

Abbreviations used in the Kentucky State University Genetic Herd Improvement Program (GHIP)

The abbreviations used are a mix of conventional animal science abbreviations and simple short cuts to help save space. They are somewhat standardized to help keep things more consistent when talking to others. They are listed based on where they appear, but similar terms are used in all sheets; where not re-defined, they are the same.

KID DATA SHEET

POST WEANING GROWTH

DOE KID and BUCK KID SUMMARY SHEETS

KID DATA SHEET ON THE HERD RECORD FILE

- **KID ID, DAM ID, AND SIRE ID** – Identification of the kid and the dam (mother) and sire (father) of the kid. These can be numbers or letters; the important thing is that you know who they are in your herd and no two animals have the same ID within a group (for example two dams do not have the same ID)
- **AGE OF DAM** – this is simply the age of the dam of the kids when she gives birth, and is given in years
- **BREED CODE** – a short abbreviation to represent the breed of the kid. It can be a single breed if the kid is high percentage to full blood or purebred, to a combination of two breeds listed to represent the sire and dam breeds, breed X for a known breed cross, or simply XX for crossbred kid. Codes are listed on the code sheet in the [CMGA-GHIP.xls](#) spreadsheet.
- **BIRTH DATE** – day the kid was born including month, day, and year. This is the starting point.
- **SEX** – sex of the kid generally noted as a single letter with B = buck, D = doe, W = wether. M and F can also be used to denote male or female; this is often converted to the other system for analysis. If a producer does not report a male as W it is considered an intact male at weaning.
- **LIV CODE** – livability code; it indicates at what point a kid died before weaning and is used to help producers identify when kids are being lost to help recognize problem times to focus on in the future. It is not used in the overall analysis at this time. Codes are listed on the code sheet in the [CMGA-GHIP.xls](#) spreadsheet.
- **KID EASE** – is a kidding difficulty or dystocia score. This is not used in the analysis but may help identify why some kids die early. It should be used when evaluating the doe herd. Codes are

listed on the code sheet in the CMGA-GHIP.xls spreadsheet.

- **BIRTH TYPE** – This is a code used to determine the type of birth for each kid. The codes from the sheet are SN = Single, TN = Twin, TR = Triplet, QU = Quad. This is used to adjust for birth type and is the beginning of the rearing code information.
- **BIRTH WT** – this is the birth weight of the kid; it should be taken within the first 24 hours of birth. If the scale used records in pounds and ounces, this should be noted on the herd sheet sent in and it will be converted to pounds and tenths of a pound. Please make a note prominently on the spreadsheet if using kilograms.
- **SEX ADJBW** – Sex adjusted birth weight. This is the birth weight adjusted for sex of the kid. It is expected that male kids are heavier at birth than females, so we adjust to account for this known difference.
- **BTYPE ADJBW** – birth type adjusted birth weight. This is the birth weight after being adjusted for both sex and birth type. Again, we expect SN to be heavier than TN or TR at birth, so we adjust for this known difference. The sex adjusted birth weight is used to make the adjustment more complete.
- **TOTAL ADJBW** – Total adjusted birth weight. This is the final adjustment and is for age of dam. This gives the final adjustment for birth weight and is the value used in the other parts of the program to compare birth weight between individuals. At this point the birth weight is adjusted for birth type, sex, and age of dam. If any of these are missing they simply are not adjusted for.
- **WEAN DATE** – date of weaning, or when weaning weight is taken. This is the end point of the growth period we are interested in. Animals do not have to be weaned on this date, but it is expected to be around a normal weaning time of 90 days for goats. Earlier weaning is allowed if all animals in a group are weaned at that time.
- **REAR TYPE** – rearing type. Coding is a number system to represent the different possible combinations of birth type and number at weaning. Codes are listed on the code sheet in the [CMGA-GHIP.xls](#) spreadsheet. QU born animals should use the TR numbers as best as they fit. Kids that are bottle raised are generally not assigned a REAR TYPE or assigned a zero as the number.
- **AGE AT WEAN** – age in days at the weaning date listed. This is calculated by subtracting the weaning date from the birth date in the file.
- **WEAN WT** – weaning weight or weight taken at the date listed as WEAN DATE.
- **ADG B to W** – average daily gain from birth to weaning. This is calculated by subtracting the birth weight from weaning weight and dividing by age at weaning. It is used to adjust weaning weight to a standard of 90 days. It is also an indicator of rate of growth.
- **WDA B TO W** – weight per day of age, birth to weaning. This is calculated by dividing the weaning weight by the age at weaning. It can be used in place of and is equal to ADG B to W if birth weight is not provided. It is another indicator of growth rate but is not as accurate as ADG.

Some people prefer to look at WDA as it is a measure of marketable product per day of age.

- **90D WT** – 90-day weight. This is the weaning weight adjusted to a common age of 90 days. This is done by multiplying ADG by 90 and adding the birth weight. If birth weight is not available, then it is calculated by multiplying WDA by 90. This is to adjust all future adjusted weight to a common age.
- **SEX ADJWW** – sex adjusted weaning weight. This is the 90-day weight adjusted for sex of the kid. There are different adjustments for all three possible sex classifications at this point.
- **TYPE ADJWW** – rear type adjusted weaning weight. This is where the weaning weight is adjusted for type of birth and rearing. If a kid is bottle raised it is not adjusted as there is no standardized adjustment for bottle raised kids. All others are adjusted by the rear type code. This adjusts the number of kids nursing the doe.
- **TOTAL ADJWW** – total adjusted weaning weight. The RTYPE ADJWW is adjusted for age of dam similar to that for birth weight. This results in a weaning weight that is adjusted for age at weaning, sex of kid, type of birth and rearing, and age of dam. These are all the known standard adjustment factors for weaning weight. This is the weight that is used in all comparisons after this point in the summary sheets.
- **DOE WT AT WEAN** – doe weight at weaning. This is the weight of the dam taken at the date listed as the weaning date. This is used to evaluate the efficiency of the doe if provided. It is also a good time to check body condition of the doe and make sure she is doing well. It should be the point she has the lowest weight and body condition of the year.
- **BIRTH RATIO** – birth weight performance ratio. This is the ratio for birth weight. It is calculated by dividing the total adjusted birth weight for the individual by the average birth weight for that group and multiplying by 100. Because of this, 100 = average and those with a ratio above 100 are above average and those below 100 are below average.
- **WEAN RATIO** – weaning weight performance ratio. This is the same as birth ratio but using weaning weight. The value is interpreted the same.
- **BCS (in the post weaning growth sheet)** – body condition score. Typically, this is a 1 to 5 scale. It helps the producer to keep track of if he animal is growing size or putting down condition. It also helps the producer to maintain animals in the proper body condition so he's able to better manage his feeding program.
- **WDA (in the post weaning growth sheet)** - weight per day of age from birth to the periods of 150, 210 and 270 days of growth time. This is calculated by dividing the weight at chosen day by the age at this day. It can be used in place of and is equal to ADG if birth weight is not provided. It is another indicator of growth rate but is not as accurate as ADG.
- **ADG (in the post weaning growth sheet)** - average daily gain from weaning for the periods of 150, 210 and 270 days of growth time. Set as a post weaning evaluation for each period. This is calculated by subtracting the 150, 210- or 270-days weight from weaning weight and dividing by

number of days from weaning. It is used to adjust growth weight to a standard of 150, 210 or 270 days. It is also an indicator of rate of growth.

DAM SUMMARY SHEET

- **NUM BORN** – number of kids born per doe. This is the number of kids born for each doe as reported in the birth type of the reporting data sheet.
- **NUM WEAN** – number of kids weaned per doe. This is the total number of kids reported to have been weaned by each doe. It is the number she actually weaned and any she fostered. A doe will not get credit for kids fostered to another doe or raised on a bottle if the information is included in the data sheets.
- **EFFICIENCY RATIO** – ratio of the total actual weaning weight divided by the doe weight at weaning, multiplied by 100. This indicates the percentage of her body weight that the doe weaned. It is an indicator of efficiency, as a doe with a higher ratio weaned more of her body weight; this indicates more efficient production.
- On the dam sheet, birth weight, weaning weight and total adjusted birth and weaning weights are the total weight reported and adjusted for the kids born and raised by that doe. This is done by adding the respected weight for each doe together to get the value.
- On the dam sheet, birth and weaning ratio are similar to that on the buck and doe kid sheets. The value used is the total weight at birth or weaning for the doe. Again, a doe will not be given credit for the weight of kids fostered or raised on a bottle. The foster dam will be given credit for weaning weight of kids she raises.
- **# DOES BRED** – number of does reported as bred for the kidding season being evaluated.
- **# DOES THAT KIDDED** – number of does that are reported to have kidded in the kidding season
- **# OPEN DOES** – number of does bred that did not kid.
- **# KIDS BORN** – number of kids reported at birth based on birth type information.
- **# KIDS WEANED** – number of kids reported at weaning
- **LITTER SIZE AT BIRTH** – number of kids per doe that kidded at birth
- **LITTER SIZE AT WEANING** – number of kids per doe that kidded at weaning
- **SURVIVAL** – percentage of kids born that were weaned
- **CONCEPTION** – percentage of does bred that actually kidded
- **KIDDING RATE** – number of kids per doe bred at birth

- **WEANING RATE** – number of kids per doe bred at weaning

SIRE SUMMARY SHEET

- **NUMBER BORN** – number of kids that were sired by the sire in the kidding season
- **NUMBER WEANED** – number of kids weaned that were sired by the sire in the kidding season
- **AVG BWT, ADJBWT, WWT, 90D wt, and ADJWWT** – the average birth weight, total adjusted birth weight, weaning weight, 90-day weight, and total adjusted weaning weight for the kids sired in the kidding season. Average weight is used because each sire may not have been exposed to the same number of females, so a total weight would not be as useful to make comparisons.
- **BIRTH AND WEANING RATIO** – same as in the other sheets but looking at the average weight. If less than two sires are reported the ratio is not calculated as one would be above and the other below average.