

West Cyclone Farm Pedigree Master Notes

Data Input

Things I have learned to do with the new program and inputting data:

1. Open your Pedigree Master program. It will not enlarge to full screen size.
2. Go to top left corner where your flock ID is displayed and click on it.
 - i. A screen open that shows F5, F6, F7, F8. You can set these to ID info or dates. Then when you are in the add/change screen you can push that "F" key and that part of a sheep's ID will fill in automatically or when you get to the weaning weights, etc you can have that date set so you don't have to type same date for each animal.
 - ii. You can also change date formatting. They have it set for all of us in the normal MM/DD/YYYY format for us U.S. people but you can also chose DD/MM/YYYY or YYYY/MM/DD if you want to.
 - iii. When done, save and close.
3. The next thing we did was click on the Sires button in the green area. Review the list. Add rams that you used this year. Type current in the ones you used so they are the ones you see. Remove ones that are not current for this year. I also put the names of the rams in the Ram Ref column so that I could identify which one I wanted to use quickly.
4. Go into the Pedigree Display and review your animals and make sure that only animals that are currently in your flock say "current" in the status box. This is used to create the dropdown list of ewes in the Add/Change.
5. To record your lambs go to the Add/Change Records button which is in the blue box. (tab or enter will move you through the fields) (Stephen now has some Add/Change help on the webpage where the program downloads are.)
 - a. The number shown in the first box is the first 10 digits of your lambs ID. You can click on the edit button above it and edit it by typing in your change or go to that field and push "F5, 6, 7, or 8" and it will change the number to what you set up in the step above. It will stay that way until you leave the Add/Change screen part of the program. After you leave it and go back in it will have reset itself to the standard again. i.e.: if you want to enter older year data then you would change this.
 - b. The 2 dates can be setup for something like weaning weight, earlypost WW and then it can be dragged and dropped into field you want it or when you are in the date field you can right click your mouse and the date choices will pop up for you do chose the one you want.
 - c. In the animal ID field you can either enter just the last 4 digits if you want to follow Lambplan's standard ID method. This means that they will automatically put the last 2 digits of the year into the ID again in th 11th & 12th positions. Or if you want to use all of the last 6 digits they way you want then enter those 6 letters and numbers in the "ID" box. When you

push tab to move to next field the 2 numbers will combine to create the 16-digit ID

- d. Next to the sire field there are 2 drop down menu arrows. One shows the sires that you set up in step 3 and will show you the current sires that you set up under the Sires button. The other dropdown shows all rams you currently own.
 - e. Then choose the dam. The dropdown shows all current status dams that you marked in step 4 above.
 - f. Next enter birth type (single, twin, triplet, etc), rear type(if any died in a liter before weaning the reared as for that one would be "0"; ie if ewe has triplets raises 2 then you enter 3 birth 2 rear on two alive and 3 birth 0 reared for the dead one; Bottle or foster lambs would be considered rear type 1 unless the foster mom has another lamb of her own that she is also nursing.), conception method, group, birth date and weight. Don't forget to choose a "Status" for each animal. Tabbing through fields skips over this at the present but you should not.
 - g. This first "Group" refers to a 42 day period of lambing. If you normally lamb in March then you would use Group 1-Stud drop. Then if you lamb out your first time ewes in May they would be Group 2- Stud Late. If you don't like the presets you can add additional ones under the "groups" button that is back in the front screen.
 - h. If you also have weaning weights, and/or early-post weaning to record in addition to the birth then tab to those fields and enter them. The group in these lines is referring to management groups. For example: lambs that were on dam could be group 1 and those bottle fed group 2 or maybe you also have one group of lambs that were given creep while on their mom but another one that are on mom's but not given any creep so you would have a 3rd group. If you have a group of wethers, you may treat them differently also.
 - i. Click on save record which clears all the fields so you can continue to the next animal. If you just recorded a lamb that was a twin, triplet, etc, then you can now click on the "Repeat Last Animal Pedigree" (top left corner of the screen) and it will fill in the previous sire, dam, etc for you. When you have them all entered click in the Exit button.
6. If you make any errors, you can go back to the Add/change to make corrections in weights, dates, etc. The only thing that I have found that has to be corrected in the Add/Change is if you forgot to enter that first "Group" or used the wrong group for one. Other errors (missing birth weight or something can be fixed this way or in Pedigree Display or the Add/Change.
 - a. You will only need to type in the last 6-digits if you are only correcting the current year lambs because the 1st ten are there.
 7. If after you save a record, you realize that you made an error in the ID, then go to Pedigree display to correct the tag number that you did wrong. You need to click on the mics tab. The button is in the bottom left corner of the screen. This kind of retag will not cause troubles. **VERY IMPORTANT: Do not retag animals just because you do not like the number that was set up in the rollover of data to**

- Australia. All of the data from the animals own pedigree or of its progeny that you have sold to someone else will loose their links and you will loose your links to other flocks if the animal's parents, grandparents, etc were not all from your flock.
8. The next thing to do is click on the Summaries, Validation and Export/Backup button. Then run the Validation, print the report, click on the close preview that looks like a little folder and handle errors that it gives you. I suggest that you set the Check years dates to just the current year-your choice. You need to go in and correct the errors caused in your new data that have a *, 1 or 2 if you can.
 9. Then do your backups. I would do all 3 types of backup. The email archive one is what you send to Lambplan. If you use Outlook, Outlook Express or some other standard email program the file will be attached to a new message that will popup by itself. I do not so I had to do a new message by myself. Attach the file that was created which is in your Sheep Genetics/PedigreeMaster/Backup folder. It is called "your flockid.zip". Address it to Sheep Genetics (database@sheepgenetics.org.au) and then send it. They run our data roughly on the 15th and 30th. Data comes back within 3 to 5 days. I suppose that will vary with the day of the week the run happens on.
 10. You should also run Pack and Reindex which gets rid of temp files, etc.

I will add more as I learn and as Stephen improves this new program.

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