



# National Sheep Industry Improvement Center

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# MISSION:

The Mission of the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center is to improve the infrastructure of the U.S. sheep and goat industries by strengthening and enhancing the production and marketing of sheep, goats, and their products.

# Producer Membership Dollars At Work

- American Sheep Industry (ASI)
- Continued commitment to producers and research and development
- Legislative efforts of volunteer leaders and staff and contract lobbyist
- Inclusion in Farm Bill negotiations since 1997, ongoing efforts

# Sheep Center BOARD

**Jeremy Geske - MN**

**Frankie Iturriria - CA**

**Steve Lewis - NM**

**Burton Pfliger - ND**

**Brenda Reau – MI**

**Marsha Spykerman – IA**

**Leo Tammi - VA**



## **Retiring Directors:**

Marsha Spykerman  
Iowa



Frankie Iturriria  
California



**Thanks Marsha and Frankie for your  
continuing service and support to  
the American Sheep Industry**

# Newly Appointed Members

- Producer Faye F. Schalesky , Faith, South Dakota
- Finance & Management Robert Buchholz, Eldorado, Texas

# NSIIC

**Since 1998 the Sheep Center has provided  
Millions (\$\$) of Dollars through:**

**Grant Funding for various qualified projects  
and**

**Low Interest Loans (via a Grant to the  
National Livestock Producers Association)**

More than

\$32,000,000.00

Into sheep industry  
research and  
development

GRANTS SO FAR



# Grants:

The Center may use grants to provide funding for:

- 1) Research on new products specifically sheep/Goat
- 2) Technologies to improve efficiency & profitability, of the sheep or goat industries
- 3) Provide seed money for the development, production and commercialization of new and innovative products or processes. \*

\*NSIIC Strategic Plan

## **Projects funded in 2022**

- Evaluating the use of injectable vitamin E and C to control for parasites in sheep production
- Effects of breed and loin eye muscle depth on accuracy and variation of loin eye area prediction and carcass yield via ultrasound in sheep
- Maternal fatty acids supplementation and its impacts on offspring
- Impacts of quality colostrum on lamb microbiome and health & lambing time field day
- 2023 Howard Wyman Sheep Industry Leadership School
- Exploring reproductive consequences of gestational heat stress in ewe lambs

## **NSIIC Grants Awarded Since 2011**

**2011 - \$298,895**  
**2013 - \$237,222**  
**2015 - \$282,186**  
**2017 - \$159,000**  
**2019 - \$412,279**  
**2-21 - \$178,733**

**2012 - \$299,500**  
**2014 - \$180,502**  
**2016 - \$357,504**  
**2018 - \$180,537**  
**2020 - \$214,463**  
**2-22 - \$147,685**

# Some notable projects over the years

## **American Goat Federation**

Building Organizational Capacity to Represent, Support and Grow the U.S. Goat Industry - membership drive and administrative updating to establish the American Goat Federation - (AGF) as the voice for the industry in public policy, research, and education.

Membership drive goal to double organizational members by the end of the project.

## **Lamb Board Quality Audits Findings**

The U.S. lamb industry cannot expect improvements in prices for its products/byproducts when “quality” doesn’t warrant such increases.

“ . . . an industry cannot manage its quality problems until it can measure them.”

The sheep industry must identify its quality shortfalls and their root causes.

Failure to prevent or correct quality problems in American Lamb will most likely result in opportunity losses and continued decline in demand.

# **National Sheep Improvement Program**

This grant is designed to promote and educate the sheep and goat industry about the National Sheep Improvement Program.

This program has evolved over time; however, we are now in a position that we can serve a larger population of sheep and goat producers.

## **Glycoscience Research Inc.**

Development of ovine GM1 ganglioside for Huntington's disease

## **Sheep Venture Company**

Working Dog Liability Program

## **Colorado Lamb, LLC**

New Harvesting Plant in the Western United States  
for American Lamb

# **Katahdin Hair Sheep International**

Development and Application of Genomic Breeding Values in the Katahdin Breed

## **Texas A & M Research**

Improving and expanding the use of livestock guard dogs for small ruminant predation control

## **Sheep Venture Company-**

Commercialization of Research Lab



# **American Sheep Industry Association**

Expanding Research in Sheep Genetics – Sheep  
Genetics USA

## **Texas A & M Research**

Wool Education and Research

# What is the Future

- Board Discussion----Amount and type of grants proposed
- Looking to ASI board of Directors
  - Propose set up committee, working group or council
  - Identify topics, issue research important to entire sheep industry
  - Time line in important 2024 conclusion of grant cycle
  - NSIIPC and ASI do press releases and collaborate industry, universities etc
  - Facilitate grants and lasting impacts on our industry

## **In closing:**

*The Board **THANKS** all those who helped to assure NSIIC's continued funding.*

*The Sheep Center has been an important source of support for the industry for 25 years.*

*Your active participation is important for our existence.*

*Go find a **project** and apply for a grant.*

**Watch for upcoming webinar on  
Application preparation**

**Information/Suggestions?**

**Contact:**

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