

## **Food Safe Farm Practices maintains CFIA Technical Recognition**

For Immediate Release

November 13, 2012 – Guelph, Ontario – The Canadian Sheep Federation is proud to announce the continued recognition of the Canadian Sheep and Lamb Food Safe Farm Practices Program under the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's On-Farm Food Safety Recognition Program, Technical Review Part I.

Andrew Gordanier Chairman of the CSF expressed his appreciation of work that producers and government staff, put into the review as part of CSF's On-Farm Food Safety Working Group, as well as the Technical Review Committee and staff of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency who conducted the review process. "*The Food Safe Farm Practices Program* continues to improve and provide producers with an additional tool to help ensure the safety of the Canadian lamb they produce. The program has come a long way, but we continue to see areas for improvement and welcome future input from industry in how best the program can meet industry needs", said Gordanier.

The latest review encompassed a variety of changes to the program's Generic HACCP Model and Producer Manual. Improvements to the producer manual encompassed both the Good Production Practices (GPPs) and record templates. Producer input was used to guide the review, focusing on making the program more clear and concise in hopes producers will find it easier to implement. There are currently over 1100 producers who have taken training on program implementation, while twelve producers have taken the next step to become fully certified on the program.

The HACCP model, which identifies hazards and is the basis for

the producer manual, was updated in order to ensure potential food safety hazards are still being addressed on-farm. Hazards on the farm are related to use of animal health products and contamination of inputs such as feed and water. Many producers are already doing most or all of the necessary GPPs to control these hazards.

Printing of the updated producer manual will be completed in November. The new Manual will be available for producers to download or hardcopies will be available by request from the CSF office and/or your provincial sheep association. For more details on the updated manual's release, or for more information on the Food Safe Farm Practices Program, visit the CSF website (<http://www.cansheep.ca/cms/en/Programs/FoodSafeFarmPractices/FoodSafetyFarmPractices.aspx>) or contact Barbara Caswell at [barbara@cansheep.ca](mailto:barbara@cansheep.ca).