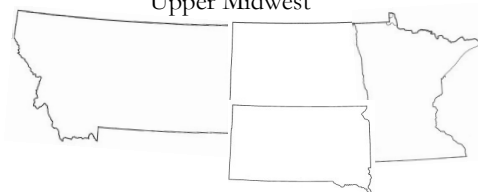


Dakota Lamb Growers Co-op News

Proudly serving producers in the
Upper Midwest



Volume 9, Issue 1

Spring 2020

Directors

President: **Riley Braaten**
Rosholt, SD
701-640-8335

VPresident: **Travis Fowler**
Truman, MN
507-236-5055

Secretary: **Chad Hasbargen**
Wheaton, MN
320-815-5185

Treasurer: **Adam Ost**
Ashley, ND
701-301-3876

Directors: **Terry Ness**
Pierre, SD
605-280-0130

Kelley O'Neill
Rushford, MN
507-458-6244

Susan Holler
White, SD
605-695-9478

Manager: **Phyllis Pates**
21867 466th Ave.
Volga, SD 57071
605-695-5157

Submit calendar events, ads
and article ideas to:
dakotalambgrowers@gmail.com

Website:
dakotalambgrowers.com

From DLGC President Riley Braaten

Greetings to my fellow ranchers and shepherds. For most producers, you are probably nearing the end of another lambing season and some are already preparing to wean lambs. I hope that this year was better than 2019 weather wise. We experienced a little bit more mild spring and not so much snow here in northeast South Dakota.

As we entered into a new year we were watching market ready lamb prices steadily climb. As these prices were rising, little did we know that Covid-19 would be sneaking up behind us, and would economically change the way consumers eat lamb. We soon would find the cash market going from \$1.70 on March 1st to \$1.01 by April 1st. Suddenly restaurants and hotels are closed and lamb consumption going way down. People would find themselves temporarily laid off and facing tough financial decisions on essential spending.

As to where this market is going to go is anyone's guess. I would hope producers would stay current with marketing lambs as they reach selling weight. Delivering overweight lambs is something this suppressed market can't handle. Our wool industry is experiencing the same thing. All wool trade has come to a halt and some producers may experience a wool value of \$0.00. Many producers are storing their wool in the barn for better days to come.

I believe this economy will turn around and become great again. When you ask? That I don't know. We are survivors and ask God for the strength and wisdom we need to get through these trying times. I ask that each producer find another producer or multiple producers to reach out to and share your time with whether it's just to listen, or to lend a hand where help is needed. May God bless each and every one of my fellow lamb producers. Take care and enjoy your spring.

Superior Farms Article

Email Communication 3/19/20

Our Commitment To You...

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to those affected by COVID-19 both in terms of health and economic impact. The COVID-19 pandemic is quickly and dramatically impacting the lives and businesses of nearly everyone with whom we do business. We, at Superior Farms, would like to take a brief moment to update you upon the actions that we're taking in response to this global crisis.



As members of the food production industry we have a responsibility to continue to operate in order for consumers to have access to good nutrition. We recognize and embrace this responsibility and will continue to work with prudence and safety for the good of our employee owners, our producer partners, our customers and our consumers. To that end, we continue to operate our production facilities with strict adherence to USDA guidelines and regulations to ensure that the products we provide to our retail and foodservice customers are safe, wholesome and nutritious.

The health and safety of our employee owners and other stakeholders is of utmost importance to us. Therefore, we have implemented policies and heightened our focus to practice social distancing, optimal hygiene and sterile working environments. We have implemented policies recommended by the CDC, the WHO and state and local officials to limit the number of people gathered and restrict non-essential travel. We will continue to monitor these policies and adjust them as needed.

We are grateful to those medical professionals who are putting their own health at risk to stem the tide of the outbreak and to serve those in need. We are proud of the dedication and commitment that our employee owners are demonstrating and for their willingness and ability to adapt to this ever changing situation.

Please reach out to us if you have questions or concerns. You can reach us at anders.hemphill@superiorfarms.com.

Buying Feeder Lambs

Dear fellow co-op members,

As lambing is in full swing or even wrapping up for some of us, you are probably making plans for weaning and feeding your lambs. If you are unable to finish out some or all of your lambs but want to be able to meet your DLGC contract commitment, we would be interested in buying them, finishing them according to DLGC requirements, and selling them to Superior Farms to be counted toward your contract commitment. We are willing to pick them up at your farm for a worthwhile number of lambs. Pricing would be based on local livestock auction reports. You would simply need to provide us with your ABF affidavit and mark any lambs that received antibiotics. Please feel free to call or email me if you want to explore this option. Also, if you know of producers who would become DLGC members because of an option like this, feel free to give them my contact information.

Wishing you a good season,

Adam Ost and Aaron Kinzler
OK Livestock LLP, Ashley, ND
Adam's cell: 701-301-3876; Email: aost82@gmail.com

Dakota Lamb Growers Cooperative - 2019 Annual Meeting

December 2, 2019 at Best Western Plus Ramkota Hotel, Sioux Falls, SD

Meeting called to order at 7:18 by President Sue Holler.

2018 Minutes were read and with no additions or corrections, they stand as read.

FY 2018-2019 Treasurer's Report was reviewed and with no additions or corrections, it stands as read, subject to audit.

Election of Directors: Sue Holler and Adam Ost were elected from the floor.

Bulk milk replacer order was reviewed.

Administrative fee refunds: \$1.00 of the \$3.50 per lamb per share owned over the 50 required was refunded to share holders early 2019.

2019-2020 Budget was reviewed.

Distribution of Capital Losses: After review of the letter sent to members, attorney comments, and discussion by members, a motion to proceed with tax loss allocation was made, seconded and motion carried.

Adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Loss Allocation Update

The DLGC Board of Directors is working with Joel Dahlgren of Black Dog Co-op Law and Jake Holm of CarlsonSV accountant on the loss allocation details. More information will be sent to members mid-year detailing what options are available and what steps members have to take.

DLGC Website

Please check out the “**Members Only**” portion of the DLGC website >www.dakotalambgrowers.com<. There you can find monthly Board of Directors conference call meeting minutes and Treasurer’s Reports, Shares for Sale, Bylaws, and other Co-op documents. If you need the Members Only password, please email dakotalambgrowers@gmail.com and Phyllis will send it to you.

The website **Wanted** and **For Sale Ads** have not been very active. Please let Phyllis know if you have anything that you would like to sell or are looking to purchase. We will accept only sheep industry related ads. Watch for new Ads on the >www.dakotalambgrowers.com< webpage.

For Sale: Puppies

Border Collie Pups and Anatolian x Spanish Mastiff cross Pups available now

LPD pups born from actively working, predator effective, and good temperament parents and grandparents; vaccinated; reared with sheep and with sheep now.

Border Collie pups from parents that work both sheep and cows, also have wonderful dispositions, and are vaccinated. Two short haired males available.

Contact oneillfamilyfarm54@gmail.com with interest or questions.

