

LETTER TO FLEECE PRODUCERS

Dear Fiber Animal Producers,

Greetings to another year of the EMFF Fiber Sale and now Show. This year we're adding the possibility of entering your best fleeces for judging.

I listened to your feedback about having to fill out the information sheets on each animal in duplicate. I'm trying an idea to get those printed from information you give me on your pre-registration Farm Master List that I'm asking you send to me before the festival – deadline, arrival by September 5. I know, festival time is really busy. How about getting those fleeces ready 2-3 weeks earlier and not feeling so rushed as you prepare them? Do them justice!

So, please print and complete the 2017 Pre-Registration Farm Master List, available here on the website, and mail it with payment by check to the following address: Judy Leece, 1113 Hollywood Ter., York, PA 17403. Make check payable to Endless Mountains Fiber Festival. Deadline: Receipt by September 5.

Fees: For Sale Only -- \$1 for Festival Vendors; \$3 for Non-vendors

For Show and Sale -- \$3 for Festival Vendors; \$5 for Non-vendors

Fleece Check-In Times: Friday, September 8, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Or Saturday, September 9, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

If you'll send the pre-registration information to me with your registration fees, I'll have a packet ready for you that includes information sheets on each of your animals. All you'll have to bring to the fleece check-in at the Sheep Barn on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning will be your carefully skirted fleeces in clear plastic bags! We'll pull your packet and get you checked in.

Yes, you'll be able to do the whole business at check-in, but you're going to have to fill out two of the individual animal forms in addition to the pre-registration form at the same time as you have all kinds of other things that need to be done when you arrive at the festival grounds. I hope you'll give the new procedure a try.

As I said last year, buyers love to know more about the fleeces that catch their eyes. So, in addition to the information on the animal's individual information sheet, I encourage you to provide additional information (animal's name, what you like about this particular animal's fleece-type, how often you shear or clip or rue, a picture of the animal, information like this) on a sheet you create. Please place this information in the bag with the fleece – unless you are entering the fleece for show. We will place the information in those fleece bags after they have been judged. Sometimes this information leads to connections that bring yearly purchases between producer and buyer. Obviously, this is not required, but can be worth your time.

We hope to have a sheep-fleece skirting demonstration this year – a demonstration that can be valuable to producers as well as purchasers. Last year's shearing demonstration was very popular, so we hope to hold the skirting demo in conjunction with that event. If you have an animal's fleece you'd like to be used for either the shearing and/or the skirting demo, please let me know.

Please encourage other producers to enter their fleeces for sale. This is a valuable event for producers and fleece fans – more exposure is a good thing!

I'm eager to hear your feedback on registering your animal's fleeces prior to the festival. I hope you're willing to give this a try. Please contact me via email with questions regarding the EMFF Fleece Show and Sale at leecesfleeces@yahoo.com.

Thanks so much,

Judy Leece