

**Angelo State University  
Agriculture Department**

**Hair Sheep Progeny Testing Program**

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

**Purpose:** The program is designed to provide an avenue for producers to determine the genetic potential of a sire for the efficient production of marketable lamb.

**Methodology/Management:** Lambs born after January 1, 2009 will be eligible. Lambs will be delivered to the MIR center September 14, 2009 to begin a 14 day adjustment period (Dorper lambs will also be gathered in Fredericksburg at the THC Dorper Sale Sept 12). At time of arrival, all lambs will be vaccinated against enterotoxaemia and treated for internal parasites. Official start date will be September 25, 2009. Feeding will be done in bulk self-feeders with a diet balanced to meet requirements. Lambs will be fed in 10' X 40' with automatic water troughs and 50% of the pen is shaded. Minimum number of lambs per pen will be 3 head and when possible, an individual producer's lambs will be penned together to facilitate estimating feed conversion (feed efficiency). A maximum of 4 lambs per sire will be allowed on the test to allow room for as many producers as possible. Lambs will be fed until their ultrasound determined back fat thickness is 0.30 inches or until they are 125 pounds body weight. Lambs will be weighed every 28 days until they begin to get near their endpoint, and they will then be weighed every 14 days and back fat measurements taken to determine market readiness. When they have reached their endpoint, they will be harvested and the Angelo State University Food Safety and Product Development Laboratory and carcass will be evaluated and graded.

**Variables to be Measured:** Pen feed intake, pen feed efficiency if only one producer's lambs are in a pen, Average Daily Gain, final ultrasound back fat thickness. Harvested lambs: Carcass collection consists of all necessary carcass attributes collected to predict carcass quality and yield. If any special measurements are needed, we would need to discuss those prior to the beginning of the test.

<b>Cost:</b>	Feeding/Management/Facilities	\$65.00
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Harvest/Carcass Evaluation

\$35.00

\*\*\*Arrangements must be made prior to the start of the test if you plan to have the lambs harvested. At harvest, unless arrangements have been made, belong to the producer.