

West Central States Wool Growers Convention

Sun Valley, Idaho

November 17-19, 2016

Drs. Kevin Jensen and Jack Staub of the Forage and Range Research Laboratory (FRRL) attended the annual West Central States Wool Growers Convention in Sun Valley, ID between November 17-19, 2016. There were 210 attendees representing growers, industry, and government. Presentations provided information on subject areas ranging from genetics and breeding to marketing. The issues surrounding public lands were discussed as they applied to lamb production, both present and the future. Dr. Melinda Ellison, a new hire and animal nutritionist at the University of Idaho, Nancy M. Cummings Research and Extension and Education Center, Salmon ID, was introduced. She will endeavor to assist in research with the USDA at the Dubois, ID Animal Research Center in the area of grazing and nutrition of sheep. The FRRL's improved plant materials will be evaluated to determine what enhancements in animal productivity accrues from grazing under novel management regimes. FRRL plant materials were exhibited and questions were answered regarding rangeland sheep management and how these improved plant materials could enhance productivity.



Western Central States Wool Growers Convention 2016

Thursday November 17, 2016

- 9:30am-3 pm Mountain Plains Ag meeting
- 1:00 pm Registration Opens
- 2:00 pm IWGA Board of Directors/Membership Meeting
- 3:15 pm UWGA Board of Directors/Membership Meeting
- 6:30 pm Presidents and Executive Director Meeting (Dinner)

Friday November 18, 2016

- 7:30 am Ram Sale
- 7:30 am Registration Opens
- 8:30 am Welcome- Barry Duelke
- 8:40 am Guest Speaker- Rick Stott
- 9:30 am Session 1: Department of Labor
- 10:30 am Public Lands
- 12:00 Lunch- Lamb Stew, Speaker-H2A
- 1:15pm Session 2: Animal Health
 - Dr. Don Knowles- Disease
 - Noell Cockett- Genetics
- 2:45 Break
- 3:00 pm Session 3: Best Breeding Practices Panel
- 6:00 pm Getting to Know Ewe Banquet- In Honor of the Young Entrepreneurs

Leg of Lamb Dinner Buffet- Jenny & Brad Osguthorpe –ASI Tri Lamb Young Leaders program.

7:00 pm Live Auction

8:30-10:30 Live Band

Saturday November 19, 2016

7:00 am Rocky Mountain Marketing Board Meeting
Scrapie Board Meeting

7:30 am Registration Opens

8:30 am ASI Update- Peter Orwick

9:00 am USDA

9:15 am Session 4: Wool Panel

10:05am Lamb Marketing Panel

11:15 am Session 5: University of Idaho Sheep Department

12:15 pm Lunch- Lamb Gyros, Speaker-Burdell Johnson-Guard Dog Insurance
Young Entrepreneur's Program

1:30 pm Session 6: Master Stockman Consulting Grant

Bridger Feuz- University of Wyoming Extension
Economic tools for sheep producers (45 min)

Whit Stewart- Montana State University Sheep Specialist
Managing Sheep Nutrition (45 min)

3:00 pm Break

3:15 pm Session 7: American Lamb Board update
Best Lambing Practices Panel

3:30 Rock Mountain Breakout Session

6:00 pm Reception

7:00pm Presidents Banquet, Lamb Chop Dinner