

2025 CSBA Provincial Report - Alberta

I am pleased to present the 2024/25 summary for the Alberta Sheep Breeders' Association.

In 2024, Alberta had 165 CSBA members, down slightly from 2023, but with 1581 purebred registrations and 909 purebred transfers completed in 2024, it was nice to see a slight increase in Alberta registrations the past year. ASBA has been focusing on promoting the registration and transfer of purebred sheep and encouraging buyers to ask for the transfer of registration papers for the purebreds they purchase. For so many reasons, the value is in the papers.

The ASBA board has been working diligently on the biannual sheep symposium, which will take place in Camrose in October. We will also host several workshops and an online sale this coming summer. ASBA also looks forward to collaborating with Alberta Lamb Producers in this regard. Please check out the website for more information about the workshops and the online sale.

According to the Provincial Livestock Market Analyst, Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation, "Alberta auction market prices for market lamb are running 18 percent higher in 2024 compared to 2023 and prices reached record highs in 2024." Feeder lamb prices are also higher than in 2023, and cull ewe and ram prices are very strong. Although there are concerns about market volatility and high costs for producers, strong feeder and market lamb prices should support continued demand for strong purebred genetics. Alberta is well-represented in production sales and online sales, which were average to very strong in 2024. Sheep 4-H is well represented in our province, with 4-H Alberta's Provincial Beef and Sheep Show set for June 27-30 in Stettler.

ASBA continues to support several youth activities/initiatives. We have continued with the very popular Youth Purebred Sheep Purchase Incentive for the past three years and are excited to continue promoting purebred sheep again this year. This incentive offers youth in Alberta a chance to win \$500 towards a purchase of a purebred sheep either by private treaty, production sale, the ASBA online sale or the All Canada Classic. We are especially excited about this year's incentive as youth are invited to submit a video about themselves, their current production system, a tour of their facility, and a plan for their dream sheep facility. ASBA also sponsors 4-H educational activities and provides one to two scholarships every year.

As the current CSBA representative on the CSF board, I am pleased to be an Alberta voice within the Canadian Sheep Federation. Alberta producers have provided positive feedback in this regard.

I would like to thank our secretary/manager and the ASBA board of directors for the past year and for their enthusiasm for purebred sheep in Alberta.

There is so much more that I could talk about with sheep and Alberta, but I will leave it here.

Thank you, guests, for joining the CSBA AGM this morning.
Please register and transfer your purebred sheep.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Nikkel

