



PART 1: Production

1. Management and Business Planning

This section relates to establishing and growing your enterprise while managing it with a view to maximizing profitability. Rate the significance of **each topic to you** using a scale of 1 – 4 where four indicates that information & training on the topic is very important to you and 1 indicates that it is unimportant to you.

Goal setting

Determining your COP (cost of production)

Formulating business plans

Enterprise accounting

Accessing capital

Succession planning

Planning and decision making

Regulations affecting your business

Business risk management

Record keeping

Identification and traceability

Comments:

2. Infrastructure

This section relates to the facilities and infrastructure required for your enterprise and using it with a view to maximizing profitability. Rate the significance of **each topic to you** using a scale of 1 – 4 where four indicates that information & training on the topic is very important to you and 1 indicates that it is unimportant to you.

Building design and layouts

Handling facilities

Ventilation

Manure & nutrient management

Dead stock disposal

Water and feed infrastructure

Machines & equipment

Stock densities

Confinement systems – hybrid systems –extensive systems

Comments:

3. Flock Health

This section relates to the health of your flock and the effects of flock health on profitability. Rate the significance of **each topic to you** using a scale of 1 – 4 where four indicates that information & training on the topic is very important to you and 1 indicates that it is unimportant to you.

Managing profit limiting diseases and conditions

Biosecurity

Managing a closed flock

Managing parasites

Flock health programs

Vaccinations and blood tests

Reducing the flock turnover rate

Comments:

4. Flock genetics

This section relates to the establishing and managing the genetic make-up of your flock and the effects on profitability. Rate the significance of **each topic to you** using a scale of 1 – 4 where four indicates that information & training on the topic is very important to you and 1 indicates that it is unimportant to you.

Using terminal sires

Interpreting ROP indicators

Managing maternal lines

Matching breed & environment

Selecting breeding stock

Selecting for pounds of lamb sold

Comments:

5. Nutrition

This section relates to the nutritional requirements of your flock and the effects on profitability. Rate the significance of **each topic to you** using a scale of 1 – 4 where four indicates that information & training on the topic is very important to you and 1 indicates that it is unimportant to you.

Balancing requirements at various stages of production cycle

Feeding alternative feeds

Managing forage
Feedlot and pasture finishing

Comments:

6. Breeding

This section relates to issues that affect successful breeding seasons. Rate the significance of **each topic to you** using a scale of 1 – 4 where four indicates that information & training on the topic is very important to you and 1 indicates that it is unimportant to you.

Managing rams
Managing fertility
Energy requirements pre and post introduction of rams
Maximizing conception

Comments:

7. Lambing

This section relates to issues that affect the number of lambs born live, weaned and sold. Rate the significance of **each topic to you** using a scale of 1 – 4 where four indicates that information & training on the topic is very important to you and 1 indicates that it is unimportant to you.

Preparing for lambing
Lambing facilities and set-ups
Pasture lambing & confinement lambing systems
Dystocia and weak lambs
Managing mortalities (reducing mortality new born to 50 days)
Neonatal diseases and conditions
Illness in weaning pens, on pasture & finishing pens

Comments:

8. Marketing

This section relates to decisions on selling your lamb crop. Rate the significance of **each topic to you** using a scale of 1 – 4 where four indicates that information & training on the topic is very important to you and 1 indicates that it is unimportant to you.

Live trade
Auction markets
Cooperative marketing
Drovers and feedlots
Forward contracting
Developing your own markets

Comments:

PART 2: Information need and availability

This part of the survey relates to your views on the need for, the availability and the reliability of additional information for use in operating and managing your sheep production enterprise.

1. In which province is your lamb production enterprise situated?
BC
ALTA
SASK
MAN
ON
QUE
NB
NS
PEI
NFLD
2. How often would you say that you search for production and management information for your lamb production enterprise in order to learn or solve problems? If never, please explain in comments box (*and survey ends*)
Daily
Weekly
One or more times per month
Seasonally during production cycles
Seldom
Never:
Comments:
3. Do you feel that appropriate sheep production and management information is available to you when you need it? Tick the box which most closely represents your view.
Information is readily available whenever I need it
Information is mostly available but from different sources
Information is sometimes available

Information is difficult to find
I can never find what I need
None of the above, please explain;

Additional comments:

4. How current and accurate do you feel the sheep production and management information you access is? Please tick the box which most closely represents your view.
- Information is current and accurate
Information is dated but is still relevant
Information is dated and sometimes not relevant
I often question the usefulness of what I find
None of the above, please explain

Comments:

5. When you need production and management information about lamb production for your farming operation, where do you search? Please tick all that apply and add any additional sources in the comments box.

Provincial Sheep Organization & website
Provincial sheep organization seminars and newsletters
Provincial agriculture department extension office
Provincial agriculture department websites
Neighbours
Local veterinary office
Provincial veterinary office
Fact sheets
Personal library of books & journals
The farm press
Public library
Scientific journals
Open internet
Social media
Canadian university websites
Foreign university websites
Other: please list

Comments:

6. Please rank the following sources, in the order you would use them, to find the production and management information you need. If you do not use, place an X in the box.

Provincial Sheep Organization & website
Provincial sheep organization seminars and newsletters
Provincial agriculture department extension office
Provincial agriculture department's website
Neighbours
Local veterinary office
Provincial veterinary office
Fact sheets
Personal library of books & journals
The farm press
Public library
Scientific journals
Open internet
Social media
Canadian university websites
Foreign university websites
Other: please list

This section surveys your preferences for receiving information and training.

1. Using a scale of 1 to 5 where one is your most favoured & 5 your least favoured, please provide your preference for each of the following course & information formats.
2. Electronic newsletters
3. A dedicated website
4. Classroom seminars with practical demonstrations
5. Classroom seminars
6. A web based course
7. Field days
8. Presentations at regional and annual general meetings

2. If resources are not available to deliver information and training during field days and/or in classrooms, what value would you be willing to pay **per module** for the following modules. Choose one but please provide a 2nd choice.

Choices are:

1. A flat rate of \$100 per module
2. A flat rate of \$75 per module
3. A flat rate of \$50 per module

4. Varied depending on module
5. Unwilling to pay anything

Modules:

1. Management and Business Planning
2. Infrastructure
3. Flock Health
4. Flock genetics
5. Nutrition
6. Breeding
7. Lambing & management
8. Marketing