CSF•FCM
Canadian Sheep Federation
Fédération canadienne du mouton

NEWS RELEASE
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Canadian Sheep Industry Takes the Lead on National Sheep Traceability

CSF and CFIA reach agreement establishing the Canadian Sheep Federation as Responsible Administrator for the national sheep traceability program

September 16, 2026 — Williamsburg, Ontario — Canada's sheep industry is taking a major step toward greater stewardship of its national traceability system.

The Canadian Sheep Federation (CSF) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) have reached an agreement that will see CSF become the Responsible Administrator for Canada's national sheep identification and traceability program.

For sheep producers, this means the industry will have a more direct role in guiding the system it relies on, with CSF providing the national leadership, administration and support needed to deliver it.

> *"This announcement caps 20 years of progress in traceability for the Canadian sheep industry. Now the work of making traceability deliver for Canadian lamb producers can begin. This agreement reflects confidence in our industry's ability to lead and support that system, and we take that responsibility seriously"* **— Fred Baker, Chair, Canadian Sheep Federation**

A 90-DAY TRANSITION

The agreement will come into effect following a 90-day transition period. During that time, CSF will work with CFIA, the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) and other industry partners to move responsibilities from the current Responsible Administrator to CSF while maintaining continuity for producers and other users of the traceability system.

As part of the transition, the Canadian Sheep Identification Program (CSIP) will begin operating under the name SheepTrace. The new name is a modernization that better reflects the program's existing role in animal identification and traceability, including its support for animal health and disease response. **The move to SheepTrace does not change or create new regulatory requirements for producers.**

CSF will also establish a SheepTrace Advisory Committee, providing a formal way for the industry to help guide the program. The Committee will include representation from every province, including producers and other industry stakeholders as appropriate.

More information will be shared throughout the 90-day transition, including key dates, reporting and system access, producer support, data transition and what producers need to know before the transition is complete.

> *Until the transition is completed in December 2026, producers and industry participants will continue using the existing systems and processes. Sheep producers can continue to purchase approved tags through normal channels, and that process is not changing as part of the transition. CSF will provide clear guidance as other changes are introduced.*

The goal is simple: a national sheep traceability system led by the sheep industry and built around the needs of the sector.

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