

Sheep Producers Participate In Political Forum

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Sheep producers from across the nation participated in a three-day lobbying tour of Washington, D.C., earlier this month promoting renewal of the Wool Act.

Council members attended strategy sessions on Wool Act Renewal during the opening hours of the meeting, then visited a number of key legislators in starting the renewal effort. Meetings were coordinated by ASI's Washington, D.C., lobbying group, Meyers & White.

Congressman Charles Stenholm (D-TX) addressed the group during its opening breakfast, saying the strengths and past success of the Wool Act will help producers in the effort to sell it to the nation's lawmakers.

Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter addressed the group, talking about the need for trade reforms which will drive the upcoming Farm Bill debate. Some of the other legislators who met with the Political Action Council included Rep. Joe Skeen (R-NM), Rep. Jim Leach (R-IA), Rep. Ron Marlenee (R-MT), Rep. Richard Stallings (D-ID). Members also met individually with their own senators and representatives to discuss issues of primary importance in their respective states.

"This was a fabulous start to the

Wool Act Renewal effort," said Legislative Action Council Chairman Pierce Miller of San Angelo, Texas. "Our group was well-received by legislators from all over the country, and our contacts gave us a better feel for what factors will make up an effective effort.

"Producers nationwide have helped to fund our work to renew the Wool Act," Miller said, "and we are counting on their continued support. This is the single most important issue U.S. producers will face this year."

Miller said the 1990 Farm Bill and its accompanying Wool Act will determine the industry's economics in years to come. "We must continue to strongly support this legislation which provides us a strong base and has successfully spurred the industry to adopt its own promotion and marketing programs."

Other issues addressed by the group in meeting with legislators and top government officials included animal damage control, scrapie legislation, environmental issues, animal welfare, public lands use and grazing, endangered species, and domestic and foreign lamb and wool marketing.

Members of the Legislative Action Council of the American Sheep Industry Association are Pierce Miller of Texas, chairman of the Council; Ken Miner of South Dakota, co-chairman of the Council; Bill Pfluger of Texas, immediate past president of the National Wool Growers Association; Bill Balden, Kentucky;

Casey Brown, Colorado; Robert Jappert, Oregon; Chase Hibbard, Montana; Joe Russ, California. Also participating were ASI President Bill Schneemann of Texas; ASI Secretary/Treasurer Gene Brune of Indiana; Bob Gilbert, Montana, and Ralph Mayer, Texas.

Crop Acreage Reporting Deadlines Approaching

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Crop acreage reporting deadlines are approaching quickly. Farmers are reminded to report their crop acreages to the county ASCS offices, by June 15 for small grain crops and July 17 for corn, soybeans, tobacco, and hay. Farmers participating in the

Acreage Reduction Program and those farmers with crop insurance are required to report their 1989 planted acreages. Upon request, a copy of the acreage report will be furnished to the producer so that a copy can be provided to the insurance agent.

Because of additional require-

ments in reporting crop acres, farmers should anticipate spending more time in the office than ever before. We recommend therefore, that producers stop at the office before 4 p.m. Eight a.m. (8 a.m.) is usually a good time report crop acreages as few people are normally in the office at that time.

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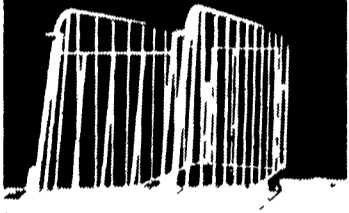
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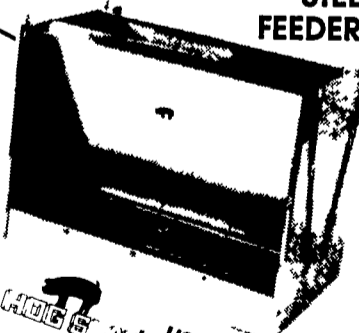


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