

General Information

DSANA is planning to import 500 straws of Lacaune semen to be made available to DSANA members. The semen will come from the French agency GENELEX, which controls the two insemination centers in the Roquefort area, each housing 1,000 rams. Our semen will come from approximately ten top quality rams and we expect it to be collected in early September. Importation permits and regulations both in France and with USDA – APHIS must be met. Yves Berger, retired Spooner Research Station Manager, has had direct contact with GENELEX. They have reviewed the APHIS requirements and have affirmed they can meet the requirements.

The semen will be made available only to members in good standing with DSANA. A fifty percent deposit will be required when the order is placed by a farm and the balance will be due just prior to the semen being shipped. The success rate of AI work varies, but effective rates are generally between 60 and 80%. The current budgeted cost per animal is \$80.00 plus transportation and housing cost for the technician. We hope to place the order shortly and DSANA will cover the 20% deposit to get the order in the queue in France.

At this point we would like to get an indication of your interest, so we can determine if we have demand for 500 straws of semen. After providing an initial interest with the number of straws you wish to purchase (contact Tom Clark by June , we will require you to complete and return the attached agreement and with a 50% deposit (\$40/ straw ordered) by **July 1, 2016**. Your order will not be considered placed until the deposit is received.

The DSANA Board is very excited about this project, because if successful it will be the first time in over ten years that new genetics will be introduced into the North American dairy sheep industry! We hope you will consider participating in this terrific flock improvement project.

If you wish to purchase semen or have questions – please contact Tom Clark at clark@dubinclark.com.

Semen Costs

Semen will cost 20 Euros (\$22-23 U.S. dollars) per straw. The various importation costs will total about \$5,000 or \$10.00 per straw, assuming we sell 500 straws. The cost to AI the animals will average \$33.00 each, assuming a group of 25 – 30 animals. The cost for hormones for synchronization will be \$14.50 at current prices and can be purchased from two sources in the U.S. (Details to come later). **All rates are U.S. dollars.**

| Item | Approx. /Ewe |
|---|--------------|
| Imported semen per straw | \$23.00 |
| Hormone treatment per ewe | \$14.50 |
| Artificial Insemination Procedure | \$33.00 |
| Importation fees, tanks, and related costs (\$10/Ewe) | \$10.00 |
| Base Total | \$80.50 |
| Additional Travel Costs | TBD |

AI Procedures

We plan to primarily use Martin Dally, a very experienced sheep AI person based in Oregon. Martin Dally will receive the semen, test it upon arrival to be sure the quality is good and then set up the semen in a minimum of two storage tanks. Depending on the location of the farms and where the AI work will take place, we may contract with a local/regional technician to save travel costs.

In a given region it would be cost efficient to designate one central farm for the AI work and transport animals to that farm. Martin does this on a regular basis and his practice is to work with one group of animals at a time. The animals are taken off the trailer, AI work is completed and then the animals go back on the trailer and back home. This practice minimizes the possibility of any disease transfer.

Once we know who will be ordering semen the Semen Importation Committee will work to develop a coordinated and efficient plan to effectively complete the AI work.

Importation Flock Requirements

Please note the following requirements for U.S.A. flocks:

- Sheep receiving the imported semen must have flock ID and premises ID assigned and recorded in the Surveillance System/Scrapie (SCS SCR) program. We have further information on how to apply, if necessary.
- All progeny will have to be officially identified and the producers must maintain records linking each animal to the semen used.
- Willingness to track progeny production records over a longer term to determine the success of the program. DSANA is working with several resources to identify a uniform process/program for genetic and production record keeping.

DSANA will be designating someone to provide information, support, and monitoring of identification and record keeping.

Canadian Members --- Please Note! We are exploring options within the Canadian importation requirements to be able to offer semen importation to you also. When/if this is affirmed and we get the “go-ahead” we will let you know the details.

Completing the Contract

Each farm must complete the following contract and mail it to Tom Clark with a check made out to:

DSANA – Semen Importation Project

This offer is available only to DSANA members in good standing. If your dues are not current, you may either complete the attached membership application and send your payment of \$50 for a single membership or \$100 for a farm membership with the contract; or sign on to the DSANA website and make your payment through PayPal.

Semen Importation Agreement

Farm Name

Contact Person

Address

Telephone

Email Address

Current DSANA Membership Renewal Date

U.S.A. Scrapie Flock ID Number

USDA Premises ID Number

Number of Straws Ordered

Total Costs (No. Straws x \$80)

Check number:

Amount of Deposit (50% of Total)

Agreement

By signing this agreement, you are agreeing to the following:

- To officially identify and maintain records of all progeny resulting from the artificial insemination.
- To keep production records of progeny as requested by DSANA.
- To pay the additional travel costs affiliated with the artificial insemination process.

Signature

Date

Mail this signed contract with deposit by **July 1, 2016** to:

Tom Clark
99 Shaker Museum Road
Old Chatham, NY 12136, USA
clark@dubinclark.com