

2010 Washington State Sheep Shearing School Information

School Dates:

The 2010 WSSP Sheep Shearing School is scheduled for April 5-10th, in Central Washington. Experienced sheep shearers interested in tuning up their skills can participate in the Advanced Tune-Up School scheduled for April 10th. The Basic Learning School will begin on April 5th and continue until April 9th. Beginning shearers may attend the advanced school on the 10th. The Washington State Sheep Shearing School is sponsored by Washington State University and Washington State Sheep Producers, with assistance from the Columbia Basin Sheep Producers and American Sheep Industry.

School Location:

The school will be held at Perry and Terry Parker's Sheep Ranch, a commercial sheep operation in Moses Lake, WA. The sheep will be sheared in the Chick Hubbard Memorial Sheep Shearing trailer. It has a chute system and a design that is very efficient and easy to work in. Students learn a great deal from shearing in this setting. Experts say this trailer is one of the best in the world. This is yet another aspect that makes this shearing school a world-class educational experience.

School Participants:

The shearing school is for anyone over 15 years old from anywhere. Students will learn the skills of shearing sheep, proper shearing equipment preparation and care, packaging of wool for optimum market value and many other topics about sheep and wool production.

School Enrollment:

Enrollment is limited to the first 16 people who register and pay the fees of \$135 for WSSP (Washington State Sheep Producers) members or \$185 for non-members. The Advanced Tune-Up is \$40. To enroll, send a check or money order (*U.S. funds*) with a completed application to the WSSP Association (address on WSU Grant-Adams Extension home page—<http://grant-adams.wsu.edu>—under "Agriculture" section).

School Scholarships:

Scholarships are available to help defray part of the cost. Applications are available on the web page. Scholarships will be granted to applicants who plan to shear commercially in the state of Washington.



If you have any further questions you can contact Sarah M. Smith, WSU Extension Agent, at 509-754-2011, ext. 413 or by email at smithsm@wsu.edu; or Marcia Parrish, Washington State Sheep Producers Exec. Secretary, at 509-888-3003 or by email at wssp@gmx.com.