

Performance Record Keeping for Small Ruminant Producers

Objective: To keep viable performance records of sheep/goats in order to make effective management decisions.

Experimental unit: Flock/Herd

Number of head required: 10+

Facility requirements: None

Methods: Collect information regarding (can be one or all)

- **Lambing/Kidding Records** – Basic information on each individual born.
- **Ewe/Nanny Lifetime Records** – Summary of lifetime performance including information across multiple lambing/kidding seasons.
- **Health Records** – Document all procedures performed to serve for quality assurance purposes.
- **Inventory Records** – Record inventory numbers during production cycles (i.e. number of ewes exposed to rams and dates, marketing dates, death loss, etc.)
- **Weight Records** – Record birth, weaning, and post-weaning weights.

Results: Utilize records as a flock/herd management and evaluation tool.

- Pregnancy Rate
- Lambing/Kidding Rate
- Pounds of lamb/kid weaned/sold per ewe/nanny
- Lamb/Kid Average Daily Gain
- Keep/Cull Decisions