

Georgia Sheep and Wool Growers Association

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June 2008 Newsletter

Wool Pool:

The wool pool will be held on June 14th, 2008 from 9:00am – 1:00pm at the UGA beef cattle unit. This building is located on South Milledge Avenue in Athens, GA. This is the same location the last several pools have been held. If you take the by-pass (Loop 10) around Athens, South Milledge Avenue is exit 5. Go south (away from town) and when S. Milledge curves to the left, the pool will be in the building on the right with 4 grain bins out front. We will have a sign by the entrance. Prices are much better this year.

Prices per pound are: Blackface sheep - Long 53.5 cents

Whiteface sheep – Long 61.0 cents

Short wool will be approximately 80% of the above prices. No bid was received for colored wool. Since the wool will be baled before going to the buyer, wool in poly, burlap, and paper bags will be accepted. Wool received in plastic feed sacks will be rejected. Remember to keep wool under cover if rain threatens, we cannot except wet wool.

Value Added Program:

Funds are still available for the value added program. If you wish to participate, please contact me.

New Members:

Nolan and Annie Kennedy
Allen and Wendy Martson
Ken Hamlin
Charles and Gayle Richardson

Colbert, Georgia
Fort Valley, Georgia
Gray, Georgia
Woodstock, Georgia

Annual Meeting Report:

Thirty two were in attendance of the association's annual meeting, held May 3rd in Watkinsville. Bill Sparrow, our regional ASI director, and David Trotter from the American Lamb Board, gave interesting presentations on how these organizations are working to help the sheep industry. The American Lamb Board provided door prizes. A representative from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) discussed several cost-sharing projects that would improve livestock operations. Contact your regional NRCS office for details. Bill O'Conner and Ned Lister discussed and demonstrated the correct way to adjust the comb and cutter on sheep shears, hold a sheep during shearing, and preparation of a fleece for sale or other purposes. Kaitlyn Stephens of Jefferson won the youth poster contest and received a pure-bred Dorset ewe lamb. Julia Lyons of Dawsonville was elected to fill the open GASWG director position. Last but not least, Ag South Farm Credit of Anderson, SC provided a great lamb burger lunch. Many thanks to Terry and Tara Wyatt for arranging and preparing our meal.

