

Refshaw Ramblings from the Land of the Rising Sun

Jeremy Refshaw, President

Greetings once again, Happy New Year! Here in the frozen tundra the snow just keeps piling up. If there is one thing I do not enjoy about winter, it is shoveling and moving snow. It seems like such a waste of time and energy knowing it's all going to just melt in the spring. One thing I enjoy that is very rewarding and will never get old: going out to the barn and finding a ewe who just gave birth to three nice big triplet lambs that are all licked off, up, and nursing their mother.

I think this time of year always holds more promise and excitement as many of us are getting ready for another lambing season, getting lambing barns ready and stocking up on supplies. Our sheep industry needs more lambs! I recently read an article on farms.com that said the demand for lamb in the US had increased by 40% from 2012 - 2023, and our domestic sheep production decreased by 17% during that same time. Currently we are not keeping up with the demand. There is great opportunity for people in the sheep industry to grow and expand their flocks. If the US puts a tariff on all imported lamb from Australia that

will allow the lamb that we produce here in the US be more price competitive for the packers and should increase the demand for lambs produced here in the US. I think the lamb market here in the US has a positive future and should continue to trend upward.

You will notice in this newsletter that our board of directors will be taking nominations for new board members again. I encourage all members to consider serving on our board of directors, to give back and contribute to our association, and to let your voice be heard. We are also still taking nominations for our APSA Honoree Award. We will be honoring one individual from our association that has made an impact on the APSA.

I encourage everyone to get the word out about our youth grant and our annual youth grant fundraiser sale coming up in February. Please consider donating to a great program for youth. Find ways to get involved and participate in our association, the sheep industry, through sales,

Continued on page 8

American Polypay Sheep Association “Starter Flock” Fundraiser Sale February 11th, 2026



Seeking donations today to help fund this great program!
 Contact Zach Meinders at Zach@PLAuctions.live to con-
 sign or with questions on how to bid on the sale!



Scan to go to the sale page

****Donation Ideas****

Sale Credit • Hats • Apparel • Ewe Lambs • Crafts • Services • Feed • Equipment • Semen

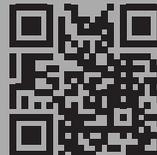


Past Starter Flock Grant Winners

Now/Accepting Grant Applications!

Mail to:
 American Polypay Sheep Association
 Nicole Jessen, Treasurer
 17146 377th Ave.
 Redfield, SD 57569
 Phone (605)460-1932
 Nljessen87@gmail.com

For more information or to find the application forms, go to Polypay.org and click on the “Youth” tab. Or you can scan the QR code below.



Who may apply?

Any American Citizen ages 13-18 whose family does not raise Polypay Sheep.

The starter flock Grant will consist of:

A one-time \$2000 grant from APSA to be used for the purchase of registered Polypay ewes or ewe lambs from a current APSA member of their choice. A purchase agreement between the APSA member and the grant recipient must be submitted to the APSA board of directors for approval by June 1, 2025. Funds will be distributed to the owner of the flock that is chosen upon transfer of registration.

Polypays Added to South Dakota State Fair

The 31st annual, Jr. Wool Classic was held at the South Dakota State Fair on Thursday, August 28, 2025. New to the show was the Polypay breed which was sponsored by the APSA. Four junior exhibitors from South Dakota showed their Polypay ewes. Cash prizes, feeders, and feed were awarded to the participants. Anyone ages 5-21 are welcome to participate. Hope to see you in 2026!



The group of Junior showmen/women.

APSA Starter Flock Grant Program 2026

A completed application with supporting materials must be submitted to the APSA by April 1, 2026.

The following is a summary of the APSA Starter Flock Grant Program. For the full application, please scan the QR Code below or visit www.polypay.org and click on the youth tab.



Purpose: To promote the growth and usefulness of the Polypay Breed, and to encourage youth involvement and education in the breed.

Who may apply? Any American Citizen ages 13-18 whose family does not raise Polypay Sheep.

The starter flock Grant will consist of: A one-time \$2000 grant from APSA to be used for the purchase of registered Polypay ewes or ewe lambs from a current APSA member of their choice. A purchase agreement between the APSA member and the grant recipient must be submitted to the APSA board of directors for approval by June 1, 2025. Funds will be distributed to the owner of the flock that is chosen upon transfer of registration.

Promotion: The APSA Starter Flock Program will be listed on the APSA website and advertised in various magazines and outlets. Promotion by current members will be strongly encouraged.

Policy and protocol:

1. A completed application with supporting materials must be submitted to the APSA by April 1, 2026.
 - a. Essay: The applicant must write a short paper on why they think they should be awarded the grant.
 - b. Video / Pictures: The applicant must show video or pictures that show basic facilities and feed sources that will be provided for the starter flock.
 - c. Signed Letters: The applicant will need to provide two signed letters:
 - . A letter from the applicant's parents stating their approval of the application and their responsibilities.
 - . A signed letter of recommendation from a 4H or FFA adviser or from a current APSA member.
2. Completed applications with other materials needed will be reviewed by the APSA board of directors and the top 3 applicants will be chosen.
3. Of the top 3 applicants, 1 winner will be chosen by the board of directors and notified by the current president of the APSA.
4. The winning applicant will be notified by July 1, 2026. And will be awarded the starter flock at the annual APSA meeting in Spencer, Iowa.
5. **Attendance at the annual meeting will be mandatory.**
6. The winner will be given a one-year membership to the APSA.
7. The grant recipient will be assigned an APSA member mentor in close proximity. The mentor will provide advice and support to the recipient and will be required to check on the animal's welfare.
8. Basic needs of the animals must be always provided. If the basic needs of the animals are not met as determined by the mentor, the recipient must return all the animals to the original flock owner at the cost of the recipient.

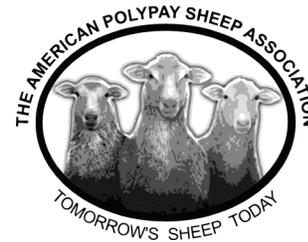
For the full application, please scan the QR Code below or visit www.polypay.org and click on the youth tab.



Della Jessen won Champion Polypay Ewe at the 2025 South Dakota State Fair.

**ANNUAL POLYPAY
SHEEP ASSOCIATION
Annual Meeting
JULY 24, 2026
Clay County Fairgrounds
Spencer, Iowa**

Refshaw Ramblings...Continued from Page 1
 advertising in the newsletter, nominating a board member, honoree or donating to our youth grant fundraiser. We all have something that we can offer.
 Increasing productivity in our own individual flocks through expansion and efficiency will better meet the demand and improve the standard of living on farms and for families across our country, improving rural America in the process. If any of you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me or any of our board members.
 Happy lambing,
Jeremy Refshaw
 APSA President



NOTICE
 TO PAY
ANNUAL DUES
DUES are \$30
PAYABLE TO:
American Polypay Sheep Association
MAIL TO:
Associated Registry
3141C West Broadway Blvd.
Sedalia, MO 65302

Ohio
SHOWCASE SALE
2026 Ohio Showcase Show & Sale Schedule
 Darke County Fairgrounds | Greenville, OH
SHOW / JUDGE
THURSDAY — MAY 7 @ 8:00 a.m.
 Ring 1 - Swine Building
 Polypay - Chris Meyer

SALE
THURSDAY — MAY 7 @ 6:00 p.m.
 Used Sheep Equipment Auction
FRIDAY — MAY 8 @ 8-9:00 a.m.
 Polypay
 Sale by Select Livestock Services, LLC
www.selectls.net

APSA Director Nomination Form

We, the undersigned members of the American Polypay Sheep Association,
nominate _____ to serve as a Director on the Board of Directors
of the American Polypay Sheep Association.

Name _____

Address _____

Name _____

Address _____

Name _____

Address _____

Three separate voting active memberships must sign this form for it to be accepted as official.

I, _____, desire to, and will, serve to the best of my ability on
the Board of Directors of the American Polypay Sheep Association, for a three-year term if elected. Attached is
my resume (not to exceed 200 words), which may be mailed to all APSA members so that they may judge as to my
qualifications to serve on the Board of Directors of the APSA.

**I certify that I am a breeder of purebred Polypay sheep registered with the American Polypay Sheep Association,
and I pledge myself to support and obey the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of this association, and the
Breeder's Guidelines as contained therein, and to advance the production objectives of the Polypay breed.**

Nominee's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Return completed nomination form and accompanying resume by March 31, 2026, to:
Jeremy Refshaw, APSA President
1339 290th St
Waubun, MN 56589

American Polypay Sheep Association

Member Recognition Nomination Form

Due Date: April 30, 2026

Thank you for taking the time to nominate an outstanding individual for their contributions to the American Polypay sheep breed. The APSA board will review all applications and may follow up with additional questions if necessary. One member or couple will be recognized each year at the annual meeting of the American Polypay Sheep Association. Please complete the form below with as much detail as possible. Producers may be nominated as an individual or as a couple.

Nominee Information:

Full Name of Nominee (or Couple): _____

Farm Name (if applicable): _____

Years in Polypay Sheep Production: _____

Service Roles Supporting the Breed:

Breed Association Leadership

Research & Development

Educational Outreach

Industry Advocacy

Breeding and Genetic Advancement

AMERICAN POLYPAY SHEEP ASSOCIATION WORK ORDER AND FEE SCHEDULE

Phone: 785-456-8500 • PO Box 27 • Sedalia, MO 65302 • Email: asregistry@gmail.com

Name _____ Membership# _____

Address _____ Website _____

City, State, Zip _____ Date _____

Phone # _____ Fax # _____ E-mail _____

Check one of the following:

Member Non-Member New Member Applying

A. MEMBERSHIPS

	Quantity	Member Price	Non-Member Price	Total Cost
1. New Membership		25.00	xxx	
2. Annual Dues		30.00	xxx	
3. New Gift Membership		10.00	xxx	

(Current Member paying 1st time Membership for a Current Non-Member)

New Membership for: *(New Member's Name)* _____

(New Member's Address & Phone Number) _____

B. REGISTRATIONS

1. Under 21 Months old		7.00	14.00	
2. Over 21 Months old		10.00	20.00	

C. TRANSFERS

1. Under 90 days <i>(from date of sale)</i>		7.00	14.00	
2. Over 90 days <i>(from date of sale)</i>		14.00	28.00	

D. DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE

		5.00	10.00	
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E. CHRISTENING/NAMING FEE

		30.00	30.00	
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E. RUSH FEE *(per each registration & transfer)*

		<i>Double Fees</i>	<i>same</i>	
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F. EMERGENCY FAXES *(per page - not including cover)*

		5.00	<i>same</i>	
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G. SPECIAL HANDLING

1. UPS Overnight Delivery				
		<i>Call to order... Must provide credit card number for direct payment to UPS</i>		
2. Postal Overnight, USPS <i>(two-three day delivery)</i>		33.00	<i>same</i>	
3. Priority Mail, USPS <i>(four-five day delivery)</i>		11.00	<i>same</i>	

H. OTHER FEES _____

TOTAL FEES FROM ABOVE.....\$ _____

Previous Balance Due *(please return invoice)*.....\$ _____

Previous Credit Due *(please return invoice)*\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE\$ _____

PAYMENT BY CHECK # _____ OR CREDIT CARD # _____

EXPIRATION DATE ON CARD _____ THREE DIGIT CODE ON BACK OF CARD _____

ZIP CODE OF BILLING ADDRESS _____ SIGNATURE OF CARDHOLDER _____

All credit card transactions will be charged a 15 cent transaction fee and a 3.5% convenience fee on the total amount.

• ALL WORK requested MUST HAVE accompanying PAYMENT TO PROCESS •