

North America Dairy Sheep Association (NADSA) Rules & Regulations

Purpose

- A. Establish & maintain herd books and issue certificates of registration and recordation of dairy sheep
 - B. Promote dairy sheep to the public and educate dairy sheep owners of best practices
 - C. Promote and support homestead dairy sheep breeding and ownership
- Registration - full pedigree (dam & sire with known pedigrees)
Recordation - animals with partial or no pedigree

2024 Membership fee \$25 per farm, must be a member to register stock

2024 Youth Membership fee \$15 per person, up to 19 years of age, age determined by June 1st

Regular Animal Registry Fee (per animal)

Ram \$15

Ewe \$10

Transfers \$7 (Must be a current Member)

Duplicate Certificates/Re-Issue \$7

Multiple Sheep Discount (6 Sheep or more - rate is per animal)

Ram \$12

Ewe \$8

Introductory Rate for 2024 only (January 1 – December 31)

Ram \$7

Ewe \$7

Transfers \$7 (Must be a current Member)

Membership perk - 10% Discount code for Rachel Hester's book: The Guide to Homestead Dairy Sheep at a reduced rate as a membership perk

Complaint Procedure Fee \$20

Herdbooks

NADSA will have an OPEN herdbook, (NADSA realizes that it could take several years before closing a herdbook once a large enough population for a particular breed has been established). After a proposal is received, the Executive BOARD will vote at the next scheduled meeting on closing any proposed herdbooks. NADSA does recognize that there are commercial dairies that might be interested in registering their sheep, but believes there's an even larger group of homesteaders that would like to register and track their flock's lineage for individual animals. We recognize that some people are trying to "breed up" a certain breed, while others are aiming to increase production & health due to hybrid vigor of their "dairy mutt"; NADSA will refer to it as Diversified Dairy Sheep. Any known breeds & the percentages will be noted on the certificate.

Registering Individuals Already Registered with a Breed Association/Registry

For the breeds that currently have breed registration already in place, it is NOT the goal to take over those breed groups, we want to support those registries' breed goals. NADSA will use those breed standards for the breeds that have them, but by joining/registering with NADSA it would allow people access to see which sheep & breed(s) have been used for dairy purposes (whether commercial or homestead level). For example, Finnsheep aren't necessarily "known" as a dairy breed, but there are animals within that breed that have milky genes; having the animal registered with NADSA would be a way to easily identify these animals.

Breed Characteristics/Standards

The breed standards are designed to preserve and enhance the inherent good qualities of each of the sheep breeds. Minimum restrictions on registrations are involved since we only have four photos (left side, right side, front & rear to include ALL of the animal in the photo) in which to physically see all of the animal seeking registry. The standard, however, can help us move in a more uniform direction as the breeds that don't have registries develop.

Registering AI or Embryo Transfer Sheep

Include PHOTOCOPIES of the contracts from the reproduction business/facility that the semen or embryos were purchased through when registering the offspring. Embryos from purebred parents will be registered as purebred with NADSA.

Farm Prefixes

Each farm (or person in the event there is not a farm name) will have a prefix of their choosing. Prefixes are assigned on a first come first serve basis, duplicate prefixes won't be permitted. If a requested prefix is already taken an Executive Board Member will reach out via e-mail.

If the breeder of an animal is known, but the member registering the animal is unsure of what the Breeder's prefix is please enter *Breeder Name* in the animal's name selection. This method is to persevere the known lineage of individuals being registered and as new members join animal info will be updated. Note – updated certificate of registration will not be mailed unless paid & requested from the Current Owner.

Naming Animals

Each animal will be assigned their own unique name, not to exceed 30 characters (including spaces) including the Farm Prefix. No duplicate names will be permitted.

Transferring Animals to New Owner

Send original NADSA registry certificate signed by seller, along with Membership & Registration application and a check to cover fees. For new members transferring ownership leave Member # spot blank on the certificate (NADSA will assign Member #). NADSA membership must be current in order to transfer sheep.