

SHEEP FIELD DAY & RAM LAMB SALE

Friday, September 21, 2018

Virginia Tech Southwest Agricultural Research and Extension Center
12326 VPI Farm Road
Glade Spring, VA

Sale Day Phones: (276) 698-6079 or (540) 230-2680
Prior to Sale Day Call: (276) 944-2200 or (540) 231-9159

***Ram Videos will be available at
<https://www.apsc.vt.edu/extensionandoutreach/Sheep-Extension/sheep-programs/swarec-ram-test.html>***

Schedule

12:00 Noon – Registration & Lunch
1:00 PM - Educational Field Day
3:00 PM - Ram Sale

***Selling 37 forage-tested rams evaluated for
growth and parasite resistance***

Field Day Topics

1:00 PM Field Day Program:

Update from ASI – Jimmy Parker, ASI Region II Director
Managing Clostridial Disease –Chris Fletcher, DVM

Our Experiences at Back Creek Farm – Joe Hampton, Mt. Ulla, NC
Breeding Season Management – Dr. Scott Greiner, Virginia Tech

Ram Evaluation for Growth & Parasite Resistance - Dr. Scott Greiner & Lee Wright, Virginia Tech

***Online bidding
available at:
livestockbuyer.com***



Terms and Conditions

- Guarantee:** All rams are being sold as guaranteed breeders if properly managed. If a ram fails to perform satisfactorily, notification must be made to the consignor promptly and not later than May 1, 2019. Consignors are not liable for failure to have a lamb crop. This guarantee is between the buyer and seller only, and no other parties assume any liability, legal or otherwise, expressed or implied.
- Terms:** Cash (check). Absentee bids may be left with the contacts listed above.
- Risk:** All animals at purchaser's risk as soon as sold.
- Health:** Proper health certificates for transport will be furnished to the buyer upon request.
- Registration:** Registration papers will be transferred to purchaser at no charge.



Virginia Cooperative Extension
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Breeding Season Management

Scott P. Greiner, Extension Animal Scientist- Sheep, Virginia Tech

A diligent amount of time spent studying performance information, pedigrees and other pertinent information is warranted as ram selection is the most important tool for making genetic progress in the flock. Of equal importance is the care and management of the newly acquired ram. Proper management and nutrition are essential for the ram to perform satisfactorily during the breeding season. With ram lambs, management prior, during, and after the first breeding season is particularly important.

Ram Lamb Management

Young rams should be managed to be in moderate body condition prior to the breeding season (not excessively fat or thin), to provide adequate reserves of energy for use during the breeding season. The rams should continue to receive grain supplementation at a rate of 2% of their bodyweight daily, along with an abundance of high quality forage. Provide adequate clean water, and a high selenium mineral formulated for sheep free-choice. A facility for the newly acquired ram that allows for ample exercise will help create rams that are physically fit for the breeding season. The facility should allow the rams to remain cool during hot days, so potential fertility problem due to heat stress can be avoided. It is advisable not to commingle a newly purchased ram lamb with older, mature rams. Particular care should be taken if rams from different sources need to be commingled, and all commingling should take place prior to the breeding season.

Many factors influence the breeding capacity of rams, including age, breed, nutrition, management, and environment. As a general guideline, ram lambs are capable of breeding 15 to 25 ewes during their first breeding season. Ram lambs should be observed closely to monitor their breeding behavior and libido to ensure they are servicing and settling ewes. The use of a marking harness, rotating colors every 17 days, is an excellent management tool for this purpose. The breeding season should be kept to a maximum of 60 days for young rams. This will prevent over-use, severe weight loss and reduced libido. Severe weight loss may impair future growth and development of the young ram, and reduce his lifetime usefulness. When practical, supplementing ram lambs with grain during the breeding season will reduce excessive weight loss. Rams used together in multiple-sire breeding pastures should be of similar age and size. Ram lambs cannot compete with mature rams in the same breeding pasture. A sound management practice is to rotate rams among different breeding pastures every 17 days. This practice decreases the breeding pressure on a single ram.

Preparing the Ewe Flock for the Breeding Season

Some advance planning and simple management practices will assist in having a successful breeding season. Vaccination of the ewe flock for *Campylobacter* (vibrio) and *Chlamydia* are important for abortion disease control. For ewe lambs and ewes not previously vaccinated, these products typically require an initial injection prior to the breeding season followed by a second vaccination during gestation. In subsequent years, a single booster vaccination is required. Follow product label directions when administering any vaccine. A month prior to the breeding season is also an opportune time to trim and inspect feet on the ewe flock, and perform preventative foot care. This is also a good time to make final culling decisions, and sell poor producing and thin ewes.

Flushing is the practice of increasing energy intake, and therefore body condition, during the 10-14 days prior to breeding. This practice has been shown to be effective in increasing ovulation rates, and thereby increasing lambing percentage by 10-20%. The response to flushing is affected by several factors, including the body condition of the ewe. Ewes that are in poor body condition will respond most favorably to the increase in energy, whereas fat ewes will show little if any response. Flushing can be accomplished by moving ewes to high quality pastures, or through providing .75 to 1.25 lb. corn or barley per head per day from 2 weeks pre-breeding through 4 weeks into the breeding season. Provide a high-selenium, sheep mineral free choice.

Like rams, ewes are also prone to heat stress during early breeding seasons. Prolonged exposure to high temperatures can have an effect on ewe fertility and embryo survival. To help reduce these embryo losses and resulting decrease in lamb crop, minimize handling during the heat of the day and allow the flock access to a cool, shaded area.

Ram Management After the Breeding Season

Young rams require a relatively high plane of nutrition following the breeding season to replenish body condition and meet demands for continued growth. Body condition and projected mature size of the ram will determine his nutrient requirements during the months following the breeding season. Rams should be kept away from ewes in an isolated facility or pasture after the breeding season. In the winter months, provide cover from extreme weather that may cause frostbite to the scrotum resulting in decreased fertility.

All stud rams should receive breeding soundness exams (BSE) to assure fertility on an annual basis. Assess the ram battery in early summer, so that new rams can be acquired in a timely fashion for the next breeding season.

About the Rams and the Data

Nutrition and Management

One hundred twenty three rams born January 15 through March 15, 2018 were delivered to the Southwest Virginia Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Glade Spring, VA on May 29. Rams originated from 29 flocks located in VA, FL, GA, KY, MO, OH, TN, TX and WV. At delivery, rams were weighed, vaccinated for clostridial diseases and soremouth, and scrotal measurements taken. Additionally, rams were dewormed with three anthelmintics (ivermectin, albendazole, levamisole), and fecal egg count (FEC) samples collected to determine presence of nematode parasites. A 21-day adjustment period was used to acclimate rams. A subsequent FEC was taken 12 days following delivery to confirm acceptable reduction in parasite load. The primary goal of the pre-test period was to ensure all rams had very low parasite loads at the initiation of the test.

Following the three week adjustment period, rams were allocated to forage paddocks based on age and weight, and the structured performance test initiated. At the start of the test period all rams received an oral dose of 5,000 3rd stage *H. contortus* larvae standardized for body weight. Body weights, FEC, and FAMACHA scores were taken at the beginning of the test period, at 14 day intervals during the test. During the test, rams had continuous access to fescue paddocks, and receive supplemental concentrate feed at rate of ~3% body weight daily (76% TDN, 18% CP). FEC and FAMACHA were utilized to determine rams requiring deworming treatment. Rams requiring deworming have been eliminated from the sale. Rams were scanned via ultrasound at the conclusion of the test to estimate carcass merit/body composition.

All rams were dewormed at the conclusion of the test (August 28). All rams selling have passed a breeding soundness examination conducted by veterinarians from the VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine. The breeding soundness exam includes measurement of scrotal circumference, examination of the reproductive tract, and semen evaluation.

Performance Data

% Breed: All rams are registered/recorded with their respective breed association. For breeds with open flock books or appendix registries, breed percentage (%) is indicated. PB = purebred, 75% = three-quarter-blood, 50% = half-blood, etc.

Birth Type: S = single, TW = twin, TR = triplet, QD = quadruplet

Codon 171: Genotype associated with genetic resistance to scrapie. Presence of at least one *R* is associated with scrapie resistance.

Final Wt.: Ram weight at the conclusion of the 70-day test on August 28.

Test ADG: Average daily gain in pounds per day for the entire 70-day test.

Final WDA: Weight-Per-Day-of-Age at the conclusion of the test. Calculated by dividing final weight by days of age. Indicative of the ram's growth since birth, and includes growth prior to arriving at the station (weaning growth) as well as gain on test.

ADG and WDA Ratios: Expresses ADG or WDA for an individual ram as a percentage of the average performance for all rams in the group. A ratio of 100 is average, 110 would be 10% above average, and 90 is 10% below average.

Scrotal Cir.: Actual scrotal circumference in cm measured during breeding soundness exam.

Adj. Fat Th.: Ultrasound fat thickness depth measurement (mm) taken between the 12th and 13th ribs. Adjusted to a constant live weight of 100 pounds. 2.5 mm = 0.10 in.

Adj. Loin Depth: Ultrasound loin muscle depth measurement (mm) taken between the 12th and 13th ribs. Adjusted to a constant live weight of 100 pounds. 18 mm depth = approximately 1.25 sq. in.

Mean Adj. FEC: Average of four adjusted fecal egg counts taken post-infection.

Test Group Avg.: Averages for all rams that concluded the test. Includes both sale rams and those not selling.

Sale Order

Sale order will be available sale day. Sale order will be based on combination of traits measured including growth and parasite resistance.

2018 Southwest AREC Ram Test Sale
 Friday, September 21, 2018 3:00 PM
 Virginia Tech Southwest AREC, Glade Spring, VA
 Sale Day Phones (276) 698-6079 or (540) 230-2680

Test ID	Flock ID	Breed	%	Sire	Birth Date	Birth Type	Codon 171 Genotype	Pasture Group	8/29/17 70-day Wt.	Test ADG	ADG Ratio	8/29/17 70-day WDA	WDA Ratio	Scrotal Cir.	100 lb Adj. Fat Th., mm	100 lb. Adj. Loin Depth, mm	Mean Adj. FEC
Daffodil Acres; Debbie Haluka; 4925 Coppage Rd.; Hahira, GA 31632; 229-506-1434																	
18-001	DHA 0026	Katahdin	PB	NWT 7007	1/17/2018	S	RR	3	119	0.39	93	0.53	99	34.0	3.46	21.70	50
Hound River Farm; Roxanne & Milledge Newton; 5550 Skipperbridge Rd., Hahira, GA 31632; 229-740-0017																	
18-003	NWT 18030	Katahdin	PB	WRI 16055	2/1/2018	TW	RR	3	128	0.38	90	0.61	114	35.0	2.98	22.70	11
18-007	NWT 18047	Katahdin	PB	NWT 5082	2/4/2018	TW	RR	3	140	0.58	138	0.68	127	31.0	3.63	19.46	32
Ewe Crazy Farms; Bryce Everett; PO Box 3554; Valdosta, GA 31604; 229-460-2477																	
18-012	ECF 178	Katahdin	PB	NWT 6019	1/20/2018	TW	RR	1	106	0.58	138	0.48	89	31.5	2.32	21.89	41
18-014	ECF 183	Katahdin	PB	NWT 6019	1/23/2018	TW	QR	1	91	0.41	97	0.42	78	30.5	4.18	18.66	46
Cedar Creek Farm; Michael Stumpff; 462 Cedar Creek Ln., Georgetown, TN 37336; 423-505-4274																	
18-019	CED 1811	Katahdin	PB	JDK 522	2/24/2018	TW	RR	2	117	0.50	119	0.63	117	32.5	3.03	23.75	252
Beyond Blessed Farm; Chris & Mandy Fletcher; 15424 Blessed Ln, Abingdon, VA 24210; 276-759-4718																	
18-022	FLE 8138	Katahdin	87.5%	NWT 058	2/19/2018	TW	RR	2	106	0.45	107	0.56	103	28.0	3.31	16.78	61
18-024	FLE 8136	Katahdin	87.5%	NWT 058	2/18/2018	TW	RR	1	90	0.34	82	0.47	87	30.0	3.22	19.73	163
Birch Cove Farm; David S. Coplen; 4702 Birch Cove Dr., Fulton, MO 65251; 573-642-7746																	
18-028	BCG 918	Katahdin	PB	FAH 16-143	2/6/2018	TW	RR	3	124	0.47	112	0.61	113	30.5	2.83	24.12	0
18-031	BCG 942	Katahdin	PB	FAH 16-143	2/19/2018	TW	RR	2	102	0.46	110	0.54	100	30.0	3.40	24.70	83
Prairie Lane Farm; Henry Shultz; 6219 Audrain Rd. 125, Centralia, MO 65240; 573-682-5481																	
18-033	4047	Katahdin	PB	HSC 1211	1/19/2018	TR	QR	3	126	0.31	75	0.57	106	33.0	4.75	22.81	569
18-034	4057	Katahdin	PB	HSC 1211	1/20/2018	TW	RR	3	128	0.29	68	0.58	108	31.5	3.45	25.14	106
Fahrmeier Katahdins; Lynn & Donna Fahrmeier; 13305 Flournoy School Rd., Wellington, MO 64097; 816-517-5049																	
18-043	FAH 18-225	Katahdin	94%	BCE 856	2/21/2018	TR	QR	2	102	0.26	63	0.54	101	25.5	3.44	20.29	155
18-045	FAH 18-234	Katahdin	PB	FAH 16-024	2/21/2018	TW	QR	2	110	0.41	97	0.59	109	26.0	2.46	21.48	26
OW Farm; Pete Odle; 343 Crabapple Rd., Nickelsville, VA 24271; 276-479-2890																	
18-049	OW 362	Katahdin	PB	TAF 543	1/21/2018	TW	RR	3	140	0.41	97	0.64	119	32.0	1.67	22.45	75
Three M Farms; Brad Mullins; 1034 Osbornes Gap Rd., Clintwood, VA 24228; 276-926-4896																	
18-051	MMM 133	Katahdin	PB	MJP 116	1/26/2018	TW	RR	3	154	0.53	126	0.72	133	31.0	1.82	17.82	115
18-052	MMM 134	Katahdin	PB	MJP 116	1/28/2018	TW	RR	3	136	0.57	136	0.64	119	31.0	1.04	17.93	418
Silver Maple Sheep Farm; Jay Greenstone; 2472 McClures Chapel Rd., Rose Hill, VA 24281; 276-229-3666																	
18-056	JAG 916	Katahdin	PB	HCK 6093	2/13/2018	TW	RR	2	113	0.45	107	0.57	106	27.5	2.39	22.92	120
18-059	JAG 945	Katahdin	PB	HCK 6093	2/26/2018	TW	RR	2	111	0.49	116	0.61	113	32.0	2.68	22.89	32
J&E Farms/Artesian Valley Texels; James & Erica Oller; 235 Wendell Davis Ln., Harrogate, TN 37752; 606-670-9539																	
18-062	0081	Texel X		Wilcox 400	2/28/2018	TW	RR	2	113	0.46	109	0.62	116	29.0	2.71	27.40	1563

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Test ID	Flock ID	Breed	%	Sire	Birth Date	Birth Type	Codon 171 Genotype	Pasture Group	8/29/17 70-day Wt.	Test ADG	ADG Ratio	8/29/17 70-day WDA	WDA Ratio	Scrotal Cir.	100 lb Adj. Fat Th., mm	100 lb. Adj. Loin Depth, mm	Mean Adj. FEC
Triple L Farms; Larry & Lisa Weeks; 430 Baynes Rd., Waynesboro, VA 22980; 540-943-2346																	
18-067	TLF 1825	Katahdin	PB	FAH 253	2/9/2018	TW	RR	3	124	0.46	110	0.62	115	31.0	4.80	26.02	112
18-069	TLF 1872	Katahdin	PB	WRI 17063	2/17/2018	TR	QR	3	126	0.59	141	0.66	122	32.0	2.56	21.15	63
Hoodley Creek; Kathleen Proffitt; 9840 Baileyton Rd., Afton, TN 37616; 423-234-2852																	
18-070	KKP 3022	Katahdin	PB	OW 310	2/24/2018	TR	RR	1	95	0.39	92	0.51	95	28.5	3.85	22.98	194
18-071	KKP 2138	Katahdin	PB	OW 310	3/3/2018	TW	RR	1	92	0.47	112	0.51	95	27.5	2.20	22.07	792
Triple B Farm; Shane & Shelley Hilton; 157 Grand Harbor Way; Blountville, TN 37617; 423-747-4165																	
18-074	0035	Katahdin	PB	OW 307	2/22/2018	TW	RR	2	105	0.44	105	0.56	104	31.5	4.07	18.81	41
Huff Farms; Joe & Sue Huff; 2051 Coal Tipple Hollow, Lebanon, VA 24266; 276-971-0002																	
18-083	SJF 763	Katahdin	PB	BUL 14103	2/9/2018	TR	QR	3	136	0.58	138	0.68	126	31.0	2.36	20.89	0
18-085	SJF 765	Katahdin	PB	BUL 14103	2/9/2018	TR	QR	3	144	0.73	173	0.72	134	30.5	1.80	19.80	97
R&R Farm; Randal & Rebecca Beal; 214 Lakestone Ln. PO Box 23, Wellington, KY 40387; 606-768-3847																	
18-093	1816	Katahdin	PB	SKF 1704	2/20/2018	TW	RR	1	92	0.49	117	0.48	90	29.0	3.18	19.85	114
Chastain Brothers; Kent Chastain; 310 Needle Eye Ln., Delano, TN 37325; 423-715-1642																	
18-094	GKC 1839	Katahdin	PB	98896	3/3/2018	TW	RR	2	124	0.68	161	0.70	129	33.0	1.34	19.56	32
18-096	GKC 1827	Katahdin	PB	122706	2/9/2018	TW	RR	1	108	0.58	138	0.54	100	30.0	1.53	20.17	61
Leaning Pines Farms; John Bruner; 2285 Stilesville Rd., Science Hill, KY 42553; 606-271-0582																	
18-099	1804	Katahdin	PB	JAG 677	2/11/2018	TR	RR	3	119	0.36	85	0.60	111	34.0	2.72	21.59	248
Poplar View Farm, LLC; David Wise; 606 Allen Rosen Rd., Dillwyn, VA 23936; 434-983-8780																	
18-102	DRW 0269	Katahdin	75%	LP 1703	3/6/2018	TR	RR	2	111	0.46	109	0.63	117	31.0	1.94	21.89	126
Rolling Spring Farm; Lee & Cindy Wright; 12333 Deerfield Ln., Glade Spring, VA 24340; 276-698-6079																	
18-109	WRI 18093	Katahdin	PB	USD 15124	2/10/2018	TW	RR	2	106	0.49	116	0.53	98	30.0	2.91	21.18	32
Big H Livestock; Sally Hash; 518 Old Prater Rd., Marion, VA 24354; 276-782-8422																	
18-117	BHL 1804	Katahdin	PB	117448	1/22/2018	TW	QR	3	132	0.35	83	0.60	112	31.5	2.88	24.24	178
18-118	BHL 1807	Katahdin	PB	122022	2/2/2018	TW	RR	3	133	0.31	75	0.64	119	30.0	3.82	22.16	345
Rock Solid Ranch & Kuecker White Dorpers; Abigayle Houser & Bill Kuecker; 205 Patton Rd., Pikeville, TN 37367; 423-747-4165																	
18-120	0077	White Dorper	PB	160196	1/17/2018	TW	QR	3	130	0.44	105	0.58	108	32.5	2.92	25.43	1159
18-123	0181	White Dorper	PB	0819	2/14/2018	TW	QR	2	92	0.25	59	0.47	88	28.0	3.91	21.01	624
114 Rams Tested Avg.									107	0.42	100	0.54	100	3.0	22.0	384	

2018 Southwest AREC Ram Test Sale

NSIP EBVs

Test ID	EBV BWT	EBV MWWT	EBV WWT	EBV PWWT	EBV WFEC	EBV PFEC	EBV NLB%	EBV NLW%	EBV USA HAIR
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Hound River Farm; Roxanne & Milledge Newton; 5550 Skipperbridge Rd., Hahira, GA 31632; 229-740-0017

18-003	0.2	0.6	1.5	2.7	-48	-65	22	23	110.2
18-007	0.2	1.5	2.3	4.0	-83	-92	3	6	106.2

Beyond Blessed Farm; Chris & Mandy Fletcher; 15424 Blessed LN., Abingdon, VA 24210; 276-759-4718

18-022	0.2	0.6	1.5	2.4	-54	-76	3	4	103.3
18-024	0.3	0.4	1.8	3.0	-49	-75	8	9	104.8

Birch Cove Farm; David S. Coplen; 4702 Birch Cove Dr., Fulton, MO 65251; 573-642-7746

18-028	0.3	1.1	1.7	3.2	-50	-60	21	24	111.9
18-031	0.2	0.8	1.0	1.9	-56	-70	17	22	110.4

Prairie Lane Farm; Henry Shultz; 6219 Audrain Rd 125; Centralia, MO 65240; 573-682-5481

18-033	0.0	-0.2	-0.5	-0.7	0	0	0	0	102.9
18-034	0.0	-0.6	-0.6	-0.9	0	0	0	0	102.2

Fahrmeier Katahdins; Lynn & Donna Fahrmeier; 13305 Flournoy School Rd., Wellington, MO 64097; 816-517-5049

18-043	0.2	0.2	2.6	5.3	-47	-79	25	21	108.7
18-045	0.2	-0.4	1.9	3.7	8	-10	16	16	105.6

Triple L Farms; Larry & Larry Weeks; 430 Baynes Rd., Waynesboro, VA 22980; 540-943-2346

18-067	0.2	-0.4	2.5	3.9	-37	-68	8	12	104.2
18-069	0.1	0.8	2.0	3.8	-63	-90	7	13	107.3

Rolling Spring Farm; Lee & Cindy Wright; 12333 Deerfield Ln., Glade Spring, VA 24340; 276-698-6079

18-109	0.1	1.1	2.2	3.8	-41	-44	5	4	107.8
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breed avg.	0.2	0.2	1.2	2.1	0	0	8.3	10.4	104.8
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