

American Polypay Sheep Association Starter Flock

Got Sheep? Want Sheep? Get Free Sheep! The American Polypay Sheep Association will again be giving away a starter flock to one young individual. The winner will receive the animals during the National Polypay Show and Sale in Springfield, Illinois on June 16, 17 & 18, 2006.

One winner will receive three registered Polypay ewes! One of these Polypay ewes will be a yearling (will have lambed by June 15) ewe, and two ewe (fall or spring) lambs. The winner will also receive \$100 dollars buying credit to use at the 2006 National Polypay Sale. One of these ewe lambs will be futurity nominated by the association, this futurity ewe can be brought back and shown as a futurity yearling ewe in the 2007 National Junior Show. This futurity class is one of the more popular classes in the Junior show.

This is how the Starter Flock process works. Any youth in the United States is eligible to apply for this starter flock as long as they meet the following requirements.

1. Be involved in 4-H or FFA
2. Between the ages of 8-19(as of March 1, 2006)
3. Attend the 2006 National Polypay Show and Sale weekend if chosen as winner.
4. Use a registered Polypay ram for first breeding.
5. Write a one page essay (questions on application).
6. Submit a letter of recommendation with application.

Interest in Polypay sheep on the farm and at sales are rising. These sheep are very manageable for youth with their medium frame size, docile temperament and easy fitting requirements. The biggest advantage of this breed although is their productivity in the barn after being exhibited at shows throughout the summer.

Polypay sheep are production oriented animals that are also well received by judges and buyers in shows and sales around the country. The Polypay breed is known as one of the premier production sheep breeds in the world. Multiple births and the ability to breed out of season makes this breed a profitable choice. To demonstrate their productivity, all ewes in the Polypay Yearling Class must have lambed prior to showing, and all animals must be from a multiple birth to be entered in the National Show and Sale. The Polypay breed can be enrolled in NSIP (National Sheep Improvement Program). This program uses EPD's (Expected Progeny Differences) to measure the production of sheep. One donated ewe lamb will come with NSIP records, including EPD's for all production traits.

The Polypay National Show and Sale is held in Springfield, Illinois every June. A large part of our National event is our Junior show. This show has seen tremendous growth in the last few years in Junior attendance and sheep. There are many classes for the youth to display their animals, and is a fun and popular start to our National event Along with the Junior Show and National Show and Sale, a tailgate party and banquet are other events that occur that weekend.

If you are interested in applying, we encourage you to research our breed. Start with our web site at polypay.org, contact the association, a breeder, or a professional in your area for more information. If you fit the requirements mentioned above and would like to start or add Polypay genetics, we want to help. Whether you own a flock, or are just wishing to start one, this starter flock can be an excellent opportunity.

Remember, you miss 100% of the shots you don't take! Don't delay, entries due postmarked **March 1, 2006**

The buying credit is a donation in loving memory of J. Charles Ripley. Chuck passed away unexpectedly September 5, 2005. He was an Ag. teacher and a well respected shepherd of Polypay sheep in Minnesota. Chuck helped plan this starter flock during it's formation. He promoted the program as a Director on the American Polypay Sheep Association Board.

For an entry form contact:

Gordon Sammons
Sammons Polypay
17295 Hwy. 82
Geneseo, Il. 61254 sammons@theinter.com
309.944.3692

Downloadable entry form at: www.polypay.org

Polypay Starter Flock Entry Form

Goal: To provide an individual, 8-19 (as of March 1, 2006) years of age an opportunity to start or improve his/her flock with Polypay genetics.

Rewards : Winner will receive two registered Polypay ewe lambs and one registered Polypay yearling ewe. Winner will also receive \$100.00 buying credit to be used at his/her discretion during the 2006 National Polypay Sale. One ewe lamb will be futurity nominated for the 2007 Jr. National Show.

Requirements: *If selected,*

I. I will attend the 2006 National Show and Sale Banquet to receive my Polypay sheep, and provide proper transportation to my home. *Show and sale agenda on bottom of page.*

II. Be involved in 4-H or FFA.

III. Use a registered Polypay ram for first breeding of ewes.

IV. Send a letter of recommendation (*other than parent*) along with application.

V. Encouraged to attend 2007 National Show and Sale in Springfield, Il. *Third weekend in June.*

By signing below I understand the above requirements as well as the financial requirements and time commitment of owning livestock.

Signature _____ Parent(s) signature _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

How did you learn about this program? _____

Essay : Along with entry, create an essay (one page) to include but not limited to:

- A. Why are you interested in receiving a Polypay Starter Flock.
- B. What are your goals in the sheep industry.
- C. Describe your current flock, if any.
- D. Describe your buildings/facilities.
- E. How can you help represent the Polypay breed.
- F. ***Applications must be typed and due postmarked March 1, 2006***

2006 National Polypay Show and Sale Agenda: Springfield, Illinois Sate Fairgrounds

Junior show - Thursday June 15, 2006

Open show - Friday June 16, 2006

Banquet - Friday evening June 16, 2006

Sale - Saturday June 17

Send inquiries and entries to: Gordon Sammons/Sammons Polypay

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Geneseo, Il. 61254

1-309-944-3692 sammons@theinter.com

Please send all entries by postal service.