

Growers Vote For Sheep Industry Checkoff

DENVER, Colo. — The sheep industry will launch legislative efforts to secure a self-help lamb and wool checkoff, following a last vote Saturday by the American Sheep Industry Association board of directors at a special meeting in Denver.

Sheep producers representing the organization's 50 state affiliates uttered a strong yes to a checkoff on lamb and wool to replace the promotional funds that will be lost in 1996 with the phase-out of the National Wool Act.

"Sheep industry leaders showed deep commitment to securing the future of lamb and wool promotion, education and information," said Pierce Miller, president of the American Sheep Industry Association. The San Angelo, Texas, sheep rancher said the "history-making" move will help the sheep industry determine a more aggressive direction in its efforts to return profitability to American sheep producers.

Domestic producers will write the legislation to include a checkoff on both domestic and imported lamb and wool and their related products to the tune of 1 cent per pound on lamb and 2 cents per pound on domestic wool. Imported wool and wool products will be assessed at 2 cents per pound on a clean basis. The rate of elected representatives since 1954.

Remittance of the checkoff on domestic product would be at the point of slaughter on lamb and at the point of first processing for wool. The choice of single-point remittance, said industry leaders, will help control compliance costs and maximize collections.

For lamb, each seller would be deducted a penny per pound at the time of sale. The packer would remit a penny per pound at the time of slaughter. Directors proposed all imported live sheep and product also be assessed the one cent per pound. Exported sheep would also pay the checkoff. Under current projected sheep and lamb numbers, the lamb checkoff would raise \$5.7 million.

For wool, the checkoff of two cents per pound of grease wool would be assessed at each sale and be paid at the processing level. Producer leaders asked that all imported raw wool and wool products be assessed at roughly half the domestic level, at 2 cents per clean pound. The wool checkoff would raise \$1.3 million domestically.

The board moved to mandate return of 20 percent of the checkoff to state associations for state promotion programs, amounting to just over \$1 million.

The board also set incremental increase levels and caps on both lamb and wool checkoffs, increases which would have to be approved by both the ASI board of directors and the secretary of agriculture.

Boardmembers hashed out the issue of a cent-per-pound versus ad valorem rate, and looked at numerous state scenarios of production and costs in deciding on

the more simple cent-per-pound. Figures showed the proposed scenario came the closest to a checkoff that fairly assessed growers on a percent of income per ewe.

State and other sheep checkoffs, both voluntary and mandatory, now in place would not be affected by the national checkoff.

If the sheep industry is successful in passage of related enabling legislation, U.S. growers will have

the opportunity to vote in a referendum on the checkoff. Other industries involved in the proposed checkoff, namely importers, will also be entitled to a vote in the referendum. The board voted to propose continuation of the current language on the referendum vote, which allows passage by either voter numbers or production value.

The board proposal, debated

point by point during the two-day session, closely paralleled the proposal by the special industry task force appointed by ASI's president at the direction of the board in its January annual meeting. That task force, made up of producers, feeders, packers, wool buyers and textile manufacturers, met two days prior to the board meeting to finalize its proposal developed in the past two months.

Penn State's Meats Judging Team Takes Top Honors

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — The Penn State Meats Judging team won top awards earlier this month at the 1994 Southeastern Intercollegiate Meats Judging Competition held at Dawson-Baker Packing Company in Louisville, Ky.

In addition to first overall, the team brought home first in pork judging; second in beef grading, beef judging, overall placings, and reasons; third in lamb judging; and fifth in specification cuts.

Of the other 11 teams competing

from as far away as South Dakota and Florida, the University of Tennessee finished second and Iowa State third.

Penn State students won many individual honors as well. Jen Sweitzer (York County) was high individual in pork judging and placed fourth in beef grading, placing, and reasons and fifth in lamb judging. She finished third overall.

Jason Ahola (Putnam, Conn.) was fourth high overall, finishing second in placings and fourth in beef judging and specification

cuts.

Brian McAllister (Centre County) brought home the top score for beef grading and total beef, and finished fifth in placings and overall competition.

Amysue Eshelman (Berks County) placed second in beef judging, fifth in beef grading, and

was seventh overall.

Todd Rabenold (Berks County) and Howard Reyburn (Chester County) also represented Penn State in the Southeastern competition. William Henning is the team coach and Dan Northrup is assistant coach.

New From NC+

NC+ 4521 "NEW"

- ◆ 109 Days (110 MN) 2500 GDUs
- ◆ Will be a favorite in this maturity.
- ◆ High yield potential.
- ◆ Team with NC+ 4275 and NC+ 4616.
- ◆ Excellent stay-green.
- ◆ Good stress tolerance.

NC+ 7117 "NEW"

- ◆ 118 Days, 2590 GDUs
- ◆ Excellent yield and grain quality.
- ◆ Superior standability.
- ◆ Good milling quality.
- ◆ Works well under irrigation or can handle moisture stress.

These new NC+ releases are the result of one of the country's most comprehensive hybrid research programs. They're bred for precise adaptation and proven on NC+ F.A.R.M. Plots in this area. See us today for complete details including Early Payment Discount information.

**America's
down to earth
seed company**

Add Dealer imprint here.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DEALER

• Arthur S. Auker	Manhelm	717-665-6627
• Bechtel Farms	Hallfax	717-896-8314
• Jeff L. Berger	Kunkletown	610-381-3785
• Donald Emel	Salem, NJ	609-769-1577
• Wayne S. Freeman	Ellitsburg	717-582-2397
• Delmer S. Homan	Aaronsburg	814-349-8054
• Eivin M. Hursh	Lritz	717-733-3538
• Samuel E. Knouse	Richfield	717-463-2885
• Wayne R. Litzenberger	Kintnersville	610-847-5563
• Earl I. Miller	Pine Grove	717-345-1181
• Clarence B. Mull	Lebanon	717-865-2037
• David G. Rice Jr.	Kempton	610-756-6574
• David B. Saner	Mifflintown	717-535-5103
• Roger L. Saner	Thompstontown	717-535-5307
• Burdell Troxell	Andreas	717-386-4095
• Leon B. Wessner	Kutztown	610-285-6246
• Urle C. Yoder	Lewisburg	717-524-7739

MILK. IT DOES A BODY GOOD.™

- Patio Blocks
- Walk Blocks

- Lawn Steps
- Landscape Edgers

- Spalsh Blocks
- Tree Rings

BRICK-TILE PAVER BRICKS
1/2" x 3 3/4" x 7 3/4" Size

We Use
Fiber Mesh In
Our Concrete

All Items
Available In
Colored Concrete

Nickel Mine Brick Works
Elmer F. Stoltzfus
406 E. White Oak Road • Christiana, PA 17509
Located one mile east of Nickel Mines

Delaware Valley College

Annual

Saturday, April 23rd - Sunday, May 1st

Delaware Valley College Culture

Main Attractions

- Livestock Showing & Judging
- Flower & Craft Shows
- Horse Show
- Tree Planting & Climbing
- Milking Demonstration
- Science Exhibits

Special Events

- Entertainment
- Hay Rides
- Tractor Pull
- Tree Rides
- Garden Tours
- Amusement Zoo

Refreshments

B.B.Q. Chicken • Hamburgers • Soft Drinks • Fresh Milkshakes

Shuttle Transportation to High School, Lenape Middle School, and Elementary

For additional information, call 540-346-1111

Admission Free • Parking \$5.00