Center of the Nation NSIP Sale to be Held on July 23

Over 100 rams and 25 ewes available for purchase at the sale

AMES, Iowa – Farmers will have an opportunity to purchase seedstock through the National Sheep Improvement Program at the 2016 Center of the Nation NSIP Sale on July 23 at the Clay County Fairgrounds in Spencer, Iowa. Sale catalogs for the sheep, which includes estimated breeding values (EBVs) will be available through Conover’s Auction Services after June 25. Over 100 rams and 25 ewes will be available at the sale.

This year’s sale will include pen groups of rams. Groups of 3-5 rams will be offered for sale with buyers having the opportunity to buy their choice of animal or the whole pen. This portion of the sale is being implemented to offer groups of rams to large commercial operations.

Another new feature of the sale in 2016 will be the offering of select proven rams that NSIP consignors have successfully used in their own flocks. These elite rams are ranked in the top five percent of the breed for various traits measured within NSIP. This sale provides an opportunity for new members of NSIP to connect genetically to other flocks to improve the value of their efforts in breeding more productive seedstock.

Educational seminars will be conducted in the morning of July 23, before the sale. Details on the seminars will be listed in the catalog. The sale will also be broadcast online through the Conover Auction Service website. Commercial transportation from Iowa to Idaho is will be available from Farnsworth Livestock, contact Doug directly (208-520-5065) to make arrangements.

For more information contact Dan Morrical, professor of animal science and extension sheep specialist at Iowa State University, at 515-294-2904 or morrical@iastate.edu. Additional information on NSIP can be received through Rusty Burgett, NSIP program director, at rustyburgett@gmail.com.

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