SD Post Weaning Lamb Performance Program - Phase 1

Mr. Dave Ollila, SDSU Extension Dr. Jeff Held, SDSU Extension

Funded project by the ASI Let's Grow Committee to meet goals established in the Lamb Industry Roadmap-Productivity



Program Cooperators

Wolf Creek Lamb Feedlot - Jim & Rondi Hanssen, Emery, SD

Mountain States Lamb Cooperative – Brad Anderson, Greeley, CO

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

Carcass Data Collection - Karissa Maneotis

Program Objectives:

- Demonstrate common practices in lamb feeding.
- Collect data on lamb feedlot performance and carcass merit of finished lambs.
- Provide producers with exposure to other sectors of the lamb industry.
- Identify factors that influence lamb quality.



Program Outcomes

- Adopt management plans to reduce stress
- Create a genetic selection plan
- Understand the "natural economic endpoint" of finished weight
- Understand lamb quality characteristics that will increase consumer demand.

Who is involved?

• 12 South Dakota producers – Young Entrepreneurs



Summary



- □ Average lbs shrink from ranch to feedlot. Group 1 4.75 lbs & Group 2- 2.47 lbs
- □ Average Daily Gain Group 1 -. 76 lbs/hd/day Group 2 -70 lbs/hd/day
- \square 75% of carcass wts > 65 lbs
- Over 75% of USDA graded lamb carcass YG 2 or 3
- □ Provided 4 educational programs regarding results
- □ Provided 2 educational programs on the use of Estimated Breeding Values in selecting replacement breeding stock.

SD Post Weaning Lamb Performance Program – Phase 2

"2016 Upper Midwest Gate to Rail Program"

Dr. Jeff Held, SDSU Extension

Mr. Dave Ollila, SDSU Extension

Dr. Travis Hoffman, NDSU Extension

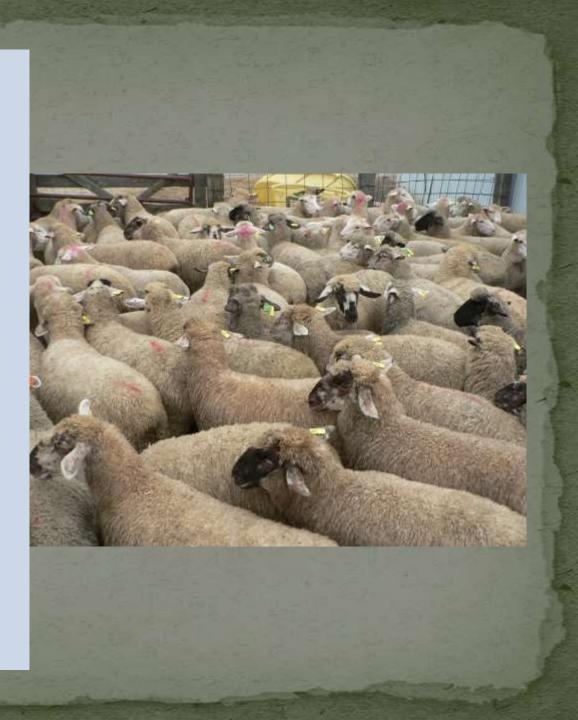
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Program Cooperators

Superior Farms buying stations:

**Joe Coplan - Watertown SD

**Josh Gravley - Russell, MN



Program Goals

- ✓ Gain knowledge on carcass merits of finished lambs in the Upper Midwest farm flock production systems
- ✓ Provide producers with carcass data resulting from flock genetics and feeding management practices
- ✓ Provide carcass data collected by trained evaluators and electronic grading instrumentation







- 19 producers from SD, ND and MN
- Delivery August 1 or 10, 2016
- Each group weighed and individually ear tagged.
- Lambs were shipped to Superior
 Farms Denver
- Staff from Colorado State Univ. collected carcass data

Carcass Data - Carcass Weight

	# of Head	HCW	FT	BW	REA	% BCTRC
>86	14	91.31	0.42	1.16	2.52	42.47
76-85	63	79.88	0.40	0.93	2.51	44.30
66-75	164	70.98	0.33	0.87	2.46	45.45
56-65	98	61.84	0.27	0.81	2.16	45.94
<55	17	50.12	0.25	0.62	1.82	46.89
Overall	356	69.84	0.32	o.86	2.36	45.33

Live Weight = 137.4 lb

Dressing Percentage = 50.8 %

Summary

- \bigcirc 67% of carcass wts > 65 lb
 - □ Similar to USDA Lamb Summary reporting
- □ Fat thickness 0.32 in. = USDA Yield Grade 3
 - Over 80% of USDA graded lamb carcasses YG 2 or 3
- REA at 2.30 sq in. smaller than expected reflects 15% of carcasses less than 2 sq. in.
- ☐ Gender at similar degree of finish (FT) ewe lambs expected to be lighter live and carcass than wethers
- ☐ Genotype included blackface, white-faced and blackfaced crosses (terminal sired lambs). Expect carcass merits for black and blackfaced crosses to have advantage.



SD Post Weaning Lamb Performance Program Phase 2 - YET TO DO:

- Complete feeding trial of Western SD producer lambs – Feb. 1st
- Deliver lambs to Mountain States Rosen and collect carcass data
- Calculate lamb feedlot performance
- Analyze data and offer educational programs
- Assist participating producers in interpreting their lambs performance
- Assist producers in utilizing Estimated Breeding Values to maintain or improve lamb performance.



Thank you to the ASI Let's Grow thru change committee.



