

## **United States Department of Agriculture**

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Veterinary Services

Science, Technology, and Analysis Services

Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health

Natural Resources Research Center 2150 Centre Avenue Building B Mail Stop 2E7 Fort Collins, CO 80526-8117

970-494-7200

March XX, 2024

Dear Sheep Producer,

In January 2024 the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service launched Sheep 2024, its fourth national study of U.S. sheep operations. We were given your phone number from a consent form that you completed during phase I of this study. We have been trying to contact you at the phone number provided but have been unable to reach you. We would like to include your sheep operation in phase II of the study and hope you will contact us so we can set up a visit.

Phase II of the study consists of a person-to-person interview with a veterinary medical officer or an animal health technician and should take an average of 60 minutes. By participating in phase II of the study, you will be eligible for free testing of gastrointestinal parasites, lameness pathogens, and enteric microbes.

If you are interested in participating in phase II of the sheep study, please contact Dr. (name) at (XXX)-XXX-XXX. Additionally, if you have any questions regarding the study and all the potential benefits, please contact the study lead Dr. Natalie Urie at 970-888-4964. We are looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Dr. Natalie Urie (970-888-4964)

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