



State of Oklahoma  
Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry

Mary Fallin  
Governor

Jim Reese  
Secretary of Agriculture

April 2, 2012

**Subject: 2012 Oklahoma Scrapie Genotyping Program**

Dear Oklahoma Sheep Producer,

Interest in previous years' state-wide scrapie genotyping program has prompted the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry (ODAFF) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to offer free genotyping to Oklahoma flocks again in 2012. As you know, scrapie is a degenerative disease of sheep similar to bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) of cattle. This disease is fatal to infected sheep and economically detrimental to flocks. Because of the movement of animals between flocks, there is potential for exposure to infected animals. Scrapie genotyping is a DNA test that identifies the genes that control susceptibility or resistance to this disease. Genetically susceptible animals can further be tested for infection.

This surveillance program would accomplish two very important objectives:

- Increase scrapie surveillance in high risk populations of sheep in Oklahoma.
- Help producers identify the genetic makeup of their flocks, increase the selection of genetically resistant breeding animals in those flocks, and consequently help reduce the prevalence of scrapie.

As the number one club lamb producing state, Oklahoma understands how important it is to protect the sheep industry as a valued asset to our state's economy. We encourage you to take advantage of this free service. If you are interested in participating and wish to be considered for the 2012 Oklahoma Scrapie Genotyping Program, please complete the enclosed application and submit it to:

ODAFF - Animal Industry Services  
Attn: Dr. Justin Roach  
2800 N Lincoln Blvd  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

All applications will be reviewed, and selection for participation will be based on eligibility. There is no deadline for applications; however, testing is limited and will be "first-come, first-served". Please call me at (405) 522-8396 or email [justin.roach@ag.ok.gov](mailto:justin.roach@ag.ok.gov) if you have any questions.

Thank you,

  
Justin Roach, DVM  
Staff Veterinarian  
Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry

## 2012 Oklahoma Scrapie Genotyping Program Application

Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Business/Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_ USDA Flock ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Southdown, Montadale, or black-faced (rams or ewes) at least 14 months of age (75 max): \_\_\_\_\_

- List primary and secondary breeds: \_\_\_\_\_

**I, the above listed flock owner, hereby request that my flock be included in the 2012 Oklahoma Scrapie Genotyping Program and agree to the following conditions:**

- ✓ Up to 75 ewes or rams may be genotyped only if:
  - 1) They are 14 months of age or older, and
  - 2) They are black-faced, Southdown, Montadale, or crosses there of.
- ✓ Southdown or Montadale sheep must be recognized members of these breeds (i.e. Registered, registration eligible, or from foundation stock that was registered purebred).
- ✓ Previously genotyped animals and their offspring are not test eligible.
- ✓ Codon 171 testing shall be cost-free for the producer. The expense for any additional services requested by the producer (i.e. Codon 136 or 154 testing, spider testing, or result reporting in less than ten working days shall be bore by the producer and is not guaranteed.)
- ✓ All animals to be sampled shall be gathered and presented by the producer prior to arrival of state personnel and shall be officially identified **prior** to sampling. Tag application can be completed by state personnel if animals have not already been identified; however, producers are encouraged to have this completed beforehand. Producers must allow state personnel to collect and submit all necessary samples.
- ✓ All animals testing QQ at Codon 171 shall be made available for third eyelid or rectal biopsy by state or federal personnel.
- ✓ Genetically susceptible animals (QQ) that are negative upon biopsy should be culled for slaughter or bred to genetically resistant animals to reduce the number of susceptible animals.
- ✓ If an infected animal is identified upon biopsy, the flock will be classified as an infected flock and a flock plan will be developed by federal personnel. Any infected animal will be eligible for indemnity.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Please return completed application to:**

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Oklahoma City, OK 73105