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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOIMCS

STATE OF UTAH

UTAH STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND IRON COUNTY COOPERATING

CEDAR CITY October 14, 1953

EXTENSION SERVICE
County Agent and
Home Demonstration Agent
Work

US DOE ARCHIVES
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RG DOE Historian (DPSM)
Collection 1132
Box 3365
Folder 61

Dr. A. H. Walker, Director
Experiment Station
U. S. A. C.
Logan, Utah

Dear Dr. Walker:

It is my impression that you have been in touch with Dr. P. B. Pearson, head of the Biology Branch of the AEC, and that some tentative arrangements have been made to study the death losses in sheep owned by Iron County sheepmen who run near the AEC test area in Nevada.

Dr. John H. Rust, University of Tennessee, Agricultural Research Programs, Box 142, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Joe Sanders, AEC at Las Vegas, were here today collecting additional material to further study this problem. Thirteen head of sheep were slaughtered, eight of which were control animals.

During the discussion the possibility of the college investigating the cause for yearlings in the effected herds to be at the present time smaller than average spring lambs was brought up. Local stockmen are very concerned about finding out what has happened to these sheep that would cause them to be so undersized. They are also reporting that they are getting above normal death losses on the summer range in the effected herds.

We are very appreciative down here of the investigations that are going on by the AEC and Public Health Service in cooperation with the Experiment Station but I am wondering, and some of the stockmen have brought this to my attention also, if there might be a need for someone to coordinate the investigations that are going on, and if possibly the experiment station might be the logical ones to do this.

Whether this problem is associated to radiation or not the losses are of a magnitude which would certainly justify exerting all the effort possible to find the answer. Dee Broadbent has been in on the investigations down here and I am sure he has expressed the same concern about the need for coordinated action.

I am writing this letter to keep all who have been concerned with this problem abreast with the latest developments and I would be glad to cooperate in any way I can to assist the experiment station personnel in any research they may initiate on this problem.

Sincerely

B-143

Stephen L. Brower
Stephen L. Brower
County Agri. Agent

SLB:sf
cc: Dr. P. B. Pearson

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