This is hopefully the time of year when we have our feed made and stored and we can breathe a sigh of relief. In saying that, it brings on a new season for many where we need to prepare our ewes for breeding.

In the flocks that have parasite issues, how are your animals doing? Do your ewes have good body condition? Have you given any thought to the flock health program? It may be the perfect time to initiate the first visit. We have more information on parasites from Dr. Gwyneth Jones as she continues her study this year in a follow up project from last year. Please look for her update on our website.

We have had open and frank discussions with Minister Colwell on a few areas of concern. The first was in regard to the changes in the genetic enhancement program. In a follow up meeting that included Cattle, the reasoning behind losing support for our own replacement animals, was free trade. It’s my belief that a good case may be made for all three commodities involved in program. Regardless, we were asked for other options for remaining dollars. We look forward to hearing from the Minister about outcome of our discussions. Stay tuned!

Another area of concern was marketing and how can we aid Northumberlamb specifically to reach their Federal status. As shippers to that plant we need to gain that access back into Sobeys and Loblaws that we lost with the changes to Tony’s Meats. Please see his response...

We would like to assist farmers, new as well as existing, with a list of mentors to increase flock numbers and sizes. This may just be networking sessions or even the possibility of new entrant taking over existing farm. The options are wide ranging and we encourage you to contact our office or Think Farm to leave your name if you are interested. We have some farmers that are downsizing and exiting and this is an opportunity to keep stability in our industry.

Recently, I had the opportunity to work in the ACMA booth at Meet Your Farmer at the Mall. It was a chance to discuss our industry with truly engaged general public. Either they love lamb or they don’t. How do we increase consumption? At our last Board meeting we had Adam Wile join us to brainstorm possible ways to increase our market. There have been a few changes within the Department but Adam has been named given the go ahead to continue working with us. We look forward to updating you later in the year.

Happy farming!

Beth Densmore, President
The Purebred Sheep Producers of Nova Scotia held their annual sheep sale on Labour Day weekend at the AgriDome in Bible Hill Nova Scotia. The sale featured 159 animals grossing $35,010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th># Sold</th>
<th>Total $</th>
<th>Avg $</th>
<th>High $</th>
<th>Consignor</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Buyer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rams - Registered</td>
<td>Lambs</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>$4,115</td>
<td>$316</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Paul &amp; Dot McNutt</td>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td>Adam Gravina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rams - Registered</td>
<td>Yearlings</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>$6,530</td>
<td>$384</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>Briann Hiltz</td>
<td>Dorset</td>
<td>Peter Posthuma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rams - Registered</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>$432</td>
<td>$675</td>
<td>Marg Zillig</td>
<td>Dorset</td>
<td>Andrew MacLennan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Rams</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>$13,670</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ewes - Registered</td>
<td>Lambs</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>$5,730</td>
<td>$197</td>
<td>$410</td>
<td>Paul &amp; Dot McNutt</td>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td>Carl Ross</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ewes - Commercial</td>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td>$4,195</td>
<td>$135</td>
<td>$190</td>
<td>Bonnie Allan</td>
<td>Horn Dorset</td>
<td>Marco terBeek</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ewes - Registered</td>
<td>Yearlings</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$4,245</td>
<td>$235</td>
<td>$490</td>
<td>Paul &amp; Dot McNutt</td>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td>James Cecile Blackie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ewes - Commercial</td>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>$4,575</td>
<td>$169</td>
<td>$165</td>
<td>Bruce &amp; Dianne Sinclair &amp; Marg Zillig</td>
<td>North Country Grades</td>
<td>Graham Reid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ewes - Registered</td>
<td>Mature</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>$1,950</td>
<td>$162</td>
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<td>Bruce &amp; Dianne Sinclair &amp; Marg Zillig</td>
<td>Suffolk &amp; Dorset</td>
<td>Trevor Stewart &amp; Steven Oulton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ewes - Commercial</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$645</td>
<td>$129</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>Lori Kittilsen</td>
<td>Dorset x Hampshire</td>
<td>Irving Fredricks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Ewes</td>
<td></td>
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<td>$21,340</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Animals</td>
<td></td>
<td>159</td>
<td>$35,010</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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### Atlantic Sheep Sale Summary

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Receipts</td>
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<td>$49,515</td>
<td>$34,255</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of Buyers</td>
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<td>90</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Consignors</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>32</td>
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</table>

### No. of Head Sold

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rams</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Ewes</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Ewes</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Animals</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sheep producers in the northern counties of NS hold an annual Sheep Fun Day. This year the event was held on Saturday September 6, 2014 at the Pictou-North Colchester Exhibition Grounds in Pictou. Local sheep farmers see it as a way to promote the industry, show the quality of the breeding stock available in the area and provide a forum for producers to socialize. Local 4-H members showing sheep as a 4-H project are also invited to participate. The afternoon wraps up with a pot luck supper, which many dub to be the highlight of the day!

Judge for the day was Curtis Moxsom, well known dairy farmer, livestock dealer, and sheep farmer from the Stewiacke area. Sonya Moxsom also was a great help to the show by serving as show clerk.

Winners in the various categories this year were as follows:

**Junior Showmanship**

1st - Rycha Levy, Merigomish  
2nd - Elizabeth Heighton, River John

**Senior Showmanship**

1st - Christine Heighton, River John  
2nd - Richard Hines, Louisville

**Grand Champion Showman**

Reserve - Rycha Levy, Merigomish  
- Christine Heighton, River John

**Market Lamb**

1st - Bruce Sinclair, Goshen  
2nd - Richard Hines, Louisville

**Ram Lamb confirmation**

1st - Derek Cameron, Goshen  
2nd - Richard Hines, Louisville

**Yearling Ram confirmation**

1st - Jamie Fraser, Tatamagouche

**Grand Champion Ram**

Reserve - Derek Cameron, Goshen  
- Jamie Fraser, Tatamagouche

**Ewe Lamb confirmation**

1st - Bruce Sinclair, Goshen  
2nd - Rycha Levy, Merigomish
**Yearling Ewe confirmation**
1<sup>st</sup> - Devon Ford, Tatamagouche

**Grand Champion Ewe**
- Bruce Sinclair, Goshen

Reserve - Devon Ford, Tatamagouche

**Wool Breed**
1<sup>st</sup> - Chuck Champagne, Union Centre
2<sup>nd</sup> - Shirley Roberts, River John

**Pen of 3 Replacement Ewe Lambs**
1<sup>st</sup> - Shirley Roberts, River John
2<sup>nd</sup> - Fran Bent, Scotsburn

**Dress-A-Lamb**
Tie - Abby Falconer, River John
- Abli Baillie-Abidi & Grannie, River John

This annual fun event is sponsored with the assistance of many local businesses and their support for the industry is truly appreciated. Prices paid to producers for lamb is down at present but with the turn-out and interest expressed on Saturday there is confidence that there will continue to be shepherds in northern Nova Scotia in the years to come.

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**2014 Wool Shipments**

Wool will be received on shipment day from 8:30 am until 2:30 pm on Saturday November 1, 2014.

Prior deliveries of wool to the depot must be arranged in advance by calling 902-895-4039. Please note 1 tonne fertilizer bags are not accepted. Maximum is 1/2 tonne fertilizer bags, returned cube bags and also accepted are feed bags and approved jute or hessian sacks designed for wool shipments.

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**Northview Farm Ltd - David Brown**

David and his wife Christine and their daughter Tracy raise sheep and beef on their 530 acre, which includes 200 acres of managed woodlot, farm near Annapolis Royal.

David’s cow herd is approximately 60 cows while his ewe numbers exceed 225. David believes in feeding high quality haylage and hay to limit the amount of grain used to finish his animals.

In 2011, Northview Farm Ltd was a finalist for the Farm Environmental Stewardship Award which recognizes farms which have made considerable efforts to enhance the environment by improving water, soil and wildlife habitat.

Dave joined the Board of Directors of SPANS in January 2014.

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**Things You Should Know...**

- The Advance Payments Program (APP) is now open, contact Beate or Kara for more information at 902-895-0581
- Atlantic Stockyards Equipment Sale: September 20, 2014
- Marketing and promotional materials are available by contacting the office at 902-893-7455
- Next SPANS Newsletter will be December 12, 2014

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**SHEEP PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA**

60 Research Drive Bible Hill, Nova Scotia B6L 2R2

Phone: (902) 893-7455 website: www.nssheep.ca