



## **News for Immediate Release**

**July 19, 2011**

### **Pennsylvania Ram Lamb and Meat Goat Buck Sale Slated for Aug. 6**

Livestock Center Evaluated 29 Ram Lambs and 30 Meat Goat Bucks

**Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa.** – The Pennsylvania Livestock Evaluation Center will host a sale of the top performing ram lambs and meat goat bucks selected from an industry-improving growth trial on Saturday, Aug. 6 at 1:00 p.m..

Twenty-nine ram lambs and 30 meat goat bucks, consigned by sheep and meat goat producers from across Pennsylvania and from nearby states, participated in the trial. All animals sold at the sale are considered flock or herd improvers. Rams and bucks are sold with growth data, feed efficiency, loin measurements and fat thicknesses.

Breeds consigned to sale include:

#### **29 Ram Lambs**

- 8 Dorsets
- 10 Suffolks
- 2 Dorpers
- 2 Shropshires
- 1 White Dorper
- 5 Texels
- 1 Merino

#### **30 Meat Goat Bucks**

- 24 Full Blood Boer
- 6 Purebred/ Percentage Boers

The tested animals ranged in age from three to nine months (beginning test). They were tested for growth, muscling and fat deposition over a 77-day period for rams and a 70-day period for goats. The genetic potential of the rams and bucks completing the evaluation program is indicated by the data collected.

Upon finishing the test, rams and bucks were ultrasonically scanned for loin eye area and fat thickness and examined for breeding soundness. Sheep and meat goat producers can use this data to make important breeding and sales decisions that will offer consumers more value and farmers more profit.

Prior to the sale on Aug. 6, the Pennsylvania Sheep and Wool Growers Association will be conducting a field day with youth and adult educational programs. Schedules for the field day including events and speakers are included in the 2011 sale catalog.

For a sale catalog or information on the ram and buck test, contact the Livestock Evaluation Center staff at 814-238-2527 or [g Hubbard@state.pa.us](mailto:g Hubbard@state.pa.us). For more information on the center and other performance testing programs and sales, go to [www.livestockevaluationcenter.com](http://www.livestockevaluationcenter.com).

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The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Samuel E. Hayes, Jr. Livestock Evaluation Center measures genetic traits for beef, swine, sheep, and meat goats for two purposes: to benefit producers in evaluating economically important traits, and to benefit consumers by providing wholesome, high-quality products at an affordable price.