



# Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association

RR 2, Site 7, Box 46 Bluffton, AB T0C 0M0

Toll free: 1-866-956-1116 Fax: 1-877-207-2541

[office@sheepbreeders.ca](mailto:office@sheepbreeders.ca)

[www.sheepbreeders.ca](http://www.sheepbreeders.ca)

## La Société Canadienne des Éleveurs de Moutons

### 2014 Summer Update

#### **All Canada Sheep Classic:**

The 2014 Classic will be held at the Ancaster Fairgrounds (630 Trinity Rd. S, Ancaster, ON L0R 1R0) from July 10th to 12th, 2014. This year, 61 consignors from 7 provinces have entered 368 sheep. The show (July 11th) and sale (July 12th) will include the following 15 breeds: Border Leicester, Canadian Arcott, Charollais, Dorper, Dorset (polled and horned), Hampshire, Ile de France, Lincoln, North Country Cheviot, Oxford, Rideau Arcott, Shropshire, Southdown, Suffolk and Texel.

The 2014 Classic catalogue was mailed on June 12<sup>th</sup> to all Canadian CSBA members, and non-members in Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec that purchased registered sheep in 2012, 2013 or 2014. The catalogue is also available on the CSBA's website. The catalogue includes information on each entry, a schedule of events, information about OSMA's Education Day, producer and sponsor advertisements and a list of accommodations.

A fleece competition will be held in conjunction with the Classic. White and natural coloured fleeces from sheep in any province will be represented. Classes include Range Wool, Long Wool, All Down Breeds, Other Specialty Breeds and Crossbred Wools. For information on the fleece competition, please contact Ron Gates at 519-674-2676.

On Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, the junior show will commence with a veterinary check at 8:00am followed by the show in Classic show ring. Youth aged 9 to 21 from across Canada are invited to participate. The show consists of three showmanship classes, and conformation classes for breeding ewes and market lambs. Entries or questions can be directed to Josh and Melissa Groves at 545 Hwy. 54, Brantford, ON N3T 5L9 or [vangroffarms@hotmail.com](mailto:vangroffarms@hotmail.com).

An Ontario Lamb Banquet will be held on Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. Reserve tickets (\$35 for adults, \$20 for children 5-12 years old) by contacting Jim Groves at [vangro@hotmail.com](mailto:vangro@hotmail.com) or 519-752-8552.

Notice for all consignors: please be sure that animals' tattoos and/or tags match their registration papers before you leave your farm. Registration forms must be signed for transfer and presented during the inspection. Animals without registration papers will not be allowed in the show or sale. Contact Lorna Woolsey at 1-877-833-7110 ext. 306 to complete the registration process before the end of June.

#### **Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Sheep:**

On December 18, 2013, the Canadian Sheep Federation (CSF) and the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC) announced the release of the new code, which is available electronically at [www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/sheep](http://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/sheep).

The sheep code is one of several codes of practice that constitute “national developed guidelines for the care and handling of farm animals. They serve as our national understanding of animal care requirements and recommended practices. Codes promote sound management and welfare practices for housing, care, transportation and other animal husbandry practices.”

One of the requirements identified within the code is: “Docked tails must cover the vulva in ewes and the equivalent length in rams. Tails must be docked no shorter than the distal end of the caudal fold.” Purebred sheep breeders are often in the public eye during sheep shows and sales, so it is important to be aware of the tail-docking requirement. During the 2014 Classic in Ancaster, a veterinarian will be discussing correct tail docking lengths with producers. Copies of tail docking images from the Code will be available for reference.

The CSBA recommends that all sheep producers familiarize themselves with the *Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Sheep*.

### **Scholarship:**

Once again, the CSBA is offering a \$500 annual scholarship to university or college students who are CSBA members or children/grandchildren of CSBA members. The application form can be found on the CSBA’s website. Applications must be received at the CSBA office by August 1, 2014.

### **National Flock Integrity:**

Parentage testing is an integral part of maintaining the integrity of Canada’s purebred sheep industry. The CSBA requests parentage testing on every 500<sup>th</sup> animal submitted for registration. A constitutional amendment, which received government approval in October 2012 states that the CSBA will allow 1 full year to have the test completed. If the parentage test is not completed within 1 year of the request, all registration papers for that breeder may be held until the breeder complies with the testing. Breeders who have not complied with a request for parentage testing since October 2012 must proceed with testing immediately. If the original animal cannot be tested, an alternative animal may be selected by contacting Lorna Woolsey at 1-877-833-7110 ext. 306. Once parentage has been confirmed, the CSBA provides \$100 grant to assist with the cost incurred in parentage testing.

There was a six-month delay in receiving test results due to the transition of ownership of the DNA testing laboratory. The new lab confirmed that sheep blood tests were run on June 4<sup>th</sup> and results would be available soon. Once results have been received, breeders who have not complied with parentage testing in the past year will be contacted by the CSBA.

### **Animal Pedigree Act:**

CSBA board members will be meeting with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Director, John Ross, at the end of June to discuss the Act and its importance to purebred sheep producers. Please direct questions or comments to your provincial CSBA director as soon as possible.

**In order to stay on the mailing list, it is important to have a current CSBA membership and active email address. Please renew your membership now by contacting the CLRC on-line at [www.clrc.ca](http://www.clrc.ca) or by calling Lorna Woolsey at 1-877-833-7110 ext. 306.**