

**Central Hair Sheep Ram Performance Test**  
**Angelo State University**  
**Texas A & M University**

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**Location:** Angelo State University, Management Instruction and Research Center, San Angelo, Texas.

**Ram Age Requirements:** Ram Lambs born September 1,2008-Dec 31,2008 and January 1, 2009 – March 31, 2009.

**Variables to be measured:** Beginning and Ending Body Weights, Average Daily Gain, Ribeye Area, Back Fat Thickness, Beginning and Ending Wool Coverage Score, Beginning and Ending Scrotal Circumference

**Ranking For Index:** Rams will be ranked on average daily gain since this is the most important trait that impact production in the hair sheep. Other data will be provided for producer information only.

**Sifting Evaluation:** The association will provide three members to evaluate and sift rams on structure and general soundness.

**Management:** Upon arrival all rams will be vaccinated with a multivalent clostridial vaccine, treated for internal parasites and tested for reproductive diseases before grouping with other rams. Rams will be provided a pelleted 17% grower diet in self-feeders until completion of performance test. Following completion until pickup, rams will be hand fed to bring them back down from testing conditions to allow them to transition into production situations easier.

**Dates:** Arrival            May 29, 2009 (Warm Up Period)  
          Beginning        June 12, 2009  
          Completion/     September 4, 2009  
          Pickup Rams

**Cost:** \$160/head due by ram arrival. Cost will cover feed, vaccinations, routine health costs, labor and initial testing for reproductive diseases. However, at the conclusion of the test, if the rams are required to have a blood test to leave the state the expense of that testing will be take care of by the individual producer, but we will work with the producers to coordinate the testing prior to shipping date.