

Report on the Wyoming Wool Growers Association (WWGA) meeting in Casper Wyoming Dec 8, 2009

Recorder Dallen R. Smith

Chairs Brent Larson & Jim Logan

Call to order Brent Larson

Report from Larry Prager on the wool situation.

LDP changed from \$1.00 to \$1.15 but the loan rates have not changed. Clean weight with 19.5 micron upgraded to \$.40 with a repayment of \$.11 and \$.29 graded rates. 2009 18.5 micron was \$1.50 to \$1.60

Quality issues within the wool industry the first issue addressed is that the hair from hair sheep will not dye and causes trouble when mixed with high quality wool. Blue paint has become a big issue in the woolen mills, there has been some blue paint that was used for branding sheep and they aren't quite sure where the problem initiated. One producer said that there was some old Benjamin Moore marking paint that was blue paint and is thick and may be the cause of the problem but we are not able to verify this. The wool market is good at this time and it pays to have good quality wool.

Dr. Jim Logan Health issues

Last year the WLSB did not sign the Cooperative agreement for scrapie but they signed it this year and there will be \$30,000 that needs to be spent by March 2010.

The Wyoming Livestock Board has adopted rules requiring that all black-faced sheep entering the state for reproductive services be genetically tested for susceptibility to scrapie. Sheep that test QQ at condon 171 will be:

1. Refused import or
2. Be tested using the third eyelid

Genotyping expenses will be reimbursed up to \$15.00 a sample when a copy of the veterinary invoice is submitted to the Wyoming Livestock Board.

Live animal testing of all test-eligible, black-faced/cross QQ sheep will be required and expense covered.

Those wanting to be paid for testing must have it pre-approved.

There is a Scrapie Identification Tag Retention Study in which four Wyoming Producers are participating in the study. They are currently looking for one more sheep producer to take part in the study. They are wanting to tag 100 replacement flock for the study. Ewes will need to be retained in the herd for five years to determine tag retention.

Then Dr. Logan gave an update on

OPP

Bluetongue non this year

Tularemia

Toxoplasmosis Sore mouth

Tb

Piroplasmiasis

Contagious Equine Metritis

Wyoming State Veterinary Lab New Biossecurity level 3 lab under construction.