**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Contestant Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Keep/Cull Suffolk Ewes**

You are the owner of a commercial sheep flock in the Shenandoah Valley. Evaluate these bred Suffolk ewes as ewes to potentially purchase and add to your flock. These ewes would be bred to Dorset rams for the production of speckle face lambs. You would like to build a nucleus of F1 females from this mating in your flock. All male and non-replacement females will be sold as market lambs to the strong ethnic market in the Mid-Atlantic region of the U.S.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Across Flock EBVs\*\*\*** |  |
| **No.** | **Number of Lambs Weaned, %** | **Weaning Weight, Kg** | **Post-weaning Weight, Kg** | **Carcass Plus** | **Codon 171 Genotype** |
| 1 | 0.017 | 3.8 | 5.9 | 138 | RR |
| 2 | 0.036 | 2.9 | 6.1 | 133 | RR |
| 3 | 0.041 | 2.7 | 5.0 | 129 | RR |
| 4 | -0.001 | 2.4 | 4.4 | 127 | QR |
| 5 | 0.059 | 3.1 | 5.2 | 128 | RR |
| 6 | 0.048 | 1.7 | 2.8 | 105 | RR |
| 7 | 0.053 | 2.6 | 4.8 | 125 | RR |
| 8 | 0.035 | 3.2 | 5.1 | 115 | QR |

\*\*\*LAMBPLAN Across-Flock EBVs: Your flock is enrolled in the National Sheep Improvement Program, which provides Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs). EBVs provide estimates of the genetic value of an animal as a parent and are used similarly to an EPD (an EPD is half the value of the EBV). All known information on a particular animal (performance data, information on ancestors, collateral relatives, and progeny) is used to calculate its EBV.

Number Lambs Weaned EBV – Evaluates the combined effect of prolificacy and lamb survival to weaning.

Weaning Wt. EBV – predicts genetic merit for weaning growth potential (measured in kg).
Post-weaning Wt. EBV – provides indication of post-weaning growth potential, and reflects differences in progeny weight at 120 days of age.

Carcass Plus EBV – Selection index intended to improve carcass value. This index is calculated from post-weaning weight, fat depth, and muscle depth EBVs.

**CIRCLE the numbers of the 4 ewes that you would add to your flock**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |