



# *Herd the News*

September/October 2017

*The California Wool Growers Association will deliver lasting value to support and grow all segments of the California sheep industry.*

## **157<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Convention of The CA Wool Growers Association – Cecilia Parsons**

A variety of excellent workshops aimed at different segments of the California sheep industry were the highlights of the 157<sup>th</sup> annual meeting and convention of the California Wool Growers Association.

The gathering in the cool, coastal city of Cambria drew a number of sheep producers and their families as well as industry leaders. The three-day event included a photography contest, a golf tournament, producer workshops and CWGA business, re-election of association officers and special awards.

Dr. Allen Pettey, sheep specialist at University of California Davis, opened the workshop series with a presentation on how proper nutrition and health can improve breeding ewe and lamb performance. Pettey's presentation for seedstock producers acknowledged that they were feeding a 'different kind of sheep' with needs that are different than sheep in commercial lamb and wool production operations.

What makes these sheep different? "Pettey asked.

"Feed sources, we are feeding them instead of grazing."

Differences in seedstock or "show sheep" that influence their nutritional needs are both due to genetics and genotype. Genetics drives a lot of the nutritional requirements, Pettey said, noting that current USDA standards for sheep nutrition may not apply. Heavier muscled sheep need more protein in their diets, but research has not been done to update USDA standards for crude protein levels in their feed. Fat is also a factor in nutritional energy sources.

Pettey explained nutrient partitioning where the animal prioritizes destination of nutrition. The central nervous system is the first priority, followed by bone, muscle and fat. Rumen function is also important and forage is necessary for the digestive system to work.

Principles in feeding an animals' entire diet include quality forage in appropriate amounts, well formulated concentrate ration, consistency in feed, and focused use of feed supplements.

Alfalfa is the forage of choice, Pettey said, but caution should be used in feeding high protein hay, as it may not have enough calcium to overcome high phosphorous levels. The proper ratio, he said is 2:1 and it is important in ensuring longevity in ewe lambs.

Stress is a major factor in the health of breeding sheep. Stress to a sheep is a factor perceived as a threat and can be environmental, nutritional or disease-related. Stress, Pettey said, raises the level of the stress hormone cortisol. This causes sheep to burn energy, increase use of glucose and slows their digestive process-causing then to steal glycogen from muscle tissue to replace lost glucose and protect their central nervous system. Stress-caused interruption of the digestive system makes the use of supplements necessary to provide a concentration of essential nutrients. *Continued on page 4.*

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## Presidents Message – Ryan Indart



Dear CWGA membership,

The late summer sun beamed brightly across the green landscape of the Riverview Elementary sports fields. The scent of fresh cut grass permeated the air. It was a clear, beautiful late September day with a high of only 85! Having a respite from the late August/early September heat was a welcome relief, especially for those 4<sup>th</sup> graders who made the bold decision to participate in cross country for the first time in their lives! There was an uneasy sense of nervousness in the air, as overbearing parents, excited kids in cross country uniforms and teachers and coaches were busy scurrying about, doing who knows what? As I took in the scene and captured the moment in my mind, I couldn't help but drift off to years gone by when I was that young kid, getting ready to run my heart out and leave it all out on the field. Only this time was different – this time I was wearing a different hat – the one of a proud father.

I have always said that my oldest daughter Lucia will end up being a water athlete, as she is flat footed and tends to pound the ground when she runs – not ideal for Cross Country! My expectations were not high for her first race. We have a motto in our family (we actually have many!) – Always give 110%, no matter what you do. Don't expect perfection out of yourself – but demand a perfect effort. As long as you give your best – that is something you can be proud of. She knew all these things because we teach them constantly. She was ready.

The gun went off and a blur of 4<sup>th</sup> graders started sprinting in one big mass – kind of like Mob ball youth soccer! With daddy's advice in her ear of "Pace yourself the first lap and save some gas in the tank for second lap, so you can start passing people and finish strong with a sprint", Lucia settled in right in the middle of the pack. At first she looked like she was struggling a bit, trudging along with every forced stride. Then, as she rounded the corner with one lap complete, something miraculous began to occur – she started passing people, one by one – determined to win the race! With an intense, competitive look in her eye, I knew she was putting the pedal down. All across the course, she passed them one by one. Until she rounded the last turn, sprinting as fast as she possibly could – to win 3rd place! With a lump in my throat and tears welling up in my eyes, I ran over to her and gave her a big hug and told her proud I was of her! She had left it all out on the course – she had given her best effort. Isn't that all we can expect from ourselves and others? The funny thing is, she was upset she didn't win! That probably made me more proud!

As many of you know, the sporting arena can be a microcosm of life, with many teachable life lessons learned. Giving our best effort is one of them. We do the same, or try to anyway, in our ranching and farming lives, in our communities, in our families, in our circle of friends, and in our Industry. Perhaps we can all learn something from 4th graders running their hearts out in a cross country race.

I think it goes without saying that Erica pulled off one of the best Annual Conventions in recent history. Congratulations to you Erica for doing a great job for our Association. Erica, your hard work, adherence to excellence and dedication to this Industry is much appreciated by all of us. The convention itself was a resounding success, both from a scheduling/content perspective and from a revenue generating perspective. The Showlamb and Seedstock Operation Workshop proved very successful, and feedback from it was tremendous.

These incremental changes we implement, many as a result of the Strategic Plan, really do matter, and are a positive benefit to our Association, and our bottom line. Thank you to all of you who attended the convention. It is our hope and desire to build off of each one to make each successive convention better and better.

If you wish to offer input, both positive and negative feedback is welcome. We won't know how we are doing unless we hear from you. One of those ways is to fill out members surveys when Erica sends them out. We received several convention surveys back and most of the feedback was positive, with some very constructive suggestions as well. Another way to get involved is to serve on a committee. This is a grassroots, member driven organization with ideas and policies generated through the committee, from the ground up.

One of the many recent successes of our Association is the new Logo. Andree Soares and her team need to be commended and congratulated on an excellent effort and job well done. We all volunteer our time because we love this Industry, and that is apparent through the effort of the Communications Committee. The new Logo honors our deep heritage, while also maintaining a contemporary feel. If you want a decal, please contact Erica she has many. Mine is already on my pickup!

Thank you to the Ram Sale Committee for a successful first annual Online All Breeds Sheep Sale! Like any new venture, there were lessons learned but overall, it was deemed a success from both the consignor side as well as the buyer side. As said many times before, these incremental changes are a positive step forward for this Association – we should all be proud of the progress we are making, and thankful to have Erica leading the way.

We will have our Annual Legislative Day in November, so look for details on that forthcoming. Other important upcoming events to remember are the December Board meeting and the ASI Annual Convention in January. This year's ASI Convention is in San Antonio, always a popular spot with the River Walk.

I wish all of you a successful and productive lambing season. Let's hope and pray for another bountiful rain year, for our feed, our animals and our crops.

## Welcome New Members

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CWGA is very pleased to welcome the following new members to CWGA:

*Andrew Bertotti – Janesville, CA*

*Glenn & Julie Cannon – Templeton, CA*

*Sheri Eldridge – Herald, CA*

*Brad Fowler, The Goat Works – Penn Valley, CA*

*Matt Hayes, Hayes Livestock – Winters, CA*

*Miguel Machado, Escalon Livestock Market – Escalon, CA*

*JoAnn Mast, Southern Oregon Romneys – Coquille, OR*

*Brain & Melissa Minor, Rocking MB Dorpers – Paso Robles, CA*

*Dakota & Thomas Nicholson-Stratton, Foggy Bottoms Boy – Ferndale, CA*

*Elisa Noble – Auburn, CA*

*Henry & Elizabeth Ratay – Corning, CA*

*George Saunders, SoCal Sheep/Wool – Grand Terrace, CA*

*Sarah Wiebe, Wiebe Ranch – Bradley, CA*

Do you know a producer or industry stakeholder that is not a member of CWGA? If so, please share this issue of *Herd the News* and urge them to support their industry and join CWGA today!

New CWGA membership brochures are available to hand out to prospective members at events, meetings, etc. Contact the CWGA office for more details.

## Do You Remember When You Joined CWGA?

Do you remember when you joined CWGA? If so, drop CWGA a note, email, or phone call so we can include it with your membership information and recognize our longtime active members.



## CWGA 157<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Convention, *cont'd*

Petty advised better management to reduce stress on sheep, use of probiotics to maintain rumen health and loose mineral and vitamin supplements – but they must be from a source that can be absorbed.

Davis area veterinarian Melissa VanLaningham outlined to sheep producers how antibiotics needed for therapeutic use in sheep can be obtained after SB 27 goes into effect on January 1, 2018. The law, signed by Governor Jerry Brown in 2015 made California the first state to restrict the use of antibiotics in livestock. The law requires producers to obtain prescriptions from veterinarians to purchase antibiotics.

Establishing a vet-client relationship is important for producers who know they will need to use antibiotic treatments for their animals. VanLaningham said that in her practice, if she has been to the client's farm and knows of the treatment plans, she is able to write a prescription for the necessary antibiotics. Whether 4-H or FFA members and their advisors and leaders who may not have established a vet-client relationship can obtain prescriptions for antibiotics is a situation that still must be addressed.

These regulations coupled with a shortage of large animal veterinarians, have raised questions about obtaining antibiotics in a timely manner to treat sick animals. VanLaningham said some solutions have been proposed and are still being worked out. She said feed stores, licensed to do so will continue to sell penicillin and tetracycline products. Treatment protocols are being established and there are efforts to educate veterinarians who do not normally treat sheep in their practices.

"The reality is that California will lead the rest of the U.S. and in five years this will be adopted in other states," VanLaningham said.

Dr. G.F. Kennedy of Pipestone Veterinary Services, via remote feed, supplied advice on identifying, managing and preventing abortions in sheep. Most sheep producers wait too long to act when sheep are aborting and the problem starts prior to breeding, Kennedy noted.

Vibrio and toxoplasmosis account for nearly all abortions in sheep, he said with enzootic chlamydia a distant third, but more prevalent in western flocks. These pathogens are ingested by sheep and are not venereal.

Feeding on the ground and not isolating aborting animals from the rest of the flock can cause abortion outbreaks. Vibrio, Kennedy said, can remain in the sheep's digestive tract for a long period of time. Iodine and selenium levels in the sheep need to be adequate for effective treatment.

He recommends taking the aborted fetus and placenta to a state laboratory for diagnosis to learn what type of infection is causing abortions. Single abortions are not a cause for alarm, he said, but if there are more than two in a short time, there are guidelines on the Pipestone web site that for treating an affected flock.

University of California Davis veterinarian Brett McNabb noted advances in reproduction technologies that are being used to make more rapid genetic improvements. Laparoscopic artificial insemination, though it has lower conception rates than natural breeding is becoming more available to sheep producers. With this technique, ewes's reproductive cycles are synchronized. On breeding day, they are sedated and placed in a cradle with their hindquarters elevated to move internal organs out of the way. Two small incisions are made to place semen in one or both uterine horns. Embryo transfer from a donor ewe can be done six days after AI when embryos are flushed from uterine horns and collected.

McNabb also noted some factors that affect ram fertility.

Scrotal circumference is a trait that is an indicator of how fertile a ram can be. Larger scrotums indicate testicular mass, which is related to the number of sperm that can be produced daily. Rams used for breeding should have scrotums measuring at least 34 centimeters in diameter by one year of age, McNabb said.



*Brucella ovis*, a bacterial infection that affects ram fertility, has been on the rise in California over the last five years. The infection targets the epididymis, which develops scar tissue, blocking sperm passage. It can be detected by palpation and McNabb advised testing rams and culling any positives. Rams that are co-owned and used in multiple flocks seem to have more infections, he noted.

VanLaningham, who formerly managed Superior Farms' quality assurance program, offered some insight on quality challenges with lambs sold at junior livestock auctions when they sent to market. Superior processes 8,000 fair animals annually. These lambs do have some positives, she stressed. They have clean pelts, better than average conformation and the size and finish are generally good. There have not been some of the drug residue problems that have been seen in the mid-West, she said

The downside with many fair animals is that they handle differently than commercially raised lambs and since they are slick sheared, the pelt value is lost. They are also more likely to be dehydrated upon arrival.

Other quality challenges in lambs include long-standing prolapses, bruising and injection site abscesses.

VanLaningham encouraged sheep producers to visit the American Sheep Industry web site and learn about the Sheep Safety and Quality Assurance program. The program has three levels of participation and templates for individual management plans.

Aspects of a unique grazing program on a solar farm were shared by CWGA past president Frankie Iturriria.

During the business portion of the CWGA membership meeting, executive officers were re-elected to a second term. Ryan Indart, president; Dan Macon, vice president and Ed Anchordoguy, treasurer.

The convention ended with the Shepherd's Ball and presentation of Golden Fleece Award, Master Shepherd Award and Retailer Market Award.

Redwood Valley resident and UC Cooperative Extension range management specialist John Harper was presented with the Golden Fleece Award for his contributions to the California sheep industry.

Within UCANR and nationally, he is best known for his pioneering use of computer technology, the internet and social media for extension program delivery and for his sheep shearing and wool grading schools.

*Original article published in The Banner Sheep Magazine <http://www.bannersheepmagazine.com/>.*

## California Wool Growers Association Unveils New Logo

California Wool Growers Association (CWGA) launched a new association logo at its 157<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Convention on August 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> in Cambria, CA. The new logo preserves the CWGA's heritage in a modernized and simplified format.

The logo of the CWGA has been a visual marker of the times, spanning over 150 years of its establishment. Over time, and staying relevant to the aesthetics of various eras, the CWGA has embraced contemporary styles evident in the evolution of logo designs representing the association. The logo has become a visual language that speaks to the CWGA's history of prestige, integrity and the strong foundation built over a century ago.



Remaining true to form, today the CWGA is once again acknowledging the importance of staying relevant to the contemporary styles of the times by evolving the design of its logo, a tradition like turning a chapter in the story of the association.

With the seeming exponential pace of innovation and evolution of today's 21<sup>st</sup> century modern culture, there holds great value in acknowledging history where tradition and heritage built strong foundations for lasting and resilient establishments. The CWGA itself was built by men and women who united to create the voice of California's sheep industry, forming the foundation of this ever-enduring and resilient association.

To celebrate the integrity that forefathers and mothers of the association upheld, we have the opportunity to give nod to this very history that we are now a part of today. We can do so by acknowledging and embracing the association's past to inform its future. Through the banner of our association, its logo, this message can be portrayed. The updated logo uses iconography from the 95<sup>th</sup> CWGA Annual Conference in 1956 held at the University of California, Davis.

## 2017 CWGA Award Recipients

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### Master Shepherd Award – Jim Yeager

Jim Yeager has been a long-time member and supporter of CWGA and the sheep industry. Jim has served in many leadership positions including Chair of the CWGA Scholarship Committee, the California Sheep Commission, the Yolo County Cattlemen and Wool Growers Association, and the California Dorset Breeders Association.

For over 30 years, Jim has organized a regional Sheep Educational Day for youth in 4-H programs which attracts about 300 youngsters. He has hosted ranch tours for grammar, high school and college students, and other sheep producers, and foreign visitors. He has presented wool educational programs

for Community Connection days for years with 3,000 attending students each year in Solano and Yolo Counties

Jim started in the sheep business in 1954, with cull ewes from the Sears Roebuck Foundation. He got involved in the Yolo County sheep business with the help of John Phillips and later partnered with Marylyn Garrett in a 400 head purebred operation with Suffolks, Hampshires and Dorsets.

*The Master Shepherd Award is presented to an acting or past officer, director, chairperson, or committee member of the CWGA. This individual has proven support and leadership in the Association, and dedicates themselves and their time to the sheep industry.*

### Golden Fleece Award – John Harper

John Harper was honored for his unrecognized contributions as the UC Cooperative Extension livestock/natural resources advisor for Mendocino and Lake Counties to the California sheep industry over the years.

John is known State-wide and nationally for his sheep shearing and wool grading schools, which provides a much needed resource of qualified sheep shears for the California sheep industry. These schools sell-out each year with waitlists for future years. Locally, he is the Secretary/Treasurer for the Mendocino/Lake Wool Growers Association and a longtime member of CWGA.



Prior to joining UC Cooperative Extension, John was co-shepherd at Nicholas' Polypay sheep ranch in Sonoma and owner of Harper Sheep Company which operated in both Northern and Southern California and Arizona. John also sheared sheep throughout Northern and Southern California and Arizona.

*The Golden Fleece Award is presented to a member of CWGA or a public official who through their position has made a lasting contribution to the California sheep industry.*

### Retailer–Marketer Award – Save Mart Supermarkets



Save Mart Supermarkets is family owned and operated by the same family since 1952. As the company has grown to over 200 locations, it has never forgotten its roots and all the small farms and farmers that made it great. In many of Save

Mart's locations you will still find items produced by local farmers. While many of its competitors have chosen to purchase imported lamb at a lower cost, Save Mart has held firm with stocking only California Lamb, produced locally by Superior Farms in Dixon Calif. Save Mart plans do its best to keep telling its story and supporting California Lamb.

*This award is presented to a company that does a superior job in marketing the California sheep industry.*



# CWGA Membership Adopts Policies at Annual Meeting

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The following policies were adopted by the CWGA membership at the 2017 Annual Membership Meeting. CWGA resolutions stand as adopted for a period of five years (can be adopted for less), unless amended or deleted by action of the Board of Directors or the CWGA membership. At the end of that five-year period, resolutions are dropped unless extended for another five-year period by a vote of the Board of Directors and/or the CWGA membership. CWGA works cooperatively with the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) on Federal issues and also refers to the ASI policy manual in order to unify the voice of the California sheep rancher.

Below is a summary of the adopted policies. A complete list of all CWGA policies is posted on the CWGA website at - <http://cawoolgrowers.org/> (go to 'about us').

## **ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE ISSUES**

**ANIMAL CARE PRACTICES AND FAIR PRACTICES** – Animal Care and Handling protocols have been adopted for the industry through the National Sheep Quality Assurance Program. CWGA will continue to take a proactive stand in supporting standards that are set concerning food safety, animal care and show ring ethics in cooperation with the University of California Cooperative Extension, American Sheep Industry Association, fairs, expositions, lamb processor and sheep producers and other sheep experts. *(Renewed for one year)*

## **LAMB MARKETING**

**INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION ACTION** – The California sheep industry effectively utilizes renewable resources on public and private lands to produce domestic food and fiber that feeds and clothes domestic population as well as the population of the world. The importation of lamb can have an impact on profitability of the US sheep industry. CWGA will work to strengthen all international trade actions to protect domestic lamb markets. CWGA will continue to encourage Congress and the Administration to address issues that would be counterproductive to domestic production and profitability to meet market demand in the United States.

## **PREDATOR MANAGEMENT**

**DEPREDACTION DETERMINATION** – The California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Conservation Plan for Gray Wolves indicates that depredation determinations in the case of possible livestock depredation be made by CDFW. CDFW does not have sufficient staff or livestock expertise to make such determinations in a timely manner. USDA Wildlife Services has both the expertise and producer relationships necessary to work with sheep producers to make determination of cause of death in cases of livestock depredation. CWGA requests that USDA Wildlife Services take the lead in determining cause of death in all depredation cases in California.

## **CWGA Bylaws Amended**

The following Bylaw amendment was adopted by the CWGA membership at the 2017 Annual Membership Meeting. The CWGA Bylaws are available on the CWGA website at - <http://cawoolgrowers.org/> (go to 'about us').

**ARTICLE IV. COMMITTEES Section 9. TRUST FUND COMMITTEE.** – The Chair of the Trust Fund Committee is amended to be the Vice President of the corporation, replacing the Treasurer.

## **Members Get a Sneak Peek at CWGA's New Website**

Attendees at this year's annual meeting & convention had a chance to preview CWGA's new website. Members were asked for input on what types of information and items they find valuable and would like included on the new website. The new CWGA website will be launched later this year.

# THANK YOU, 157<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Convention Sponsors!

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**CWGA MEMBERS**

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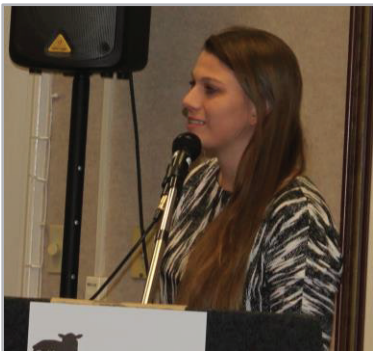


# THANK YOU, Shepherds Ball Auction Supporters!

Proceeds from the Shepherds Ball Auction support CWGA in its efforts to deliver lasting value to support and represent the interests of all segments of the California sheep industry and advocate for the future prosperity of your industry.

<i>John &amp; Delores Brennan, Green Bay Farm</i>	<i>Nancy Jones, Anchordoguy Lamb</i>
<i>John Cubiburu, Cubiburu Livestock</i>	<i>Dan Macon, Flying Mule Farm</i>
<i>Nancy East, Sheeprock Ranch</i>	<i>Joe Mattos, IOU Sheep Co.</i>
<i>Ben Elgorriaga, Elgorriaga Livestock</i>	<i>John &amp; Connie Olagaray, Five-O Ranch</i>
<i>Stephen &amp; Lisa Elgorriaga, Elgorriaga Livestock</i>	<i>Bob Paasch, Donner Trail Ranch</i>
<i>Emigh Livestock</i>	<i>Wes &amp; Jane Patton, Glenn Land Farm</i>
<i>Escalon Livestock Market</i>	<i>Joe Pozzi, Pozzi Ranch</i>
<i>Phil &amp; Denise Esnoz</i>	<i>Rob Rutherford, Whole Options</i>
<i>Johnny &amp; Christina Etchamendy, Etchamendy Sheep</i>	<i>Andree Soares, Star Creek Land Stewards, Inc.</i>
<i>Matt &amp; Judy Hayes, Hayes Livestock</i>	<i>Blair Summey, Summey Family Farm</i>
<i>Ryan &amp; Beatriz Indart, Indart Group, Inc.</i>	<i>Jim &amp; Jo Yeager, Putah Creek Dorsets</i>
<i>Frank &amp; Renee Iturriria, F&amp;I Sheep Co.</i>	<i>Monica &amp; Kody Youree</i>
<i>Paco &amp; Maria Luisa Iturriria, I&amp;M Sheep Co.</i>	<i>Judy &amp; Pete Yriarte, Yriarte Livestock</i>

## CWGA Awards 2017 Scholarship



The 2017 CWGA Scholarship winner is Karlee Dornbush of Lincoln. Karlee will be a junior this fall at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo majoring in Agricultural Sciences. Agriculture has always been a huge part of her life, whether it was raising her own flock of club sheep (11 breeding ewes + 1 ram) or helping out with the daily chores on her family's ranch.

Although she plans to become a high school agriculture teacher, Karlee also wants to be an active part of the sheep industry. She will be one of four managers at the Cal Poly State University Sheep and Goat Unit that will be in charge of maintaining the flock, including breeding operations, pasture rotations, general health care, and lambing operations this year.

Karlee states: "I believe that it is a vital part of the agricultural industry. Although lamb may not be the least expensive and it may not be the most favored, it is an extremely important product. I believe that the sheep industry has many challenges. But, with hard work and dedication we can make the sheep industry bigger and better than ever before!"

*CWGA awards one \$1,000 scholarship to an enrolled college student pursuing an academic program with an interest and/or emphasis in the California sheep industry. Applicants must be a graduating high school senior and/or student enrolled in a California Community College, 4 year University within California, California State University, or University of California, and have a minimum 3.0 GPA.*

## Keep Up With CWGA & Like Us on Facebook!

Like the California Wool Grower's Association on Facebook and receive frequent updates about the California sheep industry and California sheep producers. Click the following link to join the conversation -

<https://www.facebook.com/California-Wool-Growers-Association-156191447725927/?ref=bookmarks>

## CWGA 2017 Photo Contest Winners

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**1<sup>st</sup> Place** – “Want a Hug”  
~ Maggie & Ryan Indart

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Place** – “Follow the Leader”  
~ Ashley Carreiro

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**3<sup>rd</sup> Place** – “Onto Fresh Feed”  
~ Dan Macon

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## CWGA Approved to Import Footvax Vaccine

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CWGA has obtained a special USDA research and education permit to import the Footvax vaccine for treating footrot. The import permit has been issued for one-year.

This is a short-term solution while CWGA continues its efforts on developing an autogenous vaccine footrot vaccine for our members.

The vaccine is only available for CWGA members in good-standing.

CWGA is taking orders to ensure we import enough vaccine to meet your needs. **The deadline to place your pre-order is Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.** Details are as follows:

- **Product Size** – 250 ml (250 dose) pillow pack
- **Dosage** – Initial dose 1 ml. A 1 ml booster should be given at least 6 weeks after initial shot but within 12 months.
- **Pricing:** \$312.50 (or \$1.25 per dose) per pillow pack plus shipping & packaging.
  - ❖ A \$0.75 per dose surcharge will be added for any orders placed after the October 13<sup>th</sup> deadline.
- **Availability:** The vaccine is expected to arrive in late October/early November.
- **Payment:** Members will be required to pre-pay for the vaccine when the final order is placed.
- If you decide to have your order shipped vs. pick-up at the CWGA office, shipping and packaging charges will be invoiced once the product is shipped to you.

To place an order call or email the CWGA office at 916-444-8122 or [erica@woolgrowers.org](mailto:erica@woolgrowers.org) **no later than October 13<sup>th</sup>** with the following information:

- Number of doses or 250-dose packs you would like to order (*don't forget the booster*)
- Name
- Shipping and billing address (if differ)
- Phone number
- Email address

## CWGA Needs Your Samples for Vaccine Development Efforts

### **Bluetongue**

CWGA needs your help in its efforts to develop a new killed autogenous all-strain blue tongue vaccine. We need to validate to USDA that blue tongue continues to be a significant issue in California and the current need for this new vaccine is vital.

If you suspect you lost any sheep to blue tongue, we need you to take the dead animal to the California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory System (CAHFS) lab located in either Davis or Tulare. Please list Nancy East, DVM 530-476-3628 as the veterinarian on the paperwork submitted.

### **Campylobacter Fetus-Jejuni Bacterin (Vibrio)**

Due to supply shortages this year, CWGA is working with a second supplier to develop the Campylobacter Fetus-Jejuni Bacterin (Vibrio) vaccine. We need aborted fetuses in order to secure the needed isolates to develop this vaccine.

If you experience any fetal abortions this season, we need you to take it to the CAHFS lab located in either Davis or Tulare. Please list Nancy East, DVM 530-476-3628 as the veterinarian on the paperwork submitted.

*For CAHFS hours and locations, call 530-752-8700.*



# California Legislative Update

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## Judge Rules Against Monterey County on USDA Wildlife Services Program

Last year, animal protection and conservation organizations challenged Monterey County's contract renewal with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services program, calling it "a notorious federal wildlife-killing program" and filing a lawsuit.

In August, that lawsuit bore fruit when the California Superior Court ruled the county violated the California Environmental Quality Act and voided its 2016 work plan. According to the court, the county's renewal of its contract with Wildlife Services violates California Environmental Quality Act because the county failed to analyze environmental impacts and wrongfully claimed an exemption from the act.

The court found that in approving the 2016 work plan, the county's actions constituted an abuse of discretion because there was no initial study, negative declaration or environmental impact report completed, according to a release from the institute.

The Wildlife Services program helps property owners control animals that are causing damage or are a threat to public safety in Monterey County, according to county documents. The Wildlife Services program has been active in the county for 25 years, and the county renewed the 2016 work plan from the previous fiscal year claiming an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act while beginning a California Environmental Quality Act environmental review before the lawsuit began.

That California Environmental Quality Act environmental review was in anticipation of the renewal of Monterey County's five-year cooperative services agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the Wildlife Services program in Monterey County that expires in June 2018.

According to county documents, in February of this year the county completed preparation of an initial study to assess the potential environmental effects of continuing the program. Although the study found no significant environmental effects under California Environmental Quality Act review standards, the county is nonetheless interested in conducting environmental review above and beyond what is required by the act.

The scope of the environmental impact report is anticipated to focus on biological resource impacts — including effects upon wildlife resources with the county — as well as feasible alternatives to the program as proposed. *Source: Monterey Herald*

## HSUS Plans Tougher Animal Welfare Initiative in California

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) plans to launch another animal welfare/animal rights ballot initiative in California. HSUS says the new initiative will address concerns that 2008's Proposition 2 did not go far enough in changing housing conditions for egg-laying hens, pigs and veal calves. The new measure would require that all pork and veal sold in California be produced without restrictive crates, and that all eggs produced and sold in the state be cage-free. It's similar to a measure passed by Massachusetts voters in 2016. HSUS says the new initiative will have "more enforceable language" than Proposition 2. It claims many California producers have found ways to circumvent the restrictions contained in Prop 2.

## Lawsuit Aims to End Commercial Fur Trapping in California

Conservation groups, aiming to end California's dwindling fur trade, have filed a lawsuit that would force state wildlife authorities to raise license fees to levels required by law to cover the full costs of regulating the trapping, killing and skinning of wild animals. The lawsuit, filed against the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the state Fish and Game Commission, alleges that revenue generated from the 200 commercial trapping licenses purchased in 2016 for about \$117 covered only a fraction of the state trapping program's total costs. Consequently, taxpayers are illegally subsidizing the state wardens, biologists and administrators who oversee and enforce trapping regulations, according to the lawsuit. It was filed in Alameda County Superior Court by the Center for Biological Diversity and Project Coyote. *Source: Los Angeles Times*

## Legislative Update

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### **APHIS Announces Final Rule to Allow the Importation of Bone-In Ovine Meat from Uruguay**

APHIS has published a final rule allowing imported bone-in ovine meat into the United States from Uruguay under certain conditions. Uruguay requested an exemption from the current deboning requirements used to protect against foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in order to export bone-in lamb into the United States. After a comprehensive, science-based risk assessment, APHIS decided that bone-in ovine meat may be safely imported under certain conditions, while still protecting the United States from FMD.

Uruguay will only be able to export meat from a select group of lambs. To mitigate the risk of FMD, these lambs must test negative for FMD, be separated from other FMD-susceptible animals after testing, and have individual animal identification as part of a national traceability system.

The United States has safely imported boneless beef and lamb from Uruguay since 2003. The proposed rule was published on July 1, 2016 for a 60-day comment period. APHIS reviewed and carefully considered all 17 comments before making this final decision.

### **ASI Works to Secure Relief for Livestock Haulers**

While the American Sheep Industry Association was able to work collaboratively to secure exemptions to the Hours of Service regulations in July ensuring current exemptions for livestock haulers remain in place during the transition from paper to electronic logging, continued efforts are necessary to maintain these provisions in both regulation and statute.

Despite the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's recognition of necessary exemptions for livestock haulers, a delay in the overall implementation of the Electronic Logging Device requirement remains needed. Neither the electronic logging equipment, nor drivers and law enforcement are currently prepared for the implementation of these new regulations.

ASI continues to work with the livestock, poultry and aquaculture industries to secure an exemption from the Dec. 18, 2017, implementation date of the Electronic Logging Device and Hours of Service regulations for livestock haulers at both the agency and through the transportation appropriations process.

### **Rep. Goodlatte Proposes Agricultural Guestworker Act**

Rep. Goodlatte, chair of the House Judiciary Committee, which has oversight on immigration policy, plans to introduce his Agricultural Guestworker Act in the near future in an effort to codify regulations concerning agriculture's use of immigrant labor.

"The AG Act replaces the H-2A program with a more efficient and flexible guestworker program - known as H-2C - that is designed to meet the needs of the diverse agriculture industry," Rep. Goodlatte wrote in a guest editorial for Farm Policy Facts this week. "The H-2C program will be administered by the folks at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, an agency that clearly understands the unique needs of America's farm and ranch operations and the importance of getting perishable agricultural commodities to market in an efficient manner.

"The AG Act will allow experienced unauthorized agricultural workers to continue working in agriculture by joining the H-2C guestworker program so that they can participate legally in the agricultural workforce."

"ASI has forwarded the key provisions and critical questions to the committee concerning the sheepherder and shearer programs the sheep industry uses today. Understanding how future legislation and rulemaking would cover key issues such as mobile housing and monthly wage is paramount to the work of our committee," said ASI President Mike Corn of New Mexico. "We are being progressive in addressing the future legislation rather than reactionary. We plan to have our formal review and requests available for the sheep industry to work with late this month."

# Member Spotlight: Robin Lynde, Meridian Jacobs

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*By Fibershed*

Below is an excerpt from an interview blog between CWGA member Robin Lynde of Meridian Jacobs farm and Fibershed about Lynde's sustainable farming initiatives.

## **Tell us a little about yourself and the farm.**

I manage Meridian Jacobs, a farm and fiber shop near Vacaville, California. I raise Jacob sheep and share my passion for wool and fiber arts by teaching classes in spinning, weaving, and dyeing, and livestock management at the farm and around California. I provide opportunities to visit the farm during our Open House events and Spinners' Day (and Night) Out and by creating the one-of-a-kind Farm Club for people who want in-depth



experience with raising sheep. In the Meridian Jacobs farm shop I sell spinning and weaving equipment, books, wool, yarn, farm products, and gifts.

I have a husband (who having just retired, is supposed to be the "Maintenance Guy" on the farm), three grown kids, and two young grandchildren. Animals have always been part of my life even though I was born in San Francisco and lived in the city until I was 10. I went to UC Davis as an Animal Science major and that morphed into a degree in Range and Wildlands Management, combining elements of plants, animals and ecosystems at a time before the phrase "sustainable" was part of

everyone's vocabulary. Ten years later my life temporarily took a different path and I got a masters in Exercise Physiology. In another twist, I married a dairy farmer who squeezed running and cycling in between milking shifts when he could. Now, almost thirty years later, raising animals and maintaining fitness are still important elements of my life, along with the Fiber Arts Crafts of weaving and spinning.

## **How long have you been running the Meridian Jacobs Farm?**

We have been here since 1999, after leaving the dairy in 1988, but the business has evolved to what it is now over the last ten years.

## **When did you buy your first sheep?**

I had naturally colored sheep when we had the dairy but there was never time or space for more than a small flock. I bought the Jacob sheep in 1999 when we moved to our current location.

## **What are some things people may not know about sheep?**

They recognize faces. Google "sheep recognize faces" and you'll find research that shows that sheep can recognize at least 50 sheep faces 80% of the time for at least two years.

At the farm, sheep like to hang out with their friends and family. I will find mothers and daughters sleeping near each other.

Sheep are prey animals and, therefore, respond by running when frightened. Sheep that are treated gently and are "pets" may also run as a first response to something that startles them, but will stop and figure out that there is nothing to be afraid of. However, they know a routine and familiar faces and most will be hesitant when those routines are broken or there are other people around.

## **How has your relationship with Fibershed benefited the farm?**

A farmer can raise healthy sheep and produce beautiful wool. A designer may create innovative patterns. An artisan can knit a stunning sweater. But each often works in isolation (especially many farmers) even though



we are dependent on the products or skills of the others. Fibershed has brought all of us together face-to-face and provided a means for marketing our products creatively while recognizing the real dollar value. In a much broader sense, Rebecca Burgess (founder for Fibershed) has created an incredible movement to educate the consumer and promote sustainable fiber production. I am excited to be part of the Fibershed movement.

### **What does sustainability mean to you and how do you practice sustainability on your farm?**

I guess you could say that sustainability is the opposite of regression. To be sustainable conditions should be maintained or even improved upon, but not get worse. My sheep graze irrigated pasture for 3/4 of the year. I have implemented water and fencing systems to facilitate intensive grazing management which allows me to have more sheep here than I could under conventional grazing. The sheep and the pasture are healthier for it. I have only 10 acres of which 6.5 acres is in irrigated pasture and is split into 10 paddocks. Each paddock is grazed for 2 to 4 days at a time which means that it has 25 to 45 days of rest before the next grazing cycle.



### **Why are natural fibers + materials important? How do they differ from conventional?**

I consider natural fibers to be “conventional”. After all, until fairly recently in history, all fibers were produced from animals or plants and were natural. “Unnatural” would be those produced from oil or those produced from a cellulose base, but manipulated chemically. Synthetic fibers are produced in a non-sustainable system.

### **What can someone expect from a farm tour at Meridian Jacobs Farm?**

This depends on the season and the age group of the participants. If it's springtime there will be lots of baby lambs to pet and discuss. In the fall those lambs are 6 months+ old and we'll still handle them, but it's a different experience. During breeding season (October) the ewes are split into different groups, each with a ram. I direct the tour to whatever the group's interest is. In the barn there is animals handling/petting and I will explain management concepts and show tools I use. We can discuss pasture management and take a pasture walk if people like that idea. We can look at fleeces and discuss fiber types and how to work with a fleece. There are also chickens and a donkey to meet. A sheep dog demo is usually a highlight.

At the shop I will demonstrate the steps from taking the fleece from carded wool through weaving. People can look in the shop to see all the different products available for working with wool or that we have harvested from the farm.

### **What are some of the most rewarding aspects to what you do?**

I enjoy working with my sheep and my dogs (Border collies). I take pride in the reputation I have gained in the fiber community for the quality of my wool, my weaving, and my teaching ability. I also treasure the friendships I have made with other sheep producers and fiber lovers, especially those in my Farm club.

## **CWGA Members in the Social Media Spotlight**

Check out these recent videos about our CWGA member operations:

- Clay Shannon, owner of Shannon Ridge Winery & Vineyards discussing targeted grazing in the vineyards - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CoquSRoBnSk&feature=youtu.be>
- Dan Macon has started a video blog and plans to add additional entries weekly for the next year entitled 52 Weeks of Sheep – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIW6-fxjNx8>
- Ryan Mahoney and the Emigh family are featured in a series of videos spotlighting American lamb producers – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TtypEt8z5aA>.

# AmericanWool.org Launches to Educate Consumers

Wool is the only fiber crafted for the purpose of meeting any purpose. With versatility matched only by the diversity of the wearer, wool is the perfect fiber for any season, any occasion. With that in mind, the American Sheep Industry Association and its American Wool Council have launched a multi-faceted campaign to take wool's incredible story straight to the consumer, including a new website at [www.AmericanWool.org](http://www.AmericanWool.org).

A new American Wool logo was launched in 2016 to kick off renewed promotional efforts. The website will work in conjunction with a variety of social media sites to tell American wool's narrative in a multi-media fashion that includes stories, photos and video.

"What we found is that consumers are not aware that wool is a high performance fiber," said ASI Director of Wool Marketing Rita Kourlis Samuelson. "A lot of consumers don't understand how modern-day wool differs from grandma's scratchy, old sweater. We saw a need to educate the consumer about American wool, and the new website is the best way to reach an audience that is ready to embrace products made with natural fibers such as American wool."

One fiber, four seasons. Moisture wicking and protecting. Always breathable. Thermal comfort. Consumers can learn about these high-performance traits of American wool on an in-depth basis in a way that's never before been compiled into one convenient location. Get started at Wool 101, which covers tips for the care of wool products, the types of wool, the science of wool and animal care.

The types of wool section will get you up to date on each step in the process of creating wool garments. Learn about woolen and worsted garments and the difference between the two. Take a look at variety of wool fabrics, from 18.5 micron wool that would be used in base layers to 24.5 micron wool that is common in outerwear.

American wool provides natural protection from the sun's damaging ultraviolet rays, is anti-allergen, flame resistant and odor resistant. It is nature's magic fiber, and AmericanWool.org will help those in search of such benefits find the perfect fit.

A shopping section will link consumers with companies offering American wool products ranging from clothing to blankets. Whether you're in need of that perfect hiking sock, a winter coat or a blanket for use around the campfire, [www.AmericanWool.org](http://www.AmericanWool.org) has you covered.

In addition to using the website as a resource, consumers will find more information on American wool by following along on social media. Check out the following companion pages to AmericanWool.org at:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/experiencewool/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ExperienceWool>

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/experiencewool/>



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- **Supplies** – Marking Paints, Drench Guns, Repeater Syringes, CIDRs & more!
- AND **EXCLUDE** access to:
  - Footvax (*available late October 2017*)
  - New CWGA All-Strain Blue Tongue vaccine (*expected winter 2018*)
  - New CWGA Footrot vaccine (*expected fall 2018*)
- **EXCLUSIVE Access to Anaplasmosis Cattle Vaccine** for any producers that raise cattle.

Contact the CWGA office to order today at 916-444-8122 or [erica@woolgrowers.org](mailto:erica@woolgrowers.org). View product details at the following link - <http://cawoolgrowers.org/vaccines/vaccines.html>.

### New Sheep Choice Plus Mineral Available

Animal Health International (AHI) has introduced a new mineral for our sheep producers called Sheep Choice Plus. The mineral is available at a CWGA member price of \$25.88 per 50 lb bag (\$24.75 per bag for 40 bags or more). Contact the CWGA office for a product tag or to order today.

### Got Goats? CWGA Sells Goat Pro Mineral

The mineral is available at a CWGA member price of \$28.18 per 50 lb bag (\$26.95 per bag for 40 bags or more). Contact the CWGA office for a product tag or to order today.

### Need Scrapie Tags?

Everyone raising sheep and goats in California requires official identification issued by the USDA.

Official Identification (official eartags, official tattoos, official electronic identification or official premises identification numbers) are required when sheep and goats change ownership, except:

- Lambs and kids less than 18 months of age in slaughter channels that have not lambed, kidded, aborted, or are pregnant;
- Low-risk goats (those not exposed to scrapie or to any sheep, unless low risk commercial sheep);
- Castrated animals less than 18 months of age that are not for exhibition.

The National Scrapie Eradication Program provides free ear tags to sheep and goat producers.

**Call 1-866-USDA-TAG (866-873-2824)** to be connected to your USDA Veterinary Services Office or State Office Veterinarian and request that a premises identification number and Flock ID be assigned to your flock. If you want to purchase 840 RFID or 840 visual only tags also request that a National Premises Identification Number or Location Identification Number be assigned to your flock.

### July 2017 Scrapie Report Released

There have been no scrapie cases or new infected since April 2016.



# New CA Antibiotic Regulations Take Effect Jan. 1, 2018

## Antibiotic Use in Livestock

# 2018



New CA rules take effect Jan 1, 2018

Last year Governor Brown signed into law Senate Bill 27: Livestock: Use of Antimicrobial Drugs. The law requires the California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) to implement a number of measures.

### Change is Around the Corner

- Injectable and all other medically important antibiotics must be administered with a prescription or veterinary feed directive (VFD) ordered by a licensed veterinarian thru a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR).
- Over the counter antibiotics will still be available at licensed retail stores with a prescription.
- Use of all medically important antibiotics for growth promotion will be specifically prohibited.

### What is the difference between the VFD and this change?

Source	Federal	California
Drugs	Medically Important Antimicrobials	Same
Formulations	In feed and water	<b>All (injectable, intra-mammary, feed, water, etc.)</b>
New Systems	Feed: VFD w/VCPR Water: Rx w/VCPR	Rx or VFD w/VCPR
Indications	Treatment, control and prevention	Same
Limitations	No use for growth promotion or feed efficiency	Same, plus preventative use in a regular pattern
Effective Date	January 1, 2017	<b>January 1, 2018</b>

### Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship Program

The law requires CDFA to develop antimicrobial stewardship guidelines and best management practices on the proper use of medically important antimicrobial drugs.

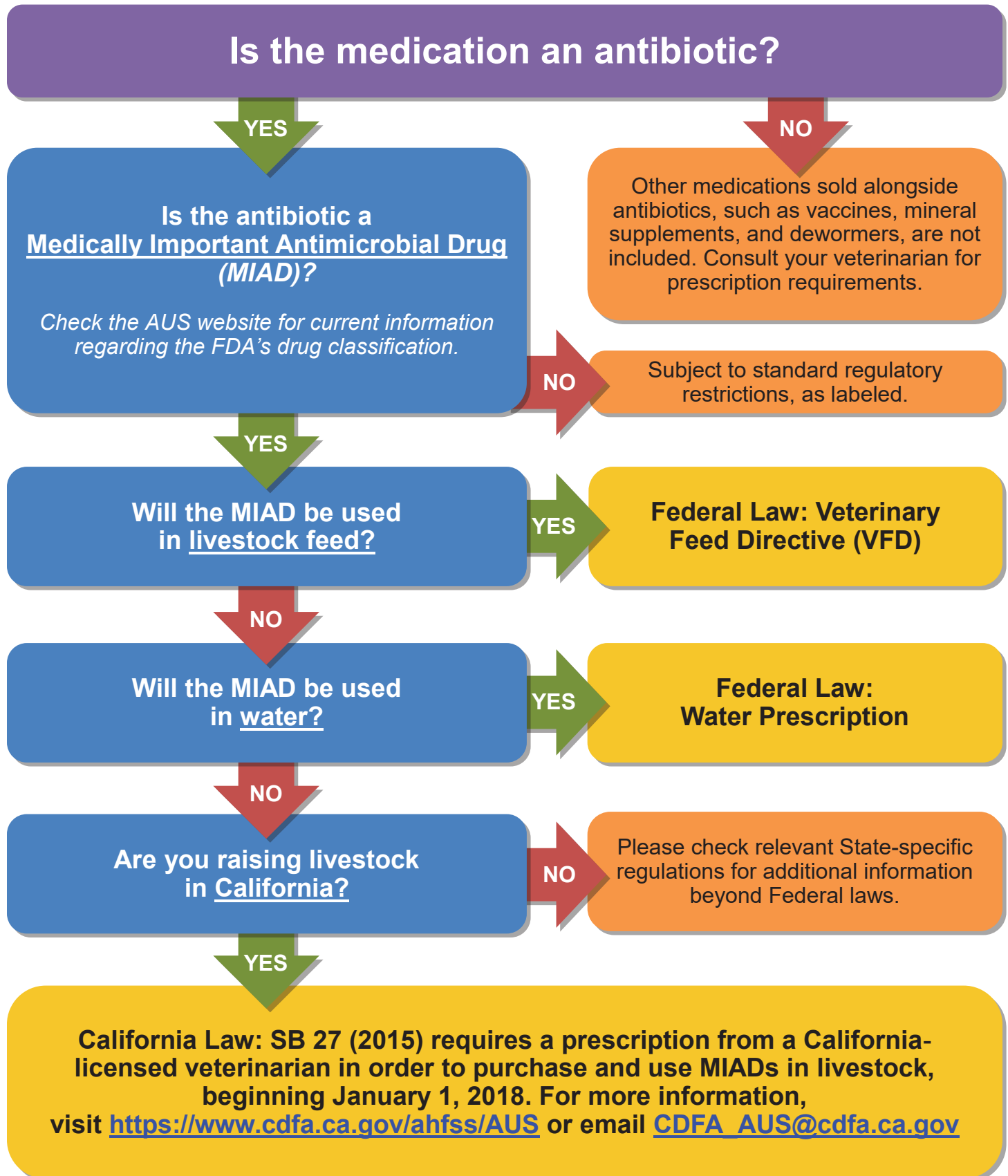
### California Animal Health Monitoring System (CAHMS)

The California Animal Health Monitoring System (CAHMS) is the section of AUS that helps the program to better understand antimicrobial usage and resistance actually occurring in California's livestock. To accomplish this, CAHMS conducts confidential and voluntary surveys and gathers biological samples for resistance testing. By participating in these surveys, California livestock producers and veterinarians have the opportunity to show the real picture of the industry and affect positive change. And rest assured, any information provided to AUS through CAHMS is held confidential by state law.

Email questions to [CDFA AUS@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:AUS@cdfa.ca.gov).

Visit the CDFA webpage for more information and updates at <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/AUS>.

# Distinguishing Between US and CA Antibiotic Laws



# In Memory

## *Jack Waegell*

Jack Eugene Waegell was born to be a rancher. As eldest son David said, "He lived and breathed our ranch. It was all he talked about. He'd put in a hard day, come home and have dinner, then the phone would ring and he'd end up talking to someone about the sheep business for an hour. Jack passed away peacefully at his family ranch on July 25, 2017 surrounded by his loving family and caregivers. He was 89.

Born the youngest child to Franz Joseph Henri Waegell and Margaret Fredericka Tiessen on April 7, 1928, he began his life on the family farm near Sloughhouse. The Waegells raised turkeys, figs, sheep, pigs, and cattle. Jack was active in the American Soil Conservation Service, The Sacramento County Farm Bureau, Florin Resource Conservation District, and served as president of the California Wool Growers from 1982 to 1984. In 1997 he was named Sheepman of the Year. He was also involved in 4-H, and for many years provided sheep and lambs to the California State Fair for wool-trimming and sheep dog trial exhibits.

He is survived by his children and their spouses; David (Inga), John (Shirley), and Margaret (Dave), and treasured grandchildren William, Sam, Peter, Devon, Lauren, and Gretchen. Also surviving him are brother George, sisters Margaret and Grace, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

## *Dayle Waddington*

Dayle Waddington, from Ukiah, CA, passed away on May 12, 2017. Dayle was born on September 20, 1940 in San Jose, CA. He grew up in San Jose, and was very active in the Future Farmers of America. He was named American Farmer, and went to the National FFA Convention in Kansas City. He started raising Corriedale Sheep in High School.

He met the love of his life, Donna Wilson, in the show ring. They married and moved to Ukiah in 1962 where they spent their life together for 55 years. He started planting vineyards with his father, and since continued with his brother Dan Waddington. Dayle and Donna raised registered Corriedale and Natural Colored sheep. They were the top Corriedale breeders in the nation for over a decade, showing and selling sheep all over the United States.

He will always be remembered for the love of his family. Dayle is survived by his wife Donna Wilson Waddington, his sons Don and Dave Waddington of Ukiah, his brother Dan Waddington of Ukiah, his sisters Donalyn Fellman and Diane Heaton, his grandchildren Casey Waddington, Janel Waddington, and Colton Waddington, and a new great granddaughter Remi Grace Waddington. Memorial donations can be made to the American Corriedale Association, Secretary Marcia E. Craig, P.O. Box 391, Clay City, Illinois, 62824, Attention: Dayle Waddington Memorial Award or the charity of your choice.

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*Looking forward to speaking with you, Bill & Susan Shaul*



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### Mark Your Calendars

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October 7 – 8, 2017  
Lambtown Festival  
Dixon, CA

January 31 – February 3, 2018  
ASI Annual Convention  
San Antonio, TX

December 8, 2017  
CWGA Board of Directors Meeting  
TBA

February 3, 2018  
Aggie Classic Club Sheep, Goat & Sale  
UC Davis, Davis, CA

December 12, 2017  
CA Sheep Commission Meeting  
Sacramento, CA

April 7, 2018  
California Ram Sale  
Porterville, CA

Week of January 15, 2018  
*Improving Lamb Marketing, Quality &  
Profitability: Options for California Sheep  
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