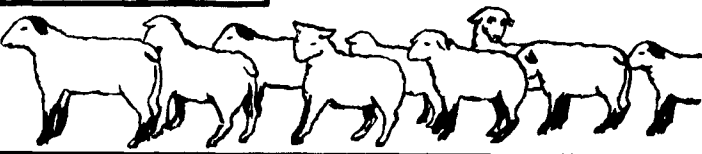


# Flock Forum

by  
**Clair Engle**

Penn State Extension Sheep Specialist



The "Make It Yourself With Wool" finals and fashion show is another special part of the program. The national competition draws over 70 winners of state and regional contests, who will vie for top honors in this spectacular wool promotion event. The contest is organized and conducted at local, state and national levels by members of the NWGA Auxiliary.

About 1,000 sheep producers and industry friends are expected to attend the First American Sheep Industry Convention. Industry leaders say the joint meeting will save thousands of dollars in meeting and travel expenses, and will greatly facilitate interaction among sheep organizations.

All sheep producers and others interested in the sheep industry are encouraged to attend. Special airfares are available through American Airlines for those attending. For airline reservation, call American Airlines Meeting Services 1-800-433-1790 and refer to STAR File #S-81811. For additional information about the program, hotel, reservations or airfares, contact first American Sheep Industry Convention, c/o National Wool Growers Association, #10 Lakeside Lane, Suite 200, Denver, CO 80212.

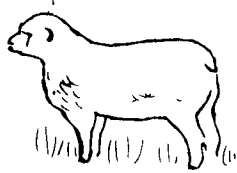
**Coming Events:**  
November 4 - 1988 Farm Show sheep entries due.

December 4 & 5 - Second Annual Shepherd's Symposium, The Embers Quality Inn, Carlisle, PA.  
January 10-15 - 1988 Pennsylvania Farm Show, Harrisburg, PA.

Information sessions will cover a variety of industry topics. Producing and marketing consumer-preferred lean lamb, for example, is a major concern being addressed by all sheep industry organizations. A lamb cutability information session will approach this critical issue as it affects producer profits and consumer choice.

Profitability, another constant challenge for livestock producers, will be discussed by five sheep producers representing different regions and types of ranching. They'll describe their operations and explain how they apply successful management practices. Other discussion sessions include predator control, federal approval of new drugs, immigration, and computer applications for the sheep industry.

A special convention highlight will be a full-day range tour on Sunday, Jan. 17, with visits to a wool pullery, wool scouring plant, and the well known YO Ranch, a diversified working ranch with sheep, Angora goats, Texas Long Horns and exotic game. Social activities include a Tex-Mex Fiesta, Tuesday evening, Jan. 19, which features regional food favorites and entertainment.



## Looking For A Queen

**HARRISBURG** — The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers are looking for their 1988 queen. The contest, which will be held here on January 14, is open to Pennsylvania women who will be judged on their poise, public appearance, beauty, personality, and general knowledge.

The queen will represent the coop at public functions and will receive \$200 in prize money.

Contestants must have finished

their junior year in high school yet will be no older than 21 in the calendar year of the reign. She must be sponsored by any interested potato grower, organization, or group of potato growers, Pennsylvania potato chip manufacturer, or stores merchandising Pennsylvania potatoes.

In addition, the contestant cannot have modeled professionally and will agree not to marry during the year of reign.

## Maryland Wins Northeast Collegiate Soil Judging

**COLLEGE PARK, Md.** — The University of Maryland's agronomy department has another addition to its bulging trophy case, which showcases the achievements of its nationally known collegiate soil judging teams.

For the eleventh time in 20 years, a Maryland team has captured the Northeast regional collegiate soil judging competition.

In addition, a University of Maryland student was the champion individual at this year's twenty-ninth annual contest held Oct. 10 near Newcomb in the Adirondack mountain area of upper New York state.

The Maryland team, along with second-place Penn State, is now eligible to compete in the national collegiate soil judging contest.

That event is scheduled April 29, 1988, at Brookings, S.D.

Bruce Bagley of Huntingtown, Md., an agronomy senior, placed first in the regional contest. Robert Lindgren of Hillandale, Md., a senior in natural resources management, was fifth.

Other members of the Maryland team included Kathleen Mulholland of Edgewater, and Jennifer Cassells of Bethesda, both seniors in natural resources management and David Verdone of Adelphi and Wayne Blake-Hedges of Bowie, both of whom are agronomy seniors.

Colleges represented in this year's regional contest included Maryland, Penn State, Delaware Valley College, Cornell and the University of Connecticut. Cornell was the host school.

First American Sheep Industry Convention Jan. 16-22.

Denver - "Connections" is the theme of the First American Sheep Industry Convention Jan. 16-20, 1988, which promises many opportunities for enhanced communications between sheep producers, organizations and industry supporters during the eventful four-day program in San Antonio, Texas. The theme focuses on important future connections and those already being made on behalf of sheep producers by the National Wool Growers Association, National Lamb Feeders Association and American Sheep Producers Council.

A unique program mix includes annual meetings of the sheep industry's three major national organizations, educational and informational sessions on important industry issues, a trade show of sheep products and services, and tours of San Antonio's sheep and wool production facilities and historic sites. Also scheduled are meetings of the Sheep Industry Development Program, National Sheep Improvement Program, NWGA Auxiliary and its "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest finals and fashion show.

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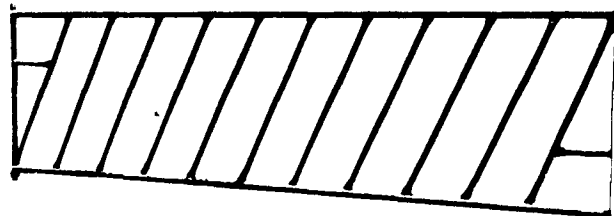
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