

Nova Scotia 2019 Directors Report

The Atlantic Purebred sheep sale was held at the exhibition grounds Truro Aug 30 with 21 breeders exhibiting Dorset, North Country Cheviot, Rideau Arcott, Suffolk, Texel, and Hampshire going into the sale ring. The numbers were down with 29 ewes averaging \$385, 16 Rams averaging \$460, and commercial ewes averaging just above market price.

The Purebred sheep breeders association of Nova Scotia presented Dr. Ted Semple with an award of achievement in recognition of his outstanding service to our association and to the agricultural industry.

The AGM for the Purebred sheep breeders association of Nova Scotia was held January 11,20 at the Cobequid District fire hall, Lower Truro. The morning began with presentations on PID- Premises Identification Number, why and what is it, Traceability and the new Humane transportation regulations, Dr Dave Barrett updating on FSH and ovulation research, and the Napan research station will be offering a program to put rams on test to obtain info to increasing production performance.

We welcome Janessa Henry to our board, Janessa raises Suffolk sheep and is a past winner of the CSBA scholarship.

The sheep producers association Nova Scotia was once again busy delivering ewe lamb management workshops presented by Jonathan Wort, livestock specialist of Perennia. He discussed raising ewe lambs birth to production. The second workshop also teamed by SPANS and Perennia was on forage and winter feeding, educating producers on forage sampling and testing and how to read and interpret the results. These workshops coincided with a safe animal handling course. Spans has started a monthly newsletter comprised of industry news, updates, up coming events and associated material.

Weather has come to impact us yearly from drought resulting in poor yields, wet cold springs delaying planting or holding off until another year, to Hurricane damaging crops, buildings and flooding. A disaster financial assistance program was available for those operations effected by Hurricane Dorian. This program was meant to help individuals return to pre-disaster conditions.

This year has brought things into perspective with the Coronavirus Pandemic on going, on weather, lamb and breeding stock prices, machinery and fuel prices, etc. Just be safe and continue to raise the sheep we love.

Respectfully submitted by Bruce Sinclair

CSBA director for Nova Scotia