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Alberta Lamb Producers
97 East Lake Ramp NE
Airdrie, Alberta T4A 0C3







N'ewesletter

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PM#40050072 Photo Credit: Jennifer Wood

October 2026



Goat and sheep oiler/scratcher

Steel Oil Tank
Adjustable Brushes
Top brush brushes out winter hair
Adjustable Flow Control Valve



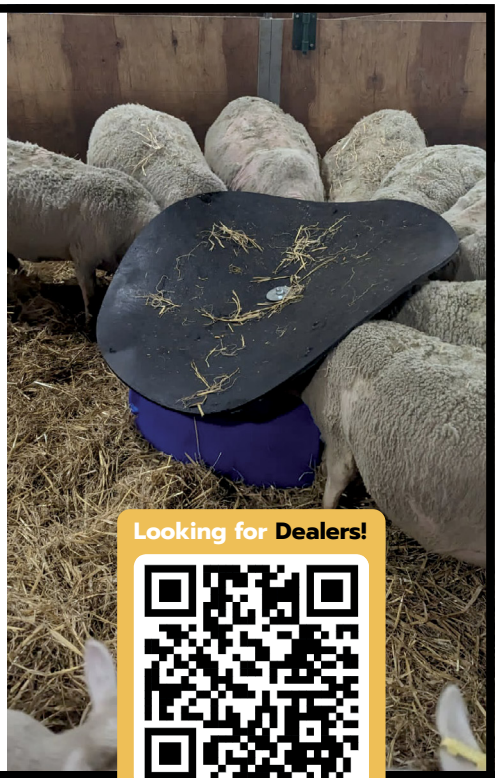
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Sheep & Goat Specials
-Every First Saturday sale of the month

UPCOMING SALES
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Sheep & Goat Special - November 7 at 10 am
Sheep & Goat Special - December 5 at 10 am
Sheep & Goat Special - January 9 at 10 am

Odd 'N Unusual Sales
-Last Saturday of April, May, June and September
Equipment Sales
-As Announced Through the Summer

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Cover photo: Jennifer Wood

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Message From Your Vice Chair: Adam French



There Has Never Been a Better Time to Grow

It's a great time to be a sheep producer.

I've always believed there is a bright future for Canada's sheep industry. Today, we have data to support that belief.

Lamb consumption in Canada continues to grow, driven by an expanding and increasingly diverse population. Many new Canadians come from cultures where lamb and mutton are staple proteins, while more Canadians are discovering lamb and making it a regular part of their meals. That's why it's so important that as producers, we speak positively about our industry and share our passion for raising sheep and producing high-quality lamb with our friends, neighbours and customers.

Growing demand creates opportunity.

Whenever this topic comes up, someone inevitably mentions "cheap" imported lamb. While imports are certainly part of the Canadian marketplace, cheap is a relative term. Whether imported or domestically produced, lamb is priced competitively alongside beef, the red meat we compete with most directly.

More importantly, conversations with producers, auction marts, processors and retailers across the country consistently point to the same challenge: there simply aren't enough sheep. There is a shortage of feeder lambs, breeding stock for flock expansion, and quality lamb on retail shelves. While shortages are never ideal, they signal something important, a market that is seeking more product than we currently produce.

That's the kind of problem that creates opportunity.

Growing the industry is one of the pillars of Alberta Lamb Producers' Strategic Plan. Our goal is ambitious but achievable: increase Alberta's sheep flock by 20% by 2030. Similar ambitions exist elsewhere in Canada. Ontario Sheep Farmers' "50 by 40" initiative aims for 50% of the lamb consumed in Canada to be produced domestically by 2040.

Imports Still Matter

Some producers ask whether imported lamb limits opportunities for Canadian producers. I would argue that imports currently play an important role.

Without imported lamb, many grocery stores simply wouldn't carry lamb year-round. As an industry, we cannot afford to lose valuable shelf space or allow consumers to stop seeing lamb as a regular protein option. Whatever its origin, consumers need to find lamb in the meat case and continue purchasing it.

That doesn't mean Canadian lamb can't capture a larger share of the market. Quite the opposite. As domestic production grows, we have an opportunity to replace a greater portion of imports. But until we are producing enough lamb to consistently meet demand, imports help maintain consumer awareness and support year-round availability.

Data Supports the Opportunity

Canada's sheep flock has remained relatively stable over the past five years (Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada).

Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Sheep & Lambs	822,000	847,000	822,000	809,000	833,000

Now compare that with Australia, one of the world's largest exporters of lamb (Source: Meat & Livestock Australia).

Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 est.	2027 est.	2028 est.
Sheep & Lambs (million)	73.1	74.2	71.4	69.0	67.2	66.4	64.6

Australia's flock is projected to continue declining. New Zealand is experiencing a similar trend, with its sheep population shrinking by approximately 40% over the past two decades as land has shifted toward dairy production and cropping.

Europe's flock has declined by more than 12% over the past decade (Source: Eurostat), while China, home to the world's largest sheep (and goat) flock has also seen numbers fall significantly, from approximately 334 million in 2023 to around 281 million in 2026.

Why does this matter?

Because China is a major destination for Australian and New Zealand lamb and mutton. As flocks decline in those exporting countries while demand remains strong in China and other international markets, some of the product that once supplied North America may increasingly be directed elsewhere.

The result is simple: declining global sheep numbers combined with growing worldwide demand create an even stronger opportunity for Canadian producers to supply more of our own domestic market.

Growth Requires More Than More Ewes

Expanding the flock isn't simply about retaining every ewe lamb. Sustainable growth requires improving productivity at the same time.

Again, Australia provides a useful example. Even as flock numbers have fallen, producers have increased productivity through genetic improvement, better nutrition, grain finishing, faster growth rates and producing heavier lambs that meet processor and consumer demand.

That sounds familiar.

Visit any auction mart today and you'll see strong competition for quality feeder lambs and robust demand for heavy, well-finished young lambs.

On our own farm, we're focused on growing, but growing the right way.

That means making difficult culling decisions, removing ewes that don't consistently produce the type of lambs we want, and applying strict selection criteria when retaining replacements. Every generation should improve the flock.

Sometimes that means taking a step backward before moving forward.

Two years ago, we lambed nearly twice as many ewes as we do today. But the genetics simply weren't where we wanted them to be. After making some difficult culling decisions (some accelerated by weather) we now have a much stronger flock. Our ewes are weaning more pounds of lamb, and the quality of our replacements continues to improve.

With abundant pasture this year and the prospect of an excellent hay crop, it's tempting to keep every ewe lamb. But discipline matters. Only the best get to stay. Our philosophy is simple: grow slowly, grow deliberately, and build the kind of flock that will be profitable for years to come.

The Opportunity Is Here

When you step back and look at the bigger picture, the outlook is encouraging.

Global sheep inventories are declining. Demand for lamb continues to grow, both here in Canada and around the world. Consumers want more lamb than our industry currently produces.

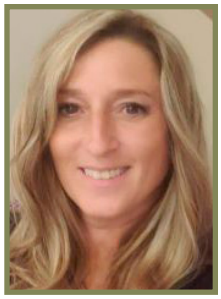
That's exactly the kind of environment that rewards investment.

I believe Alberta producers are well positioned to capture more of our domestic market while building stronger, more productive flocks. It won't happen overnight, and it won't happen by accident. It will happen because producers continue investing in better genetics, better management and long-term growth.

Personally, I can't think of a better time to be in the sheep business, or a better time to build for the future.

Adam French

Message From Your Director: Darlene Hawco



As another growing season begins to wind down across Alberta, farmers and ranchers are looking back on a year that tested patience, persistence and in many

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Another successful sale has gone by with hopefully, many happy customers who purchased our stock. We delivered all of our sales rams, mostly to their new homes, but some to central points close to their new homes.

We thank all of you who took part in our sale either through bidding or making a successful purchase. To those who purchased our stock, many thanks and good luck with your new purchases.

Our next year's lamb ram crop looks promising.

We are pleased with the purchases we made this year and are looking forward to next year's Classic in Alberta.

See you there.

Morinville Colony
Sheep Breeders

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

cases the limits of what a farm can withstand. In the northeast too much rain created its own set of problems, while farther south producers were often watching the skies hoping for just enough moisture to keep crops and pastures going. There was little middle ground this year. Add uncertain weather patterns, rising fuel and other input cost and pressure of making a living from the land and it has been a challenging season for agriculture from one end of the province to the other.

For sheep producers, the challenges of the growing season don't necessarily end when the combines leave the field. Good pasture, adequate hay supplies and reasonable feed cost play an important role in getting a flock through the winter in good condition. The difference between a productive pasture and one that has been stressed by too little moisture can have a significant impact on a sheep operation. Lambs still need to grow, ewes still need to be maintained, and producers still must make decisions about feed, breeding and winter housing while keeping a close eye on costs.

And now the calendar is moving quickly, with perhaps only six weeks before winter will make its presence felt somewhere across Alberta and there is still plenty to do. Grain needs to be harvested and stored, livestock need to be sorted and prepared for winter, machinery needs attention and feed supplies need to be assessed. For many farmers and ranchers, Fall is a race against both the clock and the weather. A late snowfall or another stretch of poor weather can quickly turn a difficult year into an even more expensive one. Yet if there is one thing Alberta's agricultural producers have demonstrated time and time again, is resilience.

Farmers and ranchers don't get to choose the weather, fuel prices or markets, but they continue to adapt and make the best decisions they can and look ahead to another season. Whether it's a flock of sheep heading into winter, cattle coming off pasture or grain finally making its way into the bin, there is satisfaction in knowing the work has been done. This has been a challenging year, but Alberta agriculture has weathered difficult seasons before and with some luck from Mother Nature producers will soon be looking forward to a fresh start in the spring!

Darlene Hawco

ALP Activities Update

Over the spring and summer months, Alberta Lamb Producers' directors and staff have been actively representing the





organization across Alberta and nationally. Our team has engaged with producers, industry partners, researchers, and sector networks to advance priorities in governance, marketing, animal health, and producer support. The following highlights capture key meetings and events attended from April to September.

Governance & Board Engagement

- Director Video Conferences (second and fourth Tuesday each month)
- ALP Directors' Meeting, Airdrie
- Marketing Council Managers Quarterly Meetings

Advisory Committees & Oversight

- AEPA Advisory Committee Meetings & summer tour
- Technology Access Centre for Livestock Production Advisory Panel
- U of C's DSU (Diagnostic Services Unit) Advisory Committee
- Green Certificate Program – Sheep Specialty Advisory and Expert Panels
- Campaign For Wool Canada Advisory Board

Marketing, Networks & Sector Collaboration

- WeCAHN Small Ruminant Network Meeting
- CAHSS Small Ruminant Network Meeting

RDAR Engagement

- RDAR Round Up Conference
- Myasis (Flystrike band) research project monthly stakeholder meetings with Chinook Contract Research

Agricultural Leadership & Professional Development

- Ag Leadership Workshop
- Ag Leadership Learning Series Webinar

Producer, Industry, Interprovincial & National Outreach

- AAFC Roundtable meetings: virtual and in person
- National Sheep Network meeting
- Provincial Sheep Organizations Chairs meetings, virtual
- All Canada Sheep Classic, in person all provincial chairs meeting
- CgFARAD Stakeholder meeting
- Canadian Federation of Agriculture General Managers meeting
- Provincial Ag Minister: Meet/Greet event, meeting to discuss Alberta sheep industry
- Calgary Stampede: Minister Dreeshen Gathering, International Agriculture & Agri Food Reception, Kitchen Theatre-lamb as the main ingredient x2 events, Sheep Showcase, International Livestock Congress
- Westfine Meats facility tour for 12 University of Calgary faculty and staff (Planned, coordinated, and participated)
- Beginner Shearing Clinic (lunch sponsor)
- Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian meeting
- CFIA- Proposed changes to Livestock Traceability Regulations

ALP Annual General Meeting

All eligible Alberta Producers are invited to attend the AGM and will be entitled to one vote per farm at the 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 (August 31).

ALP is your organization, and the AGM will provide you:

- A full transparent review of ALP activities, financial statements and the 2026-27 budget.
- An opportunity for producers to discuss resolutions and direct ALP activities. (Brought forward by the deadline of September 30, 2026 - resolutions will not be accepted from the floor.)

Date: Saturday, November 7, 2026, at 9:00 am.

Join us in-person at the Holiday Inn & Suites Edmonton Airport and Conference Centre 1100 4th Street, Nisku, AB Phone: 780-979-0839 OR virtually on the Zoom Platform. There is no charge to attend ALP's AGM, however registration is required.

Unlocking Profit Potential

Alberta Lamb Producers 2026 Annual General Meeting and Conference Agenda

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

8:00am - 8:45am	Registration and Trade Fair
9:00am - 11:30am	Parasite Workshop – led by UCVM Professors
11:30am - 12:00pm	Break and Trade Fair
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch and Trade Fair
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Speaker Dr. Katie Waine – The Truth About Thin Sheep
2:00pm - 3:00pm	Speaker Charlie Hansen – Are You Producing What They Want to Eat?
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Refreshment Break & Trade Fair
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Speaker Eric Steeves – Building for the Future: Barn Design and the Power of Sheep-Voltaics
4:30pm - 5:00pm	Trade Fair
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Cocktail Hour & Trade Fair
6:00pm - 8:00pm	Banquet Featuring Alberta Lamb
8:00pm - 10:00pm	Cash Bar and Networking

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

8:00am - 8:45am	Registration and Trade Fair
9:00am -12:00pm	Annual General Meeting
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch and Trade Fair
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Keynote Speaker Dr. Ben Bauer - From Feed to Feet: How Trace Elements Affect Sheep Foot Health
2:00pm - 2:30pm	Speakers Andrea Hansen & Brenda Ralston - Lived Experience Meets Evidence: Leading Applied Research in Agriculture
2:30pm - 3:00pm	Refreshment Break and Trade Fair
3:00pm - 4:30pm	Panel Discussion: Moderated by Andrea Hanson & Brenda Ralston
4:30pm	Closing Remarks

DRAFT



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Lomond Colony
Robert Peltzer
Pibroch Colony
Pincher Creek Colony
Jordan Preston
Paul Preston
Quill Lake Farming Co
Raley Colony Ltd
Derek & Shilo Sager
Sheep Wrangler Farms
Spring Point Colony
Spring Valley Farming Co Ltd
Standoff Colony
Sunnydale Colony
Ben Tams
Thompson Colony
Waterton Colony
White Lake Colony
Wright Livestock Marketing
Yetwood Farms Ltd

* *High selling ram: Canadian Arcott ram from the Mandel family was purchased by Wright Livestock Marketing of Pangman, SK for $5500.*
* *High Volume buyer: Hejo Farms, Coaldale, AB with the purchase of 42 rams.*
* *Charity: 2 ewe lambs donated by Keho Lake Colony raised a total of $24,200 for STARS.*

www.poundmakerrams.com and Pound Maker Rams on Facebook

All 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
- 2025 AGM Minutes
- 2025-26 Annual Report
- 2025-26 Financial Statements
- Acclaimed Directors Bios
- Proposed amendment tables for Plan Regulation, Regulation and Bylaws

Conference, Parasite Workshop and Trade Fair

ALP is hosting our 2026 Annual General Meeting in conjunction with an educational conference and parasite workshop.

There is an opportunity to send in your specific parasite questions prior, see page 23 for details.

An exciting trade show with new booths will keep you engaged during breaks, and for those attending the AGM only, doors open at 8:00am for registration and trade fair. ALP's 2026 educational conference is a paid event, has no eligibility requirements and is open to anyone to register for and attend. If you cannot attend the entire event, there are options to choose from!

Date: Friday, November 6 and Saturday, November 7, 2026
Location: Holiday Inn & Suites Edmonton Airport and Conference Centre, 1100 4th Street, Nisku, AB Phone: 780-979-0839

If you are looking to book a hotel room at the venue, ALP has a block of rooms which include one voucher for breakfast, with additional vouchers available for purchase.

Guest Rooms Block Name – Alberta Lamb Producers (Block released October 16)

Registration

For those who wish to register for and attend the AGM and/or Conference you will find the online registration form on our website under the "News and Events" heading and selecting "ALP Conference and AGM". If you prefer pen and paper, give the office a call and we will get you registered.

Deadline: October 30, 2026

For more information or to register please email info@ablamb.ca or call 403-948-8533 by October 30, 2026.

Aclaimed Directors & DIT Position

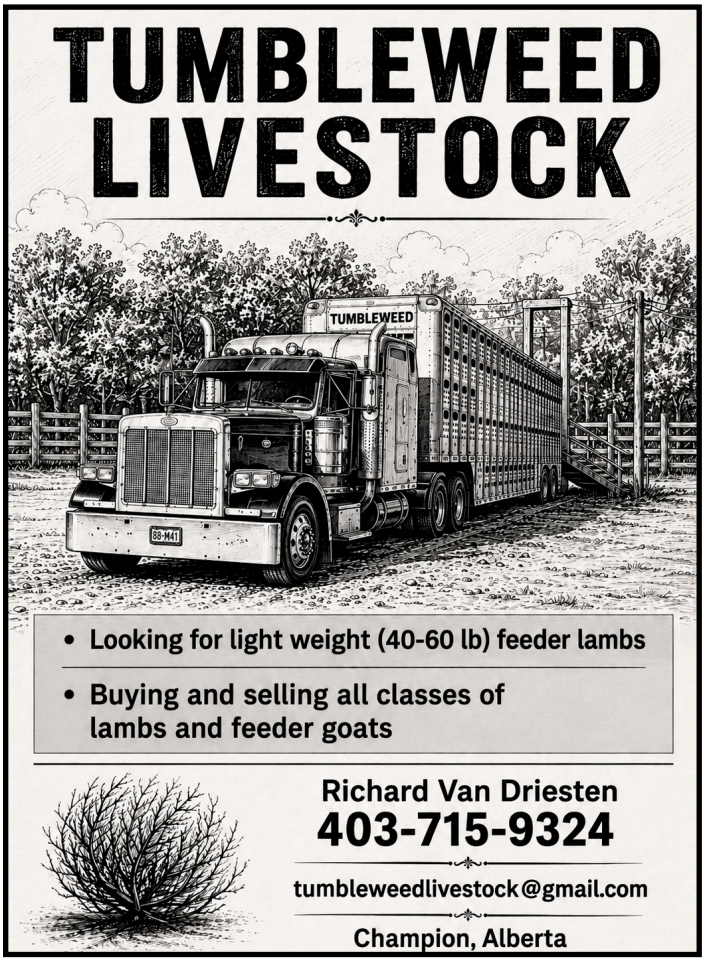
Alberta Lamb Producers (ALP) is pleased to announce the acclamation of three Director at Large positions for the 2026–2027 Board term. Three eligible producers submitted valid nomination forms prior to the August 15, 2026 deadline. As the number of nominations did not exceed the number of available

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positions, all nominees will be acclaimed. In accordance with regulations, the incoming 2026–2027 Board will issue a call for nominations to fill the remaining interim Director vacancy once they assume their roles. Until then, the Board remains fully empowered to carry out its duties. The acclaimed Directors will be formally recognized during the ALP Annual General Meeting (AGM) on November 7, 2026.

Director-in-Training (DIT) Program

The ALP Director-in-Training Program was established to foster member engagement and support Board succession planning. Through this initiative, an appointed eligible producer participates in Board meetings as a non-voting member, gaining valuable insight into Board operations and key industry issues.

In 2026, ALP welcomed a Director in Training who subsequently stepped into an interim Director role when a vacancy became available, demonstrating the success of the DIT program.

No nominations were received for the Director in Training position for the 2026–2027 term. The Board continues to welcome expressions of interest at any time from eligible producers who wish to participate in the program and gain experience in ALP governance.



The Sheep Showcase at the Calgary Stampede did an excellent job of promoting our industry.

ALP Takes Centre Stage at 2026 Calgary Stampede

Promoting Alberta lamb to consumers is an important part of the Alberta Lamb Producers (ALP) strategic plan. This summer, ALP had an exciting opportunity to showcase the quality of Alberta lamb and connect directly with consumers at the 2026 Calgary Stampede through the Taste of Stampede and Sheep Showcase.

A Taste of Alberta Lamb

The Taste of Stampede provided an outstanding platform to introduce consumers to Alberta lamb through live cooking competitions held in the impressive BMO Centre on the Calgary Stampede grounds. Alberta lamb for the event was supplied by Westfine Meats in Innisfail, highlighting the connection between Alberta sheep producers, processors and consumers.

Lamb was featured in cooking demonstrations, creating strong public visibility and opportunities for consumers to learn more about Alberta-produced lamb. Westfine Meats and the ALP Executive Director were on site throughout the events, handing out recipe cards and speaking with members of the public. These conversations provided an opportunity to answer questions, share information about Alberta lamb and encourage consumers to incorporate lamb into their meals at home. Adding an important producer perspective to the event, Ryley Newsham, a lamb producer from Innisfail, Alberta, served as one of four judges for the cooking competitions. Newsham brought valuable first-hand knowledge of the sheep industry to the event, speaking with consumers about raising lamb in Alberta and the care and effort that goes into producing a safe, nutritious and delicious product.

Having a producer directly involved in the cooking competitions helped bridge the gap between the farm and the consumer,



giving the public an opportunity to hear about Alberta lamb production from someone who lives and works in the industry.

Sheep Showcase Brings the Industry to Life

The Sheep Showcase provided another valuable opportunity to promote the sheep industry and educate the public. Live sheep displays, wool education and collaborative outreach with other livestock organizations helped demonstrate the many facets of Alberta's sheep industry. Visitors were particularly excited to see sheep as part of the Grand Drive of Champions. The presence of sheep in the barns created opportunities for members of the public to get up close to the animals and learn more about them. Young sheep producers also played an important role throughout the event. They proudly showcased their animals and spent time talking with visitors, answering questions and sharing their experiences as the next generation of Alberta sheep producers.

Connecting Consumers with Alberta Agriculture

Events such as the Calgary Stampede provide an important opportunity for Alberta Lamb Producers to connect directly with consumers. From the food on the plate to the animals in the barns, the 2026 Stampede showcased the people, livestock and expertise behind Alberta lamb production.

For Alberta Lamb Producers, the Taste of Stampede and Sheep Showcase were more than opportunities for visibility, they were opportunities to build relationships, tell the story of Alberta lamb and remind consumers of the quality product being produced right here in our province.

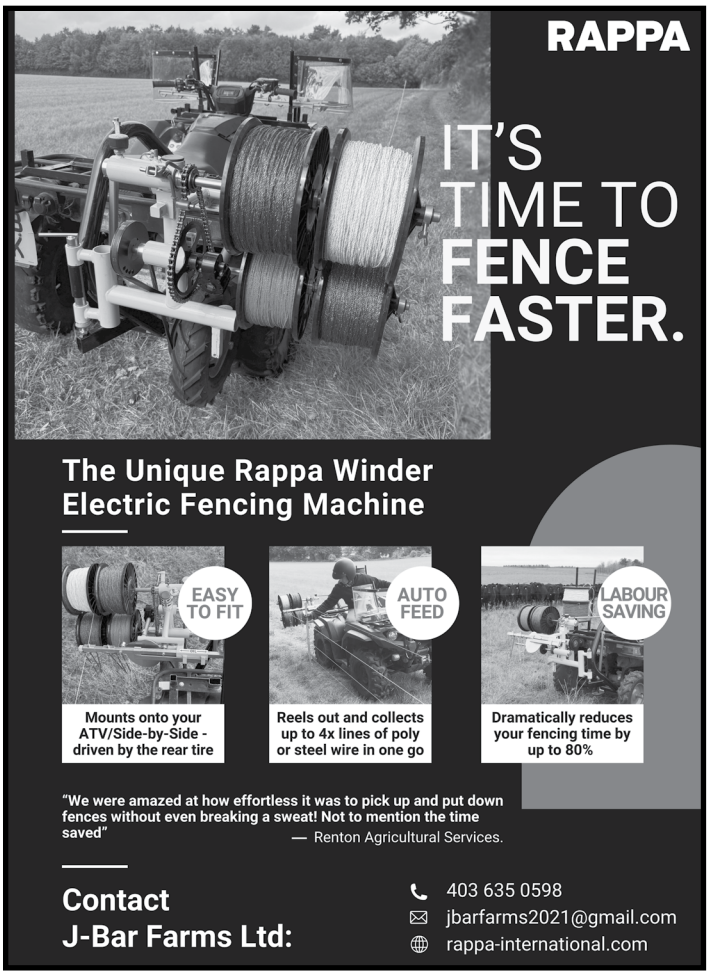


Dan ten Haaf, Westfine Meats, and Jolene Airth, ALP Executive Director, promoted the lamb industry during the Taste of Stampede.

Lamb And Sheep Market Update

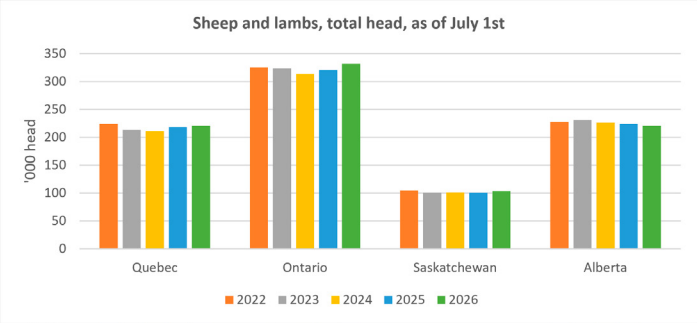
Ann Boyda, Provincial Livestock Market Analyst
Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation

This lamb and sheep market update looks at Alberta lamb inventories and the market forces influencing production.



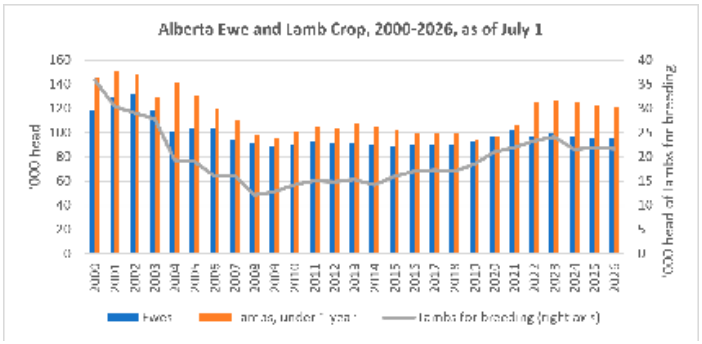
Sheep and Lamb Inventories

Alberta's sheep sector is in its third consecutive year of modest contraction. Recently published Statistics Canada data on the number of sheep and lamb on farms, as of July 1, 2026, reports the national inventory at 1.048 million head, a 1.0 per cent increase over July 1, 2025. The growth in the total inventory is attributed to increases in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Quebec, 3.6 per cent, 3.1 per cent and 1.0 per cent, respectively. Alberta's position as the second largest producing province with 220.7 thousand sheep is being challenged by Quebec with 220.5 thousand sheep.



Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0129-01 Number of sheep and lambs on farms

At the peak of Alberta's ewe flock numbers in the early 2000s, productivity was near 1.22 lambs per ewe. The rate has risen to between 1.27 to 1.29 in recent years. The lamb crop declined from a high of 151.2 thousand head in 2001 to a low in 2009 of 95.5 thousand head and to 93.9 thousand head in 2019; regaining strength by 2021 and 2022. Lambs retained for breeding were reaching the rate of nearly 20 per cent of total lambs under one year of age. Although superior genetics has improved productivity, higher lamb prices, in combination with recurrent unfavourable weather and drought conditions, have tempted the sale of market-ready animals impacting the number of ewe lambs retained for breeding.

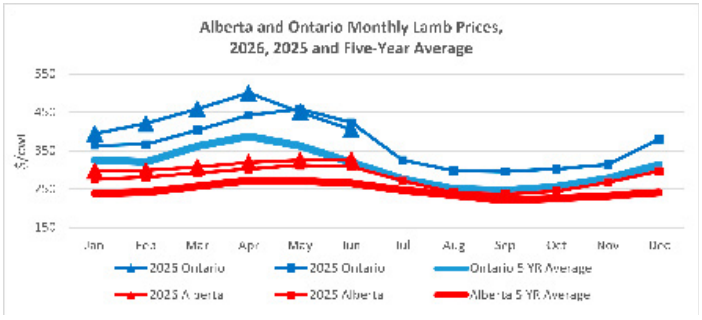


Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0129-01 Number of sheep and lambs on farms

Prices

Strong lamb prices continue in 2026 supported by tight supplies and steady consumer demand.

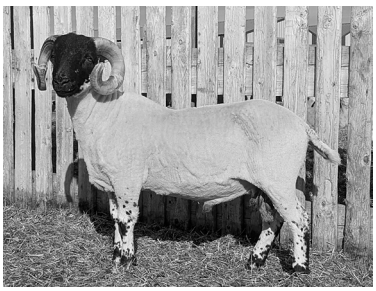
Data from Statistics Canada shows an average Alberta lamb price of $312.38 per hundredweight (cwt) for the first half of the year, which was 5.9 per cent higher than the same period 2025. Ontario, Canada's largest lamb market, reported an average of $438.20 per cwt, 7 per cent higher than over same period.



Source: Statistics Canada. Table 32-10-0077-01 Farm product prices, crops and livestock

Alberta's estimated weekly live price equivalent for lamb held its strong performance through the first 7 1/2 months of 2026 compared to that of last year and the five-year average.

The average year-to-date (Aug. 14, 2026) price of $321.63 per cwt remains 7.5 per cent higher than the same period last year.





Yearling Rams Now Available

Or join the wait-list for select breeding stock from our April 2026 lamb crop!

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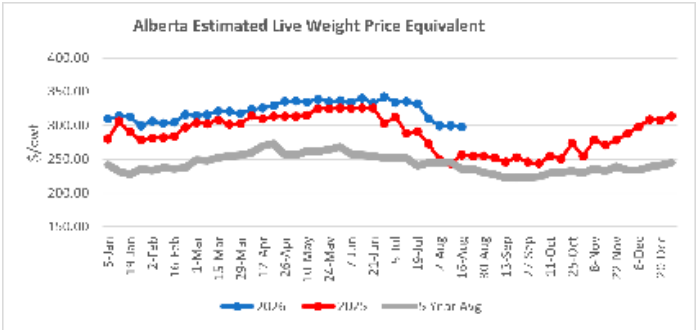
Registered Scottish Blackface

Composite Coloured Dairy Sheep

Ken & Karla Van Driesten Coalhurst, AB

587-727-0433 | whitneymeadowsfarm@gmail.com

Market volatility has been less evident in 2026 through the summer months than in 2025.

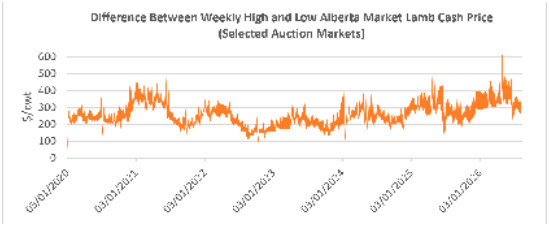


Source: Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation

The range between low and high lamb prices at the auction markets increased in 2026 compared to prior years.

Market lamb estimates based on the average at select Alberta auction markets ranged from a weekly average of $308 per cwt to $403.81 per cwt over the year-to-date (Aug. 14, 2026).

The spread, or difference in the low and high range price, was an average of $95.81 per cwt over this period. The average low weekly price for feeder lamb was $381.77 per cwt and the average high price was $479.29 per cwt, year-to-date.

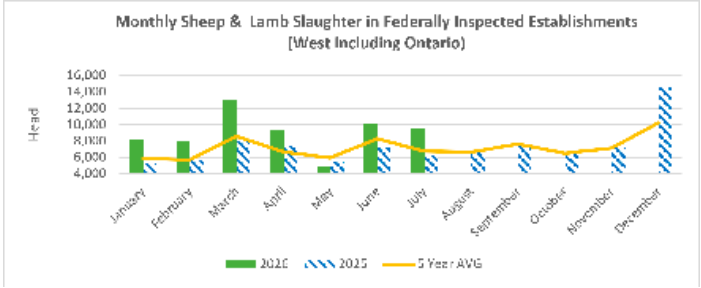


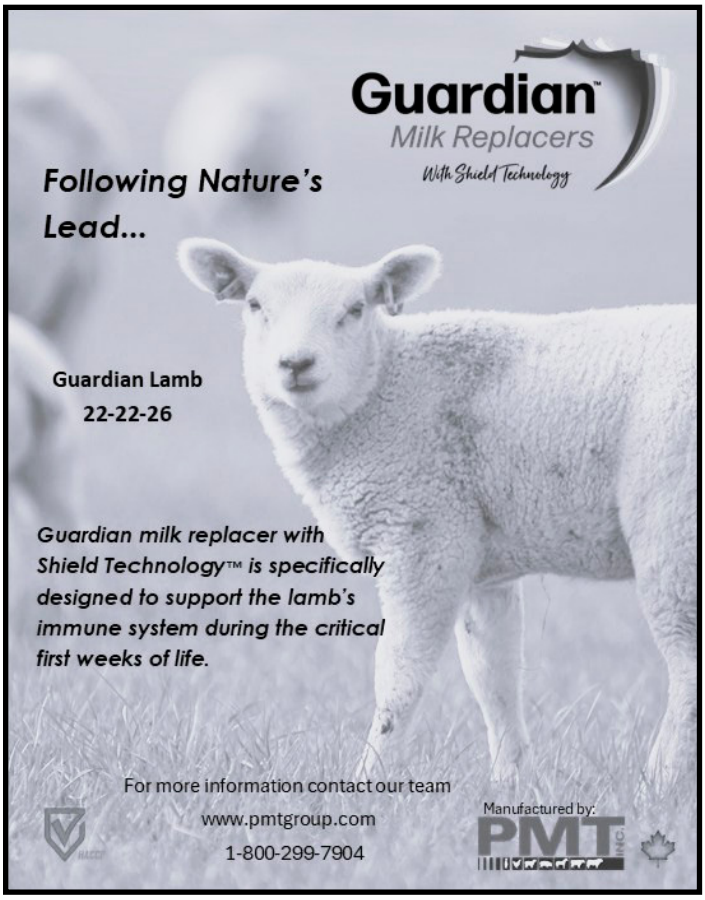
Source: Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation

Slaughter

Federally inspected sheep and lamb slaughter in the West (including Ontario) through July was reported to be 62,906 head, up 39.5 per cent from the same period in 2025 and nearly 32 per cent higher than the five-year average. Spring is the key seasonal market for lambs in preparation for ethnic holidays. To help meet that demand, Alberta imported more than 3,000 head of lamb from January to March, 2026.

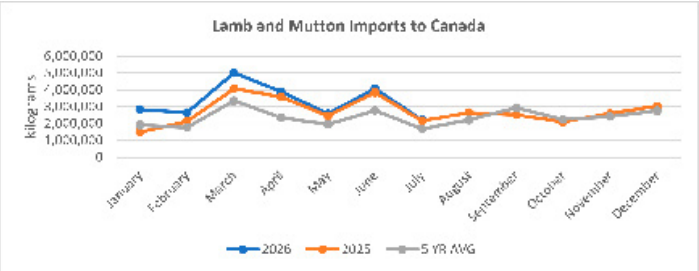
Source: Canadian Food Inspection Agency





Lamb and Mutton Imports

Canadian imports of lamb and mutton have increased over the last five years. For the period of January to July 2026, Canada imported approximately 23.3 thousand tonnes of lamb and mutton, 19.7 per cent more than the same period 2025. The majority of the product was in the form of frozen bone in cuts (43 per cent) and frozen boneless cuts (nearly 20 per cent). Fresh or chilled product represented over 25 per cent of total imported lamb and mutton. The imported product came primarily from New Zealand (over 50 per cent) and Australia (45 per cent). The remainder of the imports were from the United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Ireland and other countries.



Source: Canadian Food Inspection Agency

Global Situation

Tighter global sheep meat supply continues to support demand for sheep products. As of June 30, 2026, the Australian sheep flock declined by 2.7 per cent to 67.1 million head due to three years of consecutive dry production conditions. Australian lamb slaughter is forecast to fall by 11 per cent in 2026. Australia's resilience will rest on the ability of the export markets to absorb higher value product.

New Zealand faces a smaller breeding flock in 2026. Productivity gains have helped export performance but are constrained by lower supply and are reported to be adding pressure to the meat processing sector. New Zealand exports between 90 to 95 per cent of its production. Shifts in market access show a diversion out of markets like China toward the European Union.

The U.S. lamb sector similarly is facing tight supplies which have driven lamb prices up. Challenges of drought and higher production costs have been contributing factors in the first half of 2026. The first half of 2026 witnessed a 3 per cent decline in federally inspected slaughter compared to the same period in 2025. The American Lamb Board reports that in combination with lighter carcass weights, lamb production has declined by an estimated 8 per cent. Consumer demand for lamb has supported strong market prices which in turn has led to increased imports, primarily from Australia and New Zealand.

The U.S. recently announced two new policies that could have an impact on lamb trade. The first, implemented in July, involves new tariffs applied to 60 countries that were imposed following an investigation on concerns related to trade in goods produced with forced labour. While products compliant with the Canada-U.S.-Mexico Agreement will be exempted from these tariffs, Australian and New Zealand lamb being imported to the U.S. is covered by the new tariff and will be subject to a 12.5 per cent U.S. import tariff, up from 10 per cent. Global AgriTrends analysis suggests that the extra 2.5 per cent tariff will not significantly change the market for North America.

The second U.S. action could potentially have a greater competitive harm on lamb importers. A new safeguard investigation is to be carried out by the U.S. International Trade Commission to examine whether increased imports have caused "serious injury" to the U.S. sheep industry.

The Australian Meat Industry Council and Meat & Livestock Australia have indicated that Australia's lamb industry is preparing to respond.

The U.S. sector now faces an additional threat from New World Screwworm (NWS). USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed 46 cases of NWS in the U.S., with a new case on August 16 in Texas in sheep. There have been four confirmed cases in sheep in Texas.

Overall, constrained global production and weather challenges will continue to underpin strong market prices. Consumer demand has remained steady. Imports still highlight the ongoing opportunity facing our producers.



Differentiating Alberta lamb based on its high quality and milder, sweeter flavour may provide a competitive advantage against the lower-cost international alternatives.

Testing for Johnes is Now Possible at the UCVM Diagnostic Services Unit

PCR vs. ELISA at the UCVM Diagnostic Services Unit
By Maria Bravo Araya
Director and Clinical Veterinary Virologist, DSU

Johne's disease is a chronic, incurable gastrointestinal infection of ruminants caused by Mycobacterium avium subspecies paratuberculosis (MAP). In sheep, the disease develops slowly and silently: an infected animal can carry and shed MAP for years before showing any obvious clinical signs. When clinical signs finally appear, affected ewes maintain their appetite but steadily lose condition. This chronic weight loss is often chalked up to old age, intestinal parasites, or worn teeth. By the time an animal is visibly "poor doing," the infection has already caused irreversible damage to the small intestine.

Why Johne's Is Easy to Miss in a Flock

Because infected sheep appear healthy for so long, Johne's disease is easy to underestimate. A Canadian study of Ontario dairy sheep found MAP infection in roughly two-thirds of the flocks tested, with almost half of the animals within an infected flock carrying the organism: a stark reminder that this disease can be far more widespread than clinical signs suggest. Furthermore, USDA data show that a significant proportion of sheep culled annually for weight loss, despite a good appetite, are never actually tested for MAP, even though they display the classic presentation of Johne's disease.

Transmission occurs almost entirely via the fecal-oral route. Young lambs are far more susceptible than adults. They typically pick up MAP by nursing on manure-contaminated udders, drinking contaminated water, or ingesting manure directly from a dirty environmen strum and milk, and in utero transmission is possible when an ewe is showing clinical signs. Maintaining clean lambing environments and early separation from a contaminated adult flock are essential steps in any control strategy.



Why Testing Matters

Producers test for Johne's disease for several key reasons:

- Flock Status: To determine whether MAP is present in the flock.
- Prevalence: To estimate how widespread the infection is.
- Control & Eradication: To support long-term management or eradication programs.
- Clinical Workups: To investigate a thin ewe that fails to respond to standard parasite treatments.
- Biosecurity & Movement: To satisfy pre-purchase or sales requirements.

The right test depends entirely on your specific goals. At the UCVM Diagnostic Services Unit (DSU), we offer two primary testing options: Fecal PCR and Serum ELISA.

1. Fecal PCR: Detecting the Organism Itself

Fecal PCR (polymerase chain reaction) looks directly for MAP's genetic material (DNA) in a manure sample. Because it detects DNA rather than relying on living bacteria, it identifies the organism whether it is alive or dead and does not require growing the bacteria in a petri-dish.

This is a major advantage in sheep, as the sheep-associated ("S") strain of MAP is notoriously difficult and slow to culture. For this reason, fecal PCR, rather than bacterial culture, is now the preferred organism-detection test for sheep.

- DSU Turnaround Time: 3–5 business days for individual samples; 5–7 business days for pooled samples.
- Pooling Option: Submitting individual samples that the lab pools in-house (with positive pools followed by retesting of individual animals) is a practical, cost-effective strategy to bring down whole-flock screening costs for larger operations.

2. Serum ELISA: Detecting the Immune Response

The ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) is a blood test that detects antibodies produced by the sheep's immune system in response to MAP infection. It is fast, inexpensive, and well-suited for screening large numbers of animals quickly.



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- Limitations: The major limitation of ELISA in sheep is its low sensitivity. Antibodies typically do not appear until well after an infected sheep has already begun shedding MAP in its manure. In sheep specifically, ELISA sensitivity is notably lower than in cattle; published estimates show it catches only a fraction of the truly infected animals that a fecal PCR would identify.
- Strengths: A positive ELISA result is highly trustworthy. False positives are rare (well under 1%), meaning any ELISA-positive animal is a strong candidate for immediate removal or PCR confirmation.

Side-by-Side Comparison

	Fecal PCR	Serum ELISA
What it detects	MAP organism (DNA)	Antibody response to MAP
Sample type	Manure (Feces)	Blood (Serum)
DSU Turnaround	3–5 business days (individual) 5–7 business days (pooled)	Fast (typically 1-3 business days)
Relative Cost	Moderate	Lowest
Sensitivity in Sheep	Higher — Preferred detection test	Lower — Misses many true infections
Best Use Case	Diagnostic workups, control/eradication programs, accurate flock screening	Rapid, low-cost initial screening; pre-sale screening when lower sensitivity is acceptable

Submitting Samples to the DSU

The DSU accepts Johne's disease submissions from licensed veterinarians for sheep that have completed their second lambing cycle or later.

- Fecal Samples for PCR: Collect roughly 15 g (about 1 tablespoon) of fresh feces per animal in a clean, leak-proof, screw-cap container. Refrigerate promptly and ship with cold packs without freezing.
- Blood Samples for ELISA: Collect blood in a standard red-top tube. Serum should be separated prior to shipping during cold Alberta winter months to avoid hemolysis.

The Bottom Line for Alberta Flocks

For most practical management decisions, whether working up a thin ewe, establishing flock status, or driving an eradication program, fecal PCR is the test of choice due to its superior sensitivity in sheep.

Serum ELISA remains a useful, low-cost screening tool, provided producers understand that a negative ELISA result does not completely rule out infection.

Work with your veterinarian to decide which test (or combination of tests) best aligns with your flock's biosecurity goals and to coordinate sample submissions to the DSU.

The Need for Small Ruminant Veterinary Services in Alberta

By Vladimir Tadic, DVM
Associate Veterinarian and Partner at Fen Farm Vets.
A mobile veterinary practice focusing on Small and Large Ruminants!

The Need for Small Ruminant Veterinary Services in Alberta

Alberta has a strong and diverse livestock industry, but one important segment continues to operate with limited access to veterinary services specifically tailored to its needs: small ruminants. Sheep producers across the province require veterinary support that understands the unique biology, production systems, diseases and economics of these species. As the small ruminant industry evolves, access to

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knowledgeable veterinary care is becoming increasingly important—not only for animal health and welfare, but also for the long-term profitability and growth of the industry.

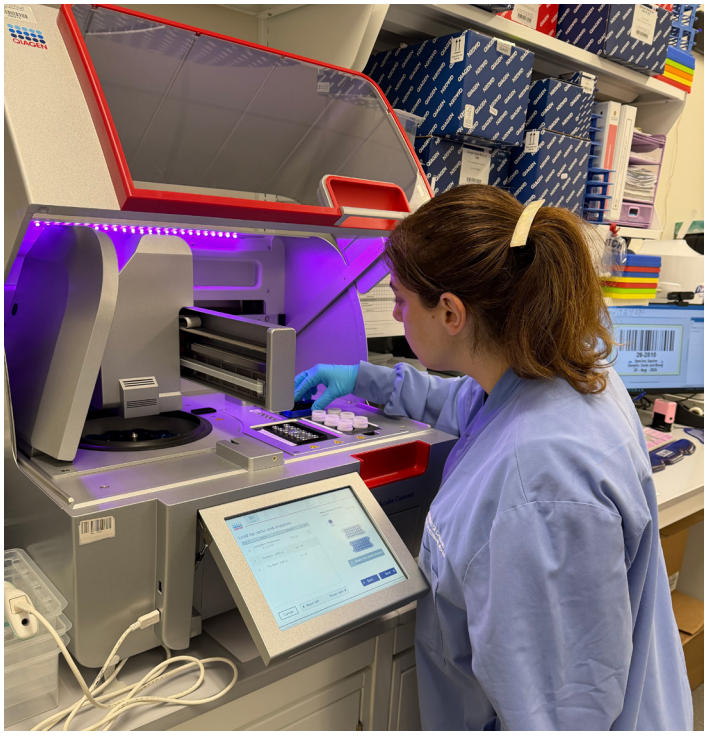
Alberta is one of Canada's leading sheep producing provinces. Statistics Canada reported more than 170,000 sheep and lambs in Alberta in January 2024, while the province's sheep industry has experienced periods of substantial growth over the past decade. This represents a meaningful agricultural industry that requires specialized health and production support.

A Unique Set of Veterinary Needs

Sheep are not simply small versions of cattle. Their physiology, reproductive systems, nutritional requirements and disease challenges are different, and successful veterinary care requires species-specific knowledge.

Small ruminant producers routinely encounter challenges involving reproduction, neonatal mortality, parasites, nutrition, lameness, infectious diseases, metabolic disorders and herd health. Many of these problems require a different diagnostic and treatment approach than those commonly used in other species.

For example, gastrointestinal parasites are among the most important health challenges in sheep. Producers must balance effective parasite control with increasing concerns about anthelmintic resistance. Blanket deworming can accelerate



Testing for Johnes is now possible at the UCVM Diagnostic Services Unit

resistance and ultimately leave producers with fewer effective treatment options. A veterinarian familiar with small ruminant production can help develop targeted parasite-control programs based on fecal egg counts, pasture management, treatment history and resistance testing.

Reproductive management is another area where veterinary expertise can create significant economic value. Pregnancy diagnosis through the use of ultrasound, breeding-season management, ram and buck breeding soundness exams, artificial estrus synchronization, and laparoscopic artificial insemination are increasingly valuable tools for progressive operations.

Prevention Is More Valuable Than Treatment

The role of a small ruminant veterinarian should extend well beyond treating sick animals. A herd health approach allows veterinarians and producers to identify risks before they become expensive problems.

Regular flock visits can include vaccination planning, body-condition assessment, reproductive evaluation, parasite monitoring, nutrition consultation, neonatal management and review of production records.

This preventative approach can pay for itself. A single outbreak of disease in a commercial herd can result in reproductive losses, lamb or kid mortality, treatment costs, premature culling and lost genetic progress. Preventing those losses is often far more valuable than treating individual animals after a problem has become established.

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Veterinarians can also help producers establish biosecurity programs when purchasing replacement animals.

Diseases such as ovine progressive pneumonia (OPP), caseous lymphadenitis (CL), Johne's disease and contagious foot diseases can have substantial long-term consequences when introduced into a previously healthy herd.

Supporting Genetic and Reproductive Progress

Alberta's sheep industry is becoming increasingly sophisticated. Commercial producers are looking for ways to improve conception rates, lamb survival, growth, feed efficiency and carcass value. Veterinary reproductive services can help make those improvements possible. Technologies such as ultrasound pregnancy diagnosis, semen evaluation, estrus synchronization and laparoscopic artificial insemination allow producers to use superior genetics more efficiently. A veterinarian with specialized small ruminant reproductive knowledge can help producers design programs that fit their breeding season, facilities, labour availability and economic objectives.

This is particularly important as producers consider accessing elite genetics from outside their immediate geographic area. Rather than simply purchasing more breeding animals, producers can use reproductive technologies to accelerate genetic progress while maintaining greater control over their herd.

The Rural Veterinary Shortage

Access to veterinary care is already a challenge in rural Alberta. The Government of Alberta has identified shortages of large animal veterinarians in rural areas and has invested in initiatives intended to attract and retain veterinarians in rural practices.

For small ruminant producers, the problem can be even more pronounced. A veterinarian may be willing to provide emergency services for sheep or goats, but there is an important difference between having access to a veterinarian and having access to a veterinarian who routinely works with commercial small ruminant operations.

Sheep are often dispersed across large geographic areas, and many operations are too small to support a veterinarian who works exclusively with small ruminants. This creates a difficult cycle: limited demand makes specialization challenging, while limited specialized service makes it harder for producers to adopt advanced health and production practices.

Building a Sustainable Service Model

The solution does not necessarily require every rural veterinary clinic to employ a full-time small ruminant specialist. A more practical model could involve regional small ruminant veterinary services supported by mobile clinics, scheduled herd visits, reproductive programs, diagnostic services, telemedicine where appropriate and collaboration between general practice veterinarians and small ruminant specialists.

Scheduled herd health days could provide multiple services during a single visit. Multiple producers in the same geographical location could coordinate pregnancy scanning, vaccination planning, parasite diagnostics, reproductive examinations and health consultations at the same time.

This approach would make veterinary services more economically viable while providing producers with more consistent access to expertise. The leading Alberta shearers have adopted this method and it seems to work in the favour of all stakeholders.

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Veterinary Services as an Investment in the Industry

The value of veterinary medicine should ultimately be measured in production outcomes. A veterinarian who helps increase lamb survival, improve conception rates, reduce parasite losses, extend ewe longevity or prevent the introduction of a costly disease can have a much greater economic impact than the cost of the veterinary visit.

For Alberta's small ruminant industry to continue developing, veterinary services need to evolve alongside the producers they serve. The industry needs veterinarians who understand not only how to treat an individual sheep or goat, but also how to manage a large herd as a biological and economic system.

Looking Forward

Alberta has the land base, producers, genetics and market opportunities to support a strong small ruminant industry. What is needed is infrastructure to support that growth. Dedicated small ruminant veterinary services should be considered part of that infrastructure. Better veterinary access can improve animal welfare, reduce preventable disease, strengthen biosecurity, improve reproductive efficiency and help producers adopt technologies that increase productivity. It can also make the industry more attractive to new and expanding producers who need reliable professional support as their operations grow.

The need is therefore not simply for more veterinarians. Alberta needs more veterinary capacity specifically focused on sheep and goats. A strong partnership between producers, veterinary practices, diagnostic laboratories, industry organizations, post-secondary institutions and government can build that capacity.

For the Alberta sheep and goat industry, better veterinary service is not merely a cost of doing business. It is an investment in healthier animals, more productive farms and a more resilient small ruminant industry for the future. Stay tuned for more informative articles! If there is something that you would enjoy reading about, please send Dr. Tadic your recommendations to his email address vlad@fenvet.com.

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The Importance of Testing Your Feed

As producers prepare for the winter feeding season, one of the most valuable tools available is also one of the simplest: feed testing.

Feed is a major contributor to livestock performance and one of the largest costs in a livestock operation. Knowing exactly what nutrients feed contains allows for informed management decisions, ability to match feed resources to animal requirements, and get the most value from every tonne of forage.

Why Test Your Feed?

Without knowing the nutrient content of your feed, allocating it to different stages of the production cycle is largely guesswork.

Undernourished livestock can suffer from reduced productivity, while overfeeding valuable nutrients wastes feed resources and increases costs. To maximize returns, animal requirements need to be matched as closely as possible with nutrient intake. Feed testing provides the information needed to make that happen.

A laboratory feed analysis can help producers determine whether their forage and feed will meet the nutritional needs of different classes of livestock and whether supplementation is required.

For example, testing can identify:

- Nutrient deficiencies that may require supplementation
- The need to source alternative feeds to balance a ration
- Differences in feed quality between fields, harvest dates, or feed lots
- Mineral and nutrient imbalances that may affect conception, lambing, growth, or weight gain
- Potentially harmful compounds such as nitrates, sulfates, or mycotoxins

More Than Just Nutrients

Feed testing can also identify potential problems that may not be visible by simply looking at the feed.

Mold can become more common under cool and wet growing conditions. Moldy or diseased forage may have reduced palatability, lower energy content, and potentially harmful effects on animal health and productivity.

Depending on the situation, testing can be used to assess concerns such as nitrates, sulfates, and mycotoxins.

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These issues can affect reproductive performance, milk production, and weight gain and, in severe cases, may contribute to serious health problems or even death.

Testing can therefore provide an important layer of protection, not only for your feed budget, but also for the health and productivity of your livestock.

Understanding Your Feed Test

Laboratory results are typically provided on a feed analysis sheet. Depending on the analysis requested, results may include moisture, crude protein, energy, total digestible nutrients, fibre, vitamins and minerals, nitrates, mycotoxins, and relative feed value.

Results are generally reported on both an as-fed and dry matter (DM) basis. This distinction is important because moisture content can vary significantly between feeds. Since livestock rations are formulated on a dry matter basis, comparing feeds on a DM basis provides a more accurate picture of the nutrients actually being supplied.

When Should You Test Your Feed?

Timing matters. A feed test is most useful when the sample accurately represents the feed that will actually be fed and when there is enough time to act on the results.

Keep these guidelines in mind:

- Sample each lot of feed separately. This could mean sampling hay from a single field, a particular harvest date, or a specific load of grain.
- Test as close to feeding as possible, or when important management decisions are being made.
- Allow sufficient time for laboratory results. Plan for a minimum of two weeks before finalizing feeding decisions.
- For silage, wait at least four weeks after ensiling before sampling to allow fermentation to complete.

Make Feed Testing Part of Your Annual Plan

Feed quality can vary from year to year, and even from one field, cutting, or harvest date to another. This makes regular testing an important part of feed and livestock management.

Rather than guessing at the nutritional value of your feed, use testing to make decisions based on reliable information. The result can be better feed utilization, more precise ration formulation, improved animal performance, and reduced feed costs.

Working with a nutritionist can help decipher the feed test results. Alternatively, a ration balancing program such as SheepBytes can be used to formulate rations for different animal types (mature ewes and rams, replacement ewe lambs and ram lambs, early weaned lambs, growing lambs and finishing lambs). Testing your water as well will give you a comprehensive set of data to start with.

Find a Lab Near You

Check out the ALP website for an updated list of labs in Alberta that will test feed.

Sheep Vegetation Management Course Now Available Year Round

The Targeted Grazing Course, developed by Lakeland College and Alberta Lamb Producers (ALP) in 2024, is now available year-round, giving participants greater flexibility in when they complete the training.

For some, working through the course during the growing season offers the advantage of putting the knowledge into practice in the field. For others, the winter months provide the perfect opportunity to focus on grazing plans and prepare for the upcoming season.

The online course takes approximately 10–15 hours to complete and covers a broad range of topics, including grazing principles, grazing tame and native forage, stockmanship and animal welfare, and developing a business plan. Whether you are new to targeted grazing or have experience in the industry, the course offers practical information and valuable insight.

The final module explores unique grazing opportunities, including solar panel sites, cut blocks, forested areas, urban locations and invasive species management.

For $250, participants receive six months of course access through Lakeland College's online education platform.

Ready to improve your grazing management? Contact Alberta Lamb Producers to learn more and get started.

Inbreeding: Taboo or Tool?

By Susan Schoenian
Sheep & Goat Specialist Emeritus,
University of Maryland Extension

While inbreeding is not the preferred breeding strategy, it is not completely taboo either. When done properly, inbreeding can be a tool to achieve specific breeding objectives. It is also a common reality for many small-scale producers, who have limited breeding options.

At the same time, it is important to understand that too much inbreeding (generation after generation) reduces the health and productivity of the flock/herd — and should be avoided.

Inbreeding is the mating of related individuals. There are degrees of inbreeding. The most intense form is when first degree relatives are mated, such as father-daughter, mother-son, and full siblings. These matings should be avoided.

Half-sib matings (half-brother to half-sister) reduce the level of inbreeding by 50 percent and are preferable to mating first degree relatives. In other words, if you don't have access to an unrelated male, breed daughters to their half sib rather than their sire.

Linebreeding is a more deliberate form of inbreeding and involves mating more distantly related individuals, such as first or second cousins. The goal is to produce prepotent breeding lines that "stamp" their characteristics onto their offspring.

The degree that an animal is inbred is measured by a coefficient of inbreeding (COI). COI is the probability that an individual will have two identical alleles from a shared ancestor.

Inbreeding coefficients range from 0 (for unrelated parents) to 1 (mostly theoretical). The coefficient for mating first degree relatives is 25. It is 12.5 for half sibs, 6.25 for first cousins, and 3.13 for second cousins.

Ideally, we want the coefficient of inbreeding (for the flock/herd) to be below 5 (some resources say 6.25). When it gets over 10 (or 12.5), there can be significant consequences. The inbreeding depression is the reduced biological fitness of a flock/herd caused by the lack of genetic diversity (due to inbreeding).

Coefficients of inbreeding are calculated by the National Sheep Improvement Program (NSIP), American Dairy Goat Association (AGDA), and some breed registries and apps. Breed averages range from 2.1 to 4.9 for NSIP-enrolled sheep.

Inbreeding coefficients are usually higher for goats. Breeds with smaller gene pools, e.g., rare and heritage breeds, usually have higher coefficients of inbreeding, e.g., Oberhasli, ~30 percent. A popular sire (spread by AI) can increase inbreeding.

Inbreeding increases genetic similarity or homozygosity: having identical alleles of a specific gene (one inherited from each parent). Whether homozygosity is beneficial or harmful depends on the specific gene or trait.

Homozygous individuals are more uniform, and their offspring are more predictable. On the negative side, there is more risk of disease, as harmful recessive traits show up more easily with inbreeding.

An overall lack of genetic diversity (heterozygosity) causes a gradual and cumulative decline in fitness and fertility. The declines are minor and very slow with mild or occasional inbreeding but can be severe with multi-generational inbreeding.

Some degree of inbreeding is inevitable, especially in breeds with closed registries and/or small gene pools. Inbreeding can be intentional or accidental. In either case, it is important to cull the poor-quality offspring and to breed the outstanding ones to unrelated males.

Multi-generational inbreeding needs to be avoided. Out breeding and crossbreeding are the recommended breeding strategies for most purebred and commercial producers, respectively.

West Nile Virus - A Threat for Sheep?

By Dr. Ben Bauer, Associate Professor Small Ruminant and Camelid Medicine and Dr. John Soghigian, Associate Professor Parasitology, University of Calgary, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

Mosquito populations have been thriving across Alberta this summer, and they can transmit pathogens to both humans and animals through their saliva during a blood meal. One of these is West Nile virus (WNV), which was detected earlier this year in more local mosquitoes than usual, so the transmission risk started sooner. WNV can cause disease in humans and horses, but what about sheep?

WNV originated in Africa and has been present in North America since 1999. It occurs seasonally in parts of Canada and was first detected in Alberta in 2003. The primary transmission cycle is between birds and mosquitoes, particularly Culex species. Most birds do not show signs of illness. Recently, an invasive Culex mosquito, Culex pipiens, was detected in Alberta (photo). This species is associated with WNV transmission between birds and mammals elsewhere in North America, but what impact it may have on WNV in Alberta is currently an active area of research. Mammals, including sheep, goats, cattle, and humans, are dead-end hosts for WNV, meaning they can be infected by mosquito bites, but the virus does not replicate to levels high enough to infect other mosquitoes. As a result, infected sheep cannot transmit WNV to other animals or humans.

Most infected sheep show no clinical signs after WNV infection. However, a small number of clinical cases have been reported in the United States (e.g., California and Iowa), typically during summer or autumn, when mosquito activity peaks. Affected sheep develop fever, loss of appetite, and neurological signs, including staggering, tremors, muscle twitching, circling, head pressing, seizures, excessive salivation, head tilt, and apparent blindness. They rapidly become recumbent and die; others are found unexpectedly dead.

If a sheep develops sudden neurological signs, contact your veterinarian promptly. Your veterinarian will also consider and rule out other causes of neurological disease in sheep, including listeriosis, visna (ovine progressive pneumonia), scrapie, rabies, and metabolic or toxic conditions.

WNV diagnosis typically requires a blood sample to detect antibodies and, in fatal cases, post-mortem testing of brain or spinal cord tissue to detect viral genetic material. In Alberta, WNV is a provincially notifiable disease only in horses, donkeys, and mules. There is no specific treatment for WNV infection in sheep. The disease often progresses too rapidly for supportive care to be effective. Vaccines are available only for horses.

As with other mosquito-borne diseases (e.g., Cache Valley virus), it is not possible to eliminate all mosquitoes, but exposure can be reduced by eliminating mosquito breeding sites. Culex mosquitoes make use of even small standing water, such as bird baths or rain barrels.

Therefore, drain or remove standing water around barns and yards (e.g., old tires, buckets, overflow from troughs, clogged gutters) and where possible, empty and refill troughs or other water storage weekly. Where practical, move animals away from areas with heavy mosquito activity, especially at dusk and dawn.

In summary, WNV is a seasonal, mosquito-borne virus present in parts of Canada, including Alberta. Sheep can be infected, but clinical disease is rare. Nevertheless, WNV should be included on the differential diagnosis list for neurological signs and sudden death in sheep, especially when mosquitoes are abundant, to avoid missed or underreported cases.

Selected references:

Government of Alberta. West Nile Virus in livestock https://www.alberta.ca/west-nile-virus-overview: access Sep 3, 2026

Pan et al. First record of Culex pipiens (Diptera: Culicidae) in Alberta: expanding distributions and ecotype patterns in a western Canadian province. J Med Entomol 2025; 62: 461-464

Rimoldi G et al. West Nile Virus infection in sheep. Vet Pathol 2017; 54: 155-158.

Yaeger M et al. West Nile Virus meningoencephalitis in a Suri alpaca and Suffolk ewe. J Vet Diagn Invest 2004; 16: 64-66.



Mosquito (Culex pipiens), Courtesy of Michaela Seal (UCVM)

Real Questions, Real Answers: Worm Control for Sheep Farmers

An expert team from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Calgary will be hosting a workshop on gastrointestinal roundworms during the ALP meeting. The workshop will begin with discussions on parasite biology, monitoring, sustainable control strategies, and the latest research. In the second part, we will focus on daily challenges in worm control by answering your questions and discussing real-life situations on sheep farms in Alberta.

We invite you to submit your worm questions you would most like answered and/or your own worm control program for discussion during the workshop. Personal information will be kept confidential. This is a great opportunity to connect with the experts, share experiences, and get practical answers to your "wormy" questions.

Please, send your worm questions and control program to: sheepstudy@ucalgary.ca

We are looking forward to hearing from you.

University of Calgary, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM)
Dr. John Gilleard, Professor Parasitology
Dr. Sawsan Ammar, Assistant Professor Parasitology
Dr. Katie Waine, Associate Professor Veterinary Pathology
Dr. Ben Bauer, Associate Professor Small Ruminant and Camelid Medicine

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780-898-9432

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The University of Calgary Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board has approved this research (REB26-0383) Participation is completely voluntary and confidential

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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.

Classified ads are available free to eligible Alberta producers (bought CSIP tags in the past two years). Find more information online at https://ablamb.ca/news-and-events/classified-listings/.

4-H LAMBS

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

SHEEP & LAMBS - For Sale

Grass fed butcher lambs available October 2026. One 3 year old Dorset ram and a one year old brown Dorset x Icelandic ram needing new flocks. Contact Terra Weaver 780-808-1397 or at r.weaver@mcsnet.ca.

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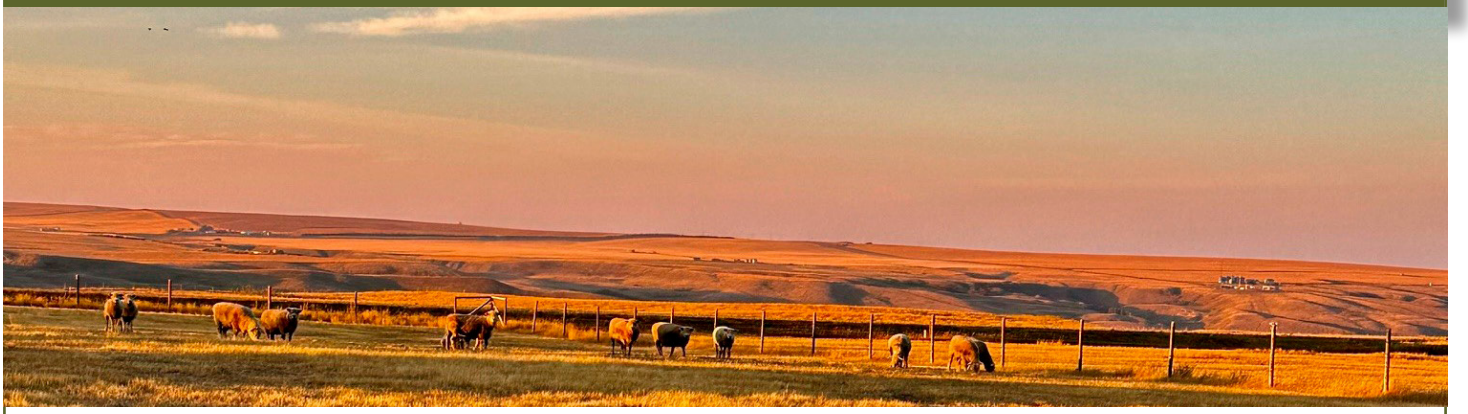




Sheep Calendar

What	Where	When & How
Canadian Wool Conversations	Calgary, AB	October 7-8 - VISIT EVENT LINK
Alberta Livestock Expo	Lethbridge, AB	October 14-15- VISIT EVENT LINK
FarmFair	Edmonton, AB	November 5-8- VISIT EVENT LINK
ALP Annual General Meeting and Conference	Nisku, AB	November 6-7 - VISIT EVENT LINK
Agri-Trade	Red Deer, AB	November 11-13 - VISIT EVENT LINK
Deadline for January 2027 ALP N'ewesletter		December 10
All Canada Classic	Vermilion, AB	June 30-July 3 - VISIT EVENT LINK

Please e-mail info@ablamb.ca or call 403-948-8533 to provide details of your event for the N'ewesletter



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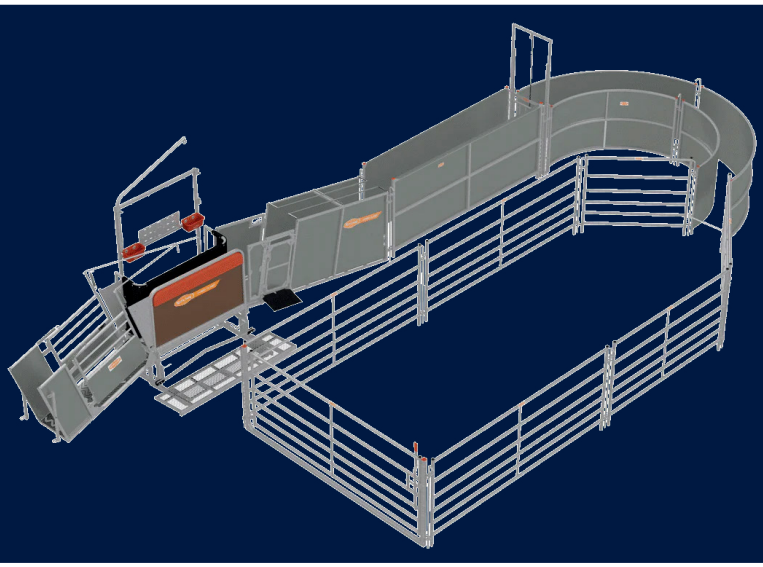
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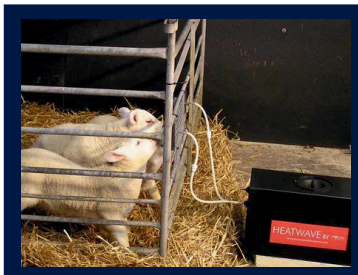
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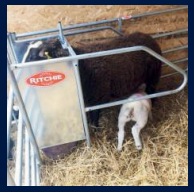




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