2011 TEXAS A&M ANGORA GOAT PERFORMANCE TEST

This performance test was undertaken to assist producers in identifying and developing more productive Angora goats. The test started on March 9, 2011. There were 54 animals that completed the test in June. There was a 112-day test period for weight gain and a 113 day test period for fleece growth. Fiber length measurements represent an average of straightened lock measurements taken on the neck, back, and thigh. Fleece data (length and weight) have been converted to a 180-day basis. Fiber diameter measurements were obtained by measuring fibers from a core sample of the entire fleece. The column labeled fiber diameter STD shows a measure of the variation within a fleece, lower values are more desirable. Laboratory-determined yield, med, and kemp values were also measured from a core sample of the entire fleece. Performance standards have been established for several traits (minimum final weight of 110 lb, minimum fleece weight, actual or adjusted, of 8.0 lb, maximum fiber diameter of 50 μm, maximum kemp content of .7%, maximum med content of 7.0%). Animals that did not meet these standards are marked with an asterisk in the report and were not included in the list of top-ranked bucks.

A Committee of three cooperators sifted the animals for sale. Sifted animals which did not qualify for sale are not identified in the report and do not appear on the sale list, but the owners of these animals have been notified.

The visual scores were assigned by a scoring committee according to the following criteria:

Face cover	0 = bald...5 = closed (in the index, no advantage was given for values less than 1)
Neck cover	0 = bare...5 = excellent cover
Character	0 = none...5 = excellent

The column labeled "adjusted fleece weight" is an adjustment to partially correct for differences in initial body weight because animals that start the test at a greater weight are expected to have heavier fleeces. This correction is based on a regression coefficient of 0.026 obtained from regressing clean fleece weight on initial body weight. The animals were adjusted to the mean initial body weight of 88 lb. Thus, for each 10 lb of difference in body weight above the mean initial weight, the clean fleece weight would be reduced by 0.26 lb and the reverse for weights below the mean initial weight.

An **index value** has been calculated for all bucks as shown below:

Index = (4 x adj. clean fleece wt.) + (25 x avg. daily body weight gain) + (.12 x final weight) + (3 x straightened lock length) – (1.5 x fiber diameter) – (3 x face cover score) (no credit below 1)
+ (2.5 x character score) + (1.5 x neck cover score)

This index was empirically derived and should not necessarily be used exclusively for making selections. The top 30% based on index value and which were not sifted and which met all independent culling levels are awarded certificates of performance. The index was used to rank the bucks to determine sale order. The index ratio, which is the index value of the buck divided by the average index multiplied by 100 was calculated and is listed on the report. All animals with an index ratio above 100 are above average.

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This report is available online at: safiles.tamu.edu/genetics/angoratest.htm
or go to: sanangelo.tamu.edu and click on the **'Performance tests'** link.