

SHEEP FIELD DAY & RAM LAMB SALE

Friday, September 23, 2016

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 available at

<http://www.apsc.vt.edu/extension/sheep/swarec-ram-program/index.html>

Schedule

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

Field Day Topics

1:00 PM Field Day Program:

Hay and Forage Strategies – Phil Blevins, Virginia Cooperative Extension

Producer Experiences with Selection and NSIP – Dr. Chris Fletcher

Terminal Sire Project - Andrew Weaver, Virginia Tech

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

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, 2017. 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.



About the Rams and the Data

Nutrition and Management

One hundred seven rams born January 1 through March 15, 2016 were delivered to the Southwest Virginia Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Glade Spring, VA on May 31. Rams originated from 27 flocks located in VA, GA, KY, MO, NC, OH, TN, 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 31). 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 31.

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.

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

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

Sale Order

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

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.

2016 Southwest AREC Ram Test Sale
Friday, September 23, 2016 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	8/31/16 70-day Wt.	Test ADG	ADG Ratio	8/31/16 70-day WDA	WDA Ratio	Scrotal Cir.	100 lb Adj. Fat Th., mm	100 lb. Adj. Loin Depth, mm	Mean Adj. FEC
Beyond Blessed Farm; Chris & Mandy Fletcher; 16405 Mountain Spring Rd., Abingdon, VA 24210; 276-759-4718																	
16-004	6080	Katahdin	PB	LPF1509	3/15/2016	TW	RR	3	80	0.33	117	0.47	95	30.0	2.6	22.3	477
Destiny Acres; Frank Stahl; 29186 Jug Run Rd., Frazeyburg, OH 43822; 740-668-7075																	
16-007	29	Katahdin	PB	JF14119	3/12/2016	TW	RR	3	74	0.30	107	0.43	87	28.5	3.2	20.1	1133
Wade Jean Farm; Donna Stoneback; 2355 Twp. Rd. 457, Loudonville, OH 44842; 419-368-3949																	
16-013	WJF 1602	Katahdin	PB	WJF1507	2/7/2016	TW	RR	1	120	0.39	140	0.58	117	29.5	4.4	16.7	601
Misty Oaks Farm; Jeff & Kathy Bielek; 1130 Kimber Rd., Wooster, OH 44691; 330-264-5281																	
16-016	MOF 1645	Katahdin	PB	WRI4012	3/7/2016	TW	RR	2	91	0.24	84	0.51	104	28.0	3.2	24.8	842
Rolling Spring Farm; Lee & Cindy Wright; 12333 Deerfield Ln., Glade Spring, VA 24340; 276-698-6079																	
16-019	WRI 6044	----- scratch -----															
16-020	WRI 6022	Katahdin	PB	NWT 489	2/6/2016	TW	QR	1	116	0.44	158	0.56	113	29.0	2.8	21.0	235
Hound River Farm; Roxanne & Milledge Newton; 5550 Skipperbridge Rd., Hahira, GA 31632; 229-740-0017																	
16-021	NWT 6068	Katahdin	PB	NWT 5082	2/1/2016	TW	RR	1	123	0.32	115	0.58	117	32.0	2.6	19.6	126
16-025	NWT 6058	Katahdin	PB	NWT 5082	1/25/2016	S	RR	1	115	0.24	84	0.52	106	30.5	5.1	21.4	73
Ewe Crazy Farms; Bryce Everett; PO Box 3554, Valdosta, GA 31604; 229-460-2477																	
16-028	114	Katahdin	PB	NWT 4005	1/26/2016	TW	RR	3	93	0.36	127	0.43	86	31.0	4.7	21.9	182
Big H Livestock; Jim & Sally Hash; 518 Old Prater Rd., Marion, VA 24354; 276-782-8422																	
16-029	Big H 1662	Katahdin	PB	LDK14-15	2/28/2016	TW	QR	2	96	0.20	71	0.52	104	27.5	3.4	20.4	627
16-030	Big H 1660	Katahdin	PB	LDK14-15	2/28/2016	TW	RR	2	94	0.31	110	0.51	102	28.0	2.9	20.3	1310
16-031	Big H 1655	Katahdin	PB	NWT209	3/13/2016	TR	QR	2	102	0.42	150	0.59	120	29.0	2.0	21.5	550
Double Scott Farm; John Scott, Jr.; 2826 Gardner Rd., Princeton, WV 24740; 304-320-3748																	
16-036	1489	White Dorper	PB	Circle R Farming 1415	2/9/2016	TW	RR	1	101	0.24	87	0.50	100	32.5	3.0	21.8	922
Fahrmeier Katahdins; Lynn & Donna Fahrmeier; 13305 Flournoy School Rd., Wellington, MO 64097; 816-517-5049																	
16-039	FAH 205	Katahdin	PB	NWT 4093	2/17/2016	S	RR	2	103	0.31	112	0.52	106	31.0	2.4	21.9	41
16-040	FAH 261	Katahdin	PB	VPI 4075	2/22/2016	TW	QR	2	101	0.46	166	0.53	107	26.0	2.2	21.5	401
Birch Cove Farm; David S. Coplen; 4702 Birch Cove Dr., Fulton, MO 65251; 573-642-7746																	
16-042	BCE 824	Katahdin	PB	FAH 15-007	2/23/2016	TW	RR	2	108	0.37	132	0.57	114	30.5	2.5	22.1	1393
16-044	BEC 834	Katahdin	PB	NWT 5040	2/26/2016	TW	RR	2	92	0.23	82	0.49	99	29.0	2.7	19.0	203
Prairie Lane Farm; Henry Shultz; 6219 Audrain Rd. 125, Centralia, MO 65240; 573-682-7127																	
16-046	SHU 3629	Katahdin	PB	SHU3586	1/23/2016	S	RR	1	137	0.35	125	0.62	125	30.0	5.7	16.6	163
Critter Creek Sheep Farm; Duke Burgess; 2051 Gough Rd., Louisville, GA 30434; 305-923-0262																	
16-058	0037	Katahdin	PB	TRB223	3/2/2016	TW	RR	2	96	0.26	92	0.53	107	30.0	2.6	20.1	741

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Silver Maple Sheep Farm; Jay Greenstone; 2472 McClures Chapel Rd., Rose Hill, VA 24281; 276-229-3666																	
16-061	0682	Katahdin	PB	EHJ508	3/15/2016	S	QR	2	103	0.49	176	0.61	123	33.5	3.7	19.4	134
16-062	0677	Katahdin	PB	EHJ508	3/10/2016	TW	RR	1	116	0.41	148	0.67	135	32.0	1.3	18.2	271
Gilmer Sheep; Travis Gilmer; 2510 Big Moccasin Rd., Nickelsville, VA 24271; 276-479-1548																	
16-064	0116	----- scratch -----															
16-065	0122	Katahdin	PB	HCK3122	1/16/2016	TW	RR	3	85	0.36	130	0.37	75	29.0	4.9	20.5	103
16-067	0129	Katahdin	PB	HCK3122	1/21/2016	TW	QR	2	114	0.54	194	0.51	103	32.0	3.6	23.4	1590
Cedar Creek Farm; Michael Stumpff; 462 Cedar Creek Ln., Georgetown, TN 37336; 423-505-4274																	
16-068	CED 1614	Katahdin	PB	COR12-50	3/13/2016	S	QR	2	106	0.49	173	0.62	125	32.0	2.8	19.8	796
Nashville Sheep Farm; Caleb Roth; PO Box 5, Alexandria, TN; 615-533-4481																	
16-071	NAS 1601	Katahdin	PB	NWT5082	2/6/2016	S	RR	2	82	0.17	61	0.40	80	29.0	3.0	21.0	864
Chestnut Hill Katahdins; Marty & Patty Gambill; 3777 Huckleberry Ridge Rd., Crumpler, NC 28617; 336-977-6229																	
16-074	Gam 6119	Katahdin	PB	WNV4148	3/6/2016	TW	RR	2	105	0.44	155	0.59	119	33.5	2.2	20.9	792
R&R Farm; Randal & Rebecca Beal; 214 Lakestone Ln., Wellington, KY 40387; 606-768-3847																	
16-082	RNR 102	Katahdin	PB	USD3131	3/10/2016	TW	QR	3	87	0.36	127	0.50	101	28.5	3.9	18.3	904
Wildheart Farm; Sharon Wolfe Tepsick; PO Box 141, Ezel, KY 41425; 606-725-4478																	
16-086	WHF 0537	Katahdin	PB	WHF400	2/13/2016	TW	QR	2	95	0.36	130	0.48	96	30.5	3.6	20.4	592
Cill Dara Farm; Cynthia & Cillian Cox; PO Box 219, Delaplane, VA 20144; 540-454-1487																	
16-087	1609	Katahdin	PB	CDF1505	2/13/2016	TW	RR	1	112	0.24	87	0.56	113	31.5	2.9	20.5	889
Poplar View Farm, LLC; David Wise; 606 Allen Rosen Rd., Dillwyn, VA 23936; 434-983-8780																	
16-090	DRW P18B	Katahdin	50%	BHL-0403	3/13/2016	TR	QR	3	83	0.29	104	0.49	98	29.0	3.5	21.7	370
Leaning Pines Farms; John Bruner; 473 Edward Meele Rd., Science Hill, KY 42553; 606-271-0582																	
16-101	1617	Katahdin	PB	HLB244	2/29/2016	TW	RR	2	100	0.40	143	0.54	110	31.0	2.7	21.9	838
16-103	1604	Katahdin	PB	BGK0836	2/9/2016	TW	RR	2	99	0.37	132	0.48	98	32.0	3.0	24.3	214
Three M Farms; Brad Mullins; 1034 Osbornes Gap Rd., Clintwood, VA 24228; 276-926-4896																	
16-104	106	Katahdin	PB	JAG 399	1/31/2016	TW	RR	1	118	0.41	148	0.55	112	35.0	2.2	20.8	238
VA TECH SWAREC; Lee Wright; 12326 VPI Farm Rd., Glade Spring, VA 24340; 276-944-2200																	
16-107	VPI6040	Katahdin	PB	USDA	3/14/2016	S	RR	3	88	0.27	97	0.51	104	30.0	3.1	21.3	699
16-108	VPI6094	Katahdin	PB	FAH	3/18/2016	TW	RR	3	92	0.36	127	0.55	112	26.5	2.2	22.5	1000
103 Rams Tested Avg.									95	0.28	100	0.49	100	30.3	3.0	20.8	908

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Test ID	Flock ID	Breed	%	Sire	EBV BWT	EBV MWWT	EBV WWT	EBV PWWT	EBV WFEC	EBV PFEC	EBV NLB%	EBV NLW%	EBV USA HAIR
Beyond Blessed Farm; Chris & Mandy Fletcher; 16405 Mountain Spring Rd. Abingdon, VA 24210; 276-759-4718													
16-004	6080	Katahdin	PB	LPF1509	+0.2		+1.4	+2.5					
Destiny Acres; Frank Stahl; 29186 Jug Run Rd., Frazeyburg, OH 43822; 740-668-7075													
16-007	29	Katahdin	PB	JF14119	+0.3	+0.5	+1.8	+2.8	-58	-77	+3	+9	+105
Wade Jean Farm; Donna Stoneback; 2355 TWP Rd. 457 Loudonville, OH 44842; 419-368-3949													
16-013	WJF 1602	Katahdin	PB	WJF1507						Pending			
Misty Oaks Farm; Jeff & Kathy Bielek; 1130 Kimber Rd.; Wooster, OH 44691; 330-264-5281													
16-016	MOF 1645	Katahdin	PB	WRI4012	+0.1	-0.4	+1.4	+2.5	-59	-88	+5	+8	+103
Rolling Spring Farm; Lee & Cindy Wright; 436 Maple St. Glade Spring, VA 24340; 276-698-6079													
16-020	WRI 6022	Katahdin	PB	NWT 489	+0.2	+0.9	+1.6	+2.4	-36	-53	+5	+8	+105
Hound River Farm; Roxanne & Milledge Newton; 5550 Skipperbridge Rd. Hahira, GA 31632; 229-794-3456													
16-021	NWT 6068	Katahdin	PB	NWT 5082	+0.2	+0.9	+2.5	+4.5	-49	-74	+7	+9	+106
16-025	NWT 6058	Katahdin	PB	NWT 5082	+0.2	+0.8	+2.3	+4.4	-64	-88	+6	+8	+105
Ewe Crazy Farms; Bryce Everett; PO Box 3554, Valdosta, GA 31604; 229-460-2477													
16-028	ECF114	Katahdin	PB	NWT 4005			+1.3	+1.7	-43	-64	+7	+7	+104
Fahrmeier Katahdins; Lynn & Donna Fahrmeier; 13305 Flournoy School Rd. Wellington, MO 64097; 816-517-5049													
16-039	FAH 205	Katahdin	PB	NWT 4093	+0.5	+0.3	+2.0	+3.1	-41	-78	+11	+17	+108
16-040	FAH 261	Katahdin	PB	VPI 4075	+0.1		+2.0	+3.4	+60	+56	+11	+14	+105
Birch Cove Farm; David S. Coplen; 4702 Birch Cove Dr. Fulton, MO 65251; 573-642-7746													
16-042	BCE 824	Katahdin	PB	FAH 15-007	+0.4	+0.9	+3.9	+5.7	-6	-32	+1	+6	+105
16-044	BEC 834	Katahdin	PB	NWT 5040	+0.2	+0.3	+1.9	+3.8	-42	-76	+17	+17	+108
Prairie Lane Farm; Henry Shultz; 6219 Audrain Rd. 125, Centralia, MO 65240; 573-682-7127													
16-046	SHU 3629	Katahdin	PB	SHU3586	+0.1		+0.8	+1.6					+100
Critter Creek Sheep Farm; Duke Burgess; 2051 Gough Rd. Louisville, GA 30434; 305-923-0262													
16-058	0037	Katahdin	PB	TRB223	+0.2		+1.0	+1.6	+37	+6			+103
Nashville Sheep Farm; Caleb Roth; PO Box 5, Alexandria, TN; 615-533-4481													
16-071	NAS 1601	Katahdin	PB	NWT5082	+0.2	+0.9	+1.7	+2.9	-55	-71	+9	+12	+107