



*Identifying Outstanding Lambs
From the Pacific Northwest*

Held concurrently with the Washington Ram and Ewe Sale

July 17 & 18, 2026

**Grant County Fairgrounds
Moses Lake, Washington**



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

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Extension is committed to
providing access and reasonable
accommodations for
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County Extension at
509-766-3181 at least five
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of noncompliance may be reported through your
local WSU Extension office.*

Northwest Junior Sheep Exposition

July 17 & 18, 2026

Schedule of Events

At Grant County Fairgrounds:

Friday, July 17

- 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. **All animals** must check-in for animal health screening
- 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. **Market lamb** weigh-in, ultrasound scans, and preliminary scores
- 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. **Prospect lamb** weigh-in, **Breeding sheep** check-in, and **Fitting and Showing** sign-up
- 10:30 a.m. Skillathon Contest—open to all youth. Adults wanting to experience the contest will have to participate as a volunteer.
- 12:45 p.m. Lamb Show Directors and Exhibitors Meeting (everyone welcome)
- 1:00 p.m. Educational exhibits, stall cards, and county identification in place
- Market Lamb Show
- 2:00 p.m. Prospect Lamb Show
- 3:00 p.m. Breeding Show (two rings if necessary)
- 6:30 p.m. Official Reasons for Skillathon Contest and Showmanship Orientation by judges.

Saturday, July 18

- 8:30 a.m. Show Sale Ewe Lamb Class—Open to youth and adults
WSSP Show Sale Aged Ewe Futurity Class
(immediately following Show Sale Ewe Lamb Class)
- 9:30 a.m. Showmanship Contest (Juniors, Intermediates, and Seniors show simultaneously, but there may be more than one class within each division)(following WSSP Show Sale Yearling Ewe Futurity Class)
- 1:30 p.m. Washington Ram and Ewe Sale
- 3:00 p.m. Educational exhibits must be removed and pens must be cleaned

Final show schedule will be posted at show. Please confirm times at show. Classes will not be held for late arrivals at the ring. Late arrival will forfeit entry and premium to the class.

Northwest Junior Sheep Exposition

Moses Lake, Washington

July 17 & 18, 2026

Objective

The Northwest Junior Sheep Exposition (NWJSE) presented by the Washington Junior Lamb Carcass Show (WJLCS) is an educational event offering youth the opportunity to obtain growth and ultrasound carcass results from lambs they exhibit. Participants will learn to select fast gaining lambs that are heavily muscled and properly finished. Participation in this event will lead to a better understanding of the economics related to producing market lambs.

The show provides participants the opportunity to exhibit their skills in showmanship, fitting sheep, judging sheep and wool, and teaches spectators about the sheep industry and sheep husbandry through educational displays.

Participation in the NWJSE is a quality educational experience because exhibitors learn about desirable market traits of meat and wool.

Animal Welfare Policy

The NWJSE supports the humane treatment of all animals. We are committed to:

1. Upholding the welfare of animals as a primary consideration in all activities.
2. Requiring that animals be treated with kindness, respect, and compassion.
3. Ensuring that owners, trainers, and exhibitors use responsible care in handling, transporting, and exhibiting their animals. Animals should never be left unattended on a trimming stand or tied with halters.
4. Providing for the continuous well-being of animals through proper watering, feeding, disease prevention, sanitation, and attention to their safety.
5. Supporting scientific research to improve animal health, safety, and well-being.

Herdsmanship

A herdsmanship committee will ensure that:

1. Exhibitors adhere to the Animal Welfare Policy.
2. Aisles are passable to the public, other contestants, and their animals. Aisles are swept as needed and pens are kept clean.
3. Trimming stands and tack are not stored in the aisle or in pens with sheep.
4. Stall cards must be displayed for all animals by Friday at 1:00 p.m.

Animal Health Product Usage

The NWJSE is committed to producing a safe food product. Therefore, lambs will be disqualified if they show any evidence of the use of unapproved drugs or hormones including tranquilizers, Clenbuterol, and ovine somatotropin. The show reserves the right to use appropriate tests to detect these substances. We recommend that exhibitors receive quality assurance and animal care training in an approved program, such as the, "Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA), www.yqca.org.

General Rules and Regulations

1. Open to youth 8 through 21 years of age (at time of show).
2. The attached **Market Lamb** entry form must be completed and returned to the address indicated by May 10, 2026. **Breeding and Prospect lamb** entries are due June 15, 2026. **All animals must be pre-entered.**
 - a. Weight forms and instructions for market lambs will be sent to area show representatives (Extension Educator, Ag Instructor, 4-H Leader, or Identified Area Sheep Producer/Industry Leader) who will ensure that all entries are weighed and ear-tagged by May 18, 2026 . (Area show representative will be identified by show management.)
 - b. Weight forms should be returned by area show representatives to: WSU Grant County Extension, 1525 E. Wheeler Rd., Moses Lake, WA. 98837, **no later than May 31, 2026.**
3. All **market lambs** must be born after January 1, 2026, and weighed and ear-tagged between May 8 and May 18, 2026. Lambs must be wethers or ewes. No ram lambs, short scrotum rams, or cryptorchid lambs are permitted. The weight shall be an **unshrunk** weight taken by an Agricultural Education instructor or an Extension agent. Weighmaster shall provide a 15-minute access to water prior to taking the weight in the event lambs have been shrunk.
4. Youth exhibitor may enter and show a maximum of 5 market lambs and adult exhibitor may enter and show a maximum of 2 market lambs. All market lambs must be halter broke. Youth and Adults entries will show together in the market lamb class
5. Market lambs must be weighed in and ultrasound-scanned by noon on Friday, July 17. Market lambs must weigh 110 pounds on July 17 to qualify. No adjustment will be made for hauling shrink. Questions about weight must be resolved before lambs leave the scale area. Underweight lambs may be shown in the prospect lamb class and are eligible for fitting and showing.
6. The non-refundable entry fee is \$5.00 for each market lamb, for each breeding sheep and prospect lamb entry. These fees must accompany entry the form by entry deadline.
7. Market lambs **must** be shorn within 1 week of the show to make clear ultrasound images possible. **Note: oil will be applied to lambs to obtain ultrasound images.**
8. NWJSE stall cards for identifying exhibitors and recording lamb performance information will be provided. **These must be filled out and displayed.** Premiums may be forfeited if stall cards are not properly displayed.
9. State or federal scrapie regulations will be followed. All entries (ewes, rams, and wethers) must have a scrapie tag.
10. Health papers are required for all out-of-state sheep according to Washington State Department of Agriculture regulations. All animals will undergo an animal health screening and must be free of clinical indications of contagious, infectious disease, fungus, and external parasites.

11. **All Youth Exhibitors** must show an animal in the Fitting and Showing Contest or will forfeit all show premiums. No rams allowed in Fitting and Showing.
12. Exhibitors are also encouraged to display club or county identification.
13. All livestock must stay in the pavilion and barn area (\$15 fine for each occurrence of animals taken into campground or RV area).
14. Fairground management requests that dogs **not** be brought to the show.
15. The show will provide shavings for bedding. Exhibitors are not permitted to bring straw or other bedding to the show. *Exhibitors must clean pens.* Premiums will be forfeited if pens are not cleaned.
16. Arena Promptness: Judging will not be delayed for animals and exhibitors entering the arena late. Late arrivals will not be judged.

Judging and Events

Market Lambs (Held Friday, July 17 at 1 p.m.)

1. Youth may enter up to 5 market lambs and adult may enter up to 2 market lambs. This is the only class adults can enter.
2. The five top gaining **market** lambs will receive special awards.
3. All **market lambs** will be ultrasound-scanned at weigh-in and shown in the market lamb show. Ultrasound and average daily gain information will be provided to the judge. The judge will score each lamb using the following scorecard.
4. **All lambs** must meet the following requirements to be eligible for premiums:
 - a. Choice quality grade or higher
 - b. Adjusted backfat of 0.16 to 0.25 inch
 - c. 110 pounds minimum live weight
 - d. Minimum leg score of Average Choice
 - e. Freedom from excessive defects (cryptorchids, prolapses, cuts, etc.)
 - f. Yield grade of 2.9 or better
 - g. Minimum ribeye area requirement is equal to $2.5 + [(Live\ Weight - 110) \times 0.01]$.

<u>Live Weight</u>	<u>Minimum Ribeye Area Requirement</u>
110	2.5
120	2.6
130	2.7
140	2.8
150	2.9

- h. Minimum average daily gain of 0.6 pound.
5. Lambs meeting all qualifications listed in item 4 will be designated as WASHINGTON LAMBS OF MERIT.
6. All market lambs must be identified with scrapie identification.

Market Lamb Scorecard

Finish: Adjusted 12th rib fat: (max score is 25)

<i>Fat estimate</i>	<i>Score</i>
<.05	0
.06-.09	5
.10-.15	20
.16-.20	25
.21-.25	25
.26-.30	20
.31-.35	16
>.35	10

Muscling (max score is 30: Judges can assign scores between those indicated below, e.g. 18 or 12)

<i>Muscling</i>	<i>Score</i>
Extremely muscular	30
Very muscular	25
Muscular	21
Average muscling	14
Light muscling	9
Very light muscling	4
Extremely light muscling	0

Usefulness to the Industry (max score is 25)

Structure and Balance (max 10)

Low value Average High Value

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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Frame and Weight (max 10)

Low value Average High Value

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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Freedom from Defects (max 5)

Severe Defect No Defects

1	2	3	4	5
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Performance: Average Daily Gain (max score is 20: Judges can assign scores between those indicated below, e.g. 14 or 19)

<i>Rate of Gain</i>	<i>Score</i>
<.50	0
.50-.59	5
.60-.69	12
.70-.79	16
.80-.89	18
≥.90	20

Prospect Lambs (*Held Friday, July 17 at 2:00 p.m. or following market lamb show*)

Prospect Lambs will be divided into classes according to their market show date (typically their fair). Class dates: July 15–31, August 1–15, August 16–31, and September and later. Large prospect lamb classes will be split by weight. Exhibitors will identify show date during weigh-in.

Fitting and Showing Contest (*Held Saturday, July 18 at 9:30 a.m.*)

1. All exhibitors **must** enter the fitting and showing contest or will forfeit all show premiums. They **must** own the animal they show and may use a market lamb, prospect lamb, or breeding ewe. No rams allowed.
2. Exhibitors will compete as follows (age at time of show):
Junior—8, 9, 10, or 11 years old
Intermediate—12, 13, 14, or 15 years old
Seniors—16, 17, 18, 19, 20, or 21 years old
Jrs., Intermediates, and Srs. will show simultaneously in separate show rings.
3. Large divisions will be broken into smaller classes.
4. Champion and Reserve Champion awards will be presented in each age group. There will be no competition between age groups.

Skillathon Contest

(Held Friday, July 17 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

1. Participation is not limited to exhibitors only and is open to all (Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Divisions).
2. Skillathon stations may include: Products (meat, milk, fiber and co-products), breeding, genetics, nutrition, health, reproduction, management (practices and equipment), etc. Classes may include the following: (A) Market Quality, (B) Breeding Quality, (C) Wool, (D) Meat Identification, (E) Knowledge Stations.

Sheep Educational Display

1. Entries must be on poster board and must be displayed by 1:00 PM on July 17 in designated area. Entries are not limited to exhibitors of live animals.
2. Exhibits shall be of an educational or informative nature and feature **the answer to the year's "Big Question"**.
3. Educational display exhibits will be displayed at the show.
4. For the benefit of spectators, exhibitors should display their name on the front of their educational poster.

**MARKET LAMB ENTRY FORM:
NORTHWEST JUNIOR SHEEP EXPO
July 17 & 18, 2026**



✓ Market Lambs: Limit 5 lambs per youth or 2 lambs per adult exhibitor
Market Lambs @ \$5/lamb # _____ \$ _____

☞ *Total Amount Enclosed* \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____ Zip _____

Phone No. _____ Age (at time of show) _____

E-mail Address _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Entry Deadline: May 8, 2026

✓ **Camping space** may be limited and will be on a first come-first served basis. Please contact the Grant County Fairgrounds at 509-765-3581 to make camping arrangements or stop by the fair office upon arrival.

✓ **Make entry fee checks payable to:** Northwest Junior Sheep Expo

✓ **Send entries to:** WSU Grant County Extension
1525 E. Wheeler Rd
Moses Lake, WA 98837

GENERAL ENTRY FORM: NORTHWEST JUNIOR SHEEP EXPO July 17 & 18, 2026



** No cross entering between market, prospect, and breeding classes

✓ Number of Prospect Lambs entered (limit 2 head) @ \$5/head

_____ \$ _____

✓ Number of Breeding Sheep entered (limit 2 entries/class) @ \$5/entry

_____ \$ _____

Breed 1: *Specify breed* _____

Class 1—Ram Lambs Entries _____

Class 2—Yearling Rams Entries _____

Class 3—Ewe Lambs Entries _____

Class 4—Yearling Ewes Entries _____

Class 5—Aged Ewes Entries _____

Breed 2: *Specify breed* _____

Class 1—Ram Lambs Entries _____

Class 2—Yearling Rams Entries _____

Class 3—Ewe Lambs Entries _____

Class 4—Yearling Ewes Entries _____

Class 5—Aged Ewes Entries _____

✉ *Total Amount Enclosed* \$ _____

✓ Educational Display Yes _____ No _____

✓ WSSP Show Sale Yearling
Ewe Futurity Yes _____ No _____

No entry fee for these two classes.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

County _____

Phone No. _____

Age (at time of show) _____

E-mail _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Entry Deadlines:

Entry fee \$5, June 1–15

June 16–30, \$10

After June 30, \$20 and must call for permission.

Camping space may be limited and will be on a first-come first-served basis. Please contact the Grant County Fairgrounds at 509-765-3581 to make camping arrangements or stop by the fair office upon arrival.

Make entry fee checks payable to:
Northwest Junior Sheep Expo

Send entries to:
WSU Grant County Extension
1525 E. Wheeler Rd
Moses Lake, WA 98837

5. Each individual is encouraged to exhibit an educational display. To be eligible for Cougar Premier Exhibitor Sweepstakes award(s), youth must exhibit educational display on the Big Question.
6. Exhibits will be evaluated based on the relationship of the exhibit to the sheep industry, originality and creativity, effectiveness of telling the story intended and the general impression conveyed to the audience, which will include neatness. Professional or commercially designed exhibits may be discounted.
7. The WSU Educational Display Scorecard will be used.
8. Exhibits must be set up by 1:00 p.m. on Friday, July 17, and not removed before 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 18.

No Cross Entering between market, prospect and/or breeding class. Exception: 1) Underweight market lambs may be transferred to prospect lamb classes.

Breeding Sheep—All Breeds and Crossbreeds *(Held Friday, July 17 at 3:00 p.m. or following the prospect lamb class)*

1. Classes will be by breed and age. Crossbred classes will be meat type and wool type. Two judges and two show rings will be utilized for the breeding sheep show, if necessary. Breeds that have five or less entries will be grouped into All Other Breeds (AOB) wool and AOB meat.
2. Limit of 2 entries per exhibitor per class except for flock classes (1 per class).
3. Classes for each breed and for crossbreeds will include:
 1. Yearling Ram
 2. Ram Lamb
 3. Aged Ewes
 4. Yearling Ewes
 5. Ewe Lambs

Lamb classes may be split by birthdates.
4. There is a **\$5 fee per class entry** (including group classes).
5. Breeding animals should be fitted according to breed custom.
6. All breeding animals must have a scrapie tag and be checked in on Friday, July 17 between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Check the posted class list before the Breeding Show starts. Blankets must be removed at health check-in table.
7. Only one exhibitor is allowed to show any animals entered in market, prospect, or breeding lamb classes. Exhibitors are prohibited from having “assistants” or “leg-setters” in lamb classes (market, prospect, or breeding).

Premiums

- Market lambs**—Champion and Reserve Champion awards will be given to the top two exhibits. Rosettes and ribbons will be given plus the following cash awards:

1st \$100	2nd \$80	3rd \$65	4th \$55	5th \$45
6th \$40	7th \$35	8th \$30	9th \$25	10th \$25
11th \$20	12th \$20	13th \$20	14th \$20	15th \$20
16th \$15	17th \$15	18th \$15	19th \$15	20th \$15

Market Lamb-Average Daily Gain Award—Awarded to the top 5 overall gaining market lambs on test. Donated by Banner Butte Lambs and Performance Rams.

1st—\$50 2nd—\$40 3rd—\$30 4th—\$20 5th—\$10

- Prospect Lambs**—All lambs will receive placing ribbons and the following premiums:

Blue—\$8.00 Red—\$4.00 White—\$1.00

- Fitting and Showing Contest**

A lamb pelt will be awarded to the top Junior, Intermediate, and Senior showman. The following premiums will be awarded:

Blue ribbon winner \$5.00

Red ribbon winner \$2.50

White ribbon winner \$1.00

- Skillathon Contest**

The following premiums will be awarded to the top individuals in each age division—Jr., Int., and Sr.

1st—\$30 2nd—\$25 3rd—\$20 4th—\$15 5th—\$10

Washington State Sheep Producers Award—Sale credit award for purchase at the 2026 Ram and Ewe Sale to the top three individuals overall age division.

1st—\$100 2nd—\$75 3rd—\$50

5. Educational Displays

Cash Prizes

The following premiums will be awarded to the top individuals in each age division--Jr., Int., and Sr.

1st—\$30 2nd—\$25 3rd—\$20 4th—\$15 5th—\$10

6. Breeding Sheep

Ribbons and rosettes

Cash premiums:

Blue—\$8.00

Red—\$4.00

White—\$1.00

A special award will be presented to the Supreme Champion ewe and ram over all breeds.

7. WSSP Show Sale Yearling Ewe Futurity

Only ewe lambs purchased at the 2025 WSSP Sale exhibited in the “Show Sale Ewe Lamb Class” are eligible for this class. All breeds will be shown together in one class. Yearling ewes entered in this class are eligible to be in the “Breeding Sheep” classes. *Ewe’s lamb(s) may accompany ewe into the show ring.*

Guaranteed Premium Minimums:

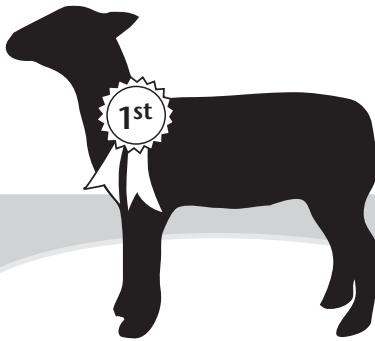
1st—\$75

2nd—\$50

3rd—\$25

4th—\$15

(Premiums are based on entries and donations. Premiums are guaranteed to be the minimums listed above in addition to premiums received in respective breed classes, but with additional donations and entries for the WSSP Show Sale Mature Ewe Class premiums may be larger or extended to other placings in the class.)



Show History

This show started in 1967 as the Pacific Northwest Lamb Carcass Show. It was jointly organized and sponsored by Washington State University (WSU) Extension, WSU Department of Animal Sciences, Washington Wool Growers Association, and Superior Packing Company. Kittitas County Extension Agent Phil Bloom played a major role in organizing and conducting the show. Open to youth and adult, there was no limit on number of entries. Its purpose was to help youth learn about desirable lamb carcass traits and to provide sheep breeders with carcass data on progeny. In its first year, 33 participants from Oregon and Washington exhibited 100 lambs. The WSU Sheep Day, an educational program for sheep enthusiasts, was held in conjunction with the show.

In the second year of the show, there were 150 entries from 63 exhibitors, with a large decrease in the number of lambs having over 0.3 inches of fat cover. Exhibitors learned the first year that excess fat on their lambs was undesirable. By the third year, participation had increased to nearly 500 lambs, many from Oregon. Two-thirds of the lambs qualified as yield grade 1 or 2.

The show was not held in 1970 or 1971. It resumed in 1972 as a Kittitas County Show. In the mid-1970s, the show was expanded to include several other counties in central Washington. In 1979, it was opened to any youth in the state and given its current name. The show committee expanded eligibility to Idaho and Oregon producers in 1980 and added growth performance to the show index. Kittitas County Extension Agent Doug Warnock was the show coordinator from 1980 until 1996. In 1997, the show was moved to Moses Lake and held in conjunction with the Washington Ram Sale. In 1999, the show name was changed to the Northwest Junior Sheep Exposition (NWJSE).

The NWJSE is governed by a volunteer committee of sheep producers, 4-H leaders, Agricultural Education instructors, Extension agents, and WSU Extension specialists. Financial support for the show comes from the Washington State Sheep Producers, Washington Wool Growers Auxiliary, Columbia Basin Wool Growers, Ken Ardell Foundation, individual sheep breeders, Superior Packing Company, and Washington State Fairs Commission.

NW Junior Sheep Exposition Sponsors:

Diamond: Kenny Ardell Foundation, Washington State Fairs Commission and Washington Wool Growers Auxiliary.

Platinum: Columbia Basin Sheep Producers, Grand Coulee Vet Services, Maki & Smith Farms, and Purina Animal Nutrition.

Gold: Banner Butte Show Lambs, Black Gold Ranch, Heitstuman Club Lambs, and Larson Livestock & Services, Inc., Whitmore Family.

Silver: A+Club Lambs, and Smoon Ranch Club Lambs.

Bronze: Chasin' Banners.

Thank you University of Idaho Animal & Veterinary Science for providing Ultrasound Imaging Science and WSU School of Veterinary Medicine for providing Ultrasound Imaging and Vet Check-In.

In cooperation with:



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Washington State University Extension and
the WSU Department of Animal Sciences



If you have questions about the show, contact:

- Web site: <http://extension.wsu.edu/grant/>
(Look under Upcoming Events)
- Scott Mortimer, President (509) 345-2541
e-mail scottmortimer59@gmail.com
- Sarah Smith (509) 754-2011, Ext. 4363
e-mail smithsm@wsu.edu
- Dr. Jan R. Busboom
e-mail busboom@wsu.edu
- Mark Heitstuman (509) 243-2009
e-mail heitstuman@wsu.edu
- Paul Kuber (509) 725-4171
e-mail pskuber@wsu.edu
- Carolyn Russo, (509)754-2011, Ext 4309
email carolyn.russo@wsu.edu

IMPORTANT!!

From 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on Friday, July 17, ALL animals will be checked-in and submit to a health screening. Blankets must be removed from all animals. All animals exhibiting any evidence of club lamb fungus, sore mouth, foot rot, pink eye, draining abscesses, or any other contagious/infectious or unsightly conditions *will not be allowed to show and must all be removed from the barns immediately.*

Trailers/vehicles with animals exhibiting club lamb fungus, sore mouth, or other contagious diseases will not be allowed to unload and ALL animals in the transport vehicle will be excused from participating. Inspector has the final say. Please inspect your animals prior to coming to Moses Lake—leave any suspect animals at home. The attending veterinarian has the professional responsibility and authority to remove any sheep from the show in which they feel may be a potential health risk to other animals or the general public.



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