



— See Related Article in January 2018 'Sheep Industry News' —



EXPANDED PILOT OF OPP ERADICATION PROJECT
Flock Enrollment Application



A collaborative project:

American Sheep Industry Association
University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory
Cooperating State and USDA Animal Health Authorities

**Please complete all parts of this form, sign below, initial reverse, and return to:
OPP Project % the American Sheep Industry Association at address shown above**

- NUMBER OF BREEDING EWES IN THE FLOCK 12 MONTHS AND OLDER _____
- NUMBER OF REPLACEMENT EWES YOUNGER THAN 12 MONTHS _____
- BREED(S) OR CROSSES _____
- MONTH(S) DURING WHICH LAMBS ARE BORN _____
- OPP SYMPTOMS OBSERVED? (IF YES, PLEASE LIST) _____
- ANY TESTED POSITIVE BEFORE JUNE 2018? (IF YES, PLEASE ATTACH REPORT) _____
- EID TAGS APPLIED? (IF YES, WHICH BRAND OF READER IN USE?) _____
- INTERESTED IN A TESTING COOPERATIVE / SHARING OF EID EQUIPMENT? _____
- FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO PERMANENTLY SEGREGATE TEST-NEGATIVES? _____
- GOATS ON PREMISES? (IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE NUMBERS AS ABOVE) _____

It is important to note that, while adherence to the Voluntary OPP Eradication Protocol and related management recommendations has proven to facilitate the eradication of OPPv from infected flocks, THIS PILOT STUDY DOES NOT PROFESS TO BE A GUARANTEED ERADICATION SCHEME!

NAME _____ FARM / RANCH NAME _____

STREET _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____ COUNTY _____

VETERINARIAN _____ CLINIC _____

STREET _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____ COUNTY _____

My signature below indicates that I have read, understand and agree to follow all OPP Eradication Project requirements and guidelines as noted on reverse of this form. I also understand that my flock's test results will be made available for review by my flock veterinarian and the National OPP Project Coordinator overseeing this project for the American Sheep Industry Association.

Owner signature (also initial reverse):	Date:
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VOLUNTARY OPP ERADICATION PILOT PROJECT — SELECTION CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS:

This ASI funded project builds on a recent four-year trial in Minnesota <https://www.bah.state.mn.us/media/opp-eradication-trial.pdf> and will track flocks with significant levels of OPPv infection in order to further document the efficacy of a new eradication strategy. Flocks of all sizes are invited to apply, and all applicants will be considered.

While eradication needs to be the primary emphasis at present, it is equally important to identify sources of test-negative replacements and hopefully this project will eventually expand to accomplish just that. Until then, those able to provide test-negative stock may want to consider making this known through www.OPPsociety.org

SELECTION OF PROJECT FLOCKS: While flock size in itself will not be a factor, the goal is to assemble the largest number of infected animals that can be accommodated with available funding. Therefore selection will be competitive and may be dependent on geographic location in relation to other applicants, as well as the availability of State and/or USDA personnel resources in the state of residence. Preference may be given to those who are able to provide documentation confirming infection, and to those who are willing to work cooperatively with other flock owners.

OPP TESTING: It was demonstrated through Minnesota's OPP trial that the Elitest® ELISA, some features of which are patented, is essential to the success of this eradication strategy. Further, this is the only ELISA for OPP to have fulfilled the extensive validation requirements of OIE, the World Organization for Animal Health. For these reasons, Elitest® will be the only test used for this project. The test is currently available to any U.S. producer through the University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (UMN VDL) www.vdl.umn.edu

SAMPLE COLLECTION: Ideally, cooperating State or USDA Field Staff will visit flocks at least annually to verify inventory and collect samples at no charge to the producer, with owner delivering samples to the local veterinary clinic for processing and submission to the UMN VDL. Since this eradication strategy requires testing every 2 to 3 months, and the project is not regulatory, producers will be trained to collect samples themselves if they wish. As an alternative, producers may contract with their local veterinarian to collect samples when necessary.

TRAINING: Producers selected for the project will be required to attend a one-day regional training event to be presented by Dr Cindy Wolf, ASI's Health Committee Co-Chair. Their local veterinarians will also be encouraged to attend. Applicants who are not selected but wish to proceed with eradication efforts on their own will also be invited to attend, and these attendees will be retained on a wait list for consideration should the project expand.

ELECTRONIC ID REQUIRED: Unless EID already in use, those selected to participate must apply electronic tags (\$1.50/animal). In turn, they will be provided use of an EID reader and mobile label printer at no charge for two years. This equipment is expensive, funding will be limited, and we need to collect data from the largest possible number of animals. So flocks of all sizes are encouraged to consider working collaboratively with others in their area.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

- Need to be responsive to email, also willing to learn how to use simple Excel spreadsheets (template provided).
- Have animals in small pen(s) or working chute for bleeding; tubes, syringes/needles, extra ear tags ready.
- Deliver blood samples to local veterinarian for processing/shipment to the UMN VDL.
- Must remove test-positives from negative group(s), either by culling or segregating, as soon as results known.
- Willing to be interviewed and/or return questionnaire for occasional flock progress reports.

ESTIMATED PRODUCER COSTS TO PARTICIPATE:

- You would pay \$6.25 for each Elitest® ELISA test, plus a \$10 accession fee for each lot submitted (estimates).
- Also expected to provide blood sampling supplies (tubes, needles, labels, etc.) and EID tags as noted above.
- Responsible for your veterinarian's fee to process and submit samples, also sample collection as needed.

BRINGING IN NEW ANIMALS:

- Once selected for the project, preference is that ewe flocks be closed for the duration.
- Prior to commingling, all additions of either sex must be confirmed negative at the UMN VDL by Elitest® ELISA.

COMMITMENT:

- Anticipate two-year eradication pilot, after which we hope to expand the project to all producers nationwide.
- Enrolled producer may withdraw at any time, for any reason.

CONFIDENTIALITY:

- If selected for the pilot, your test results will be made available only to you, your local DVM, and to the National OPP Project Coordinator, Dr Cindy Wolf, and her assistant(s). Results *will not be shared with others* except in an anonymous compilation of all flocks for annual evaluation and reports.

Applicant please initial _____