

National Lamb Feeders Association



January- February 2022

Executive Director's Report

NLFA Elected New Leadership

The 2022 NLFA Annual Meeting took place on January 20th at the American Sheep Industry Association Annual Convention in San Diego. While I was disappointed not to be in attendance (darn COVID!), it sounds like it was a great meeting. The NLFA Board of Directors serves to represent our members throughout the United States sheep industry. The eleven-member Board acts as the voice of lamb feeders, connecting policy with the industry, advocating for our membership and supporting consumer and industry education, research and product promotion. Following a year of extended terms due to COVID-19 in 2021, this year NLFA elected new leadership and Board members. Reed Anderson (OR) was asked to serve another term on the Board and elected as our 2022 President while Don Hawk (PA) was elected to serve as the Vice President. Levi Rule and Tasha Wahl were both elected to serve another term as board members and we welcome Kate Harlan as a new Board member this year. Jeff Hasbrouck continues to serve on the Board as the Immediate Past President and Bob Harlan will continue to serve as NLFA's ASI Representative.

Leadership School Planned for July in Colorado

We are also planning the 2022 Howard Wyman Sheep Industry Leadership School for July in Colorado. Watch for details in the March newsletter or check our [website](#) and social media pages ([NLFA Facebook](#) or [Leadership School Facebook](#)) where we will post updates as they are available.

February is lamb lovers month

The American Lamb Board (ALB) has deemed February as [Lamb Lovers Month](#) for over a decade. This year to encourage celebrating Lamb Lovers Month, ALB is hosting two separate consumer contests. The first giveaway is on Instagram with the goal of increasing engagement with consumers. ALB is giving away a "date night in" package for one lucky couple to celebrate Valentine's Day in style with American Lamb. The prize package includes a rack of American Lamb as well as a copy of Ashley Rodriguez's cookbook *Date Night In*, which includes a delicious recipe to prepare a rack of lamb. The second contest encourages consumers to share their love for American Lamb with their closest friends for a chance to win an entertaining package for a lamb chop dinner. ALB is promoting the contests through consumer social media pages, a consumer newsletter, paid advertisements and influencer partners. Check out Well Seasoned Studio's recent blog post about a lovely Sous Vide Lamb Chop recipe.

Changes Announced to Mandatory Lamb Checkoff Collections at Auction Markets

The American Lamb Checkoff rate is not seeing any changes in rate, but there will be new changes to how mandatory assessments will be collected for animals sold through market agencies. The change applies to animals sold through auctions, including sale barns, video/online sales, and sales at shows and fairs.

These auctions will now collect both live weight assessments and per head (first handler) assessments as of January 21, 2022. However, the delayed enforcement date for submitting these assessments is March 22, 2022. This allows time for auctions to adjust their systems without a penalty for late payments. If a producer or feeder sells animals to a first handler and has already paid the checkoff at an auction, a refund will be issued.

To receive a refund, documentation will be required from the time of sale.

The changes had to go through a vigorous USDA process. The federal register announcement is [here](#). More information on how the mandatory American Lamb Checkoff works and how to pay or request refunds, is at LambResourceCenter.com. The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service website on the lamb program is also a good resource.

BLM, USFS Announce 2022 Grazing Fees

BLM and USFS recently [announced](#) the federal grazing fee for 2022 will be \$1.35 per animal unit month for public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management and \$1.35 per head month for lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service. The 2021 public land grazing fee was also \$1.35.

An animal unit month or head month – treated as equivalent measures for fee purposes – is the use of public lands by one cow and her calf, one horse, or five sheep or goats for a month. The newly calculated grazing fee was determined by a congressionally mandated formula and takes effect March 1. The fee will apply to nearly 18,000 grazing permits and leases administered by the BLM and nearly 6,250 permits administered by the Forest Service.

The BLM and Forest Service are committed to strong relationships with the ranching community and work closely with permittees to ensure public rangelands remain healthy, productive working landscapes. The grazing fee applies in 16 Western states on public lands administered by the BLM and the Forest Service. The states are: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Permit holders and lessees may contact their local BLM or Forest Service office for additional information.

Lamb On Feed Report

Lambs on Feed Report

NLFA has been asked by leadership to distribute the Monthly Lambs on Feed report from USDA-AMS. While some of you may have already seen it this month, we're providing the links to the reports below.

[Monthly Feeder Lamb Inventory Summary](#)

[Historical Data](#)

Membership Dues and Sponsorship

Membership dues and sponsorship dues can be paid using a membership database called Member Planet. If you have not set up a Member Planet account, please contact the office (lambfeeders@outlook.com or 605-224-0224) and we will send you a separate email message from "NLFA" inviting you to join the online membership database. When you receive that message, click the "Get Started" button in that email and you will be prompted to create a password to login to the online system. Once your account is created, you will have the option to update your contact information and then select your dues level or remit your Allied Industry sponsorship online.

If you prefer to mail your dues or sponsorship, please click here to find our Membership and Allied Industry Sponsorship forms that may be printed and mailed with your check. If you are unsure which form to complete, please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns regarding your membership or sponsorship.

