

The **NC Sheep Producers Association** and **Shepherd's Gate Fiber Mill** have teamed up to offer micron testing for your flock. We can test most animal fiber samples including wool, alpaca, llama, mohair and more. We use the FibreLux Micron Meter to test samples. It is accurate to .8 micron on average and provides a reading on the average fiber diameter.

Pricing: (\$10.00 MINIMUM CHARGE)

Testing of Individual Samples: **\$5 per sample for NCSPA members,**
\$8 for non-members

NCSPA members can also be trained to use the FibreLux and test their own samples (not available for non-members). \$50 for training and testing of up to 50 samples. \$25 for each additional 50 samples.

Please call or email for appointment.

Results will be sent via email unless otherwise requested. Samples will not be returned unless requested.

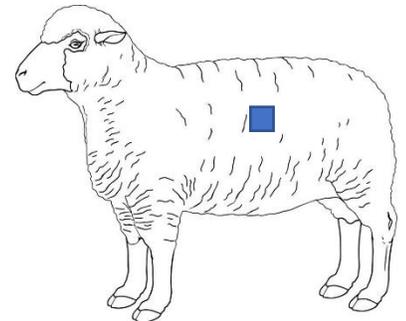
If you wish to have your results mailed, please include a self-addressed postage paid envelope.

If you wish to have your samples (and results) returned, please include a self-addressed, postage paid envelope that is large enough to contain your samples.

Sampling:

It is recommended that midrib samples should be used since research has shown that the midrib sample results have a very high correlation with those of the whole fleece. The midrib position is the area between the second and third ribs from the bottom of the rib cage one hand width down from the backbone on small sheep and one and a half hands down for large sheep.

Having chosen the appropriate sampling position, the wool should be opened so that the skin is clearly visible, avoiding obvious pleats as far as possible. The wool samples should then be clipped free from the skin using the scissors. The base diameter of the cut sample should be about 2 inches x 2 inches. Care should be taken to cut the wool staples as close to the skin as possible.



Note: Within each animal, there is a variation of fiber diameter, depending on where the sample is taken. When more accurate results are required (indicating the degree of variance over the animal), it is advisable to test a minimum of two samples per animal. Micron testing both a side and a britch sample should provide a general overall picture of the fleece grade. Samples at the midrib, britch and shoulder areas can be tested for a more in-depth picture.

Samples should be bagged individually and labeled with the animal name or number and location of sample (i.e. midrib, britch, shoulder). Small zip lock bags work well for this purpose.

For more information or to schedule testing and training, contact: Alesia Moore at Shepherd's Gate Fiber Mill.

Alesia@ShepherdsGateFiberMill.com 919-522-4110

110 Boardwalk Dr, Youngsville, NC 27596