

# 2025 Texas Stockman's Sale

## Rules and Sifting Guidelines

The reasons behind the rules and sifting guidelines is to ensure the transfer of healthy, viable rams and billies to their new owners.

### Eligibility

- **Rams** will need to be at least 6 months of age and a minimum weight of 100 lbs at the time of the sale. Rams cannot be older than 24 months of age at the time of the sale. Teeth will be checked by the sifting committee and rams should not have more than 4 permanent bottom incisors, but it is acceptable if their I<sub>3</sub> incisors (3-year-old teeth) have erupted. Rams with 6 full permanent teeth will not be allowed.
- **Rams** will need to have a minimum scrotal circumference of 26 cm for lambs (under 1 year of age) and a minimum of 30 cm for yearlings and 2-year olds.
- **Billies** will need to be at least 6 months of age and a minimum weight of 75 lbs at the time of the sale. Billies cannot be older than 24 months of age at the time of the sale. Teeth will be checked by the sifting committee and rams should not have more than 4 permanent bottom incisors, but it is acceptable if their I<sub>3</sub> incisors (3-year-old teeth) have erupted. Billies with 6 full permanent teeth will not be allowed.
- **Billies** will need to have a minimum scrotal circumference of 22 cm for billy kids (under 1 year of age) and a minimum of 26 cm for yearlings and 2-year olds.
- All rams and billies must have an official scrapie tag in their ear at the time of unloading.
- All **rams** will need to have a negative ELISA test for *Brucella ovis* **within 30 days** prior to the sale date. Documentation **WITH COPIES of ALL B.**

**OVIS TESTING** will be required prior to unloading of rams. **IF ANY RAM IN THE TEST GROUP IS POSITIVE, NONE WILL BE SOLD.**

- It is not a requirement that the sires be shorn at all, but if they are shorn this needs to be done at **minimum 30 days** (at least 1 month regrowth is necessary) prior to the sale and with 13 tooth or 9 tooth combs. No slick shorn (fine or surgical blades) or fitted sires will be permitted.
- It is expected that sellers will provide a guarantee of their consignments. If a buyer in good faith deems an animal unsuitable or sterile, the consignor will replace or refund at comparable value.
- Upon purchase, the ram/billies become property of the buyer. However, in the event the buyer is not physically present at the sale, sellers will be responsible for maintaining possession of the lot until pickup can be arranged. It will be strongly suggested that online buyers arrange pickup of their purchase within 7 days unless otherwise arranged between buyer & seller.

### **Timeline**

- All Rams /Billies will need to be in their designated pens by 3:00 pm on Thursday so that the Health Sifting Committee can start inspections on time.
- All consignors will be responsible for the feed, water, and bedding in the pens. Shavings will be available on site for purchase.

### **Sifting Guidelines**

*\*To ensure that healthy, viable sires are sold, sifting will take place two days prior to the sale. All rams/billies will be examined for clinical signs of disease that could be detrimental to the long-term health and fertility. Final decision to sift will be at the discretion of the lead veterinarian. Sifted animals will be*

*removed from the sale and if the reasoning for the sift is contagious disease, these animals will not be allowed to stay on site.*

- Rams/Billies will be examined, and testicles palpated for abnormalities, swelling and other signs of potential injury or infection. Testicles will also be measured by the sifting committee.
  - Notably: a fertility test will not be required. Due to the “off-season” timing of this sale, reduced fertility at this time of year could be a result of normal seasonal reproductive patterns.
- Animals with contagious diseases will be sifted. Other sires in the same consignment may also be sifted at the discretion of the veterinarian if there is a significant risk of disease transmission.
  - Examples include but are not limited to:
    - Clinical signs of pneumonia/respiratory infection
    - Abscesses indicative of Caseous lymphadenitis
    - Active infections of the eye
    - Pizzle/sheath rot
    - Foot rot
    - Excessive diarrhea
    - Active soremouth
    - Severe external (lice, keds) or internal parasite infections (bottle jaw, severe anemia).
      - *It is strongly recommended that all sires be dewormed and treated for external parasites within 30 days prior to the sale.*
- Non-transmissible reasons for sifting:
  - Sires with severely over- or undershot jaws will be sifted.
  - Sires with rectal prolapse will be sifted.
  - Rams in poor body condition (less than 2.5) will be sifted.
  - Rams in excessively fat condition (4.5 or greater) will be sifted.