

## Michigan Sheep Breeders Association Starter Flock Scholarship

The MSBA starter flock scholarship is intended to provide Michigan youth with 3-5 ewes as a starter flock. Ewes will be donated by members of the Michigan Sheep Breeders association, and the age and number of ewes will be determined based on what members of the association choose to donate.

### Requirements:

- Open to youth ages 14-19 that are residents of and attend school in Michigan.
- Join the Michigan Sheep Breeders Association upon notification of award and maintain membership through the age of 19.
- Attend Shepherds Weekend for both days the year following the award (long year) and give a power point or 3 panel poster presentation as well as a written report summarizing records at the youth portion of the program.
- Mentorship
  - The youth must work with a mentoring team consisting of 1) a MSBA member in their area, 2) a large animal veterinarian, 3) the MSBA member who donated the sheep, and 4) a 4-H leader, FFA advisor or County Extension employee
  - The 4-H leader, FFA advisor or County Extension will coordinate quarterly visits to verify progress and records (at least one mentor visits quarterly)
  - The team and youth will work together to arrange breeding of the flock
- Complete the application with essays addressing one of flocks listed below. Applicants must choose from the breeds available for donation.
- Keep a record book to be reviewed quarterly by a member of the mentorship team. Bring to the Shepherds weekend yearly.
- Agree to donate the proceeds from one lamb back to the MSBA within six months of the completion of high school. This money will be used for the scholarship program.
- If the youth choose to exit the sheep industry within the first 3 years, an equal value starter flock must be donated back to the scholarship program..
- Youth and parent will sign an promissory agreement that outlines their commitment to the program.
- Depending on the breed of sheep and the desire of the donor, youth may be required to exhibit sheep or wool at one or more shows.

### Available Flocks:

1. **The Scramlin family, (Scramlin Southdowns) is willing to donate 3 registered Southdown ewes for a starter flock. Our flock is shown very successfully at the Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan State Fairs as well as NAILE. We believe in “giving ahead” in recognition of all the breeders who helped start our Southdown flock 21 years ago since there is no way to pay them back. In particular, we do this in memory of the late Fred Savage who was instrumental in so many ways for our early successes.**

**Our plan is for the winning applicant to receive 1 ewe lamb, 1 bred yearling ewe, and 1 bred brood ewe. The sheep would be available after the first of November when we would be reasonably sure that the ewes are bred. The applicant should have facilities to lamb out the ewes which would be born in January or February.**

**We would ask (but not require) that the person who receives them would keep up the registration papers and would hopefully exhibit at least 1 show next year either in the breeding stock or show Southdown market lambs. We would be willing to work with the young person on maintaining their flock and even expanding their ewe base.**

- 2. Tirrell Centennial Farm is donating Commercial crossbred ewes. 3 ewes; 1 ewe lamb, 1 yearling ewe and 1 mature ewe. Ewes are Dorset Columbia crosses. Mature ewe will be bred for February and the yearling will be bred for April lambing.**
- 3. Renn-vue Farms is donating Registered Suffolk ewes. 3 ewes; 1 ewe lamb, 1 yearling ewe and 1 mature ewe. Mature ewe and yearling will be bred. Applicants must specify whether they would prefer wether type or frame type sheep.**

## **Michigan Sheep Breeders Association Starter Flock Scholarship Application**

Please answer the following questions. Your answers should be word processed and well thought out.

1. What is your background with animals?
2. Why do you want to raise sheep?
3. What type of sheep would you like to raise and why? Please choose from the available flocks that are listed below.
4. Describe where you will house your sheep. Please provide both a diagram and photos.
5. How much sheep pasture do you have for your use?
6. Provide a projected budget for the first year. You must include: Feed, Bedding, Supplies, Veterinary Bills, Housing, Transportation
7. What will be the source of feed for your sheep?
8. How will possible profits be used?
9. Provide letters from a veterinarian and 4-H leader or FFA advisor stating their willingness to serve as mentors. (MSBA member will be selected for you)

Applications must be postmarked by October 15 2009 to:

Pat Henne  
9121 Houston RD  
Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

**Michigan Sheep Breeders Association  
Starter Flock Scholarship**

I \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby promise to comply with all of the requirements of the Michigan Sheep Breeders Starter Flock Scholarship. I promise to provide excellent care and husbandry for my flock. In the event that I cannot keep my sheep, or satisfy the requirements I promise to immediately contact my mentorship team. The mentorship team will determine what should be done with the sheep and or proceeds from the sheep.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_, in the county of \_\_\_\_\_ in the State  
Notary Signature

of \_\_\_\_\_ Notary Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_