



# Maritime Beef Test Society

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**To: All Sheep Producers**  
**From: Management Committee, Maritime Beef Testing Society**  
**Date: March 14, 2022**  
**RE: 2022 Ram Evaluation**

Please find enclosed the various forms which must be filled out and returned to the Maritime Beef Test Station regarding the 2022 Ram Evaluation.

**Please return the enclosed forms to the Test Station before March 25, 2022.**

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to you for your support and confidence with our program at Nappan. Review the enclosed information carefully.

**Based on feedback, we expect to have approximately 10 rams on evaluation this year. The Test Fee per ram will be \$325.00, with the feed cost to be \$0.23 per pound consumed (complete commercial feed).**

**Test fees will include:**

<b>Average Daily Gain &amp; Average Daily Feed Intake</b>	<b>Adjustment Period Feed</b>
<b>Feed Efficiency</b>	<b>Breeding Soundness Evaluation</b>
<b>Loin and Fat Depth</b>	<b>On-Test Weights</b>
<b>Weight per day of age</b>	<b>Adjusted 50-day Weight</b>
<b>50-day Weight</b>	<b>Carcass Ultrasound</b>
<b>Yardage</b>	

**A minimum of two combined pens of rams and/or heifers are required to be consigned to hold the Ram Evaluation.**

We continue to make changes to our program to improve the testing program, including:

- **The Test Fee is \$325 (\$373.75 with HST). Full details are enclosed with the *MBTS Payment Memo*. The full amount is required at the time of consignment, with feed billed after the test.**
- **The MBTS Board is very aware of the cost of performance evaluation and continue to investigate ways to reduce these costs and pass them along to consignors.**
- **MBTS has updated the Animal Guidelines, the new version is included with this package.**
- **All fees must be paid prior to animals being accepted to the Test Program. Animals will not be accepted from consignors with outstanding payables to the MBTS.**
- **The birthdate range for animals consigned to the test will be from December 1, 2021, to January 31, 2022.**
- **The minimum on arrival weight for rams will be 15kg.**

Enclosed are the ram application and supporting forms. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office at 902-661-2855.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- (A) The test period will be 49 days in length.
- (B) The adjustment period will be 12 days in length, allowing the rams time to adjust to Test Station conditions.
- (C) Rams entering the evaluation must be born between December 1, 2021, and January 31, 2022.
- (D) MBTS staff will try to help coordinate transportation as much as possible. Please call the office and we will try to assist you with your trucking this spring.
- (E) Please follow the enclosed health recommendations to help reduce health costs and ensure your rams get off to a healthy start.
- (F) Please sign and return the enclosed forms to the Test Station.
- (G) **Please return the enclosed information by March 25, 2022.** The rams will be accepted April 8, 2022. No animals will be accepted for evaluation after this date.
- (H) The program's annual membership fee is \$25.00 + HST (\$28.75) per farm to assist in addressing our financial commitments. The application is included with this package.
- (I) The Test Fee is \$325.00 (\$373.75 with HST) per animal and is due with animal arrival.
- (J) All individual vet fees will be billed back to the consignor.
- (K) All fees are payable prior to animals being accepted to the Test Program. Cheques can be made payable to the Maritime Beef Test Society. Credit card (Visa, Mastercard and American Express, a 3.5% surcharge will be applied) can be made by calling 902-893-7455.
- (L) ***A late payment fee of \$100.00 per ram will be charged for entrance payments not received by May 1, 2022.***
- (M) If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact the office staff at 902-661-2855, you can also fax applications to 902-661-0372.
- (N) All rams must be tagged with a CCIA identification number prior to entry. The Test Station may apply a tag at the breeder's expense. CCIA tags are to be placed in the opposite ear as the tattoo.
- (O) Non-purebred (F1 or Upgraded Percentage) rams are accepted to the testing program. This means that an F1 ram must have a verified sire and dam of a different breed- Proof must be provided.
- (P) All rams will be dewormed upon arrival.
- (Q) All rams must be administered a Caseous Lymphadenitis (CLA) Vaccine (i.e. Glanvac 6) 14 days prior to delivery, with date of treatment specified on Ram Health Certification Form.

a. Vaccine boosters (1 mL dose) will be administered by centre veterinarian 4 to 6 weeks after first initial vaccination.

(R) Rams are required to be shorn no later than 14 days prior to arrival with exception to wool breeds. A producer enrolling a wool breed ram to test can choose not to have his ram shorn.

## **Membership**

The Annual Membership Fee of \$25.00 (two members per farm) will be paid at the time of entry. This membership entitles any members of the Maritime Beef Testing Society to have a voting privilege on Test Station business. Membership will be strictly adhered to at meetings. In order for members to actively vote on issues, he or she must be in good standing with the Society for the current year. This additional funding is being utilized in the administration of the program as well as to provide financial resources to fund our Annual Meeting and dinner. Changes such as these are made in an attempt to recover costs that we are unable to continue to provide to our clients. We hope you understand our current position and will continue to support our endeavors and ensure that we continue to maintain our role in the further development of our Sheep Industry.

**Active:** Every Maritime Producer of sheep who pays annual membership dues will be eligible to be a member of the Maritime Beef Testing Society. Everyone who evaluated animals at the Test Station must be a member of the Society.

**Associate Members** Membership on a non-voting basis is open to all those persons, companies, institutions, etc. who are not actively engaged in the production of sheep.

Please fill out the provided form and return it to our office with your entry form. The \$28.75 (incl. HST) payment must be made at time of entry.

***As a member of the Maritime Beef Testing Society and consigning animals for performance evaluation you agree that the data collected during the testing program is owned jointly by the Member and the MBTS and that any data accessed, processed or otherwise submitted to third parties, including National Breed Associations can be released without condition, to the MBTS.***

**PLEASE DETATCH THE FORM BELOW AND RETURN WITH YOUR APPLICATION**

## Membership

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_