

KSWPA Business Meeting
October 14, 2022
Update on Current PERC Activities
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The Production, Education and Research Council (PERC) works on maintaining and improving the health, productivity, and competitiveness of the sheep industry. Members work with the U.S. government and industry groups to prevent and control various animal diseases affecting sheep, enhance genetic improvement, educate producers and others about proper sheep husbandry, and foster appropriate research and education activities.

The Animal Health and Genetic Stakeholders Committees are within the Production, Education and Research Council.

Below is a summary of the current activities.

Overall Council:

- Electronic ID goals, expectations, and reality
- Impact of change of over-the-counter to prescription antibiotics on producers
- Using sheep for targeted grazing
- Resources for producers (handbooks, webinars, podcasts, QA programs)

Animal Health Committee (Co-Chairs: Dr. Cindy Wolk and Dr. Jim Logan)

- Update on Cache Valley Fever
- Education relating to the no over-the-counter antibiotics (2023)
- Development of animal health drugs and vaccines
- Review of National Scrapie Eradication Program and new policies
- Renewal of quality assurance policy

Genetic Stakeholders Committee (Co-Chairs; Rusty Burgett and Dr. Andrew Weaver)

- Update on Sheep Genetics USA
- Technical members for NSIP
- Parasite management using EBVs
- Genetic data collection
- GEMS Project (using genomics to improve climatic resilience and robustness of sheep)
- Future of genetic selection of sheep in US