NVAP Reference Guide: Sheep and Goat Identification

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In addition to listing an animal's age, gender, and breed, use one of the following identification methods. (See fig. 10 for a depiction of sheep dentition, table 7 for information on tooth eruption in sheep, and tables 8a and 8b for lists of goat breeds and sheep breeds.)

- Official sheep and goat eartags
    - Serial number tags are issued to accredited veterinarians for use in completing CVIs or test charts when the animal is not already officially identified and the owner does not have official eartags to use.
    - Call 1-866-USDA-TAG to request free official sheep and goat serial eartags. Accredited veterinarians may alternatively elect to purchase official RFID "840" sheep and goat tags for these purposes directly from an approved tag manufacturer.
    - Flock owners likewise may request free official flock ID tags by calling the same number or may purchase official flock ID or "840" sheep and goat tags from an approved tag manufacturer. Flock ID tags are imprinted with the flock ID number and an individual animal number.
- Legible registration tattoo when the animal is accompanied by a copy of the registration certificate in the current owner's name, or if not in the current owner's name a copy of the registration certificate and a completed transfer of

ownership form dated within 30 days of the movement or if not in the current owner's name a copy of the registration certificate and a completed transfer of ownership form dated within 30 days of the movement or a CVI listing the registry, the tattoo number and flock of origin owner name and address and current owner name and address if different.

- Electronic implantable devices (EID) when the animal is accompanied by a reader and copy of the registration certificate, that includes the EID number, that is in the current owner's name, or if not in the current owner's name a copy of the registration certificate and a completed transfer of ownership form dated within 30 days of the movement or a CVI listing the registry, EID number and flock of origin owner name and address and current owner name and address if different or in the case of SFCP animals moving without change of ownership or to another SFCP flock, the EID number and flock of origin owner name and address and current flock ID, owner name and address if different.
- Legible Flock ID tattoos composed of the Flock Identification Number assigned by APHIS and an individual animal number unique within the flock. (To get a Flock ID assigned flock owners can call 1-866-USDA-TAG)
- See 9 CFR parts 79.2 and 79.3 for exemptions or other options.

NOTE: Anyone who applies official identification must maintain records. For detailed information refer to the Scrapie Eradication Uniform Methods and Rules, Part III.B.2. For additional information, call 1-866-USDA-TAG or contact your local APHIS –VS Area Offices.

Table 7 – Eruption and replacement of teeth in sheep

Teeth	Teeth Time of eruption1	Teeth	time of replacement1
Di /1	Before birth—up to 8 days	I /1	12–18 months
Di /2	Before birth	I /2	21–24 months
Di /3	Before birth	I /3	27–36 months
Di /4	Birth—up to 8 days	I /4	36 – 48 months
Dp 2/2	Before birth—up to 4 weeks	P 2/2	21–24 months
Dp 3/3	Before birth—up to 4 weeks	P 3/3	21–24 months
Dp 4/4	Before birth—up to 4 weeks	P 4/4	21–24 months
M 1/1	3 months		
M 2/2	9 months		

Teeth	Teeth Time of eruption1	Teeth time of replacement1
M 3/3	18 months	

1 *The lower figures are for early-maturing breeds; the higher figures are for late-maturing breeds. Adapted from: Schummer, August; Nickel, Richard; Sack, Wolfgang Otto. 1979.* The viscera of the domestic mammals, *second ed. New York: Springer–Verlag.*

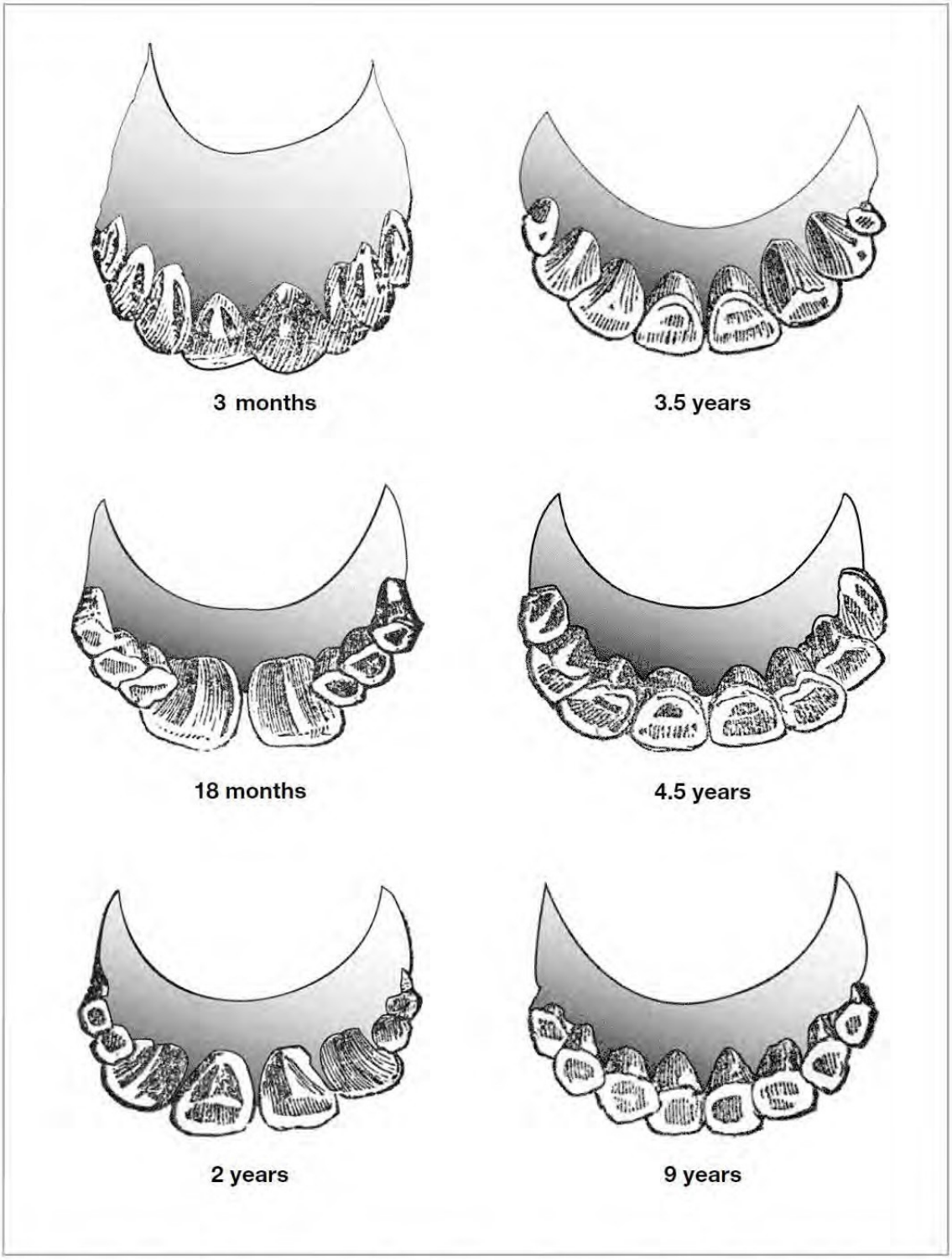


Figure 10—*Dentition patterns in sheep. (Scanned from A. Liautard, MD. 1910. How to tell the age of the domestic animals. New York: William R. Jenkins Co.)*

Table 8a Sheep Breed Code

CODE	DESCRIPTION,SPECIES	CODE	DESCRIPTION,SPECIES

Table 8a Sheep Breed Code

AB	American Blackbelly Sheep,OVI	LI	Lincoln,OVI
BD	Babydoll Sheep,OVI	ME	Merino,OVI
BB	Barbados Blackbelly,OVI	SM	Miniature Southdown,OVI
BW	Black Welsh Mountain,OVI	MT	Montadale,OVI
BF	Black-faced,OVI	MF	Mottle-faced,OVI
HL	Bluefaced Leicester,OVI	ML	Mule Sheep,OVI
BM	Booroola Merino,OVI	MU	Multiple Breeds Present,OVI
BC	Border Cheviot,OVI	NC	N. Country Cheviot,OVI
BL	Border Leicester, OVI	NT	Natural Colored, OVI
CD	California Red,OVI	NA	Navajo-Churro,OVI
CM	California Variegated Mutant,OVI	NS	Not Specified,OVI
CA	Canadian Arcott,OVI	OX	Oxford,OVI
CH	Charolais,OVI	PA	Panama,OVI
CV	Cheviot,OVI	PE	Perendale,OVI
CF	Clun Forest,OVI	DP	Polled Dorset,OVI
CO	Columbia ,OVI	PO	Polypay,OVI
CP	Coopworth,OVI	RA	Rambouillet,OVI
CS	Cormo,OVI	RN	Romanov,OVI
CR	Corriedale,OVI	RM	Romnelet,OVI
CT	Cotswold,OVI	RO	Romney,OVI
DE	Debouillet,OVI	RL	Royal White,OVI
DM	Delaine-Merino,OVI	SB	Scottish Blackface,OVI
DR	Dorper,OVI	SH	Shetland,OVI
DO	Dorset,OVI	SR	Shropshire,OVI
EF	Eastern Friesian,OVI	SO	Soay/British Soay,OVI
FN	Finnish Landrace (Finn),OVI	OS	"Solid face color, not black",OVI
GL	Gotland,OVI	ST	Southdown,OVI
GC	Gulf Coast (FL or LA Native),OVI	SC	St Croix,OVI
HR	"Hairsheep, crossbred",OVI	SU	Suffolk ,OVI
HA	Hampshire,OVI	TA	Targhee,OVI
HE	Herdwick,OVI	TS	Teeswater,OVI

Table 8a Sheep Breed Code

DH	Horned Dorset,OVI	TE	Texel,OVI
IC	Icelandic,OVI	TU	Tunis,OVI
IF	Ile De France,OVI	UK	Unknown,OVI
JE	Jacob,OVI	WE	Wensleydale,OVI
KA	Karakul,OVI	WD	White Dorper,OVI
KT	Katahdin,OVI	WF	White-faced ,OVI
LE	Leicester,OVI	WH	Wiltshire Horn,OVI

Table 8b Goat Breed Code Table

BREED	Goat Breed Code Table	BREED	
CODE	**DESCRIPTION,SPECIES**	**CODE**	**DESCRIPTION,SPECIES**
AG	Angora,CAP	ND	Nigerian Dwarf,CAP
AL	Alpine,CAP	NS	Not Specified,CAP
BO	Boer,CAP	NU	Nubian,CAP
CS	Cashmere,CAP	OB	Oberhasli,CAP
DR	Dairy-type crossbred,CAP	PG	Pygora,CAP
FI	Fiber-type crossbred,CAP	PY	Pygmy,CAP
FI	Fiber-type crossbred,CAP	PY	Pygmy,CAP
GG	Golden Guernsey,CAP	SA	Saanen,CAP
KI	Kiko,CAP	SB	Sable,CAP
LN	La Mancha,CAP	SP	Spanish,CAP
MT	Meat-type crossbred,CAP	SV	Savannah,CAP
MU	Multiple Breeds Present,CAP	TO	Toggenburg,CAP
MY	Myotonic,CAP	UK	Unknown,CAP

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