

# 2014 MD Lamb & Wool Queen



## Ashley Hobbs

Hi, my name is Ashley Hobbs. I am a junior at Poolesville High School. I play on my high school softball team and am an active member of the Poolesville Green Club. I live in Poolesville, Maryland with my two parents and two younger sisters. I am a member of the Laytonsville Seniors 4-H club and the Laytonsville Green Sprouts; as a part of 4-H my projects are breeding sheep, sewing and leadership. I raise about 30 head of Polled Dorsets on my family farm in Silver Spring MD. My family has a horse, donkey, and a wonderful Australian Shepard named Gracie.

The fun started right after I was crowned at the 2014 Sheep and Wool Festival. I handed out ribbons and awards at the many sheep shows that went all weekend. I walked around the festival grounds periodically throughout the weekend to talk with the patrons and see what was new to the festival. I have been active in the festival for the past 8 years and attending for over 15 years. I then

attended the Maryland Wool Pool in June. I recorded people's information and I was able to talk to the producers about their individual wool production and processes. After the Wool Pool the fair season started so I contacted as many fair superintendents as I could throughout the state in hope that I could attend as many as possible. I then went on to attending the Washington County, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Howard County, Montgomery County, and Frederick County Fairs throughout July, August and September. I attended Maryland State Fair in September where I handed out ribbons and prizes to the exhibitors who represented both the meat and wool purposes of the sheep. Prior to the Maryland State Fair I attended the Governor's Agriculture Luncheon. I met Governor O'Malley and Lieutenant Governor Brown and got the opportunity to discuss the sheep industry in Maryland and many issues involving agriculture in Maryland. The experience as the Maryland Lamb & Wool Queen has allowed me to be more involved in the sheep industry such as keeping up with current events with in the industry and participate in national discussions and forums. I would like to thank my family for providing this rewarding and unique experience of being involved in the sheep industry. I have been able to meet people, create friendships and strengthen previous friendships. I cannot thank my sheep family enough for all the support and encouragement I have received as I have grown as a producer and an ambassador. I am looking forward to where I am going to go in the sheep industry.