



KATAHDIN NSIP BREEDER'S GROUP

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COLLECTING AND SUBMITTING DATA FOR KATAHDIN NSIP EVALUATION (02/06 version)

Information to help you collect accurate & useful data

1. *What basic information is needed?* i) Birth wt, ii) 60 day wt, iii) 120 day wt, and iv) number of lambs born per ewe and v) lamb deaths. Lambs should be weighed as a group within a 15-30 day window of the target 60 and 120 day weights.) Data collection is not hard, but there are a few key things in the collection that will improve accuracy and the quality of data you receive.
 - a. **Track the date the service sire was put in and taken out for the breeding flock or each ewe** - This data will be used for the development of an accelerated lambing EPD in the future.
 - b. **Birth Wt** - Not technically required, but very useful. Highly recommended. This allows the 60 day growth potential to be calculated with much more accuracy.
 - c. **60 day wt** - This wt does not need to be taken exactly on 60 days. The key requirements are i) before weaning, ii) between 45 & 90 days of age.
 - d. **Weaning wt** - If you do not wean at 60 days of age, you will also need to collect a separate weaning wt.
 - e. **Postweaning wt** - This wt does not need to be taken at exactly 120 days of age. The key requirements are i) at least 30 days after the weaning wt and ii) between 90 and 150 days of age.
 - f. **Tracking rearing conditions** - Track which lambs are bottle fed, which lambs are grafted on to another ewe, which ewe they are grafted on to, when lambs die, which are stillborn, which ewes abort, which pen/pasture they are raised in. It is very important to track groups of lambs that are treated differently from other groups of lambs. Ewes and I
 - g. **Optional - FEC-EPD** - Fecal Egg Count - Expected Progeny Difference. If you are interesting in being involved in identifying Katahdin sires that have lambs with superior parasite resistance, contact Jim Morgan.
 - h. **Management of flock** - For the most accurate NSIP evaluation, manage so that all your lambs are in the same pen, fed together, weaned together and thus can be directly compared. Managing all lambs in one pen is not always practical.

Basically, you are collecting information that many of us as breeders are doing already. The above information is all you really need to know. If you prefer a longer discussion on data collection and why, let Jim Morgan know and he can send a long version.

Costs - In 2006, the cost for the Katahdin group will be \$40/flock and \$2.35/ewe that lambs.

If you have any more questions, please contact Jim Morgan.

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