Douglas Emerson Hogue, Professor Emeritus of Animal Science and world-renowned specialist in sheep nutrition and management, died in Ithaca, NY, on July 25, 2012 after a brief illness. Born in Holdrege, NE, to Emerson and Harriette Nelson Hogue, he was raised on cattle ranches in the Sand Hills of Nebraska, where he attended a one-room schoolhouse through the eighth grade. At 16 he moved with his family to Santa Rosa, CA. After graduating from high school, he attended Santa Rosa Junior College and then transferred to and graduated from the University of California at Davis. Doug began his career at Cornell in 1953 as a graduate student in animal nutrition. After obtaining his PhD degree in 1957, he was appointed assistant professor, with responsibility for the teaching and research program in sheep. Moving through the ranks, he was appointed associate professor (1963), professor (1973), and professor emeritus (1995). In retirement, Doug spent most mornings during the work week in his office in Morrison Hall, which was a gathering place at coffee time for a few of his colleagues who enjoyed the camaraderie and baiting as well as the research and other useful discussions that occurred. A long-time member of the department, Doug had become an institution in Morrison Hall, and his friendship and homespun counsel were sought and enjoyed by many, from custodians to faculty members.

Hogue’s research program resulted in improvements in the nutrition of ruminants and in the management of sheep and cattle throughout the world. His early work helped to establish the role of selenium in preventing nutritional muscular dystrophy (stiff lamb or white muscle disease). He readily collaborated with others, an example being an original experiment which estimated the glucose turnover of highly productive lactating sheep which was done in collaboration with Emmett Bergman in the College of Veterinary Medicine. In addition to a substantial list of publications contributing to various aspects of nutrition, he developed several management plans for different-sized sheep farms that were adopted as references by the industry in the early 1960s. At that time he gave many of what some of his colleagues referred to as “big buck” talks across the country, explaining the relationship of mature size to growth and elaborating on how crossbreeding could be used to take advantage of this knowledge. He was a member of National Research Council committees that developed two successive editions of the widely used feeding standard, “Nutrient Requirements of Sheep.” Doug coined the term “accelerated lambing” to describe several schemes designed to make it possible to have market lambs available.