



## *Targhee National Sheep Improvement Program*



### Understanding Targhee NSIP Sire Summaries

A Sire Summary is a listing of genetically superior rams enrolled in the Targhee National Sheep Improvement Program (or Targhee NSIP). A list of the top ten rams for each trait - weaning weight, yearling weight, maternal milk, milk + growth, fleece weight, fleece grade (or fiber diameter), staple length, and number of lambs born - tracked by NSIP - is made available for the current year's data run.

It is important to remember while noting a trait leader's influence on the Targhee breed for a given NSIP trait, the Sire Summary is a snapshot of the genetic development program of the breeder/owner. The Sire Summary is instrumental in helping producers identify lines of sheep with the strong potential of influencing their flocks positively for desired traits. Producers seeking to strengthen their flock genetics should visit with the breeder/owner to determine whether this line of sheep is appropriate for their breeding goals.

On Page 3 is an example of a Sire Summary table for the Weaning Weight trait highlighted in black. To help better understand the table some useful definitions and terms are:

**Breeder** - The original flock in which the ram was reared.

**Owner** - The flock in which the ram now resides.

**Registration Tag** - The five digit U.S. Targhee Sheep Association (USTSA) registration number assigned to the ram.

**Flock Tag** - The number/letter combination assigned by the breeder to the ram.

**Birth Date** - Date the ram was born.

**Sire Registration** - The five digit USTSA registration number assigned to the ram's sire.

**Dam Registration** - The five digit USTSA registration number assigned to the dam's sire.

**Weaning Weight EPD** - (60- or 120-day) provides an estimate of preweaning growth potential (expressed in lbs.).

**Yearling Weight EPD** - combines information on preweaning and postweaning growth to predict genetic merit for postweaning weight at 120 days (expressed in lbs.).

**Maternal Milk** - (60- or 120-day) provides an indication of the genetic merit for mothering ability. This EPD primarily reflects genetic differences in ewe milk production potential as realized in her lambs. The maternal milk EPD is thus expressed in pounds of lamb weaned, not pounds of milk produced.

**Milk + Growth** - combines information on weaning weight and maternal milk EPDs to provide an index of the total anticipated contribution of an animal's daughters to lamb weaning weight (expressed in lbs.). Because the milk plus growth EPD is calculated from two other EPDs, an accuracy value is not reported for this EPD.

**Fleece Weight** - provides an estimate of the animal's genetic potential for wool production (expressed in lbs.)

**Fleece Grade (or Fiber Diameter)** - is based on fiber diameter measurements. **Note:** animals with finer fleeces have **negative** values for the fleece grade EPD (expressed in microns).

**Staple Length** - characterizes genetic merit for the length of the staple, or the wool fiber. It is an indicator of both the quality and quantity of wool the animal is expected to produce (expressed in inches).

**Number Born** - evaluates genetic potential for prolificacy. This EPD is expressed as numbers of lambs born per 100 ewes lambing. An EPD of +5.0 for percent lamb crop thus indicates an animal is expected to produce daughters who will have an average of .05 more lambs at each lambing, or 5.0 more lambs per 100 lambings than an average ewe.

**Prediction Error** - For every NSIP trait listed is a Prediction Error. The prediction error directly reflects the amount of future change in EPDs that can be anticipated as more data accumulates on an animal, its relatives, and most importantly, its progeny. Prediction error is expressed in the same units as the trait being measured. The prediction error is a measure of the anticipated stability of the EPD. In general, the lower the prediction error the more stable the EPD.

**Lambs with Weights** - the number of lambs sired by this ram with data entered and evaluated in Targhee NSIP.

**Daughters Lambing** - the number of daughters sired by this ram with data entered and evaluated in Targhee NSIP.

For more specific information about NSIP, please contact the Targhee NSIP coordinator:

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or

Visit the National NSIP website at:

**[www.nsip.org](http://www.nsip.org)**

## Weaning Weight Trait Leaders

Breeder	Owner	Registration	Flock	Birth	Sire	Dam	*Weaning		Yearling		Maternal		Milk +		Fleece		Fleece		Staple		Number		Lambs w/ Daughters			
							<u>Weight</u>		<u>Weight</u>		<u>Milk</u>		<u>Growth</u>		<u>Weight</u>		<u>Grade</u>		<u>Length</u>		<u>Born</u>		<u>Weights</u>		<u>Lambing</u>	
							EPD	PE	EPD	PE	EPD	PE	EPD	PE	EPD	PE	EPD	PE	EPD	PE	EPD	PE	EPD	PE	EPD	PE
Korman	Korman	75537	9192	4/23/1999	68816	61284	<b>5.6</b>	<b>1.4</b>	10.1	3.7	0.1	1.2	2.9	0.9	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.4	-0.6	7.0	64	12			
McRae	Padula	72955	995325	4/3/1999	68897	72805	<b>4.8</b>	<b>1.4</b>	8.3	3.2	1.5	1.2	3.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.3	4.0	6.5	60	17			
McRae	McRae	79197	995334	4/3/1999	68897	72851	<b>4.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>	7.0	2.4	2.2	1.2	4.5	-0.1	0.2	-0.7	0.2	-0.1	0.2	-4.0	6.0	90	31			
Padula	MSU	70467	1002	3/30/2001	72955	70423	<b>4.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>	9.0	3.5	0.1	1.3	2.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	2.3	8.0	40	11			
McRae	McRae	68890	974833	4/8/1997	67237	61397	<b>4.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>	6.6	2.0	0.6	0.9	2.7	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	10.6	4.5	233	81			
McRae	HNC	75950	015964	4/15/2001	68897	72849	<b>3.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>	8.0	2.5	1.7	1.3	3.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	-4.1	7.0	97	6			
Padula	Nollmeyer	70468	1013	4/5/2001	72955	70419	<b>3.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	5.4	3.7	0.2	1.4	2.1	0.2	0.3	-0.3	0.3	0.0	0.4	-1.0	7.5	33	2			
Sieben	Steadman	79710	01086	3/18/2001	71725	70887	<b>3.6</b>	<b>1.1</b>	5.1	3.1	0.7	1.4	2.5	0.2	0.2	-0.3	0.3	-0.1	0.3	3.3	7.5	127	1			
MSU	Steadman	71777	T00089	4/13/2000	69254	72607	<b>3.4</b>	<b>1.4</b>	8.1	3.3	0.6	1.3	2.3	0.3	0.3	-0.4	0.4	-0.1	0.4	2.6	7.0	16	4			
Sieben	Paugh	76045	01059	3/13/2001	71725	70868	<b>3.3</b>	<b>1.3</b>	6.0	3.1	2.3	1.4	3.9	-0.2	0.2	-0.4	0.3	-0.1	0.3	1.2	7.0	37	13			