

Ram **COMPARE**

YEAR 5 RESULTS



MAY 2021

Contents

- 3 Introduction
- 4 What is RamCompare?
- 5 Helping farmers make informed decisions

Genetics in action – Farm updates from RamCompare

- 6 Genetics influence speed of finishing
- 7 High-genetic-merit rams enhance carcase value
- 8 Flock profitability influenced by carcase weight and conformation
- 9 Consider the benefit of faster finishing versus carcase value
- 10 Genetic influences on carcase conformation shine through
- 11 A clear financial benefit in using recorded rams

The latest results from RamCompare

- 12 Leading rams for Scan Weight EBV
- 14 Leading rams for Muscle Depth EBV
- 16 Leading rams for Fat Depth EBV
- 18 Leading rams for Carcase Weight EBV
- 20 Leading rams for Carcase Conformation EBV
- 22 Leading rams for Carcase Fat Class EBV
- 24 Leading rams for Days to Slaughter EBV
- 26 Leading rams for Overall Carcase Merit
- 28 Leading rams for Primal Yield – Front Weight EBV
- 29 Leading rams for Primal Yield – Middle Weight EBV
- 30 Leading rams for Primal Yield – Haunch Weight EBV
- 31 Leading rams for Shear Force EBV
- 32 Next steps for RamCompare?

Introduction

As the second phase of RamCompare comes to a close, we can look back with collective pride on the culmination of the data collection and research work associated with this project. Twelve farms across Great Britain and Northern Ireland and a number of industry partners have helped to make this one of the sheep industry's most successful research and knowledge exchange projects.

I make special mention of the staff at Dunbia, Randall Parker Foods and J S Sainsbury's, without whom the project would not have taken place – let alone been the major success we have witnessed.

We faced new challenges in 2020 with the outbreak of COVID-19, yet we were able to complete full abattoir data sets from each of our farms and collect ultrasound scanning data from most of them. This report will be updated when we are able to complete our assessment of shear force (tenderness) in the 2020 lamb crop.

The RamCompare project has proven:

- Breeding values can be successfully generated from abattoir data
- The breeding values currently generated in ram breeding flocks are valuable indicators of commercial performance for lambs being finished for slaughter, although in some areas they can be improved
- We have repeatedly shown the value of CT scanning as an important tool to enhance our predictions of carcass weight, yield and shape
- There are important genetic differences between sires in both the physical and economic performance of their offspring, including differences that directly influence the consumer in terms of the distribution of meat within the carcass and meat tenderness

Within the groups of high-genetic-merit sires tested, we have identified differences in progeny values worth £4–6 per lamb, providing farmers with the opportunity to enhance flock profitability through careful ram selection by £1200–1500 per ram during their working lifetime.

RamCompare is one of the UK's most important sheep breeding projects and we thank all those who have supported it over the last five years.



Samuel Boon and Bridget Lloyd AHDB

What is RamCompare?

RamCompare is the UK's commercial progeny test for terminal sire rams. Over five breeding seasons, we have recorded the performance of 26,000 lambs sired by 280 rams through artificial insemination (AI) and natural mating.

Data on growth and carcass traits has been collected from these lambs under commercial conditions. It is fed back directly into genetic evaluations and used to produce estimated breeding values (EBVs).



How is RamCompare data analysed?

EBVs are produced from two separate genetic analyses. Each analysis takes into account the environmental differences between farms, as well as non-genetic factors such as a lamb's age, sex and birth type.

- The National Terminal Sire Evaluation generates EBVs for eight-week weight, scan weight, muscle and fat depth
- The RamCompare Evaluation generates EBVs for days-to-slaughter, carcass weight, conformation and fat class, primal yield and shear force

Why is RamCompare important?

- To compare the performance of progeny by different high-index rams from various terminal sire breeds for a variety of traits
- To produce EBVs from abattoir data, to understand how they relate to EBVs produced from measurements in the live animal and to determine their value to industry
- To collect data that adds value to Signet's multi-breed analysis, the National Terminal Sire Evaluation

RamCompare helps ram breeders and commercial ram buyers to select the most profitable sheep for their flock, based on the genetic attributes they will pass on to their progeny.

Where do I find out more?

This publication shows the leading rams within the project. It provides guidance about how to select rams with superior carcass attributes using information that is easily accessed online.

To learn more:

- Visit the Signet website, signetdata.com, which has links to webinars and publications, as well as the latest news from RamCompare. Signet's website also lists breeders who performance-record their flock and have sheep for sale
- Read the AHDB manual, *Buying a recorded ram for terminal sire traits*
- Find the latest breeding values for rams that you own or wish to buy at signetdata.com or the Texel Society, texel.uk

Helping farmers make informed decisions

RamCompare has tested whether the breeding values published by Signet are a good indicator of progeny performance on commercial farms. In most cases the answer is yes, although for some traits, we have updated our recommendations on the best ways to enhance them.

While abattoir-derived breeding values, such as carcass weight and conformation, are currently only available for rams tested by RamCompare, this project shows that in instances where this information is unavailable, ram buyers can and should use existing breeding values, such as Scan Weight and Muscle Depth, to select more profitable rams.

The relative value of each trait will vary from farm to farm, but – having picked an attribute to improve – RamCompare data shows how to enhance that attribute through ram selection.

On-farm growth rate

A ram's Scan Weight EBV is a good predictor of his progeny's growth rate through to weaning. If you are solely focused on increasing lamb weights or selling large store lambs, then selecting rams with high Scan Weight EBVs will increase the weight of lamb sold.

Days-to-slaughter

A ram's Scan Weight EBV also tends to indicate the speed with which lambs will finish. Selecting rams with high Scan Weight EBVs will lead to faster finishing lambs.

Carcass weight

One surprising finding is the relatively low relationship between a ram's Scan Weight EBV and the carcass weight of his progeny. This may be associated with major muscling genes that influence yield. Selecting rams with high Scan Weight EBVs can increase carcass weights, but producers are also advised to select rams with superior breeding potential for muscling.

Carcass conformation

Although the Muscle Depth EBV only predicts muscling at a single point in the carcass (the loin), it identifies rams whose progeny have superior carcass conformation. Producers interested in enhancing this trait are also advised to select rams with superior CT Muscularity and CT Lean Weight EBVs to enhance both carcass shape and muscle yield.

Carcass fat class

A ram's Fat Depth EBV provides a good indicator of the fat classification that will be achieved by his progeny. The CT Fat Weight EBV will also aid the selection of leaner or fatter genetics. Remember: negative values indicate leaner lambs, positive values will produce fatter ones.

Summary

Within the RamCompare project, ram breeders, consultants, geneticists, vets and supply chain partners have learned information that will change the way they work with farmers and support the industry.



Genetics in action: Farm updates from RamCompare 2020

The way that sheep farmers exploit the genetic merit of their rams will vary from farm to farm, depending on their production system and end market. Read about the impact of recorded rams on RamCompare farms and the impact they made to flock profitability.

Page 6 Chawton Park, Hampshire **£7.86** per lamb benefit

Page 7 Hutts Farm, Yorkshire **£4.95** per lamb benefit

Page 8 Dupath Farm, Cornwall **£4.29** per lamb benefit

Page 9 Hendre Ifan Goch Farm, South Wales **£6.67** per lamb benefit

Page 10 Thistleyhaugh, Northumberland **£3.41** per lamb benefit

Page 11 Bowhill Farming Limited, Scottish Borders **£5.26** per lamb benefit

Genetics influence speed of finishing

Chawton Park, Hampshire

Fast finishing genetics help ease the grazing pressure at Chawton Park.

Lambing in May has many advantages for Ian Robertson, but even in the best growing seasons, it is a race to get lambs finished and leave enough grass to mate the ewes. Easing the grazing pressure makes life easier, particularly in a dry season and ultimately means fewer lambs require expensive finishing after Christmas.



Important genetic differences can be seen in the performance of progeny by different rams, with those by sires with superior breeding values for days to slaughter finishing 2–3 weeks earlier than others within the group.

The Thorbeck Hampshire Down ram, 80X1700402, provided by Jim Birkwood, had the best breeding value for days to slaughter with a number of close followers from the Yarcombe and Normanby Hampshire Down flocks and the Midhope Suffolk flock.

Speed of finishing shouldn't be looked at in isolation, some of the slower-growing sires produced lambs that ultimately realised a higher value, but when every mouthful counts, this comes at a cost to the system. When the grass starts to burn off in the summer, the more lambs that are off the farm and in the bank, the better.

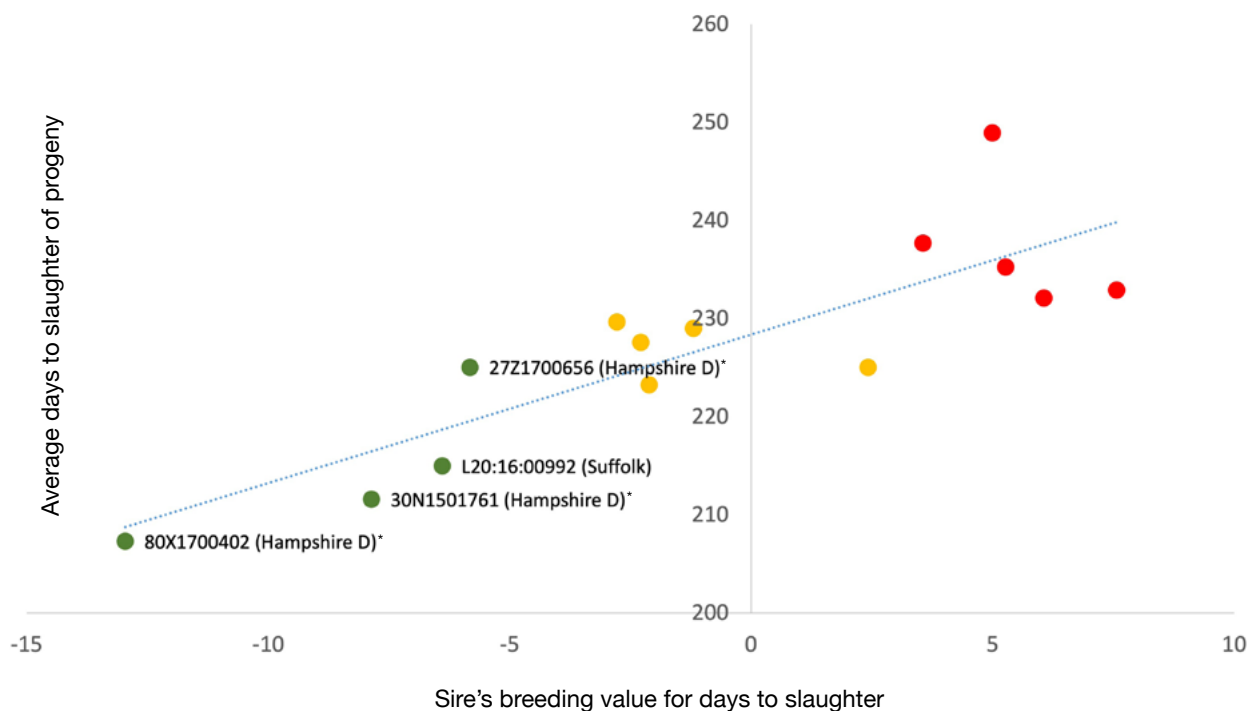
The value of recorded rams at Chawton Park

- Top sires for carcass merit = Generated an extra £7.86/lamb
- Top sires for days to slaughter = Reduced finishing time by 29 days

Key message

Selecting rams with a high Scan Weight EBV can reduce days to slaughter.

Genetic Influences on days to slaughter Progeny performance at Chawton Park, Ian Robertson (2020)



High-genetic-merit rams enhance carcase value

Hutts Farm, Yorkshire

The genetic merit of the rams used on Mark Exelby's May lambing flock explain a lot of differences observed in lamb carcase weights on this forage-based, organic enterprise.



Callerton Bugatti, SRC1800618, supplied by Matt Hobbs

Progeny by this sire would be worth nearly £5/lamb more than the flock average at Hutts Farm, though lambs took a little longer to finish than some of the rams on test. Bugatti was a last-minute addition to this year's test, following the withdrawal of a nomination. For the Hobbs family and Hutts Farm, this proved extremely fortuitous.

The top three sires this year were Texels, with Callerton Bugatti SRC1800618, provided by the Hobbs family Elkstone flock, coming out on top for overall carcase weight and ranking highly for carcase conformation; with his progeny getting the highest proportion of E and U-grade carcasses. Bugatti sits in the top 5% of the Texel breed for carcase attributes – largely due to his extreme muscling, with a Muscle Depth EBV in the top 1% of the breed.

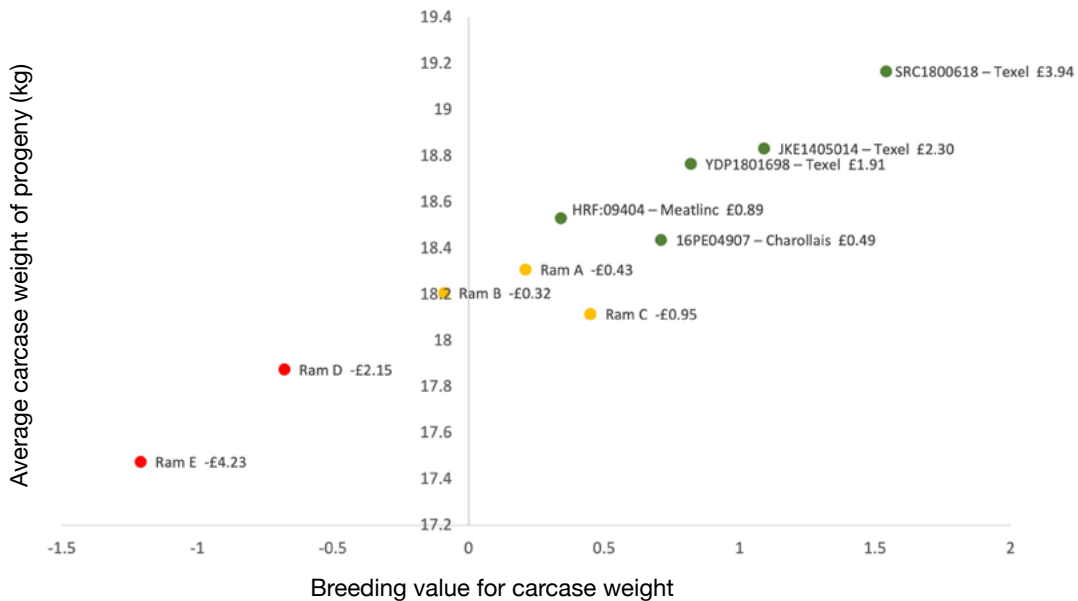
The value of recorded rams at Hutts Farm

- Top sires for carcase merit = Generated an extra £4.95/lamb
- Top sires for days to slaughter = Reduced finishing time by 11 days

Key message

Selecting rams with the right genetics to lift carcase weights can enhance flock profitability.

Genetic Influences on carcase weight Progeny performance at Hutts Farm, Mark Exelby (2020)



Flock profitability influenced by carcase weight and conformation

Dupath Farm, Cornwall

The value of lambs at Adrian and Lyn Coombe's Dupath Farm was strongly influenced by the genetic merit of their rams, where rams with high Carcase Weight EBVs routinely increased the value of commercial lambs by over £4.00 per lamb.



With the genetic potential to lift carcase weights by over 0.5 kg, the top-performing sires – the Meatlinc from Clive and Jenny Richardson and the Charollais ram, Dalby Ranieri, from Charles Sercombe – share an attribute in common – they are both the product of CT scanning.

CT scanning enables ram breeders to select breeding lines with superior yields of meat at a given liveweight and in the case of both of these rams, they sit comfortably within the top 5% of their breed for the CT Lean Weight EBV. It is therefore perhaps no surprise to see these two rams also had the highest proportion of E and U-grade carcasses.

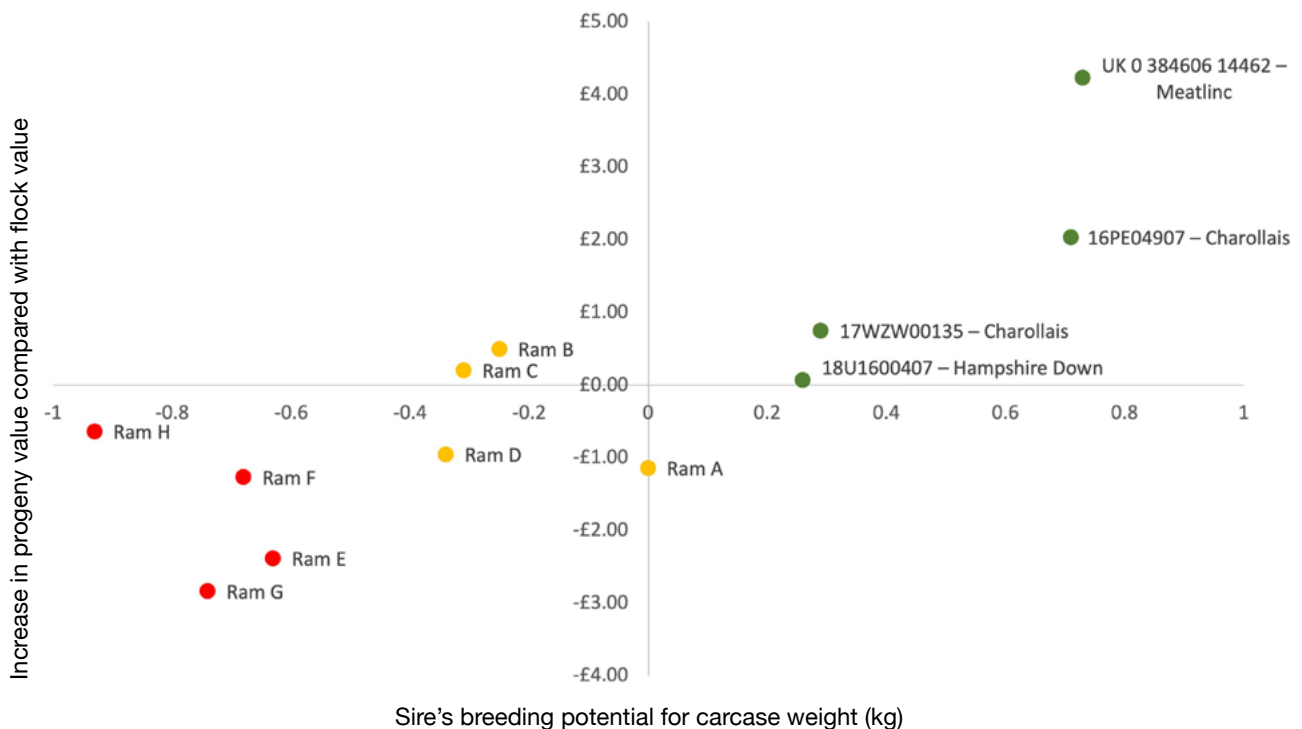
The value of recorded rams at Dupath Farm

- Top sires for carcase merit = Generated an extra £4.29/lamb
- Top sires for days to slaughter = Reduced finishing time by 8 days

Key message

Buying high-index rams from flocks that use CT scan data can lift both carcase weights and conformation.

Genetic potential to increase carcase weight pays off Progeny performance at Dupath Farm, Adrian and Lyn Coombe (2020)



Consider the benefit of faster finishing versus carcass value

Hendre Ifan Goch Farm, South Wales

The less grass you have in front of you, the more speed of finishing matters – that was certainly the view at Hendre Ifan Goch Farm in a year when grass growth was, on occasions, challenging. This is when it is handy to own the ram with the best breeding value for days to slaughter – a Hampshire Down from the Normanby flock – producing some of the fastest-finishing lambs in the flock for the second year running.



Carcass value must not be forgotten and this year the progeny from both Beltex and Texel rams have scored highly. The Beltex, Cynin Count Down, JRP.C030, provided by Matt Prince, is in the top 5% of the breed on his Terminal Sire Index – as is Antur Boomer, AAA1812526, from Aberystwyth University Farms. Clearly, using EBVs to select rams can have a big impact on progeny performance.



Rams with superior genetics for speed of finishing and carcass value will both influence flock profitability – the relative importance of either attribute depending on both the farming system under which lambs are reared and the market to which they are destined.

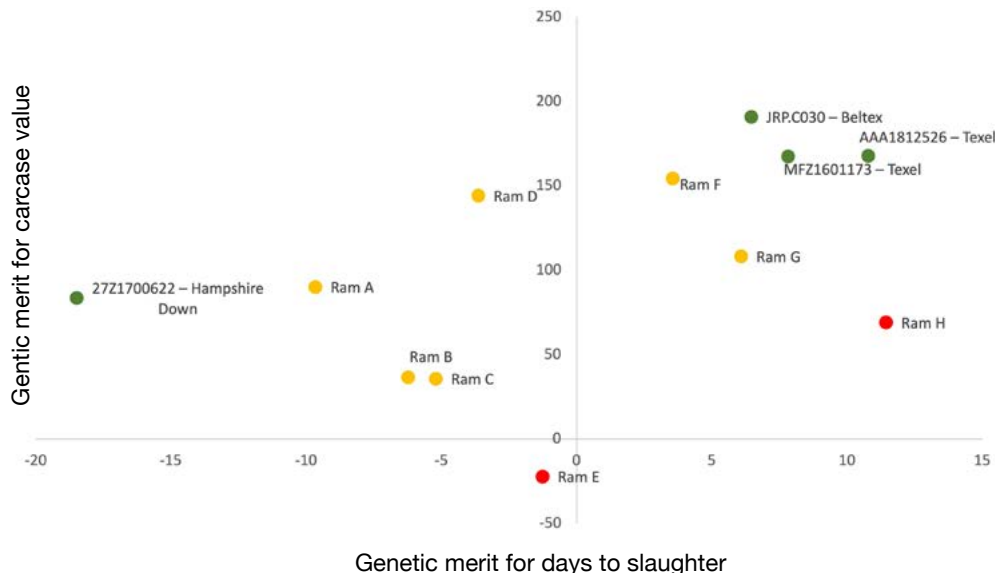
Value of recorded rams at Hendre Ifan Goch Farm

- Top sires for carcass merit = Generated an extra £6.67/lamb
- Top sires for days to slaughter = Reduced finishing time by 10 days

Key message

Consider how important speed of finishing is to your enterprise relative to the final value of the lambs that are sold.

Finding the right balance between speed of finishing and carcass value Progeny performance at Hendre Farm, Rhys Edwards (2020)



Genetic influences on carcass conformation shine through

Thistleyhaugh, Northumberland

The speed with which lambs are finished off organic clover leys is extremely important to Duncan Nelless at Thistleyhaugh. In 2020, 852 lambs produced an average carcass weight of 18.6 kg at 102 days of age. However, the most interesting differences observed in this year's data set relate to the genetic merit of his rams for carcass conformation.



A range of high-genetic-merit sires were used, with over half of the lamb crop grading U or better – but some sires far exceeded this benchmark. Top of the list was Foulrice Tempest, 18DG08105, nominated by Andrew and Jan Walton, Cheshire. Within Signet's evaluations, he ranks highly for lean meat yield and gigot muscularity – two traits assessed using the CT scanner, which the Waltons proactively support and base their ram breeding strategy around. Over 90% of his lambs achieved the top two conformation grades.

His grandsire, Dalby Ranieri, 16PE04907, got 70% of his lambs in this category – but producing 19.2 kg carcasses at 91 days of age, he became the highest-ranking ram at

Thistleyhaugh for overall carcass merit. Producing lambs worth £3.22 above the flock average, Ranieri sits in the top 5% of Signet's Terminal Sire Evaluation.

Splitting the pair, a high-index Blue Texel from Sue and Aubrey Andrews, with a Terminal Sire Index in the top 1% of the breed, was another of this year's highest-ranking rams for carcass conformation.



Value of recorded rams at Thistleyhaugh Farm

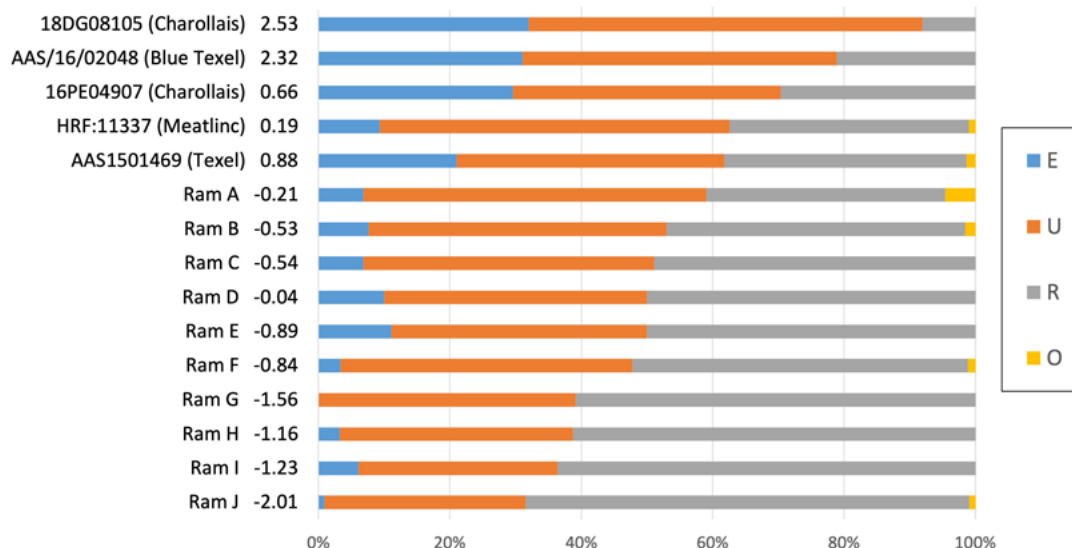
- Top sires for carcass merit = Generated an extra £3.41/lamb
- Top sires for days to slaughter = Reduced finishing time by 4 days

Key message

Signet's breeding values for growth and carcass traits clearly highlight the most profitable rams within this commercial enterprise.

Genetic influences on carcass conformation Progeny performance at Thistleyhaugh, Duncan Nelless (2020)

Sire's ID and breeding value for carcass conformation



A clear financial benefit in using recorded rams

Bowhill Farming Limited, Scottish Borders



Every penny counts in a sheep enterprise that includes over 8,900 ewes and breeding values clearly play an important part in adding value to the sheep enterprises at the Buccleuch Estate farm at Bowhill.

There is a clear difference between the very top and bottom-performing rams, with the best ones delivering £5.26 per lamb more than lower-ranking rams. Over a ram's working lifetime, this is easily worth an extra £1,000 per ram.

The top three rams provided the genetic potential to lift carcass weights by nearly 1 kg without increasing the days taken to reach slaughter weight. Progeny by the Charollais ram, Lowerye Troubadour, 18ZVY04539, provided by Neil Oughton, achieved 77% E and U carcasses, against a flock average of just over 50%. This CT-scanned ram is in the top 1% of the breed for Gigot EBV and top 5% of the breed for his overall genetic merit.

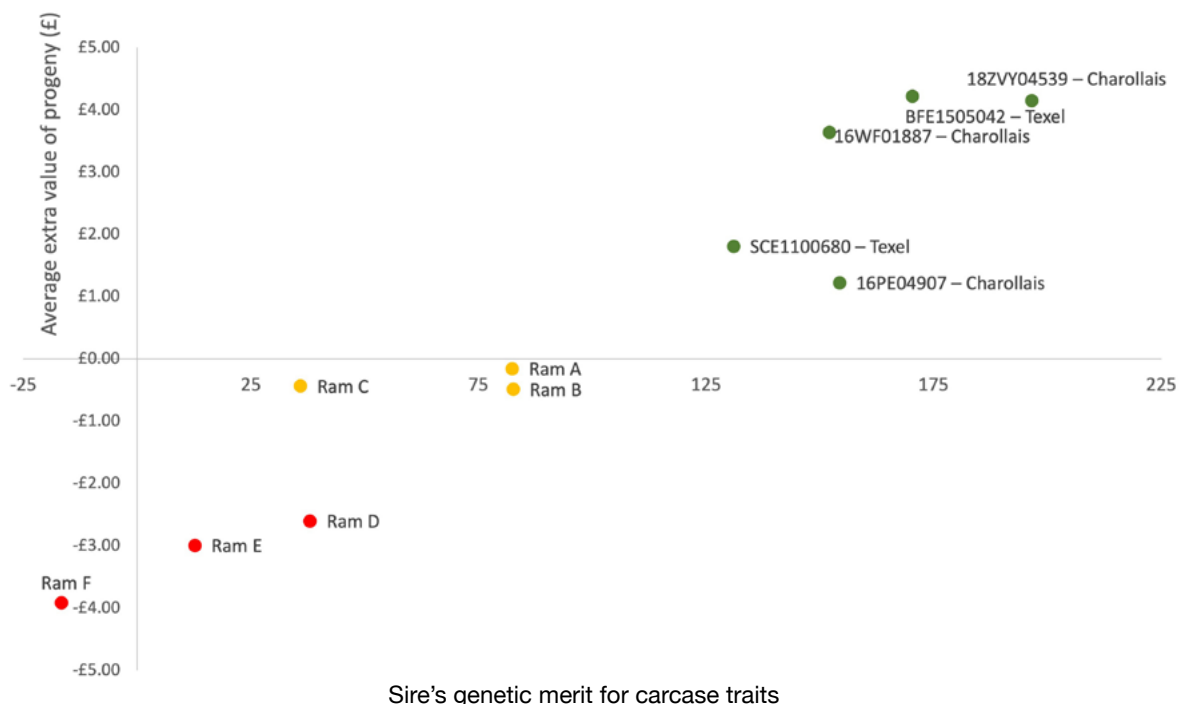
Value of recorded rams at Bowhill Estate

- Top sires for carcass merit = Generated an extra £5.26/lamb
- Top sires for days to slaughter = Reduced finishing time by 20 days

Key message

Large differences in progeny values can be linked to the genetic merit of their sires. Breeding values help ram buyers identify the most profitable rams when they are selecting breeding stock.

Genetic influences on carcass value Progeny performance at Buccleuch Estate, Sion Williams (2020)



Leading rams for Scan Weight EBV (2020)

Interpretation: Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal born in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
KELSEY BRAHMA 18U1600407	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	D Smith & J Atkinson	Stuart Friswell	46	129	94
ANTUR AAA1812526	TEXEL	IBERS, University of Wales Aberystwyth		45	127	91
BUBBLEGUM BUB:1706091	BLUE TEXEL	Charles Sercombe		145	127	93
NORMANBY QUENTIN 27Z1801018	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son		113	126	93
MISERDEN AAS/16/02048	BLUE TEXEL	A & S Andrews		108	125	94
BARNAGE MWB1802626	TEXEL	W K & C A Martyn		66	124	88
NORMANBY 27Z1700656	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son	K Hames & C Lake	117	123	94
DALBY SUPER TROOPER 17PE05884	CHAROLLAIS	Charles Sercombe	Stewart Dunkley	38	122	95
YARCOMBE 151738 FLASHMAN 30N1501738	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	H C Derryman & Sons	Kevin McCarthy	34	122	96
THORBECK 80X1700402	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Jim Birkwood		161	122	94
LECROPT 53Y1800449	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Jane & Roy McFarlane		90	121	93
THORGANBY 9012 HRF:09012	MEATLING	H R Fell & Sons Ltd		146	121	93
GLENWAY MFZ1601173	TEXEL	Ian Murray		33	120	83
CYNIN COUNT DOWN JRP:C030	BELTEX	Unknown	D M & S Prince	33	120	90
EAST MIDDLE SUPERIOR SCE1100680	TEXEL	East Middle Farm Partnership	AB Europe	48	120	97

Leading rams for Scan Weight EBV (2016–2020)

Interpretation: Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal born in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
BENTLEY XCELLENT 239:16:02039	SUFFOLK	T C & C A Harding	E A & L Jackson	24	129	93
KELSEY BRAHMA 18UJ1600407	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	D Smith & J Atkinson	Stuart Friswell	46	129	94
ANTUR WYTHABERYST AAA1508227	TEXEL	IBERS, University of Wales Aberystwyth	John Vaughan	27	129	93
ASPLEY 92W1400386	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	George & Sara Wood		140	128	95
ANTUR AAA1812526	TEXEL	IBERS, University of Wales Aberystwyth		45	127	91
BUBBLEGUM BUB:1706091	BLUE TEXEL	Charles Sercombe		145	127	93
NORMANBY QUENTIN 27Z1801018	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son		113	126	93
MISERDEN AAS/16/02048	BLUE TEXEL	A & S Andrews		108	125	94
BARNAGE MWB1802626	TEXEL	W K & C A Martyn		66	124	88
GRANITE UNTOUCHABLE IGM1307611	TEXEL	Bruce Ingram		68	124	98
MISERDEN VINNIE AAS/12/00783	BLUE TEXEL	A & S Andrews		50	123	94
NORMANBY 27Z1700656	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son	K Hames & C Lake	117	123	94
BENTLEY BOMBER II 239:14:01128	SUFFOLK	T C & C A Harding	Arnold Park	35	123	92
BEEFORD WARRIOR CBS1500509	TEXEL	S J Curtis	E A & L Jackson	38	123	94
RUMWELL OPEN WORLD JER:160102	BLEU DU MAINE	J E Richardson		41	123	86

Notes: BLUP run date: 18/02/2021. Analysis type: National Terminal Sire Evaluation

Leading rams for Muscle Depth EBV (2020)

Interpretation: Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal born in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
ORTUM 78X:17:00839	SUFFOLK	Richard Garner		137	147	97
PENYGELLI PAP1803003	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		81	146	76*
MIDHOPE HANS SOLO L20:16:00992	SUFFOLK	John Key		30	139	98
PENYGELLI PAP1702610	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		58	136	93
NORMANBY 27Z1700622	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son		165	135	97
CALLERTON BUGATTI SRC1800618	TEXEL	M D Sym	Matt Hobbs	61	135	97
ORTUM TRUMP CARD 78X:16:00807	SUFFOLK	Richard Garner		21	134	98
ESSIE H6:18:01525	SUFFOLK	Irene Fowlie		126	131	76*
GRAYLEN 1703022 ROMEO 24Y1703022	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Graham & Judith Galbraith	Janet & Brian Hill	30	130	87
THORGANBY 9404 HRF:09404	MEATLING	H R Fell & Sons Ltd		82	130	98
DALBY SUPER TROOPER 17PE05884	CHAROLLAIS	Charles Sercombe	Stewart Dunkley	38	128	96
EAST MIDDLE SUPERIOR SCE1100680	TEXEL	East Middle Farm Partnership	AB Europe	48	127	97
THORBECK 80X1700402	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Jim Birkwood		161	126	95
RICHARDSON 14462 UK 0 384606 14462	MEATLING	C & J P Richardson		92	125	91
SANDYKNOWE TWEED 18 1 Y13:18:15699	SUFFOLK	Malcolm M Stewart		36	124	95

*Limited information due to Covid

Leading rams for Muscle Depth EBV (2016–2020)

Interpretation: Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal born in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
HANDBANK SUPER NOVA PRH1100114	TEXEL	R M & E A Payne		40	180	95
ORTUM 78X:17:00839	SUFFOLK	Richard Garner		137	147	97
PENYGELLI PAP1803003	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		81	146	76*
HANS FOKKER 95 T79:13:095	SUFFOLK	H F Porksen		57	141	99
ESSIE H6:16:01143	SUFFOLK	Irene Fowlie		98	139	95
MIDHOPE HANS SOLO L20:16:00992	SUFFOLK	John Key		30	139	98
PENYGELLI PAP1702610	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		58	136	93
MIDHOPE MASTER CLASS L20:14:00659	SUFFOLK	John Key	Bruce Cook	46	136	97
MILLFIELDS 12084 MAGIC 43W12084	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	G & J Boyles		37	136	93
NORMANBY 27Z1700622	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son		165	135	97
CALLERTON BUGATTI SRC1800618	TEXEL	M D Sym	Matt Hobbs	61	135	97
ORTUM 78X:17:00842	SUFFOLK	Richard Garner		68	135	94
ORTUM SUPERSIRE 05 78X:F49	SUFFOLK	Richard Garner		194	134	99
ORTUM TRUMP CARD 78X:16:00807	SUFFOLK	Richard Garner		21	134	98
ORTUM TRULINE 78X:12:009	SUFFOLK	Richard Garner		38	134	96

Notes: BLUP run date: 18/02/2021. Analysis type: National Terminal Sire Evaluation

*Limited information due to Covid

Leading rams for Fat Depth EBV – leanest (2020)

Interpretation: Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal born in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
PLASUCHA WILL-I-AM BFE1505042	TEXEL	Robert Bennett	T Nesbitt & Son	29	51	93
RUGLEY TERRIFIC 10P:13:176	SUFFOLK	E A & L Jackson		22	51	99
THORBECK 80X1700402	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Jim Birkwood		161	54	96
ESSIE H6:18:01525	SUFFOLK	Irene Fowlie		126	60	78*
MILLENNIUM BRONSON MIE1807006	TEXEL	Michelle Moore		97	60	93

* Limited information due to Covid

Leading rams for Fat Depth EBV – fattest (2020)

Interpretation: Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal born in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
REDHILL 18WGH01892	CHAROLLAIS	Jamie Wild		56	127	94
FOULRICE OSPREY 14DG04650	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son		30	127	99
BRETTLES TELEMARK 18WF02726	CHAROLLAIS	M M & M L Rushbrooke	Jamie Wild	65	122	97
LOWERYE TROUBADOUR 18ZVY04539	CHAROLLAIS	N Oughton		37	116	84
KELSEY 18U1600422	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	D Smith & J Atkinson		381	113	98

Leading rams for Fat Depth EBV – leanest (2016–2020)

Interpretation: Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal born in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
STANTON VANTAGE II WPS1400599	TEXEL	P K Woof	Claybury Texels	59	24	99
RUGLEY JER1505286	TEXEL	E A & L Jackson		168	47	97
PLASUCHA WILL-I-AM BFE1505042	TEXEL	Robert Bennett	T Nesbitt & Son	29	51	93
RUGLEY TERRIFIC 10P:13:176	SUFFOLK	E A & L Jackson		22	51	99
THORBECK 80X1700402	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Jim Birkwood		161	54	96

Leading rams for Fat Depth EBV – fattest (2016–2020)

Interpretation: Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal born in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
GRAYLEN 24Y1502085	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Graham & Judith Galbraith		145	143	96
REDHILL 18WGH01892	CHAROLLAIS	Jamie Wild		56	127	94
FOULRICE OSPREY 14DG04650	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son		30	127	99
THORGANBY 2731 HRF:02731	MEATLINC	H R Fell & Sons Ltd		74	126	98
WICARDO 14WMIH01600	CHAROLLAIS	Richard Berry		49	126	93

Notes: BLUP run date: 18/02/2021. Analysis type: National Terminal Sire Evaluation

Leading rams for Carcase Weight EBV (2020)

Interpretation: The EBV for carcase weight is expressed in kilograms (kg). A ram with an EBV for carcase weight of +1 has the genetic potential to produce progeny that will be on average 0.5 kg heavier at a constant age than a ram with an EBV of 0. Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Estimated Breeding Value	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
CALLERTON BUGATTI SRC1800618	TEXEL	M D Sym	Matt Hobbs	61	1.54	86	136
STRATHBOGIE YOUI IJS1600756	TEXEL	James Innes & Sons	Claybury Texels	23	1.13	70	127
BOGHOUSE V EWE FINDER JKE1405014	TEXEL	K I Johnstone	Osian Rhys	67	1.09	87	126
LOWERYE TROUBADOUR 18ZVY04539	CHAROLLAIS	N Oughton		37	1.06	80	126
ANTUR AAA1812526	TEXEL	IBERS, University of Wales Aberystwyth		45	0.97	82	124
PLASUCHA WILL-I-AM BFE1505042	TEXEL	Robert Bennett	T Nesbitt & Son	29	0.93	73	123
MIDHOPE HANS SOLO L20:16:00992	SUFFOLK	John Key		30	0.89	79	122
CYNIN COUNT DOWN JRP:C030	BELTEX	Unknown	D M & S Prince	33	0.87	76	122
STONEDGE YDP1801698	TEXEL	D M & S Prince		62	0.82	86	120
BRETTLES RICARDO 16WF01887	CHAROLLAIS	M M & M L Rushbrooke	Andrew Walton	246	0.82	96	120
DALBY SUPER TROOPER 17PE05884	CHAROLLAIS	Charles Sercombe	Stewart Dunkley	38	0.79	79	120
FOULRICE OSPREY 14DG04650	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son		30	0.75	64	119
RICHARDSON 14462 UK 0 384606 14462	MEATLINC	C & J P Richardson		92	0.73	88	118
BENTLEY RETALLICK 239:14:01319	SUFFOLK	T C & C A Harding		33	0.71	79	118
DALBY RANIERI 16PE04907	CHAROLLAIS	Charles Sercombe		387	0.71	97	118

Leading rams for Carcase Weight EBV (2016–2020)

Interpretation: The EBV for carcase weight is expressed in kilograms (kg). A ram with an EBV for carcase weight of +1 has the genetic potential to produce progeny that will be on average 0.5 kg heavier at a constant age than a ram with an EBV of 0. Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Estimated Breeding Value	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
GREY PEEL LEAR JET HMF05019	TEXEL	Maurice Hardy-Bishop		30	1.75	61	141
ANTUR WYTHABERYST AAA1508227	TEXEL	IBERS, University of Wales Aberystwyth	John Vaughan	27	1.61	70	138
CALLERTON BUGATTI SRC1800618	TEXEL	M D Sym	Matt Hobbs	61	1.54	86	136
HANS FOKKER 95 T79:13:095	SUFFOLK	H F Porksen		57	1.36	83	132
STRATHBOGIE YOUI IJS1600756	TEXEL	James Innes & Sons	Claybury Texels	23	1.13	70	127
COURT 7739 CONTENDER 73R07739	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Mike J Adams		32	1.13	79	127
BOGHOUSE V EWE FINDER JKE1405014	TEXEL	K I Johnstone	Osian Rhys	67	1.09	87	126
LOWERYE TROUBADOUR 18ZVY04539	CHAROLLAIS	N Oughton		37	1.06	80	126
ARKLE PACIFIC STAR WGA092612	TEXEL	G H & G G Wilkinson	Deri Morgan	38	1.05	75	126
ROXBURGH SHOT GUN WILLIE EJR1101108	TEXEL	John Elliot	D M & S Prince	142	1.03	91	125
GAYNES MAJOR CMG06129	TEXEL	Gaynes Park Farm Limited	Trinidad Investments UK Limited	181	1.01	94	125
TURBO BLUE 08441:24891	BLUE TEXEL	J & J Rodenburg		139	1.00	93	124
ANTUR AAA1812526	TEXEL	IBERS, University of Wales Aberystwyth		45	0.97	82	124
BURNVIEW OLYMPIC DREAM T86:12:086	SUFFOLK	S & W Tait	D M & S Prince	25	0.94	69	123
RAINBOW SERENDIPITY 17XPU02835	CHAROLLAIS	Andrew Walton		61	0.94	87	123

Notes: BLUP run date: 01/03/2021. Analysis type: RamCompare Evaluation

Leading rams for Carcase Conformation EBV (2020)

Interpretation: Carcase conformation EBVs indicate genetic potential for conformation and units of measurement are based on a 15-point scale. Animals with a high positive value have the genetic potential to produce superior conformation. Standardised value of 100 equates to the average animal in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Estimated Breeding Value	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
FOULRICE TEMPEST 18DG08105	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son	Andrew & Jan Walton	29	2.53	90	148
FOULRICE OSPREY 14DG04650	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son		30	2.46	82	146
MISERDEN AAS/16/02048	BLUE TEXEL	A & S Andrews		108	2.32	97	144
CYNIN COUNT DOWN JRP:C030	BELTEX	Unknown	D M & S Prince	33	2.22	90	142
LOWERYE TROUBADOUR 18ZVY04539	CHAROLLAIS	N Oughton		37	1.96	91	137
STRATHBOGIE YOUI IJS1600756	TEXEL	James Innes & Sons	Claybury Texels	23	1.87	87	135
REDHILL 18WGH01892	CHAROLLAIS	Jamie Wild		56	1.74	84	133
GLENWAY MFZ1601173	TEXEL	Ian Murray		33	1.71	89	132
RAINBOW STATISTICIAN 17XPU02870	CHAROLLAIS	Andrew Walton		162	1.28	98	124
KIBWORTH BURT REYNOLDS WQM1800508	TEXEL	Mark Waterfield		69	1.17	94	122
PENYGELLI PAP1702610	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		58	1.07	93	120
CALLERTON BUGATTI SRC1800618	TEXEL	M D Sym	Matt Hobbs	61	1.06	95	120
MISERDEN AAS1401255	TEXEL	A & S Andrews		263	1.06	99	120
STONEDGE YDP1801698	TEXEL	D M & S Prince		62	0.94	95	117
FOULRICE ON RAMCOMPARE 14DG04690	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son		539	0.93	99	117

Leading rams for Carcase Conformation EBV (2016–2020)

Interpretation: Carcase conformation EBVs indicate genetic potential for conformation and units of measurement are based on a 15-point scale. Animals with a high positive value have the genetic potential to produce superior conformation. Standardised value of 100 equates to the average animal in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Estimated Breeding Value	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
CORSTANE KNOT-OUT MDC:K0056	BELTEX	Mary Dunlop		41	3.89	93	174
TURBO BLUE 08441:24891	BLUE TEXEL	J & J Rodenburg		139	3.35	97	163
ELKSTONE HME1501742	TEXEL	Matt Hobbs		57	2.96	94	156
BOGHOUSE ULTRA MUSCLE JKE1304414	TEXEL	K I Johnstone	Alwyn Phillips	78	2.67	96	150
HANDBANK SUPER NOVA PRH1100114	TEXEL	R M & E A Payne		40	2.54	93	148
FOULRICE TEMPEST 18DG08105	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son	Andrew Walton	29	2.53	90	148
PENYGELLI PAP1501802	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		67	2.50	94	147
FOULRICE OSPREY 14DG04650	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son		30	2.46	82	146
LOWERYE STALLONE 17ZVY03456	CHAROLLAIS	N Oughton		48	2.38	94	145
MISERDEN AAS/16/02048	BLUE TEXEL	A & S Andrews		108	2.32	97	144
ROXBURGH SHOT GUN WILLIE EJR1101108	TEXEL	John Elliot	D M & S Prince	142	2.26	97	142
CYNIN COUNT DOWN JRP:C030	BELTEX	Unknown	D M & S Prince	33	2.22	90	142
LOWERYE TROUBADOUR 18ZVY04539	CHAROLLAIS	N Oughton		37	1.96	91	137
CLARY NUMBER ONE COC:N3557	BELTEX	Jock McMillan	Mary Dunlop	74	1.92	96	136
STRATHBOGIE YOUI IJS1600756	TEXEL	James Innes & Sons	Claybury Texels	23	1.87	87	135

Notes: BLUP run date: 01/03/2021. Analysis type: RamCompare Evaluation

Leading rams for Carcass Fat Class EBV – leanest (2020)

Interpretation: Carcass fat class EBVs indicate genetic potential to influence fat class. Animals with low negative values have the genetic potential to produce leaner carcasses; positive values indicate fatter carcasses. Standardised value of 100 equates to the average animal in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Estimated Breeding Value	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
VINES 4207 EV:1804207	MEATLING	E R & J E Vines		59	-2.05	83	64
MISERDEN WICKERMAN AAS1501469	TEXEL	A & S Andrews		92	-1.61	95	72
KIBWORTH BURT REYNOLDS WQM1800508	TEXEL	Mark Waterfield		69	-1.24	92	78
SANDYKNOWE TWEED 18 1 Y13:18:15699	SUFFOLK	Malcolm M Stewart		36	-1.15	87	80
CRUGYN 18ZPX00583	CHAROLLAIS	Laws & Davies		65	-1.12	90	81

Leading rams for Carcass Fat Class EBV – fattest (2020)

Interpretation: Carcass fat class EBVs indicate genetic potential to influence fat class. Animals with low negative values have the genetic potential to produce leaner carcasses; positive values indicate fatter carcasses. Standardised value of 100 equates to the average animal in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Estimated Breeding Value	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
BALLYCREELLY 007 54S1700875	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Kevin McCarthy		43	2.21	90	139
NORMANBY QUENTIN 27Z1801018	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son		113	2.06	96	137
HAYNE OAK LX:171343	SHROPSHIRE	Liz Bowles		86	1.73	94	131
LECROPT 53Y1800449	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Jane & Roy McFarlane		90	1.54	95	128
KELSEY 18U1600422	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	D Smith & J Atkinson		381	1.54	99	128

Leading rams for Carcase Fat Class EBV – leanest (2016–2020)

Interpretation: Carcase fat class EBVs indicate genetic potential to influence fat class. Animals with low negative values have the genetic potential to produce leaner carcasses; positive values indicate fatter carcasses. Standardised value of 100 equates to the average animal in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Estimated Breeding Value	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
STANTON VANTAGE II WPS1400599	TEXEL	P K Woof	Claybury Texels	59	-2.72	92	52
AVON VALE YALE MQZ1602438	TEXEL	J M, C E & P Mitchell	Roger Helme	36	-2.30	89	60
STONEDGE WALLYKAZAM YDP1500991	TEXEL	D M & S Prince		157	-2.19	97	62
VINES 4207 EV:1804207	MEATLINC	E R & J E Vines		59	-2.05	83	64
PENYGELLI PAP1501802	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		67	-1.92	93	66

Leading rams for Carcase Fat Class EBV – fattest (2016–2020)

Interpretation: Carcase fat class EBVs indicate genetic potential to influence fat class. Animals with low negative values have the genetic potential to produce leaner carcasses; positive values indicate fatter carcasses. Standardised value of 100 equates to the average animal in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Estimated Breeding Value	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
COURT 12077 GENERAL 73R12077	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Mike J Adams	Simon Williams	83	3.27	94	158
COURT 7739 CONTENDER 73R07739	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Mike J Adams		32	2.75	88	149
ASPLEY 92W1400386	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	George & Sara Wood		140	2.39	95	143
BALLYCREELLY 007 54S1700875	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Kevin McCarthy		43	2.21	90	139
COURT 13090 LEADER 73R13090	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Mike J Adams		90	2.14	95	138

Notes: BLUP run date: 01/03/2021. Analysis type: RamCompare Evaluation

Leading rams for Days-to-Slaughter EBV (2020)

Interpretation: Days to slaughter EBVs indicate genetic potential to influence the number of days to finish. Animals with low negative values will have the genetic potential to achieve target finished specification in a reduced number of days; positive values indicate a longer period of time to achieve the same finish. Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal born in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Estimated Breeding Value	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
NORMANBY 27Z1700622	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son		165	-18.48	98	141
THORBECK 80X1700402	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Jim Birkwood		161	-12.96	97	129
BRETTLES RICARDO 16WF01887	CHAROLLAIS	M M & M L Rushbrooke	Andrew Walton	246	-9.84	98	122
LECROPT 53Y1800449	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Jane & Roy McFarlane		90	-9.82	96	122
THORGANBY 9012 HRF:09012	MEATLING	H R Fell & Sons Ltd		146	-9.73	97	121
YARCOMBE 151738 FLASHMAN 30N1501738	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	H C Derryman & Sons	Kevin McCarthy	34	-9.66	89	121
ALLISON 12503 GA:1612503	MEATLING	George Allison	Clive & Jenny Richardson	176	-8.19	98	118
ALLISON 15784 GA:1815784	MEATLING	George Allison		86	-8.06	96	118
YARCOMBE 151761 DYNAMO 30N1501761	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	H C Derryman & Sons		439	-7.86	99	117
VINES 4207 EV:1804207	MEATLING	E R & J E Vines		59	-7.59	86	117
LOWERYE RIOJA 16ZVY02621	CHAROLLAIS	N Oughton		52	-7.16	93	116
NORMANBY QUENTIN 27Z1801018	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son		113	-6.76	96	115
MIDHOPE HANS SOLO L20:16:00992	SUFFOLK	John Key		30	-6.39	91	114
HARDY 17WZW00135	CHAROLLAIS	Dylan & Sian Laws		97	-6.25	96	114
BARNAGE MWB1802626	TEXEL	W K & C A Martyn		66	-6.22	93	114

Leading rams for Days-to-Slaughter EBV (2016–2020)

Interpretation: Days to slaughter EBVs indicate genetic potential to influence the number of days to finish. Animals with low negative values will have the genetic potential to achieve target finished specification in a reduced number of days; positive values indicate a longer period of time to achieve the same finish. Standardised value of 100 equals the average animal born in 2020.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Estimated Breeding Value	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
HARDY 16WZW00054	CHAROLLAIS	Dylan & Sian Laws		75	-19.32	95	143
NORMANBY 27Z1700622	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son		165	-18.48	98	141
ELKSTONE HME1602449	TEXEL	Matt Hobbs		138	-16.93	96	138
FOUNDRY ALEXANDER PXI1702970	TEXEL	Ann Murphy		92	-14.65	95	132
PENYGELLI PAP1702463	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		85	-14.09	88	131
THORBECK 80X1700402	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Jim Birkwood		161	-12.96	97	129
LAVENDON XERXES Y51:15:02134	SUFFOLK	James Barker (A J Cony & Partners)		146	-11.85	95	126
HARDY 17WZW00126	CHAROLLAIS	Dylan & Sian Laws		59	-11.75	93	126
HUIISH A26:W08318	POLL DORSET	D W Rossiter		55	-11.54	90	126
ASPLEY 92W1400386	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	George & Sara Wood		140	-10.89	96	124
LECROPT 53Y1700376	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Jane & Roy McFarlane		84	-10.85	95	124
DRINKSTONE TOP GUN PJP1202836	TEXEL	Arnold Park		99	-10.60	96	123
ALLISON 11681 GA:1511681	MEATLING	George Allison		89	-10.30	96	123
SAMPFORDEL HRH:15:00390	SUFFOLK	K A Hill		83	-10.19	95	123
MIDHOPE MASTER CLASS L20:14:00659	SUFFOLK	John Key	Bruce Cook	46	-9.99	94	122

Leading rams for Overall Carcass Merit (2020)

Interpretation: The index for carcass merit provides a ranking of RamCompare sires that takes into account EBVs for carcass weight, carcass conformation and carcass fat class. The index serves as a guide towards the genetic merit of sires used in a typical commercial flock. Actual financial performance will depend on the system, target market and seasonal price fluctuations.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Breeding Index	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
CALLERTON BUGATTI SRC1800618	TEXEL	M D Sym	Matt Hobbs	61	214	88	137
STRATHBOGIE YOU! IJS1600756	TEXEL	James Innes & Sons	Claybury Texels	23	207	73	135
LOWERYE TROUBADOUR 18ZVY04539	CHAROLLAIS	N Oughton		37	197	81	132
CYNIN COUNT DOWN JRP.C030	BELTEX	Unknown	D M & S Prince	33	191	79	130
FOULRICE OSPREY 14DG04650	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son		30	189	67	130
BOGHOUSE V EWE FINDER JKE1405014	TEXEL	K I Johnstone	Osian Rhys	67	179	88	127
PLASUCHA WILL-I-AM BFE1505042	TEXEL	Robert Bennett	T Nesbitt & Son	29	170	75	124
ANTUR AAA1812526	TEXEL	IBERS, University of Wales Aberystwyth		45	168	84	123
GLENWAY MFZ1601173	TEXEL	Ian Murray		33	167	77	123
STONEDGE YDP1801698	TEXEL	D M & S Prince		62	166	88	123
MIDHOPE HANS SOLO L20:16:00992	SUFFOLK	John Key		30	165	82	122
RICHARDSON 14462 UK 0 384606 14462	MEATLINC	C & J P Richardson		92	162	89	122
DALBY RANIERI 16PE04907	CHAROLLAIS	Charles Sercombe		387	154	98	119
RAINBOW STATISTICIAN 17XPU02870	CHAROLLAIS	Andrew Walton		162	152	95	118
BRETTLES RICARDO 16WFO1887	CHAROLLAIS	M M & M L Rushbrooke	Andrew Walton	246	152	96	118
REDHILL 18WGH01892	CHAROLLAIS	Jamie Wild		56	152	69	118
FOULRICE TEMPEST 18DG08105	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son	Andrew Walton	29	146	78	117

Leading rams for Overall Carcass Merit (2016–2020)

Interpretation: The index for carcass merit provides a ranking of RamCompare sires that takes into account EBVs for carcass weight, carcass conformation and carcass fat class. The index serves as a guide towards the genetic merit of sires used in a typical commercial flock. Actual financial performance will depend on the system, target market and seasonal price fluctuations.

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Breeding Index	Accuracy (%)	Standardised Value
GREY PEEL LEAR JET HMF05019	TEXEL	Maurice Hardy-Bishop		30	233	64	143
TURBO BLUE 08441:24891	BLUE TEXEL	J & J Rodenburg		139	219	94	139
CALLERTON BUGATTI SRC1800618	TEXEL	M D Sym	Matt Hobbs	61	214	88	137
ROXBURGH SHOT GUN WILLIE EJR1101108	TEXEL	John Elliot	D M & S Prince	142	209	92	136
STRATHBOGIE YOUI IJS1600756	TEXEL	James Innes & Sons	Claybury Texels	23	207	73	135
ANTUR WYTHABERYST AAA1508227	TEXEL	IBERS, University of Wales Aberystwyth	John Vaughan	27	202	73	134
LOWERYE TROUBADOUR 18ZVY04539	CHAROLLAIS	N Oughton		37	197	81	132
ARKLE PACIFIC STAR WGA092612	TEXEL	G H & G G Wilkinson	Deri Morgan	38	196	77	132
PENYGELLI PAP1501802	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		67	193	88	131
CYNIN COUNT DOWN JRP.C030	BELTEX	Unknown	D M & S Prince	33	191	79	130
FOULRICE OSPREY 14DG04650	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son		30	189	67	130
GAYNES MAJOR CMG06129	TEXEL	Gaynes Park Farm Limited	Trinidad Investments UK Limited	181	188	95	129
BOGHOUSE ULTRA MUSCLE JKE1304414	TEXEL	K I Johnstone	Alwyn Phillips	78	187	90	129
HANDBANK PRH1500573	TEXEL	R M & E A Payne	P L & L F Baber	67	185	89	128
GRANITE UNTOUCHABLE IGM1307611	TEXEL	Bruce Ingram		68	185	88	128

Notes: BLUP run date: 01/03/2021. Analysis type: RamCompare Evaluation

Leading rams for Primal Yield – Front Weight (2016–2020)

Since 2016, we have collected primal yield measures. These tables show the leading sires, based on five years of data.

Top Sires for Front Weight

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
BARNAGE MWB1802626	TEXEL	W K & C A Martyn		66	176	71
WIGFA WHAT'S OCCURRING 17X:18:04103	SUFFOLK	G G Lewis		65	154	76
BUBBLEGUM BUB:1706087	BLUE TEXEL	Charles Sercombe		64	144	72
CRUGYN 18ZPX00583	CHAROLLAIS	Laws & Davies		65	140	73
MAES-GLAS COMPARIO 57U1700953	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	E B & S A Jones		86	140	75
STONEDGE YDP1801698	TEXEL	D M & S Prince		62	136	74
ALLISON 15784 GA:1815784	MEATLINC	George Allison		86	129	76
RUGLEY JER1505263	TEXEL	E A & L Jackson		100	129	84
MISERDEN YOUNG REBEL AAS/15/01680	BLUE TEXEL	A & S Andrews		40	126	75
RUGLEY JER1505286	TEXEL	E A & L Jackson		168	126	86
KIBWORTH BURT REYNOLDS WQM1800508	TEXEL	Mark Waterfield		69	126	72
BOGHOUSE V EWE FINDER JKE1405014	TEXEL	K I Johnstone	Osian Rhys	67	125	76
TURBO BLUE 08441:24891	BLUE TEXEL	J & J Rodenburg		139	120	89
DOOLEY SPARKY DOO:S005	BELTEX	David Thornley	D M & S Prince	83	120	82
USHERS ALEXANDER KX:13301	SHROPSHIRE	A L & M E Webb	R D & C C Forsyth	35	120	73
EAST MIDDLE SUPERIOR SCE1100680	TEXEL	East Middle Farm Partnership	AB Europe	48	120	75
HARDY 17WZW00135	CHAROLLAIS	Dylan & Sian Laws		97	118	75
CANNAHARS PANACHE 15KF00715	CHAROLLAIS	H E G Davies	R S & J A Gregory	60	118	78
WEIR PARK UK 0 369455 08127	TEXEL	P L & L F Baber		105	118	70
MIDHOPE L20:15:00822	SUFFOLK	John Key		95	118	74

Notes: BLUP run date: 01/03/2021. Analysis type: RamCompare Evaluation

Leading rams for Primal Yield – Middle Weight (2016–2020)

Since 2016, we have collected primal yield measures. These tables show the leading sires, based on five years of data.

Top Sires for Middle Weight

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
ANDERSEY 883:170545	SOUTHDOWN	Rob Beaumont		76	168	69
COURT 13090 LEADER 73R13090	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Mike J Adams		90	160	60
KELSEY 18U1600422	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	D Smith & J Atkinson		381	156	84
BALLYCREELLY 007 54S1700875	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Kevin McCarthy		43	154	66
GRAYLEN 1703022 ROMEO 24Y1703022	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Graham & Judith Galbraith	Janet & Brian Hill	30	154	68
DRINKSTONE HEAVY WEIGHT Y68:L8	SUFFOLK	Arnold Park	Irene Fowlie	79	152	78
COURT 12077 GENERAL 73R12077	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Mike J Adams	Simon Williams	83	146	71
GRAYLEN 24Y1502085	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Graham & Judith Galbraith		145	142	70
NORMANBY 27Z1600403	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	C M Brant & Son		229	142	81
SIDWELL CAPTAIN C471700012	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Stuart Friswell		78	140	68
ESSIE H6:16:01143	SUFFOLK	Irene Fowlie		98	138	75
KELSEY 13249 LYSANDER 18U13249	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	D Smith & J Atkinson		97	138	65
DUBLIN CPT IE041594601174F	SUFFOLK	Unknown	Sheep Ireland	25	136	37
YARCOMBE 30N172654	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	H C Derryman & Sons		80	136	66
RIDINGS DANIEL 218:131444	SOUTHDOWN	Wakeham- Dawson & Harmer	Patrick Goldsworthy	36	134	66
GRAYLEN 162594 JAVELIN 24Y1602594	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Graham & Judith Galbraith		42	134	61
DRINKSTONE TOP GUN PJP1202836	TEXEL	Arnold Park		99	132	81
ORTUM TRULINE 78X:12:009	SUFFOLK	Richard Garner		38	132	67
ASPLEY 92W1801650	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	George & Sara Wood		84	132	65
MISERDEN VINNIE AAS/12/00783	BLUE TEXEL	A & S Andrews		50	130	70

Notes: BLUP run date: 01/03/2021. Analysis type: RamCompare Evaluation

Leading rams for Primal Yield – Haunch Weight (2016–2020)

Since 2016, we have collected primal yield measures. These tables show the leading sires, based on five years of data.

Top Sires for Front Weight

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
ANTUR AAA1812526	TEXEL	IBERS, University of Wales Aberystwyth		45	152	73
MILLENNIUM BRONSON MIE1807006	TEXEL	Michelle Moore		97	147	76
CYNIN COUNT DOWN JRP.C030	BELTEX	Unknown	D M & S Prince	33	146	75
YARCOMBE 151738 FLASHMAN 30N1501738	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	H C Derryman & Sons	Kevin McCarthy	34	142	74
BENNIWORTH 03Y1700365	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Simon Williams		71	137	78
DALBY SUPER TROOPER 17PE05884	CHAROLLAIS	Charles Sercombe	Stewart Dunkley	38	137	73
EASYRAM UK 0 304652 06765	SUFFOLK	Robyn Hulme		62	137	76
ALLISON 12503 GA:1612503	MEATLINC	George Allison	Clive & Jenny Richardson	176	130	84
CASTLE KELLY AJAX ILI1700914	TEXEL	James Kelly		119	127	88
RUGLEY JER1505286	TEXEL	E A & L Jackson		168	125	87
WEIR PARK UK 0 369455 08127	TEXEL	P L & L F Baber		105	124	71
FOULRICE OSPREY 14DG04650	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son		30	123	70
GRANITE UNTOUCHABLE IGM1307611	TEXEL	Bruce Ingram		68	123	85
TURBO BLUE 08441:24891	BLUE TEXEL	J & J Rodenburg		139	122	90
ALWENT WEIGHTMAN NTA1501109	TEXEL	Doug Nesbitt		46	122	78
FOULRICE TEMPEST 18DG08105	CHAROLLAIS	C W Marwood & Son	Andrew Walton	29	121	76
STAINTON VANTAGE II WPS1400599	TEXEL	P K Woof	Claybury Texels	59	121	86
RUGLEY JER1505263	TEXEL	E A & L Jackson		100	120	84
YARCOMBE 30N1803071	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	H C Derryman & Sons		98	119	76
GLENWAY YOSEMITE MFZ1601117	TEXEL	Ian Murray		43	119	43

Notes: BLUP run date: 01/03/2021. Analysis type: RamCompare Evaluation

Leading rams for Shear Force (2016–2019)*

Since 2016, we have collected shear force measurements. These tables show the leading sires, based on four years of data. Data has yet to be processed for lambs born in 2020.

Top Sires for Middle Weight

Ram ID	Breed	Breeder	Owner (if different)	Number of progeny	Standardised Value	Accuracy (%)
CROGHAM LAMBERT 11AB00035	CHAROLLAIS	Crogham Charollais Sheep	Bruce Ingram	34	262	85
CANNAHARS PANACHE 15KF00715	CHAROLLAIS	H E G Davies	R S & J A Gregory	60	188	87
ALLISON 9618 GA:149618	MEATLINC	George Allison		101	186	93
ELKSTONE HME1501742	TEXEL	Matt Hobbs		57	184	85
BRETTLES RICARDO 16WF01887	CHAROLLAIS	M M & M L Rushbrooke	Andrew Walton	246	182	94
LOWEREYE 13ZVY00706	CHAROLLAIS	N Oughton		126	172	71
PENYGELLI PAP1501802	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		67	168	92
VINES 3051 EV:1503051	MEATLINC	E R & J E Vines		91	168	94
SAMPFORDEL HRH:17:00582	SUFFOLK	K A Hill		163	166	85
GRAYLEN 24Y1502085	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Graham & Judith Galbraith		145	166	84
BOGHOUSE ULTRA MUSCLE JKE1304414	TEXEL	K I Johnstone	Alwyn Phillips	78	160	94
ALLISON 12571 GA:1612571	MEATLINC	George Allison		83	158	91
PENYGELLI PAP1702610	TEXEL	Alwyn Phillips		58	158	83
POORTON 359:W0374	POLL DORSET	Fooks Brothers	Tim Pratt	156	154	82
TILTON 15YPP01267	CHAROLLAIS	A D & R M Thomas		87	154	87
YARCOMBE 141320 QUADRANT 30N1401320	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	H C Derryman & Sons		328	154	84
WHITEHEAD 14365 GLADIATOR 64T1400365	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	R & K Vincent	Simon Williams	56	150	87
BENNIWORTH 03Y1600346	HAMPSHIRE DOWN	Simon Williams		159	150	86
HAMMERTON 16XUK01665	CHAROLLAIS	Derek Pickles		74	150	90
CASTELLAU 14TZ00843	CHAROLLAIS	T L Prichard		32	150	86

Notes: BLUP run date: 01/03/2021. Analysis type: RamCompare Evaluation

*Due to COVID-19, data for the 2020 lamb crop has yet to be analysed

Next steps for RamCompare

The RamCompare project ran for five years, with the project officially ending in December 2020. During the coming year, and largely due to the goodwill of the farmers involved in the project, a further season of data collection is being undertaken.

During this interim year, we will reassess the performance of progeny by a number of previously tested rams, to understand a little more about robustness of our assessments, as well as testing new rams that were obtained for use by natural service.

In 2021, the next phase of RamCompare will commence. This phase aims to widen the collection of abattoir phenotypes to include data from more farms, while investigating how abattoir traits can be routinely assessed within Signet's Terminal Sire evaluations.

Funding will be available for data collection and artificial insemination (AI), as in previous years and will help to establish additional 'bolt-on' projects where ram breeders and commercial farmers are encouraged to come together to build these valuable industry data sets.

An excellent example of this type of initiative is 'ChazCompare' – a progeny test run by Charollais breeders Andrew Walton and Jamie Wild, providing additional data to RamCompare since 2019.

ChazCompare – Leading the way in the use of abattoir data in pedigree breeding programmes

Over the last two seasons, nearly 1,000 Charollais-cross lambs have been assessed as part of this bolt-on project. This provides an extra level of information to aid ram selection decisions within the Rainbow and Redhill Charollais flocks, as well as demonstrating the value that selective breeding and the use of CT scanning is adding to the commercial rams sold by each flock.



Despite only testing high-genetic-merit Charollais rams, these breeders have already identified a difference of over 1 kg in the average carcass weight of lambs produced by different sires – a difference easily worth an extra £5 per lamb to their commercial customers.

The next phase of RamCompare aims to inspire more breeders to actively follow their example and make greater use of abattoir data within their breeding programmes.



RamCompare is a partnership that brings together many organisations throughout the supply chain to help take genetic evaluation in the UK sheep industry forward. All partners have had an important role in getting RamCompare to this point.

FARMERS

Duncan Nelles
Thistleyhaugh
Northumberland

Ian Robertson
Chawton Park Farm
Hampshire

Mark & Lynne Exelby
The Hutts Farm
Yorkshire

Sion Williams
Bowhill Farming Limited,
Selkirk

Russel & Rhys Edwards
Hendre Ifan Goch Farm
Bridgend

Adrian & Lyn Coombe
Dupath Farm
Cornwall

Richard Parry
Mint & Mustard Produce Ltd
Suffolk

FUNDERS



SUPPORTERS



MAY 2021

AHDB is a statutory levy board, funded by farmers, growers and others in the supply chain. Our purpose is to inspire our farmers, growers and industry to succeed in a rapidly changing world. We equip the industry with easy to use, practical know-how which they can apply straight away to make better decisions and improve their performance. Established in 2008 and classified as a Non-Departmental Public Body, it supports the following industries: meat and livestock (cattle, sheep and pigs) in England; horticulture, milk and potatoes in Great Britain; and cereals and oilseeds in the UK. AHDB's remit covers 72 per cent of total UK agricultural output. Further information on AHDB can be found at www.ahdb.org.uk

While the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board seeks to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate at the time of printing, no warranty is given in respect thereof and, to the maximum extent permitted by law, the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board accepts no liability for loss, damage or injury howsoever caused (including that caused by negligence) or suffered directly or indirectly in relation to information and opinions contained in or omitted from this document.

