



## Sheep Fun Facts

- 🐑 There are over 1 billion sheep in the world.
- 🐑 China has the largest number of sheep in the world.
- 🐑 Saskatchewan has a breeding flock of approximately 60,000 ewes.
- 🐑 There are approximately 850 lamb producers in the province of Saskatchewan.
- 🐑 The cold Saskatchewan winter is an advantage in the management of bio-security.
- 🐑 Sheep are prolific at a young age, with a five-month gestation often deliver anywhere from 1-4 lambs by the time they reach their first birthday.
- 🐑 Young sheep under 12 months of age are called lambs.
- 🐑 Adult female sheep are called ewes.
- 🐑 Adult male sheep are called rams.
- 🐑 A group of sheep is called a flock.
- 🐑 Guardian dogs are used to protect sheep flocks from predators; most guardian dogs are big and white.
- 🐑 Sheep have a field of vision of approximately 270 degrees, allowing them to see behind themselves without having to turn their head.
- 🐑 Sheep are herbivores that eat vegetation such as grass.
- 🐑 Sheep are ruminants, which means they have a four-chamber stomach which allows digestion of large quantities of plant matter that would be relatively indigestible for most other types of mammals.
- 🐑 Sheep work well in a multi-species grazing operation, capturing value from less desirable feed stuffs and assist with weed and brush control.
- 🐑 Grain is often added to the feed ration which adds to flavour of our lamb product.
- 🐑 Domesticated sheep are raised for several agricultural products including meat and wool.
- 🐑 Lamb meat is nutritious, not only is it a rich source of high-quality protein, but also an outstanding source of many vitamins and minerals, including iron, zinc, and vitamin B12
- 🐑 Sheep are shorn once a year, normally in spring.
- 🐑 Genetics and nutrition help to determine the quantity and quality of the wool and determines its final use.
- 🐑 Sheep are good for the environment - Plants -like grass! - convert carbon from the atmosphere into biogenic carbon. Sheep eat grass and use the energy from that carbon to make wool. On the other hand, synthetic fibres like polyester or acrylic are made from the earth's carbon stores (oil, fossil fuel).