

Livestock Update

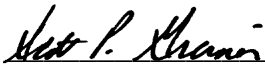
Beef - Horse - Poultry - Sheep - Swine

September 2013

This LIVESTOCK UPDATE contains timely subject matter on beef cattle, horses, poultry, sheep, swine, and related junior work. Use this material as you see fit for local newspapers, radio programs, newsletters, and for the formulation of recommendations.

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**Scott P. Greiner, Extension Project Leader
Department of Animal & Poultry Sciences**

Invent the Future

Dates to Remember

BEEF

OCTOBER

- 15-16 Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle (ARSBC), Staunton.
Contact: Dee Whittier, (540) 231-9041, email: dwit@vt.edu
- 25 19th Annual Hokie Harvest Sale, VT Beef Cattle Center, Blacksburg.
Contact: Dr. Dan Eversole, (540) 231-4738, email: deversol@vt.edu

SHEEP

SEPTEMBER

- 21 Sheep Field Day & Ram Lamb Sale, Southwest AREC, Glade Spring.
Contact: Lee Wright, (276) 944-2200; email: lrite@vt.edu

DECEMBER

- 7 Virginia Sheep Producer's Association Fall Bred Ewe & Doe Sale, 1:00 p.m., Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Harrisonburg. **Contact:** Scott Greiner, (540) 231-9159 or email: sgreiner@vt.edu

September Herd Management Advisor

Scott P. Greiner & Mark A. McCann
Extension Beef Specialists, Virginia Tech

September marks the change from summer to fall. September also marks the beginning of the busiest calf marketing time of the year regardless of marketing channel. Pre and post-weaning management decisions can add value to your calf crop. Pre-weaning respiratory vaccinations prepare calves for the stress of weaning which should translate into reduced sickness whether the calves are sold or kept at home. Another post-weaning management option is to keep the calves at home and precondition them. Preconditioning is usually a 45 day period immediately following weaning. It insures that calves are broke to consume feed from a bunk, water from a trough and that vaccinations are now providing active immunity. Though it requires more facilities, labor and feed, preconditioned calves are in high demand. Numerous research and extension trials have demonstrated that calf growth is very efficient during this 45 day period and returns are far above costs.

Spring Calving Herds (January-March)

General

- Finalize plans for marketing of calf crop. Coordinate and time weaning, vaccination program, and weaning-time management in concert with marketing plans. Calculate break-evens on various marketing options and consider risk management strategies.
- Schedule and conduct pregnancy diagnosis with veterinarian 45-60 days following breeding season. Plan a marketing strategy for open cows.
- Plan for winter by evaluating feed and forage supplies and options, including conducting forage tests to determine nutritional content of hay on hand.

Nutrition and Forages

- Body Condition Score cows at weaning and separate thin cows
- Use palatable feeds and high quality hay to background calves.
- Continue stockpiling
- Continue to manage first-calf heifers separately; give them the best forage. Thin mature cows could be added to this group.
- Continue to feed high Se trace mineral salt. A forage analysis can reveal what other minerals should be supplemented.
- Continue to manage growth of warm season grass pastures by rotational grazing. As warm season pastures approach dormancy continue to use rotational grazing to manage residue.
- Store your high quality hay in the dry.
- Collect and submit forage samples for nutrient analysis.

Herd Health

- In consultation with your veterinarian, finalize vaccination and preconditioning protocol for calf crop. Administer pre-weaning vaccinations.

Reproduction

- Make plans to pregnancy check heifers as soon as possible after bull removal. This will allow options in marketing open heifers.
- Remove bulls after 60 days for controlled calving season
- Schedule pregnancy check of cow herd with veterinarian

Genetics

- Collect 205-day weights on calf crop at appropriate time (AHIR age range 120-280 days), along with cow weights, hip heights and body condition scores (cow mature size data taken within 45 days of calf weaning measure).
- Identify replacement heifers. Utilize available tools including genetics, dam performance, individual performance, and phenotype. Restrict replacement heifer pool to those born in defined calving season.

Fall Calving Herds (September-November)

General

- Secure necessary supplies for calving season (ob equipment, tube feeder, colostrum supplement, ear tags, animal health products, calving book, etc.)
- Move pregnant heifers and early calving cows to calving area about 2 weeks before due date
- Check cows frequently during calving season. Optimal interval is to check calving females every 4 hours. Address calving problems early.
- Utilize calving area that is clean and well drained. Reduce exposure to scours by moving 2-3 day old pairs out of calving area to separate pasture (reduce commingling of newborn calves with older calves).
- Identify calves promptly at birth. Record birth weight, calving ease score, teat/udder score, and mothering ability of cow.
- Plan for winter by evaluating feed and forage supplies and options, including conducting forage tests to determine nutritional content of hay on hand.

Nutrition and Forages

- Evaluate growth of yearling heifers with goal of reaching 60-65% of mature weight by breeding. Depending on forage quality, supplementation may be needed to meet weight gain target.
- Continue to feed high Se trace mineral salt.
- Reserve high quality hay and pasture area for cows post-calving.
- Use grazing management to control the residue of warm season pastures as they approach dormancy. Use strip grazing as a tool to increase the efficiency of utilization of cool season pastures by cows post-calving.
- Store your high quality hay in the dry.
- Collect and submit forage samples for nutrient analysis.

Herd Health

- Ensure colostrum intake first few hours of life in newborn calves. Supplement if necessary. Newborn calves need 10% of body weight in colostrum first 24 hours of life.
- Provide selenium and vitamin A & D injections to newborn calves
- Castrate commercial calves at birth
- Monitor calves closely for scours and pneumonia, have treatment supplies on hand.

Genetics

- Collect yearling performance data (weight, height, scrotal, ultrasound) in seedstock herds.
- Evaluate bull battery and begin planning for the breeding season by evaluating herd goals and objectives.

Developmental Duplication (DD)– Information for Cow-Calf Producers

Dr. Scott P. Greiner

Extension Animal Scientist, Virginia Tech

Developmental Duplication (DD) is a genetic condition recently recognized in Angus cattle. DD first appeared in Australia, and through collaborative research Dr. Jon Beever at the University of Illinois has identified the gene responsible for the condition. Calves which are born with DD often have an additional front limb (duplicate front limb). However, it is thought that most fetuses which are DD genotype fail to reach full term (embryonic loss), and therefore few calves with the DD genotype have been born. Research has confirmed that DD is inherited as a simple recessive and controlled by a single gene. Therefore, for a calf or fetus to be affected it must inherit the DD allele from both of its parents. From a genetic inheritance standpoint, DD is similar to other genetic conditions reported in the last few years (AM, NH, CA). However, it is important to understand that causative genes for DD are distinctly different than other genetic conditions.

As with other genetic conditions, the discovery of DD warrants consideration by cow-calf producers as to its potential impact on their herds. The chances of having a DD calf (or potential embryonic loss of a DD-affected embryo) is directly related to the probability of herd sires and cows being carriers of the DD allele. Several widely-used AI sires in the Angus breed have been identified as carriers of the condition and therefore animals with these sires in their pedigree potentially could be carriers of DD. Very recently, the American Angus Association announced the release of a DNA test which can be utilized by the industry to determine if individual animals are free of the DD gene (DDF) or carriers of the condition (DDC). The majority of Angus AI sires have been DNA tested, and these test results have been made public through the American Angus Association web site (www.angus.org). Utilizing this information on AI sires, commercial cow-calf producers can do a simple risk assessment for their herd. For example, sons of a known carrier (DDC) bull have a 50% chance of being carriers. Daughters of these bulls have a 25% chance of being carriers (grandprogeny of known carriers have 25% chance of being carriers). Using this approach, producers can get a feel for the potential frequency of the DD gene in their cowherds based on the ancestry of recent sires used in the herd. Herds which have used known carrier bulls AI, or sons of known carrier bulls, have a higher probability of having carrier females within the cow herd. Commercial producers are encouraged to consult with their seedstock suppliers to assist them in evaluating pedigrees of their herd sires and the potential risk within their herds.

The simplest and surest way to alleviate the risk of being impacted by DD is to use only sires which are known to be free of the DD gene (DDF). In the very near future (ie. upcoming bull sales), DNA genotypes will be available and bull buyers will be able to make informed decisions as they purchase new herd sires. Additionally, with DNA genotyping now available at a cost of ~\$22 per animal, commercial producers can genotype their current bull battery to alleviate any guesswork associated with knowing the status of their sires for this genetic condition and make decisions on future use of these sires accordingly.

Although DD originated in Angus cattle, animals of other breeds which have Angus genetics in their pedigree may also be at risk of being carriers. For example, Gelbvieh Balancer and SimAngus genetics in commercial herds also need to be evaluated as to their DD status due to their Angus ancestry.

For many commercial cattlemen, DD will likely not be a significant issue. However, risk assessment based on pedigree information and testing of current herd sires (if warranted based on pedigree risk) provide a practical means for commercial producers to address this issue.

Additional information on DD, including a list of known carrier sires and details on testing procedures and laboratories can be found on the American Angus Association web site www.angus.org.

ARSBC
Dr. Dee Whittier
Ext. Veterinarian, VA Tech

OCTOBER 15, 2013 STAUNTON, VA

7:30 AM CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

MORNING SESSION: HOW DO YOU PROFIT FROM REPRODUCTION — MODERATOR: BRIAN HOUSE

- 8:15 a.m. **Introduction — Dr. Dee Whittier**
- 8:30 a.m. **Terry Slusher** — How do I profit from improved reproduction? Retained ownership producer
- 8:45 a.m. **Steve Hopkins** — How do we profit from improved reproduction? Cattleman's Assoc. Member
- 9:00 a.m. **Paul Bennett** — How do I profit from improved reproduction? Seedstock Producer
- 9:15 a.m. **Dr. Larry Corah** — Hitting the target and getting a reward for a high quality product
- 9:50 a.m. Break

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS INFLUENCING SUCCESS IN ESTRUS SYNCHRONIZATION AND AI PROGRAMS — MODERATOR: WILLIE ALTENBURG

- 10:10 a.m. **Michael Smith, PhD** — Physiological Factors That Increase Pregnancy Rate Following Artificial Insemination
- 10:40 a.m. **Dave Patterson, PhD** — Control of estrus in heifers
- 11:20 a.m. **Cliff Lamb, PhD** — Control of estrus in cows
- 11:50 a.m. **Sandy Johnson, PhD** — Estrus synchronization planner spreadsheet and application
- 12:20 p.m. Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION: MANAGING FACTORS TO IMPROVE PREGNANCY RATES — MODERATOR: DR. ANDY MEADOWS

- 1:20 p.m. **Dick Saacke, PhD** — Insemination related factors affecting fertilization in cattle
- 1:50 p.m. **Brad Stroud, DVM** — Semen handling, AI technique and bull evaluation
- 2:45 p.m. Break

OCTOBER 15, 2013 STAUNTON, VA (CONT'D)

AFTERNOON SESSION: MANAGING FACTORS TO IMPROVE PREGNANCY RATES (CONT'D) — MODERATOR: JASON CARTER

- 3:15 p.m. **Carl Dahlen, PhD** — Control of estrus with natural service
- 3:45 p.m. **George Perry, PhD** — Factors to get the most cows and heifers pregnant
- 4:20 p.m. Questions and Answers
- 5:30 DINNER AT FRONTIER CULTURE MUSEUM
- 7:30 EVENING SESSIONS — PANELS OF EXPERTS TO DISCUSS PRESSING ISSUES
- Dave Patterson - leader, Jim Lauderdale, Brad Stroud, Carl Dahlen and Larry Holler** — Issues for Veterinarians
Moderator: Dr. Tom Massie
- Cliff Lamb - leader, Scott Greiner and Dan Drake** — Issues for the AI Industry
Moderator: Doug Harris
- Sandy Johnson - leader, Larry Corah, Mike Smith, Carl Dahlen and George Perry** — Issues for Cattle Producers
Moderator: Kevin Powell
- 8:45 p.m. Adjourn for the day

OCTOBER 16, 2013

SPECIAL ISSUES IN BEEF CATTLE REPRODUCTION— MODERATOR: DR. SHERRIE CLARK

- 8:00 a.m. **Mark McCann, PhD** — Nutritional influences on fertility: fescue, energy and protein
- 8:30 a.m. **Dee Whittier, DVM** — Pregnancy determination in cattle, a review of available alternatives
- 9:00 a.m. **George Seidel, PhD** — The future of reproduction in the cattle industry
- 9:45 a.m. Break

DEALING WITH PREGNANCY AND BIRTH LOSSES — MODERATOR: DOUG FRANK

- 10:15 a.m. **John Currin, DVM** — Pregnancy loss: the Virginia experience and status
- 11:00 a.m. **Keith Inskip, PhD** — The physiology of pregnancy loss
- 11:30 a.m. **Larry Holler, DVM** — Controlling the diseases of pregnancy loss
- noon Lunch

USING GENETIC AND MANAGEMENT TOOLS TO GET THE MOST FROM REPRODUCTIVE EFFORTS — MODERATOR: BOBBY FRANCK

- 1:00 p.m. **Scott Greiner, PhD** — Genetic improvements from AI over natural service
- 1:30 p.m. **Dan Drake, PhD** — Improving EPD accuracy by combining EPD information with DNA test results
- 2:00 p.m. **Rick Funston, PhD** — What we know and can do about fetal programming

Break

CURRENT TOPICS IN REPRODUCTIVE MANAGEMENT — MODERATOR: TOM MASSIE

- 2:30 p.m. **Randall Hinshaw, DVM** — Embryo Transfer- The Last 20 Years
- 3:10 p.m. **John Hall, PhD** — The use of sexed semen in the beef cattle industry
- 3:40 p.m. Questions and Answers
- 4:00 p.m. Adjourn

Cattle producers, veterinarians and other industry personnel from across the country will have the opportunity to participate in another offering of “Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle”.

This year’s sessions will address profiting from reproduction, achieving success with estrous synchronization and AI programs, managing factors to improve pregnancy rates, and using genetic tools to get the most from reproductive efforts. Additionally, current issues in reproductive management will be discussed, including a first-time session on managing pregnancy and birthing losses.

Speakers will include both local and international experts in cattle reproduction. This meeting qualifies for 16 hours of Continuing Education, provided by the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine.

Conference Location & Lodging

Stonewall Jackson Hotel & Conference Center

24 South Market Street

Staunton, VA 24401

www.stonewalljacksonhotel.com

Hotel Direct: 540-885-4848 or toll-free reservations: 1-866-880-0024

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Stonewall Jackson Hotel in historic Staunton, Va., at the special conference rate of \$99 per night (plus taxes).

Please call the hotel at 540-885-4848 or toll-free reservations: 1-866-880-0024, and request the “ARSBC Conference” to reserve your room at the conference rate. Rooms must be reserved no later than Sept. 14, 2013. Guest check-in time is 4:00 p.m. and check-out is at noon. Parking is \$4/day.

Meeting Sponsored by: VT Continuing and Professional Education, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Cattlemen’s Association, Beef Reproduction Task Force.

Web Site and online registration at www.appliedreprostrategies.com/2013 .

Conference Registration Form

Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle (ARSBC)

October 15-16, 2013 • Stonewall Jackson Hotel and Conference Center • Staunton, Virginia

Please print or type—complete a separate form for each participant

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____ *Org.'s FID# _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone No. _____ Fax No. _____

Email _____ Signature _____

Registration fee: \$150 (\$200 after September 16, 2013)
 \$100 Full-time Student

Optional fee: \$15 Printed Proceedings Book

Please list any dietary restrictions _____

Will you be attending the dinner on Tuesday, October 15 at the Frontier Culture Museum? Yes No

I will need proof of Continuing Education hours (16 hours) Yes No

Refund and Cancellation Policy

Requests for refunds will be honored when received seven calendar days prior to the program. However, another person may be substituted at any time for this program. A \$25 administrative fee will be deducted for cancellations. In the unlikely event that this program is cancelled or postponed due to insufficient enrollments or unforeseen circumstances, the university will fully refund registration fees but cannot be held responsible for any other expenses, including cancellation or change charges assessed by airlines, hotels, travel agencies, or other organizations.

For weather or disaster-related program cancellation or postponement information, please call 540-231-9489.

**Necessary to process a refund payable to any company, agency or government.
The information you provide is subject to the Freedom of Information Act guidelines.*

Method of payment: Payment of registration fees is required prior to program attendance. Registration will be processed when payment is received.

Check enclosed (Make payable to: Treasurer, Virginia Tech CE)
Checks must be drawn on U.S. bank in U.S. dollars.
(There will be a \$50 processing fee for all returned checks.)

Credit Card: Visa MC AmEx
(Credit Card payment may be mailed, faxed, or given to registrar over the phone. No credit card information will be processed by voice mail or email.)

Cardholder name _____

Cardholder signature _____ Date _____

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

Return with payment by **October 8, 2013**
(no staples, tape, or paper clips, please) to:

Conference Registrar
Continuing and Professional Education
Virginia Tech, Mail Code 0272
702 University City Blvd.
Blacksburg, VA 24061

phone: 540/231-5182
fax: 540/231-3306 (for credit card registrations only)

Office Use	Entered	AMT: _____
		CC/CHK#: _____
		DATE: _____

arsbc 565682 webpdf

2013-2014 Flock Winter Feeding Strategies

Dr. Mark A. McCann

Extension Animal Scientist, Virginia Tech

Feeding the flock during the upcoming winter of 2013-14 could be a challenge as producers transition from grazed to stored forages. Hay is abundant but locating high quality hay is a challenge. The wet summer has made harvesting hay a tough task. A lot of hay was made late or was rain damaged. Some of the late cut hay had quite a bit of clover and new grass growth mixed in with the old growth. These are not new issues but are some we have not faced for several years. The good news is that the corn crop looks good and feed has trended down over the past 30 days, supplements and commodity feed should be less expensive than last winter. Shifts in management need to be considered in an effort to adapt to a different scenario for the upcoming winter. I have listed a few of the most important possibilities for consideration--- note many of these are not new but maybe modified versus previous winters.

1) Delay ram turn-in to a date that would insure that lactating ewes can take advantage of the spring flush of growth during lactation and require minimum supplementation. Under grazing conditions, forage can meet a ewe's energy and protein requirement except during lactation. Spring lambing flocks can take advantage of new pasture growth which is very digestible and high in protein. Generally, this will meet the nutrient needs of ewes nursing singles. Ewes nursing twins will respond to low levels (1-1.5lb/d) of energy supplementation.

2) Stockpile tall fescue. Fertilizing limited acreage (40-70 lb N/acre) and accumulating forage growth is a management practice that works. The amount of accumulated growth will be dependent on fall moisture. Strip/limited grazing is the most efficient method to utilize the accumulated growth. Smaller strips and more frequent moves will improve efficiency. We provide access to a round bale of average hay to insure that we do not reduce forage intake. An increase in hay consumption is our signal that we need to move to the next strip. The quality of this accumulated growth diminishes only slightly over the course of the winter.

3) Test your hay. This is an annual suggestion; however this year's hay harvest conditions provide a real challenge to identify quality hay. There is a large variation in hay quality beyond forage variety and cutting. Fertilization and harvest conditions have a significant impact on hay quality. Visual evaluation and comparison can detect gross differences between hays, but do little to estimate nutrient content. Only through forage testing can the nutrition content be estimated and a feeding program devised. Efficient, economical and effective supplementation programs depend on an accurate forage test. Economically you do not want to overfeed and from a production perspective you cannot afford to underfeed. Those hays which were harvested late and contained both old and new growth are particularly hard to evaluate without an analysis. Additionally, the hay nutrient analysis can determine if protein or energy maybe the most limiting nutrient. As potential hays are evaluated, the following tables are helpful in comparing hay nutrient content to a stage of production for the ewe and potential feedstuffs that fulfill deficiencies. Table 1 contains the CP (crude protein) and TDN (total digestible nutrient) requirements of a 180lb ewe across different stages of production.

4) Lastly, the identification of high quality hay can allow decisions to be made regarding storage of the hay if options are available. If limited shelter is available, clearly the best hay needs to be in the dry. If summer's moisture pattern continues into the fall and winter, weather damage and loss on unsheltered hay will be greater than past years.

Table 1 TDN and CP Requirements of 180lb ewe

Stage of Production	TDN Lb/d	CP, Lb/d	Voluntary DM Intake lb/d	Percent TDN*	Percent CP*
Maintenance	1.6	.27	2.9	55.0	9.3
Early Pregnancy	1.8	.31	3.3	55.0	9.4
Late Gestation	2.9	.49	4.4	65.5	11.1
Early Lactation	4.3	.96	6.6	65.5	14.5

* Percentage of the Dry Matter

Table 2 contains the amount of energy and protein supplementation needed to balance hay of varying qualities for 180lb ewes across stage of production. Ground shelled corn and 44% soybean meal are used as standard supplements but other feeds can be substituted. In today's environment of high input costs and slim margins, having the facts on hay quality can improve the accuracy and cost effectiveness of nutrition and management decisions.

Forage Analysis		Early ¹ Gestation		Late ² Gestation		Early ² Lactation		Late ⁴ Lactation	
CP % of DM	TDN % of DM	Lbs SBM	Lbs Corn	Lbs SBM	Lbs Corn	Lbs SBM	Lbs Corn	Lbs SBM	Lbs Corn
11.2 & over	56 & over	-	-	-	.75	.5	2.5	.3	1.5
9.5 - 11.1	56 & over	-	-	.15	.75	.8	2.5	.45	1.5
	53 - 56	-	-	.15	.85	.8	2.7	.45	1.65
	50 - 53	-	-	.15	1.0	.8	2.9	.45	1.80
8.2 - 9.5	54 - 56	-	-	.25	.8	1.0	2.5	.55	1.5
	51 - 54	-	.2	.25	1.0	1.0	2.75	.55	1.75
	50 & under	-	.4	.25	1.2	1.0	3.0	.55	2.0
7.3 - 8.2	53 - 55	.1	-	.4	.8	1.1	2.5	.6	1.5
	51 - 53	.1	.2	.4	1.0	1.1	2.75	.6	1.75
	50 & under	.1	.4	.4	1.2	1.1	3.0	.6	2.0
Under 7.3	Under 48	.2 - .3	.5 - 1.0	.4 - .5	1 - 1.5	1.2 - 1.5	2.5 - 3.5	.7 - .8	2.0 - 3.0

¹Dry ewes in the first 15 weeks

²Last 4 weeks of pregnancy (200% lambing rate expected).

³First 6-8 weeks of lactation suckling twins

⁴Last 4- 6 weeks suckling twins.

** Note 1.5 lbs of corn gluten feed can replace 1.0 lb corn and .5 lb soybean meal.

Flock Management Tips – Fall

Dr. Scott P. Greiner

Extension Animal Scientist, Virginia Tech

- Work with veterinarian to perform breeding soundness exams on all rams prior to turnout.
- Flush ewes with 1 pound of corn or barley per day beginning 14 days prior to the breeding season to enhance lambing rate. Continue flushing 4 weeks into breeding season.
- Trim and check feet.
- Stockpile forages.
- Test hay samples to determine their nutritive value. Assess winter feed supplies and devise plan to secure needed feedstuffs. Work with an Extension agent to determine the supplements that will be required to formulate balanced diets for winter feeding.
- Graze spring-born lambs on available fall pasture and aftermath hay fields.
- Plan marketing strategy for any portion of lamb crop that remains.
- Identify and retain ewe lambs from spring lambing to be used as replacements. Breed so that they will lamb first as yearlings.
- After November 1, place ewes on stockpiled fescue pasture.
- Maximize the utilization of stockpiled forages through strip grazing. Use temporary electric fence to limit the sheep's access to a portion of the stockpiled pasture until fully utilized.

Holiday	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Eid ul-Adha Festival of the Sacrifice	Nov 6	Oct 26	Oct 15	Oct 4	Sept 23
Muharramm / Hajra Islamic New Year	Nov 26	Nov 15	Nov 4	Oct 25	Oct 14
Mawlid al-Nabi Prophet's birthday	Feb 15	Feb 4	Jan 24	Jan 13	Dec 23
Start of Ramadan Month of fasting	Aug 1	Jul 20	Jul 9	Jun 28	Jun 18
Eid ul-Fitr Festival of fast breaking	Aug 31	Aug 19	Aug 8	Jul 29	Jul 18
Pesch (Passover)	Apr 19-26	Apr 7-14	Mar 26-27	Mar 15-22	Apr 4-11
Rosh Hashanah	Sept 29-30	Sept 17-18	Sept 5-6	Sept 24-25	Sept 4-5
Chanukkah	Dec 21-28	Dec 9-16	Nov 28-Dec 5	Dec 17-24	Dec 7-14
Western (Roman) Easter	Apr 24	Apr 8	Mar 31	Apr 20	Apr 5
Eastern Orthodox Easter	Apr 24	Apr 15	May 5	Apr 20	Apr 12
Christmas (Western)	Dec 25	Dec 25	Dec 25	Dec 25	Dec 25
Orthodox Christmas	Jan 7	Jan 7	Jan 7	Jan 7	Jan 7

Sheep Field Day & Ram Lamb Sale

Saturday, September 21, 2013

1:00 PM - Hair Coat Inspector Training (Dr. Jim Morgan, KHSI)

3:00 PM - Field Day (with Meal)

5:30 PM - Ram Sale

**VA Tech Southwest Agriculture Research & Extension Center
12326 VPI Farm Rd., Glade Spring, Virginia (exit 29 or 26 off Interstate 81)**

Selling a select group of 30 Katahdin and White Dorper rams selected from 25 consignors. Rams were developed on forage-based grain on grass system which includes evaluation for parasite resistance.

3:00 PM Field Day Program:

Update on Integrated Parasite Management - Dr. Anne Zajac, Virginia Tech

Progress and Achievements of the Katahdin Breed - Dr. Jim Morgan, KHSI

Forage Analysis & Feeding Management - Dr. Mark McCann and Phil Blevins, Virginia Cooperative Ext.

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

Sponsored by Virginia Cooperative Extension

For a sale catalog or more information contact:

Lee Wright, Virginia Tech Southwest AREC (276) 944-2200, lwrite@vt.edu

or Dr. Scott Greiner, Virginia Tech (540) 231-9159, sgreiner@vt.edu

Website -- www.vtsheep.apsc.vt.edu

List of Program Participants:

Ahead of the Curve Katahdins, Maggie Chambers, Quakertown, PA

Apple-Oak Meadows, Doug & Diana Saul, Springfield, OH

Big H Livestock, Jim & Sally Hash, Marion, VA

Destiny Acres, Frank Stahl, Frazeyburg, OH

Double Scott Farm, John Scott, Princeton, WV

Embree Farms, David Embree, Cambellsburg, IN

Fairmeadow, Carol Postley, Ocala, FL

Gilmer Sheep & Livestock, Travis Gilmer, Nickelsville, VA

Halleluyah Farm, Dusty Markham, Lake City, FL

Heaven's View Katahdins, John & Kim Doty, French Lick, IN

Hound River Farm, Milledge & Roxanne Newton, Hahira, GA

Jessee Farms, Kenneth & Connie Jessee, St. Paul, VA

Leaning Pine Farms, John Bruner, Science Hill, KY

Misty Oaks Farm, Jeff & Kathy Bielek, Wooster, OH

Old Forge Farm, Patricia & David Schooley, Hagerstown, MD

OW Farm, J. Pete Odle, Nickelsville, VA

Rocky Cove Katahdins, Ted & Angie Fletcher, Duffield, VA

Rolling Spring Farm, Lee & Cindy Wright, Chillhowie, VA

Silver Maple Sheep Farm, Jay Greenstone, Rose Hill, VA

Triple L Farms, Larry & Lisa Weeks, Waynesboro, VA

USDA Ag Research Service, Joan Burke, Booneville, AR

Voress Family Farm, Eric Voress, Sydney, OH

Wade-Jean Farm, Donna Stoneback, Loudonville, OH

Weaver Sheep, Maynard Weaver, Waynesboro, VA

Virginia Tech Southwest AREC, Virginia Tech, Glade Spring, VA

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Scott Greiner at (540)231-9169 at your earliest convenience.



Sheep Update

Dr. Scott P. Greiner

Extension Animal Scientist, Virginia Tech

Annual Virginia Fall Bred Ewe & Doe Sale to be Held December 7

The 2013 Virginia Sheep Producer's Association Fall Bred Ewe & Doe Sale will be held Saturday, December 7 at 1:00 PM at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds in Harrisonburg. Yearling ewes and does, ewe lambs and doe kids, along with mature ewes and does will be sold. All yearling and mature ewes and does will be sold as guaranteed pregnant. Breeds offered will include Suffolk, Hampshire, Dorset, and crossbreds (including wether dams). All does will be registered meat goats or meat goat crossbreds. For a sale catalog or more information visit the VSPA website <http://www.vasheeproducers.com/>.

2013 Virginia Performance Tested Ram Lamb & Replacement Ewe Lamb Sale Results

The 38th Annual Virginia Performance Tested Ram Lamb Sale was held at the Virginia Sheep Evaluation Station at the Virginia Tech Shenandoah Valley AREC near Steeles Tavern on Saturday, August 24. A total of 55 rams sold for a record average price of \$579. Top-selling ram was a fall-born Dorset consigned by Virginia Tech which sold for \$1100. As a new addition to the day's activities, an educational field day was held prior to the sale with a nice crowd on hand. Replacement ewe lambs were sold immediately following the rams. A total of 40 ewe lambs sold for an average price of \$303. Ashley's Club Lambs of Lyndhurst, VA consigned the top-selling ewe lamb which brought \$725. Sale results were as follows:

<u>Rams</u>	<u>Sale Average</u>
25 Suffolk	\$602
11 Fall Dorset	\$664
4 Winter Dorset	\$713
4 Hampshire	\$538
4 Katahdin	\$475
1 North Country Cheviot	\$325
6 White Dorper	\$379
55 Total Rams	\$579
<u>Ewe Lambs</u>	
40 ewe lambs	\$303

The Virginia Ram Lamb Performance Test and Replacement Ewe Lamb Sale is sponsored by the Virginia Sheep Producer's Association. Information on the 2014 test and sale may be attained from Scott Greiner, Extension Sheep Specialist, Virginia Tech, phone 540-231-9159 or email sgreiner@vt.edu.