



Mountain States Lamb Cooperative

March/April 2017

Newsletter

327 East Center Street * Douglas, WY 82633 * Office: 307-358-0235 * Fax: 307-358-0237

E-mail: mailbox@mslamb.com * Website: www.mslamb.com

Top Lambs

Jim Moore, Douglas, Wyoming, marketed the top lambs in February. Fed at Double J, the lambs returned an average of \$4.52 in grid premiums and another \$2.20 per head in natural premiums for premium total of \$6.72 per lamb. The lambs graded 62% YG2 and 26% YG3.

March's top lambs were marketed by Martin Auza Sheep Co., Brawley, California. With 98% of the lambs grading YG3 or better, these lambs averaged \$4.23 in market grid premiums and another \$2.57 in natural premiums for a total average premium of \$6.80 per head. The lambs were fed at Double J. MSLC pelts averaged \$7.10 in February and \$7.43 in January.

MSLC 15th Annual Meeting July 19-21, 2017

Our annual meeting is less than 90 days away. Registration information will be sent out in just a few weeks, but if you have not reserved your hotel room, now is the time to do so. Our meeting will be held July 19-21 in Pocatello, ID at the Clarion. Our discounted room rate is \$89. Reservations may be made by calling the hotel directly at 208.237.1400 and mentioning that you are with the Mountain States Lamb group. Our block of rooms will be held until July 4th.

We will kick the event off on Wednesday evening, July 19, with a welcoming reception. Thursday is our annual business meeting, and we will have a beautiful mountain range tour on Friday, featuring MSLC member operations. The event wraps up on Friday evening with a Chuckwagon BBQ.

2017 Board Elections

MSLC board elections are almost here! Nomination forms for the board positions are included with this newsletter and are due on or before May 22, 2017.

The two seats up for election this year are the two at-large directors. Those seats are currently held by Frank Moore and Regan Smith. At-large positions can be held by a MSLC member from any state. Board seats have a term of three years.

Ballots for the MSLC board elections will be mailed out the end of May.



Affidavits

If you are an A share member of the Co-op, please complete the Country of Origin Labeling affidavit and Quality Assurance affidavit sent to you earlier this year and return them to the office as soon as possible. They can be returned via mail, fax, or scanned and sent by email to mailbox@msslamb.com. Thank you for returning them quickly and avoiding any delays in processing your lambs. We must have these in the office in order to issue payment. If you cannot locate the affidavits that were sent to you, please contact us.

MSLC Share Transactions

When buying or selling MSLC A shares please keep in mind the following in mind:

- The Co-op maintains a list of members who have contacted us with shares for sale. The owner's contact information and any notes they wish to include, i.e. number of shares for sale, price etc. are on the list.
- The list is sent out on request to those interested in purchasing shares.
- Share transactions are between the buyer and seller at the price they agree on. Members do not have to be on the sale list to sell shares, but all share transactions and new memberships have to be approved by the MSLC board.
- Retained patronage remains with the share per MSLC policy. This means when you sell a delivery share, the buyer is also buying the right to retained patronage distributions on those shares. When buying or selling shares, it is helpful to know the amount of retained patronage attached to those shares. MSLC will provide you with that information. Also, when selling

shares, you will need this information to determine your basis in the shares in order to calculate a gain or loss on the transaction for tax purposes.

- While specific sale details are confidential, buyers or sellers can call MSLC for a price range on recent sales to help determine the current market value of shares.
- When a deal is made, both parties should call the Co-op to confirm the price and number of shares agreed upon. The buyer is instructed to send a check made payable to the seller for the shares to the Co-op office. The seller must endorse their A certificate and return it to MSLC. The transaction is then brought to the board for approval. When the transaction is approved, the check is mailed to the seller and certificate(s) are issued.
- Once the board has approved your transaction, you are put in the delivery calendar and may start slotting and scheduling lambs for delivery. It takes time to process new stock certificates because they require two board signatures and are sent out certified mail.
- If you have any questions, please call the office at 307.358.0235. We are happy to assist you in making the process as simple as possible.

Slotting Lambs

Help us help you by keeping the slotting as accurate as possible. If you have pulled lambs that have been slotted or are not planning on delivering on future slots, please let us know. The lambs must be reslotted and that new slotting will need approval. Please contact Brad Anderson or the office if you have any questions.