

Testing 123!



Why Test?

- Management Information
- Breed/Pedigree Data
- Genetic Development and Improvement
- Education & Research

So You Want to be a Tester?!

- Training is Required
- Training frequency and approval is locally determined
- Testers are approved by the local association
- Refresher

Why the Tester is Important...

Consider a doe that has a 305-day record of 3000 lbs of milk and 120 lbs. of butterfat.

- The doe will be tested 10 times or 3.3 percent of her days in milk
- The producer will lift just 98 lbs of that by pail or see only 2 lbs of milk in the meter
- The supervisor will obtain only 1-1/3 lbs in 10 samples and
- The lab equipment will use only 1/4 of an ounce and must accurately represent the 3,000 pounds of milk produced.

Supervisor Responsibilities

- DHI rules and policies
- Registry specific rules & policies
- Test plan options and their proper administration
- Weighing/Metering devices and sample collection
- Barnsheet input, Corrections
- Lab procedures and sample shipment or delivery
- Equipment and maintenance
- Customer Service

What is DHIA?

- Testing services provided through Dairy Herd Improvement Associations (DHIA)
- National Standards
- Dairymen owned and operated
- DHIA - Non-profit associations organized to provide production information in order to more efficiently manage dairy animals

Role of DHI Organizations

- Provide milk recording services & training
- Analyze milk samples for fat %, protein %, somatic cell, milk urea nitrogen, etc.
- Set standards for data collection
- Provide data to records processing centers

REGISTRY “DHIR”



Uniform Data Collection Procedures, Code of Ethics
 ADGA Guidebook
 ADGA Standard Operating Procedures for Dairy Goats

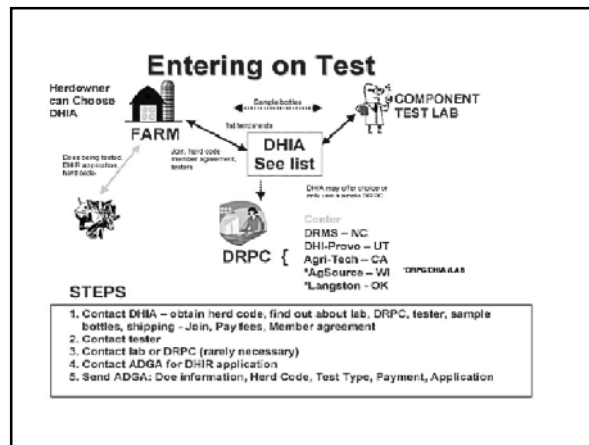


AGS Members Guidebook
 Others

Requirements & Guidelines

- Registry guidelines & requirements
- National DHI Uniform Data Collection Procedures
- National Code of Ethics

Procedures defined for a nationally comparable records system



Input Forms–

- Herd definitions
- Defining options
- Selection of reports
- New animal enrollment, identification & correction
- Record all individual data except enrollment and corrections & health
- Milk weights
- Status changes
- Reproductive data
- Temporary and chronic conditions

Types of Testing Programs

- Standard - Supervisor provides service
- Group - Round robin of 3 or more members – members are testers
- Owner Sampler - Owner tested
 - Specific registry requirements
- Innovative Test Plan (ITP)
 - Flexibility of Options
 - Verification Test Required

Choose Test Type Plan

ADGA Chvr Number & Type	STAR	Top Ten	STAR Herd VT	Top Ten VT	Bulk Tank Comp.
00 - Every Other Month	Y	N	Y	N/A	
01 - ADGA ITF (Timer)	Y	Y	Y	Y	
02 - ADGA ITF APCS	Y	Y	Y	Y	
08 - Standard	Y	Y	N	Y	
21 - APT (Timer)	Y	Y	N	Y	
22 - APCS	Y	Y	N	Y	
23 - AP	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Other?					

40 - Owner Sampler Y * N Y * n/a *VT is time specific 60-150 DIM, DCR = 75
ST and AR options

TIPS

- Full information can be found in ADGA Guidebook
- All plans available for group testing
- Plans may not be available to goat herds at all DHIA's

PLAN/CODE SUMMARY

- Standard 20 - Both milkings supervised, sample taken at each
- ADGAITP₀₂ - Weights on both milkings (1 each from owner and tester), only 1 sampled (APCS)
- O/S₄₀ - Both milkings weighed by owner, sample taken at each milking
- ADGAITP₀₀ - Every other month

Data Collection Ratings

- Accuracy of lactation records from a variety of test plans can be compared
- DCR of 93 or higher required for Top Ten awards, 75 or higher for acceptance of O/S
- DCR for weights and components (listed 1st at AIPL)

Entering Doe Information


A - Alpine
 B - Oberhasli
 E - Experimental
 L - LaManche
 D - Nigerian Dwarf
 N - Nubian
 S - Spanish
 C - Saibe
 T - Toggenburg

TIPS

- The Breed Code is separate from the Number!
- ADGA Americans no longer need the 15 format
- Purebreds do not need leading zeroes
- Corrections must always contain the breed
- Grades no longer need the G format
- Experimentals are breed code "E", not "X"
- CHECK YOUR PAPERS WHEN THEY RETURN EACH MONTH!
- (beginning with registrations after 1-1-95)

Test Day - Sequence of Events

- Weights & samples taken at farm
- Samples & barnsheets to the lab
- Lab tests for fat, protein, & SCC
- Lab results & barnsheets to DRPC
- DRPC enters data
- DRPC sends data to member/ADGA/USDA
- Herd owner uses the data



Professional Attitude

- You are representing DHI!
- On-Time
 - 30 minutes early for paperwork
- Ready to Test
 - Have your "Stuff"
- Clean Clothes - Bio-security
- Rubber Boots - Sanitized
- Confidentiality

Box of Stuff

- Extra pencils & pens
- Sanitizer
- Watch
- Flashlight
- Footwear
- Paintstick
- Scale? Dipper? Buckets?
- Sample bottles, Shipper

Data Collected

- Identification
 - Parentage and Offspring
- Production Data
 - Drying
 - Culls/Sold Animals
- Reproduction Management
 - Kidding
 - Breeding
- Health Records

Preparation

- Have clean equipment
 - Scales
 - Dipper
 - Sample Vials
- Biosecurity
 - Boots
 - Clothing
 - Equipment



Scales & Meters

Tester's scale/meter or Owner's scale/meter must have certification within the last year.



Tare the Scale

• Zero the scale to the pail used for weighing prior to starting.

• Note clock in background!



Milking Time

- Ensure that the 24 hour period is correct
- Organized in the parlor – sheets, sample vials, racks, computer
- Test day procedures are important
 - Should represent normal milking days as closely as possible
- Working conditions conducive to accurate representation of the herd

Getting Started - Visible & Permanent ID

- Check tags each test day
 - Tag = control # or ID/Name
- Check tattoos on any herd additions,
 - Occasionally "spot check"
 - EVERY VERIFICATION



Observe Milking

- Observe milking
 - You are the Supervisor! (S. Hank)
- Note Start time when milking
 - 1st doe in herd
- Note Stop time after
 - last doe in herd is milked



Weigh Milk

- Weigh milk and record to 10th of a pound
- Record on cow barnsheet



Sampling

- Obtain a representative Sample!
- What affects test sample:
 - Milking Interval (AM – PM,
 - Influence of stage of milking on composition
 - Influence of stage of lactation
 - Feed
 - Sample Handling
 - Preservatives
 - Avoid temperature extremes
 - Ship quickly

Sampling Technique

- Pour three times back and forth
- because
- We want a representative sample and goat milk has smaller fat molecules, but it is not naturally homogenized



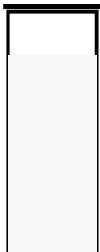
Taking the Sample

- Sample must be from all milk obtained from the doe
- For Standard test, a half sample is taken at each test
- For alternate component tests, a full sample is taken
- If properly mixed, it doesn't matter if sample is from top, bottom or middle



Filling

- **Proper Sampling Technique**
 - Fill sample to slightly less than 1/2 full on 1st milking
 - Same vial to 80% full on 2nd milking



Vials

- Check to make sure preservative is present
- Label lid with Sample # or Control #
- Leave 1/4 inch space at top
- Gently mix sampled milk with preservative



OLD STYLE Cap picture –
NEW have SNAP CAPS

Entering Information

- **Garbage in = garbage out**
- **Pre-test**
 - Status changes – kidded, dried off, sold, aborted
 - Reproductive changes – heats, breeding
 - Herd health
 - Identification
 - Corrections

Checklist

- **Weights**
- **Sample #**
- **Dated**
- **Signed**
- **Herd Info**
- **Stop/start times**
- **Sampled check**
- **VT check**



Sample Storage

- Room temperature if not too hot
- Store upright
- Keep out of sunlight
- Refrigerate if over 75°
- Secure storage is tester's responsibility



Test-Day Checklist

- **Weights and samples on every milking doe**
- **Dry, sold, or died on remainder**
- **Enrollment data on new animals**
- **Samples mixed & packed**
 - Protect from sunlight
 - Rock & Roll to disperse preservative
 - Chill when herd finished (**DO NOT FREEZE**)
 - Properly marked sample vials
- **Paperwork included w/ notes or corrections**

Completing the Test

- Check for correct status codes/CAR codes
- Samples properly marked?
- Barnsheets dated, signed, marked for “V” if applicable?
- Pack and ship

Shipping

- Separate groups
- Herdcode at 1st and last sample if more than one herd
- Shipping boxes available or make own – egg cartons (prevent potential leaking)
- Secure lids
- Cool pack if hot weather
- Insert sheets outside of samples & in plastic bag.



Verification Testing

- Perform on animal or herd basis, dependent on Test Plan or goal
- Required for:
 - Top Ten Recognition (individual)
 - Innovative Test Plans (herd)
 - Owner Sampler (herd)
- Responsibility of herd owner
- Do it Early
- Is a verification test performed on a dry animal truly a verification test?

Verification Testing

- Requires VT form, even if at a 1-day
- If two testers, both testers complete portions of the VT form
- Both testers sign if two
- DHIA Manager must sign
- Tips
 - Use copy of herd summary from previous test
 - Large herds – ‘Empty ✓’