IMPORTANT SHEEP HEALTH NEWS!

From The Sheep Producer’s Newsletter, Chet’s Chatter, by Chet Parsons.

Eradicate Scrapie………………
Is the battle cry of the National Scrapie Education Initiative. This is a federal regulation that requires you have an official premises identification number on sheep if you do one of the following:

1.) Move any sheep 18 months old or older across state lines.
2.) Move any sheep for breeding purposes across state lines.
3.) Move any sheep within state or across state lines for exhibition purposes, such as fairs or shows.

To get your official premises ID tags contact:

Dr. Kristin Haas, State Veterinarian
Division of Food Safety & Consumer Protection
Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets
116 State Street, Drawer 20
Montpelier, VT 05620 - 2901
Office Telephone No: 802/828-2421
Fax No: 802/828-5983
E-mail: kristin.haas@state.vt.us

All animals over three months of age must have a current rabies vaccination administered according to the manufacturer’s recommendations. Such vaccination shall be documented on the health form provided or a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI). The state veterinarian recognizes sheep must be over three months old to receive the vaccine. Lambs under three months should be exempt until they are over three months unless otherwise stated by fair and field day regulations.

This means anyone planning on showing, selling or breeding must have the tags. All 4-H members in the sheep program please call the above number and get your premises tags!

You and your veterinarian should fill out the Sheep & Goat Health Form for 4-H Livestock. A licensed veterinarian certifying that the animal is clinically free of all infectious or contagious diseases and exposure from such diseases should sign this form. You will need to have this form with you at all 4-H sheep shows, and your approval, lease/loan, and registration papers. If you are chosen to participate at Eastern States Exposition, all sheep must have a CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection) issued within 30 days of the event.

Nov12