

AGS Dairy Herd Improvement (DHI) Program (2010)

AGS maintains the Dairy Herd Improvement Program as a tool for members to use in improving production in the purebred dairy goat. The purpose of the DHI program is to provide members with production information on their herd and individual does that is valuable in breed improvement through breeding, feeding and management decisions. Herd and/or individual doe data can be used in comparing production of herd mates, how feeds affect production of does, determining which bucks are improving conformation, milk or butter fat production, which bloodlines cross well and which don't, culling, in sales promotion, etc. Besides information for herd owners, the records and data collected are kept by AGS as the official production records that are used in determining awards for production and for research. Production records/scores of the DHI Program that meet requirements also enable goats to participate in the Advanced Registry and Star Programs, the Lincoln Awards and Top Ten lists.

The AGS DHI Program includes the DHIR program, One Day Tests, production awards such as Titles and Stars of the AR and Star Programs, the Mrs. J.C. Lincoln Awards and the Top Ten Lists. There are two types of production testing in the DHI Program, DHIR testing and One Day Tests.

DHIR Program

AGS Dairy Herd Improvement Registry (DHIR) testing is one type of production test in the DHI Program. This is the long term test of 305 days or less with monthly tests. DHIR is official milk production testing under the auspices of the American Goat Society, following the Uniform Operating Procedures (UOP) and the Code of Ethics of the National Dairy Herd Improvement Program (NDHIP) and the AGS DHI rules and Procedures. This is done through the registry, a certified Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA) and a certified DHI laboratory. DHIR testing involves a DHI Technician coming to the farm for a monthly test, observing the day's milkings, weighing the milk, recording the weights and taking samples for each doe. The samples are sent to a lab that tests the percent of butter fat, and protein. Reports are sent back to the herd owner after each monthly test and includes the doe's production data to date.

All AGS DHIR test records are collected in a list called the AGS Dairy Herd Improvement Registry (DHIR), that lends the 305 day testing program its name, DHIR.

The DHIR list is the basis of the Advanced Registry (AR) list. The AR records contain the lactation records of does that earned an AR star by meeting the AR requirements on Complete lactations. The Advanced Registry program is the award section of the DHIR program and includes the AR star requirements for entry on the list for does, the AR records, and requirements for AR titles for bucks through progeny. Official production awards and titles of the AR program are a benefit of participating in the AGS DHIR program. AGS does not require whole herd DHIR testing, but certain herd definitions are required.

One Day Test

One Day Test is the second type of production test in the AGS DHI program. A One Day Test requires three observed milkings in 24 hours with milk weights and samples taken the last two observed milkings. The milk weight, days in milk and % butter fat are used in a specific math procedure to determine the number of points the doe accumulated. There are minimum points required for a star. Star Program awards also include other awards/titles for does and bucks through progeny and bucks through inheritance. The Rules for the Star Program are listed in the AGS DHI Program Rules and Procedures and in the One Day Test Additional Rules and Procedures section along with the math procedure for determining points earned in a One Day Test.

The AGS DHIR Rules and Procedures, One Day Test Additional Rules and Procedures and AR/Star requirements can be found on-line on the AGS website, americangoatsociety.com.

in the Milk Pail. The National Dairy Herd Improvement Program Uniform Operating Procedures (NDHIP UOP) are on line at www.dhia.org/udcp.pdf

Upon request, a copy of the AGS DHI Rules and Procedures will be provided to DHIA's and registries recognized by AGS.

There can be some confusion in the terms, DHIR and DHI in the DHI Program. DHI is Dairy Herd Improvement. The AGS DHI Program is the rules and procedures, both types of testing, the registry records and awards and titles of the AGS milk production program.

DHIR refers to the 305 day test or the production records of that type of testing.

DHIR or DHIR testing is official milk testing through the registry using an NDHIP DHIR test recording plan, a certified DHIA and lab,

following all AGS Rules and Procedures, including registry fees. Production records of lactations labeled Complete/Official will be official with the registry.

DHI testing is milk testing through a DHIA, using DHI test recording plans, the DHIA rules and a laboratory without applying through the registry or paying

registry fees. DHI testing does not go through the registry, and the production records will not be official for any AGS DHI award programs. DHI testing does benefit the owner in his breeding, feeding and management decisions in providing production records for each doe and the dairy herd.

DHI records are the lactation records of does while on DHI or DHIR testing.

AGS Dairy Herd Improvement (DHI) Program Rules and Procedures

AGS DHI Rules and Procedures comply with all NDHIP Uniform Operating Procedures (NDHIP UOP), but contain additional rules* that may not be covered by UOP or DHIA affiliates rules. It is the responsibility of all AGS members on DHIR or a One Day Test to know and abide by AGS DHI Rules and Procedures, the Code of Ethics, the NDHIP Uniform Operating Procedures, and their state and/ or DHI Association rules.

Herd owners enrolled in the AGS DHIR program or a AGS One Day Test grant permission to AGS the right to publish all records and those records may be used at the discretion of AGS or the USDA for research purposes.

AGS is not bound by the rules of any other registry.

AGS DHIR production testing is restricted to AGS members only.

Acceptance of records for the AR program is not a matter of right accorded to members or others.

AGS reserves the right to rule on any other matters related to the AGS DHI Program not covered in these rules and the Additional Rules and Procedures for the Star Program (One Day Test).

1. The herd owner will make and complete all arrangements for DHIR testing with the state or DHI Association and the laboratory that will be used.

2. The herd owner will complete an AGS DHIR application, and send it, along with the required annual doe list and the appropriate fees, to the Office/DHI coordinator. An AGS permit to test will be issued and the herd is

thereby enrolled in the AGS DHIR program. Once all testing materials are received from the DHIA and lab, testing can begin.

New herds may enroll with a DHIA and AGS and begin testing any time of the year.

Testing is to begin as soon as does begin to freshen, but no sooner than the evening

of the 4th day after freshening.

Records that begin over 75 days after freshening are not eligible for any AGS production awards.

3. The Registry Code for AGS is 20 (twenty). That code number will be required for DHIA paperwork.

4. DHIR renewal fees are due by January 31 regardless of the month testing began the prior year. Renewal fees received by January 31 will receive a discount of \$5.00 off new herd enrollment fees. Herds not renewing by Jan 31 will be considered officially off DHIR test.

5. Herd Definitions for DHIR herds-AGS herds enrolling on test may use any of the following herd definitions.

"The herd's DHIA will assign the herd code number.

A. All does of one breed housed and managed under one management system, regardless of ownership.

B. Farms with two or more breeds may calculate and report a composite herd or breed average. In general, herd codes should be assigned with the principles of A and B.

NDHIP does recognize that legitimate reasons may exist that warrant the assignment of separate herd codes such as:

1. A herd owner may operate separate herds, under separate management systems, with no movement between herds.
2. Two herds may be housed together with different ownership, management goals, with no movement of does from one ownership to the other. One owner may test and the other may not.
3. Farms with two or more distinct breeds may enroll one breed on test and not the other/s.

DHIA service affiliates may assign herd codes that differ from the principles in A or B as long as they follow the NDHIP Code of Ethics.

That decision by the DHIA in assignment of herd codes is final. Herds with both standard and miniature breeds may request composite herd or breed averages for management and other purposes." (from NDHIP UOP/02)

6. It is required that each and every doe that is included in the test herd definition, that is regularly milked, or has

ever freshened or will freshen during the year must be enrolled in the AGS DHIR program by being listed on the Annual Doe Sheet. Herd owners may not selectively choose which does will be listed as a member of the test herd. Misrepresenting the test herd to the DHIA or AGS is a violation of the Code of Ethics, skews data that is used by AGS and USDA for production research and defeats purposes of DHIR to furnish the owner with information for managing production in the test herd. If does are added to the test herd during the year they must be added to the Annual Doe Sheet and the updated sheet sent to the Office/DHI Coordinator along with the proper fee.

7. AGS recognizes the following DHIR test recording plans. In all of the following test recording plans, the owner is responsible for performing a **pre-test milk out** so that there will be no more than 24 hours of milk included in the weights for test day. The first recorded milking does not have to be 12 hours from the milk out, but the last milking must start no more than 24 hours from the milk out starting time.

Code 20-Standard or DHIR Conventional The DHI technician weighs and samples the milk from all milkings during a 24 hour period.

Code 02 Alternate AM PM Component Sampling (APCS) The DHI technician and the owner share responsibility for collecting test day weights, alternating the AM and PM weighing each month. Only the DHI technician samples the milk. The owner always weighs and records weights at the first milking of each test day. A herd verification test is required. (the date of the test day is the last milking in the testing period).

Example: The first test day is scheduled for Monday, March 9, beginning at 7:00 am.

At 7:00 am on Monday, the owner milks, weighs, and records the milk weights. At 7:00 pm, the DHI technician weighs, records, and samples the milk. Next month the test is scheduled to begin Monday, April 6 at 7:00 pm. On Monday evening at 7:00 pm the owner weighs and records the milk. On Tuesday at 7:00 am the DHI technician records, weighs and samples the milk. For herds milked three times in a single 24-hour period, the DHI technician alternates the sampled milking among all three milkings.

Code 31-AM/PM without time monitor (AP) The DHI technician weighs and samples one milking am or pm, alternating am one month with pm the next month. A verification test is required.

Code 01-AM/PM Component sampling with timer (APT) This test is the same as AP except a time monitor is required. A verification test is required.

Code 00-Every-other- month (EOM). The DHI technician weighs records and samples 2 consecutive milkings every other month. The owner weighs and records for the intervening months and sends barn sheets to his lab. A verification test is required.

Code 22-APCS-the same as APCS 02 except the DHI Technician performs all weighing, recording and sampling. No Herd Verification Test is required.

Code 40-Owner Sampler (OS) As part of the DHIR program, the owner/sampler program is governed by all the rules pertaining to the DHI program, in addition to the following rules:

- A. The herd owner performs all procedures usually done by a milk tester, and must be certified annually as an official DHI technician by a DHI association.
- B. A verification test must be conducted between 60 and 150 days of each doe's lactation by a certified milk tester that it not the owner. Multiple verification tests may be required for each doe to have a verification test in the set time span. Height forms for miniature does must be included with the verification report.
- C. Star requirements for does on owner/sampler testing are based on those of the AR program (see AR Requirement chart). Qualifying does will be titled with a star (*D), but not an AR. The numbers will be assigned from the Star Program list and will have "-40" added to the end of the number to differentiate between an owner/sampler star number and a one-day test star number. For example: "ST08043-40".
- D. It is required that a copy of the Doe page or Individual Cow Record (ICR) of all does on OS test plan be sent to the Office/ DHI Coordinator for processing.
- E. Qualifying does, and bucks qualifying for plus titles through progeny that qualified through OS test records, do not receive an AR title. If the doe or buck is a master

champion,
the title will be MCH, not ARMCH.

F. Owner Sampler records are not eligible for any Top Ten list or Lincoln Award

8.* Group testing is recognized by AGS. It is three or more herd owners testing each other's herd. Any of the AGS recognized

test recording programs may be used except OS. Each group member must use the same testing program. To participate, all group herd owners are required to be certified/licensed annually as DHI Technicians (see 10*). No group member will test their own herd. Herds may schedule tests on different days, and mail herd samples/test sheets in individual herd boxes. Check if DHIA rules differ. Should a group drop below the required minimum of three herds for

Group test:

1. the remaining two herds may find a new herd to join the group, before the next test day of either,
2. the remaining two herds will have to change to individual herd test, or
3. the remaining herds will have to drop off of official AGS DHIR test.

The two remaining herd owners may not continue on test, testing only each other's herd.

9. AGS does not recognize reciprocal testing in the DHIR program. (Reciprocal testing is two herds with the owners testing only each other's herd on a continuing basis during the test year.) This rule does not apply to herds on Group test that may occasionally test each other due to scheduling.

Reciprocal testing is a violation of the the NDHIP Code of Ethics, the policies and rules of the NDHIP UOP, AGS and DHIA's.

10.* *DHI Technicians*- All persons

recording test day data must be certified/licensed as an official DHI Technician, Supervisor, Tester or Field agent/ affiliate/representative yearly by a DHI Service Affiliate (DHIA). Certification requires passing the test of the DHIA in charge of the training. This includes group members and herd owners using APCS (02), APT, AP, EOM, and OS testing programs. Herd Owner DHI Technicians that participate in recording test day data for their herds using APCS (02), EOM, and OS test programs are exempt from the following rule only when testing their own herds as part of their DHIR program recording plan. A DHI technician shall not test

his own herd, any herd partially owned by the DHI Technician, any herd/animal of an immediate relative, employer, employee or one the technician has any financial interest in, or has supervision over, other than as the DHI technician.

11. Equipment and Scales - All equipment used in official DHI data collection must meet DHI standards. All scales used in collection of official DHI data are required to meet the following criteria:

A. Only scales and meters approved by NDHIP or a DHIA are allowed. These types include regular hanging dial-faced, table top digital, and hanging digital scales. (Hanging digital scales are preferred over table top digital scales).

B. Only scales that measure in 10th of a pound are allowed to be used for collection of official DHI data.

X. Scales and meters must be checked annually for accuracy for DHI purposes by an agency or agent approved by a DHIA or linked to the National Bureau of Standards.

Δ. A sticker, receipt, or letter of accuracy shall be provided by the agency/agent that performed the test and

any needed re-calibration.

E. Scales meeting above requirements may be owned by either the DHI technician or the herd owner.

F. It is critical that the milk container weight be subtracted from the total container plus milk weight IF the scale cannot be set up for a tare weight. Tare weight does not include the container weight and the scale will read only the milk weight.

12. At no time just before or during any AGS official test shall anything be given or administered to a doe that will influence and/or to cause an abnormal production. In addition, any changes before or during test time in the care, feeding or management known to, or to cause an increased production of milk or butterfat are not allowed. Required medications for health reasons are not included and should be coded on DHIR test day sheets and the DHI Tech informed at a One Day Test.

13. Miniature breed special rules (Nigerian Dwarf and Pygmy)

a. **All miniature breed does must be measured during each lactation** and at any One Day Test and their height recorded on the appropriate form.

b. Measurement

of height shall be performed by a DHI technician, veterinarian, county agent or an AGS judge with no financial interest in the animal.

c. They must be measured

at the highest point of the withers, in "show stance" with head up and all four legs squarely beneath them, using the official AGS measuring device.

d. DHIR and Star program records for miniature breeds will not be considered complete unless the height measurement forms have been received.

e. Over Height (OH) does-Miniature breed does that qualify for AR titles/stars or Star Program stars and measure over-height for the breed standard will receive those awards (see OS restrictions, Code 40), but will not be eligible for Top Ten or Lincoln awards. Over height does will have (OH) for over height, and the year of the measurement added to the registration certificate after the AR number or Star D notation.

f. Verification test-see 15 D for required VTs for projected production in DHIR.

14. Testing Interval (days between tests)-

The preferred number of days between tests is 30.

Check the DHIA rules for minimum/maximum number of days between tests

for records to remain "official". The DHI test year is 10 or more monthly tests in a 12 month period.

A doe's production record for a lactation is calculated at 305 days

days whether the doe is dry or not. Production records over 305 days are termed

extended lactations and are noted on the Doe page/Individual Cow Record (ICR) when the doe is reported dry.

Lactation Records labeled on the Doe Page as Incomplete, Unofficial, "not for USDA use" or terms meaning the same,

are not eligible for any AGS production awards.

15. Verification Test (VT) –A VT is an official milk

test of the accuracy of regular test day data and is required in certain

cases or test recording plans on herds or does. A VT can be performed as the

test in the normal DHIR test cycle, at a One Day Test, or as an extra DHIR

test during the month. Three observed milkings in a 24 hours period are

required. The first observed milking begins 24 hours before the start of the last milking of the test.

The udder is verified as completely milked out, the milk is weighed and recorded.

The next two milkings, the milk is weighed, recorded and

sampled for lab analysis. A certified/licensed DHI Technician other than the regular DHI Tech is required to perform a VT. It is required that a Verification Test Form is used and sent to the Office/DHI

Coordinator post

test.

If more than one VT is required during the year, the DHI technician that supervised the first verification test can perform any required additional VTs for the duration of the test year. It is preferred that a verification test not be the last test of a doe or herds lactation. The DHIA or DHIA affiliate may notify herd owners when a VT is required, but it is the herd owner's responsibility to keep track of projected lactation records of does, their test plan VT requirements, know when a VT is required and make arrangements for one.

A Verification Test (VT) is required as follows:

A. Herds on APCS (02), EOM, AP, APT test plans must have a whole herd VT performed. It is suggested that this be done about mid-lactation.

B. Herds on the OS testing plan must have a VT performed between 50 and 160 days of **each** doe's lactation. This rule may result in having to hold more than one verification test during the year if the first VT is not during a doe/does 50-160 days of lactation.

C. Standard breed does must have a VT when a doe in milk at least 90 days is projected on an actual basis (AB column on some monthly reports) to produce 3000 lbs. of milk and 105 lbs. of butterfat that lactation, or on a projected mature equivalent (ME column on monthly reports) to produce of 3500 lbs. of milk and 125 lbs. of butterfat at maturity, and when on a 180 day basis the ME is 4000 lbs. of milk and 140 lbs. of butterfat. Herd owners are to keep track of projected production and have a VT performed if required.

D Miniature breeds must have a VT when a doe in milk at least 90 days has a projected actual basis (AB column on some monthly reports) to produce 1000 lbs. of milk and 50 lbs. of butterfat or has a mature equivalent (ME column on monthly reports) to produce 1167 lbs. of milk and 58 lbs. of butterfat at maturity, and when on a 180 day basis has a ME equivalent of 1333 lbs. of milk and 67 lbs. of butterfat. Herd owners are to keep track of projected production and have a VT preformed if required.

E Lincoln Doe Awards require that in order to be eligible to compete for an award, does must have had a VT during the qualifying lactation.

16. Does aborting or kidding early DHI record treatment- Generally the following coding is used, but herd owners need to check with their DHIA if the DHIA coding policy is the same.

A. Does freshening less than 10 days before the expected kidding date, will have the lactation coded Normal.

B. Does freshening more than 10 days from the due date, dry or in milk, will have the lactation recorded as Abnormal.

C. Does that abort while in milk and carried a kid less than 80 days will have their record continued without interruption.

D. If no breeding date is available and a does aborts while in milk for less than 240 days, the current record will continue without interruption.

17. Doe pages-Individual All Doe pages/ ICRs for does

must be sent to the AGS Office/ DHI coordinator when the doe is dry or has left the herd. It must be coded on the next monthly report if the doe is dry or the reason she left the herd for the Doe page to be sent to the

herd owner and the data to USDA. The labeling of the type of lactation on the Doe sheet by the DHIA/DRPC is final.

Doe page/ICR lactation records labeled Incomplete, Unofficial, not for USDA use or any other terms indicating the same, are kept in the AGS DHI records, but are not eligible for production awards.

18. Doe pages/ICRs or electronic USDA DHI records for lactations completed by December 31, must be received by the following March 1 deadline, for a doe to be considered eligible for Top Ten or Lincoln Doe Awards (See OS restrictions). The monthly report listing the 305 day record for does milking beyond 305 days, but not yet completed by December 31, may be sent in to be eligible for that year's Top Ten and other awards (see OS restrictions).

Doe pages received after the March 1 deadline will not prevent the doe receiving a *D (AR or Star program) if earned.

19. Penalty for not submitting doe pages-It is mandatory that the herd owner send all doe pages to the DHI Coordinator by the March 1 deadline for does that completed lactations during the test year. If the herd owner does not comply, a \$5.00 penalty will be charged for the awarding of each subsequent doe's AR title or Star. The herd owner may appeal the penalty to the DHI Committee within 30 days of the notice of noncompliance. If the Committee finds there is justification for noncompliance, the fee will be waived.

20. AGS will recognize as official, any test or test program the AGS member's DHIA/USDA accepts as official, as long as all AGS DHI rules are followed.

21. Acceptance of other registry DHI records- AGS will accept the DHI records of ADGA and CGS with DHIR Program standards equal to or exceeding those of AGS. The Doe page/ ICR, registration paper, and the current revision fee shall be submitted to the office with the request for recognition of DHIR milk records by AGS. In addition, AGS will accept the DHI records from an AGS recognized registry for goats re-registering in AGS. The Doe page/ICR and a copy of the registration certificate, with an application to register should be sent to the office for processing. AGS DHI titles for an approved record will apply.

22. AGS will accept One Day Test records from other goat registries AGS recognizes, such as One Day Milk Competitions of ADGA or CGS. For recognition in AGS for One Day Test records from ADGA or CGS, the herd owner should send the required documents, a request for the test acceptance and a certificate revision fee to the office. Documents/papers needed for processing a record are: a copy of the One Day Test data sheet, a copy of the lab report if not on the One Day Test day data sheet, a Height form for any miniature doe, and the registration certificate and fee for revision. Qualifying does are awarded AGS Star Program stars and are eligible for Top Ten lists.

23. Should a DHIA, DRPC, or DHI Technician notify AGS of a discrepancy in records or violation of rules/procedures, the matter will be referred to the AGS Board of Directors and DHI Committee for consideration and decision as to

possible action.

In addition should AGS discover a discrepancy in records or violation of the AGS DHI Rules and Procedures in DHIR or One Day Tests, the matter will be referred to the AGS Board of Directors and DHI committee for consideration and a decision as to possible action.

One Day Test

The One Day Test is a production test program of the AGS DHI Program. AGS recognizes One Day Test results in the AGS Star Program

The Star program includes One Day Tests, The One Day Test Additional Rules and Procedures, applicable DHI Rules and Procedures, the Star Production records

and the Star Program awards. A One Day Test requires that a DHI Technician observe three milkings for a One Day Test. The milkings will occur 12 hours apart.

The first milking that begins 24 hours before the last milking of the test, is a complete milk out and does are verified as empty by the DHI Technician. No weights are recorded unless the test will be a doe's VT.

The next two milkings, the DHI Technician weighs and records the milk weights and takes samples. After the test, the samples are taken to a DHI lab for analysis for the percent of the sample that is butterfat and sometimes protein.

The lab reported percentages are used to determine the weight of the butterfat of the milk weight.

The Star program uses a point system to determine if a star is earned on a One Day Test. The doe's days in milk, milk and butterfat weights are calculated in a specific order to determine points earned.

Standard does must have 100 points to earn a star, and Nigerian Dwarf or Pygmy does, 35 points.

The Star Program also includes titles for does and bucks through progeny and bucks through inheritance.

The method for calculating points earned is #15 of the One Day Test Additional Rules and Procedures.

A

One Day Test can be used as a required Verification Test (VT).

One Day Test Additional Rules and Procedures .

1. A One Day Test may be held

at a show, a fair, a farm, or a site where multiple herds can participate outside of a show or fair venue. Does will remain on site for the entire test.

2. Sponsors of a One Day Test may be

show, fair, or goat club officials, as well as AGS members for a farm test or other site test.

3. A One Day Test Permit and AGS group or individual One Day Test fees are required. See Work Sheet for fees.

4. An Application for One Day Test, with the appropriate fees is made through the Office/DHI Coordinator by the individual or official sponsoring the test. Contact the office/DHI coordinator for the application.

5. The test permit (valid for 6 months from date of issue), an official One Day Test Report form in triplicate,

a One Day Test procedure, Doe list/s and a Doe Owner Declaration signature list will be sent to the applicant once the application is processed.

6. It is the responsibility of the sponsoring official or individual to locate a DHI laboratory to test the samples and employ a certified DHI Technician to perform the test.

7. It is the responsibility of individual doe owners to have a Miniature Height Measurement Form or VT Certification Form if required and follow the accompanying procedures.

8. All AGS DHI Rules and Procedures apply to One Day Tests including the Code of Ethics, excluding only the rules that are specific to

DHIR tests. The One Day Test Additional Rules and Procedures and the One Day Test Procedure shall be followed.

9. Herd owners are not required to enroll all does in the herd or of a breed unless for a herd VT.

10. Does will go through each milking in the same order as the milk out so that all does are carrying the same hours of milk and do not go over 24 hours.

11. There is no AGS rule prohibiting does/herds on DHIR from taking part in a One Day Test or vice versa. Additional test fees would be required in either case.

12. Herd owners enrolled in AGS One Day Tests grant AGS the right to publish all records and scores.

13. Recognition of a One Day Test for a Star D earned follows the same procedure as #22 in the DHI Rules and Procedures.

14. The method of calculating the total points is the same for Standard size does and Miniature does.

15. The points earned in a one day test are calculated as follows:

Using information from the One Day Test report and the lab report calculate the following in order.

5.55 points X milk weight (lbs) = _____ A

Use pounds of milk X the butterfat % = pounds of butterfat (for use in the next calculation only)

1.11 points X pounds of butterfat = _____ B

0.0555 points for each day fresh = _____ C

Add A + B + C points to determine the total points the doe earned. Standard does need 100 points and miniature does need 35 points to earn a Star D.

Production Stars and Titles

The American Goat Society offers two types of production titles and stars for qualifying animals under the Advanced Registry (AR) program and the Star program. All titles are awarded automatically, with no action required by the owner of the animal other than sending in the required test results. Owners are notified of the title status of does participating in production tests and of does and bucks qualifying for titles through their progeny by the issuance of a Notification/Application for Certificate form. A doe can qualify for a star through either the AR or Star program multiple times, but will only be titled with a single star unless her dam has a star. If the dam is a *D, the doe is a 2*D. If her daughter earns a star also, the daughter is a 3*D. The generation numbers tell how many does in the direct unbroken doe's dam line earned stars and include the doe's earned star. There is no limit to the generation number a doe can have.

A doe can earn both an AR and a Star Program star. Only one type of star will be noted on the registration certificate. An AR Star supercedes a Star Program star and

the AR and star will be on the registration certificate, not the Star Program star. Both will count toward stars and titles. Stars for Protein are not available.

Bucks can earn a star through inheritance only in the Star program and pluses through progeny in either program.

Advanced Registry Program

The Advanced Registry (AR) Titles and stars are based on the AGS DHIR records established by the doe while on DHIR test for 305 days or less. The AR *D is awarded to does that have an official DHIR record noted as Complete/Official or for use by USDA on the Doe page/ICR that meets or exceeds the AR requirements for a lactation in milk or butterfat, or both milk and butterfat. Both the AR title and Star are awarded (See OS test plan restrictions) to qualifying does. The AR title and star are noted on a doe's certificate at the end of the name, with the AR number at the end. The AR number is on the certificate to identify the record to determine whether the star was earned for milk only, butter fat only or both milk and butterfat. The doe's record and name will be listed in the AR list. The AR list contains the records of doe's that met the AR requirements. An AR will precede any star or plus/es earned through the AR Program. If the doe or buck has show titles, the AR will be placed in front of it. The AR in front of titles indicates the award is in the AR program and the doe or buck have DHIR milk production titles.

AR Program Stars and titles.

Does- may earn the AR*D (Advanced Registry Star Dam) title and star by meeting the AGS AR Production Requirements for her age in milk, or butter fat, or both milk and butterfat while participating in the AGS DHIR program for 305 days or less. See OS Code 40-C restrictions for does on the OS test plan. Only records labeled Complete/Official and/or accepted for use by USDA are used in the AR program. (Only AR*D's earned on both milk and butterfat are used in determining if a buck will inherit a *S (Star Sire), but the *S is not part of the AR program.) Does can not earn an AR *D through their progeny.

Bucks earn an AR and Plus titles through their AR progeny and are called AR Herd sires.

A buck is entitled to an AR +S title if he sires three AR *D daughters out of three different dams.

A buck is entitled to an AR +S title if he sires two AR +S sons.

Bucks are limited to two pluses, one plus has to be for sons and one plus has to be for daughters.

Star Program

Star Program stars are awarded to does that have enough points on a One Day Test to earn a star. 100 points is required for a standard size doe to earn a star, and 35 points for a miniature doe. The Star Program also offers awards and titles for does and bucks for progeny and bucks by inheritance. Titles and awards in the Star Program are *D, *S, +S, ++S or +++S. Stars earned in the Star Program do not qualify the doe for an AR designation, and Star numbers will not be recorded on their registration papers. A record of the numbers will be held in the in the AGS office. Does on an OS test plan will earn stars in the Star Program.

The *D is treated like an AR *D for both milk and butterfat for inherited stars for bucks. Titles of Sires, sire's dams, dams and progeny that are qualifiers for titles in the Star program can be a combination of Star program and AR program titles. All AR type qualifiers are noted at the end of each buck title section for reference/comparison.

Star Program Stars and Titles

Does-A ***D** (Star Dam) title can be earned by one of the following methods:

1. Owner Sampler Testing-Does meeting the AGS AR Production Requirements while participating in the AGS owner/sampler program will earn a *D.

2. One Day Milk Test-By meeting the Star Program point requirements while participating in an AGS sanctioned One Day Test or an ADGA or CGS sanctioned One Day Test/Competition (with proper documentation submitted to AGS)

3. Progeny-A doe can earn her star through her progeny by one of the following means:

A. The doe has produced three *D or AR *D daughters,

B. The doe has produced two sons that earned their title of +S through either the AR or Star program or,

C. The doe has produced two *D daughters that have earned their stars through either the AR or Star program, and one son that has earned his plus (+S) through either the AR or Star program.

BUCKS -

***S** (Star Sire) A buck can qualify for a hereditary *S title at any time by the following means:

1. His dam is a *D and his sire is a *S, +S or ++S through either the AR or Star program.

2. His dam is an AR *D in both milk and butterfat and his sire is a *S, +S, ++S, through either the AR or Star program.

3. Both his dam and his sire's dam earned their stars through either the AR or Star program. If either of these does are AR does, they must have qualified for both milk and butterfat. (in this case the sire may not have a title)

A buck is limited to one *S and will not receive the AR title even if the qualifying sire, dam and/or sire's dam have AR titles.

+S (Plus Sire) -A Buck can qualify for a +S title in the Star Program, through his progeny that have Star titles or a combination of Star and AR program titles: 1. A buck that sired three daughters out of three different dams that have earned their stars through either the Star or AR program is a +S. If at least three daughters are AR *Ds, he is considered an AR Herd Sire.(AR +S).

2. A buck that sired two sons, that earned their plus (+S) through either the AR or Star program is a +S. If the sons are both AR +S, he is considered an AR Herd Sire(AR+S).

3. A buck sires two daughters that earned their stars through either the Star or AR program , and one son that earned his +S through either the Star or AR program is a +S. This method for a +S is Star program only. The progeny do not have to be out of different dams.

++S (Two Plus Sire) A buck can qualify for the title of ++S by siring three daughters who earned their stars through either the AR or Star program **and** two sons who earned their +S through either the AR or Star program. If all daughters are AR does and all sons are AR sons, the buck is an AR herd Sire AR ++S.

Bucks are limited to two pluses. One plus has to be for daughters and one plus has to be for sons.

The following chart lists the minimum requirements by age of the doe at freshening, for milk and butterfat production in one Complete/official DHIR Program lactation, for the doe to be eligible to earn an Advanced Registry Star and title. The requirements can be met in milk only, butterfat only or in both milk and butterfat and entitle the doe to an AR *D. (OS does will receive a Star Program star if the AR requirements are met, but not the AR title)

AGS Advanced Registry Minimum Production Requirement Chart

STANDARD BREEDS NIGERIANS AND PYGMIES				
AGE FRESH	LBS MILK	LBS BF	LBS MILK	LBS BF
2.00 or less	1,500	52.50	500	25.00
2.01	1,506	52.71	502	25.10
2.02	1,512	52.92	504	25.20
2.03	1,518	53.13	506	25.30
2.04	1,524	53.34	508	25.40
2.05	1,530	53.55	510	25.50
2.06	1,536	53.76	512	25.60
2.07	1,542	53.97	514	25.70
2.08	1,548	54.18	516	25.80
2.09	1,554	54.39	518	25.90
2.10	1,560	54.60	520	26.00
2.11	1,566	54.81	522	26.10
3.00	1,572	55.02	524	26.20
3.01	1,578	55.23	526	26.30
3.02	1,584	55.44	528	26.40
3.03	1,590	55.65	530	26.50
3.04	1,596	55.86	532	26.60
3.05	1,602	56.07	534	26.70
3.06	1,608	56.28	536	26.80
3.07	1,614	56.49	538	26.39
3.08	1,620	56.70	540	27.00
3.09	1,626	56.91	542	27.10
3.10	1,623	57.12	544	27.20
3.11	1,638	57.33	546	27.30
4.00	1,644	57.54	548	27.40
4.01	1,650	57.75	550	27.50
4.02	1,656	57.96	552	27.60
4.03	1,662	58.17	554	27.70
4.04	1,668	58.38	556	27.80

4.05	1,674	58.59	558	27.90
4.06	1,680	58.80	560	28.00
4.07	1,686	59.01	562	28.10
4.08	1,692	59.22	564	28.20
4.09	1,698	59.43	566	28.30
4.10	1,704	59.64	568	28.40
4.11	1,710	59.85	570	28.50
5.00 & over	1,719	60.17	572	28.60

Definitions/Quick reference

Star Program Stars and Titles

Does

***D** (Star Dam) is:

1. A doe that has met the point requirements to star on One Day Test or,
2. A Doe on DHIR OS test that has met the AR requirements to earn a star on milk only, butterfat only or both milk and butterfat or,
- 3 A doe that has earned a star through progeny with three *D or AR *D daughters (any combination) or,
4. A doe that has earned a star through progeny with 2 +S (AR or Star Program) sons or,
5. A doe that has earned a star though progeny with 2 *D or AR*D daughters and 1 +S (AR or Star program) son.

Bucks

***S** (Star Sire) is an inherited star and is:

1. A buck whose sire is a *S, +S, ++S, or +++S and dam is a *D or an AR*D in both milk and butterfat or,
2. A buck whose dam is a *D or an AR *D in both milk and butter fat, and the sire's dam is a *D or an AR *D in both milk and butter fat.

+S (Plus Sire) is earned by progeny.

1. A buck that has 3 *D out of three different does or,
2. A buck that has 2 +S sons or,
3. A buck that has 2 AR *D or *D daughters and 1 +S son

++S (Plus Plus Sire) is earned by progeny.

1. A buck that has 3 *D daughters out of three different does and 2 +S sons
2. A buck can only earn two pluses, one for sons and one for daughters. Both do not have to be earned at the same time.

+*S - A buck with an inherited star and a plus for sons or daughters.

++*S- A buck with an inherited star and a plus for sons and a plus for daughters.

AR titles and awards.

Does

AR *D (AR Star Dam)

A doe that has earned a star and AR title on 305 day (DHIR) test by meeting AR Star Requirements for milk only, butterfat only or for both milk and butterfat. An AR *D used for a buck to inherit a star, must be for both milk and butterfat.

Bucks

AR+S (AR Herd sire)is:

1. A buck that has three AR *D daughters out of three different dams or,
2. A buck that has 2 AR+S sons.

AR++ S (AR plus Herd Sire) is:

A buck that has earned one plus for 3 AR *D Daughters out of 3 different dams AND a plus for 2 AR +S sons.

Bucks are limited to two pluses, one for daughters and one plus for sons. Both do not have to be earned at the same time.

AR+*S-An AR buck with an inherited star and a plus for 2 AR sons, or 3 AR daughters out of different dams.

AR++*S- An AR buck with an inherited star and one plus for sons, and one plus for daughters out of three different dams.

MCH is a title awarded to an AGS Master (permanent) Champion.

For Master Champions with a Star Program production title, the MCH title will precede the production titles such as, **MCH *D,**

MCH* S, MCH +S, MCH +*S, MCH ++S, or MCH ++*S , or with a generation number MCH 2*D,

There is no specific production program notation for Master Champions with titles from the Star program.

ARMCH is a title awarded to an AGS Master Champion with a DHIR AR program production title.

The ARMCH will precede all other titles such as:

ARMCH *D, ARMCH +S, ARMCH +*S, ARMCH++S, ARMCH ++*S or with a generation number ARMCH 3*D

Complete- type of DHI record for an entire lactation (freshening to dry date) while on DHIR that satisfies all DHIA/USDA and NDHIP UOP rules and procedures.

DHI Technician (and other titles)- one officially trained and licensed with the title by a DHIA to certify by their signature that all test day data was taken according to NDHIP UOP.

Doe page or Individual Cow Record (ICR)-the official DRPC report of a lactation once the doe is reported dry or has left the herd.

Freshen-to give birth to a kid/s and come into milk.

Generation number-the number of unbroken consecutive star dams in the direct dam line of a doe, including the doe's star

Incomplete-or "not for USDA use"- a type of lactation record that does not or did not satisfy all DHIA/USDA and NDHIP UOP rules and procedures.

Mature equivalent (ME)-lbs of milk or butterfat a doe's lactation is projected to be at maturity based on the current lactation/age of doe to date.

Projected Actual basis (AB)-lbs of milk or butterfat a doe is projected to milk during the current lactation based on the lactation/age of the doe to date.

Annual Production Awards/Honors

The Mrs. J.C. Lincoln Awards

The Lincoln Awards were established by the Board of Directors with a bequest to AGS from the late Mrs. J.C. Lincoln. Mrs. Lincoln stipulated that the money was to be used to promoting milk production.

The awards are the Lincoln Doe Award for top producing does by breed on DHIR 305 day test, the Mrs. J.C. Lincoln Dairy Herd Award available at AGS sanctioned shows for the first place herd in the Dairy Herd class (see Show section). In addition, the funds are used to pay for Best Udder in Show Ribbons at sanctioned AGS shows as well as the certificates for the awards.

Both the Lincoln Doe and the Mrs. J. C. Lincoln Dairy Herd Awards are a Certificate of recognition and a monetary award.

Lincoln Doe Award

The Lincoln Doe Awards are given to the three does in each breed most pounds of milk in 305 days or less while on official DHIR test

The Lincoln Does are approved annually at the Board of Directors meeting and the doe owner is notified of the award and sent a Lincoln Doe Certificate and check for the doe's place for the breed. Lincoln does will be recognized in the Voice and in the annual Milk Production Awards Booklet. 1st place is \$30.00, 2nd place is \$20.00 and 3rd place is \$15.00 for each breed.

Rules:

- Does must be AGS registered
- Does must be on DHIR test with AGS
- Does must have had a verification test during the qualifying lactation
- Miniature Does must meet breed height standards.

Mrs. J.C. Lincoln Dairy Herd Award

The Mrs. J.C. Lincoln Dairy Herd Award is available at any AGS sanctioned show where the Dairy Herd class(es) meets application, show report and class requirements. The award must be applied for at the same time as the AGS sanction application. Class requirements are that the class will include four or more dairy herds with four or more does per herd, herds owned by 4 or more different owners. Miniature does must meet breed height standards. The Lincoln Dairy Herd award is \$25 and a certificate to the first place dairy herd. Herds that participate and win more than once will only receive the certificate after the first win. The cash award can be earned by a particular herd owner only once per year, and Certificates will be awarded after that. At an AGS National Show the Dairy herd awards will be awarded in dairy herd classes that qualify. The National Champion of the Dairy herd classes will be awarded a Certificate and the monetary award will be \$50 even if the owner of the herd has won the award previously that year. It is the responsibility of the show secretary to send the names of the herds participating with the names of the herd owners to the office with the winning herd noted. If not included with the show report, the award will not be honored.

AGS Milk Production Awards Booklet

AGS publishes the AGS Milk Production Awards booklet yearly. The booklet contains the Top Ten lists by breed, lists production titles earned by does and bucks by progeny, Lincoln Doe Awards and All-Time awards in categories such as longest lactation, highest production on record by breed, oldest milking doe etc. Both the DHIR and One Day Tests are included. The booklet is free for herd owners with herds on DHIR tests. Others may order the book for a fee (\$5). The Top Ten is an annual listing of the ten most productive does on DHIR test listed by breed, for the year of Complete lactations of 305 days or less. The lists are in categories of pounds of milk, butterfat, and protein. In the Top Ten list for does participating in One-Day Tests during the year, the categories are pounds of milk, butterfat, and days in milk. Miniature does that are over-height are not eligible for Top Ten awards, even though they have earned an AR star or Star Program Star. Does that starred using the Owner Sampler Program are not eligible for the Top Ten lists.

Transferring Titles

Goats re-registering in AGS from AGS recognized registries may have show titles and productions awards that are symbols other than those used by AGS, such as GCH, *B, *M or CH. AGS will recognize previously earned milk production awards granted by registries with DHI Programs recognized by AGS. (see DHI Rules and Procedures #21)

The Mrs. J.C. Lincoln Dairy Herd Award

The Mrs. J.C. Dairy Herd Award is available to the first place herd in the Dairy Herd Class(es) at AGS Sanctioned shows. Application for the award must be made with the AGS show sanction application. Class requirements are that the class will consist of four or more dairy herds of four or more does per herd, with the herds owned by four or more owners, with only one owner per herd. Miniature does must meet breed height standards. See the Mrs. J. C. Lincoln Dairy Herd award in the DHI Program for the award and limitations of monetary gain.