For Immediate Release

Wool Show at North American International Grows;
Australian Shipment Arrives

By Claude L. Brock

Louisville, KY – November 8, 2014 – A shipment of wool from Australia arrived at the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) just in time to qualify for entry in the judging contest. Three huge bags were delivered, with the exhibitor paying over $600 in freight charges.

Debbie Dison, Superintendent of the Wool Show said the wool was sent to the exposition by J. G. Venters of Stonehaven, Australia. His entry consists of three bags of Corriedale wool. Debbie said the wool could be a contender for top honors in the show, since it is obviously of very high quality.

As a general rule, entries in the North American International Wool Show come from farms in the United States, due to the high cost of shipping the product internationally. However, since the exposition carries a high-caliber international reputation, the Australian sheep rancher felt the shipping investment was worth paying. Winning fleece, as well as on-foot livestock wins, have an impact on the quality reputation of farmers and livestock producers, with fleece and livestock values correspondingly improved.

The NAILE Wool Show will be judged on November 18 by Erin Jennings of Texas Tech University. He is an internationally-respected wool expert, adding to the credentials of other qualified judges who participate at the North American International.

Debbie Dison confirmed that the 2014 Wool Show features 135 entries, an increase of 13 entries over last year. The NAILE Wool Show takes place in the Harold Workman North Wing Lobby of the Kentucky Exposition Center. Fleece that is entered in the show is on display several days prior to judging.

Fashion magazines and clothier publications have likely betrayed the reason for the upswing in wool entries at the exposition. Wool is currently being hailed as a fashion statement, particularly among men’s clothing and lady’s casual wear. Like any other product, acclaim can have a direct impact on value.

Debbie Dison, the NAILE’S Wool Superintendent for the past 20-years, is no stranger to wool production. She has her own herd of sheep in Hart County, Kentucky. A multi-talented lady, Debbie is also a Top Producer, Broker, Realtor with the Semonin Company in Louisville, KY. Her husband, Larry, is a veteran law enforcement official with the Louisville Metro Police.