\$12,000 grossed at ewe sale



, Greg and Martha Lau of Loganville, Pa., look over a pen of mature ewes at the tri-state ewe sale.

NOXVILLE, Maryland — Maryland's second annual tri-state replacement ewe sale was held on June 6, at Merry Peep O'Day Farm. Approximately 120 people from Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, and Maryland were present.

The 110 commercial ewes ranging in age from lambs to 8 years old, grossed \$12,000. The top selling ewe sold for \$220 to Bluemont, Va.; she was a fall born, black, twin lamb a Corriedale and Dorset cross consigned by Dahl Drenning of Woodsboro, Md. The lamb was one of only 7 black sheep that sold in the sale with an average of \$167.

The top yearling was a Hampshire Suffolk cross from a highly productive ewe sold by Merry Peep O'Day farm, hosts of the sale, to Charlestown, W.Va. for \$180. Two yearlings ewes with ewe. lambs by side consigned by Clark Jamison of Glenville, W.Va. sold for \$280 each. The 33 yearlings averaged \$127 with twins bringing an average of \$16 per head more than singles.

The 27 ewe lambs averaged \$120 with twins bringing an average of \$37 higher than singles.

The 43 mature ewes ranging in age from 2 years to 8 years, were sold with detailed lambing records available in the catalog averaged \$76. The top selling ewe was consigned by Jonathan May of Timberville, Va., she sold for \$140,

and was a twin western Suffolk cross.

In addition to the sale some top sheepmen from the Tri-state area presented their approach to sheep equipment, health, feeding, and recordkeeping.

W.G. Carpenter, a southdown breeder from Jefferson, Maryland, and Jack Price, a Hampshire breeder from Westminster, Md., started off the workshop with advice on the basic sheep equipment needed and health prevention methods for the flock. The key points stressed were economy, foresight toward prevention versus treatment, and management techniques that work for the producer.

Jonathan May, a commercial sheepman from Timberville, Va., covered many aspects of feeding the flock; emphasizing economy for the producer and utilizing

excess forage to compliment the sheep's main attribute -- converting roughage to red meat efficiently.

"If you have too many sheep to keep records, then you have too many sheep!" stressed Clark Jamison, a commercial producer from Glenville, W.Va., who spoke

on the importance of recordkeeping and utilizing those records. Recordkeeping should be tailored for each flock's goal whether it be wool quality, growthy lambs, or prolificacy. The key point, Jamison emphasized, is to utilize these records in replacement ewe selection and in culling the flock.

Merry Peep O'Day farm is managed by Bambi and Jim Priegel. The auctioneer was Robert Mullendore of Boonsboro, Md.

Feed quality monitoring important

GETTYSBURG - It is very important that chicken farmers refuse to take feed quality for granted.

After each delivery of feed take a sample and place it in a small jar. The following information should be marked on the container. Type of feed delivered, date and quantity delivered, bin that it was placed in, type of medication and quantity, and of course feed company's name.

In the event you have a flock problem, the feed sample will serve as a very important diagnostic tool. Once the birds are sold, then the feed samples should be property disposed of.



