

# Statewide Sheep Production Tour



September 30 - October 1, 2023

Sponsored by: Ohio Sheep Improvement Association and OSU Extension

## Michigan Lamb Marketing and Dry Lot/ Confinement Sheep Operations



### Saturday September 30, 2023

- **Ronnie Berry Halal Meats (11:00 am)** – Dearborn, MI – Ronnie Berry's Meats, has served the Dearborn, MI community for over 60 years. They stock a wide variety of fresh meat weekly including lamb, veal, chicken, and beef. They also smoke their own jerky, beef pepperoni, and lunch meats.
- **Eastern Market of Detroit (12:30 pm)** – Detroit, MI – Attending the Saturday Market is an experience that is undeniably Detroit. Over 225 market vendors share their produce and stories with up to 40,000 visitors in one day during their busy season. The tradition of this market has been a cornerstone of the city for 125 years and is crucial to their mission of nourishing a healthier, wealthier, and happier city.
- **Wheaton Hampshires (3:30 pm)** – Charlotte, MI – Intensive club lamb operation primarily marketing to 4-H and FFA members as well as marketing genetics to other club lamb producers across the country. Primary facilities are confinement/dry lot type buildings due to extensive AI, ET and Ram Semen Collection programs, although some pasture is utilized during different times of the year. The most unique part of the buildings is a climate-controlled ram barn so that ram semen collections can be done throughout the year.

**Scheduled overnight stay in the East Lansing, MI area (at own expense).**  
**Must Register for hotel room on ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM for hotel availability**

### Sunday October 1, 2023

- **Michigan State University Sheep Teaching and Research Center (9:30 am)**– Lansing, MI – MSU sheep farm has an accelerated lambing program and modern lambing barn and feeding system running 300 ewes. They utilize a total mixed ration feeding program to provide a quality and low-cost diet. The farm uses natural methods to achieve a high rate of reproductive success with lambing periods every 4 months. The farm's facilities allow it support applied research projects and the education of both students (undergraduate and veterinary) and producers on modern sheep production practices.
- **Dr. Richard Earhardt Family Sheep Farm (1:30 pm)** – Eaton Rapids, MI – The Earhardt Farm has an accelerated lambing program with 200 ewes and practices Management intensive Grazing (MiG) on 25 acres. The focus on forage quality and strategic feeding to create the level of reproductive efficiency needed to produce a consistent set of lambs year around. Dr. Richard Earhardt is the Michigan State University Small Ruminant Specialist and has been a speaker at the Buckeye Shepherd's Symposium on multiple occasions.

**Meals and Hotel at your own expense - Van costs split with those who ride in van**  
**Van transportation will be provided for up to 12 people – first come-first served**  
**Tour reservations due: Monday September 18, 2023 – need registered for van and hotel reservations**

**Contact:** Mark Badertscher, OSU Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator, Hardin County,  
(419) 767-6037, badertscher.4@osu.edu for tour details.



**Scan for Registration**