



**AMERICAN SHEEP INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES MEXICO CANADA AGREEMENT (USMCA)**

FEBRUARY 2019

The American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) is the national trade association representing the 88,000 family farm and ranch operations producing lamb and wool. Our association is the cooperator with the US Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service for international wool marketing and the leading advocate for market access for American lamb.

Our association urges prompt approval of the USMCA given the importance of trade with our next door neighbors. Half of the American wool clip is exported every year and Mexico is the second largest destination. Canada is often a top ten export market for American wool and continuation of our favorable tariff treatment is important under the USMCA.

Shipments of American lamb to Mexico represent the number one global export market for our lamb business. Canada again this year is the fourth largest export destination for American lamb.

Both lamb and wool trade with Mexico and Canada receive beneficial tariff treatment and we have not found any issues associated with meat, textile or live animals in the proposed agreement that outweigh the favorable tariff benefits.

Our association shares our support of USMCA with the 116th Congress and the Administration.