Greetings WSSP Members,

Most of you, like us, are in the middle of lambing. I can only hope you all have been as lucky as we have with the weather. We have been very busy and at this time we have lambed out at least close to half our numbers. Dr. Jill and Stacey came to ultrasound the dry ewes and the ewe lambs. Along with giving all our herding and guard dogs rabies vaccines to make them current with state regulations. Something we all need to be conscious of.

The following day Jill hosted the lambing school at our facility. We look forward to hosting this event when we are given the opportunity. I encourage fellow sheep producers to host this event at their farms.

A reminder to everyone that sheep are needed for the WSSP Shearing Schools in April. Please contact Sarah M. Smith at 509 754-2011, Ext 413 or smithsm@wsu.edu.

Thank you to Julie Dashiell for taking my place at the national ASI convention and running the board meeting in February. With that note, I want to wish everyone a prosperous lambing season!

Mark Martinez
WSSP President

Sarah Champion delivers a lamb during the February 18th Lambing and Management School in Mabton.
Greetings from Appel Valley Farm,

Dick and I attended the ASI convention in Scottsdale last month. As usual I wore my wool garments which were much too warm for 75 degree days. It was great to see old friends and catch up on the latest in the industry. Our Make It With Wool entries did very well. Andrew Lo placed 6th with his long black overcoat and Emily Hausner was in the top thirteen. Andrew was the runner up in our state. Our first place winner could not attend because of prior commitments.

This has been a peculiar winter. We have had little snow except the week before national convention when we had 18 inches and big drifts. The morning we left the snow was still 12 inches high along the sidewalk. Since we got home we have had one day of rain and above normal temperatures. I have a flock of robins in the yard. Dick’s aunt had a yard full of goldfinches, very unusual for the first of February.

After the houseful of people left after Christmas I finally went to my surgeon to have him check my sore knee from the stupid sheep butting me into the feeder. (I have called that sheep much worse) He loosened my artificial knee. The doctor says it is healing so I am to stay off my feet. Lambing should start in two weeks so I hope I am well by then.

If anyone is planning to sew for the Make It With Wool contest please get you fabric tested before cutting out. Even Pendleton fabric may not be 100% wool. Send a 5 inch sample with $3.00 to Susan Parr and she will send it to a testing facility in Montana.

Until next time, take care.

Helen Appel
WWGA President

2012 Board of Directors:

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Al Schwider, Maple Valley

District 2:
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Shearing School Coordinator:
Sarah M. Smith, Moses Lake

Hot Links
American Sheep Industry: www.sheepusa.org
www.americanlambboard.org
Market Reports: www.ams.usda.gov
USDA/Scrapie:
www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/scrapie.htm, OR
www.animalagriculture.org/scrapie
FSA Wool & Mohair details:
NASS Sheep/Goat Statistics
http://www.nass.usda.gov/QuickStats/Create_Federal_All.jsp

WSSP 2012 Officers

- President—Mark Martinez, Moxee, 509-574-4249
- 1st Vice-President—Nick Martinez, Moxee, 509-453-6289
- 2nd Vice-President—Julie Dashiell, Hunters, 509-528-1293
- Past President—Art Swannack, Lamont, 509-257-2683
- Auxiliary President—Helen Appel, Endicott, 509-397-3253
- ASI Representative—Art Swannack, Lamont
- Executive Secretary/Editor—Marcia Parrish, Leavenworth, 509-888-3003, wssp@gmx.com
2012 WSSP
Lambing & Management School
Registration Form

Name______________________________
Address____________________________
City/State/Zip________________________
Phone______________________________
Email______________________________

Please select day:
☐ February 18, 2012 (Mabton)
☐ March 31, 2012 (Lamont)
☐ April 7, 2012 (Lamont)

Registration Fee for Each One-Day School:

$35.00 for members (first member)
Each additional immediate family or group member pays 1/2 price or $17.50*

$45.00 for non-members

*This discount also applies to 4-H and FFA groups that have a membership in WSSP

Make checks payable to WSSP
Mail registration form and fee to:
Washington State Sheep Producers
PO Box 2145
Leavenworth, WA 98826

Membership Information

We welcome the following new members:

• Connor Appel, Colfax
• Sally Reeve, Flint Beach Ohana, Lopez Island
• Linda & Anita Mastin, Mastin Dorset’s, Fife
• Jaylan Funk, Prosser
• Twisted Whiskers 4H, Washougal

Annual dues for regular or associate members are $50. Junior members $25.

WSSP, P.O. Box 2145, Leavenworth, WA 98826, 509-888-3003, wssp@gmx.com

Associate Members

Columbia Basin Sheep Producers
719 S. Poplar
Moses Lake, WA 98837
509-765-7974

Kittitas County Sheep Producers
440 Robinson Canyon Rd.
Ellensburg, WA 98926
509-925-2620

Spokane Area Sheep Producers
16413 W. Stoughton Rd.
Cheney, WA 99004
509-299-3706

Southwest Washington Sheep Producers
173 Bay Road
Winlock, WA 98596
360-785-3892

Whitman County Woolgrowers
752 Lanky Road
Colfax, WA 99111

Utah Wool Marketing Assoc.
55 S. Iron St., Suite 2, Bldg. 657
Tooele, UT 84074
435-842-4234
WSU Extension to Host Beef, Lamb, Pork and Poultry 100 Short-Courses in Spokane

Washington State University Extension and Department of Animal Sciences are excited to announce the first WSU BEEF, LAMB, Pork and Poultry 100 short-courses in Eastern Washington. The BEEF and PORK 100 course will be offered on March 9, 2012 at the WSU Spokane Extension Office, and the LAMB 100 and POULTRY 100 courses will be offered on March 10, 2012 at Spokane Conservation District Office.

The WSU BEEF, LAMB, PORK and POULTRY 100 short courses are designed for beginning farmers, but are also excellent energizers for experienced food animal producers to expand opportunities and sustainability of their current livestock operation. The 100 programs have been developed to address needs identified at successful BEEF and LAMB 300/200 programs. The one-day species specific program will help livestock producers increase their knowledge on how to produce safe, high quality food animals profitably; while producing the animals in an environmentally and animal care conscious manner. The short courses will address opportunities and issues to enhance the production, safety and quality of beef, lamb pork and poultry production from the farm to the plate. These programs will increase one’s understanding of food animal production, quality and marketing; enabling participants to make informed decisions to improve profitability, quality, and wholesomeness of the food animals they are producing.

The registration fee for WSU BEEF, LAMB, PORK, or POULTRY 100 is $65 per participant, which covers lunch, materials, and notebook. Registration for individuals or farms that would like to attend two classes, same species or different, is $100. Registration after February 22nd, will increase to $75 per person per class.

For additional information on the WSU 100 short-courses, contact: Jan Busboom, WSU Meat Specialist, (509)335-2880 or busboom@wsu.edu; or Sarah M. Smith, Area Animal Science Educator, (509)754-2011, Ext 413 or smithsm@wsu.edu. More information and registration forms are available on the WSU Animal Agriculture web page at http://animalag.wsu.edu under “Upcoming Events”.

Persons with a disability requiring special accommodations while participating in this event can call (509) 754-2011, Ext 413. If accommodations are not requested by September 15, 2010, we cannot guarantee the availability of accommodations on site.

Cooperating agencies: Washington State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Washington Counties. Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.
Held in conjunction with the American Sheep Industry convention in Scottsdale, AZ January 26 - 28, the Make It With Wool contest promotes wool as a fashion fabric. Contestants make their garments of at least 60% wool fabric or yarn, and model their garments before a panel of judges. They also participate in a fashion show.

The Washington Senior age contestant (17 - 24-year-olds) was seventeen-year-old Andrew Lo of Puyallup. He was sixth runner-up with his black melton wool overcoat. Besides his expense-paid trip to Scottsdale, he received an iron, gift certificates, and numerous other prizes.

Representing the Junior age bracket (13 - 16-year-olds) was Emily Hausner of Eatonville, WA. Sixteen-year-old Emily was a finalist in a roster of 30 contestants. She sewed a blue jumper of 100% Pendleton wool. She also received the expense-paid trip and wool yardage.

The Adult competition is based on a photo and video submitted along with the garment to a national judging panel. Alice Faringer of Yakima was Washington’s Adult contestant with a brown plaid shirt dress.

This contest is available to all ages. The contest begins with district level competition in September and October. Winners of the district contests proceed to the state contest which will be in Yakima, WA, on October 27, 2012. For more information about the Make It With Wool Contest, contact State Director, Susan Parr, at (253) 922-5403.

USDA needs help from producers to get additional goat and sheep surveillance samples. USDA is asking for owners of sheep flocks and goat herds to submit the heads of animals that have died or are slaughtered on your farm for scrapie testing.

Categories of on-farm goats and sheep to sample that have died or are slaughtered on the farm include:

- All goats that are 2 – 5 years of age.
- Black faced sheep over 14 months of age with no upper age limit.
- White face or mottled face sheep 2 – 5 years of age.

The submission of heads by producers is an easy process:

- Call or email Millie Chopic at (360) 864-6320 or millie.m.chopic@aphis.usda.gov to obtain free shipping boxes that include a pre-paid air bill, ice packs, plastic bags, ties, and submission worksheets. Detailed instructions and further guidance will also be provided.
- Remove the head from the dead sheep/goat (an instructional video is available and can be emailed to you) or have the slaughter facility/truck save and return the head to you.
- Keep all scrapie tags, other ear tags, and tattoos with/on the ears of the animal.
- Fill out the easy submission worksheet and package the head according to the instructions in the box.
- Ship overnight using the enclosed pre-paid air bill to the USDA Veterinary Services Remington Facility.

Assistance by the sheep and goat industry toward scrapie eradication is vital and greatly appreciated. Please call or email Millie Chopic with USDA Veterinary Services at (360) 864-6320 or millie.m.chopic@aphis.usda.gov to ask questions, obtain free shipping boxes to submit sheep and goat heads for scrapie surveillance or to order free scrapie tags.
Mark Your Calendar!!

Washington Goat & Sheep Information Day

Sponsor: Washington State Dept. of Agriculture
WSU Grant/Adams Extension
Columbia Basin Sheep Producers

Where: Big Bend Community College Date: March 17, 2012
ATEC Building 1800
Moses Lake, WA
Time: 8:45 AM-4:30 PM
Directions on the back.
Registration starts at 8:00

Schedule at a Glance: (tentative)
8:00 Registration begins:
8:35 Welcome
8:45 Scrapie Requirements and Updates,
    Dr. Tom Lehman, DVM, USDA/APHIS/VS
10:00 Break
10:15 Rumen and Nutrition Basics
    Dr. Andy Allen, DVM, WSU Veterinary Center
11:15 Ultrasound Basics and Basic Veterinary Care
    Dr. Swati Sreerama, DVM, Moses Lake, WA
Noon Lunch Presentation—FREE LUNCH
    Must register by March 12 at 5:00 PM
12:45 Parasite Control in Goats and Sheep
    Dr. Susan Kerr, DVM, PhD, WSU Extension
2:15 Break
2:30 Understanding CAE & CL and other
    small ruminant diseases
    Dr. Andy Allen, DVM, WSU Veterinary Center
3:30 Successful Goat & Sheep Production:
    Ask The Experts Roundtable
    Producers, veterinarians, & consultants on panel
4:30 Adjourn

Lunch: A FREE lunch will be provided to participants.
Participants must register by March 12 at 5:00 PM to
guarantee a lunch will be provided. This event is free to
the public.
Free Meal must RSVP by March 12, 5:00 PM:

All individuals producing or interested in producing goats and sheep are invited to attend.
Need not be a member resident of Washington to attend.

Purpose:
Even as goats and lambs reach record prices, producers are still faced with the challenges of realizing increased profits. 2012 will likely provide more opportunities to sell goats and lambs at relatively high prices. The goal of the 2012 Washington Goat and Sheep Information Day is to increase awareness of information and management practices to aid goat and sheep producers make decisions that will help improve production efficiency and overall profitability of their herds even with increasing input costs. A variety of animal health and management topics will be discussed through presentations by regionally-recognized specialists. This information will be beneficial for beginner to advanced goat and sheep producers, including new producers.
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2012 Calendar of Events

- Shearing Schools, Moses Lake – April 2-7 and April 9-14
- Shepherds Extravaganza, Puyallup Spring Fair – April 19-21
- NW Jr. Livestock, Puyallup Spring Show – April 19-21
- WSSP Board Meeting, Ellensburg – April 28
- Spring Youth Fair, Chehalis – May 11-13
- Puget Sound Jr. Livestock Show, Mt. Vernon – June 1-2
- Northwest Jr. Sheep Expo, Moses Lake – July 20-21
- WSSP Ram & Ewe Sale, Moses Lake – July 20-21
- Palouse Empire Fair, Colfax – September 4-9
- Spokane Interstate Fair – September 7-16
- Puyallup Fair, Sheep Events – September 19-23
- Central Washington State Fair, Yakima – September 28-October 7
- WSSP Board Meeting, Yakima – September 29

Washington State Sheep Producers
P.O. Box 2145
Leavenworth, WA 98826