

# NAHMS Sheep 2024 Study

## Timeline

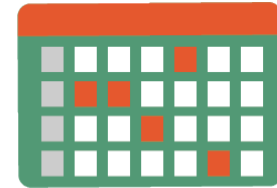
The National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) Sheep 2024 study is designed to provide participants and industry stakeholders with benchmarking information on the U.S. sheep industry. Information collected will contribute to critically important data that will inform disease management and preparedness strategies to safeguard the sheep industry. This document describes the timeline and participant benefits for the NAHMS Sheep 2024 study. The study will start in January 2024 in the top 30 sheep producing states on operations with 1 or more ewes. For more study information, please refer to the NAHMS Sheep 2024 Launch Sheet and the Informational Flyer.



### Phase I: NASS Contact

- General Sheep Management Questionnaire
  - Administered by National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) staff.
  - Operations with 1 or more ewes in 30 States.
- Consent Form for Phase II
  - Producer consent for contact from Veterinary Services (VS) for operations with 20 or more ewes.

January–February 2024  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS)



### Phase II: VS Contact

- VS Questionnaire (health and management)
- Biological Testing
  - **Fecal Parasite Test:** Fecal egg counts on a composite fecal collection will provide information about parasite burden. Select operations will be examined for dewormer effectiveness. To allow for accurate test results, **sheep should not be dewormed 60 days prior to sampling.**
  - **Enteric Microbe Test:** Detection and antimicrobial susceptibility testing of *Salmonella*, *E. coli*, and *Campylobacter* in your sheep.
  - **Lameness Pathogens Test:** Swabs will be tested for lameness pathogens on the operation.

April–July 2024  
VETERINARY SERVICES (VS)

### Reports

- Individual Biologic Test Results
  - Operation-specific biologic test results mailed to producers in a sealed envelope.
- Interactive Dashboards and Reports
  - Reference guides and targeted reports for benchmarking and analyzing trends in the industry.
- Manuscripts, Information Sheets, and Infographics
  - Focused analyses on important issues to the industry.

Summer 2024–Onward



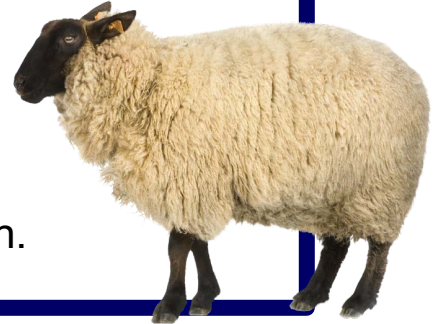
# NAHMS Sheep 2024 Study

## Benefits

### Safeguarding the U.S. Sheep Industry

Collectively, selected sheep producers play an important role in safeguarding the U.S. sheep industry. Information provided in the Sheep 2024 study will:

- Provide transparent, credible information on U.S. sheep industry practices.
- Assist policymakers and industry stakeholders in making more informed decisions affecting the sheep industry. Results will also allow producers to compare their production management with other sheep producers in their region.



### Fecal Parasite Test: \$600 Value\*

Fecal samples from individual sheep will be combined and a composite fecal egg count will be provided to determine the overall gastrointestinal (GI) parasite burden on the operation. Common GI parasite eggs found in sheep include *Haemonchus*, *Ostertagia*, and *Trichostrongylus* spp. Select operations will have the sample tested for dewormer resistance using the DrenchRite Assay.

- Sheep should not be dewormed 60 days prior to sampling.

### Fecal Microbe Test: \$1500 Value\*

Fecal samples from individual sheep will be tested for the following fecal microbes. Positive cultures will be tested for antimicrobial susceptibility. Participants will receive individual animal results for:

- *Salmonella*
- *E. coli*
- *Campylobacter*



### Lameness Pathogens Test: \$1100 Value\*

Interdigital swabs from selected sheep will be tested for lameness pathogens, which tend to cause digital dermatitis and footrot. Participants will receive individual animal results for:

- *Treponema* spp.
- *Dichelobacter nodosus* (causes footrot)
- *Fusobacterium necrophorum*

\* Values are based on estimated average cost at diagnostic laboratories for samples taken from 20 sheep and include both diagnostic testing and confidential results.