



# GenOvis Recognition Awards

## Objective:

To recognize breeders who believe in the GenOvis genetic evaluation program and who actively contribute to its proper function.

## Awardees:

Purebred Awards are determined based on a combination of five criteria. The Hybridizer Award is determined based on a combination of 3 criteria. The Commercial Productivity Award is determined by the ewes' productivity.

## Purebred terminal, maternal and prolific breed Recognition Awards:

### To be eligible:

- Breeders must be registered in GenOvis
- Evaluate at least 20 purebred lambs of terminal, maternal or prolific breeds having 50 and 100 day weights within the eligible time period (12 months)
- Have paid their annual contribution to the GenOvis genetic development fund

**Eligible time period:** August 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31

### Criteria:

Winners are determined based on the weighting of the placements within the five criteria. The criteria are:

#### Genetic Selection Index (weighting 20%):

The genetic selection index considers the genetic potential of lambs born within the considered 12 months. The average percentile of the index CAR, MAT and MAT-HP is calculated respectively for purebred terminal, prolific or maternal lambs weighed at 50 and 100 days.

#### Dissemination Rate (weighting 20%):

Dissemination rate evaluates the breeder's contribution to the genetic exchange with other flocks. The calculation is based on the number of terminal, maternal or prolific rams originating from the eligible flock that have gone on to produce purebred progeny in another flock within the eligible 12 month time period.

### **Percentage of Animals Evaluated (weighting 20%):**

Percentage of animals evaluated is determined by the average of the following ratios:

- Number of lambs weighed at birth / number of lambs born
- Number of lambs weighed at 50d / number of lambs alive at 50d
- Number of lambs weighed at 100d / number of lambs alive at 100d
- Number of lambs ultrasounded / number of lambs alive at 100d

The lambs born within the 12 months time frame must be purebred terminal, maternal or prolific.

This criterion lightly favors farms using ultrasound measurement service.

### **Average Ram Age at Lambing (weighting 20%):**

Genetic progress is faster if top indexing animals are retained for breeding each year. The average ram age at lambing is calculated at the birth of the evaluated lambs within the eligible 12-month time frame in the terminal, maternal or prolific breeds. Sires used through artificial insemination are excluded from the calculation.

### **Number of Different Rams Used (weighting 20%):**

EPD calculations are more accurate when more rams are used within appropriate management groups. The number of different rams is calculated based on the number of rams that sired lambs in terminal, maternal or prolific breeds, within the eligible 12-month time frame divided by the number of lambings.

## **Hybridizer Award (F1)**

Hybridizers are producers of F1 Hybrids replacement females. They are a result of the cross of 2 purebred breeds of sheep to maximize hybrid vigor, e.g. a purebred maternal ram (e.g. Dorset) on a prolific ewe (e.g. Rideau Arcott) to maximize flock performance.

### **To be eligible:**

- Breeders must be registered in GenOvis
- Produce a minimum of 150 F1 lambs (weighed at 50 and 100 days) within the eligible 12-month timeframe
- Only lambs sired by purebred rams are eligible
- Have paid their annual contribution to the GenOvis genetic development fund

### **Criteria:**

Winners are determined based on the weighting of the placements within the three criteria. The criteria are:

### **Uniformity at 100 Days (weighting 1/3):**

Standard deviation of F1 females weight at 100d. The objective is to produce uniform F1 females (same size).

### **Percentage of Animals Evaluated (weighting 1/3):**

Percentage of animals evaluated is determined by the average of the following ratios:

- Number of lambs weighed at birth / number of lambs born
- Number of lambs weighed at 50d / number of lambs alive at 50d
- Number of lambs weighed at 100d / number of lambs alive at 100d

### **Ewe Productivity (weighting 1/3):**

Productivity is defined as the average 50d weights of F1 litters produced within the considered year.

**Eligible 12-month time frame:** August 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31

## **Commercial Productivity Award (commercial ewes)**

### **To be eligible:**

- Breeders must be registered in GenOvis
- Produce a minimum of 250 commercial lambs (weighed at 50 and 100 days) within the eligible 12-month timeframe
- Have paid their annual contribution to the GenOvis genetic development fund

### **Considered Criterion:**

Winner is determined by the ewes' productivity. Productivity is defined as the average 50d weights of commercial litters produced within the considered year.

**Eligible 12-month time frame:** August 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31

