



## **GOAT & SHEEP INVESTMENT AREA**

*(Approved August 17, 2001)*

*(Updated December 18, 2009)*

This document provides eligible investments and is considered to be the standards by which an investment area is to be implemented.

Funded participants shall adhere to all local, state, and federal rules and regulations.

Questions concerning these guidelines should be directed to the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 564-4627. Application for funds must be directed through the local County Agricultural Development Council(s).

### **I. Eligible Cost Share Items**

#### **A. On-farm Goat/Sheep Handling**

##### **Prerequisites**

- A **minimum herd size of 20** breeding females is required to qualify for equipment cost share.

##### **Cost Share Items:**

1. **Commercial head gate and holding chute**
2. **Tilt table or sheep sling**
3. **Working chute**
4. **Crowding tub and gate**
5. **Panels & Gates**
6. **Loading chute**
7. **Footbath**
8. **Drench gun and reservoir**
9. **Foot trimmers**
10. **Small livestock scales**
11. **Feeders:** Bunk or creep feeders
12. **Goat Tote**

13. **Kidding Pens/Lambing jugs/pens**
14. **Renovated and New Facilities**
15. **FAMACHA chart:** to measure anemia

## **B. Buck/Ram and/or Semen Purchase for Herd/Flock Improvement**

### **Cost Share Items**

1. **Bucks** must be at least 6 months of age, in good health, have all required health papers, and be up to date on their CDT vaccinations. Bucks must be registered full bloods or purebreds with permanent identification.

**Ownership Requirements:** Ownership of bucks must be maintained for a minimum of **two (2) successive breeding seasons**. The only exceptions are listed below:

- a. **Genetic Diversification Clause** – In the event that a producer retains female offspring sired by the buck for use as breeding stock, the buck may be sold, **but MUST be replaced by another buck of equal or greater value. The replacement animal is not eligible for cost-share funds.**
  - b. **Emergency Early Release Clause** – The local program administrator shall reserve the right to approve an early release, if it is determined that an animal, due to physical or disposition problems, is no longer considered sound for breeding purposes. The local program administrator can require the animal to undergo an examination by a licensed veterinarian to assist in determination.
2. **Semen** purchases from registered meat or dairy bucks will be allowed.
  3. **Rams** must be at least 4 months of age, in good health, and must be up to date on their CDT vaccinations. Rams must be permanently identified. Rams must be QR or RR to qualify for cost-share.

**Ownership Requirements:** Ownership of rams must be maintained for a minimum of **two (2) successive breeding seasons**. The only exceptions are listed below:

- a. **Genetic Diversification Clause** – In the event that a producer retains female offspring sired by the ram for use as breeding stock, the ram may be sold, but **MUST be replaced by another ram of equal or greater value. The replacement animal is not eligible for cost-share funds.**
- b. **Emergency Early Release Clause** – The local program administrator shall reserve the right to approve an early release, if it is determined that an animal, due to physical or disposition problems, is no longer considered sound for breeding purposes. The local program administrator can require the animal to undergo an examination by a licensed veterinarian to assist in determination.

### **Prerequisites**

- Bucks and rams will be cost shared on a 50-50 basis up to a **maximum of \$1,000** per producer.

- All bucks/rams purchased through this program must pass a **Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BSE)** prior to receiving cost-share funds. The cost of a BSE should be negotiated between the buyer and seller and can be included in the total cost of the bucks/rams purchase.

The breeding soundness exam is the buyer's best insurance that the buck/ram will be fertile and productive.

1. **Semen Evaluation**
2. **Physical Examination**

### **C. Buck/Ram Lease for Herd/Flock Improvement**

#### **Prerequisite:**

Buck/Ram leases – producer-to-producer or leasing company to producer [This program is not intended for funding the development of leasing programs that include utilizing funds to purchase a group of buck/rams for lease to local producers.]

We require that a buck/ram lease includes possession of the buck/ram and that it not be moved from farm to farm, in an attempt to alleviate any potential herd/flock health problems.

#### **Cost Share Item**

1. **Bucks for lease** must be at least 6 months of age, in good health, have all required health papers, and be up to date on their CDT vaccinations. Bucks must be registered full bloods with permanent identification.
2. **Ram lease**

### **D. Breeding Female Purchase**

#### **Cost Share Items:**

**Breeding females** – Females need not be registered, but should have permanent identification.

**Ownership Requirements:** Ownership of does must be maintained two (2) years. The only exception is listed below:

**Emergency Early Release Clause** – The local program administrator shall reserve the right to approve an early release, if it is determined that an animal, due to physical or disposition problems, is no longer considered sound for breeding purposes. The local program administrator can require the animal to undergo an examination by a licensed veterinarian to assist in determination.

### **E. Dairy Facilities for Goats**

#### **Cost Share Items**

1. Milking equipment
2. Feedways, forage mixers, feeding equipment systems
3. Renovation of existing dairy barns or existing tobacco barns into dairy facilities
4. Construction of new dairy facilities where no buildings exist for renovation
5. Cooling and raw milk storage equipment
6. Animal waste handling and distribution equipment (excluding motorized vehicles)

## **F. Wool Processing & Value-added Production**

### **Cost Share Items:**

1. **Carding, spinning, knitting, felting, weaving equipment**
2. **Dyes and dyeing supplies**