



University of Florida Ram Test and Sale

Brittany N. Diehl

Here in ‘The Swamp’ we currently have our 3rd annual UF Ram Test ongoing this summer at the University of Florida! This program is designed to standardize environmental conditions to evaluate and quantify individual ram performance in the harsh southeastern US, with a primary emphasis on natural parasite resistance and growth.

This is a forage-based ram performance test where the rams have continuous access to Bahiagrass pastures and are supplemented 2% of their bodyweight daily with the ‘UF Ram Test’ concentrate ration. Upon entry to the program, all rams receive anthelmintics to ensure the rams entered into the test do not harbor drug-resistant parasites. Those that do not achieve adequate fecal egg count (FEC) reduction are disqualified due to harboring anthelmintic resistant parasites. After the 12-day acclimation period, the rams begin the 84-day gain test. Throughout the test period, measurements of body weight, body condition score, FAMACHA score, and fecal egg count will be obtained.

New this year, both registered and commercial rams are eligible for the test and sale. Eligible rams must have been born between

12/1/22 – 2/15/23 and weaned by 5/1/23. Sale eligibility is based on both fecal egg count and growth indices during the test period. Final requirements for sale eligibility include achieving a ‘satisfactory’ breeding soundness evaluation. Sale order priority will be given to rams registered within a recognized breed association, followed by commercial rams.

For full program details and current data collection parameters on rams enrolled in our 2023 ram test, please visit our website.

<https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/smallruminant/ramtest/>

Important 2023 dates:

- June 15: 84-day gain test began
- September 7: 84-day gain test ends
- September 29-30: Small Ruminant Short Course and UF Ram Test Sale

This program is open to any breeder/consignor in the United States and we welcome your participation and an opportunity to work with you. We encourage your participation and attendance at our 2023 Small Ruminant Short Course and Ram Test Sale on September 29-30th here in Gainesville, FL. . There will be numerous high-quality rams for sale at our auction who demonstrated the ability to perform in the harsh Florida climate.



These rams will be sold to the highest bidder through an online auction format with Willoughby Livestock Sales. The sale will be open for 24 hours, beginning on Friday, September 29th at 11 AM and closing on Saturday, September 30th at 11 AM. The sale rams will be available for in-person viewing on September 29-30th during the Small Ruminant Short Course at the UF/IFAS Horse Teaching Unit, 1934 SW 63rd Ave., Gainesville, FL 32608.

If you are interested in consigning your ram(s) next year to our test, please keep an eye out for our announcements regarding eligibility and registration next spring.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions regarding this year's test or upcoming events: Clay Whitehead at (904) 796-0441, e-mail jacobcwhitehead@ufl.edu, or Dr. Brittany Diehl at (352) 294-4387, e-mail bn.diehl@ufl.edu.

Small Ruminant Short Course 2023 Featured Speaker

Our featured speaker for the 2023 Small Ruminant Short Course is Dr. Niki Whitley from Fort Valley State University! Dr. Whitley is FVSU small ruminant extension specialist and senior lecturer. Dr. Whitley has more than 21 years of experience working with sheep and goats. Some of her duties include helping to train FVSU and UGA agents and their clients about small ruminant nutrition, breeding and parasite control among other topics. She also serves as the co-coordinator for the Georgia Junior Livestock Goat Shows held in February and October, assists with the sheep and goat exhibitions at the Georgia National Fair, and organizes the outdoor small ruminant section at the Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition.



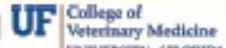
Small Ruminant Update



Upcoming Events



SMALL RUMINANT SHORT COURSE & RAM TEST SALE September 29-30, 2023 Gainesville, Florida



Small Ruminant Update



SMALL RUMINANT SHORT COURSE

September | 29-30 | 2023
Straughn Center | UF Horse Teaching Unit

The UF Small Ruminant Short Course is a collaboration among UF/IFAS Extension, the UF College of Veterinary Medicine, the UF/IFAS Agronomy Department, and the UF/IFAS Department of Animal Sciences. Producers, extension specialists and agents, researchers, students, and allied industry members are welcome to attend the in-person, educational event. The program will include lectures and demonstrations from industry experts. The event will be held in conjunction with the 2023 University of Florida Ram Test and Sale.

Friday, September 29th

7:30 - 8:30 Registration
8:30 - 8:40 Opening
8:40-9:40 Small Ruminant Parasite Management
9:40-10:00 Refreshment Break
10:00-11:00 Research Updates
11:00-12:00 Small Ruminant Nutrition
12:00-1:00 Lunch
1:00-2:00 Breakout Sessions - 3 Options
2:00-2:20 Refreshment Break
2:20-3:00 Marketing & Economics
3:00-4:00 Producer Panel
4:00-5:30 Meats Lab Demonstration
6:00-8:00 HTU - Producer Mixer & Trade Show
Sale Rams Available for Viewing

Saturday, September 30th

8:00 Registration
8:00-8:15 Opening
8:15-9:00 Ram Test Data Overview
9:00-12:00 Short Rotations & Trade Show
Sale Rams Available for Viewing
12:00-1:00 Lunch
1:00-2:00 FAMACHA Training
Advanced Registration Required
2:30-3:30 FAMACHA Certification

Scan for more information
and to register!



Questions:

Matti Moyer
(352) 392-3889
matti.moyer@ufl.edu

Izabella Toledo
(352) 294-6987
izatol@ufl.edu

Brittany Diehl
(352) 294-4387
bn.diehl@ufl.edu



The Small Ruminant Short Course early bird pricing will be in effect until September 1!

Small Ruminant Update



SMALL RUMINANT SHORT COURSE

September 29-30, 2023

Straughn Professional Development Center
Gainesville, Florida

Sponsorship Opportunities

Why Become a Sponsor?

Never will there be a better time to reach Florida small ruminant producers and interested parties. Producers, extension specialists, researchers, students, and allied industry members will be in attendance at this in-person educational event. The program will include lectures on parasite control, herd health programming, marketing, management, and more. Dr. Niki Whitley, will be bringing industry expertise as the featured speaker. Research updates will be provided by UF/IFAS Small Ruminant Faculty and Staff. The event will be held in conjunction with the 2023 University of Florida Ram Test and Sale.

Sponsorship Levels

Lunch Sponsor (2 Opportunities)	\$1,000	INCLUDES: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 Registrations• Organization logo displayed on table tents during educational programming on Friday and event website• Organization mention in programming• Table at reception & trade show• Opportunity to put one item in the goodie bags• Single logo table tents during lunch service
Refreshment Sponsor (2 Opportunities)	\$750	INCLUDES: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 Registrations• Organization logo displayed on table tents during educational programming on Friday and event website• Organization mention in programming• Table at reception & trade show• Opportunity to put one item in the goodie bags• Single logo table tents during refreshment service
Gold	\$500	INCLUDES: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 Registrations• Organization logo displayed on table tents during educational programming on Friday and event website• Organization mention in programming• Table at reception & trade show• Opportunity to put one item in the goodie bags
Silver	\$300	INCLUDES: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Registrations• Organization logo displayed on event website• Organization mention in programming• Table at reception & trade show• Opportunity to put one item in the goodie bags
Exhibitor	\$150	INCLUDES: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Registration• Organization logo displayed on event website• Organization mention in programming• Table at reception & trade show

Matti Moyer
Program Specialist
UF/IFAS Department of Animal Sciences
(352) 392-3889 | matti.moyer@ufl.edu

SMALL RUMINANT SHORT COURSE

SPONSORS

Lunch



Gold



Silver



Calovine
Farm



Exhibitor



The UF Small Ruminant Update Newsletter is published quarterly by the IFAS/ UF Extension, as an educational and informational service. Please address any questions to Izabella Toledo, the Dairy Regional Specialized Agent of the Northeast District and Editor of the Small Ruminant Update Newsletter. E-mail: izatol@ufl.edu

Small Ruminant Update



FAMACHA TRAINING

Become FAMACHA certified and receive an official FAMACHA card to use on your operation.



Saturday, September 30th
1:00-3:30 PM

UF SHEEP UNIT
Gainesville, FL
32608

FAMACHA scoring is a measure of anemia in small ruminants. Scores can be used to inform de-worming protocols and prevent parasitic resistance from developing in herds and flocks. This training includes an on-your-own online portion to be completed before the in-person workshop.

Scan for more information and to register:



\$30 per person

Registration includes online session, Q&A session, hands-on training, and FAMACHA card.

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In Service Training

McMaster Fecal Egg Count
Training for Extension
Agents #32262

Friday, September 29th
3:00- 4:00PM

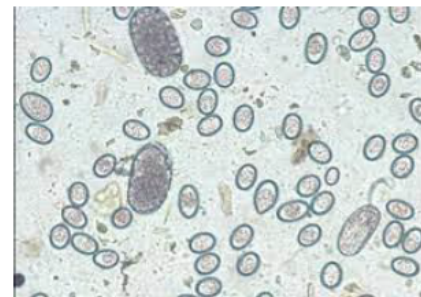
UF IFAS Extension
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This training is part of the 2023 UF Small Ruminant Short Course.

Location:

UF School of Veterinary Medicine- FARMS Building

Registration: <https://pdec.ifas.ufl.edu/hub/Trainings.aspx>
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/small-ruminant-short-course-ram-test-sale-tickets-520482817117>



*Registration includes in service training and both days of the UF Small Ruminant Short Course

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