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
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
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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Head</th>
<th>HCW</th>
<th>FT</th>
<th>BW</th>
<th>REA</th>
<th>% BCTRC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;86</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>91.31</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>1.16</td>
<td>2.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76-85</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>79.88</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>2.51</td>
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<tr>
<td>66-75</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>70.98</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>0.87</td>
<td>2.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>56-65</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>61.84</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>0.81</td>
<td>2.16</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt;55</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>50.12</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td>1.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>69.84</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Live Weight = 137.4 lb
Dressing Percentage = 50.8 %
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.
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.