



September 19, 2016

Dear Sheep Producers and Friends,

We are planning to hold the 2016 Sheep Management Tour on the weekend of October 22-23, traveling to the southwestern corner of the state. Enclosed is a copy of the trip itinerary. We will gather at Oh My Grill Restaurant in Dunkirk for breakfast at 7:00 am on Saturday, October 22 at 166 N. Main Street, Dunkirk. They are having a big breakfast for us with a cost of \$8.95. The restaurant is located near the railroad tracks on State Route 68 in Dunkirk. After our group breakfast and short meeting in the back room, we will begin our trip to southwest Ohio. The plan is to leave cars parked at a local business near restaurant and then travel the rest of the tour by rental vans.

The cost of the rental vans will be approximately \$30.00 per person to cover the cost of the vans and fuel. We will collect the \$30.00 at our breakfast meeting to cover the cost of the vans and gasoline. This hopefully will eliminate the need for driving and parking concerns. As in the past, participants will be responsible for their own hotel room and meals. We will have disposable plastic shoe covers for bio-security on the farms that we visit.

Overnight lodging will be at the Drury Inn & Suites, located in Middletown Franklin. The address of the hotel is 3320 Village Drive, Middletown, Ohio 45005. The hotel reservation phone number is 800-325-0720 and refer to the Group number of 2288550. The room rate is \$94.99 plus tax. This hotel serves a free hot breakfast every morning, free soda & popcorn from 3-10 pm, and a free dinner starting at 5:30 pm. Typical rooms include two queen beds and comfortable seating. In-room amenities include an LCD TV, microwave, refrigerator, iron and ironing board, hairdryer and coffee maker. Stay connected on the road with free wifi, free guest voicemail and free local and long distance calls.

I have included the tour plans for your information. Hopefully most of you have already marked the date on your calendar. Make sure you call the hotel and let them know you are with the Hardin County Sheep Improvement Association when you book your reservation. They are holding a block of rooms until September 30 for our group. Those interested in going on the Hardin County OSU Extension Sheep Tour also need to call Madelyn Lowery at 419-673-3291, in order that we know how many vans to rent.

Sincerely,

*Mark A. Badertscher*

Extension Educator  
Agriculture & Natural Resources



## 2016 Hardin County Sheep Management Tour Highlights

### ● Highlights on Saturday, October 22

7:00 am – Oh My Grill Restaurant

166 N. Main Street, Dunkirk, Ohio 45836: (419) 204-8153

Meet as a group for \$8.95 big breakfast buffet in the back room. Enjoy a good meal while becoming acquainted with the group, and discuss the day's plans and arrangements. Collect \$30.00 per person for vans/gas.

9:30 am – Shroyer Show Stock

3296 Township Road 35, DeGraff, Ohio 43318: (937-935-0830)

Our first stop will be in nearby Logan County, to see John and Lori Shroyer's new barn and learn about Shroyer Show Stock's tradition of producing winning club lambs. Do your homework before you come by viewing their website at <http://www.shroyershowstock.com/index.html>.

11:30 pm – Lunch - The Winery at Versailles

6572 State Route 47, Versailles, OH 45380 (937) 526-3232

Nestled among fields of corn, soybeans and hay, you'll find this tiny haven of relaxation is just the right respite from the heat of the summer or the cold of winter.

1:00 pm – Scott Peters Farm

9809 Boyer Road, Versailles, Ohio 45380 (937-214-1977)

Our second sheep farm on this year's tour will be the Scott Peters Farm. On this farm you will be able to see Scott's Corriedale flock and find out his production practices for this breed.

2:00 pm – Gary Philpot Farm

9729 Boyer Road, Versailles, Ohio 45380 (937-726-3464)

Since we are in the neighborhood, Gary Philpot will be hosting our group. Gary raises club lambs so you will get to ask him questions about his breeding program and show stock he produces.

3:00 pm – Mark Rhodes Farm

9443 Conover Road, Versailles, Ohio 45380 (937-526-9793)

We haven't seen this many sheep since we were in the United Kingdom. Mark Rhoads is a commercial sheep producer who raises 200 ewes. Find out how he markets his lambs and keeps them healthy.

5:00 pm – Check into Drury Inn & Suites

3320 Village Drive, Middletown, Ohio 45005 (330-769-5025)

This hotel serves a free hot breakfast every morning, free soda & popcorn from 3-10 pm, and a free dinner starting at 5:30 pm. Typical rooms include two queen beds and comfortable seating. In-room amenities include an LCD TV, microwave, refrigerator, iron and ironing board, hairdryer and coffee maker. Stay connected on the road with free wifi, free guest voicemail and free local and long distance calls.

6:00 pm – Dinner at Drury Inn – Sit down and relax after a busy day touring sheep farms. Don't worry, the Ohio State Buckeyes don't kick-off against Penn State until 8:00 pm. We should be done with dinner before you can say "Let's Go Bucks!"



● **Highlights on Sunday, October 23**

7:00 am – Free Hot Breakfast at the Hotel

8:00 am - Sunday Morning Devotional with Mark Badertscher (*optional*)

8:30 am – Group meeting and Check out of Hotel

10:00 am – Tour America’s Natural Fiberworks

3381 Northern Road, Somerville, Ohio 45064 (513-200-9792)

America's Natural Fiberworks serves any natural fiber producer with a top quality yarn from their harvest. Robbie Davis helps aid in the sustainability of fiber farms by taking their raw fiber that brings a small amount of money, to a finished product that can be sold for a much better return. Bring your own wool for processing (<http://americasnaturalfiberworks.com/services>)

12:00 pm – Lamb Lunch at the Little Schoolhouse

Nick Forest (513-461-3786)

Southdown breeder and American Lamb Board past member Nick Forest will combine his cooking skills with an American Dorper breeder friend to provide a lamb lunch in a one room schoolhouse setting. Which recipe will be your favorite?

2:30 pm – Wallace Sheep Farm

Our last sheep farm tour will be the Wallace farm. The Wallace farm is a commercial sheep operation that has been recognized as the Ohio Livestock Coalition Environmental Stewardship winner.

5:30 pm – Return to Oh My Grill Restaurant

166 N. Main Street, Dunkirk, Ohio 45836: (419) 204-8153

Pick-up vehicles and return home.