

**Mead to Sponsor \$300 Cash Award for Supreme Champions at All-Breeds Junior Show, \$100 cash award to 3 Showmanship winners also sponsored.**

The plans for the first annual Midwest Junior Preview Show are quickly coming together. The show has been scheduled for June 12, 2010 in Chillicothe, MO. The show will be held at the Litton Agriculture Center which offers an indoor show ring, dining facilities, and a campground.

Several different Missouri sheep producers have been working to get this all-breed sheep show underway. The show will host any registered breed that attends, with 6 classes offered in each breed. The show is open to any producer 21 or younger, from any state. Pre-Registration will be encouraged by offering a T-shirt to those who have entries in by June 1<sup>st</sup>, but it is not required. Entry fees are \$6/ head.

The Missouri Sheep producers have stepped up to back the event in a huge way. They have provided the funding to cover the facility cost as well as a T-shirt for all juniors who pre-register.

Larry Mead, manager of the Midwest Stud Ram Sale, has pledged a cash award of \$300 each for the Supreme Champion Ram and Supreme Champion Ewe. "Getting Larry's support on this event, especially in such a huge way, is going to make all the difference in the world. He has really stood up and told our junior members that they matter. That they are important to this industry," says Kate Lambert, organizer of the event.

Additionally, the United Suffolk Sheep Association, with the guidance of Tom Burk, has declared this event the home of the 2010 Regional Suffolk Junior Show. The USSA will provide additional funding for awards and cash prizes at the event. The Missouri Suffolk Association has also pledged \$250 towards the event.

The Missouri Hampshire Association is also backing the show, with an additional \$250 donation towards the Hampshire Show.

The Missouri Tunis Association and individual Tunis breeders from across the state are working hard to make this an exciting event for all Tunis exhibitors as well by offering prizes and cash awards.

There will also be three showmanship events offered at the conclusion of the day. The showmanship classes will be divided by age. Dr. Helen Swartz, long time Missouri Sheep Producer, has provided a donation that will allow for a \$100 cash award for each of the three showmanship classes.

Funding is still being sought for general expenses. Additionally, other breed associations and producers are encouraged to help sponsor their respective breed with additional donations.

"I am working to cover the basics. I want every kid to be able to show their sheep. From that point, it is up to the breed associations and producers to make their breed stand-out. I hope the breeders realize the value of this event and take the opportunity to promote their products," says Kate Lambert.

For information on exhibition as this event, to receive entry information, or to sponsor the event, please contact Kate Lambert at 660-541-0468 or [MissouriTunis@hotmail.com](mailto:MissouriTunis@hotmail.com) . Visit the website of the Missouri Tunis Association for more information on this event at <http://motunis.weebly.com>