From DLGC President Susan Holler

DLGC members:

We are looking forward to seeing you on Friday, July 26th in Spencer, Iowa for our summer meeting, as we join with the Center of the Nation Sheep Sale and The Suffolk U. Plan on joining us at 9:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Express. We are looking forward to meeting with Dr. Mike Boland, University of Minnesota Professor and Director of The Food Industry Center and specialist in Cooperatives and Agribusiness. As your board continues to improve your co-op, we hope you will join us to learn from Dr. Boland’s vast experiences.

After the DLGC meeting, there will be free educational programs on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning sponsored by The United Suffolk Sheep Association. Friday’s events include speakers, a lamb dinner, and hands-on live ram evaluation. Even though this is a free event be sure to register (see Summer Meeting article on page 2). The event concludes with the NSIP Center of the Nation Sheep sale on Saturday afternoon.

As 2019 continues to be a very challenging year due to the volatile weather, one bright spot is that market lambs are benefitting from the cool weather. Producers have reported that lambs are up to 3 weeks ahead of their usual marketing schedule. As a result, it is beneficial to stay current with your lamb weights and hopefully capture some of the summer marketing price incentives.

Looking forward to seeing you in Spencer.

Direct Deposit Payments from Superior Farms

Superior Farms offers direct deposit payment to current contract producers. And, the lamb delivery breakdown would be emailed to you. Please contact Phyllis Pates for a copy of the form to submit.
Summer Meeting — Friday, July 26

What: Dakota Lamb Growers Co-op Summer Meeting
When: Friday, July 26, 2019 at 9:30 am
Where: Holiday Inn Express, 916 13th St SW, Spencer, Iowa (712-580-2200)
Topic: Moving forward with the Co-op

Guest Speaker: Dr. Michael Boland, University of Minnesota Professor and Director of The Food Industry Center and specialist in Cooperatives and Agribusiness.

In addition to teaching 6 courses at the UMN campus, Dr. Mike Boland teaches a six course curriculum on finance, governance, and strategy for directors of cooperatives which are offered to more than 500 directors annually. In addition, he serves and teaches on planning committees across North America for a number of executive education programs for agribusiness professionals and cooperative managers and directors. These programs are joint with CoBank, CHS, Land O’ Lakes, and other firms. Universities he collaborates with on education include UM’s Carlson School of Management, Kansas State Univ., Univ. of Wisconsin, Univ. of Nebraska, Montana State Univ., Oklahoma State, and Univ. of California - Davis. He has published a book on cooperatives “An Introduction to Cooperation and Mutualism.”

After the meeting, stay for the Suffolk U’s ‘A New Direction in Sheep Breeding’ educational program being held that afternoon and the morning of the 27th on the Clay County Fairgrounds in Spencer, IA. No registration fee, but they do ask you to pre-register by calling 641-684-5291 or email info@suffolks.org by July 17th. Saturday afternoon will be the Center of the Nation NSIP Sale, also on the Fairgrounds in Spencer, IA. More information can be found at >www.nsip.org< and >www.suffolks.org<.

There are limited hotel rooms in Spencer, so please make your reservations early. There is a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Express at the rate of $139.99/night.

NEW Members Classified Ads NEW

A new feature has been added to the Newsletter and webpage. FREE Listing of WANTED and FOR SALE Ads. We will accept only sheep industry related ads. Please contact Phyllis with your ad information.

FOR SALE: Border Collie Puppies ready to go in July. Contact oneillfamilyfarm54@gmail.com or 507-458-6244
FOR SALE: Ile de France rams and ewe lambs. Information at www.hasbargenlandcattle.com
FOR SALE: Finn/Dorset ewe lambs. Sisseton, SD. 605-880-4376

Watch for new Ads on the >www.dakotalambgrowers.com< webpage.
Questions for Coop Members

- What can the co-op do to add value for you as a member?
- What direction should the co-op be going?
- What can we do to get previously delivering sheep members active again?

Please take time to visit with a board member.

Members Only Page

Please check out the “Members Only” portion of the DLGC website: www.dakotalambgrowers.com. Find monthly Board of Directors conference call meeting minutes and Treasurer’s Reports, Shares for Sale information, Bylaws, Articles of Association, and other Co-op documents on this page. If you need the Members Only password, please email dakotalambgrowers@gmail.com and Phyllis will send it to you.

Grilled Racks of American Lamb

- 3-4 lbs. whole racks of American lamb (about 2)
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- Zest of 1 lemon
- 1/4 cup fresh oregano, chopped
- 2 cloves crushed garlic
- 2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. pepper

Marinate for 2 hours. Set at room temperature for 30 minutes. Preheat grill to 500 degrees. Start grilling fat side down, about 5-6 minutes on each side to get a good hard sear. Turn heat down to 300 and rotate the lamb every 5-6 minutes until medium rare inside. Remove lamb from grill and let rest for 10 minutes before slicing.

>www.americanlamb.com<

Superior Farms Buying Stations

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<th>Russell, Minnesota</th>
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<th>Bloomfield, Iowa</th>
<th>Sac City, Iowa</th>
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<td>Josh or Randy Gravely</td>
<td>Ron or Pete Daale</td>
<td>Dave Hopkins</td>
<td>Brian Landgraf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>507-530-5900</td>
<td>712-548-8395</td>
<td>25917 Fern Blvd, 52537</td>
<td>Call for directions</td>
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<tr>
<td>1801 185th St, 56169</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Coplan</td>
<td>Rob Rule</td>
<td>Colin Sik</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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With the renewed interest from producers to join or re-join the co-op, we are looking for delivery locations in Eastern MN, South Central ND, Wyoming, and Western SD. You, as producers, are the best resource for identifying potential delivery stations. Please contact one of the Board of Directors with names of individuals they could visit with.
Welcome Returning DLGC Member

Please join the Board of Directors in welcoming the following returning members:

Greg & Aric Uithoven, Magnolia, MN  
300 ewes (mostly polypay)

The DLGC will accept new member applications until October 1st in 2019. This will allow the Board of Directors time to approve the application, and leave time for the new members to purchase the required 50 equity shares before signing a Superior contract for 2020.

Superior

Summer is here, and we are excited to start receiving lambs as part of the Dakota Lamb Coop Contract. As the lambs are being finished, we wanted to make you aware of a few items that may influence your shearing and production decisions.

Clean lambs: We have had a lot of moisture this year and it is a good time to remind everyone on the importance of sending clean lambs to the slaughter facility. The main thing to look at when determining your lambs for cleanliness is to look at the bellies and legs - these are the areas that cause the biggest problems on the harvest floor. If you are able to shear the bellies of your lambs and/or keep them clean it will be a tremendous help. The plant is held to stringent rules by the USDA through the processing chain and they have a zero tolerance policy. Clean lambs help your yields and allow us to do a better dressing job maintaining a higher value for your product.

Pelts: For the last year trading with China has posed many challenges and as a result the pelt prices have plummeted. The best prices we are seeing is in the $2-3.00 dollar range with the low at negative $2.50. Unfortunately, we don’t see this improving anytime soon. Depending on what breed/s you are raising there are a few things you can do to help with the value of your pelts. The main thing is to keep them clean. Second, if you do shear your lambs you will want a minimum of 90 days of regrowth to maximize your pelt value. This isn’t always feasible because the lambs will get too big but with the wool off, the lambs should feed more efficient and yield better, and the value of your wool may make up for the low pelt pricing.

Affidavits: If you are delivering lambs through the Antibiotic Free Never Ever Program (ABF), please be sure to have your paperwork on file with your lamb buyer. In order to sell lambs into this program you will need to complete the ABF Questionnaire and submit a signed affidavit for each load of lambs either on paper or via the mobile app. If you do not have a log in for the mobile app, please reach out to Lesa Eidman.

We look forward to another successful year with the Dakota Lamb Cooperative. If you ever have any questions please don’t hesitate to reach out. Thank you,

Lesa Eidman, Director of Producer Resources and Sustainability
Mark Dumdi, Lamb Buyer