Understanding the seasonality of performance resilience to climate volatility in Mediterranean dairy sheep

Authors & Affiliations:

Valentina Tsartsianidou^{1*}, Vanessa Varvara Kapsona², Enrique Sánchez-Molano³, Zoitsa Basdagianni⁴, Maria Jesús Carabaño⁵, Dimitrios Chatziplis⁶, Georgios Arsenos⁷, Alexandros Triantafyllidis¹ & Georgios Banos^{2,7}

¹ Department of Genetics, Development & Molecular Biology, School of Biology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, 54124 Thessaloniki, Greece

² Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, Scotland's Rural College, Roslin Institute

Building, Easter Bush, Midlothian EH25 9RG, UK

³ Division of Genetics and Genomics, The Roslin Institute and Royal (Dick) School of

Veterinary Studies, University of Edinburgh, Easter Bush, Midlothian EH25 9RG, UK

⁴ Department of Animal Production, School of Agriculture, Aristotle University of

Thessaloniki, 54124 Thessaloniki, Greece

⁵ Departamento de Mejora Genética Animal, Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria (INIA), 28040 Madrid, Spain

 ⁶ Laboratory of Agrobiotechnology and Inspection of Agricultural Products, Department of Agriculture, International Hellenic University, Alexander Campus, 57400 Sindos, Greece
⁷ Laboratory of Animal Husbandry, School of Veterinary Medicine, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, 54124 Thessaloniki, Greece *corresponding author:

tsarvale@bio.auth.gr

+306951626615

Supplementary Material



Figure S1 Average air temperature (Tavg) and dispersion by calendar month during the period of study (2003-2018).

Table S1: Correlation estimates between animal resilience to hot and cold weather by lambing season (standard errors in brackets). Tavg10, Tavg25, Tavg10_lag7, Tavg25_lag7: milk yield change by 1°C temperature change at 10°C and 25°C on the milk test date and cumulative average air temperature change during the week preceding

Season	Phenotypes	r P	r _A
Autumn	Tavg10-Tavg25	0.77 (0.00)*	0.86 (0.03)*
	Tavg10-Tavg25_lag7	0.63 (0.01)*	0.76 (0.04)*
Winter	Tavg10-Tavg25	0.48 (0.01)*	0.46 (0.05)*
	Tavg10-Tavg25_lag7	0.50 (0.01)*	0.52 (0.05)*
Spring	Tavg10-Tavg25	-0.03 (0.01)*	-0.22 (0.25)
	Tavg10-Tavg25 lag7	-0.19 (0.01)*	-0.73 (0.10)*

the milk test date respectively. Estimates significantly different from zero (P < 0.01) are indicated with an asterisk.