



## News for Immediate Release

**Aug. 15, 2012**

### **PA Performance-Tested Sheep and Goat Sale Grosses Nearly \$65,000**

Top-selling Buck Brings \$2,000, Top Ram \$1,100 at Livestock Evaluation Center

**Pennsylvania Furnace** – Pennsylvania sheep and goat producers received nearly \$65,000 for 115 elite animals during the Livestock Evaluation Center's 34<sup>th</sup> annual Performance Tested Ram Lamb and Meat Goat Buck Sale.

Top males selected after 77-day ram and 70-day buck performance tests sold Aug. 4 at the center in Pennsylvania Furnace, Centre Co. The tests evaluated growth, average daily gain, muscling and fat deposition. The higher-quality genetics will help improve sheep flocks and goat herds across Pennsylvania and throughout the northeast.

Thirty-nine performance tested rams averaged \$656, while 31 tested bucks averaged \$523. Select females also sold, with 14 consignment ewes averaging \$668 and 31 does averaging \$421.

The top-selling buck was consigned by Sherrie Losch of Port Royal, Juniata Co., and sold for \$2,000 to Prosperity Acres of Sunderland, Md. The second-highest seller was consigned by William and Jody Weist of Middleburg, Union Co., and sold for \$925.

The top-selling ram, a Suffolk from MacCauley Suffolks of Atglen, Chester Co., brought \$1,100, selling to Deborah Boyd of Ephrata, Lancaster Co. Two Dorpers from Nix Besser Farm in Narvon, Lancaster Co. sold for \$1,000 each to Anna Frumina of Sweet Valley, Luzerne Co. Dorpers were the highest-averaging rams, selling six animals for \$750 average.

All rams and bucks passed a breeding soundness exam and sold with growth and feed efficiency data as well as loin measurements and fat thicknesses obtained through ultrasound scan. Producers can use this data to make important breeding and sales decisions that will bring more value to consumers and increasing farm profitability.

Sale averages by breed are:

- **Ram Lambs** – eight Dorsets averaged \$544, eight Suffolks averaged \$728, seven Texels averaged \$668, six Dorpers averaged \$746, four Katahdins averaged \$663, three Polypays averaged \$617, a White Dorper brought \$750, a Shropshire \$700 and a Merino \$300.

- **Meat Goat Bucks** – 17 full-blood senior Boers averaged \$606, seven full-blood junior Boers averaged \$321, six purebred/percentage senior Boers averaged \$558 and a purebred/percentage junior Boer brought \$300.

For more information, contact the Livestock Evaluation Center at 814-238-2527 or [g Hubbard@pa.gov](mailto:g Hubbard@pa.gov) or visit [www.livestockevaluationcenter.com](http://www.livestockevaluationcenter.com).

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