

## Memorandum

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To: Colorado County Extension Agents

Re: Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Position on Lamb Tail Docking

Date: March 13, 2006

The matter of lamb tail docking has become a contentious issue in many parts of the country. As some Extension agents in Colorado have been approached for guidance on this issue by their fair boards and other groups, we feel there is a need to communicate a position statement to the citizens of Colorado.

In February 2006 Jeff Goodwin, Brett Kaysen, Bill Wailes, Steve LeValley, and Marlin Eisenach met to discuss the CSUCE position on the lamb tail docking issue. A position statement (attached) was developed shortly thereafter.

The State 4-H office and CSU Department of Animal Science plan to conduct some descriptive research this year to review the new Wyoming State Fair policy of a minimum of three full coccygeal vertebrae and compare that to the .7 inch standard measured by the De-tail Device. For current information and Power Point presentations (with useful pictures and x-rays) regarding the Wyoming policy go to: [http://uwadmnweb.uwyo.edu/UWCES/wyoming\\_state\\_fair\\_tail\\_docking.htm](http://uwadmnweb.uwyo.edu/UWCES/wyoming_state_fair_tail_docking.htm)

Also, the CSUCE Lamb Tail Docking Position Statement, as well as other information on the topic, can be found on the CSU Youth Animal Science website: <http://livestock.colostate.edu/youth/index.html>

If you need assistance or have any questions about this topic, feel free to contact any or all three of us.

JLG:erb

Attachment