

2025 Fiber Report

In 2025, the Kentucky Sheep and Goat Development Office remains deeply committed to its mission of promoting the wool and fiber industry across the Commonwealth. With a continued focus on supporting local producers and fostering community engagement, the organization continues to lead several cornerstone initiatives, including the ever-popular Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival, the ever-expanding Kentucky Fiber Trail, and the annual Bluegrass Yarn and Fiber Crawl.

2025 Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival

Our 15th annual Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival was one for the record books! Held at Masterson Station Park in Lexington, this year's festival welcomed our largest crowd ever, with over 4,500 attendees joining us for a weekend packed with creativity, education, and hands-on fiber fun.

Not only did we set records at the gate—we're proud to report that many of our vendors experienced their highest sales to date. The energy and enthusiasm from attendees created a vibrant marketplace where local artisans and fiber producers thrived. The festival has truly become a must-attend event for fiber lovers from Kentucky and beyond.

Our Fleece Competition and Sale returned with its own dedicated tent this year, which once again boosted visibility and sales for Kentucky-grown fleeces. This curated space drew special attention from handspINNers and makers seeking locally sourced wool and fiber, and we're excited to continue this successful model in future years. We had our best sales to date this year for our Kentucky producers.

One of the most exciting additions this year was the expanded livestock tent, which brought new life and learning opportunities to the festival. We were delighted to welcome new exhibitors, including cashmere goats and even a working honeybee exhibit, alongside the returning favorites—sheep, alpacas, and angora rabbits. The tent was a hub of activity all weekend long, sparking curiosity and connection between visitors and the hardworking farmers and animals behind the fiber.

We are deeply grateful to the incredible volunteers, educators, and community members who made this event such a success. From setup to tear-down, and every demo and smiling face in between—thank you for helping us celebrate 15 years of Kentucky fiber in such a meaningful way.

Looking ahead, planning for 2026 is already underway! If you're passionate about fiber and want to get involved, we'd love to welcome you to the organizing team. Vendor applications for 2026 are already open, stay tuned for more details at www.kentuckysheepandfiber.com.

Kentucky Fiber Trail Continues to Grow

The Kentucky Fiber Trail continued its upward momentum in 2025, welcoming new members and expanding its reach throughout the state. This growing network connects farms, shops, mills, and studios, offering the public a chance to explore Kentucky's fiber heritage up close.

The upcoming 4th Annual Bluegrass Yarn and Fiber Crawl, held in late July and early August is the next venture for the Fiber Trail. Participants will hit the road with trail passports in hand, visiting a variety of fiber destinations across Kentucky. With prizes, exclusive offers, and the joy of discovering local businesses, the Crawl continues to be one of the most anticipated events on the fiber calendar

Stay Connected

From festivals to farm visits, we are excited to offer these opportunities for our growing community. Visit www.kentuckysheepandfiber.com for the latest news, event updates, and opportunities to get involved.