

Sheep and Goat Area Gets a Big Boost!

Sheep and goat producers have lots to look forward to at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show (COFS) with more programming and features targeted at this fast growing sector.



"We want every farmer at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show to leave feeling it was a day (or two) well spent," says Stefanie Nagelschmitz, Livestock Co-ordinator at COFS. "Sheep and goat farming is a growth industry and we are excited to present a more extensive and well-rounded array of features for sheep and goat oriented attendees to enjoy."

First on the list will be a visit to 7th Lane where attendees can see traditional indoor and outdoor exhibits around the Sheep and Goat Pavilion. Among the Pavilion exhibitors will be the newly formed Ontario Goat Association collecting memberships and handing out information. Also in the Pavilion will be the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency (OSMA) with industry updates and information.

Next on the list will be a visit to the Multi-Shelter Pavilion where long-time sheep producer and COFS exhibitor, John Steele, will deliver daily talks entitled "Seizing Opportunities for Success in Sheep." These daily talks will provide an interactive forum for new and experienced sheep producers to exchange ideas and tips. Just a stone-throw away will be another new speaker program in the Grober Young Animal Development Centre which also houses lamb research trials that have been conducted throughout the summer.

Back on 7th Lane, Brussel's Agri-Services will host Sheep Handling Demonstrations. New for 2010, these demonstrations will be accompanied by an RFID Tag Reading Demonstration conducted by expert Anita O'Brien.

Last, but certainly not least, attendees can see sheep dog herding in action during the Sheepdog Demonstrations in the Southwest Demo Field on Tuesday and Wednesday only at 10:30am and 2:00pm. Just a short PeopleMover ride away to the Demo Fields, championship dog handler, Vikki Kidd, will demonstrate her expertise, having raised and competed with sheepdogs for more than 25 years across North America. Kidd's demonstrations throughout Ontario draw crowds of sheep and dog enthusiasts wanting to learn more about this traditional form of sheep handling.

"We have put a conscious effort into our sheep and goat programming this year," says Nagelschmitz. "The variety and expertise available at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show should help to build a stronger and more inclusive Livestock Central offering for our attendees."

Canada's Outdoor Farm Show will be held September 14, 15, and 16, 2010.

For more information visit: www.OutdoorFarmShow.com

