

2021 Kentucky Fiber Report
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After a very successful 2021 Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival, we felt like momentum was in our favor for a busy and active summer and fall. We have planned several events and though rising COVID numbers has made us cancel or reschedule a few of those events, we still have seen wonderful participation and excitement for our members and producers in some of our events.

Along with the Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office, we set up for the State Fair with information about our Festival, Fiber Trail and Fiber Center as well supplying our 'Why Wool' information cards.

In July, we began planning a Fiber Trail member market with our newest members of the trail, The Kentucky Castle in Versailles. We knew that we would be opening a new demographic of customers there and also helped them to promote their newly acquired farm. We did not anticipate the 109 degree heat index, but our vendors were happy with their sales and the Castle was very impressed with what we were able to do and with the foot traffic it brought to their farm. We saw approximately 250-300 visitors that day. The castle's head chef prepared locally sourced lamb burgers, and our Fiber trail members represented a spectrum of wool and animal breeds as well as fiber arts. We hope to build more upon that relationship in the future.

We will be setting up a booth at the Kentucky Wool Festival in Falmouth Kentucky the first weekend of October. We have representatives from many of our Fiber Trail Members that will be set up in the booth throughout the weekend highlighting the diversity of what Kentucky Sheep and Fiber represents and giving demonstrations.

The Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival Committee will begin meeting next month and will begin accepting applications for our 2022 festival in October or November.

We have a variety of classes in mind for the Kentucky Natural Fiber Center in Millersburg for the fall and winter. We are seeking online options at this time as sign ups for in person classes still remain hard to fill.

We continue to work on our Wool add on classes for SRPS, with December 1 being our target date for those to launch.