



## View from the Great Lakes State

Brett Pharo, APSA President

Springtime in Michigan this year, like most of the country, has been all about the COVID-19 pandemic and the reaction to it. Michigan has been among the hardest hit of states, and also has had the most strict shelter in place orders. Our major lamb packer, Wolverine Packing in Detroit, has been shut down for weeks. The marketing chain has some serious problems right now. I think it's fair to say these are challenging times, but as shepherds, we'll rise to the challenge.

I suppose if a person has to "shelter in place" there's no better time than during lambing. I wasn't planning to go anywhere anyway. The sheep aren't concerning themselves with markets, pandemics, or any of that. When the time comes, out come the lambs. It's a wonderful time of year. We are more than halfway done with lambing, and things are looking pretty good. The best part is always sharing the experience with the grandkids, ages 5-10 this year. Two of them have been living with us for a few weeks, as their mom is an ER nurse.

I hope everyone has a great year with Polypays. Let's keep promoting and selling our breed.

## APSA Board of Directors

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MEINDERS STOCK FARMS

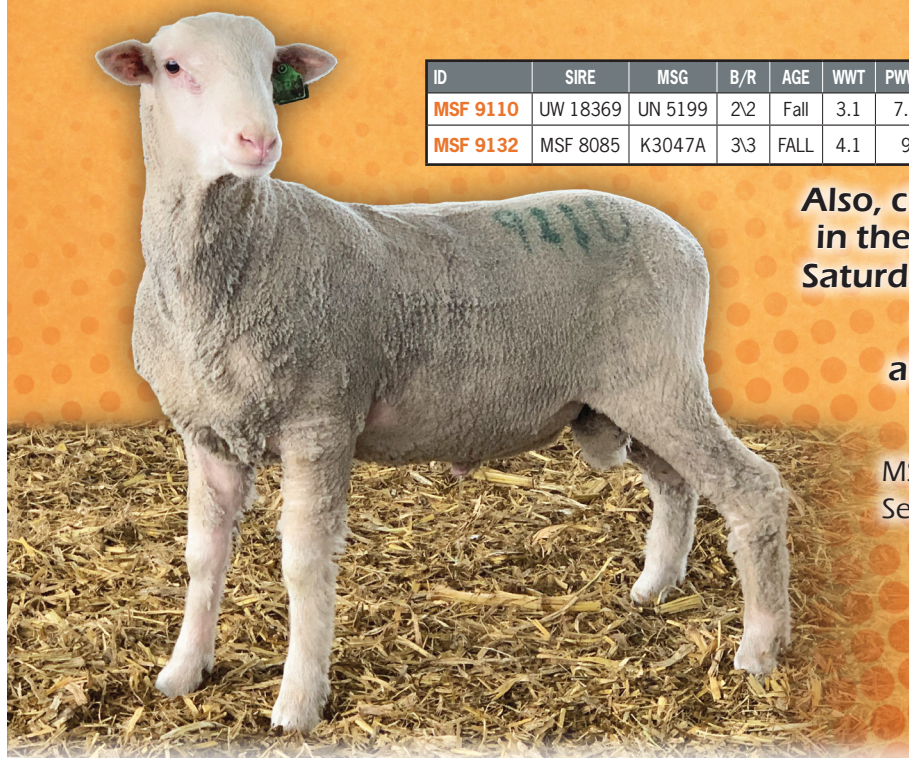
# BORN TO PERFORM

## Online Polypay Sale, Vol. II

**July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020** | Hosted by Wlivestock.com

Sale features the best set of rams ever raised at Meinders Stock Farms!  
Fall and Spring-born rams sell, as well as a select group of Fall-born ewe lambs!

ID	SIRE	MSG	B/R	AGE	WWT	PWWT	FAT	EMD	PFEC	SC	Mwwt	NLB	NLW	MAT INDEX
<b>MSF 9101</b>	SP 392	JCC 437	2/2	FALL	3.6	8.3	-0.9	-2		0.8	1.5	16	23	114.9
<b>MSF 9114</b>	MSF 8085	UN 5199	2/2	FALL	3	8	-1	-1.1	-15	-0.1	1.4	16	28	116.5
<b>MSF 9115</b>	MSF 8085	UN 5199	2/2	FALL	2.5	6.6	-1	-1.1	-15	-0.1	1.4	16	28	116.2
<b>MSF 9116</b>	SP 392	JCC 437	2/3	FALL	3.3	6.8	-2.5	-1.2		0.8	1.3	18	24	114.6
<b>MSF 9117</b>	SP 392	UW 15437	2/2	FALL	3.5	8.2	-2.4	-1.2		0.9	1.5	14	23	114.9
<b>MSF 9122</b>	UW 18369	UN B341	3/3	FALL	2.7	6.3	-1.5	-0.4	-40	-0.3	1.6	21	33	118.5
<b>MSF 9123</b>	UW 18369	UN B341	3/3	FALL	2.4	5.1	-1.5	-1	-40	0.1	1.6	22	34	118.7
<b>MSF 9125</b>	SP 392	JCC 437	2/2	FALL	3.5	8.1	-3	-1		1.3	1.5	22	27	116
<b>MSF 9129</b>	UW 18369	UN 5250	2/2	FALL	2.6	6.1	-1.1	0.2	-31	0.5	1.9	10	24	116
<b>MSF 9130</b>	SP 392	JCC 437	3/2	FALL	3.9	9	-3.3	-2.1		0.4	1.5	18	23	115
<b>JCC 50</b>	MSF 9013	UN 6148	3/3	JAN	3.6	7.8	-2.6	-1.4	-29		2.1	18	34	120.7



ID	SIRE	MSG	B/R	AGE	WWT	PWWT	FAT	EMD	PFEC	SC	Mwwt	NLB	NLW	MAT INDEX
<b>MSF 9110</b>	UW 18369	UN 5199	2/2	Fall	3.1	7.2	-1.7	-0.8	-43	0.2	2.1	19	33	120.3
<b>MSF 9132</b>	MSF 8085	K3047A	3/3	FALL	4.1	9	-4.7	-1		0.7	2.1	18	23	116.8

Also, check out our consignments  
in the Center of the Nation Sale,  
Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, in Spencer, IA!

We are very excited  
about this pair of rams!

MSF 9110 is turning heads...  
See him in Spencer!



[meindersstockfarmpolypays.com](http://meindersstockfarmpolypays.com)

Buffalo Center, Iowa

Zach Meinders | 515-320-3835 | [meinders2@hotmail.com](mailto:meinders2@hotmail.com)

Jake Meinders | 515-320-3738 | [meinders5253@hotmail.com](mailto:meinders5253@hotmail.com)

## Annual Membership Meeting

The 2020 annual membership meeting of the APSA is planned to be held at the Clay County Fairgrounds in Spencer, IA, on July 24th, at 8:00 pm CDT, in conjunction with the Center of the Nation NSIP Sale on the 25th.

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there is much uncertainty about schedules a few months out, but at this time, the Center of the Nation Sale is still a go for that weekend. If that changes, and IF we have a workable email address for you, you will be notified. If in doubt, contact a board member to confirm.

If you are unable to attend in person, we plan to have online participation available via ZOOM meeting. To attend the Zoom meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4498355697?pwd=Ynh0Z3VLUjROWks3NkxPelpvTkNrZz09>

Meeting ID: 449 835 5697

Password: polypay

If the APSA Membership Meeting can't take place in Spencer due to cancellation of the event, we will still hold the meeting at the same time via Zoom.

The agenda for the meeting will include a treasurer's report, announcement of the results of the board election, introduction of the board, and any other topic the membership wishes to discuss. Our planned speaker for the event, Dr. Tom Murphy from the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center, had a change of schedule due to the COVID-19 virus, so will not be able to make the meeting that night. He may be able to a webinar in the days before, but that has not been finalized.

Mark your calendar to attend this meeting. It's your organization. Hope to see you in July.

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## Membership Dues

You will notice on your address label, in addition to your address, a year designation. This is the year of your last dues paid. If that year is prior to 2020, your membership dues are due.

## 2020 Sale Events of Interest

Polypay sheep continue to be in demand across the country. There are three sales listed below that draw significant participation by APSA members. You can be assured there will be quality Polypay breeding stock consigned to each of them. Why not have some of the consignments be yours? For more details on participation as a consignor, buyer, or both, check with the web sites.

**June 22-27** Midwest Stud Ram Sale, Sedalia, MO  
[www.midwestsale.com/2020](http://www.midwestsale.com/2020)

**July 8** NSIP Online Sale,  
<http://nsip.org/home/events/eastern-nsip-sale/>

**July 24-25** Center of the Nation NSIP Sale,  
Spencer, IA  
[nsip.org/home/events/center-of-the-nation-nsip-sale/](http://nsip.org/home/events/center-of-the-nation-nsip-sale/)

## Eastern NSIP Sale Suspended

After much thought, discussion and debate, the NSIP board of directors has decided to suspend the Eastern NSIP Sheep Sale for the 2020 sale season. We will continue to develop ways to provide commercial producers in the area with access to breeding stock selected with EBVs however, we will not be hosting a live auction in Wooster in 2020. The Center of the Nation NSIP Sale is still a great opportunity to purchase breeding stock selected for productivity and the 15th annual Center of the Nation NSIP Sale will be hosted on July 25, 2020 at the Clay County Fairgrounds in Spencer, IA.

Additionally, NSIP will also be hosting an online sale open to all NSIP members. The sale will take place July 8, 2020. Check back here for consignment information and more details!

<http://nsip.org/home/events/eastern-nsip-sale/>

## Advertise

Advertising in the APSA newsletter is available.

Rates are

Full Page: \$85

7.5"w x 10"h

Half Page: \$45

7.5"w x 5"h

Quarter Page: \$25

7.5"w x 2.5"h

3.75"w x 5"h

Ads you would like put in the Summer newsletter would need to be sent to [brettpharo@gmail.com](mailto:brettpharo@gmail.com) by July 15.

## Check Your Email

PLEASE check on the APSA website and make sure we have your email address correct. It will be the easiest way to communicate if we need to do so regarding our annual meeting, or other events.



# Director Election Time

The APSA Bylaws call for election of members to the board of directors each year for three year terms. This year two directors will be elected.

The terms of Brett Pharo and Mark Van Roekel are up this year. Brett has served two terms and can't serve another term at this time. Nominations were requested in the winter newsletter and APSA members nominated only the two candidates listed below by the March 31 deadline. You can find brief resumes of these candidates on this page.

A ballot form to vote for directors is included in this newsletter with instructions for submitting it. The ballots will be opened at the annual membership meeting in Spencer, IA.



## Meet the Candidates



**Below are brief resumes of the candidates for the APSA Board of Directors**

### Mark Meurer

Greetings fellow Polypay breeders, I'm Mark Meurer and our family operates Big Prairie Polypays in Ashton, IL. We've raised registered Polypays for nearly 20 years and maintain a flock of between 30-40 ewes. I'm a past board member, but would like to serve the Polypay Association, once again.

There are two things that I'd like to focus on as a board member.

1. Marketing. We need a strategic marketing plan that we can disseminate throughout the industry touting the advantages of Polypay genetics. As an association, we need to market the volume of production data and research we have on record. We also need cross-breed collaborations with our terminal sire partners in developing marketing and breeding programs that maximize heterosis and consistency for our commercial producers.

2. Youth development. As a board, we should bring back a Futurity Ewe program, that teaches sound stockmanship and the importance of performance testing. We should also develop scholarship opportunities for youth interested in Polypay genetics and the commercial sheep industry.

My goal is to represent all Polypay breeders. Whether you're submitting NSIP data, conducting on-farm performance-testing, utilizing phenotypic criteria for selection, or all of the above, we're all vitally important to the future of our breed.

Thank you!

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### Mark Van Roekel

I am live on a small row crop and livestock farm raising corn, soybeans, cattle, hogs and sheep. My wife, Brenda, is a retired elementary school teacher and I am trying hard not to retire any time soon. Our two daughters are married, both having two children.

I am a graduate of Iowa State University, have served on the Iowa Sheep and Wool Promotion Board, have served one term on the American Polypay Sheep Association board and am a member of the Pipestone Lamb and Wool Program.

Our ewe flock is primarily a commercial flock of Polypay type ewes with some registered Polypay and Dorset ewes. The purebred sheep are enrolled in NSIP.

As the sheep industry changes with the rest of the world, lamb may be raised differently and in different locations than in the past. Whatever the changes may be, the Polypay breed has the ability to meet changes in management, environment and demands of the consumer.

# **Ballot for the Board of Directors of the American Polypay Sheep Association 2020**

Mark Meurer (\_\_\_\_\_)

Mark Van Roekel (\_\_\_\_\_)

You may vote for up to two candidates.

Each active membership that has 2020 dues paid is entitled to one vote.

You may return the ballot in person to an APSA director prior to the annual membership meeting in Spencer, IA, or you may mail your completed ballot, postmarked by June 30, 2020 to Brett Pharo, 12266 Cherry Ave., Rapid City, MI 49676. All ballots will be opened and counted at the annual meeting.

Mailed ballots should be returned as follows to assure a secret ballot:

1. Mark your ballot
2. Place ballot in an envelope with the word "Ballot" on the outside
3. Place that envelope inside another envelope addressed to Brett and include your name in the return address section.