same period last year, the average price since July (US\$181.26 per hundredweight) is nearly 13 per cent higher than same period last year.

Source: Livestock Marketing Information Center (following page)

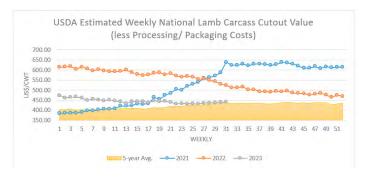
The lamb carcass cutout value represents the estimated value of a lamb carcass based on the prices paid for individual items.

#### **Producer Resources**





The lamb carcass cutout value less processing and packaging costs continues to decline, averaging US\$445.20 per hundredweight year-to-date (January to August 4, 2023), 23.4 per cent lower than same period in 2022 and nearing the five-year average prices (2018 to 2022).



Source: Livestock Marketing Information Center

Consumer demand is driven by consumer incomes, as well as prices of other protein substitutes and taste and preferences. During the pandemic, government assistance contributed to consumer income to help weather the impact. Post-pandemic, incomes have tightened and in combination with inflation and higher interest rates, consumer spending is expected to decline. Lamb is not immune. Prospect for lamb producer prices are expected to remain more stable, but cutout values may feel further pressures.

#### Producer Spotlight: From Our Producer's **Perspective**

Have you ever thought of yourself as a farm journalist?

ALP has introduced a new producer spotlight section in our quarterly N'ewesletters, to let our producers get to know one another and learn about the vast number of sheep operations we have here in Alberta.

So, we want to hear from "ewe." Would you like to write a small (or big) article for us explaining about your business and what you do? Some ideas could include:

Your farming operation: for example, number of animals, time in the industry, breeds, system (intensive vs extensive). Boast about what you do best. It doesn't matter if you have 10 sheep or 10,000.

Choose your own personal angle. What are you passionate about within the sheep industry? Why did you join the industry and what interests you about it? Talk about it; it can be anything—innovation, wool, breeding, feed, medication vs holistic, machinery, tips and tricks, whatever tweaks your interest.

What are your plans for the future in the sheep industry? Is there something you want to see happen in the industry? Do you have personal goals you want to achieve on your farm?

These articles are all about you and your operations. We want to use them as a way to encourage producer networking, asking questions and learning from each other about what we all do best—sheep farming. The more we can share as an industry, the stronger we can become.

The deadline to submit intent to write for each N'ewesletter edition will be the following\*:

Winter Edition: November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023

Please express your interest to us at <a href="mailto:info@ablamb.ca">info@ablamb.ca</a> or call 403-948-8533.

\*If there are multiple submissions for each edition, we will put names into a random, computer-generated draw. We will reach out to let producers know who the winner is. You can apply for as many editions as you like. Please note, from the submission date above, you will have one month to write and submit your article back to ALP for proofreading and formatting.

#### **Producer Spotlight**

My name is Emily Herder and my husband Logan and I run Spring Herd Farms in Central Alberta with our three small children.



In the last two years, we have grown to love and appreciate being new sheep producers.

Our entrance to sheep started innocently enough when we purchased two bottle lambs from a neighbour as an initiative to involve our kids. This quickly developed into a growing love

### Alberta Producer Resources

as we purchased our first 25 Canadian Arcott ewe lambs four months later and we now have a flock of just under 90 sheep.

It did not take us long to realize that sheep fit well into our family and farming operation. With both my husband and me working off farm, we appreciated the flock manageability compared to cattle when navigating daily tasks, especially with only one of us home and three small children tagging behind. Not only that, but with our land mass of only 80 acres, we were able to utilize our land more appropriately with sheep as compared to cattle – especially rotational grazing.



We have enjoyed all seasons of having sheep but we especially love lambing. Navigating off-farm jobs and a growing family can add to both the joys and trials of farm life, but we do our best to mitigate the chaos and incorporate our mixed roles as much as possible. It is our firm belief that farm life is the best way of life and we work hard to involve our children as much as possible in every step of our adventure. For us, that means



high chairs and snack bins in the barn, pull kits ready for little hands to grab, and walkie talkies and bells pinned to the back of shirts to keep track of everyone. We do our best to be prepared and organized beforehand so the busy seasons can be enjoyed as much as possible. Fortunately, I work parttime as an RN so many of the processes we use at the hospital can be replicated in the barn.

We aim to set our standards and expectations high on the farm as we continue to pursue new knowledge and approaches. Utilizing every education opportunity, we continue to challenge and improve our flock management. We aim to use these practices to set up fellow producers for success as they purchase from us – sending each of our animals with documentation detailing all of the care and specifics used to raise them. This includes everything from their bloodlines to birth weights and diet progressions. We pay close attention to detail and believe that this is a valuable asset to those purchasing our livestock.



We are blessed to have been guided by strong mentors, professionals and friends in the sheep community. Their investment has helped us continue to grow as producers and expand our farm. We are grateful for their kindness and expertise and use this as a catalyst to continue to share our knowledge and experience with others. We fundamentally believe that we rise stronger when we rise together and that has been a mandate as we share our farm on social media (@spring.herd.farms) and our podcast "The Herd Community" on Spotify. In my opinion, we need to support small producers who navigate tighter financial, time and manpower commitments in order to push the industry to continue to grow further. Our offering of agriculture engagement and education allows us an opportunity to network and meet new producers across Canada – sharing ideas and processes in a constructive manner.

What I have found to be true on our journey into becoming sheep producers is that shepherding stands alone in its defini-

#### **Producer Resources**





tion of farming. The livestock require more attention to detail and effective management strategies, but open up the barn to family involvement and experiences that larger animals cannot. Beyond the farm, the sheep industry shines in its ability to provide encouragement and comradery to its members, united in its desire to push sheep marketability at each level across the country. We look ahead to our future as sheep producers with anticipation and excitement. Please feel free to reach out anytime as we love to see our sheep circle grow - springherdfarms2014@gmail.com. Cheers to a group of fellow strong producers.

Sincerely, **Emily** 

#### **Farmer Wellness Resource**

## Exciting News! Introducing AgTalk: Your 24/7 Support Plat-

We're thrilled to share that this summer the Do More Agriculture foundation has launched AgTalk, a peer-to-peer support platform powered by Togetherall. AgTalk is available 24/7 to those 16+ who live, work and play in the Canadian agricultural industry. The platform provides a safe and anonymous space for individuals to connect, share, and receive support from a community of peers who truly understand their unique experiences.

We understand that mental health journeys are deeply personal, and everyone progresses at their own pace. AgTalk is designed to support individuals in their next steps toward improving their mental wellbeing, allowing them to share and connect when they are ready. The clinically moderated environment provides an added layer of support and wellbeing for our community.

This platform, powered by Togetherall, provides a free and secure environment for open discussions on mental health, both



in English and French. To register or learn more, please visit domore.ag/agtalk.

#### **Environmental Conditions Affecting Plants Grazed by Sheep**

Article by: Katrina Gallan

Some plants that are not normally toxic may become dangerous after stressful weather events such as drought, hail or frost, as well as after seasonal changes. Understanding the impact these changes have on plants can protect the flock from potentially fatal outcomes.

Producers often grow concerned about nitrates after a hailstorm or hard frost, yet nitrate toxicity can be experienced during drought, prolonged cool/cloudy days, after fertilizer treatments, or disease. Droughts and cool weather block the plants' photosynthesis process, and result in an accumulation of nitrates. Although sheep are less susceptible to nitrate poisoning than cattle, it is something to be aware of. Nitrate toxicity can be an issue when feeding annual forages such as oats, barley, wheat, etc., after the plants have been stressed. Nitrate toxicity doesn't affect rangelands and pastures. However, pastures that contain nitrate-accumulating weeds (kochia, lambs quarter, pigweed, quack grass, and thistle) may pose a threat. Annual plants are more susceptible to a build-up of nitrates as they are usually planted in soil with higher nitrogen levels. It is advised to avoid grazing pastures where nitrates are high, after using nitrogen fertilizer, early in the mornings, or turning out animals on a young pasture as nitrates are more condensed in younger plants. Producers can increase the amount of carbohydrates in the diet to reduce the risk of nitrate poisoning because it can help to convert nitrates to proteins faster. Producers should get their feed and hay tested to know the nitrate levels [3, 4]. Producers can also purchase nitrate testing kits so they can test their forages on site and receive quick results.

Symptoms of nitrate poisoning include drowsiness, weakness, muscle tremors, increased heart rate, increased respiratory rate, staggering, recumbency, abortions, and death. If nitrate poisoning is suspected, remove the flock from the affected food

## Alberta And Producer Resources

source and minimize stress. A veterinarian should be contacted for further action [2].

After a killing frost, it is advised to wait five to seven days before grazing or harvesting annual cereal grains [1]. After a non-killing frost, it is advised to wait 14 days before turning the flock onto the pasture. Producers are advised to get their feed tested for nitrates to manage accordingly.

Weather changes can affect perennial legumes. Grazing alfalfa is generally safe for sheep, as long as there are other forage plants for them to eat. Frost can increase the risk for bloat with alfalfa and other bloat-causing legumes as the frost can rupture the plant cells, resulting in an increase in the small plant wall fragments, which increases the bloat risk. As long as the forage remains green, there is a bloat risk after a frost. To reduce bloat risk, a killing frost of -9 °C for at least a week, along with time to dry down the alfalfa, is required.

Nitrate poisoning can be prevented if producers can identify sources of poisoning and removing their flock from those resources. This includes identifying nitrate accumulating weeds, avoiding recently fertilized soils and young pastures, testing forages for nitrate levels, adding carbohydrates to the flock's ration, and understanding how environmental changes affect the plants nitrate levels.

#### References:

("Harvesting and Grazing Forages Following a Frost | OSU Sheep Team" n.d.; "Nitrate and Oxalate Poisoning | OSU Sheep Team" n.d.; "Nitrate Poisoning and Feeding Nitrate Feeds to Livestock" n.d.; "Test Forages for Nitrate Before Grazing or Feeding — Extension and Ag Research News" n.d.)

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- Nitrate Poisoning and Feeding Nitrate Feeds to Livestock (July 1991). [Online] Available: https://open.alberta. ca/dataset/64f872db-21d1-4545-a2ea-f6420ff7b5be/resource/e702330a-a122-4edb-bf5d-1d6c947e0a16/download/1991-400-60-1.pdf/ [2023. Aug. 8]
- 4. Test Forages for Nitrate Before Grazing or Feeding Extension and Ag Research News (n.d.). [Online] Available: https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/news/newsreleases/2021/june-21-2021/test-forages-for-nitrate-before-grazing-or-feeding [2023 Jul. 13].



#### Why is Premises Identification Important?

Premises Identification (PID) links livestock and poultry to a geographical location or premises. A PID number is a nine character unique identifier (in Alberta, a PID number starts with 'AA', 'AB', or 'AT') assigned to a specific premises when the geographical location is registered in a PID account.

PID is an important tool that is used to plan for, control, and prevent the spread of livestock and poultry disease. It can also be used as an early warning system to notify people registered in the PID system of an animal disease or natural disaster (such as a flood or fire) that could affect their animals or operations. Having accurate animal locations, contact information and other key data in one system is critical for a quick and effective emergency response.

Without the correct information or absence of information in the PID system, notifications and responses may be delayed or never reach you.

For example, when email notifications are sent out from Alberta's Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian to contacts in the PID system for a specific species, operation and/or premises, PID accounts without an email address or an out-of-date email address won't get the notification.

#### **Producer Resources**



Sheep owners require a PID number to:

Buy medication for their animals at retail outlets

Complete documents such as manifests and permits

Sell livestock at auction markets

Buy Canadian Sheep Identification Program (CSIP) ear tags

Apply for some government agriculture grants and programs

The proposed amendments to Part XV of the federal Health of Animals Regulations include the requirement to provide the PID number for the site of departure and site of destination when transporting livestock. This is anticipated to be in effect in 2025.

Obtain a PID account if you are in care and control of livestock and/or poultry

If you are in care and control of livestock, poultry or other animals in captivity (excluding cats and dogs) and the animals are kept at your premises, you need to apply for a PID account and obtain at least one PID number.

Animal owners can register additional premises in the PID system. This will ensure they are notified if an emergency happens in the area of these premises and they have species and/or operations that are affected. This is particularly important when those premises are located away from the main operation. If you have multiple parcels with only your animals, in most cases



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- Grain Self Feeders
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- Kidding Panels

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- -Feed flow adjustable without wrenches
- -Made of 14 ga material fully welded
- -Easily moved on skids
- -Creep panels may be attached

these parcels can be linked together and one PID number assigned.

If you operate a commingling site (e.g. boarding stable, community pasture, fair ground, etc.), you are required to obtain a PID account, register all your commingling sites and provide the PID number(s) to the users of your site(s).

Your information is protected under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act) and the Animal Health Act (AHA).

Keep your PID information current

Effective emergency response and the ability to protect your animals depends on accurate information. It is important that you update your PID account when there are changes (contact information, animal types and capacity, etc.) or if you no longer have livestock on your premises. Inaccurate and outdated information can put your animals at risk during an emergency by delaying notification from emergency responders.

To review/update your PID information, to create a new PID account or to simply learn more about PID:

Visit www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises

Call 310-FARM (3276)

#### **Industry Events**

The 2022-23 Board of Directors has acknowledged the importance of ALP board members attending more industry/producer-initiated events across the province, providing ALP with the opportunity to engage more directly with producers outside of ALP related workshops and meetings.

Some of the events attended this year were the annual sheep/ ram sales, sheep producer meetings, and various workshops.

ALP understands the importance of producer engagement and has decided to continue with increasing ALP presence at the 2022-23 industry/producer events.

Our intent is to improve our connection with producers and continue to develop communication strategies to maintain and enhance producer engagement. If there is an event you would like to see an ALP Director attend, please email the office at: info@ablamb.ca.



Our products are available directly from us at Zubot Welding, through all the Peavey Mart stores, CCWG in Lethbridge AB, Keddies Tack and Western Wear in Grande Prairie AB, the Sask Sheep Development Board, Saskatoon, SK and Central AB Ag Supplies from Stettler.

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## Morinville Colony

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## We have recently purchased superior breeding stock

#### Rams

From the BC Classic 2023

Reserve Champion Dorset - Briar Glen 4K Champion Suffolk ram lamb - Sheep Lake Karl 3L Their exceptional genetics will be reflected in the quality of our sales stock.

From the Humboldt, SK Sale 2023

Canadian Champion Arcott ram lamb from Struck Sheep Farm

From the Rockin S Sale 2023 (Patty Smith, SK)

Highest selling British Suffolk ram, Rockin S Lincoln 4R British Suffolk ram, Rockin S Hesston 8K

From the Todd Sheep Sale 2023, ON

Highest selling Suffolk Todd TK88K. This ram lamb has Australian bloodlines. He continues to mature showing his excellent type.

\*Suffolk ram, Maple Star Jackpot 930J, purchased last year at the Quebec Purebred Sheep Breeders' Elite Sale, has developed into a superior ram. He was the high selling Suffolk at the Elite Sale, and probably the highest selling Canadian ram in 2022. We are using him for the first time this year.\*

#### **Ewes**

From the BC Classic 2023

**Grand Champion Ile de France and Supreme Champion ewe - Wrangler 240K.** She will not be bred this year to allow her to mature to her full potential.

Two British Suffolk ewes from the Rockin S Sale 2023, and anther Rockin S ewe, who was Grand Champion Suffolk ewe at the Humboldt, SK Sale 2023.

Another superior Suffolk ewe (Michigan US bloodlines) from the Todd Sheep Sale 2023, ON. All are being exposed to Todd TK88K.

#### We have high expectations for our 2024 lamb crop!

Our ram lambs selected for this sale are looking really good. Our highest weighing ram was 185 lb. at the beginning of August. What will he weight at sale date!

Breeding season has started. Rams are now out. We have rams for sale by private treaty.

Contact: John Wurz, morinvillecolony@gmail.com - 780.818.9634 Albert Wurz - 780.691.3423

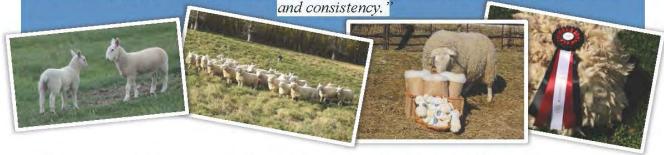
Visitors are welcome by appointment

## 



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- Controlled, calculated breeding groups
- Careful selection of genetic outcrossing

#### Consistency of Breeding Stock

- Structural conformation
- Soundness, correctness
- Breed character, uniformity

#### Breeding Stock Available

We want to thank our existing client base for the business over the years. We will have 2023 breeding stock available this fall.



Yearling Isle of Skye Cheviot Ram



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- Basic cost effective unit with extra options such as weigh kit, wheels, panels, gates, etc.
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- Eliminate pail feeding and panic eating
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- Maintain healthy rumen pH
- Reduce labour inputs



#### Update for Alberta Livestock Producers Impacted by Draught

Please see below the letter from Hon. RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, regarding support for livestock producers impacted by drought.

August 21, 2023

Dear Stakeholders:

The 2023 growing season has been difficult for many Alberta farmers and ranchers, with compounded challenges including hot, dry weather, wildfires, grasshoppers and more, These events have significantly affected the ability to grow forages for grazing and winter feed production and hindered many producers' ability to procure feed for their livestock.

As you are aware, in early July we asked the federal government to work with us on an AgriRecovery assessment to address the impacts of the hot, dry weather on livestock producers in Alberta.

We are working closely with the federal government to expedite next steps and maximize cost-shared federal funding, which is critical to ensuring the program provides the maximum benefit to producers. I will continue to emphasize the urgent need here in our province for a Canada-Alberta joint response.

In the meantime, the province is moving ahead with drafting program eligibility to help offset extraordinary costs of feeding livestock to maintain the breeding herd. For example, extraordinary costs may include feed and transportation costs related to hauling feed or animals. Eligible animals would need to be located in Alberta, and may include grazing animals such as cattle, bison, horses, elk, yak, deer, llamas, alpacas, sheep and goats. Extraordinary costs could be compensated using a feed need calculation, similar to the 2021 Canada-Alberta Livestock Feed Assistance program,

I expect to have updates for you in mid-September. Thank you for your understanding as we work through this process.

Sincerely,

Honourable RJ Sigurdson

Minister, Agriculture and Irrigation

When more information becomes available mid-September, ALP will be circulating the information with producers.

#### **CSBA Scholarship Opportunity**

Annually, the Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association offers a \$500 scholarship to a student enrolled in a post-secondary educational institution. The scholarship is geared towards students actively involved in the sheep industry. See their website for more information at www.sheepbreeders.ca

## ASBA Sheila Stephen Memorial Scholarship

The Stephen family had a long history in the sheep industry in Canada. Sheila Stephen, daughter of long-time sheep breeders Bill and Marian Stephen of the Strathmore area, was killed in a tragic industrial accident in May of 1999. The Memorial scholarship is for young sheep producers pursuing post-secondary education.

Sheila's grandfather Jock Stephen came to Canada from Scotland in 1921. In 1926 he secured a shepherd position on the CPR farm in Tilley, Alberta.

In 1935 the CPR moved his family to the CPR farm near Strathmore after they sold the Tilley farm to the Eastern Irrigation District. The farm was home to at least 100 ewes each of registered Suffolk and registered Hampshires.



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## Industry Information Alberta lamb

Stud Suffolk rams were imported from England and the Hampshires from the USA. The Stephens' sheep travelled to many shows and sales. Each fall about 40 rams were sent to the Salt Lake ram sale in Odgen, Utah (a prestigious sale in western North America) where they sold very well. Jock was also successful at the Royal Winter Fair, winning many classes.

In 1944, the CPR sold the livestock from the Strathmore farm. The purebred Percheron horses, Yorkshire pigs and Holstein cattle were dispersed, as well as other livestock and sheep. Harry Viner bought the sheep farm and the sheep. The sheep eventually were sold to Phil Rock of Rockville stock farm.

Jock's son Bill Stephen followed his father's footsteps, and after marrying Marian they became well known for their solid, sturdy and dependable lines of north country Cheviots and Suffolks.

They were also successful at the various shows in Canada. Bill was also asked to judge shows in western Canada.

Sheila, Bill and Marian's daughter, learned showmanship and other shepherding skills from her parents and was preparing to take a more active role in the farm when her tragic accident ended her life in 1999.

When Sheila died, the need to emphasize youth in agriculture became apparent. The Alberta Sheep Breeders Association took donations in her memory and the "Sheila Stephen memorial scholarship" was started.

#### **How to Apply**

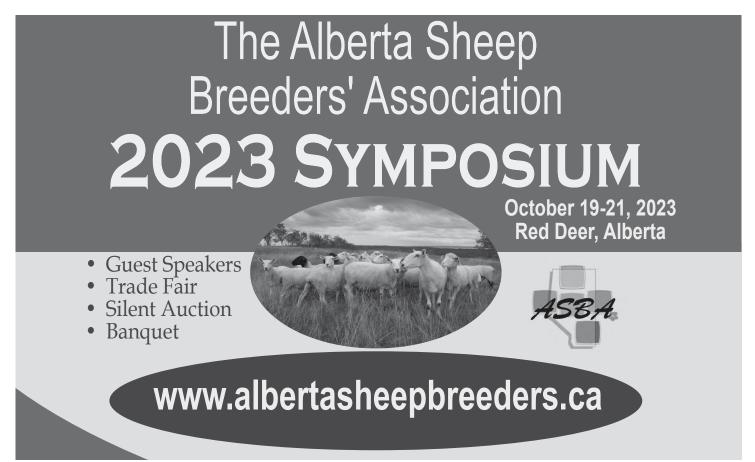
To apply for the ASBA Scholarship:

- 1) Apply online (https://albertasheepbreeders.ca/scholarshipsand-awards)
- 2) Fill out the application form as requested below.
- 3) Submit the completed application form, and attach a recent digital photo (at least 2 MB), and a recent transcript. The application Deadline for 2023 Scholarship is September 30, 2023.

The Alberta Sheep Breeders' Association would like to acknowledge the generous sponsors who make the ASBA Memorial Scholarship possible.

The ASBA Memorial Scholarship maintains its fund through the proceeds of the Silent auction held biannually at the ASBA Symposium. Items for the auction are generously donated by industry members and producers. It is through the auction of the donated items that the Memorial Scholarship Fund is maintained and the awards presented.

If you would like to make a donation to the Memorial Scholarship Silent Auction please contact the ASBA office either by e-mail at office@albertasheepbreeders.ca or by phone at 866-967-4337.



## Alberta Alberta Industry Information

## Watch for It! Sheep/Goat Vegetation Management Accreditation

Year two of Lakeland College's partnership with Alberta Lamb Producers and the Alberta Goat Association is wrapping up. The team successfully obtained an Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) grant in 2022 through the Rangeland Sustainability Program to develop a Sheep/Goat Vegetation Management Accreditation Program.

A series of vegetation management modules is being developed for Alberta sheep and goat producers to learn best practices for grazing forages under typical and unique situations, forming a vegetation management accreditation program. Stakeholders requiring or offering vegetation management services using livestock would benefit from these resources for contract and partnership development purposes.

Sheep and goats provide land stewards with a unique opportunity to graze areas that cattle cannot access, and they consume plants that cattle find unpalatable. Resources that provide the details necessary to successfully graze sheep or goats and maintain forage health under typical and novel circumstances are limited for flock managers. These typical and uncommon grazing situations include invasive weeds, solar farms, low-quality marginal lands, forests, inner city vegetation control, and powerline cut blocks.

With the content generated, Katrina Gallan, a summer student of Dr. Susan Markus with Lakeland College, is transferring the information into the D2L format that will become an online accreditation program through Lakeland College.

The modules will educate flock owners and serve as a go-to resource for comprehensive grazing and sheep/goat manage-

ment under specific situations. The project will engage land and animal stakeholders to balance and show both perspectives and needs related to vegetation management.

In addition to the content Alberta has developed, Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) has successfully obtained funds for a yearlong project through the Amplifying Research Impact Fund. In partnership with the University of Guelph and Alberta Lamb Producers, OSF is developing a course for Canadian farmers interested in offering grazing services to other farmers and businesses requiring vegetative management.

The course will be offered as a second stage to the content developed in Alberta for producers to learn about the basics of grazing management and forage nutrition.

The Grazing Management business development course, entitled "Grazing for Hire," will address contract writing, fencing, transportation, animal welfare, tips for working in the public eye, marketing ideas, and a financial plan. Each producer will finish the course with a custom business plan for the grazing business they plan to launch.

When the programs are available, ALP will communicate with its members. Be sure to watch for more information about these learning opportunities in the future.

## Olds College Sheep Parasite and Feed Efficiency Project

Technologies to improve sheep production efficiency - Measuring feed efficiency and early detection of parasitic infection

Feed cost accounts for 45-80% of sheep production expenses. Research results from beef studies suggest that selecting feed-



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## Industry Information Alberta (amb Frame)

efficient animals could result in a 10-12% decline in feed intake, a 25-30% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and a 15-17% reduction in nutrient loss. Current practices for measuring feed efficiency in ruminants are costly and require a lengthy trial (40-90 days) to measure individual daily feed intake and weight of the animals. Furthermore, despite promising results in cattle, research on sheep feed efficiency is lacking.

Another important factor affecting sheep production is parasite infections, which adversely affect sheep through reduced weight gain, lower immunity, and increased susceptibility to miscarriage at preclinical stages. The current diagnosis methods rely on passive observation of clinical symptoms to detect the infection, even though at this point the infection is typically untreatable, and the animal is culled. Production losses at the subclinical stage and the expense of diagnosis and treatment at the clinical stage both contribute to the increased cost of production.

The Technology Access Centre for Livestock Production (TACLP) at Olds College is a research and innovation centre that supports the livestock industry in Alberta and beyond. The TACLP provides access to cutting-edge facilities, equipment, expertise and training for producers, entrepreneurs, students and researchers, and it aims to enhance animal health, welfare, productivity and sustainability through applied research, technology development and knowledge transfer.

Currently, the TACLP is conducting a research project to identify and quantify a panel of predictive blood biomarkers for feed efficiency and sheep parasite infection using genomics and metabolomics technologies. Two feeding trials with 80 lambs were planned to be conducted in sequence from June to October, 2023. Lambs began a feed efficiency test using the Vytelle SENSE feeding systems in June, 2023. Following this test, they will then be randomly assigned to different parasitic (barber's pole worm) treatments from August to October. Blood and tissue samples will be collected for metabolomics and genomics analysis, respectively. Hamza Jawad and Olufemi Osonowo, both students from Dalhousie University, are working with the TACLP on this project and will utilize the results to fulfill their graduate study requirements.

The approach outlined in this study aims to revolutionize the detection of parasitic infection in sheep by focusing on early detection through the use of blood biomarkers. By identifying sheep that test positive for these biomarkers, the industry could selectively administer anthelmintic drugs to specifically targeted individuals, regardless of their infection levels. This shift towards targeted treatment is expected to significantly reduce the development of parasite resistance, in addition to minimizing the costs associated with anthelmintic purchases. Furthermore, the TACLP intends to develop and optimize standard operating procedures required for measuring feed efficiency in sheep, something that does not currently exist for the industry. Finally, genomic and metabolomic analysis of sheep feed efficiency may open the door to future testing op-

tions for identifying more efficient animals without requiring lengthy, expensive trials at a testing facility.

The lambs are currently on test at Olds College, with the expected completion later this year in October. Trial results and preliminary findings are anticipated by spring of 2024. Any questions or inquiries can be directed to Dr. Yaogeng Lei, Research Associate with the TACLP (ylei@oldscollege.ca).

#### **Underused Housing Tax - Important Information for Farmers**

The Underused Housing Tax (UHT) Act implements an annual 1% tax on the value of vacant and underused residential properties directly or indirectly owned by those who are not permanent residents or Canadian citizens. It became effective Jan. 1, 2022, and the first tax return for year-end Dec. 31, 2022, is due at the end of April 2023.

CFA would like to urge its members to distribute the following information to its members, as all Canadian farm corporations, farm partnerships or trusts that own residential property will HAVE to file a UHT this year, even if they are exempt from paying the tax. Detailed information on the UHT can be found https://www.bdo.ca/en-ca/insights/tax/canadian-tax/ underused-housing-tax-and-farming/?fbclid=IwAR1n8YVC0g 4wwA1fwhjSkf6B 9l64vHqqsWqlsZ9PQmOl4KY 3xUuYXOo7c

The application of penalties and interest under the UHTA for the 2022 calendar year will be waived for any late-filed underused housing tax (UHT) return and for any late-paid UHT payable, provided the return is filed or the UHT is paid by October 31, 2023.

This transitional relief means that although the deadline for filing the UHT return and paying the UHT payable is still April 30, 2023, no penalties or interest will be applied for UHT returns and payments that the CRA receives before November 1, 2023. Learn more here: https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/ news/newsroom/tax-tips/tax-tips-2023/underused-housingtax-penalties-and-interest-waived.html

Click here for a Q&A on the UHT: https://www.canada.ca/en/ revenue-agency/services/forms-publications/publications/ uhtn15/questions-answers-underused-housing-tax.html

CFA is seeking an exemption to the UHT for agricultural businesses in the future to reduce the administrative burden of this tax. While CFA is seeking long-term solutions for this issue, our efforts will most likely not impact the current tax year, so we still encourage producers follow the guidance laid out below.

How does the UHT impact your farming operation?

If you operate your farm through a Canadian corporation or Canadian partnership and it owns a residential property, you will be required to file a UHT return even if no UHT is owed due to

## Alberta Art Industry Information

applicable exemptions noted below. If you do not file, the late filing penalty will apply.

Let's look at the example of a Canadian corporation carrying a cash crop operation. The corporation is 100% owned by Canadian citizens and possesses several residential homes on its farms. This corporation is required to file a UHT return. It would be exempt from the UHT as a Specified Canadian Corporation, but the UHT return must still be filed to claim the exemption. It could be subject to a \$10,000 penalty if it does not file a UHT return on time. This penalty would apply for each year a UHT return is required and not filed by the April 30 deadline.

How much is the UHT?

The UHT on vacant or underused residential property is 1% of the home's taxable value or 1% of its most recent sale price, whichever is greater. Owners can also file an election between Jan. 1 and April 30 of the following calendar year to use the property's fair market value (FMV) to determine the owing UHT and if they can obtain an appraisal. If two or more individuals hold title to a property, each owner will be responsible for the UHT based on their ownership interest.

What are the UHT filing requirements and penalties?

Failure to file a UHT return by April 30 of the following year, when required, could result in a penalty of at least \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for other entities, such as Canadian corporations, partnerships, and trusts.

If an owner qualifies for an exemption but is not an excluded owner, the UHT return still must be filed, even if an exemption applies and no UHT is owed. The penalty for late filing will apply.

What should farm owners do next?

The UHT has received little attention since it became law, as many Canadians believe it simply does not apply to them—but the law affects a broad range of property owners. Countless numbers of farm corporations and farm partnerships across

this country will have an obligation to file a UHT return, even if they owe no UHT. Non-filing can result in substantial financial penalties.

If you are concerned the UHT may apply to your farm operation, contact your advisors for guidance.

## Have you Been Looking for a Listing of the Following Industry Contacts:

- Markets for your lambs and sheep
- Sheep feed, equipment and supplies
- Shearers
- · Wool buyers and depots
- Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers (CCWG)-Distributor of CSIP tags for AB
- Veterinarians
- Feed and water testing laboratories
- Sheep value chain roundtable resource catalogue

All of these contact lists are available on the ALP website under the Industry Info tab, Industry Contacts or <a href="https://ablamb.ca/index.php/industry-information/industry-contacts">https://ablamb.ca/index.php/industry-information/industry-contacts</a>

Disclaimer: ALP in no way endorses the service providers or their services listed.

While care has been taken to ensure that the contact information in these lists is as accurate and as up-to-date as possible, ALP cannot be held responsible for missed information or errors. Please contact ALP for any corrections or changes.





## Albers Lamb Company Buying:



odan Lamba Fat Lamba Cull

Feeder Lambs, Fat Lambs, Cull Sheep

**Contact: ROGER ALBERS** 

780 - 777 - 7416

alberslamb@hotmail.com

www.alberslambandgoat.ca



### Thank you to the 2023 Buyers You Make Our Sale a Success!

Keho Lake Colony Jordan Bell Spring Valley Colony

Standoff Colony Farming Co Ltd Carmangay Colony Doug King

Cayley Colony Farming Co Ltd Micah Kropf Grady Strath CSpring Farming Co Ltd Jason Struck Livingstone Colony

Daniel Ecker **Lomond Colony** Thompson Colony

Ewelme Farming Co Ltd David Mastine Gordon Turner Farms Ltd.

Four Seasons Farms McNab Cattle Co Ltd Van Driel Farms Ltd

Granum Colony Farming Co Ltd Jordan Preston Waterton Colony

R Lil Sheep Farm Chris Wehlage Tyler Haraga West Excelamb Inc.

Hejo Farms Rosicky Ranch Don Horkoff Derek & Shilo Sager White Lake Colony

Jessica Shepherd Gary Hutton Yetwood Farms Ltd

Charles Iwan Spring Point Colony

- \* High selling ram: Suffolk ram, Jumbo Valley 339K from the Greidanus family was purchased by Granum Farming Co. for \$3900.
- \* High Volume buyer: West Excelamb Inc, Iron Springs, AB with the purchase of 41 rams.
- \* Charity: 2 ewe lambs donated by Standoff Colony Farming Co. Ltd. raised a total of \$12,200 for STARS.

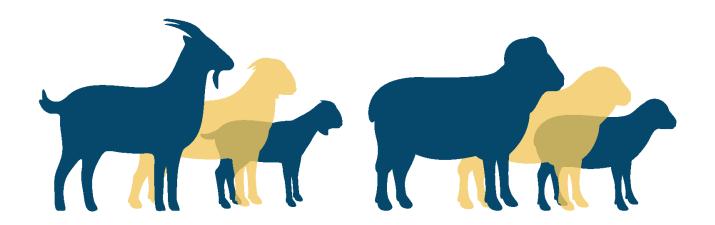
www.poundmakerrams.com and Pound Maker Rams on Facebook

## SCRAPIE SURVEILLANCE

HELP KEEP CANADA'S SHEEP AND GOATS HEALTHY

HAS A GOAT OR SHEEP (12 MONTHS OR OLDER) DIED ON YOUR FARM?

Have your dead goats and sheep tested for scrapie



SUPPORT THE FUTURE HEALTH OF CANADA'S SHEEP AND GOATS BY GETTING YOUR ANIMALS TESTED FOR SCRAPIE



To arrange for testing, contact your local <u>CFIA district office</u>.

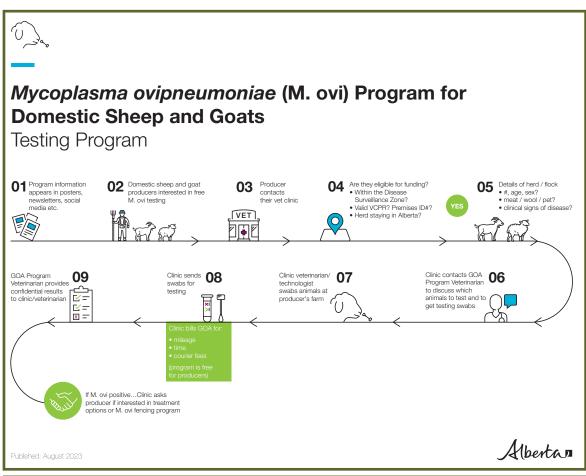
Email <u>scrapie@inspection.gc.ca</u> or call 1-800-442-2342 to confirm the location of your local CFIA district offce.

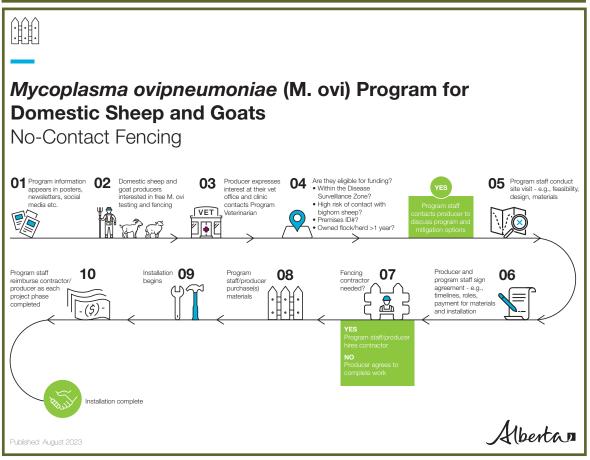




Canadian Food Inspection Agenc Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments







## Alberta Industry Information

#### **ALP Mentors Contact Listing**

ALP recognizes the importance of mentorship in our industry as we continue to see new producers joining the industry and producers looking to expand their flocks.

ALP would like to support both new producers and existing producers by adding a new listing on our website under the 'Industry Contacts' section where a contact list can be accessed that provides names and contact information for experienced-

producers who are interested in mentoring their fellow producers

Much like the other contact lists on our website, there is a disclaimer: ALP in no way endorses the mentorship/experienced producers or their services in the listing.

While care has been taken to ensure that the information provided on our industry contacts is as accurate and as up to date as possible, ALP cannot be held responsible for missing information or errors.

Finance your ewes at Alberta Lamb Producers with Scotiabank Yield More Financing™



Contact Ashley Scott at ALP: **ashley@ablamb.ca** or Scotiabank Yield More Financing: **yieldmorefinancing@scotiabank.com** 



Visit ablamb.ca for more details.

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### **SHEEP ENVIRONMENT SOLUTIONS**

#### Your Solution for Proper Ventilation

Chinook is the only company that has the knowledge and equipment to ventilate sheep barns properly. We design ventilation systems to keep your ewes healthy and your lambs thriving.

- Fresh air = higher profitability
- Low humidity
- Evenly controlled temperatures

#### Feed Your Herd with Valmetal and Chinook

It's easier to feed your herd with Valmetal feed carts and feed systems offered by Chinook.

- Precise rations
- · Healthier animals
- Reduced maintenance and feed costs

## Design & Penning Solutions

Keep your sheep contained while maintaining herd structure and reduce the stress on your animals. Chinook manufactures custom penning, feed gates and bonding jugs based on your specifications.

Contact us today to find out how we can make your operation the best that it can be. 403.885.2527 • info@chinookfarm.com chinookfarm.com







## Industry Information Alberta Lamb Land Products

#### **CLASSIFIEDS**

Selling or buying Purebred Registered Sheep?

The Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association (CSBA) is dedicated to representing the Purebred Sheep Breeders across Canada. Purebred Registered Sheep signifies they have been registered with the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation (CLRC) and a certificate of registration will be provided with the sale of the animal. These records can be found online at <a href="www.clrc.ca">www.clrc.ca</a> and is the responsibility of the seller to pay for and initiate the transfer of the registration to the buyer.

These records will indicate the pedigree information and ownership status. We encourage you to confirm the animals you are interested in, are in fact purebred registered animals.

Under the Animal Pedigree Act, it is an offense to offer to sell, contract to sell or sell, as a purebred, any animal that is not registered or eligible to be registered as a purebred by the association authorized to register animals of that breed or by the Corporation.

If you are interested in purchasing any animals or are new to the industry, don't hesitate to reach out to any of the CSBA Board of Directors. CSBA is an organization of over 1100 breeders of purebred sheep across Canada, representing over 40 breeds of sheep.

www.sheepbreeders.ca

#### **4H Lambs**

Contact one of your ALP Directors if you have lambs suitable for 4H project lambs or are looking for 4H lambs

#### **SHEEP & LAMBS - For Sale**

Flock disbursement - 6 Southdown and Suffolk crosses. These ewes are the favorites I have saved. They are great mothers, very gentle and easy to handle. They have consistently raised healthy twins or triplets. I am situated near Hay Lakes. Call Sara at 780-878-8393

**Dry Lake Ranch AB Ltd.**, Rod & Bernadette Nikkel, Registered Canadian Arcott breeding stock available. June-born ewe lambs available in the fall. Please contact @ robenikkel@gmail.com, 780-674-6805 or 780-284-9805 cell

Registered Purebred Suffolk ram for sale; Born March 2021; Excellent conformation with British blood in paternal line, USA blood in maternal line. Contact Bonnie View Farm – breeding purebred, registered Suffolk sheep for 40 years! Call 403-634-6762

**50** three to five year old Suffolk X and Isle de France X d ewes for sale. Come from our range raised flock. These girls are hardy, low maintenance, prolific and raise nice lambs on native grass. Flock is used to both herd and guard dogs. Also 10 yearling ewe lambs and 30 ewe lambs. Located west of Pincher Creek. Contact Rick Neville at <a href="mainteae.neville4@gmail.com">Gramineae.neville4@gmail.com</a> or **403-628-2354** (We do not have cell phone coverage)

**10 Registered Clun Forrest** fine wool ewe lambs-born Feb/Mar 2023; bred for maternal and fleece qualities (22-26), out of season breeding as well as prolificacy. Finn x BFL, Finn x Texel & Finn x Clun; \$300 obo. Phone Sarah at Sangudo, AB at <a href="mailto:frostadfarms@gmail.com">frostadfarms@gmail.com</a> or **780-850-8742** 

TIME TO RETIRE! ROMANOV FLOCK DISPERSAL: Consisting of 25 highly prolific Romanov ewes - ages 2 to 7 years and 1 Romanov ram. Also 10 ewe lambs that will be available in September. For further details, please contact Judy Buck at 780-712-0970

**Polled & Horned Dorset** breeding stock available. <a href="www.coyoteacresranch.com">www.coyoteacresranch.com</a>. Contact <a href="coyoteacres@gmail.com">coyoteacres@gmail.com</a> or call **780-614-0569** 

Shropshire breeding stock available. <a href="www.coyoteacres-ranch.com">www.coyoteacres-ranch.com</a> . Contact <a href="coyoteacres@gmail.com">coyoteacres@gmail.com</a> or call **780-614-0569** 

Sheep Trax Canadian Arcotts available. <a href="www.coyoteacres-ranch.com">www.coyoteacres-ranch.com</a> . Contact <a href="mailto:sheepncats66@hotmail.com">sheepncats66@hotmail.com</a> or call 403-741-8597

Suffolk & Dorset yearling rams & ram lambs. Grande Prairie, AB. Email <a href="mailto:heartvalleysheep@gmail.com">heartvalleysheep@gmail.com</a>. Call or text 780-978-4705

**Ewe Lambs Doe sale!** 30-40 January Born Suffolk cross (mostly Dorset, some Cheviot); Ready for pickup late April/early May. Asking \$400; Located in Donalda, AB. Contact Becky Dixon **403-740-4658** 

Rideau Arcott ewe lambs and yearling ewes for sale. Commercial breeding stock, purebred, non-registered, available from a closed flock. Genovis scoring is available. Frisco Farms, Siemen & Terah Vandermeer. Located in Rocky Mountain House, AB. Contact <a href="mailto:Terahvdmeer@gmail.com">Terahvdmeer@gmail.com</a> or 403-418-6441

Excellent Selection of Canadian Arcott Breeding Stock. Yearling Ewe lambs and Rams (Semen tested). Please contact Oxbow Ranch: Rudy & Darlene Stein at <a href="mailto:oxbow-ranch2013@hotmail.com">oxbow-ranch2013@hotmail.com</a> or 780-674-3732 or 780-284-9507

**Registered Katahdin Rams and Ewes for sale**. Central Alberta. Contact <a href="http://cravenfarmskatahdins.ca/">http://cravenfarmskatahdins.ca/</a> or <a href="mailto:cfk-">cfk-</a>

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### Albertan Albertan Industry Information



#### sheep@gmail.com

Rambouillet and Suffolk X Rambouillet ewes for sale, exposed to rams to lamb October/November.

250 available. \$325. Lethbridge area. Contact: **403-382-0885** 

**Sheep and Lambs for sale,** Sky Blue Farm - Donald Johnston. Registered Canadian Arcott Yearling and lamb rams; Yearling and ewe lambs also available. Contact Donnelly, AB **780-837-1770** 

**Canadian Rideau Arcott Ildefrance** cross ewe lambs for sale. Age is 12 months. Please contact Paul at **403-332-2267** 

Purebred Dorset ram lambs for sale, born Feb 2021. Good mid style sheep with shorter legs and deep bodies. From registered stock but unregistered. \$500.00. located in Rocky Mountain House, AB. Please email <a href="mailto:birchwoodart@gmail.com">birchwoodart@gmail.com</a> or call 403-418-5425

Purebred Hair Sheep: Rams (April lambs ready for breeding this fall) – St. Croix (prolific, maternal excellence, parasite resistance, height/length/smaller bone/low fat for high meat yield). Royal White (impressive bulk, rapid gain without grain). White Dorper – (huge meat/lean muscle & fast gain). Compliment any flock! FOUNDATION Breeding Stock Ewe lambs-St. Croix & Royal White available. All clean genetics, excellent conformation, optimal health of closed flock. Harmony Farm Kennel & Lamb, Monte Lake, BC. Farm 250-682-8538

**Purebred Suffolk Breeding Rams** – not registered. Born mid Feb/22. British influence strong and thick rams. Have a few with American influence. Great sires for weight gain & fast growth. From twins or triplets; fully vaccinated & dewormed. Available for sale beginning of July/22. Call or text. **780-674-4760** 

Icelandic ewes, wethers and rams, both registered and unregistered, mixed colors and patterns, horned. Clean, closed flock. Contact Sarah at Rogue Ranch at <a href="mailto:sarahtonows-ki@gmail.com">sarahtonows-ki@gmail.com</a> 780-901-5337

Corriedale sheep. Dual-purpose breed producing, good quality carcasses and high pelt value. Corriedales are known for their docile dispositions and are excellent mothers. Contact lan Zoerb located Brooks AB. jozoerb@msn.com 403-793-0618

**Purebred Charollais Yearling rams for sale.** Well-muscled, long bodied rams with excellent ADG for superior butcher quality lambs and great easy lambing replacement ewes. fieldstone@telus.net. **780-499-0066** 

Isle of Skye Cheviots: Registered North Country Cheviot Ram Lambs and Ewe Lambs available. Our NCC's make an excellent choice for breeding your ewe lambs. Easy lambing, hardy and thrifty. Contact Susan at <a href="www.isleofsky-echeviots.ca">www.isleofsky-echeviots.ca</a> or <a href="www.facebook.com/isleofskyecheviots">www.facebook.com/isleofskyecheviots</a> 403-588-3808

**Purebred Suffolk yearling & lamb rams for sale**. Yearlings have been semen & vet checked. Long, deep bodied, well-muscled rams. Charles Iwan, Taber **403-331-7984** 

Purebred Canadian Arcott registered Rams for sale. If you want to improve your genetics – here is your chance! Ready to breed in the fall. Purebred ewe lambs are also available. Email <a href="mailto:sheepandewe@gmail.com">sheepandewe@gmail.com</a> or 403-575-7794

**Sheep Lake Suffolks -** Registered Suffolk ram lambs & ewe lambs for sale. Contact Mike **780-307-3385** and follow Sheep Lake Suffolks on Facebook

**Moonshine Dorsets** - Registered and purebred Dorset ram and ewe lambs. Traditional confirmation. Call Raelyn at **403 746-2140** 

**Alberta Sheep Breeders' Association** (ASBA) members are your source for registered breeding stock in Alberta. Join today! Email <a href="https://www.albertasheepbreeders.ca">www.albertasheepbreeders.ca</a> or 1-866-967-4337

Parker Stock Farm. Glen and Kathy Parker. GenOvis performance tested Suffolk breeding stock. <a href="www.parkerstockfarm.com">www.parkerstockfarm.com</a>, <a href="parkerstockfarm@xplornet.com">parkerstockfarm@xplornet.com</a>, <a href="mailto:403-443-7220">403-443-7220</a>

**Need more meat?** Charollais rams and ewes. Performance based selection OPP-Neg <u>dshalfdiamond@gmail.com</u> or **403-224-2463** 

#### **SHEEP & LAMBS - Wanted**

Wanted: Feeder or fat lambs, cull sheep and all classes of goats in Acme or Stony Plain, AB. Call Roger Albers at 780-777-7416 or email <a href="mailto:alberslamb@hotmail.com">alberslamb@hotmail.com</a>.

Wanted: Feeder lambs and culls in High Prairie area. All sizes and types. Animals weighed, no shrink. Clients emailed price/lb weekly and can decide if they want to deliver. Hauling possible. No commission fees. Call Eric Verstappen 780-536-6740, pref. 8 - 9 PM.

#### **DOGS**

Registered Black & White Border Collie Pups for sale. Born



#### **Industry Information** Al



May 13, 2023; Two females & four males; Excellent working parents. Susan Christianson's Hope X Les Jack's Robby; Vaccinated & vet checked. Located in Nanton area. Call Susan at 403-601-1828

Trained Sheep Herding Dog for sale- 4 year old fixed Border Collie male; Has been used in working situations for 2 years, and although won't win any trials, is a solid dog that knows his job. He has all basic commands, can drive, work sides, and can gather. Was used last summer working in the cutblocks, and has experience on cattle but is better on sheep. Very social, great with kids, good with other dogs, can be worked off horses and ATVs. If you are looking to make your life easier while working your sheep, this is a great opportunity to get your foot in the door of using a stockdog. Two Hills AB, 780-965-0097

**Livestock guardian puppies available.** Akbash / Gampr cross. One male / one female. Both dogs have good temperament, first vaccinations and dewormer. Good with other dogs, cats and children. For more information, phone Stephanie at 403-630-4375

Puppies to give away! We have 8 puppies mixed male and female. Mom is Pyrenees and Bernese Mountain Dog and Dad is Maremma. For more info, email pgist586@gmail.com or call 780-352-1080 or 780-361-8758 (cell)

Purebred Maremma puppies and young dogs for sale. We have imported a male and female from Finland to provide new Maremma bloodlines. We have puppies available from Finland sire and our locally raised Maremma females. These dogs love their stock and keep a close eye out for predators. We live in prime coyote country and have never lost a sheep to predators. Call or text Tyler Untinen 780-621-7120

Purebred registered Border Collie puppies for sale in Beaverlodge, AB. Parents are our working dogs. For full details and pictures, check out our website - u2kennels.com 403-357-8610

Maremma guard dogs. Various ages. Raised on-farm and on-pasture with sheep. Outstanding, good-natured parents. Very reliable. The coyotes are the ones with the problems! Located near Carstairs, AB. Contact Richmond at 403-586-5638

Inukshuk Professional Dog Food: a high energy dog food for your hard-working livestock guardian dog. For details and pricing, please contact Karl: at lonevalleyfarmltd@gmail.com or 403-971-3426

Miscellaneous (Equipment, Employment, Services, etc.)

Looking for a way to improve efficiency in your sheep operation? Advantage Feeders allows you to control feed grain to your livestock without waste, efficiently feeds the rumen with the little bit and often feeding, while saving time and energy. Check out the energy efficient Jug Waterers, gates, economy panels, Ritchie Combi Clamp sheep handling system and more, on our website. Visit Huber Ag Equipment at www.huberequipment.com or call 1-844-482-3724 (1-844-HuberAG)

New Let-Tack Lamb Milking machine for sale. New aluminum hopper included. For more information, email sheepandewe@gmail.com or 403-575-7794

Looking for a new mineral/mixed vitamin infused molasses that you can use for a feed supplement or to help make poor feed better for the sheep? Contact Rod English 780-**307-2531** for more information or to place your order!

Looking for Custom Livestock Hauling? Contact Cody Coupland from Rainy Creek Farms at 1-403-877-0799 or at codycoupland@gmail.com. Based in Bentley, AB. Hauls Canada and US wide. 20' x 7' is \$100/hour, 42' x 8' is \$135/ hour

Looking for an experienced 4-H Sheep judge? Or someone to do clinics on showmanship, fitting and judging? Niki Schieck is based out of Two Hills AB, but willing to travel throughout the province to give clinics and judge shows. Years of experience with a very hands-on approach with members. Can work with groups of any size, age and experience level. Also willing to host clinics at her farm. Contact 780-993-2037 or nmrs.business@gmail.com

Custom Woolen Mills would like to buy your coloured wool (black, greys or multi-coloured sheep). We cannot accept hair, kemp, extreme chaff or paint in the fleeces. For further details, contact Custom Woolen Mills Ltd. Carstairs, www.customwoolenmills.com or 403-337-2221

John Beasley Professional Shearing Services. Available anywhere in western Canada. All flock sizes. Specializing in low stress, kind and efficient handling of ewes. Early booking and volume discounts. Contact John Beasley at 403-857-9236 or kelsey@integrityranching.com

Integrity Ranch is proud to offer the following services to the lamb industry: Forage and cover crop seed for lamb finishing and ewe wintering; 24' freestanding feed bunks, reduce waste, keep lambs in; full line of nutrition products and consulting specifically designed for sheep and goats; buyer of lambs and ewes. Please contact John 403-857-9236 or kelsey@integrityranching.com for more details. www.integrityranching.com



Sheep Calendar					
What	Where	When			
Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training in Ag	Virtual	Sept 27SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING IN AG: a SNEAK PEEK WEBINAR — Agknow			
Alberta Livestock Expo 2023	Lethbridge, BC	Oct 11-12 Livestock   Alberta Livestock Expo   Canada			
Green Certificate Ag Training Program	Various	Visit: green pofs.pdf (alberta.ca)			
Using Livestock and Guardian Dogs to Reduce Livestock/Wildlife Conflicts	Virtual	Oct 11NEWS & EVENTS   Battle River Research Group			
Alberta Sheep Breeders Association Biannual Symposium	Red Deer, AB	Oct 19-21 Symposium (albertasheepbreeders.ca)			
Deadline to Register – ALP AGM and Conference	Red Deer, AB	Nov 1 https://ablamb.ca/index.php/home			
Organic Alberta 2023 Conference	Sherwood Park, AB	Nov 3-4 Annual Conference   Organic Alberta			
Farmfair International 2023	Edmonton, AB	Nov 8-11 Farmfair International   November 8 - 11, 2023			
ALP 2023 AGM and Conference	Red Deer, AB	Nov 18 Home - Alberta Lamb Producers (ablamb.ca)			
Canadian Forage and Grassland Association Annual Conference	Harrison Hot Springs, BC	Nov 28-Dec 1 Conference 2023 (canadianfga.ca)			
Ranching for Profit School	Okotoks, AB	Nov 26 – Dec 2 <u>Upcoming Events   foothillsforage</u>			
Deadline for January 2024 N'ewsletter	Online	Dec 4 <u>Home - Alberta Lamb Producers (ablamb.ca)</u>			
Please e-mail info@ablamb.ca or call 403-948-8533 to provide details of your event for the N'ewesletter and website sheep calendar.					

### **Alberta Lamb Producers Board of Directors 2023**



Director	Phone	Email	Location	County
Emilie Wilson, Chair	403-915-5497	emilie@ablamb.ca	ArrowWood	Vulcan
Jordan Allen, Vice Chair	403-923-4858	jordan@ablamb.ca	Rocky View County	Rocky View County
Judy Buck, Finance Chair	780-712-0970	judy@ablamb.ca	Yellowhead	Yellowhead
Jolene Airth, Vice Finance Chair	403-968-6436	jolene@ablamb.ca	Rocky view County	Rocky view County
Richard Boscher	780-870-1876	richard@ablamb.ca	Kitscoty	Vermillion River
Nicole Schieck	780-993-2037	nicole@ablamb.ca	Two Hills	Two Hills
Martin Winchell, Interim Director	403-845-2577	martin@ablamb.ca	Rocky Mountain House	Rocky Mountain House
Raelene Schulmeister, Director in Training	403-741-4772	raelene@ablamb.ca	Castor	Paintearth County

ALP Office—Executive Director, Ashley Scott, 403-948-8533, info@ablamb.ca
Address: Agriculture Centre, 97 East Lake Ramp NE, Airdrie, AB T4A 0C3
Fax: 403-912-1455



#### **Picture Butte Auction Ltd**

110071 Hwy 25, P.O. Box 640, Picture Butte AB, T0K 1V0 403-732-4400 - operations@picturebutteauction.ca www.picturebutteauction.ca

#### **The Feed Store**

at Picture Butte Auction

We are now your local source for bagged feed for all your livestock!





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#### Regular Sales

#### **Every Saturday:**

 Misc., Hogs, Sheep, Goats, Llamas, and Horses sell at 10:00am - All classes of Cattle sell at 11:30am

#### ALSO:

Every 2nd Saturday of the month -Sheep & Goat Specials

#### AND WITH

Odd N Unusual and Equipment Specials throughout the summer!

#### **UPCOMING SPECIALS:**

Sheep & Goat Sale: Sept 16 10am Sheep & Goat Sale: Oct 14 10am Sheep & Goat Sale: Nov 11 10am Sheep & Goat Sale: Dec 16 10am







## We are a 2W Livestock Equipment Dealer!



Looking for a new handling system for your sheep?

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livestock!

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- Simple to use
- Built-in memory
- Links to iPhone or Android



#### Erona Farms Ltd. / Shearwell Canada support & sales

780-674-9564

www.eronafarms.ca sales@eronafarms.ca

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Te Pari sheep equipment lets you handle your stock with ease and gives you the tools to make informed decisions.

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- or visit www.tepari.com

