

UWEX Cooperative Extension – University of Wisconsin Extension

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Dear Ram Test Consignors and Supporters:

Enclosed are the final weights for the 2006 Spring-born, Group 3 rams in the Wisconsin Ram Test. Look for a list of the consignors printed on the back of the individual test data reports.

Only the final reports for each group will be sent to our entire mailing list. The intermediate reports will be sent to consignors of rams in the current test. **To receive this report earlier, send your email address to Randy (see his email address above). For any questions or complaints concerning the test report also contact Randy.**

You will also be able to find the report on the following web page. www.uwex.edu/ces/animalscience/sheep

Wisconsin Ram Test: Spring-born, 2006, Group-3, final-day Weights

A **Hampshire** ram owned by University of Wisconsin-Madison, Todd Taylor, Arlington, WI, holds the Wisconsin Ram Test, Spring-born 2006, Group-3, top gaining ram position at the final weighing with an adjusted test average daily gain of **1.14 lb/day**.

Top gaining rams of other breeds being tested in the Wisconsin Ram Test, Spring-born, Group 3, 2006 test, their owners and their adjusted test average daily gains are:

Katahdin:	.81 lb/day, Spruce Springs Farm, Christine & Edward Abel, Rudolph, WI
Polypay:	.58 lb/day, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Todd Taylor, Arlington, WI
Siremax:	1.06 lb/day, Sheep Improvement Inc., Cindy Wolf/Kelly O'Neill, Rushford, MN

- The winner of the Nelson Crest Award for the fastest growing ram lamb in the combined 2006 tests goes to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Todd Taylor, Arlington, WI with a Hampshire ram averaging an adjusted daily gain of 1.14 lb/day.
- The winner of the Nelson Crest Award for the ram lamb with the largest loin eye area in the combined 2006 tests goes to the Sheep Improvement Inc. Cindy Wolf and Kelly O'Neill, Rushford, MN with a Siremax ram measuring an adjusted LEA of 3.95 sq in.

We thank the consignors for entering their rams. We thank Nils Nelson of Nelson Crest Farm, Test Station Manager, for the excellent management and facilities he provides to the test. We acknowledge and thank Dr. Scott Spaulding and the staff of Badger Veterinary Hospital, Janesville, WI for donating their expertise on delivery days and for serving as the consulting veterinarian to the test. We also thank Dr. Steven Radabaugh of GenAlysis, Milford, OH for providing free DNA codon testing for all rams in both the Wisconsin Ram Test and the National Dorset Regional Ram Test

Questions concerning management of the rams should be directed to Nils Nelson (608-876-6928). Questions concerning the DNA codon testing should be directed to Dr. Radabaugh at GenAlysis (toll free 1-888-300-GENE (4363)), and **questions concerning the information in this report should be directed to Randy Gottfredson (608-265-2499, gottfred@ansi.wisc.edu) or Dave Thomas (608-263-4306, dlthomas@wisc.edu).** **Please contact Randy with any missing entry information on your ram or if you are not receiving your reports!**

Sincerely yours,

Randy Gottfredson
Research Program Manager
and Extension Sheep Specialist

David L. Thomas
Professor, Sheep Genetics
and Management and
Extension Sheep Specialist

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL REPORTS FOR THE 2006

Group-3 TESTS:

Wisconsin Ram Test (WRT), Spring-Born, Group-3

Form 1

1. Breed
2. Breeder
3. Identification test - Test station ear tag number
4. Identification farm - Farm of origin ear tag number
5. Date of Birth
6. Birth/Raised - Whether the ram lamb was born a single, twin, etc., and how the ram was raised.
7. Start - 6/9 - Beginning weight; the average of weights taken on June 8 and 9
8. Finish 8/4 Final weight; the average of weights taken August 3 and 4
9. ADG 4th period - Average daily gain from July 21 to August 3 and 4
10. Test ADG - Actual average daily gain over the entire 56-day testing period from June 8 and 9 to August 3 and 4
11. Age on Jun 9. The age in days of each ram at the start of the test on June 9
12. Adjusted test ADG - The Test ADG adjusted for the age of the ram at the start of the test; all rams were adjusted to 84.42 (WRT) days of age at the start of the test, (average age of the rams). Previous research with rams tested in the Wisconsin Central Ram Test has shown that older rams have slower gains than do younger rams. The results indicate that each day increase in age at the start of the test reduces average daily gain during the test by .0019 lb./day. Therefore, average daily gain during the test can be adjusted for differences among rams for age at start of the test. Rams whose age matched the average age in days at the start of the test were not adjusted. Rams less than the average age in days had .0019 subtracted from their test ADG for each day less the average, and rams over the average age in days had .0019 added to their test ADG for each day over the average.
13. Scrotal Circumf - Scrotal circumference was measured with a metal tape on August 4
14. Act Backfat Thickness - The actual backfat thickness was measured on August 4 with an ultrasound machine.
15. Adj Backfat Thickness - The actual backfat thickness was adjusted for the August 3 and 4 weight of the ram at the end of the test and was adjusted to 135 pounds, (average final weight of all rams tested at the Wisconsin Ram Tests since 2001).
16. Act Loin Eye Area - The actual area of the loin eye muscle was measured on August 4 with an ultrasound machine.
17. Adj Loin Eye Area - The actual loin eye area was adjusted for the August 3 and 4 weight of the ram at the end of the test and was adjusted to 135 pounds, (average final weight of all rams tested at the Wisconsin Ram Tests since 2001).
18. Act Loin Depth - The actual depth of the loin muscle was measured on August 4 with an ultrasound machine.
19. Adj Loin Depth - The actual loin depth was adjusted for the August 3 and 4 weight of the ram at the end of the test and was adjusted to 135 pounds, (average final weight of all rams tested at the Wisconsin Ram Tests since 2001).
20. % Bnlss Clsly Trmmd Rtl Cts. - This is an estimate of the percentage of boneless closely trimmed retail cuts the ram would have if he were slaughtered and cut for the retail market.
21. Lean Gain/Day - This is an estimate of the amount of lean (muscle) the ram gained per day.

Form 2

1. Test No - Test station ear tag number
2. Jun-9, Start weight; the average of weights taken on June 8 and 9
3. Jun-23, Weight on June 23
4. ADG 1st period - Average daily gain from June 8 and 9 to June 23
5. Jul-7, Weight on July 7
6. ADG 2nd period - Average daily gain from June 23 to July 7
7. Jul-21, Weight on July 21
8. ADG 3rd period - Average daily gain July 7 to July 21
9. Aug-4 (Final weights); the average of weights taken on August 3 and 4
10. ADG 4th period - Average daily gain from July 21 to August 3 and 4
11. Test-ADG - Average daily gain over the entire 56-day testing period from June 8 and 9 to August 3 and 4
12. Age on Ju- 9, The age in days of each ram at the start of the test on June 9
13. Adjusted test ADG - The Test ADG adjusted for the age of the ram at the start of the test; all rams were adjusted to 84.42 (WRT) days of age at the start of the test, (average age of the rams). Previous research with rams tested in the Wisconsin Central Ram Test has shown that older rams have slower gains than do younger rams. The results indicate that each day increase in age at the start of the test reduces average daily gain during the test by .0019 lb./day. Therefore, average daily gain during the test can be adjusted for differences among rams for age at start of the test. Rams whose age matched the average age in days at the start of the test were not adjusted. Rams less than the average age in days had .0019 subtracted from their test ADG for each day less the average, and rams over the average age in days had .0019 added to their test ADG for each day over the average.

WISCONSIN RAM TEST March-Born, Group-3, 2006

Final Weight Report, Aug 4, 2006, form-1

Breed	Ram Identification			Date of		42 Day Weight	ADG 4th Period	Test ADG	Age on Jun 09 days	Adjusted Test ADG	Scrotal Circumf	Act Backfat Thickness	Adj Backfat Thickness	Act Loin Eye Area	Adj Loin Eye Area	Act Loin Depth	Adj Loin Depth	Bnlss Clsly Trmmd Rtl Cts	Lean Gain/Day
	Breeder	Rt Ear	Birth	Start	Finish														
Katahdin	Spruce Springs	266	Mar 26	62.00	108.50	96.00	0.89	0.83	75	0.81	28.50	0.14	0.18	1.84	2.10	0.95	1.06	42.09	0.18
	Spruce Springs	264	Mar 14	45.50	89.50	80.00	0.68	0.79	87	0.79	30.00	0.16	0.23	1.92	2.37	0.97	1.16	44.47	0.18
	Average			53.75	99.00	88.00	0.79	0.81	81.00	0.80	29.25	0.15	0.21	1.88	2.24	0.96	1.11	43.28	0.18
Hampshire	UW Madison	6086	Mar 06	105.00	167.50	156.00	0.82	1.12	95	1.14	39.50	0.17	0.12	3.22	2.90	1.28	1.14	49.16	0.29
	UW Madison	6120	Mar 21	97.00	156.00	146.00	0.71	1.05	80	1.05	30.00	0.22	0.19	3.26	3.05	1.08	0.99	49.75	0.27
	UW Madison	6088	Mar 06	108.50	164.00	156.00	0.57	0.99	95	1.01	32.00	0.22	0.17	2.91	2.62	1.19	1.07	45.42	0.23
	Pope	429	Mar 29	79.50	135.50	123.00	0.89	1.00	72	0.98	31.00	0.17	0.17	2.94	2.94	1.25	1.25	49.69	0.26
	Pope	417	Mar 21	87.00	136.50	118.00	1.32	0.88	80	0.88	33.50	0.21	0.21	2.69	2.68	1.06	1.05	46.28	0.21
	Average			95.40	151.90	139.80	0.86	1.01	84.40	1.01	33.20	0.20	0.17	3.00	2.84	1.17	1.10	48.06	0.25
Polypay	UW Madison	6373	Mar 16	84.00	116.50	112.00	0.32	0.58	85	0.58	28.50	0.15	0.18	2.63	2.81	1.03	1.11	48.96	0.15
	Average			84.00	116.50	112.00	0.32	0.58	85.00	0.58	28.50	0.15	0.18	2.63	2.81	1.03	1.11	48.96	0.15
Siremax	Sheep Improv Inc	6405	Mar 15	86.50	145.50	135.00	0.75	1.05	86	1.06	30.50	0.13	0.11	3.87	3.77	1.36	1.32	58.75	0.32
	Sheep Improv Inc	6406	Mar 15	74.00	130.00	122.00	0.57	1.00	86	1.00	29.00	0.15	0.16	3.43	3.48	1.27	1.29	55.56	0.29
	Sheep Improv Inc	6409	Mar 15	86.50	140.50	130.00	0.75	0.96	86	0.97	30.00	0.20	0.19	3.85	3.80	1.48	1.46	57.67	0.29
	Sheep Improv Inc	6595	Mar 15	82.00	131.00	125.00	0.43	0.88	86	0.88	28.00	0.13	0.14	3.91	3.95	1.33	1.35	60.65	0.28
	Average			82.25	136.75	128.00	0.63	0.97	86.00	0.98	29.38	0.15	0.15	3.77	3.75	1.36	1.35	58.16	0.29
TEST	AVERAGE			83.13	135.08	124.92	0.73	0.93	84.42	0.93	30.88	0.17	0.17	3.04	3.04	1.19	1.19	50.70	0.25

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WISCONSIN RAM TEST March-Born, Group-3, 2006

Final Weight Report, Aug 4, 2006, form-2

<u>Rt Ear</u>	<u>Jun-9</u>	<u>Jun-23</u>	<u>ADG 1st</u> <u>Period</u> 6/9 - 6/23	<u>Jul-7</u>	<u>ADG 2nd</u> <u>Period</u> 6/23 - 7/7	<u>Jul-21</u>	<u>ADG 3rd</u> <u>Period</u> 7/7 - 7/21	<u>Aug-4</u>	<u>ADG 4th</u> <u>Period</u> 7/21 - 8/4	<u>Test</u> <u>ADG</u> 6/9 - 8/4	<u>Age on</u> <u>Jun-9</u> days	<u>Adjusted</u> <u>Test ADG</u> 6/9 - 8/4
266	62.00	72.00	0.71	92.00	1.43	96.00	0.29	108.50	0.89	0.83	75	0.81
264	45.50	51.00	0.39	66.00	1.07	80.00	1.00	89.50	0.68	0.79	87	0.79
	53.75	61.50	0.55	79.00	1.25	88.00	0.64	99.00	0.79	0.81	81.00	0.80
6086	105.00	122.00	1.21	140.00	1.29	156.00	1.14	167.50	0.82	1.12	95	1.14
6120	97.00	116.00	1.36	131.00	1.07	146.00	1.07	156.00	0.71	1.05	80	1.05
6088	108.50	121.00	0.89	139.00	1.29	156.00	1.21	164.00	0.57	0.99	95	1.01
429	79.50	91.00	0.82	105.00	1.00	123.00	1.29	135.50	0.89	1.00	72	0.98
417	87.00	102.00	1.07	124.00	1.57	118.00	-0.43	136.50	1.32	0.88	80	0.88
	95.40	110.40	1.07	127.80	1.24	139.80	0.86	151.90	0.86	1.01	84.40	1.01
6373	84.00	94.00	0.71	100.00	0.43	112.00	0.86	116.50	0.32	0.58	85	0.58
	84.00	94.00	0.71	100.00	0.43	112.00	0.86	116.50	0.32	0.58	85.00	0.58
6405	86.50	101.00	1.04	126.00	1.79	135.00	0.64	145.50	0.75	1.05	86	1.06
6406	74.00	95.00	1.50	110.00	1.07	122.00	0.86	130.00	0.57	1.00	86	1.00
6409	86.50	95.00	0.61	120.00	1.79	130.00	0.71	140.50	0.75	0.96	86	0.97
6595	82.00	98.00	1.14	112.00	1.00	125.00	0.93	131.00	0.43	0.88	86	0.88
	82.25	97.25	1.07	117.00	1.41	128.00	0.79	136.75	0.63	0.97	86.00	0.98
	83.13	96.50	0.96	113.75	1.23	124.92	0.80	135.08	0.73	0.93	84.42	0.93

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Wisconsin Ram Test Consignors
Spring-born, Group-3, 2006

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