

**WYOMING WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION
2024 WYOMING STATE RAM SALE RULES**

Rule's highlighted in "yellow" signify a new/amended rule as of
2023

1. GENERAL RULES

- 1.1 ALL CONSIGNORS MUST BE ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE WYOMING WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION WITH DUES FULLY PAID. The Active Membership fee is \$150.00.
- 1.2 All sheep must be bred and raised by Consignor.
- 1.3 THE WYOMING WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION reserves the right to reject any or all entries and the entry fee will be returned. The Association also reserves the right to limit the number of entries from the Consignor.
- 1.4 The WWGA disclaims liability for any injury to any person or property resulting from any cause, whatsoever, occurring on or about the sale grounds or premises, or as a result of the sale.
- 1.5 All sheep on the grounds are held at Consignor's risk until sold. Ownership changes when the sheep are sold in the ring. Rams are held at purchasers risk thereafter.
- 1.6 Beginning in 2021, when considering a consignor's requests for consignment to the sale, the Ram Sale Committee will evaluate the combined number of scratches, no-sales and sifted rams the consignor had in the previous year. If the combined number is found to be greater than 50% of the number of rams entered, a consignor will not be allowed to increase consignment numbers for the current year's sale and the Ram Sale Committee, at its discretion, may cut or reject the consignor's request for consignment.
- 1.7 Except in the instance of Certified Rams (see rule 3.2), all consignors are limited to no more than two pens consisting of a single ram.
 - (a) **New consignors must consign at least 1 head** and no more than 5 head per breed. Non consignors from the previous year are considered new consignors.
 - (b) Each consignor will be allowed to designate TWO pens of TWO or THREE rams as a "Buyers Choice - A, B or A, B, C.
- 1.8 No Consignor can consign more than 30 head of range rams.
- 1.9 Rams must be shorn in the same year as the sale. The shearing date must be declared upon entry.
- 1.10 The WWGA reserves the right to refuse to issue buyer numbers at their discretion.

2. ENTRY FEES & SALE PREPARATION

- 2.1 Entry fee will be \$10.00 (entry) plus \$5.00 for on-line sale video/broadcasting for a total entry of \$15.00 per head for all rams. The entry fee is non-refundable and must be included at the time entries are received. The Association makes a charge of 10% (ten percent) of the sale price on all rams sold.
- 2.2 Upon signing of the entry blank, the Consignor of the sheep to the Wyoming State Ram Sale is agreeing to comply with the Rules and Terms of the sale. Willful violation of any of the Rules and Terms of the Sale, will automatically exclude the consignor from future Wyoming State Ram Sales. All warranties and guarantees are between buyer and seller.
- 2.3 In order to be cataloged, entries must be made with the Executive Director, Wyoming Wool Growers Association by July 1, 2024. Please include your advertising copy at the time of your entry submission in order to advertise in the Wyoming Livestock Roundup Special Wyoming State Ram Sale Edition.
- 2.4 All sheep consigned to the sale must be on the grounds no earlier than 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 8th, and no later than 8:00 a.m. on Monday, September 9th. Sifting of rams will begin promptly on Monday at 9:30 a.m. Consignors MUST have sheep there and in pens by 8:00 a.m. on Monday, September 9th. Every Consignor (or their designee or representative) MUST be present and in the pen with their animals during sifting and MUST help move and hold animals in order to assist the sifting committee. Failure to be present and assist may result in disqualification from the sale. Consignors that come in before Sunday must notify the WWGA office at 307-265-5250 and will be charged \$40.00 for each day they arrive before Sunday.

3. CERTIFIED RAMS & RAM TEST RAMS

3.1 Definitions:

- a. **Certified Ram:** A certified ram is a ram that has completed a certified Ram test and has met the criteria of the American Rambouillet Association or the Wyoming Certified test for certification.
- b. **Certified Ram Criteria:** Registered Rams enrolled in a certified Ram test are eligible for the Certified Ram Classification if they meet the following:
 - Acceptable standards from the standpoint of body type, amount of body skin folds, freedom from anatomical weaknesses and wool defects, including extremely hairy britch or excessive amount of belly type wool.
 - Minimum of 4.0 inch staple length,
 - 9 pounds clean wool,
 - A core wool grade of 23.77 or less,
 - A maximum of 2.7 face cover score,
 - Must have gained at least 0.55 pounds per day on test, and
 - Must have at least one "R" in their Genotype
 - Must be in the top 30% on test

- Index data on Certified White Face Rams must be submitted to the WWGA office on/or before August 13, 2024, or rams will not sell.

3.2 Substituting Certified Rams is not permitted.

3.3 Certified Rams can be consigned as single pens. Breeders with Certified Rams do not have to meet the five head minimum (see Rule 1.6). A consignor is limited to TWO Certified Rams.

4. SALE ORDER

4.1 Certified Rams will sell first.

a. Selling order for Certified Rams will be according to the American Rambouillet Association Index followed by eligible Wyoming Certified Rams with the highest indexing rams selling first. White face rams falling in the top 30% on the Wyoming test are considered eligible.

4.2 Whiteface range rams will follow the Certified Rams.

4.3 Beginning in 2020, Blackface Rams will sell based on a three year rotation starting with Suffolk/Hampshire Yearlings, Suffolk/Hampshire Lambs, Hampshire Yearlings, Hampshire Lambs, Suffolk Yearlings and Suffolk Lambs with the last breed in the sale selling first the following year. The breed selling last in the rotation will be offered first in the next year's sale, and the remaining breeds will move down one spot in the rotation.

5. TERMS OF SALE

5.1 TERMS OF THE SALE: CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT CARD. Standard credit card fees will apply. Credit card fees will be posted at the sale clerks table on the day of the sale. Out-of-state buyers who have not purchased rams previously through the Wyoming State Ram Sale (WSRS) and have not established an acceptable record of sufficient funds being available for clearance of checks for purchases made at the WSRS **MUST** have a letter of credit from their bank PRIOR to being issued a buyers number. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE WWGA OFFICE AT 307-265-5250 PRIOR TO SALE DAY.

5.2 Private sales before or during the auction are strictly forbidden. On private sales made after the auction closes and while sheep are on the grounds, the regular commission will be collected. Consignors bringing extra rams to be sold outside the Sale will be denied the privilege of selling rams through future Association sales.

5.3 All purchases are to be settled on the day purchased, with the sale clerks on the grounds. Make all checks payable to the Wyoming Wool Growers Association. Any checks returned as "non-sufficient funds" are subject to a \$100.00 collection fee.

5.4 One bid shall not be considered an auction unless the Owner consents.

5.5 No Sale Fee: In the event a ram “no sales”, the consignor will pay a 10% fee on the reserve price provided to the sale clerk. If the reserve price is \$300.00 or less, a no sale fee of \$30.00 will be applied. Each consignor shall complete and sign a “consignor reserve” form and turn it into the sale clerk by 9 a.m., on sale day. Consignor reserve forms will be distributed during sifting and/or made available by the sale clerk the day before the sale. If a consignor “no sales” all of their sheep for two consecutive years they will be dropped from the sale the following year.

5.6 SETTLEMENT FOR ALL SHEEP SOLD THROUGH THE RING, OR PRIVATELY AFTER THE AUCTION HAS CLOSED, SHALL BE MADE WITH THE CLERK OF THE SALE.

6. POST AUCTION RULES

- 6.1 Load out can begin once all Rambouillets are sold. No unsupervised loading is allowed.
- 6.2 Buyers must remove all sheep by 6:00 p.m. the evening of the sale or arrange for facilities, care of the animals and a night watchman.
- 6.3 Any breed or breeder whose average price at last years’ sale was considerably lower than the sales average will be asked to cut consignment at the discretion of the Ram Sale Committee.

7. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 **ALL sheep MUST be identified with USDA/APHIS Scrapie identification tags.**
For the purposes of this sale, we will use the USDA/APHIS Scrapie tags for animal identification purposes. These USDA/APHIS Scrapie tag numbers must be included on any paperwork required to be submitted to Sale officials, including any lab results, such as Brucella Ovis (*B. Ovis*) test results, certificates of veterinary health inspection, etc.
- 7.2. **All sheep consigned to the Wyoming State Ram Sale must comply with all** regulations of the Wyoming Livestock Board. In particular, ALL sheep must be accompanied by a **certificate of veterinary health inspection** issued within thirty (30) days prior to the sale. Certificates of Veterinary Inspection must include the USDA/APHIS scrapie ID tag numbers of the rams listed on the certificate.
- 7.3 The minimum scrotal circumference for yearling rams must be 34 cm and for lambs, 31 cm.
- 7.4 **ALL** rams consigned to this sale shall have tested negative for *B. Ovis* by means of a ELISA BLOOD TEST WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE SALE **or** originate from a currently enrolled *B. Ovis* CERTIFIED-FREE FLOCK.
 - a. All consignments must be accompanied by a copy of the *B.Ovis*

lab test results form or, in the case of animals from a *B. ovis* certified free herd, proof of current compliance and active participation in the *B. ovis* certified free program.

- b. **Scrapie tag numbers will serve as the official identification listed on the *B. Ovis* lab test results. Lab forms listing test results must show the date of the test and the USDA/APHIS Scrapie Identification Tag numbers of rams corresponding to entries and must be signed by the attending veterinarian.**
 - c. We do not accept statements of *B. Ovis* status as simply noted on veterinary health certificates. The ELISA Blood Test is an accepted method of checking for epididymitis; however, it should not be considered to be a 100% guarantee of freedom from the disease.
- 7.5 All out-of-state sheep consigned to the sale must obtain an entry permit number (obtained from the Wyoming Livestock Board by calling 307-777-7515). The following statement must be included on the certificate of veterinary health inspection for out-of-state sheep: “the animals have been examined and are free of **Foot Rot**, and **Scrapie** is not known to have existed in the flock of origin within the past five (5) years.” If **Scrapie** has been present in the flock of origin within the past five (5) years, the flock **MUST** be enrolled in a flock plan presented to and approved by the Wyoming State Veterinarian **PRIOR** to entry into Wyoming. Enrollment within such a flock plan **MUST** be noted on the veterinary health inspection form and a copy of the letter from the Wyoming State Veterinarian recognizing the flock plan must accompany the health inspection form. **OUT-OF-STATE CONSIGNORS MUST COMPLY WITH STATE OF WYOMING REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE IMPORTATION OF BLACK-FACE SHEEP INTO WYOMING. WLSB Rules can be viewed at <http://soswy.state.wy.us/Rules/RULES/8634.pdf>**
- 7.6 IT IS REQUIRED THAT ALL SHEEP BE TREATED FOR KEDS WITHIN 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE SALE. If a Ked infestation is found, the ram(s) will be disqualified from the sale and must be removed from the premises.
- 7.7. It is **RECOMMENDED** that all rams receive a breeding soundness evaluation (BSE) examination of the semen for abnormalities.
- 7.8 The WWGA **strongly** believes that extreme docking (complete tail removal) is not an acceptable animal husbandry practice and should be eliminated. The WWGA has also stated its support for prohibitions against the allowance of animals which have been “short docked” at ALL exhibitions and sales throughout the country. It is strongly recommended that sheep be docked in such a manner that the tail is no shorter than one-half (1/2) inch in length, recognizing that most respected experts recommend a dock which results in at least a 1” tail.
- 7.9 **THE STATE RAM SALE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS AND ENCOURAGES THAT ALL RAMS CONSIGNED TO THE SALE BE ACCOMPANIED WITH A GENETIC TEST WHICH DESCRIBES THEIR RAMS GENETIC**

CHARACTERISTICS AT CODON 171. GENETIC TESTING OF CODON 171 HAS BEEN POSITIVELY SHOWN TO BE AN EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE INDICATOR OF ANIMAL RESISTANCE OR SUSCEPTIBILITY TO THE DISEASE SCRAPIE.

- 7.10 THE SIFTING COMMITTEE WILL CHECK ALL SHEEP FOR SOUNDNESS AND FREEDOM FROM DISEASE AND WILL HAVE AUTHORITY TO REJECT ANY SHEEP THAT, IN THEIR ESTIMATION, ARE UNSOUND OR DISEASED OR DOES NOT MEET THE SHEARING QUALIFICATIONS. Selling or giving away sifted sheep during the sale or on the grounds will be prohibited and sifted sheep cannot be replaced for the sale. Standards of health and soundness are for the benefit of the seller and the buyer as well as the integrity of the sale.
- 7.11 Sifted rams must be removed from the barn immediately following the sifting.