



Thank you for your interest in purchasing sheep from Lydia's Flock. This information applies mostly to starter flock purchases however we encourage all potential buyers to read through this information carefully before contacting us about buying sheep from our farm.

Significant time and energy goes into establishing and maintaining a relationship with our breeding stock customers; this information clarifies our purchasing process. As there is considerable interest in our sheep we want to ensure that we're sharing our knowledge and experience with individuals who are ready to commit to purchasing sheep from our farm and additionally share our vision and values around happy, well-loved sheep and healthy soil.

Steps to Purchasing a Starter Flock

1. Carefully read over the Terms of Sale on our website. If you're willing and able to work within those terms...

2. Contact the farm.

Introduce yourself, tell us about your farm, why you are interested in raising Icelandic sheep, and how you found us. Let us know if you have any previous agricultural background or training and the specifics of that experience.

Describe your optimal starter flock or new flock member(s)- color, number, your flock purpose (meat, fiber, dairy, etc.) and any other details you feel are important. This information will guide us in working with you to assemble your flock or make preliminary decisions about individual flock members may work best with your current management practices and farm goals. We encourage you to take your time in putting this information together as our stock availability is limited.

Note: we do not sell unregistered breeding stock or bred ewes.

Lastly, what is your budget? The starting price of a Registered Icelandic sheep from our farm is \$400 and up. The starting price of a fiber animal begins at \$275.

3. Watch for a followup email from us.

We will offer a general estimate for your sheep request based on the detailed criteria provided by you. This estimate will cover the cost of the sheep, registration and transfer only. Any transport and related expenses are an additional cost to be covered by you.

If our estimate fits with your budget, we need to hear from you by email within 3 business days and will require a \$300 nonrefundable deposit to hold your space on the starter flock waitlist. There are only a few spaces held specifically for starter flocks so if you choose to pass the space will be offered to another farm. For single purchases, we will ask for a \$125 deposit/sheep to hold your space. This deposit is only refundable if we don't have a sheep this season that will meet your needs.

The deposit will be applied to your flock purchase for the current season only.

4. Prepare to visit the farm to see the sheep and talk flock specifics.

If you live in Washington State or NW Oregon, it is our preference that you visit the farm in person to see the flock and finalize your sheep selections. (If you are unable to accommodate this, consider investigating if there are other reputable Icelandic breeders closer to you.) If you are located in another part of the US, we will do our best to compile photos and basic information about the sheep available based on your initial "optimal starter flock" or "optimal sheep" communication. Once you've decided on your sheep, a 50% deposit (including your initial deposit) is required to hold your selections. No changes to these selections will be made unless we see a health or conformational concern with one of the sheep before they leave our farm. Sheep are ready to join your farm once lambs are 75-90 days old; your flock must be on their way to you by Labor Day weekend. Please be prepared with appropriate transport for the sheep or ask us about local delivery for an additional fee.

Know that as you are vetting us, we are also vetting you. Our sheep are raised in the best environment we are able to offer to them; we work to ensure that their quality of care and respect of each sheep at their new farm will meet or exceed the standards to which they have become accustomed with us.

Pricing is not negotiable. We know there are Icelandic sheep breeders selling their animals for very low prices and we aren't attempting to compete with that. Our breeding program has been cultivated and honed for nearly a decade and we continue to expand on this annually- a process requires time, effort, and substantial fiscal resources- and we believe our breeding stock clearly represent the diligent work we have done and continue to do in the protection and preservation of purebred Icelandic sheep in the US.

References are available upon request.