

**July 9, 2019 - Advisory Board Meeting  
NDSU-Hettinger Research Extension Center**

**Animal Science Report**

**Graduate Students:**

- Graduate students and undergrad technicians:
  - Paige Anderson – M.S. – Animal Science (Chris Schauer, Travis Hoffman, Dr. Stokka)
  - 2 Animal Science internships for the summer (1 local high school student, 1 Animal Science major from NDSU)

**Strategic Plan - Progress towards goals: *Evaluate alternative livestock production systems that increase profitability while maintaining environmental stability***

- Outreach efforts:
  - Fall Ram Test - Field Day March 9, 2019
    - 84 rams from 23 producers: Rambouillet, Columbia, Dorset, Targhee
  - Shearing and Wool Classing School: November 17-19, 2018
    - Shearing School – 15 students from ND, SD, IA, MT, OH, MA, and WY
    - Wool School – 8 students from ND, SD, IA, NE, MN, OH, and NJ
  - Sheep Schools with Extension Service
    - Beginning sheep school with NDLWPA and starter flock recipients (September)
  - OFDA: Newel Ram Sale, Rapid City Stockshow, processed over 2600 samples from 42 producers
  - Received \$27,036 to conduct nation-wide carcass ultrasound training in sheep for certification for the National Sheep Improvement Program
    - Taught schools in ND and TX, organized schools in ID and WI
    - Schools planned for KS and Penn State
  - Getting quotes for a NDSU tartan stadium blanket made out of HREC wool
    - Proceeds to go to Animal Science and Textile Department scholarships
- Sheep Research:
  - *Impacts of flax on female and male reproductive traits when supplemented prior to breeding in sheep* (Amanda Long M.S. program)
    - Amanda defended her thesis, we are submitting the 2 publications shortly.
  - *Impacts of banamine injection on pain responses of either rubber ring castrated and tail docked or surgically castrated and burdizzo docked lambs*
    - Paige Anderson M.S. program funded by SBARE – project completed, stats and writing, presentation today
  - New Funding: *Effects of loin eye muscle depth on accuracy and variation of loin eye area prediction and carcass yield via ultrasound in Rambouillet sheep*
    - Will conduct project this summer and this fall, evaluating feedlot lambs and purebred Rambouillet rams
  - Collaborated with the U of Idaho to determine if there is a genetic marker for “blown legs” in Rambouillet rams
    - Found a “suspect gene” that we will be following chasing grants on
    - This is an exciting project in that it would be the 1<sup>st</sup> breed that isolated a gene for a structural deformity.
- Cattle Research:
  - Grazing studies with Range and Wildlife program (Integrated project – Strategic Plan #5)
- Publications: 2018
  - Refereed – 1, Extension - 2
- Extension Specialist: Dr. Janna Kincheloe