

Shenandoah Valley Fiber Festival Annual Juried Fleece Sale

September 27, 2019

SVFF- Fleece Sale
Clarke County Ruritan
Fair Grounds
890 West Main Street
Berryville, Virginia 22611
SVFFFleecesale@gmail.com

Dear Producers:

We invite you to join us at the Shendandoah Valley Fiber Festival's Annual Juried Fleece sale this year on September 27-29, 2019. We are excited to offer our unique juried evaluation again this year. Our Festival accept no commission on the sale of fleeces at SVFF, so you receive your full sale price on any fleeces sold!

This year Nancy Zelsman has stepped down from the co-chair position. We dearly miss Nancy and thank her for her service to the Fleece Sale. To accommodate her loss, we have organized the SVFF Fleece Sale committee. This has brought in new, exciting ideas and opportunities. We will be extending the Online Fleece Sale through the entire weekend, adding a juror's choice designation, and promoting the Livestock conservancy's Shave 'em 2 Save 'em initiative! These changes only reinvigorate our commitment to providing quality standards in our evaluations and handling of your fleeces.

Should you have questions regarding any aspect of the fleece sale, please contact us via email at SVFFFleeceSale@gmail.com.

With warm and wooly regards,

The 2019 SVFF Fleece Sale Committee

September 27, 2019

Evaluation Information:

Fleeces are divided into seven classes:

- Class A- Fine Wool
- Class B- Medium Wool
- Class C- Long Wool
- Class D- Double-coated/Primitive Wool
- Class E- Camelid Fibers (Alpaca, Camel, and Llama)
- Class F- Goat Fibers (Cashmere, Mohair, cashgora, and pygora)
- Class G- Felting Fleeces

Fleece evaluation sheets with suggested uses and additional notes will be provided for each fleece by a trained volunteer juror. Copies will be provided to both buyer (at point of sale) and producer (with check).

This year, each Juror will be able to bestow a Juror's Choice sticker on a fleece that exceeds expectations. It is not a judgement ribbon; it is designed to promote fleeces of superb qualities to buyers.

The SVFF Juror Point for Wool and Alpaca Fleeces, and Guidelines for Mohair Fleeces are available to download.

Fleeces that exhibit substantial defects, such as unskirted fleeces, contamination with heavy VM, manure tags and/or staining, extreme lock weakness, or mildew will be rejected from the sale. Class G- Felting Fleeces (matted, cotted, or felted fleeces used for 'humane fleece rug making' or lesser quality fleece appropriate for felt processing are accepted) must maintain cleanliness standards or be rejected.

Note for Class G producers: Those wishing to enter fleeces for use in making fleece rugs are encouraged to look into process and include information with your producer materials. Following are a few links for inspiration.

- <http://riveroaksfarmstudioblog.blogspot.com/2011/05/felted-fleece.html>
- <http://woollove-functional-fiberart.blogspot.com/2012/07/portugal-raw-fleece-felting-part-1-of-2.html>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oqlho5hgvn4>

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2019 Entrance Fee:

LIMIT 8 FLEECES PER PRODUCER (up to 2 of which may be included in the online sale)

\$5 per fleece

+\$3 packaging fee for online sale fleeces (refunded if unsold)

Fleece Sale Check-in:

Friday, September 27, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Located at the rear of the Arts & Crafts Building. Look for “Fleece Registration” signs. In the event of inclement weather, the check-in will be inside the building.

Fleece Registration:

1. **Juried Fleece Sale Entry Form:** the 2019 Fleece Sale Entry Form is available for download and should be completed prior to check-in. Producers are responsible for setting their own prices and list full prices only on the entry form. (The 2018 Sales Summary lists price ranges for breeds and can be used for guidance.)
2. **Breed Designation:** Breed information should be designated as follows:
 - For purebred breed: Single breed name (e.g. Merino)
 - For crossbreeds: Predominant breed name X (e.g. Merino X) Predominant refers either to the highest percentage breed represented or the qualities most reflected in the particular fleece.
 - Glass G- Felting Fleeces: Heavily felted, cotted and matted fleeces or fleeces appropriate for felting or processing into felted batts must be labeled accordingly.
3. **Bagging Fleeces:** Bring skirted fleeces packaged in **open clear plastic bags**. Bags must be left open to allow paperwork and evaluation forms to be placed inside.
4. **Producer Information and Marketing:** Any additional information about your farm, flock, micron testing results and the individual sheep (including photos and a clean lock sample) are encouraged and should be provided on a separate card included in a clear plastic bag with the fleece.
 - Shave'em 2 Save'em fleeces will be noted and producer stickers will be kept at the sale table and delivered at point of sale.

Online Fleece Sale:

Limit of 2 fleeces per producer.

An Etsy posting including pictures of fleece, evaluation form and additional information will be created on Friday September 27, 2019 and run continuously through the weekend. Each fleece sold online will incur a \$3 packaging fee. Buyers will pay shipping.

Fleece Sale Pick-up:

Sunday, September 29, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

All fleeces not picked up by **5:00 p.m.** will become property of the Shenandoah Valley Fiber Festival. A check, as well as a copy of your evaluation forms, will be mailed to you.