



Central Progeny Test Results

2009-10



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KEY:

Sites:	A = Ashley Dene W = Woodlands P = Poukawa	Years:	98 = 1998/1999 season 99 = 1999/2000 season 00 = 2000/2001 season 01 = 2001/2002 season 02 = 2002/2003 season 03 = 2003/2004 season		04 = 2004/2005 season 05 = 2005/2006 season 06 = 2006/2007 season 07 = 2007/2008 season 08 = 2008/2009 season 09 = 2009/2010 season
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BV	Breeding value	GGT21	Facial Eczema
EMA	Eye Muscle Area	NLB	Number of lambs born
FEC or Worm FEC	Faecal Egg Count	FW12	Fleece weight at 12 months of age
Acc	Accuracy value		

The results presented in this booklet comprise the top terminal and top dual purpose rams for each index or trait. The Central Progeny Test Growth Index is based on weaning weight and carcass weight breeding values. The Central Progeny Test Meat Value Index is based on the breeding values for weight of meat in the leg, loin and shoulder lean as measured by VIAscan®.

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For information relating to the Beef + Lamb New Zealand Central Progeny Test, information on the source of individual rams, or if you want Central Progeny Test results presented to a farmer's meeting, contact:

Dr Andy Bray Beef + Lamb New Zealand 1/585 Wairakei Road Harewood P O Box 39085 Christchurch 8545	Phone: (03) 357 3090 Email: andy.bray@beeflambnz.com
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INTRODUCTION

Background

Progeny tests are used to 'prove' the genetics of a ram by comparing how his progeny perform relative to progeny from other rams under the same conditions. Rams can be compared across multiple flocks by using the same rams across sites (often called reference sires) that create genetic connections between flocks. However, there are good reasons to run a progeny test at a central location, usually termed a "central progeny test". Reasons include facilitating comparisons of rams that would not normally be made in industry, and the use of novel or expensive measurement methods.

Objectives

The Beef + Lamb New Zealand Central Progeny Test has four objectives:

- Identify sources of high performing rams by extending and strengthening comparisons across flocks and breeding groups
- Develop genetic parameters for, and industry understanding of, novel traits
- Foster links between ram breeding groups
- Provide a genetic resource for add-on projects of value to sheep farmers and allied industries

This report addresses the first objective.

The Central Progeny Test was not set up as a breed comparison, but rather as a **ram** comparison. It has focused on identifying the best genetics regardless of breed. Breed comparisons require testing many randomly selected rams per breed, with few progeny per ram. The Central Progeny Test has used a small number of rams, with a greater number of progeny per ram, from as many breeds as possible, to improve genetic connections within the New Zealand sheep industry.

Genetic connections between breeding groups established through the Central Progeny Test have been used in large scale evaluations performed across flocks and across breeds by Sheep Improvement Ltd (SIL). These are the "SIL-ACE" (SIL Advanced Central Evaluation; www.sil.co.nz/Latest-reports.aspx) evaluations. Central Progeny Test data has provided critical genetic connections for this to be undertaken.

History of the Central Progeny Test

In 2002, the "Alliance Central Progeny Test ®" was established at Woodlands, in Southland, with significant investment from the Alliance Group and the collaboration of AgResearch, SIL and AbacusBio. Terminal sire and dual purpose rams were sourced from industry and mated to Coopworth or Coopworth-cross ewes. Lambs were assessed for growth rate and carcass merit, making use of Alliance's VIAscan® technology for carcass assessment. This was repeated in 2003, with the addition of a second site at Ashley Dene in collaboration with Lincoln University. Lambs continued to be assessed for growth rate and carcass merit.

In 2004 there was a change to include maternal traits for dual purpose rams. Dual purpose rams were mated to sufficient ewes to generate female progeny to be retained for assessment of maternal traits. Surplus females and all male lambs were assessed for growth rate and carcass merit. Funding for the work with female progeny was provided by the then Meat & Wool New Zealand. In 2005 a third site was established at Poukawa (Hawkes Bay) with On-Farm Research and historic weaning and carcass weight data from the Poukawa Elite Lamb programme (1998 to 2004) were added to the analysis.

From 2005, matings and measurements have been carried out using the same protocols at all three sites. Funding for the Central Progeny Test is now provided by Beef + Lamb New Zealand and the programme is known as the B+LNZ Central Progeny Test. The results in the following tables are based on analysis of data from all rams evaluated to date. Results are presented as two indexes (Central Progeny Test Growth Index and Central Progeny Test Meat Value Index) and individual breeding values for traits of interest.

Changes to the presentation of results for 2009/2010 born progeny

There have been no changes to the traits presented or the format of the results compared to last year's results booklet. A ram 'aging' policy was introduced two years ago, whereby rams that are older than ten years of age **and** have no progeny born in SIL-recorded flocks in the last four years are not listed regardless of their ranking. This means that the rams listed are currently, or were recently, available.

The term for breeding value has been changed from "BV" to "eBV" (for "estimated breeding value") in this booklet. This is because breeding values based on DNA tests ("molecular breeding values") are being released and there is the need to distinguish between the different types of breeding value.

Accuracies of breeding values are also presented this year for all breeding values. They appear in parentheses beside the breeding value in the tables. Information on what accuracies are and how they are to be used is included in an article on page 17 entitled "Breeding Value Accuracies".

There is a new summary table for dual purpose rams this year. It lists the top 19 rams on the basis of their dual purpose performance. The table includes the "Dual Purpose Production" (DPP) index, the sub-indexes that make up the DPP index, and the WormFEC and facial eczema breeding values, all of which are expressed in dollar terms.

Within this booklet, SIL across-flock breeding values have been calculated from an across flock analysis of the three Central Progeny Test flocks for weaning weight; WormFEC and fleece weight. SIL-ACE breeding values (i.e. including data outside the Central Progeny Test) are used where the breeding value needs greater numbers of records to improve the accuracy of breeding values, namely for number of lambs born and facial eczema breeding values. All other breeding values are estimated using Central Progeny Test data in stand-alone analyses. These include breeding values for the traits: hindleg lean; loin lean; shoulder lean; carcass weight; and eye muscle area.

Breeding values for the traits dressing percentage, pH, meat colour and fat colour are presented only in the table of the top 20 dual purpose and terminal sire rams overall. They will continue to be measured so that the genetic relationships between these quality traits and growth and yield traits can be monitored.

In all of the dual purpose results tables (with the exception of the number of lambs born table) there is a ram called "1980s Sires". These are the average results for a group of five leading Romney rams from the early 1980s that the Central Progeny Test obtained using semen held in storage by AgResearch. The results are interesting in that they give an indication of the genetic improvement that has accumulated over the last three decades.

HOW TO UNDERSTAND CENTRAL PROGENY TEST RESULTS

This booklet contains breeding values and indexes for rams used in the Alliance Central Progeny Test® and B+LNZ Central Progeny Test. In addition, rams used in the Elite Lamb programme at Poukawa from 1998 to 2004 have been included for the evaluation of growth. A total of 193 rams have been evaluated in the Central Progeny Test to date, and the breeding values for the **top 25 terminal sire and top 25 dual purpose rams** are presented for each trait or index.

A breeding value is an estimate of the animal's true genetic worth, or the value of a parent's genes, half of which are passed on to its offspring. A breeding value does not necessarily reflect the observed performance of the animal itself because the observed performance is a combination of both the animal's genes and effects of the environment it has been raised in.

Breeding values that were sourced from SIL or SIL-ACE (i.e. weaning weight, WormFEC, numbers of lambs born and facial eczema) are adjusted so the average of animals born in 1995

was zero. Central Progeny Test breeding values and indexes presented here are given as deviations from an average of zero, which means that half of the rams tested will have negative breeding values.

To give an example of how to use a breeding value, if a ram has a breeding value of +1.0kg for weaning weight, we would expect the progeny to be 0.5 kg heavier at weaning (the sire provides half of the genes) than the progeny of the average ram in the Central Progeny Test. Likewise, if a ram has a breeding value of -1.0kg for weaning weight, we would expect his progeny to be 0.5kg lighter than the Central Progeny Test average. A negative breeding value for weaning weight does not necessarily mean that the ram is poor for growth rate, e.g. many dual purpose rams do not have the high growth rates found in the terminal sire breeds because they have been selected for many other traits. Thus, some of the better dual purpose rams for growth have negative breeding values because higher values are more likely to be for terminal sire rams.

A breeding index is simply a way of adding together the breeding values for a number of traits, but with an economic weighting applied to each breeding value so that the best economic response is achieved. For example, the Central Progeny Test Growth Index is a combination of the weaning weight and carcass weight breeding values.

Some Central Progeny Test breeding values and indexes differ from those produced by the SIL genetic evaluation system in several ways. The Central Progeny Test collects additional measurements which are not routinely collected in the wider industry. For example, the Central Progeny Test Meat Value Index is based on the weight of meat in each of the hindleg, loin and shoulder cuts as measured by the VIAscan® grading system.

For further information on breeding values, indexes and selection, visit the SIL website (www.sil.co.nz). Follow the link to “Technical Information” to find the SIL Users Manual and a number of technical documents.

Historical weaning and carcass weight data have been included from the Poukawa Elite Lamb programme making it possible to include these rams in the Central Progeny Test Growth Index. However, no results for these rams can now be reported because they do not meet the Central Progeny Test aging policy.

Central Progeny Test results are also available to download on the B+LNZ website (www.beeflambnz.co.nz; follow the links “Farm”, “Genetics” and Central Progeny Test” results.

CENTRAL PROGENY TEST GROWTH INDEX (\$)

Terminal:

Range: -\$1.14 to \$3.94

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	Growth Index	Rank
296/05	Waikite / Esselmont & Tamlet	Texel	A09	33	\$3.94	1
241/04	Ohio Poll Dorset	Poll Dorset	A08	37	\$3.51	2
447/03	Blackdale Stud	Texel	P06	43	\$3.49	3
570/06	MegaMeat Glengarry	Poll Dorset	P08	98	\$3.21	4
*128/97	Punchbowl	Suffolk	W03	38	\$3.00	5
341/05	Premier Suffolk	Suffolk	W09	37	\$2.99	6
17/02	Tyanee	Suffolk	P06	106	\$2.98	7
4012/99	Bilberry Oaks	Hampshire	W02 W03	55	\$2.93	8
430/03	Glengarry	Poll Dorset	A05 P05 W05	126	\$2.93	9
299/01	Ohio Poll Dorset	Poll Dorset	A04	39	\$2.74	10
25/99	Tyanee	Suffolk	Link sire	735	\$2.73	11
402/07	MegaMeat Glengarry	Poll Dorset	P09	113	\$2.54	12
211/98	Kurralea	Poll Dorset	W02	28	\$2.50	13
767/99	Darenal	Dorset Down	A03	14	\$2.45	14
275/04	Goldstream	Suffolk	A07	53	\$2.43	15
33/04	Myola	South Suffolk	P06	60	\$2.39	16
231/97	Bankhead	Southdown	A05	53	\$2.36	17
3091/03	One Stop Ram Shop	Texel/Suffolk	P09	36	\$2.22	18
1010/03	Punchbowl	Suffolk	W07	34	\$2.19	19
120/00	Glendhu	Dorset Down	W03	34	\$2.14	20
*419/96	Punchbowl	Suffolk	W02	13	\$2.08	21
X0050/87	Sheepac	Oxford	W03	31	\$2.05	22
61/04	Twin Farm	Suffolk	W06	31	\$2.00	23
35/01	Glengarry	Poll Dorset	A03 W03	39	\$1.96	24
14/07	Torresdale (NZ Suffolk)	Suffolk	A09	39	\$1.95	25

Dual Purpose:

Range: -\$3.66 to \$2.63

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	Growth Index	Rank
D110/04	Blackdale Stud	Textra	W07	85	\$2.63	1
2165/97	Wairere	Romney	W02 W03 A04	127	\$1.03	2
50394/06	Kelso	Kelso Composite	A08 W09	109	\$1.01	3
409/06	Blythburn	Romney	W09	69	\$0.98	4
742/04	Cairnlea	Coopworth	W07	79	\$0.85	5
245/04	Tamlet	Coopworth	W09	70	\$0.84	6
23253/05	Longdowns	Composite	W08	70	\$0.69	7
232/01	TRIGG	Romney	W03	21	\$0.57	8
542/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	W06	66	\$0.33	9
1233/02	SRDG Romney	Romney	W08	34	\$0.23	10
777/05	Tamlet	Coopworth	W08	80	\$0.17	11
301/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	A08	51	\$0.16	12
5093/99	Meadowslea	Romney	A03	24	\$0.14	13
426/99	Mt Guardian	Perendale	W03	22	\$0.14	14
HG552/02	Clifton	Corriedale	A05	123	\$0.09	15
55/01	Bonnieview	Perendale	W05	60	\$0.07	16
D611/04	Glenovis	Corriedale	A07	95	\$0.03	17
1218/06	Hinenui	Coopworth	A09	71	\$0.03	18
1227/06	Ngaputahi	Growbulk	P09	151	-\$0.03	19
300/03	MNCC	Coopworth	W05	67	-\$0.06	20
358/04	MNCC	Coopworth	P07	99	-\$0.08	21
2247/04	Rosedale	Growbulk	W07	74	-\$0.09	22
833/02	Tamlet	Coopworth	W05 W06	133	-\$0.10	23
493/00	Hazeldale	Perendale	W03	23	-\$0.15	24
97/02	Raywell	Borderdale	A03 A04	79	-\$0.20	25
5 sires	1980s sires	Romney	W07	32	-\$2.53	84

This index is a terminal sire growth index based on weaning and carcass weight breeding values

CENTRAL PROGENY TEST MEAT VALUE INDEX (\$)

Terminal:

Range: -\$2.17 to \$5.52

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	Meat Value Index	Rank
530/05	Grasmere	Texel	P08	39	\$5.52	1
299/00	Landcorp Waikite	Texel	W02 W03	58	\$3.55	2
110/03	Murray Downs	Texel	W05	37	\$2.80	3
275/04	Goldstream	Suffolk	A07	54	\$2.78	4
114/03	Landcorp Kepler	Lamb Supreme	A05	33	\$2.47	5
101/03	Landover	Texel	W07	21	\$2.46	6
XA2/99	The Burn	Texel	W02	22	\$2.41	7
52/04	Mount Linton	Suftex	W06	32	\$2.26	8
911/99	Murray Downs	Texel	W03	31	\$2.12	9
44/02	WTD	Texel	P05	50	\$2.05	10
296/05	Waikite / Esselmont & Tamlet	Texel	A09	32	\$1.99	11
1296/03	Mount Linton	Texel Cross	W05	41	\$1.97	12
299/01	Ohio Poll Dorset	Poll Dorset	A04	34	\$1.96	13
400/00	Brandes Burton	Texel	W02 W04	62	\$1.94	14
570/06	MegaMeat Glengarry	Poll Dorset	P08	83	\$1.87	15
122/05	Blackdale Stud	Texel	W08	40	\$1.79	16
60159/07	Kelso	Kelso Ranger	A09	36	\$1.68	17
48/05	Premier Suffolk	Suffolk	W08	37	\$1.67	18
1694/05	Landcorp Kepler	Lamb Supreme	P09	28	\$1.54	19
70/01	Torresdale (NZ Suffolk)	Suffolk	W05	40	\$1.52	20
3091/03	One Stop Ram Shop	Texel/Suffolk	P09	33	\$1.51	21
021/01	Broken Hut	Texel	A03	29	\$1.51	22
269/04	Dorper	Dorper	W08	41	\$1.46	23
T210/04	Wharetoa	Meatmaker	W06	34	\$1.39	24
25/99	Tyanea	Suffolk	Link sire	677	\$1.39	25

Dual Purpose:

Range: -\$3.21 to \$3.36

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	Meat Value Index	Rank
D110/04	Blackdale Stud	Textra	W07	39	\$3.36	1
50394/06	Kelso	Kelso Composite	A08 W09	51	\$2.24	2
4203/02	Kelso	Kelso	P06	39	\$1.41	3
386/03	Rene	Perendale	A07	33	\$1.27	4
569/07	Longview Perendale	Perendale	P09	84	\$1.05	5
88/02	TRIGG	Romney	W05	26	\$1.01	6
23253/05	Longdowns	Composite	W08	21	\$0.93	7
431/04	Twin Farm	TEFRom	W07	22	\$0.89	8
179/07	Wattlebank	Corriedale	A09	34	\$0.88	9
401/05	Hazeldale	Perendale	W08	38	\$0.71	10
1227/06	Ngaputahi	Growbulk	P09	82	\$0.70	11
542/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	W06	29	\$0.70	12
358/04	MNCC	Coopworth	P07	43	\$0.62	13
132/01	Kelso	Kelso	W03	31	\$0.48	14
1218/06	Hinenui	Coopworth	A09	34	\$0.47	15
11/01	Little River	Cheviot	A03 W03	60	\$0.28	16
301/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	A08	21	\$0.28	17
435/98	Kelso	Kelso	W02	29	\$0.27	18
781/00	Shoreford	Romney	W03	30	\$0.27	19
138/01	Edale	Growbulk	A03	34	\$0.27	20
55/01	Bonnieview	Perendale	W05	20	\$0.25	21
574/06	Kylemore	Perendale	A08	21	\$0.22	22
34/01	Twin Farm	TEFRom	W03 W06	51	\$0.15	23
107/97	Strathblane	Corriedale	A03	15	\$0.10	24
774/02	Flockton	Perendale	A04	37	\$0.09	25
5 sires	1980s sires	Romney	W07	18	-\$0.62	48

The relative value for meat in the loin was 4x that of meat in the shoulder and 2x that of meat in hindleg

WEANING WEIGHT EBV* (KG)

Terminal:

Range: -4.46 to 4.69

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	WWT eBV (Acc)	Rank
17/02	Tyane	Suffolk	P06	106	4.69 (88)	1
296/05	Waikite / Esselmont & Tamlet	Texel	A09	33	4.39 (75)	2
447/03	Blackdale Stud	Texel	P06	43	4.12 (80)	3
341/05	Premier Suffolk	Suffolk	W09	37	3.80 (77)	4
25/99	Tyane	Suffolk	Link sire	735	3.59 (98)	5
231/97	Bankhead	Southdown	A05	53	3.46 (82)	6
33/04	Myola	South Suffolk	P06	60	3.36 (84)	7
430/03	Glengarry	Poll Dorset	A05 P05 W05	126	3.35 (91)	8
402/07	MegaMeat Glengarry	Poll Dorset	P09	113	3.34 (89)	9
767/99	Darenal	Dorset Down	A03	14	3.26 (78)	10
*128/97	Punchbowl	Suffolk	W03	38	3.24 (86)	11
211/98	Kurralea	Poll Dorset	W02	28	3.20 (83)	12
4012/99	Bilberry Oaks	Hampshire	W02 W03	55	3.18 (85)	13
570/06	MegaMeat Glengarry	Poll Dorset	P08	98	3.14 (88)	14
1010/03	Punchbowl	Suffolk	W07	34	2.99 (77)	15
X0050/87	Sheepac	Oxford	W03	31	2.92 (77)	16
*419/96	Punchbowl	Suffolk	W02	13	2.90 (78)	17
241/04	Ohio Poll Dorset	Poll Dorset	A08	37	2.79 (77)	18
3091/03	One Stop Ram Shop	Texel/Suffolk	P09	36	2.77 (78)	19
77/95	Douglas Downs	Dorset Horn	W02 W04	121	2.76 (91)	20
275/04	Goldstream	Suffolk	A07	53	2.71 (81)	21
236/07	Pahiwi	Suffolk	P09	100	2.62 (88)	22
14/07	Torresdale (NZ Suffolk)	Suffolk	A09	39	2.45 (78)	23
169/02	Ohio Poll Dorset	Poll Dorset	W06	37	2.41 (77)	24
514/00	Linton	Poll Dorset	W04	46	2.41 (81)	25

Dual Purpose:

Range: -4.46 to 3.08

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	WWT eBV (Acc)	Rank
D110/04	Blackdale Stud	Textra	W07	85	3.08 (88)	1
409/06	Blythburn	Romney	W09	69	1.77 (85)	2
742/04	Cairnlea	Coopworth	W07	79	1.70 (88)	3
232/01	TRIGG	Romney	W03	21	1.37 (71)	4
50394/06	Kelso	Kelso Composite	A08 W09	109	1.17 (90)	5
1233/02	SRDG Romney	Romney	W08	34	1.14 (78)	6=
245/04	Tamlet	Coopworth	W09	70	1.14 (85)	6=
2165/97	Wairere	Romney	W02 W03 A04	127	1.05 (92)	8
HG552/02	Clifton	Corriedale	A05	123	0.93 (90)	9
D611/04	Glenovis	Corriedale	A07	95	0.90 (87)	10
23253/05	Longdowns	Composite	W08	70	0.81 (86)	11=
833/02	Tamlet	Coopworth	W05 W06	133	0.81 (92)	11=
531/98	Wharetoa	Coopworth	W03	48	0.70 (84)	13
542/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	W06	66	0.57 (86)	14
97/02	Raywell	Borderdale	A03 A04	79	0.52 (88)	15
2247/04	Rosedale	Growbulk	W07	74	0.48 (88)	16
5093/99	Meadowslea	Romney	A03	24	0.44 (72)	17
781/00	Shoreford	Romney	W03	43	0.40 (83)	18
358/04	MNCC	Coopworth	P07	99	0.28 (89)	19=
1227/06	Ngaputahi	Growbulk	P09	151	0.28 (91)	19=
4334/07	Landcorp Waihora	Romney	W09	43	0.23 (81)	21
4399/06	Landcorp Waihora	Romney	P08	63	0.21 (85)	22
107/97	Strathblane	Corriedale	A03	15	0.18 (66)	23
55/01	Bonnieview	Perendale	W05	60	0.17 (86)	24
512/05	Kamahi	Perendale	W07	28	0.09 (77)	25=
301/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	A08	51	0.09 (82)	25=
5 sires	1980s sires	Romney	W07	32	-3.50 (79)	87

*SIL eBV. The average weaning weight was 29.6kg

WORMFEC EBV* (%)

Terminal:

Range: -39.12% to 93.8%

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	WormFEC eBV (Acc)	Rank
299/00	Landcorp Waikite	Texel	W02 W03	26	-39.12 (76)	1
E-140/00	Turnberry	Composite	W02	10	-39.06 (57)	2
44/02	WTD	Texel	P05	14	-30.86 (58)	3
3/04	Egilshay	Texel	A08	32	-24.76 (71)	4
77/95	Douglas Downs	Dorset Horn	W02 W04	23	-21.78 (75)	5
61/97	Oringi	Oxford Down	A04	32	-21.29 (74)	6
167/02	MEBA	Texel	W04	16	-21.26 (70)	7
110/03	Murray Downs	Texel	W05	16	-21.06 (60)	8
9/03	Pahiwi	Suffolk	P05	15	-20.60 (61)	9
X0050/87	Sheepac	Oxford	W03	11	-20.27 (58)	10
49/05	MegaMeat	Poll Dorset	P07	16	-17.53 (61)	11
252/05	Brandes Burton	Texel	W09	14	-17.39 (58)	12
19/03	Tasvic Downs	Southdown	P05	15	-16.65 (59)	13
929/00	Craig Annat	South Suffolk	W02	10	-15.39 (58)	14
65/03	Pahiwi	Suffolk	A06	36	-15.35 (74)	15
165/00	Torresdale (NZ Suffolk)	Suffolk	W02	7	-13.81 (53)	16
18/02	Brandes Burton	Texel	A07	25	-13.06 (67)	17
14/07	Torresdale (NZ Suffolk)	Suffolk	A09	16	-11.56 (60)	18
62/02	Silverstream	Dorset Down	W05	16	-11.49 (60)	19
127/05	Douglas Downs	Poll Dorset	W07	16	-11.46 (62)	20
911/99	Murray Downs	Texel	W03	16	-11.28 (67)	21
400/00	Brandes Burton	Texel	W02 W04	26	-9.57 (71)	22
78/02	Lincoln	Dorset Down	W04	16	-8.35 (59)	23
120/00	Glendhu	Dorset Down	W03	16	-8.17 (65)	24
48/05	Premier Suffolk	Suffolk	W08	16	-7.75 (61)	25

Dual Purpose:

Range: -60.43% to 86.6%

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	WormFEC eBV (Acc)	Rank
386/03	Rene	Perendale	A07	25	-60.43 (71)	1
722/03	Rose Mains	Perendale	W05	16	-50.75 (72)	2
649/01	ARDG Romney	Romney	P06	8	-43.97 (53)	3
4014/96	Waihora	Romney	W04	16	-41.54 (68)	4
1127/95	Awareka	Romney	W03	14	-40.49 (63)	5
5 sires	1980s sires	Romney	W07	16	-40.48 (68)	6
348/06	Sponsored Romney	Romney	A08	58	-40.18 (78)	7
4203/02	Kelso	Kelso	P06	8	-38.38 (52)	8
JL1695/1	WRIG	Romney	P05	13	-35.23 (57)	9
417/04	ARDG	Romney	P08	34	-32.78 (52)	10
1035/02	Newhaven	Perendale	W04	16	-31.84 (72)	11
50394/06	Kelso	Kelso Composite	A08 W09	37	-31.51 (77)	12
664/98	ARDG Elite	Romney	W03	15	-31.22 (64)	13
850/00	Hillcrest	Perendale	W03	16	-30.87 (66)	14
300/03	MNCC	Coopworth	W05	16	-30.65 (71)	15
706/00	Lincoln	Coopworth	link sire	405	-28.29 (97)	16
574/06	Kylemore	Perendale	A08	28	-28.09 (70)	17
34/02	Wai-Iti Romneys	Romney	P06	8	-27.61 (53)	18
1617/04	Awareka	Romney	W07	16	-27.16 (74)	19
132/01	Kelso	Kelso	W03	16	-26.04 (65)	20
147/01	Tresco	Romney	W05	17	-24.92 (67)	21
D110/04	Blackdale Stud	Textra	W07	16	-24.90 (74)	22
5093/99	Meadowslea	Romney	A03	16	-23.94 (61)	23
179/07	Wattlebank	Corriedale	A09	27	-18.86 (69)	24
1235/00	Strathblane	Corriedale	A04	42	-18.28 (79)	25

* SIL eBV. WormFEC breeding values are expressed as a percentage reduction in eggs shed.

EYE MUSCLE AREA EBV (cm²)

Terminal:

Range: -1.02 to 3.58

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	EMA eBV(Acc)	Rank
299/00	Landcorp Waikite	Texel	W02 W03	58	3.58 (95)	1
299/01	Ohio Poll Dorset	Poll Dorset	A04	34	3.15 (91)	2
114/03	Landcorp Kelper	Landcorp Lamb Supreme	A05	33	3.06 (91)	3
2002/02	Mount Linton	Texel Cross	A04	34	2.66 (91)	4
34/06	Southern Poll Dorset	Poll Dorset	W08	50	2.57 (91)	5
1694/05	Landcorp Kepler	Lamb Supreme	P09	28	2.57 (89)	6
530/05	Grasmere	Texel	P08	39	2.42 (90)	7
570/06	MegaMeat Glengarry	Poll Dorset	P08	83	2.41 (94)	8
91892/05	Kelso	Kelso Ranger	P08	52	2.32 (92)	9
106/99	Ohio Poll Dorset	Poll Dorset	W02	45	2.31 (92)	10
127/05	Douglas Downs	Poll Dorset	W07	32	2.30 (88)	11
021/01	Broken Hut	Texel	A03	29	1.95 (90)	12
T210/04	Wharetoa	Meatmaker	W06	34	1.89 (89)	13
65/03	Pahiwi	Suffolk	A06	53	1.88 (93)	14=
3/04	Egilshay	Texel	A08	69	1.88 (93)	14=
430/03	Glengarry	Poll Dorset	A05 P05 W05	117	1.81 (96)	16
458/02	Waikite	Texel	A06	42	1.78 (92)	17
485/05	Mount Linton	Texel/Poll Dorset	W09	20	1.78 (85)	18
18/02	Brandes Burton	Texel	A07	60	1.72 (93)	19
341/05	Premier Suffolk	Suffolk	W09	37	1.70 (89)	20
275/04	Goldstream	Suffolk	A07	54	1.68 (93)	21
89/05	South Suffolk Breeders	South Suffolk	A08	29	1.65 (89)	22
19/03	Tasvic Downs	Southdown	P05	60	1.59 (93)	23
110/03	Murray Downs	Texel	W05	37	1.55 (89)	24
252/05	Brandes Burton	Texel	W09	24	1.54 (87)	25

Dual Purpose:

Range: -2.85 to 2.27

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	EMA eBV (Acc)	Rank
D110/04	Blackdale Stud	Textra	W07	39	2.27 (91)	1
1560/03	The Gree	Greeline	W06	24	2.04 (90)	2
23253/05	Longdowns	Composite	W08	21	1.97 (87)	3
138/01	Edale	Growbulk	A03	34	0.91 (90)	4
2247/04	Rosedale	Growbulk	W07	35	0.86 (91)	5
722/03	Rose Mains	Perendale	W05	36	0.65 (93)	6
5203/04	Marlow	Coopworth	W08	14	0.64 (81)	7
55/01	Bonnieview	Perendale	W05	20	0.54 (89)	8
1127/95	Awareka	Romney	W03	19	0.53 (86)	9
542/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	W06	29	0.51 (91)	10
426/99	Mt Guardian	Perendale	W03	19	0.36 (87)	11
401/05	Hazeldale	Perendale	W08	38	0.33 (91)	12
107/97	Strathblane	Corriedale	A03	15	0.25 (83)	13
85/00	Tahakita	Coopworth	W04 A04	75	0.22 (96)	14
11/01	Little River	Cheviot	A03 W03	60	0.16 (94)	15
300/03	MNCC	Coopworth	W05	27	0.15 (91)	16
409/06	Blythburn	Romney	W09	38	0.08 (90)	17
569/07	Longview Perendale	Perendale	P09	84	0.07 (94)	18
115/05	ARDG Romney	Romney	P09	51	0.02 (92)	19
JL1695/1	WRIG	Romney	P05	36	0.02 (90)	20
4203/02	Kelso	Kelso	P06	39	-0.02 (93)	21
435/98	Kelso	Kelso	W02	29	-0.08 (90)	22
5 sires	1980s sires	Romney	W07	18	-0.11 (86)	23
214/05	TRIGG Romney	Romney	W08	31	-0.16 (89)	24
833/02	Tamlet	Coopworth	W05 W06	54	-0.22 (95)	25

The average eye muscle area was 11.7cm².

NUMBER OF LAMBS BORN EBV*

Dual Purpose:

Range: -0.294 to 0.551

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Daughters lambd	NLB eBV (Acc)	Rank
742/04	Cairnlea	Coopworth	W07	156	0.551 (90)	1
1617/04	Awareka	Romney	W07	157	0.433 (91)	2
147/01	Tresco	Romney	W05	217	0.377 (95)	3
300/03	MNCC	Coopworth	W05	276	0.292 (95)	4
313/01	Valley	Coopworth	W04	80	0.289 (89)	5
84/04	ARDG Elite	Romney	P07	68	0.287 (82)	6
4014/96	Waihora	Romney	W04	403	0.278 (98)	7
1560/03	The Gree	Greeline	W06	107	0.277 (90)	8
1035/02	Newhaven	Perendale	W04	184	0.262 (95)	9
358/04	MNCC	Coopworth	P07	99	0.259 (87)	10
278/03	MNCC	Coopworth	W06	70	0.234 (85)	11
422/00	Wattlebank	Corriedale	A04 A05	184	0.232 (95)	12
431/04	Twin Farm	TEFRom	W07	104	0.217 (88)	13
706/00	Lincoln	Coopworth	Link sire	302	0.213 (95)	14
D611/04	Glenovis	Corriedale	A07	58	0.206 (79)	15
722/03	Rose Mains	Perendale	W05	105	0.189 (91)	16
18/04	White Rock	Corriedale	A06	40	0.183 (78)	17
2247/04	Rosedale	Growbulk	W07	104	0.182 (87)	18
34/01	Twin Farm	TEFRom	W03 W06	110	0.174 (91)	19
457/00	Nithdale	Romney	W06	278	0.152 (96)	20
627/01	TRIGG	Romney	A06	167	0.131 (94)	21
833/02	Tamlet	Coopworth	W05 W06	278	0.130 (96)	22

**SIL ACE eBV. Results are presented for rams with at least 20 daughters with two-tooth lambing records. Only 44 sires qualify to date.*

FLEECE WEIGHT EBV*

Dual Purpose:

Range: -0.78 to 0.81

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	FW12 eBV (Acc)	Rank
742/04	Cairnlea	Coopworth	W07	40	0.81 (85)	1
1832/02	Awareka	Romney	W04 A04	28	0.60 (86)	2
313/01	Valley	Coopworth	W04	32	0.53 (86)	3
531/98	Wharetoa	Coopworth	W03	18	0.48 (81)	4
278/03	MNCC	Coopworth	W06	30	0.38 (84)	5
706/00	Lincoln	Coopworth	Link sire	224	0.35 (97)	6
348/06	Sponsored Romney	Romney	A08	44	0.31 (84)	7=
1617/04	Awareka	Romney	W07	36	0.31 (84)	7=
781/00	Shoreford	Romney	W03	13	0.30 (76)	9
5828/02	Waihora	Romney	W04	42	0.28 (88)	10=
358/04	MNCC	Coopworth	P07	46	0.28 (83)	10=
4399/06	Landcorp Waihora	Romney	P08	28	0.27 (80)	12
5203/04	Marlow	Coopworth	W08	27	0.25 (81)	13
211/99	Blackdale Stud	Coopworth	W03	18	0.23 (80)	14
218/02	Waiohine	Romney	P07	47	0.20 (84)	15=
2165/97	Wairere	Romney	W02 W03 A04	4	0.20 (74)	15=
833/02	Tamlet	Coopworth	W05 W06	30	0.17 (87)	17=
1233/02	SRDG Romney	Romney	W08	15	0.17 (74)	17=
4/06	Corriedale	Corriedale	A08	21	0.16 (78)	19
18/04	White Rock	Corriedale	A06	37	0.13 (84)	20
457/00	Nithdale	Romney	W06	17	0.12 (78)	21
512/05	Kamahi	Perendale	W07	13	0.08 (71)	22
627/01	TRIGG	Romney	A06	34	0.02 (84)	23
D611/04	Glenovis	Corriedale	A07	39	0.00 (79)	24
1560/03	The Gree	Greeline	W06	29	-0.01 (84)	25
5 sires	1980s sires	Romney	W07	10	-0.48 (70)	71

**SIL eBV. Breeding values for fleece weight at 12 months of age. Average fleece weight was 3.17kg.*

FACIAL ECZEMA EBV*

Dual Purpose:

Range: -1.06 to 0.99

TAG	Flock	Breed	Sites	Progeny	GGT21 eBV (Acc)	Rank
649/01	ARDG Romney	Romney	P06	5	-1.06 (90)	1
115/05	ARDG Romney	Romney	P09	5	-0.98 (78)	2
4399/06	Landcorp Waihora	Romney	P08	5	-0.93 (87)	3
4334/07	Landcorp Waihora	Romney	W09	5	-0.67 (85)	4
179/07	Wattlebank	Corriedale	A09	5	-0.62 (60)	5
358/04	MNCC	Coopworth	P07	5	-0.60 (80)	6
214/05	TRIGG Romney	Romney	W08	5	-0.54 (57)	7
34/01	Twin Farm	TEFRom	W03 W06	5	-0.53 (37)	8
50394/06	Kelso	Kelso Composite	A08 W09	5	-0.52 (57)	9
278/03	MNCC	Coopworth	W06	5	-0.47 (79)	10
5203/04	Marlow	Coopworth	W08	5	-0.47 (79)	11
722/03	Rose Mains	Perendale	W05	5	-0.44 (65)	12
4203/02	Kelso	Kelso	P06	5	-0.38 (56)	13
218/02	Waiohine	Romney	P07	5	-0.33 (56)	14
348/06	Sponsored Romney	Romney	A08	5	-0.28 (58)	15
569/07	Longview Perendale	Perendale	P09	5	-0.27 (49)	16
706/00	Lincoln	Coopworth	Link sire	60	-0.27 (92)	17
55/01	Bonnieview	Perendale	W05	5	-0.26 (75)	18
4/06	Corriedale	Corriedale	A08	5	-0.24 (61)	19
417/04	ARDG Romney	Romney	P08	5	-0.24 (83)	20
18/04	White Rock	Corriedale	A06	5	-0.20 (56)	21
512/05	Kamahi	Perendale	W07	5	-0.19 (18)	22
542/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	W06	5	-0.14 (60)	23
480/04	Viewhill	Romney	A09	5	-0.14 (64)	24
301/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	A08	5	-0.13 (62)	25
5 sires	1980s sires	Romney	W07	5	0.00 (8)	36

SIL ACE eBV. Breeding values are expressed as the amount of the liver enzyme GGT (Gamma glutamyl transferase) present 21 days after challenging progeny with sporidesmin. GGT indicates the amount of liver damage, so low (more negative) breeding values indicate resistance to facial eczema.

Facial eczema measurements have only been collected from dual purpose sires for five years, so 57 rams have been evaluated to date.

TOP 20 TERMINAL RAMS FOR MEAT AND GROWTH

ID	Flock	Breed	Progeny	Meat & growth index* (\$)	Meat Value Index (\$)	Growth Index (\$)	WWT eBV (kg)	Worm FEC eBV (%)	EMA eBV (cm ²)	Dress % eBV (%)	Fat colour eBV (b*)	Meat colour eBV (a*)	pH eBV
530/05	Grasmere	Texel	39	7.27	5.52	1.75	1.32	0.1	2.42	1.6%	-0.15	0.49	-0.01
296/05	Waikite / Esselmont & Tamlet	Texel	32	5.93	1.99	3.94	4.39	-5.0	1.07	0.2%	-0.16	-0.26	0.01
275/04	Goldstream	Suffolk	54	5.21	2.78	2.43	2.71	93.9	1.68	-1.5%	-0.08	0.52	0.01
570/06	MegaMeat Glengarry	Poll Dorset	83	5.08	1.87	3.21	3.14	32.2	2.41	0.8%	-1.26	-0.70	-0.01
299/01	Ohio Poll Dorset	Poll Dorset	34	4.70	1.96	2.74	1.59	73.8	3.15	0.3%	-0.20	-1.45	0.00
299/00	Landcorp Waikite	Texel	58	4.50	3.55	0.95	-0.36	-39.1	3.58	2.1%	-0.27	-0.90	0.00
241/04	Ohio Poll Dorset	Poll Dorset	34	4.39	0.88	3.51	2.79	38.4	0.88	0.2%	-0.54	-0.03	-0.03
447/03	Blackdale Stud	Texel	37	4.26	0.77	3.49	4.12	-1.3	1.28	0.3%	-0.14	-3.90	0.00
*128/97	Punchbowl	Suffolk	37	4.13	1.13	3.00	3.24	7.1	1.33	-0.5%	-1.37	-1.48	0.07
25/99	Tyanee	Suffolk	677	4.12	1.39	2.73	3.59	-6.7	0.38	-1.0%	-0.84	2.18	0.03
341/05	Premier Suffolk	Suffolk	37	4.09	1.10	2.99	3.80	8.7	1.70	0.1%	0.08	-0.54	0.01
3091/03	One Stop Ram Shop	Texel/Suffolk	33	3.73	1.51	2.22	2.77	14.2	-1.00	-1.3%	0.32	-0.41	0.01
430/03	Glengarry	Poll Dorset	117	3.59	0.66	2.93	3.35	30.7	1.81	0.5%	-0.71	-1.76	-0.02
48/05	Premier Suffolk	Suffolk	37	3.59	1.67	1.92	2.13	-7.8	0.12	0.1%	-0.36	-0.23	0.00
911/99	Murray Downs	Texel	31	3.59	2.12	1.47	0.67	-11.3	1.13	1.3%	-0.62	-0.49	0.02
101/03	Landover	Texel	21	3.58	2.46	1.12	0.16	-7.4	1.09	1.1%	-0.76	0.20	0.00
114/03	Landcorp Kepler	Landcorp Lamb Supreme	33	3.32	2.47	0.85	1.76	13.7	3.06	-0.5%	-0.63	2.82	0.02
44/02	WTD	Texel	50	3.32	2.05	1.27	1.51	-30.9	-0.36	0.3%	-0.76	-1.21	0.04
1694/05	Landcorp Kepler	Landcorp Lamb Supreme	28	3.23	1.54	1.69	2.17	3.4	2.57	-1.3%	-1.42	-0.56	0.02
1296/03	Mount Linton	Texel Cross	41	3.20	1.97	1.23	1.28	34.7	0.43	0.1%	-0.94	-1.62	0.03

* The combined Growth and Meat Value indexes, calculated by adding together the two individual indexes.

TOP 20 DUAL PURPOSE RAMS FOR MEAT AND GROWTH

ID	Flock	Breed	Progeny	Meat & growth Index* (\$)	Meat Value Index (\$)	Growth Index (\$)	WWT eBV (kg)	Worm FEC eBV (%)	EMA eBV (cm ²)	Dress % eBV (%)	Fat colour eBV (b*)	Meat colour eBV (a*)	pH eBV	NLB eBV	FW12 eBV (kg)	FE eBV
D110/04	Blackdale Stud	Textra	39	5.99	3.36	2.63	3.08	-24.9	2.27	0.9%	-0.41	-1.33	0.03	-0.05	-0.77	-0.09
50394/06	Kelso	Kelso Composite	51	3.25	2.24	1.01	1.17	-31.5	-1.05	0.0%	-0.64	-0.65	0.09		-0.53	-0.52
23253/05	Longdowns	Composite	21	1.62	0.93	0.69	0.81	16.0	1.97	0.0%	-0.63	0.38	-0.02		-0.08	0.04
542/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	29	1.03	0.70	0.33	0.57	-1.5	0.51	-0.4%	0.16	1.19	-0.02	0.13	-0.46	-0.14
409/06	Blythburn	Romney	38	0.99	0.01	0.98	1.77	13.1	0.08	-1.1%	-0.21	-0.49	0.02			0.27
1227/06	Ngaputahi	Growbulk	82	0.67	0.70	-0.03	0.28	-10.7	-0.29	0.2%	1.18	-1.58	0.00			0.25
358/04	MNCC	Coopworth	43	0.54	0.62	-0.08	0.28	32.8	-1.12	-0.6%	1.39	1.17	-0.04	0.26	0.28	-0.60
1218/06	Hinenui	Coopworth	34	0.50	0.47	0.03	-0.48	36.6	-0.35	0.0%	-0.57	-0.89	0.02			0.10
301/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	21	0.44	0.28	0.16	0.09	-7.7	-1.54	-0.8%	-0.22	0.01	-0.03		-0.09	-0.13
55/01	Bonnieview	Perendale	20	0.32	0.25	0.07	0.17	27.9	0.54	-0.6%	-0.76	-1.56	0.03	0.02	-0.08	-0.26
569/07	Longview Perendale	Perendale	84	0.26	1.05	-0.79	-0.18	-16.8	0.07	0.3%	0.36	-1.28	0.00			-0.27
245/04	Tamlet	Coopworth	23	0.10	-0.74	0.84	1.14	-12.8	-0.24	-0.2%	0.48	1.42	-0.02			0.55
386/03	Rene	Perendale	33	-0.04	1.27	-1.31	-1.56	-60.4	-1.54	-0.7%	0.25	0.65	0.01	0.03	-0.17	0.00
4203/02	Kelso	Kelso	39	-0.12	1.41	-1.53	-1.93	-38.4	-0.02	0.1%	0.04	0.50	0.01	0.08	-0.40	-0.38
627/01	TRIGG	Romney	73	-0.16	0.08	-0.24	-0.08	18.4	-2.14	-0.4%	0.12	1.43	0.02	0.13	0.02	0.09
781/00	Shoreford	Romney	30	-0.18	0.27	-0.45	0.40	15.6	-0.37	-1.8%	0.96	-0.16	-0.01		0.30	
2247/04	Rosedale	Growbulk	35	-0.22	-0.13	-0.09	0.48	-9.8	0.86	-0.5%	0.34	0.70	-0.04	0.18	-0.20	0.14
232/01	TRIGG	Romney	21	-0.22	-0.79	0.57	1.37	9.5	-1.63	-0.9%	0.34	-0.29	-0.02		0.09	
132/01	Kelso	Kelso	31	-0.24	0.48	-0.72	-1.45	-26.0	-0.61	1.6%	-0.57	-0.11	0.00		-0.12	
435/98	Kelso	Kelso	29	-0.26	0.27	-0.53	-0.13	-7.6	-0.08	-0.2%	-0.29	-0.23	0.02		0.07	

* The combined Growth and Meat Value indexes, calculated by adding together the two individual indexes.

TOP 19 DUAL PURPOSE RAMS FOR DUAL PURPOSE INDEXES*

ID	Flock	Breed	Production (\$)	Lamb growth (\$)	Adult size (\$)	Meat (\$)	Wool (\$)	Reproduction (\$)	Worm Fec (\$)	Facial Eczema (\$)
742/04	Cairnlea	Coopworth	27.33	12.80	-2.92	0.56	3.51	13.38	-6.55	-2.19
4/06	Corriedale	Corriedale	16.94	11.55	-4.61	0.55	2.18	7.27	-4.48	2.19
1560/03	The Gree	Greeline	16.36	8.90	-1.53	1.25	1.00	6.74	2.79	-8.97
278/03	MNCC	Coopworth	15.82	6.08	2.29	-1.33	3.09	5.69	1.55	4.27
300/03	MNCC	Coopworth	15.12	6.35	-1.62	1.57	1.72	7.10	2.75	-0.66
1617/04	Awareka	Romney	14.94	6.99	-4.38	0.72	1.07	10.53	1.43	-0.85
358/04	MNCC	Coopworth	14.00	10.71	-5.26	0.03	2.24	6.27	0.17	5.39
D611/04	Glenovis	Corriedale	12.78	13.11	-4.93	-1.38	0.94	5.05	-0.35	0.20
301/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	12.42	8.85	-3.60	1.78	1.07	4.33	-3.43	1.16
422/00	Wattlebank	Corriedale	12.15	9.98	-4.81	-1.00	2.34	5.63	-4.49	0.58
706/00	Lincoln	Coopworth	11.84	3.37	0.95	0.27	2.06	5.18	1.89	2.39
147/01	Tresco	Romney	11.83	4.00	-1.10	-0.53	0.29	9.17	1.16	-1.14
431/04	Twin Farm	TEFRom	11.77	8.96	1.17	-1.75	-1.90	5.28	-0.70	-2.30
2247/04	Rosedale	Growbulk	11.69	9.13	-2.36	0.04	0.47	4.41	0.05	-1.28
457/00	Nithdale	Romney	11.20	6.84	-0.31	-0.84	1.80	3.70	2.38	0.72
18/04	White Rock	Corriedale	10.34	7.68	-3.62	1.27	0.55	4.46	-5.00	1.76
833/02	Tamlet	Coopworth	9.59	12.03	-6.24	-0.35	1.00	3.16	-1.53	-5.77
542/04	Hazeldale	Perendale	8.84	11.19	-5.70	0.06	0.27	3.03	-3.85	1.30
84/04	ARDG Elite	Romney	8.64	1.44	0.01	0.43	-0.20	6.97	2.67	0.49

* These results are the SIL Dual Purpose Production (DPP) index, and the sub-indexes that make up the DPP. The DPP does not include health traits, so WormFEC and facial eczema are listed as well. All indexes are in dollar values. Only 38 rams meet the criteria to have results presented to date, so the results for the top half are presented.

LINK SIRES ACROSS SITES AND YEARS

Terminal sire

ID	Flock	Breed	Years and sites used											
			1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
381/98	Poukawa	Composite	P		P									
T533/01	Wharetoa	Composite				W	W							
31/02	Kaya Dorper	Dorper								A		P		
767/99	Darenal	Dorset Down						A, P						
77/95	Douglas Downs	Dorset Horn				W			W					
4012/99	Bilberry Oaks	Hampshire				W	W							
263/95	Aorere	Poll Dorset	P	P	P	P	P							
35/01	Glengarry	Poll Dorset						A, P, W						
430/03	Glengarry	Poll Dorset								A, P, W				
211/98	Kurralea	Poll Dorset		P		W								
106/99	Ohio	Poll Dorset			P	W								
299/01	Ohio	Poll Dorset						P	A, P					
U33/97	Mornish	Suffolk				P, W								
*128/97	Punchbowl	Suffolk				P	W							
*326/94	Punchbowl	Suffolk		P				P						
*419/96	Punchbowl	Suffolk			P	W								
165/00	Torresdale (NZ Suffolk)	Suffolk				P, W								
25/99	Tyanee	Suffolk			P	P	P	A, P	P	A, P, W	A, P, W	A, P, W	A, P, W	A, P, W
400/00	Brandes Burton	Texel				W		W						
299/00	Landcorp	Texel				W	W							

Dual Purpose

ID	Flock	Breed	Years and sites used											
			1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	
97/02	Raywell	Borderdale					A	A						
11/01	Little River	Cheviot					A, W							
706/00	Lincoln	Coopworth					A, W	A	A, W	A, P, W	A, P, W	A, P, W	A, P, W	A, P, W
85/00	Tahakita	Coopworth						A, W						
833/02	Tamlet	Coopworth							W	W				
422/00	Wattlebank	Corriedale						A	A					
B40/94	Silverstream	East Friesian	P	P										
664/98	ARDG Elite	Romney					W	P						
50394/06	Kelso	Kelso composite										A	W	
1832/02	Awareka	Romney							A, W					
2165/97	Wairere	Romney				W	W	A						
34/01	Twin Farm	TEFRom					W			W				

BREEDING FOR TOLERANCE TO FACIAL ECZEMA

Facial eczema (FE) is caused by a fungus that lives in the base of pasture which releases a toxin called sporidesmin. Sporidesmin can affect a grazing animal's metabolism and cause liver damage, loss of productivity and, in severe cases, death. A difficulty in managing FE is that the severity of outbreaks can vary greatly within and between years due to environmental conditions (temperature, humidity and pasture condition). While there are pasture and livestock treatments that can be used to reduce the impact of an FE outbreak, breeding for tolerance to facial eczema offers commercial farmers a longer-term, welfare-friendly approach to FE management.

Tolerance to FE is highly heritable (around 40%), so choosing a ram that has been part of a genetic improvement programme for FE tolerance is a simple and effective option for commercial farmers faced with FE challenges. An important point to note is that FE tolerance is genetically independent of important production traits. This means that it is possible to find rams with good productivity as well as FE tolerance.

To have an FE tolerant ewe flock, Beef + Lamb New Zealand's Geneticist, Dr Mark Young, advises commercial farmers to work with ram breeders using the Ramguard service. He recommends they should:

1. Buy a team of FE tolerant rams from a Ramguard registered breeder (a list of 2009/2010 registered Ramguard breeders is available on SIL- www.sil.co.nz);
2. Select for production traits, such as meat yield and growth rate at the same time
3. Mate rams to commercial ewes and have FE tolerant ewe lambs on-farm within a year.
4. Mate these progeny to FE tolerant rams to lift FE tolerance of the ewe flock further.

Building an FE tolerant flock means less time and money will be spent on pasture and livestock management treatments and in time will lead to greater peace of mind through not having to worry as much about when the next FE outbreak will be.

How does a breeder select for FE tolerance?

SIL uses the Ramguard® system to rank rams for FE tolerance. Rams in the breeding programme are artificially challenged with sporidesmin. A blood sample is taken and gamma glutamyl transferase (GGT) is measured. GGT is an enzyme produced by the liver in response to toxins, including the sporidesmin toxin. A low amount of GGT in the blood indicates good FE tolerance. This is what the breeder selects for. Alternatively, a natural challenge can be used, where blood samples are taken from a monitor group of rams. Ramguard experts work with breeders to design the most appropriate strategy for a breeder's situation.

SIL applies an economic weight to genetic merit for FE based on the effects FE has on survival and performance of breeding ewes and ewe replacements. A SIL FE sub-index can be combined to rate rams for overall economic merit for ram buyers.

More information about the Ramguard can be obtained at www.sil.co.nz, by email to silhelp@sil.co.nz or by telephone to 0800-745-435 (0800-SIL-HELP). Enquiries about the Ramguard service can be directed to **Neville Amyes**, C/o AgResearch Ruakura, Phone (07) 838 5421.

BREEDING VALUE ACCURACIES

An addition to this year's results is an accuracy figure for "estimated" breeding values ('eBVs'). The accuracy value is a percentage which ranges from 0 to 100%. A high value means that there is a large amount of good data behind the breeding value, and the breeding value is unlikely to change much with additional data. Conversely, a low accuracy means that there is little, or poor, data behind the breeding value, and that the breeding value is more likely to change as more data is recorded i.e. it is less "reliable" than a high value. Accuracy values have been available in the dairy and beef industries for number of years, and will be available to the sheep industry through Sheep Improvement Limited later this year. The following is a brief description of what accuracy values mean and how they can be used most effectively.

An eBV rates the value that an animal passes on to its sons and daughters. There is some "uncertainty" or statistical error associated with all eBVs. Where there is a lot of data, the uncertainty is low and accuracies are therefore high. Where there is little data, then levels of uncertainty are higher and accuracies are correspondingly lower. The breeding value for a particular animal is assumed to be average until there is sufficient information to indicate that it is indeed better or worse than the average. eBVs are therefore more likely to be around an average value until the accuracy is sufficiently high to move the value away from that average, either in an upwards or downwards direction.

Accuracy of an eBV is determined from a number of factors including:

- the heritability of the trait
- the number of relatives (particularly half-sibs and progeny) that have records for the trait
- the amount of information that comes from other correlated traits on the animal and its relatives

The key advantage of the accuracy value is that it gives an assessment of risk. With high accuracy eBVs you know what you are going to get, whereas with low accuracy eBVs there is a greater risk they will change as we collect more data. A breeding programme is a business and therefore risk is an important issue. Breeders will typically make some sure decisions e.g. using a well proven sire, alongside some more risky decisions e.g. testing some high ranking ram lambs or 2-tooths that are, as yet, 'unproven' sires. The low risk situation provides the means to produce rams for sale for which one can reliably predict their likely genetic performance, whereas the unproven sires are part of the search for the next superior sire to keep the breeding programme moving forward.

In theory, one should not select animals on both eBV and accuracy. As stated above, the eBV has the accuracy value "built-in" so there is no need to. When you select an animal with a good eBV but with lower accuracy, there is a small risk that it will perform worse than predicted. While this obviously seems like an issue when looked at on an individual animal basis, just as many rams should increase as those that decrease their breeding values. In the long run it is a case of "swings and roundabouts" for a flock with 'losses' equalling 'gains'.

The accuracies we see for the B+LNZ Central Progeny Test sires are of good accuracy and in the general range of 60 to 90%. However, they will not be as high as some well used sires in industry with many more progeny. Accuracy values for the standard SIL and SIL ACE traits have been supplied by SIL. Helping introduce new technologies, like breeding value accuracies, to the sheep industry is one of the objectives of the B+LNZ Central Progeny Test.

FLOCKFINDER: A TOOL TO HELP FARMERS FIND BREEDERS THAT PRODUCE RAMS TO SUIT THEIR FARM

The best ram-team for one farm can be totally different to the best ram-team for another farm, and even the farm next-door. This is because individual farms have different performance goals, management systems and environments, and therefore require different ram genetics to reach their individual goals. FlockFinder is a new web-based tool developed by SIL, which allows farmers to electronically search the results of the large-scale SIL-Advanced Central Evaluation (ACE) and locate ram breeder flocks with rams which are the best-fit for their performance goals. FlockFinder can be found on the SIL website (www.sil.co.nz) under 'Buying Rams'.

FlockFinder works by searching the SIL-ACE results in which over 300 SIL flocks participate. FlockFinder then lists flocks that collect information for traits that the user has selected (see the figure below). The traits that can be currently selected include:

- Reproduction (NLB)
- Lamb survival
- Lamb growth
- Adult ewe size
- Meat (lean yield and fatness)
- Wool
- Internal parasite resistance
- Tolerance to facial eczema

Once a trait is selected, the user can give it their own weighting by assigning more or less selection pressure. More selection pressure means it is of greater importance to their farming system, and less selection pressure means it is of lesser importance. The user also has the option to exclude extremes in genetic merit, where they can exclude the extremely low merit, extremely high merit, or both low and high merit. In addition to trait selection, the results can be limited to a particular region of the country (currently North Island or South Island), specific ram age groups, and/or breeds.

Trait	Primary	Selection Pressure ← LESS MORE →	Avoid Low Merit	Avoid Extreme High Merit
Number of lambs (born)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/> LESS <input checked="" type="radio"/> MORE	<input type="checkbox"/> less <input type="checkbox"/> more	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Lamb) Survival	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/> LESS <input type="radio"/> MORE	<input type="checkbox"/> low <input type="checkbox"/> high	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Lamb) Growth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/> LESS <input checked="" type="radio"/> MORE	<input type="checkbox"/> slow <input type="checkbox"/> fast	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Adult ewe size) Growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/> LESS <input type="radio"/> MORE	<input type="checkbox"/> large <input type="checkbox"/> small	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meat (Lean Yield)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/> LESS <input type="radio"/> MORE	<input type="checkbox"/> low <input type="checkbox"/> high	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meat (Fatness)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/> LESS <input type="radio"/> MORE	<input type="checkbox"/> high <input type="checkbox"/> low	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wool (Production)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/> LESS <input type="radio"/> MORE	<input type="checkbox"/> less <input type="checkbox"/> more	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resistance (to internal parasites)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/> LESS <input type="radio"/> MORE	<input type="checkbox"/> low <input type="checkbox"/> high	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tolerance (to Facial Eczema)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/> LESS <input type="radio"/> MORE	<input type="checkbox"/> low <input type="checkbox"/> high	<input type="checkbox"/>

General Criteria

Ram Birth Year: 2008

Region: All

Breed: Genetic Vision [see note below]

Genotype Specification: Genetic Vision

Genetic Vision: [dropdown]

Once the user has entered their information, FlockFinder returns a list of flocks which match their criteria. 'Matching' flocks are flocks that have recorded some data for the selected traits. For example, weaning weight and live weight at eight months of age are traits that are used to calculate lamb growth. If a flock measured either weaning weight or live weight at eight months, it would be considered a match. However, it would be considered a better match if it recorded both.

The resulting list of flocks found by FlockFinder are not rated for genetic merit. It lists flocks by size (largest to smallest) based on the number of animals it finds. Next to each flock is a list of traits that it has robust information for. Flock contact details are then just a click away.

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

To date, a total of 193 sires from 15 terminal and 11 dual purpose breeds have been evaluated in the B+LNZ Central Progeny Test (formerly the M&WNZ Central Progeny Test, and before that the Alliance CPT®). There are some differences in animal management across the three sites that reflect differences in geographical location and average performance of the ewe flock at each site. However, wherever possible animal management procedures are the same across sites. Following is a brief summary of management procedures applied across sites.

Mating

The aim across the three Central Progeny Test sites is to have at least 20 progeny per sire for the evaluation of a sire's meat and growth performance for both terminal and dual purpose sires, and 25 ewe progeny retained for maternal evaluations of the dual purpose sires. Numbers of ewes allocated varies between sites due to differences in fertility in the ewe flocks. All ewes are synchronised for mating using CIDRs, whether mated naturally or by AI.

Lambing

Flocks are split into single-bearing and multiple-bearing mobs prior to lambing. Lambs are tagged and weighed within 12 hours of birth. Sex, birth rank and rearing rank are recorded at the same time. At some sites, the smallest triplet is mothered onto a single bearing ewe.

Docking

Lambs are vaccinated for diseases and conditions that are relevant to each site. Live weights are collected at docking. Lambing mobs are usually joined together at docking and the grazing mob is recorded.

Weaning

Weaning occurs at 12 weeks of age. Live weight is recorded at weaning and a faecal sample collected to measure faecal egg count. Lambs are also dag scored at this time. Lambs which remain after weaning (the first draft for slaughter occurs at weaning) are drenched with an oral anthelmintic.

Drafting for meat and growth performance assessment

All lambs from the terminal sires are drafted for slaughter once they reach the target live weight to achieve a carcass weight of 18kg. All ram lamb progeny, plus surplus ewe lamb progeny from the dual purpose sires, are slaughtered. The first draft occurs at weaning, followed by drafts at monthly intervals thereafter. All remaining slaughter lambs are drafted at the March slaughter. Measurements collected at slaughter include the VIAscan® measurements of lean weight in the hindleg, loin and shoulder, dressing percentage, eye muscle area, meat and fat colour and meat pH.

Ewe maternal performance assessment for dual purpose sires

Some ewe lambs from dual purpose sires are retained for evaluation of maternal traits. Date of first oestrus is recorded in hoggets and they are mated as two-tooths and four-tooths. Number of lambs born and lamb survival are recorded at each lambing. No further data are recorded on the ewes after the four-tooth lambing results are collected.

Timetable of events for key dates at the three Central Progeny Test sites for 2009/2010

Event	Poukawa	Ashley Dene	Woodlands
Start of mating	3 March	6 April	16 April
Start of lambing	28 July	1 September	10 September
Docking	At birth	18 September	29 September
Weaning	4 November	3 December	8 December
First draft	11 November	4 December	10 December
Second draft	9 December	20 January	14 January
Third draft	26 January	24 February	11 February
Fourth draft	9 March		11 March

FUTURE OF THE CENTRAL PROGENY TEST

The ninth cycle of matings has been completed at Ashley Dene, Poukawa and Woodlands. A total of 11 new terminal sire rams and 11 new dual purpose rams have been mated this year to bring to 216 the total rams to be reported on in 2011.

The fifth year-group of ewe progeny (i.e. 2008 born) have now been mated as two-tooths so that rankings of dual purpose rams are increasing in value. Likewise, numbers of rams with facial eczema breeding values are increasing rapidly.

Sire entry into the Central Progeny Test

A call is made for expressions of interest to supply rams to the Central Progeny Test in November each year. All SIL recorded flocks in New Zealand receive notification of the call. The individual ram selection decision is left to the breeder, but spaces in the Central Progeny Test are allocated on the basis of:

- widespread use of the ram across SIL flocks with existing across flock information available
- providing stronger connections across groups of flocks to enhance validity of across-flock analyses based on Central Progeny Test flock data
- availability of performance information (e.g. ultrasonic eye muscle measurements) for the individual ram in SIL recorded flocks

Alternatively, rams can be entered into the Central Progeny Test on a cost-recovery basis. \$5000 per terminal sire and \$15000 per dual purpose sire.

Additional traits

Currently dag score and breech/belly bareness are recorded and will be included in future reports when enough information is available to produce reliable results. The Management Committee is willing to consider adding further traits that are of sufficient value to the sheep industry to justify the cost of their inclusion.

Add-on projects

To date the unique genetic resources of the Central Progeny Test have been used for 13 add-on projects. Many of them assist with identification and evaluation of gene markers and whole genome scans. It is envisaged that such uses will continue to be an important contribution of the Central Progeny Test to advances in the sheep industry.

Genetic connectiveness between breeding groups

Permission has been granted for two breeding groups to use Central Progeny Test data to improve genetic connections between flocks in their groups. This use is positively supported by the Management Committee. Consideration is being given to changes in the objectives and structure of the Central Progeny Test that will increase its value to ram breeders and ram buyers. Suggestions are welcome.

To provide comment and to get further information including on the source of individual rams, or if you want results presented to a farmer meeting, contact Andy Bray andy.bray@beeflambnz.com Phone (03) 357 4855



freephone 0800 beeflamb (0800 233 352) email enquiries@beeflambnz.com
website www.beeflambnz.com