

4/19/2023

SPECIAL PROJECT BUCK IMPORT FROM THE USA



OC Flock Management Inc

OCF Livestock Reproductive Services

40314 Highway 20, Lacombe County

RR 1, Bentley, Alberta, Canada T0C 0J0

P: +1-403-588-5897 lynn@ocflock.com www.ocflock.com

INTRODUCTION

The United States is a major source of genetics for the Canadian goat industry, and over the past couple of years there have been changes that have negatively impacted the ability to import live goats or germplasm from the United States.

While, on paper, semen can be imported from the USA the new herd requirements and the difficulty of getting bucks into export qualified collection centers has made this nearly impossible on a practical level.

As a result of several our clients encountering these roadblocks, the real need for diversified genetics in the Canadian industry and the introduction of the new DOMESTIC semen program we were in a position to present a proposal to CFIA to import live bucks to Canada and make the genetics available in the form of semen.

After several months of collaboration and negotiation, they approved a special import on March 2, 2023. There are a number of conditions to this import which will be covered in the following document.

Please take time to carefully read ALL the information. I have made every effort to predict and answer as many questions as possible, but please feel free to contact me if you have further questions or wish to discuss any of the information provided here. If you know of others who might be interested feel free to give them a copy of this document.

If you are interested in participating in this project, then please contact me by email indicating your breed and all your contact details.

Please make initial contact by EMAIL to lynn@ocflock.com with the subject heading USA 2023

This project will require excellent communication and coordination with all parties involved and in order to effect this, communication via a single email address is the only way to insure that messages are not overlooked and that all details are in writing. **Do not use text, messenger or WhatsApp.** If you wish to speak in person, please email first so we can arrange a time that is suitable and that you can have my undivided attention.

Lynn Tait BSA, DVM, MRCVS



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OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

OC Flock Management became involved when the domestic AI program was approved in July 2022 and we could offer a potential opportunity for import that CFIA would not allow for individual producers once the 2C import option was removed.

OC Flock Management is facilitating this project by arranging for import/transportation, housing, Canadian testing, and semen production/distribution on a fee for service basis. We will be the importer of record, regardless of buck ownership and will be responsible to CFIA to adhere to all the import conditions. **OC Flock Management does not intend to source or purchase bucks or subsidize the project financially.**

OC Flock Management requires a minimum of 10 bucks to make it economically feasible to proceed with the program.

This opportunity is open to any individual or group that wishes to access goat genetics from the USA to produce domestic semen.

Individuals or groups purchasing bucks will own the bucks and the resulting semen and will be responsible for all costs associated with the project for that buck. Owners will have complete control over the semen. Owners will be responsible for securing and providing copies of registration papers to both OC Flock and CLRC.

CFIA has granted OC Flock Management a one time derogation to allow the import of US bucks directly to our Artificial Insemination (semen) Center, with no restrictions on the herd of origin with regards to Scrapie status. **They have issued the derogation for the 2023 breeding season and if the import is not completed during that period they may need to review the request in light of any changes in health status of either country that may have occurred.**

While we realize the realities of genetic availability, we feel that the first import needs to occur before the end of 2023 or the opportunity may be lost completely. CFIA is open to considering future permissions after review of this initial import.

Imported bucks have to meet all other requirements for entry to Canada and for entry into the Domestic AI program once in Canada.

Imported bucks must be housed completely separately to all other animals on our center premises and remain together as a group.

Imported bucks may remain in the center and produce semen for domestic use for up to 2 years from the date of entry into Canada. At the end of collection all imported bucks must be euthanized by CFIA and tested for Scrapie.

Semen can be collected and distributed within Canada as soon as the bucks have passed the required pre collection testing for the Domestic AI program. There are no restrictions on the distribution and use of the semen within Canada.

CFIA REQUIREMENTS FOR BUCKS TO ENTER CANADA

Except for the **C) Derogation** detailed below, the importer of male goats from the United States into Canada must comply with all the other requirements outlined in the most recent version of the import policy Requirements for Small Ruminants Imported From the United States for Breeding, Domestic or Captive Purposes-TAHD-DSAT-IE-

2007-5-6:

<https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/terrestrial-animals/imports/importpolicies/live-animals/2007-5/eng/1321032703935/1321032839418>

(APPENDIX A)

Below are a summary of the key requirements for the bucks to enter Canada taken from the full document shown above. The derogation allows the bucks to originate from ANY herd in the USA regardless of participation in or status on the USDA Scrapie program.

KEY POINTS

Bucks must have resided their entire lives in the USA or Canada.

Individual identification traceable to flock or herd of origin is required for all small ruminants to be imported – **USDA APPROVED PERMANENT ID**

The small ruminant has in its **right ear** – or, if there is insufficient ear, in its inner right flank or tail web – **a legible permanent tattoo that shows the letters "USA," at least 1 centimeter in height.**

Bucks must not be **scrapie positive, scrapie suspect or scrapie exposed animals per the USDA program definitions** and not be displaying any clinical signs of scrapie at the time of certification for export to Canada

Brucellosis (B. abortus)

The animals must test negative for brucellosis, using the fluorescence polarization assay (FPA) or other test approved by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) for this purpose, conducted within 30 days of importation. The tests must be performed in a laboratory that is approved to perform the test by the official veterinary service of the country of export. The results of the brucellosis test (including the type of test performed) must be shown on the required health certificate for the animal to be imported.

Any animal with a non-negative result is ineligible for export to Canada.

Tuberculosis

The tuberculosis test is the caudal fold tuberculin test with a reading of results at 72 hours as "No Reaction," conducted within 60 days of importation. The results of the tuberculin test (including the date of test reading) must be shown on the required health certificate for the animal to be imported.

Bluetongue – Sheep and goats (State of Florida only)

ADDITIONAL CFIA REQUIREMENTS TO MEET THE CANADIAN DOMESTIC AI PROGRAM

The AI program requirement regarding the herd of origin disease status must be met the following way:

- The herd of origin(USA) had no clinical cases of tuberculosis in the past 24 months.

And

- The herd of origin(USA) had no clinical cases of brucellosis in the past 24 months .

Note: These statements must be included as part of the certification statements contained on the Zoosanitary Certificate for U.S. Origin Small ruminants.

Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAE)

The bucks must be tested with a negative result for CAE using the ELISA test. Testing prior to purchase/import is not a CFIA requirement however they will have to test negative for CAE once in Canada in order to meet the Domestic AI requirements so pre screening them reduces the risk of a positive result once in Canada.

Sourcing bucks from herds with a biosecurity program and herd level CAE testing is better than relying on a single test, especially in young bucks.

Note: The pre-export testing requirements (tuberculosis and brucellosis) done in the USA, do not qualify as meeting the testing requirements under the domestic AI program. Therefore, the imported animals must be retested with negative results once in Canada at the AI center, before the beginning of the collection period. A minimum period of 60 days is required between tests for tuberculosis in the caprine species. The animals not meeting the domestic AI program requirements cannot be re-exported to the USA.

Bucks with a positive result for Brucella, TB or CAE on the Canadian testing will not be allowed to enter semen collection and will therefore be euthanized and submitted for Scrapie testing.

While the chances of this are very low considering recent negative results prior to entry to Canada, all parties need to be aware that there is a small risk.

The above section outlines the key requirements to assist in making decisions on participation in the program and sourcing of bucks.

For those that decide to join the import, a more detailed checklist will be provided to insure that ALL requirements are met and paperwork is done accurately. With animals from varied sources all crossing into Canada in a single shipment, one error or omission could jeopardize the entire import.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

BUCK PURCHASE

The sourcing, purchase and costs associated with board and testing prior to export are the sole responsibility of the Canadian buyer(s). These costs cannot be estimated as they will vary greatly with the value of the buck and local costs.

Purchase price

CAE testing

Brucella and TB testing and Export inspection and documentation

Board fees from purchase to export

TRANSPORTATION

CFIA has made it a requirement that all bucks cross into Canada as a single import. As the potential bucks could be spread across the United States, a solid determination of transport costs is not possible until we know where all the bucks are located. Once we have that information we can plan for pickups where required to group bucks into a single shipment arriving at the border. This could be more than one trailer but must all cross at the same time.

As the bucks are headed to Alberta, the most likely crossing point will be either Montana or North Dakota into Alberta or Saskatchewan.

As each US state has their own health requirements and the health certificate has statements pertaining to the herd of origin, it is not possible to group them for testing. They can change states to meet transport but cannot be housed on another farm after the health certificates are completed.

This part is likely the most difficult aspect of the entire process to coordinate and will require strict adherence to deadlines and payment schedules. Based on current trucking rates this portion of the costs will likely be somewhere around \$20,000. This would be shared amongst all owners on a per goat basis and is payable at the time of booking transportation.

INSURANCE

Insurance on the bucks is entirely at the discretion of the owner, however, considering the significant cost in sourcing, transporting, and maintaining these bucks for semen collection, it would be advised to consider insuring them.

OC Flock will contact Hartford insurance to get rates. They are international and can insure from the farm of origin in the USA. Generally, rates are 12% of the insured value with a minimum base rate for a 12 month period of coverage.

HOUSING AND CARE AT OC FLOCK MANAGEMENT

Once the bucks have arrived at OC Flock Management, housing and care will be **\$6.00 per head per day**.

This results in a charge of \$2200 for the first 365 days which will be payable as follows:

\$ 200 to reserve a place in the center (NON REFUNDABLE unless bucks fails export testing)

\$1000 due prior to actual import into Canada once export eligible.

\$1000 due upon entry into the Domestic collection center (~45 days after arrival)

Collection season is generally from mid September to mid January so any import later than the end of July will result in a shorter season in 2023 so we have assumed that bucks would be in residence for at least 1 year. **Currently as it is already late April, we do not envision that an import could realistically happen before October 1 and perhaps later.** This would mean that they would be eligible to start collecting in mid November. Allowing for Christmas, this would give a maximum of 6-7 weeks of collection and may not allow for collection of the desired number of doses from each buck. **Based on this and the requirement by CFIA to apply for the permit in this breeding season, we would like to apply for the permit no later than December 1, after which we have 90 days to have the animals in Canada.**

Having the bucks arrive late in the 2023 season means we can start collections early in the 2024 season.

From February to July, while many bucks will breed naturally, their ability to produce the quantity and quality of semen required for freezing is not economically feasible. Collections could begin again in August 2024 and potentially be completed within a year of import.

Board fees beyond 1 year will be billed monthly at the day rate of \$6.00/head.

If all collections are completed and the bucks are euthanized before 1 year, a credit for the unused days will be made against the final bill.

SEMEN COLLECTION, STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION

These sample quotations are based on average performance of animals. Any individual may require more or less collections or have poor quality semen that does not freeze well. There may be variable amounts and quality of semen with each ejaculate. OCF does not guarantee the performance, or ability of a male to produce freezable semen.

FOR CERVICAL AI IN GOATS, A MINIMUM OF 60M LIVE SPERM AT POST THAW IS RECOMMENDED WITH A MINIMUM OF 30% LIVE, FORWARDLY MOTILE SPERM. FREEZING AT 150M WITH 40% LIVE POST THAW ACHIEVES THE 60M AND HAS BEEN SHOWN IN THE NETHERLANDS TO RESULT IN IMPROVED CONCEPTION RATES OVER SEMEN FROZEN AT 100M FROM THE SAME BUCKS.

	\$	#	100	#	250	#	500
CONCENTRATION = 150M YIELDING APPROXIMATELY 20 STRAWS PER COLLECTION							
TRANSPORTATION			2,000.00		2,000.00		2,000.00
HOUSING	\$6.00	365	\$2,190.00	365	\$2,190.00	365	\$2,190.00
DNA FOR GENOTYPE	\$100.00	1	\$100.00	1	\$100.00	1	\$100.00
CFIA IAI TESTING	\$75.00	1	\$75.00	1	\$75.00	1	\$75.00
TRAINING/COLLECTION							
JUMPS	\$50.00	8	\$400.00	16	\$800.00	28	\$1,400.00
PROCESSING	\$150.00	5	\$750.00	13	\$1,950.00	25	\$3,750.00
STRAWS FROZEN/PASSED	\$2.50	100	\$250.00	250	\$625.00	500	\$1,250.00
			\$5,765.00		\$7,740.00		\$10,765.00
	PER STRAW		\$57.65		\$30.96		\$21.53

Currently, Biogenics has International sires with semen listed at \$25.00 - \$50.00 USD per dose of semen. This equates to approximately \$35.00-\$75.00 CAD per straw plus the cost of import permits, export paperwork, freight, CFIA and customs clearance from the USA into Canada. This generally adds approximately \$15.00/dose to the purchase price based on shipments of at least 100 doses.

IF it was possible to purchase and import semen from the USA, an minimum overall cost of \$50.00-\$90.00 per dose would be expected.

Adding the purchase price and export testing of a US buck to the above examples would still put the resulting semen into that price range.

STORAGE COLLECTION, STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION

All fees for collection and storage will be invoiced monthly and are due on receipt. No semen will be released from the facility unless the client’s account is current. Shipping charges are payable prior to the shipment leaving our facility.

Storage fees – \$0.004 per straw per day (\$0.12 per month, \$1.46 per year)

Storage fees are charged from the date of collection and will be invoiced monthly until April 30.

May 1 to April 30 is invoiced as an annual fee paid in advance for those wishing to have OC Flock store their semen long term.

Distribution of semen from our center in Alberta

Handling fee - \$10.00 per sire or \$35.00 minimum per shipment

Shipments are generally made by Purolator and costs may change without notice based on current courier rates.

TO		PUROLATOR RETURN WITH SEMEN		RETURN EMPTY	
GROUND	AIR	GROUND	AIR	GROUND	AIR
\$200	\$350			\$110	\$190
2-4 days	1 day			2-4 days	2 days

Estimates based on 13 day non DG vapor shippers (up to ~200 doses) direct to the farm and returned empty to OC Flock for western Canada and central Ontario. Exact time and cost will vary slightly with area or into Quebec and Atlantic Canada

All semen being released/shipped to parties other than the owner must be made in writing and indicate who is responsible for the shipping costs.