

## Delaware sheep producers organize

**BY TRISH WILLIAMS**  
**HOCKESSIN, De** — Sheep producers interested in learning more about their industry and promoting it have joined together in the first state to form Delaware Sheep and Wool Producers Association. The formation comes as the Mid-Atlantic Sheep Breeders Assoc. disbands. Delaware had held one vote in the Mid-Atlantic Assoc., by forming its own association they hope to retain a voting say in issues affecting the state's sheep and wool producers.

Officers were elected and bylaws established, at the first meeting, held February 23, at the State Agriculture Building in Dover. The officers are: President Bill Green, Vice President Mark Taylor, and Secretary-Treasurer Martha Klair.

The main objective of the association as outlined in the bylaws, according to Ms. Klair, is to help better inform sheep producers on production and marketing practices and to allow producers to get together to discuss the common problems they

face. They hope to improve marketing in the state by organizing sales and wool pools. Ms. Klair said the association is sincerely interested in helping 4-H and FFA members with sheep projects.

At its second meeting, held Monday, the association discussed the possibility of presenting a trophy at the Delaware State Fair junior show, and how to attract meat packers to the fair to buy prize sheep from 4-H and FFA members. Members saw a video recording taken at last year's state fair of two sheep classes.

Ms. Klair estimates there are presently 20 members, and encourages anyone in Delaware who raises sheep, or who are interested in sheep and wool, as well as meat buyers and packers, to join the association. More information may be obtained by contacting President Bill Green, at 738-3072. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 5, 7:30 p.m. at the State Agriculture Building, DuPont Hwy, south of Dover.

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