



IN THIS ISSUE:

MSA ED Report.....	1
MSA Coming Events.....	2
Cache Valley Virus.....	6
Predator Mgmt.....	12
Lamb Opportunity.....	14
MSA Photo Contest.....	16
MSA Scholarship.....	19
Sheep Statistics.....	21

Relevant Articles from last SheepSense

To review articles in our
February issue of
SheepSense, [click here](#).
Articles include:

- EWE Manage
- Ewe Management Tips
- MASC Help
- CSF Info
- Lamb Meatball Recipe

Manitoba Sheep Association

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Message from the Executive Director

Submitted by: Kate Basford

2019 is shaping up to be a very interesting year, extremely busy and full of collaborations for MSA and its producers. It continues to be an exciting time for the Manitoba sheep industry. Statistics Canada released its numbers for January 2019, once again they reflect the growth Manitoba is experiencing. Manitoba now holds the 4th place ranking in Canada for sheep production. This is excellent news and drives what MSA does and its focus.

MSA held a Lambing workshop with Dr. Rueben Neumier at the Manitoba Beef & Forage Initiative in Brookdale on March 9th. The workshop was well received, full with 35 producers, some well-established in the industry and other just starting.

Dr. Rueben Neumier spent the day providing information and answering questions on all aspects of lambing but with a focus on lamb survival and what that takes from the ewe, the lamb and most of all the producer. The hands-on component demonstrated proper technique for tubing lambs, peritoneal dextrose injections and how to address birthing difficulties. Everyone received a resource manual and a lambing kit that included tubing equipment, thermometer and other useful supplies. Thanks to all that provided the evaluations and topics for other workshops.

Once again, MSA was at the Brandon Royal Winter Fair at the end of March. A HUGE THANK - YOU to all the VOLUNTEERS and to those that provided the sheep and kids activities. This event and the Red River EX are powered by Manitoba sheep and fiber producers, as well as fiber enthusiasts. MSA just couldn't do these types of events, without all the work and dedication provided by these volunteers. The Provincial Ex provided MSA with a fantastic spot with room to grow. Thanks for all the photos and suggestions to improve the MSA Display and booth area. I always like suggestions and thoughts on how MSA can improve what it is doing. Call or drop me an email.

In January, the Manitoba Government released its Protein Strategy for Plant and Animal proteins. The government has allocated \$500 million towards processing and animals' protein...

Continued on page 3...

NEW MSA WEBSITE

Reveal Summer 2019
Funded through MB Ag Action

MSA COMING EVENTS

Watch for details through up coming eblast and MSA website...

- **SHOW & SALE – Sept. 13th & 14th – *Yes, we're moving! To create a Premier Event In collaboration with the MB Fiber Festival @ the Red River Ex Grounds (Winnipeg)***
September 13th -
 - Reception and Dinner with speaker. Welcome to all, please preregister.**September 14th-**
 - Show & Sale with trade show. Entry forms online, deadline August 1, 2019
- **DISTRICT MEETINGS September - Dates and location TBA**
 Good opportunity to discuss sheep business with MSA and other producers and determine District Resolutions to be put forward to the MSA AGM.
- **SHEEP BYTES WORKSHOP, SYMPOSIUM & AGM - NOVEMBER 15 & 16TH Portage.**
 November 15 – Learn how to formulate rations for your entire flock
 November 16 – Symposium & AGM. Join us for another great day of presentations on Nutrition and other sheep production topics. And be a part of the MSA AGM
- **STARTING IN SHEEP WORKSHOP – late fall (location & date TBA)**
 This is a workshop for new and beginning sheep producers or those interested in getting into sheep. This will be a two-day workshop and will cover the entire production cycle, its issues and would to address them.
- **LAMBING WORKSHOP – fall (location & date TBA)**
 Managing lambing difficulties, lamb survival & health, ewe nutrition & disease, and making a lambing checklist – all covered in a one day workshop.
- **LAMB VALUE DISCOVERY WORK SHOP - Oct, 2019 Date and location TBA.**
 Do you want to learn more about carcass merit of your lamb crop, through practical applications of visual evaluation, ultrasound and actual carcass measurements, which can be used to shape your ram selection and breeding programs.

Continued from Page One: MSA Chairperson Report

...benchmarks for 2025 of an increase in production of 35% and processing by 35%.

Throughout April, the MSA Executive was actively involved in government consultations on the Protein Strategy, which included MARIC (Manitoba Agriculture Research Innovation Council), the University of Manitoba, all commodity groups and industry stakeholders were invited.

If the Manitoba sheep industry continues to grow at the rate it has seen in the last 5 years, it has the real potential of making those targets outlined by the government. As part of the consultations, MSA has been exploring the potential of establishing a federal sheep and lamb processing plant in Manitoba. There seems to be interest in this area and with the new transportation regulation coming into effect, that will make this idea very interesting - lets see where this goes.

In April, the MSA Executive met with some of the SSDB Executive in Yorkton. We had a good productive meeting, discussing issues affecting our producer's profitability and the industry in general. We agreed that the Canada sheep industry was small, that we needed to be all working together as much as we can to advance the industry as a whole. We also agreed that there was a unique western perspective to the Canadian sheep industry and jointly invited Alberta lamb producers to join the dialogue of the western provinces and their perspective.

Wool checks were issued and MSA did hear from producers, that they were not happy with grading and payments received. MSA has been in contact with CCWG and is working closely with CCWG, to identify and resolve the issues going forward.

MSA is planning on participating in Through the Farm Gate at the Red River Exhibition from June 14 to 23th again. As I mentioned this is only possible through the dedication of volunteers. If you have some time to help MSA promote the industry, be an AGvocate. Please let us know, the Red River exhibition is providing free vehicle passes and MSA has a t-shirt for volunteers. It would be great to see you there.

Another big change, MSA SHOW & SALE. Mark your calendars Sept 13th & 14th, 2019 at the Red River Ex in Winnipeg. The Fiber Fest approached MSA to join them in a collaboration to create a Premiere event and the MSA thinks it's a fantastic idea. We are in the planning stages and looking for show and sale committee members. Last year MSA ramped up the Show and sale and received some very good feedback. This year is looking even better. MSA is working on a full fall of activities and events. Please watch the coming events section for details.



Manitoba Sheep Association Executive met with Manitoba Agriculture, Maurice Bouvier Assistant Deputy Minister, Leo Prince Director of Food & Agri-Processing, Miles Beaudin Director of Primary Agriculture, Grant Carlson, Industrial Development Leader and Linda Fox, Sheep & Goat Specialist on May 16, 2019 to discuss the Manitoba Protein Strategy and the need for Federally Inspected Lamb Processing capacity in Manitoba.

The Manitoba Sheep Association is very pleased to see the level of support and interest that the Province has shown with regards to this initiative.

Thank you, Huber, for your 2019 Partnership with the MSA and your continued support to grow the industry!

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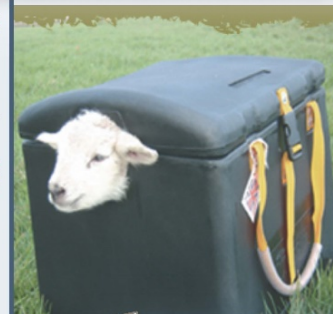
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Cache Valley Virus

Submitted by: Kate Basford

Each year, we hear of more viruses and diseases that were never thought possible to affect sheep in Canada nor Manitoba... We are too far North, was the old adage. Well Cache Valley virus is one of those diseases. It was first discovered Utah in 1956 in the Cache Valley region and has spread throughout the mid-west. By 2010, sheep producers in South Dakota and Minnesota started to report an unusual number of lambs born with skeletal and other development deformities. It was confirmed to be CVV-affected newborn lambs by a diagnostic laboratory and North Dakota soon started to reporting abortions and lambs with deformities.



Manitoba Sheep Producers need to be aware of the potential for Cache Valley virus (CVV), to affect their lambing crop. CVV causes the birth of abnormal lambs, mostly affecting the brain and central nervous system. The virus also affects the skeletal tissue and muscles that show up as fused joints, curved or twisted spines, unusually thin and underdeveloped muscles, and enlarged skulls.

CVV infects pregnant ewes, with mosquitoes are the sole carrier of the virus. The virus is able to replicate in adult animals, but there are no known symptoms of infection. However, if the ewe is pregnant and not protected by antibodies from a previous infection, Cache Valley virus can be very lethal to a developing fetus.

The symptoms the fetus develops from CVV infection are largely age dependent. At less than 28 days of gestation, the embryo usually dies and is reabsorbed by the mother. Between 28 and 45 days of gestation, infection leads to malformations in the developing fetus and occasionally leads to abortions. Early in the first trimester, between 28 and 36 days, the virus leads to both central nervous system and musculoskeletal defects, while after 36 days of gestation infection only leads to musculoskeletal deformities. Death of the fetus usually occurs between 27- and 35-days gestation, when the central nervous system tissues are most susceptible. After 45–50 days of gestation CVV infection is not expected to cause harmful effects. After 76 days the fetus has a functioning immune system and antibodies to the virus are produced.

Necropsies of infected fetuses show severe lesions in the brain and spinal column. The most common musculoskeletal deformations include curved joints and greatly reduced muscle mass, with the most severe cases having wry neck, twisting or curvatures of the spine. While most affected lambs are stillborn, those that do survive are usually so weak they die within minutes of birth. During the time that they are alive, these lambs are reported to act abnormal, such as acting weak, drowsy, or walking unsteadily.

When ewes were experimentally infected with a virus closely related to Cache Valley virus. The virus was shown to replicate in cells of the placenta. When the virus crossed the placenta and infected the developing fetus, it showed a preference for the immature fetal cells of the central nervous system and skeletal muscle.

Clinical manifestations of the disease tend to occur in cycles, as the sheep population seems to gain some natural immunity after infection. As this immunity wanes over a period of years, the clinical effects become more prevalent. Past research has shown that a high percentage of the ewes in a flock will develop immunity including ewes that delivered clinical CVV and normal lambs.

Continued on page 7...



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Continued from page 5 – Cache Valley Virus

There is no effective treatment for lambs or ewes after the viral outbreak has occurred, nor is there a readily available vaccine. But ewes that have been exposed to the virus appear to have lifetime immunity. The most effective method of protecting ewes from the Cache Valley virus is to minimize their exposure to mosquito-infested areas during and shortly after the breeding season.

Sheep producers suspecting CVV should contact a veterinarian in order to rule out other causes of birth defects, miscarriages, or infertility. Diagnosis of CVV is sometimes difficult, but can be made in the laboratory by detecting specific antibodies against CVV in the lambs. In most cases, a diagnosis is made on the basis of the history and nature of the birth defects within the flock.

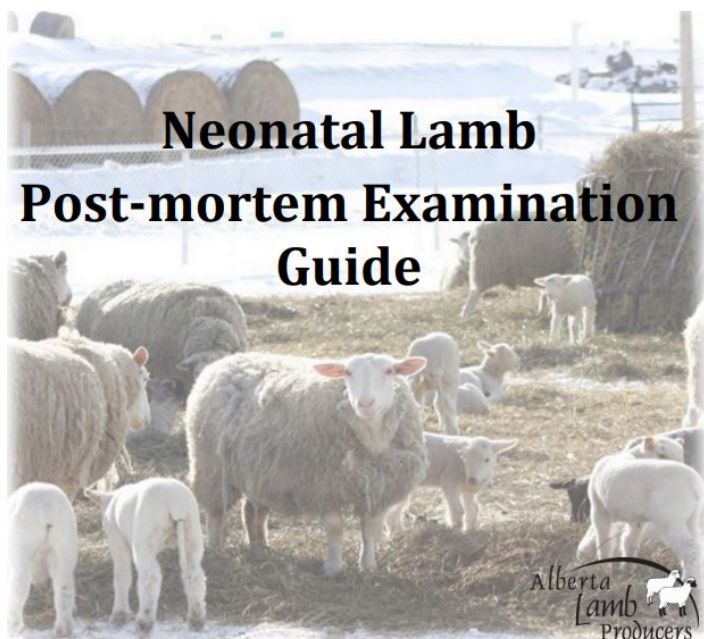
CFIA wanting to monitor Mosquito populations for Cache Valley Virus

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is looking for help with some research on Cache Valley Virus. The CFIA and the Public Health Agency are partnering on researching Cache Valley Virus vectors.

They are interested in identifying sheep farms that have had issues with 'abortion storms' that could be linked to Cache Valley, where they could set up mosquito traps to look for the virus in the vector. CSF has done similar work with the CFIA collecting culicoides (midges) at sheep farms looking for competent hosts.

The expectation would be that CFIA would send 'kits' that contain the traps and all accessories, and detailed instructions on how to set them up, collect mosquitoes and send the samples back. Alternatively, CFIA/PHAC can send out staff or summer students to do the work.

If you might be interested in helping, please contact Kate Basford at ed@mbsheep.ca or Corlena Patterson - CSF at corlena@cansheep.ca to make arrangements.



Introduction to Conducting Post-Mortem Examinations

Almost all pre-weaning deaths occur before seven days of age with most happening before lambs are three days old. These deaths are most often management related and preventable. Knowing exactly why a lamb died is a vital first step in correcting problems to prevent further losses. A professional post-mortem on every lamb that dies, however, is prohibitively expensive for more producers. [Click here](#) or on the image to the left to be directed to the Alberta Lamb Producers 'Neonatal Lamb Post-mortem Examination Guide' and learn to conduct your own neonatal post-mortems for a cost-effective way to improve management and save lambs.

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Message from Horizon Livestock & Poultry Supply

The need for an end-to-end agricultural supply, service and equipment company was apparent. In 2016, Horizon Livestock & Poultry Supply and Penner Farm Services merged, offering our agricultural partners the ability to consolidate their business into a one-stop solutions-based provider.

Penner Farm Services was born in 1956, when Abe Penner realized the need for an agricultural equipment and service company in the Southeast. After specializing in agriculture buildings from small shops to large barns, the design-build division of the company became a standalone entity named Penfor Construction. Palmlite Industrial Services was added to the lineup in 2012, giving the company the ability to offer generators, pumps, transfer switches and more.

Established in 1996, Horizon Livestock & Poultry Supply has been a key provider of quality farmyard consumables for producers, large and small. For over 20 years Horizon has been a supplier of everything from shavings, vaccines, feed, fencing, farmyard supply and much, much more.

Since the merger in 2016, the Horizon/Penner combination has been able to offer the end-to-end solution the sheep industry was needing. The ability to walk with one company from design-build, through install, startup and beyond has brought a sigh of relief to many.

The company has four locations across Manitoba – Steinbach, Blumenort, Winnipeg, Brandon – as well as one in Lacombe, AB and Thunder Bay, ON to serve a wide area across the prairies.

Mark your calendars!

On June 25th, you're invited to the Penner Farm Services Brandon location for a Customer Appreciation event from 12:00pm – 4:00pm. Vendor representatives will be on hand to answer all your questions, prize draws will be held, and of course, a BBQ lunch will be served!

Visit our websites for more details

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'It is our mission to be the leading provider of a complete line of livestock equipment, supplies and services. We are committed to excellence in providing superior service and quality products to meet the needs of our customers.'

MSA thanks Horizon Livestock & Poultry Supply for its 2019 Partnership with the MSA – look for Penner Horizon at the 2019 MSA Show & Sale tradeshow!



GREAT NEWS – Foreign Sheep drug approvals made easier and more cost effective for drug companies to have products available in Canada.

Last year CSF & the MSA worked with the Veterinary Drug Directorate to draft a new pathway for getting veterinary drugs approved for use in sheep in Canada. A completely new approach to approving registrations, that eliminates some the regulatory burden and cost of entry for new products, and makes it easier for sheep drugs already available in other countries to make it into the Canadian market.

Health Canada's Forward Regulatory Plan, which is now available online. It contains the latest information about Health Canada's plans to come forward with proposed regulatory changes to enable the use of foreign decisions.

[Click here for more information](#)



**Free Pass to the Red River Exhibition
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Red River Exhibition - June 14-23

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Predator Management & Animal Husbandry

Submitted by: Wray Whitmore, MB Agriculture

Protecting sheep from predator losses is a fact in MB. When ewes and lambs are put on pasture, they are at risk for predation. There are several costs associated with predation; animal deaths, animal injuries that have to be treated, introduction of new pathogens to the farm, the loss of animal sales and the slower growth of animals that are under stress from predators. Slower growing animals are less profitable.

It is possible to reduce this risk with tools available such as lethal control, electric fencing and enclosures, pasture locations, mortality and carcass disposal, human presence and livestock guardian animals.



Sheep are susceptible to predation from coyotes, and in some cases even wolves and do not forget about the neighbour's dog; dog attacks can be very bad too.

As a livestock producer in Manitoba, the Wildlife Act allows you to kill wildlife in defense of property; 46(1)...a person may kill or take any wildlife*...on his own land for the purpose of defending or preserving his property. *other than a moose, caribou, deer, antelope, cougar, elk or game bird. 46(2)...shall report the killing or taking to an officer within 10 days*...*requires permit to keep and or sell.

The Province of Manitoba has a Wildlife Damage Compensation program that compensates producers for losses to domestic livestock due to predation for a portion of the animal's commercial value. If you discover a kill on your farm, you should take pictures, preserve any remains and contact the closest MASC office to start a predation loss file.

Compensation payment information shows that that payment for coyote losses makes up 56% of the payments, black bears losses are 18% and wolves are the final 26%. Coyote losses in MB occur over all areas of the province. As expected, sheep losses to coyotes start to increase in June, this continues until October, and then it starts to decrease. It is important to remember that predation losses are usually a result of several different factors all happening at a certain time.

There are tools available for sheep producers to control predators such as lethal control. Lethal control may be required once predators are accustomed to using livestock as a primary food source. It is important to remember that if predators are present but they are not killing, they should be left alone as these animals keep other predators away and those other animals could prey on livestock. Not all coyotes prey on sheep; there are stories from producers who have seen coyotes walk through a flock of sheep on a pasture looking for insects and mice. When a coyote starts to prey on sheep it will be necessary to deal with it.

Fencing for sheep has two purposes, one to keep the sheep in and the other to keep predators out. You can do this with high tensile, electric (a nine strand recommended) with insulators and proper ground rods or an alternative is a page wire fence with proper sized squares, smaller being better. A page wire fence is more expensive to build but it can last a long time and be effective. An electric high tensile fence needs maintenance throughout the year but it can be very effective as well.

Having pastures and corrals close to your yard can be beneficial as a human presence can go a long way to repelling predators. Yard lights can help keep predators at bay as well. It is...

Continued from previous page – Predator Management

...important to have a mortality disposal plan. All dead animals need to be disposed and this includes afterbirth and other attractants for coyotes. Propane bangers can be used and they can be effective but unfortunately, coyotes can adapt to them quickly. Your presence around your sheep is a very important deterrent; predators do not want to be where people are.

Livestock guardian animals can work very well to protect sheep. The use of a female donkey (best with a foal) work very effective, due to their intense dislike of canines. Llamas have been used with some success but there have been reports where they were not friendly. Livestock guardian dogs work very well too. Very seldom does a livestock guardian dog actually get into a fight with a coyote. Livestock guardian dogs work because they weigh 80 – 120 lbs and a coyote weighs 40 lbs. Coyotes have an instinct to not fight an animal 2-3 times their size. I have heard a story of a 3-year-old livestock guardian dog catching a yearling coyote on a pasture and killing it but I assume the coyote was just naïve. Livestock guardian dog breeds include Great Pyrenees, Maremma, Akbash, Kuvas, Komondor, Anatolian Shepherd and Shar Planinetz. Most of these breeds are large white dogs. A livestock guardian pup needs to be raised with young lambs from weaning so that it bonds with sheep and it wants to remain with sheep.

Continued on next page...



Over the past few years, researchers from University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine have undertaken surveys of sheep farms in western Canada to assess the level of gastrointestinal parasites present.

The researchers conducted more detailed investigation on anthelmintic resistance of a number of farms in Alberta by on-farm visits to perform fecal egg count reduction tests. The results of this work suggests that many Alberta sheep flocks have high parasite burdens and that Ivermectin and Albendazole resistant parasites may be more common than previously thought in the province.

The project is now more comprehensive and involves western Canadian flocks

In the upcoming summer of 2019, the researchers are looking to continue and survey more flocks in Manitoba. The project will look at parasite burden and at the efficacy of treatment at the flock level. Testing is free.

Molecular techniques for identification of parasites are developed.

Detection of parasite resistance to dewormers and its evolution will be monitored over several years.

If you have 20 or more ewes and are interested in this project, we would like to hear from you. Please contact us at sheepstudy@ucalgary.ca.

Thank you

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ONE OF US!

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Lamb Opportunity Remains Large for Western Canada Producers

Submitted by: Wade Meunier, Livestock Systems Manager, North American Lamb Company Ltd.

These are very exciting times to be in the lamb industry in Western Canada. I have worked for SunGold Meats in a few roles the last three years and was a part of the Innisfail plant under prior ownership for part of the previous decade. There has never been a better time to be a lamb producer in the Canadian prairies, depending on one's outlook on things.

From inside the company, the North American Lamb Company (NALC), this merger between the largest flock in Western Canada and its largest lamb plant has taken a long time to come together. Many rumours bubbled the last couple years and there has been many more since the merger announcement.

The reality is this merger represents the single largest investment from two companies into our small lamb industry in a very long time, maybe ever. There are strong willed voices and long-term vision from both sides of the partnership and a commitment for continued investment to see volumes at the plant more than double over the next 3-5 years. For those that doubted the viability of the Innisfail plant, the Vegas odds of the plant remaining open in a year, or twenty years, or more, just became way better. If I can speak on behalf of my fellow employees and managers, our excitement is at an all-time high, even if our workloads and tasks in front of us seem daunting at times. We have solid teams, creative minds, and a-get-it-done attitude.

Our vision is to become the pre-eminent sheep products business in North America. Today, we are roughly only six percent of the Canadian lamb meat market, dominated 60-65% by imported products. There is a long road ahead of us, but we will get there.

There was a market downturn in December, if one watches the Ontario lamb auction markets. Some news articles surfaced suggesting NALC was not buying lambs which drove down the market. There is always a seasonal surge of lamb on fall and early winter markets that drives pricing down and it will only get worse as farmers and companies like us focus on year-round production and conventional lambing producers carry on doing the same thing.

One major risk for our business and the industry, is this annual flooding of the lamb market every fall. The typical supply surge cannot be met with enough demand to process all available livestock and market the meat at prices that make year-round production viable. No producer is viable at some of the market lows experienced each fall. We need to have a solution to spread that stock out – feedlots are a partial solution and thankfully Christmas and Easter demand offsets some of this supply spike.

The only way to grow this industry is to improve the supply of Canadian lamb availability in the very tight summer season of May through August. A short stroll through the meat departments of the big-box stores and large retailers rarely yield a visible display of Canadian lamb. (in terms of larger retailers, you'll find us broadly in the prairies at Sobeys, Safeway, Co-op, and Save-on Foods). Fixing the supply problem in the summer will allow growth, which will allow us to approach other retailers across Canada. Perhaps with enough market growth year-round the seasonal drop to pricing in the fall could be reduced.

Continued from previous page – Lamb Opportunity

The tools at our disposal to fill customers' demand for year-round supply are: year-round lambing (our focus), stretching lambs in a finishing lot, or bringing in imported lamb. The summer period is prime meat consumption season. Yet post-Easter lamb stocks hit an annual low and must rebuild through the summer until they hit a supply peak in the fall, when conventional spring-born lambs make it to market. For a year-round lamber to have one lamb ready for May-August, means there will also be two or more others available to market between September and April depending on fertility rates. As year-round lambers grow, there will be more lambs hitting the fall market when the conventional lambers market their stock. In terms of voices, the conventional lambers make up a big majority of the producer group currently (and Facebook groups apparently), in terms of production they will be dwarfed in the future for us to have a North American impact.

The lamb industry is still very much a cottage industry on most farms. Statistics Canada data from 2016 reported an average ewe flock size in Canada of 60 head. In Western Canada it ranged from 58 in Alberta with Manitoba the highest at 85. (Saskatchewan was 63 ewes/farm). NALC is a full-time lamb company and our focus will be working with professional lamb farmers that also approach the business as a full-time enterprise. On February 13, 2019 we held a meeting in Innisfail that will be an annual gathering of year-round lambers working with us or those interested in developing year-round supply. At the meeting we updated producers on our business, what the merged company looks like, our key initiatives in the upcoming year and our 2019 summer season contract offerings.

Highlights from the meeting could be summarized as follows:

- We showed that SunGold is consistently the best marketing option for commercial Western Canadian lamb producers during the last four years of available market data. This is especially true during the low pricing periods of the supply cycle.
- Our implementation of Rinse & Chill technology in December 2018 results in longer shelf-life, better quality and an enhanced yield that puts real money back in producers' pockets.
- We expanded our discussion of DiFoTiS – Delivery in Full, on Time, in Spec. This is a concept about many facets of our business. On lamb supply it generally means we need to elevate the level of professionalism in our small industry and have a focus on carcass quality.
- Focusing on rail pricing will reward good quality producers and allow SunGold to pay the best price. Live payments result in an averaging down of pricing and only reward lower quality producers at SunGold's risk. We showed a lot of math at the presentation to explain the rail grid and why it's the best we ever developed. (I previously worked on our premium grid in 2003/2004, this new one is better for producers, yet fair for the plant.)
- We offered the highest priced contracts for summer 2019 as a result of rail pricing, Rinse & Chill and market direction to help make clear we remain very interested in external lambs.
- We offered loyalty bonuses to producers and "1 for 1" contracts to contract lambs from year round lambers during conventional marketing months in fall and winter to help avoid some of the supply surge that depresses pricing.

Continued from Previous Page – Lamb Opportunity

- Oh yeah, we switched to the Metric system this year, producers will finally be paid in kilograms, so pricing also increased 2.2046 times.

There is a lot of work ahead to go from 73,000 lambs processed in 2018 to 150,000 or more in the upcoming years. Many pieces must come together, at the right times. External producers are a major piece we want to rely on to help make this happen. The February meeting was our first step to fully open our doors to like-minded producers that wish to grow and make a real impact on Western Canadian agriculture. Lamb consumption in Canada is just over 1.2 kilograms per person per year, a tiny fraction compared to beef, pork and chicken. A small move of the demand needle will change the fortune of lamb producers. Combined with replacing some imported lamb with a year-round Canadian product and entering the US market at the same time... that's a generational opportunity.

For more information, Wade Meunier and others at NALC can be reached at info@sungoldmeats.com. For rail grid detail, market pricing and contract options please contact Kurt Paskal, Livestock Procurement and Producer Relations Manager at kurt.paskal@sungoldmeats.com or 403-505-1165.

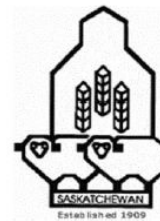


**NORTH AMERICAN
LAMB
COMPANY**

- Best lamb pricing in Canada. Ask us to prove it
- Year-round producers have the best contract options and our procurement focus
- Finished and feeder lamb contracts available
- We will double production in the upcoming years, creating new opportunities in our industry
- New DiFoTiS payment grid launched in 2019, boosted by Rinse & Chill® technology

The North American Lamb Company was created in 2018 from the merger between SunGold Specialty Meats, its lamb finishing lot, and Canada Sheep and Lamb Farms. Our vision is to be the pre-eminent North American sheep products business. Finished or feeder lambs from external producers remains an integral part of our business.

Contact: Kurt Paskal, Livestock Procurement and Producer Relations Manager at kurt.paskal@sungoldmeats.com or 403-505-1165 or Cathy Krohn, Plant Lamb Coordinator 403-227-7866



Grassland Sheep Exhibition Shearing Competition & National Fleece Competition

Event Date: July 19-21, 2019

Entry Closing Date: June 30, 2019

Event Location: Humboldt Uniplex in
Humboldt, SK

[Click here for a Sheering Entry
Form & more info!](#)

[Click here for a National Fleece
Competition Form & more info!](#)



2019 MSA Photo Contest



Enter your photographs of sheep and sheep production today.

1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes of MSA Merchandise!

ALL IMAGES MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL TO mb@mbsheep.ca.
[Click here to review the rules of the contest](#)

Deadline to submit Photos - June 30th, 2019.
Winners announced July 15th. Enter as many photos as you like.
See MSA website for terms and conditions www.mbsheep.ca
All submitted photos will be displayed at the MSA Show & Sale
There is no cost to enter and the contest is open to anybody globally.

2019 Grasslands All Canada Sheep Classic

**Presented by: Saskatchewan Sheep Breeders' Association &
Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board**

Humboldt Uniplex Humboldt, SK July 19-21, 2019

Sheep Show & Auction Sale; Sheep Industry Education Presentations;
Lamb Banquet & Fun Auction; Stock Dog Demonstrations; Shearing Competition
Trade Show; Wool Exhibit & Demonstrations

For details: www.sasksheepbreeders.com;
www.sksheep.com or (306)933-5200
Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board

Entry Form online!

Picture generously submitted by Duane Morvik 2017

Canadian Sheep Identification Program

Under the current CSIP, Sheep producers are required to keep records and CFIA does drop in on sheep farms and ask sheep producers to verify this is being done.

- Records of CSIP tag purchases and an indication of when they were used – [click here to access the form](#)
- Records of All sheep or lambs entering your flock
- Records of all sheep 18 months or older leaving your farm, other than those sold directly to a federally or provincially inspected abattoir
- Records specific to sheep movements have to be kept for 5 years. All other records are required to be kept for 2 years.
- Sheep deadstock: You must report the identification number of the approved and revoked tag(s) borne by the carcass to **CLTS**. Collect and keep in records and report the following information.:
Collect
 - ✓ the site from which the dead stock was removed,
 - ✓ the date that the dead stock was removed from that site, and
 - ✓ the name and address of the owner or person who had the possession, care or control of the dead stock when it was removed from that site

Report CSIP information to the responsible administrator database **CLTS** or call 1-877-909-2333

CLTS MOBO – Online App

CLTS MOBO is a mobile version of the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) database designed for use on Apple iPhones and Android devices. CLTS MOBO allows users to access the CLTS database via mobile devices. Visit your app store for this quick, easy and portable version of the CLTS Database.

[For more information on the CLTS MOBO App, Click here!](#)



Canadian Sheep Federation Update

*Latest Executive Director Report
February 2019*

Click here or on the CSF logo to the left to be directed to the latest Executive Directors report from the Canadian Sheep Federation. The report includes information on the Cdn Sheep Identification Program, the Scrapie Flock Certification Program, and other industry updates.

MSA Dr. John Hammerton Scholarship/Bursary - 2019

Purpose: This \$500 reward is designed to promote the future success of the Manitoba Sheep Industry's youth and the Manitoba Sheep Industry through higher learning, skills development and leadership.

Eligibility: The MSA scholarship is open to any student who is a current member of the MSA or is related to a current MSA member.


Criteria:

- The applicant must provide official proof of current enrolment in a post-secondary program.
- The applicant must provide two references indicating their active involvement in the community and/or MB Sheep Industry. Immediate family members do not qualify.
- The applicant must complete the Dr. John Hammerton scholarship application (link below)

Deadline for applications is August 1, 2019

[Click here for more information & an application form](#)


Canadian Sheep
Genetics Program



MEASURE – MANAGE – IMPROVE

For purebred and commercial producers

Want to improve your flock profitability?



>>> GenOvis is a valuable tool <<<

<p>Improve: Flock productivity Management decisions (selection) Strengths and weaknesses</p> <p>Save time by using: Mating module (inbreeding level) Various reports (PDF and Excel)</p>	<p>>>> 6 genetic indexes to help you improve different traits of interest</p> <p>>>> 15 economical traits evaluated</p> <p>>>> based on <u>reliable information</u></p> <p>>>> updated <i>each week</i></p>
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*GenOvis removes environmental effects and includes related animals' performance to provide a **true comparison between animals.***

ENROLMENT STARTS IN JANUARY 2019

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www.customwoolenmills.com

**Currently purchasing coloured
wool fleece - phone for details.**

BLUE HILLS FIBRE FESTIVAL

The Blue Hills Fibre Festival is moving their festival to Brandon in conjunction with the Brandon Summer Fair. The new dates are times are:

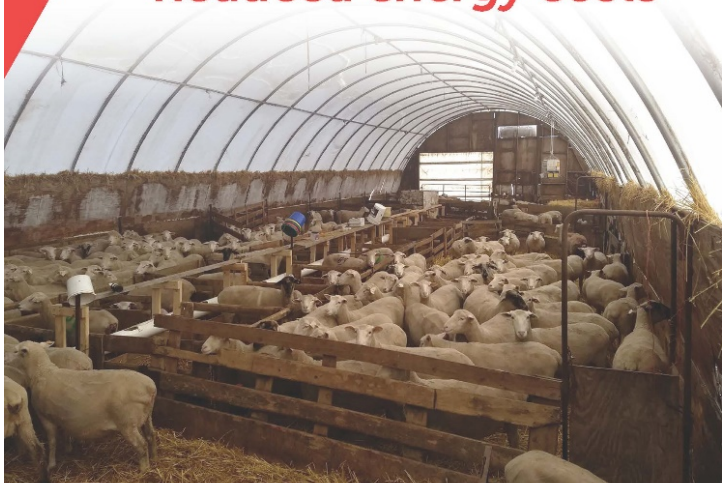
June 8th – noon to 8pm

June 9th – 11 am – 6pm

Location: Keystone Centre, in the Brandon Curling Club Building, Brandon, MB

Winkler Structures Provide

- ▶ *Better air quality & ventilation*
- ▶ *Improved flock health*
- ▶ *Reduced energy costs*



For more info call:
1-800-852-2638





Getting ready for Shearing? Need a Wool Packer?

CCWG & the MSA are working together to provide

2 New Zealand (Square Bag) wool packers to Manitoba Sheep Producers

This is a service and the use of the wool packer is free. If you are interested and want to book the Wool Packer...

Please contact Simon Atkinson at searls@yahoo.ca ASAP – book early to avoid disappointment of wool packer not being available for your shearing.

Simon will also have a good supply of square bags available for your purchase

Sheep Wool Statistics from Statistics Canada

	Canada				
Raw wool estimates	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
	Kilograms (X1000)				
Quantity of raw wool purchased	1,198.8	1,206.9	1,206.6	1,203.4	1,153.3
Quantity of raw wool used on farms	50.8	48.9	48.4	48.8	48.1
	Dollars per kilogram				
Average price of raw wool paid to producer	1.24	1.36	1.54	1.38	1.12
	Dollars				
Total farm value of raw wool	1,545	1,714	1,938	1,723	1,353

Interested in Advertising in the MSA's SheepSense?

SheepSense reaches approximately 600 Manitoba Sheep producers & the industry and is published four times per year.

Please contact the MSA Office at mb@mbsheep.ca or call (204) 421-9434 if you are interested in advertising in this publication or have any questions.

2019 Advertising Rates:

SHEEPSense Advertising (+ GST)	1 Edition	Full Year
Business Card Size	\$50	\$150
1/4 Page Ad	\$80	\$240
1/2 Page Ad	\$120	\$360
Full Page Ad	\$200	\$600
Classifieds - members	Free	
Classified - non-members	\$75	

Seven Business Practices that Drive Farm Success

1. Ongoing skills development and commitment to learning
2. Cost of production is continually monitored
3. Accurate financial data drive business decisions
4. Use of a written business plan
5. Use of business advisors
6. Risks are assessed and there's a plan to manage risk
7. Use of a financial plan and budget

source: Dollars and Sense (FMC & AMI)

Classifieds & Other Listings

Clifford Flynn – Makinak, MB

204-733-2410 – Breeders of NC Cheviot, Dorset (Horned & Polled), Shropshire, Oxford Down

Double M Livestock – Morgan, Amber & Family – Brandon, MB

204-741-0748 – Registered Ile De France, Charollais Sheep, Commercial Rideau Arcott x Ile De France

Garwen Farms – Garry, Wendy & Gord Church, Clandeboye, MB

204-738-2299 wchurch@hotmail.com – Breeders of Commercial Suffolk and purebred Dorset Sheep

Shereff Stock Farm – Jeff & Sheri Bieganski – Carberry, MB

204-834-2989/204-761-2440 – Purebred Polled Dorsets & Suffolks

Red Willow Shropshires – Kate Basford – Winnipegosis, MB

204-656-4963 katebasford@hotmail.com – Shropshires

FOR SALE - two 6-month-old Pyrenees pups, from working parents (1 male, 1 female) - Raised with sheep. Ready to start work in the spring. Had their first shots - \$450 each
Ph 204 567 3509

Purchase your next sheep barn from Winkler Structures -

38' x 100' QuickBuild Wall Mount Dome with 2 – 14' x 14' Accutrack raising doors and 4 – 12' x 12' louvered vents. Price includes 4' wood post pony wall with tin cladding. \$28,700 – add \$14,750 for installation. Call Winkler Structures, 1-800-852-2638

Thank-you to our Sponsors

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MB Lamb Featured on Half Cup Habit – *Great Tastes of MB*

In case you missed it, Manitoba Lamb was featured on Saturday's broadcast of "Half Cup Habit", and we were posting about you on the Great Tastes of Manitoba [social media](#).

Here's a link to the recipes:

[**Manitoba Lamb & Black Bean Meatballs with Minted Greek Yogurt**](#)

And to the videos:

[**Manitoba Lamb & Black Bean Meatballs with Minted Greek Yogurt**](#)

Liquor Marts also paired each recipe with a beverage, as seen here:

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S2DAXQACj_o**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S2DAXQACj_o)

