

## 2003 YEAR END REPORT

Date: 8-30-03

**COMMITTEE:** Production Testing

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON:** Co- Chairs: Lisa Shepard, Deneane Ashcraft

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Lynn Benedict, Dan Considine, Cindy Eslava, Cam Faircloth, Linda Grilli, Vicki Larson, Patricia Morford, Nancy Nickel, Monique Roeth, Joan Dean Rowe, Ruth Weaver, Terry Gipson [*ex-officio*]

### 1. COMMITTEE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE YEAR:

- A. Standard Operating Procedure manual
- B. VT form and review subcommittee
- C. One Day Milking Competition Review
- D. Fee review (Office request)
- E. Quality Assurance Program
- F. Small Breeds Issues
- G. Tester Training
- H. Owner Sampler Star Program
- I. Performance Reports Brochure
- J. Genetic Awards
- K. Review of Quarterly DRPC reports relative to outliers
- L. Promotion

### 2. SUMMARY OF WORK DONE THUS FAR:

- A- **Standard Operating Procedure manual.** The approved sections were sent to herds renewing for 2003. New sections have been formulated. Consultation with CaDHIA has been completed. The final document proposed for the Board to adopt is available as [Attachment A](#).
- B- **VT.** Review subcommittee formed. No reviews at this time. VT Form – form has been updated and made easier and will be forwarded to the office. An instruction sheet proposed for approval by the Board is available as [Attachment B](#).
- C- **One-Day Milking Competition review.** Consensus on an instruction sheet for test supervisors. Consensus on changing statement by participants as well as a new attestation statement by the tester. The committee is presenting both for adoption by the Board. See [Attachment C](#) and [Attachment D](#).
- D- **Fee Review.** the office suggested that the committee review the fee structure for renewal, with regard to early/late renewal. The committee reviewed and voted on this issue and the consensus was that the policy in place is sufficient. Penny Albert has had additional input with regard to notification to herds that she will implement for 2004.
- E- **Quality Assurance program.** The 2<sup>nd</sup> report has been received from CaDHIA. The 3<sup>rd</sup> report is awaiting analysis and follow-up. Data for this report has been gathered and there have been additional cooperators (personal communication). The contract ends Dec. 31, 2003 and the committee recommends renewal. USDA has been receiving the reports on schedule and they are meeting the quality oversight requirements as outlined in the MOU.
- F- **Small Breeds Issues.** Linda Grilli and Lisa Shepard are the primary contacts for the New Breeds task force. Several options for AR levels have been explored although not yet submitted to committee. The guidebook has been reviewed to highlight any sections that would need change. Interaction between the Task Force and this committee has been ongoing.
- G- **Tester Training.** The annual meeting will have a Tuesday session conducted by Scott Taylor of CaDHIA as a beyond the basics type session. This is designed as a “trickle-down” training to assist local groups with goat specific expertise in conducting local training sessions.
- H- **Owner Sampler Star Program.** The committee has voted in favor 12-0, to bring this proposal to the Board. Please see [Attachment E](#).
- I- **Performance Reports Brochure.** Draft pdf files are completed. They are being updated to current data on the sample reports. We would like the Board’s approval to post to the website, once completed. They are modeled after the brochure that is now outdated (due to changes in terminology, reporting, etc.) and would be available in a read and a print format.
- J- **Genetic Awards.** Workgroup formed. Nothing to report, as computer programming would still be necessary.

- K- **Review of Quarterly DRPC reports** relative to outliers. This has been postponed.
- L- **Promotion.** As of July, just over 400 herds were participating in DHIR. A little over 80% are in a Standard 20 plan. 6 herds are using the Every Other Month plan. The others are in the other plan options. Performance Volume #48 is available. A workshop on how to go on DHIR test will be available at convention. Scale Certification will also be available at convention this year. Articles have been submitted to various venues.
- M- **Other.** Work is being done with AIPL and the ADGA office to provide correct identification on animals in the system. Article on Identification has been included on the website. Other website additions are a new herd application and the Standard Operating Procedures. How to go on DHIR article (updated) submitted to the Board for dispersal to the membership. Updates on the guidebook submitted. Interaction with the office and membership with respect to DHIR program. Re-instatement of mailing to DRPC and field service units of updates and ADGA production testing materials. Breed Averages report sent for website inclusion, along with a 4 year comparison. DCR verification for Top Ten. Survey to ITP and herds not submitting herd code completed. Ongoing interaction with producers to correct records. Plans to have a form letter to send when ID errors are found. Work with DRPCs to find consistent coding options for supervision of ITP plans.

### 3. FINANCIAL REPORT – COMMITTEE EXPENSES THUS FAR:

EC approved use of funds to cover Scott Taylor's travel to convention for the training session. This is to be no more than \$500. There was no travel to the National DHIA meeting this year; therefore budget impact is expected to be neutral. A maximum \$50 is expected for shipping of the NIST weights and scale certification to convention. The \$5/scale charge will cover this, with any extra income going to ADGA.

### 4. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED:

As mentioned above, there has been difficulty in getting the ADGA 02 plan recognized by the record centers. This has led to inconsistencies in supervision and method codes as each record center is interpreting the ADGA ITP 02 in a different way. This will need to be resolved in 2004.

As of this time, records are still being hand-entered. Data quality has the potential to be compromised by this continued practice. It is hoped that this will be resolved soon and that all format 4 data fields can be captured through programming updates to facilitate data management and reduce office/volunteer workload.

There is a continued need for office staff training to acquire in depth knowledge of the performance programs, review of records in progress, verifications, completed lactations, test type plans, and data collection ratings. In addition, there is a need for interaction with our industry partners in milk recording.

### 5. DECISIONS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION:

See [list of Motions](#) at the end of this report.

### 6. WORK TO BE COMPLETED BY NEXT YEAR'S COMMITTEE:

Work as identified above needs to be attended to.

### 7. LONG RANGE GOALS (5 YEARS) FOR COMMITTEE:

- Test Type Plan resolution at DRPC
- Action Recommendations – QC program
- ID
- Outlier records review
- Genetic Awards Program
- Web based tester training

CHAIRPERSON'S SIGNATURE:



Lisa Shepard & Deneane Ashcraft

## MOTIONS:

- #1: Motion to adopt the finalized [Standard Operating Procedures for Dairy Goat Production Testing](#) for use in the ADGA Production Testing program.
- #2: Motion to approve the Instruction sheet "[SUPERVISOR'S GUIDE to the ADGA VERIFICATION TEST](#)" for use by the ADGA Production Testing program and to reference it as appropriate in Section IX.D of the guidebook.
- #3: Motion to approve the Instruction sheet, "[SUPERVISOR'S & SUPERINTENDENT'S GUIDE to the ADGA ONE-DAY MILKING COMPETITION](#)" for use by the ADGA Production Testing program and to reference it as appropriate in Section IX.F of the guidebook.
- #4: Motion to change the first sentence of IX.F.3 in the guidebook to "The owner shall certify to the superintendent in charge and to ADGA the fact that the goat(s) for whose Star certificate(s) are being applied for, have not received any substance, nor have been subjected to any other non-routine management practices for the purpose of temporarily enhancing components or increasing milk production within the last 10 days." Approval of this motion would include adjusting the language of the [One Day Milking Competition certification sheet](#).
- #5: Motion to accept the proposed [Owner Sampler Star Recognition Program](#) and insert it as a new section between IX.C.3 and IX.C.4 in the guidebook as "Plans accepted for ADGA Star Program Only" and insert referral language as appropriate in the General Guidelines section.

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR DAIRY GOAT PRODUCTION TESTING

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. [Scope and Application](#)
2. [Summary of Program](#)
3. [Authority](#)
4. [Responsibility](#)
5. [Definitions](#)
6. [Personnel Qualifications](#)
7. [Minimum Personnel Training Requirements](#)
8. [Equipment and Supplies](#)
9. [Sample Collection - Preparation](#)
10. [Sample Collection - Method Options](#)
11. [Sample Handling and Preservation](#)
12. [Data Collection and Records Management](#)
13. [Quality Control and Quality Assurance](#)
14. [References](#)

## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

### 1.0 SCOPE & APPLICATION

- 1.1** This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is applicable to the systematic collection of data documenting milk yield including the measuring milk fat and protein for participants in DHI. The application of these procedures is to provide the framework for a uniform, accurate record system to be used for (1) making farm management decisions; (2) educational programs and research, including the genetic evaluation of cows and sires; (3) breed association(s); and (4) the promotion and sale of animals.

### 2.0 SUMMARY OF PROGRAM

- 2.1** Sampling should be done in accordance with the National DHIA Uniform Operating Procedures (UOP). All UOP procedures, unless specific to dairy cows only, are to be followed. For purposes of compliance, the use of the terms “cows and heifers” is synonymous with “goats and kids”.
- 2.2** Procedures outlined in this document are specific to dairy goat production testing only. These basic and minimum standards are to be uniformly followed. They serve to ensure that records will provide the accuracy, uniformity, and integrity essential to dairy goat production records.

### 3.0 AUTHORITY

- 3.1** A Memorandum of Understanding exists between the ADGA and the Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ensure the flow of DHIA records for industry purposes including genetic evaluation programs.

### 4.0 RESPONSIBILITY

- 4.1** DHIA dairy goat test supervisors and herd owners as well as persons in their employ are individually and collectively responsible for adherence to these Procedures.
- 4.2** To participate in this dairy record keeping program, herdowners must agree to conform to these procedures, registry requirements, the NDHIA Uniform Operating Procedures and the associated Code of Ethics.

### 5.0 DEFINITIONS

- 5.1 DAIRY GOAT** - any goat from which milk production is intended for use or sale, or which is kept for raising replacement dairy kids and is an integral part of the dairy herd.
- 5.2 Test Supervisor (TS)** – Any person authorized to collect milk weights and samples for inclusion in the Goat Genetic Evaluation Program (interchangeable with ‘tester’, ‘field sampler/technician’ or ‘supervisor’)

**5.3 Group Testing** – Must meet registry requirements. Each member of the test group is trained to perform supervisor responsibilities when weighing and sampling milk in the herds of other group members. All group testing is conducted under the jurisdiction and supervision of the DHIA

## **6.0 PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS**

**6.1** All Test Supervisors are required to be approved by the local DHIA prior to engaging in any field collection activities.

**6.2** Training should be done in accordance with the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding (CDCB) QCS Field Service requirements with the following being specific to dairy goat testing.

## **7.0 MINIMUM PERSONNEL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

**7.1** The minimum requirements for new test supervisors (TS) to test non-commercial herds (as determined by the herd's DHIA) without immediate supervision include demonstrated knowledge of (1) barn and parlor techniques, (2) data entry, (3) the *Code of Ethics* and *Uniform Data Collection Procedures*, and (4) the *Standard Operating Procedures for Dairy Goat Testing*. Commercial herds must have testers meeting the criteria of the CDCB auditing guidelines.

**7.2** Documentation of the initial training must include (1) the name and date of training of the new TS, (2) the name and credentials of the trainer, and (3) a list of the topics covered during the training.

**7.3** Continuing Education (CE) or refresher sessions should be provided in accordance with the CDCB Auditing guidelines. In addition, newsletters, videos, attendance at an ADGA annual meeting training session can serve as meeting CE requirements. Documentation must include (1) the name of each TS, (2) the name and credentials of the trainer, and (3) a list of the topics covered during the training.

**7.4** TS other than those approved to test cowherds or commercial herds (as determined by the herd's DHIA) must obtain CE or attend an initial or a refresher session every 3 years. This is an exception to the CDCB auditing guidelines as it applies to those testers supervising herds using 'pail and scale' techniques. This exception is allowed as this type of test plan is subject to little change over time. Documentation of CE/Refresher must include (1) the name of each TS, (2) the name and credentials of the evaluator, (3) a list of the topics covered during the evaluation, and (4) a performance assessment based upon the CE/Refresher information provided.

## **8.0 EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES**

**8.1** Equipment needed for collection of dairy goat milk samples includes:

- sample vials or whirl paks\*
- approved meter\*, or
- sampling device (dipper) and scale\*
- sample preservative
- field data sheets

\*The appropriate sampling and measuring devices must be of proper composition. See Section 10 for SOP Meters and Scales

## **9.0 SAMPLE COLLECTION – PREPARATION**

**9.1** Determine the extent of the sampling effort, the sampling methods to be employed, and which equipment and supplies are needed.

**9.2** Obtain necessary sampling and/or weighing equipment.

**9.3** Coordinate with herdowner and partner agencies, if appropriate.

## 10.0 SAMPLE COLLECTION - METHOD OPTIONS

- 10.1 Meters - All portable weighing and sampling devices being used for the generation of certified data must be of a National DHIA approved type. Meters for goat milk sampling must be calibrated in conformance to manufacturer specifications.

### GOAT METERS

<u>Manufacturer</u>	<u>Device</u>	<u>ICAR Approved</u>	<u>DHIA Approved</u>
Tru-Test Limited - New Zealand	Goat Meter model 50000		Yes
Waikato - New Zealand	Goat Meter		Yes

- 10.2 Scales being used for the generation of milk weights to be included in the *Goat Genetic Evaluation Program* must meet the following weight tolerance ranges at each specified weight:

Pounds	Minimum	Maximum
1	0.9	1.1
2	1.9	2.1
5	4.8	5.2
10	9.7	10.3
20	19.4	20.6

- 10.3 All scales must be checked for calibration by a certified meter technician or an individual approved by the DHIA prior to being placed in active service. The field technician or the herdowner may own Scales. Approved individuals must calibrate scales using certified weights.
- 10.4 Scales should be identified with a unique identification number.
- 10.5 All scales must be submitted for an approved routine calibration check by a certified meter technician or an individual approved by the local DHIA on an annual basis.
- 10.6 All scales receiving repairs that may have affected accuracy must be checked for calibration by a certified meter technician or an individual approved by the local DHIA before returning to active service.
- 10.7 Each scale must be identified with a tag, sticker, engraving, or other marking indicating the last calibration year and meter center used.
- 10.8 Documentation of scales must include (1) the make and unique identification number of the scale, (2) the meter technician's or approved individual's name, (3) the meter center used, (4) the date of calibration check, and (5) the final calibration check readings.
- 10.9 Dip Sampling must be done in a manner that assures a representative sample from the entire milk volume collected.

## 11.0 SAMPLE HANDLING AND PRESERVATION

- 11.1 Use pre-preserved sample vials.
- 11.2 Samples should be kept at room temperature and out of direct sunlight.
- 11.3 Keep samples in control of the tester – **EXCEPTION** – for group tests, samples may also be in control of the group leader, or person designated to ship the samples/data to the laboratory.
- 11.4 Record all pertinent data on a field data sheet.
- 11.5 Samples should be shipped so that they arrive at the lab no later than 6 days after the test is performed.

## 12.0 DATA COLLECTION AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT

- 12.1 When a breeding date is available, and a doe freshens less than 10 days prior to the expected kidding date, it will be considered a normal kidding and the record initiated will be used for buck and doe evaluations. Does freshening 10 days or more prior to the expected kidding date, whether in milk or dry, will be coded as abnormal and the record initiated will not be used for buck and doe evaluations.
- 12.2 If a doe aborts while in milk and has carried a kid less than 80 days, her current record will continue without interruption. If a breeding date is not available, and the doe aborts while in milk for less than 240 days, her current record shall continue without interruption. Except for specific situations stated above, the current record shall end and a new lactation will begin.
- 12.3 Verification tests may be a required condition of test type plan or registry recognition level. It is the herdowner's and/or test supervisor's responsibility to arrange for such tests dependent on registry or regional requirements. Verification testing should be done in accordance with registry policies.

**12.4** All data and information must be documented on field data sheets

**12.5** Minimum Suggested Record Retention

- Field Sheets – 2 years
- Record Center sheets – 2 years
- Verification Sheets – 2 years

**13.0 QUALITY CONTROL (QC) AND QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA)**

All field QC requirements of the ADGA QA Project must be followed.

**14.0 REFERENCES**

Dairy Goat Registry Guidelines, 2003  
Uniform Operating Procedures, June 2002  
California DHIA, Dairy Goat QC Program  
CDCB Auditing Guidelines, June 2002

## SUPERVISOR'S GUIDE to the ADGA VERIFICATION TEST

*The National DHIA Code of Ethics and Uniform Data Collection Procedures, along with the ADGA Production Testing Guidelines, govern verification tests for ADGA DHIR.*

A verification test acceptable to ADGA consists of validating 3 milkings (for a 2x herd) over a 24-hour period by a person other than the regular supervisor. The first is a pre-milking, a weight only test to "set the clock", plus two tested milkings for weight and component samples according to the test type plan of the herd. The first test is 12 hours after the pre-milking, and the second test 24 hours after the pre-milking.

The usual method is that if the verification supervisor is going to be present for just one of the three milkings, that it is for the pre-milking, also verifying tattoos, paperwork and visible ID. However, any of the methods described in the Uniform Data Collection Procedures are acceptable, provided they are also acceptable to the local association.

Verification testers can be group testers or standard testers, as long as the DHIA manager approves them to perform such testing. ADGA one-day milking competitions can also be used for verification, but all rules governing ADGA DHIR programs must be followed (scale certification, tester qualifications, milking routine, a VT form, etc.).

### **PREPARATION:**

Arrange date and time for Verification Test with both the herdowner and the different or second tester.

Prepare sample vials and packaging.

Check testing supplies; make sure scale has had a calibration within the last year and is marked as certified.

### **WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE HERD FOR THE TESTING:**

#### **CHECK ALL PAPERWORK**

- Get barnsheets, owner option sheets and registration papers from herd owner.
- Compare all registration information with those on the barnsheet.
- Make corrections, additions, write in pertinent dates and other information as appropriate on barn sheets.

#### **ONCE YOU ARE IN THE BARN**

- Move slowly and carefully, some animals "react" to strangers.
- Quickly survey the barn and other facilities, feed system and animals; note any oddities.
- Move into the milking area and set up scales, calibrate to bucket used for weighing.
- Inform the herd owner when you are ready to start.
- Decide, with the herd owner, whether you will check tattoos as the does enter or leave on the pre-milking.

#### **WHEN YOU BEGIN TESTING**

- Write in the start time for the entire milking procedure.
- Observe does as they enter and also note 'unusual' feeding practices.
- Observe does for visible identification, pull appropriate sample vial, prepare to sample for the tested milkings.
- Check tattoos (pre-milking) either before or after they are milked.
- When the herd owner begins milking, record the order in which they are milked.
  - Weigh the pre-milking, Weigh and sample the test milkings according to the test type plan (if in place of the regular test) and routine milking schedule (3 samplings only if a herd is coded as a 3x herd), observe proper mixing technique, repeat for each doe, recap all vials tightly.
- Record stop time when all does have been milked.
- Verify any dry doe's tattoos and dry status.
- Gather up all testing equipment and paperwork (including samples) and take them with you if you leave the herd until the next milking. If you stay on the farm, make sure the owner does not have unsupervised access to the test materials or samples. If you are only the pre-milking tester, transfer materials and samples to the regular tester.
- Repeat testing procedure (minus tattoo checks if does are visibly identified) for additional milkings.

#### **FINISHING THE TEST**

- Record the stop time.
- Make sure the VT form is complete.
- Make sure both supervisors (testers) have signed the VT form. Include tester ID number.
- It is strongly suggested that the tester keep a copy of the VT form for your records.
- Send samples, barn sheets, payment, VT form and any additional comments to the lab.

## SUPERVISOR'S & SUPERINTENDENT'S GUIDE to the ADGA ONE-DAY MILKING COMPETITION

***The ADGA Production Testing Guidelines for ADGA DHIR, along with the National DHIA Code of Ethics and Uniform Data Collection Procedures, govern ADGA one-day milking competition (ODMC) procedures.***

Prior to the test, application is made to ADGA providing the specifics for the test day. A Superintendent (if necessary for penning/entry arrangements) and a Tester are identified. For 'on-farm' competitions, an approved testing supervisor must perform the duties of the superintendent and the supervisor. The owner of an animal entered in the competition cannot perform any superintendent or supervisor/tester duties related to verifying animal identity, obtaining, or managing milk weights and samples.

The ODMC consists of validating 24-hour production. Usually, this means 3 milkings for a 2x milking herd. The first step is the pre-milking, a weight only test to "set the clock". There are two subsequent milkings tested for weight and component samples according to the test type plan of the herd, usually twelve and twenty-four hours later. It is acceptable to have the pre-milking be a check that the doe is empty at the start time of the competition. Use E✓, or a similar indication that the udder is empty if a weight is not recorded for the pre-milking.

Supervisors can be cow testers familiar with ADGA procedures, group testers, or goat standard testers, as long as the DHIA manager has approved them to perform such testing. An ADGA one-day milking competition can also be used as a verification test. ALL rules governing ADGA DHIR programs must be followed (tester qualifications, milking routine, VT forms, etc.). If the ODMC is used in place of the regular test, the usual sheets for testing must be filled out in addition to the one-day and verification forms.

### **WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE COMPETITION:**

#### **PAPERWORK**

- Validate registration papers with entries;
- Enter information onto ODMC form; include freshening date;
- Strongly suggest that visible ID (tag) is attached to animals in competition;
- Fill out other paperwork if this is to be used for a VT and check 'VT?' Box on ODMC form;
- Have each person with does entered sign the Attestation Statement.

#### **SET UP**

- Move into the milking area and set up scales, calibrate to bucket used for weighing;
- Inform the herd owners when you are ready to start;
- Decide, with the herd owners, whether you will check tattoos and registration information as the does enter or leave on the pre-milking.

#### **WHEN YOU BEGIN TESTING**

- Write in the start time for the entire milking procedure;
- Observe does for visible identification, check for "empty buckets", pull appropriate sample vial, prepare to sample for the tested milkings;
- Weigh the pre-milking and/or verify that the udder is empty, weigh and sample the test milkings, observe proper mixing technique, repeat for each doe, recap all vials tightly;
- Check tattoos (pre-milking) either before or after they are milked;
- Gather up all testing equipment and paperwork (including samples) and take them with you if you leave the herd until the next milking. If you stay on the farm, make sure entrants do not have unsupervised access to the test materials or samples. If you are only the pre-milking tester, transfer materials and samples to the regular tester;
- Repeat testing procedure for additional milking.

#### **FINISHING THE TEST**

- Make sure all forms are complete (VT and regular test forms as well);
- Make sure all supervisor signature areas are signed. Include tester ID number;
- It is strongly suggested that the tester keep a copy of the forms for your records;
- Send samples, barn sheets, payment and any other forms as well as any additional comments to the lab.

#### **SUGGESTED MATERIALS:**

Certified Scale & chain/rope to hang	Flashlight	ADGA Guidebook
Buckets/Dipper	Paper towels/alcohol wipes	Extra forms
Sample Vials/Mailer	Numbered ID tags	Pencil/Sharpie/Paper
	Bleach	Clipboard

## ONE-DAY MILKING COMPETITION SIGNATURE PAGE

### **Current Participant Statement:**

I, the undersigned, do hereby affirm that the goat(s) for whose Star certificate I do (shall) hereby apply, has not within ten days of the date of this test received Thyroprotein, or any tonic or condition powder which states on the label it will increase milk production. I do further certify that I have read the rules governing Official Milking Competitions of the American Dairy Goat Association and the test of my doe(s) has been (will be) carried on in accordance with these rules to the best of my knowledge and belief.

### **Proposed Participant Statement:**

I, the undersigned, do hereby affirm that the goat(s) for whose Star certificate(s) are being applied for, have not received any substance, nor have been subjected to any other non-routine management practices for the purpose of temporarily enhancing components or increasing milk production within the last 10 days. I do further certify that I have read the rules governing Official Milking Competitions of the American Dairy Goat Association and the test of my doe(s) has been (will be) carried on in accordance with these rules to the best of my knowledge and belief.

### **Proposed Statement from Test Supervisor (new):**

I, the undersigned, as the test supervisor for this ADGA Official Milking Competition do hereby affirm that this competition has been carried out in accordance to the rules and guidelines of the Dairy Herd Improvement program and the ADGA Production Testing program.

## ADGA OWNER-SAMPLER STAR (ST) RECOGNITION PROGRAM

1. Owner must make application to ADGA for herd to be on test (same price structure as DHIR participants).
2. Individual doe record must have a complete ID (ADGA registration, sire/dam ID, DOB, date of freshening).
3. Verification Test required within a timeframe of 60-150 Days in Milk.
  - a. Commercial herds: Individual doe verification allowable as long as amount of milk shipped (average of bulk tank pickup) is between 80 and 120% of the individual doe's milk from that DHIA test. \*
  - b. Herds without bulk tanks: Whole herd verification required. For star recognition, VT weights must be within +/- 20% of previous and/or following test day weights/components. \*\*
4. Application for ST recognition
  - c. Made from completed lactations only based on application and submission of doe sheet.
  - d. Animal DCR must be 75%\*\*\* for ST recognition.
  - e. Based on current AR requirement levels

**NOTE:** O/S records shall NOT appear on performance pedigrees - these would be used for \*M/\*B/+B recognition in Star Volume only and would be published in Star Volume section of published performance volumes.

- \* Based on edit criteria at USDA which is 81-117% - rounded for ease of administration
- \*\* Based on data collected showing a 3-5% drop 2-3 months after Peak Milk and steady 8-10% drop each month thereafter.
- \*\*\* DCR obtained from monthly owner sampler - based on AIPL chart

For additional information on the cow owner sampler programs, visit

<http://www.aipl.arsusda.gov/reference/changes/chng9811.html>  
<http://www.aipl.arsusda.gov/reference/useos.htm>  
<http://www.aipl.arsusda.gov/reference/datarating.htm>