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Sheep and goat program set for Dec. 2-3 in Kirksville

KIRKSVILLE, Mo. - A training workshop for some of the fastest-growing livestock enterprises - sheep and goat production - will take place December 2-3 in Kirksville.

The workshop is designed for those interested in raising sheep or meat goats and for adult educators, such as vocational agriculture instructors, extension agents or 4-H leaders wanting to work with those interested in raising these animals, said Bruce Lane, University of Missouri Extension livestock specialist.

Topics include an overview of the sheep and meat goat industries; breeds and breed variations; feeding, forages and animal management; breeding; animal health; selecting, fitting, and showing meat goats and sheep; facilities and handling equipment; as well as teaching resources and innovative teaching ideas for sheep and meat goat educators.

"In addition, program participants can attend the 2005 Missouri Livestock Symposium, which begins the evening of December 2, and can hear additional educational programming related to sheep and meat goats on Saturday," Lane said.

The sheep and goat workshop is sponsored by a grant from the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center. The workshop was organized due to the high interest in sheep and meat goat information at the four previous Missouri Livestock Symposium events.

"We have a group of instructors recognized throughout the U.S. as leaders in sheep and meat goat industries," Lane said. Speakers expected include Maurice Shelton, Texas A&M University professor emeritus; Frank Craddock, Texas A&M; Susan Schoenian, University of Maryland; Joan Burke, USDA-Agricultural Research Service; Micheal Salisbury, Angelo State University; Preston Faris, meat goat producer, Sonora, Texas; Garry Lacefield, University of Kentucky; Jim Heggemeier, Platte City, Mo.; and Mike Thonney, Cornell University.

Itinerary and program details can be viewed at the Missouri Livestock Symposium Web site at <http://>

missourilivestock.com . Click on the link to SMGTP information. Additional information can be obtained by calling or e-mailing Lane at (660) 665-9866 (lanen@missouri.edu - put SMGTP in the subject line) or Garry Mathes at (660) 665-7049. Information at this site contains an application form and details related to the application process for program scholarships, resources to be provided as part of the program, and planning committee members. Application deadline is July 1.

Source: Bruce Lane (660) 665-9866

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