

Hello Members,

Thanks to all who submitted items. Pity not more photos from the Shows/Events that had sheep classes.

Some A & P shows will struggle to survive Covid if it carries on for another year or two. A few shows are becoming horse event only shows. Canterbury is so lucky to have a good nucleus of passionate sheep breeders who carry on through thick and thin.

Breeders – get your children & grandchildren involved.

A message from Greg - **Breed Committee Elections** are coming up.

Breed Committee nomination forms will be emailed to members before the end of January 2022.

Nomination forms to be received by the NZSBA office before 5.00pm Monday 4th February 2022

Should there be more nominations received than the 5 required, then an election is required.

All candidates to give a brief resume which will be posted to members along with their voting form no later than 11th February.

Voting papers to be returned by 12 noon on 11 March 2022.

All candidates to be informed of the result, prior to them being circulated to members.

Some members will just carry on in their current positions, there being a dearth of nominations. It is important for all members to be involved and hopefully a few new faces will come to the fore. Most of the Breed Committee roles are far from onerous and not to be feared. [I've been there! Ed.]

A few months ago, I was lucky enough to be given from a Rare Breeds Conservation Society member, Mr Bill Peez, a few books from his eclectic collection of livestock books. One book of especial interest was "The Sheep Breeds of the Mediterranean", by IL Mason. It was published by arrangement with the FAO and the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux in 1967. It has the history of breeds too numerable to mention, as well as black and white photos. I hope in future issues of the NewZ to be able to use some of these to help bring knowledge of these lesser-known (in NZ) breeds to us as sheep breeders.

Wishing all members and readers a Merry Christmas and a Safe, Healthy & Prosperous New Year 2022.

Helen McKenzie

Editor

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Email: rosemarkie@wise.net.nz

ASSOCIATION NEWS & VIEWS

From The President

This is meant to be a summer edition- more like end of winter in our area, not a lot of sun to speak of. Growth has been better than expected, the lambs just need a bit of heat to get going!



What a fickle business we operate in, three weeks ago we sold cull ewes for \$215.00, then this week the same ewes (later weaned) get \$96.00. Short of space I'm told!

The dreaded Covid still dominates our life- at least we are operating under the traffic light system- the main problem will be to get everyone to obey the road code for this system!

The Sheep 125 celebrations had to be put on hold once the Canterbury A&P had made the decision to cancel this year's show. We have made the decision to carry these celebrations over to next year's Canterbury A&P Show.

Good to see Groundswell and Rural Advocacy Network are still haranguing the Government. Especially over the "Three Waters Reform". We just simply cannot let this overbearing legislation be passed! What next will they (the Labour less Government) dream up?

I attended (and participated to no avail) the Canterbury Ram Fair last week, probably typical of the usual Ram fair, the good ones sold and the not so good one's didn't. To me the standout was the Suffolk sale with a good group of top rams going through the ring and gaining the top price of \$16500.00 for a Collie Hills Ram belonging to the Ross family from Kurow.

Following the ram sale the Canterbury A&P held their "Mint Lamb Competition"; this competition involves lambs being entered (donated) that are then processed and yield tested and then judged in two sections, two for commercial breeders and one for stud breeders, and then tender and taste tested. As part of the competition the awards ceremony is held after the ram fair and some of the lamb is bbq'd for all to taste. The overwhelming vibe from those present is what a great product our lamb is and let's keep producing it up to this standard.

It was interesting to watch the behaviour of the left-wing journalists (which is most of them!) towards the new group of personnel appointed to head the National Party opposition. Didn't they show their true colours, trying every devious trick in their arsenal to discredit these appointees? I think we are

over this gutter-type trial by media - these journalists should perhaps have a good look at themselves and wonder if this is the best way to portray our country.

On the tail length issue, Greg and I had a meeting with a representative from Beef and Lamb with the prospect of facilitating a meeting with MPI regarding this legislation. So, our next intention is to contact the appropriate division of MPI and arrange a meeting.

By now the early on-farm ram sales are under way and by all reports are going well.

In wrapping up I would like to wish all members all the best for the upcoming festive season and may you all have a good clearance for your ram sales.

Tom Burrows
President NZSBA

From The General Manager

Covid-19 has prevented us from celebrating sheep125 as the NZ Agricultural Show was cancelled due to the uncertainty relating to the pandemic. Another disappointing result. As I write this some A & P shows have already cancelled their 2022 shows, but at this stage Wanaka is still going ahead.

The Sheep125 committee will meet and decide if we keep the same template for next year or do something different.

Sheep Day – a sheep day for exhibitors minus spectators was recently held at the NZ Agricultural Showgrounds. Most breeds were in attendance, but not all exhibitors. The day was well run by volunteers and supported by the exhibitors.

New Breed – Zealandia – the NZSBA welcomes our newest breed to the Association -the Zealandia.

Zealandia is a new breed in New Zealand established in 2015. It has been developed for milk production in a New Zealand setting.

Initially this breed started from the importation of European genetics – mainly East Friesian and Lacune and crossed with a New Zealand base. Zealandia is now a stabilised breed backed with extensive performance recording on SIL.

Breed Conferences – 2022 – organisers need to firm up on dates for their conferences in 2022 and contact the office. With breeds not having had the opportunity to meet for two years everyone should be looking forward to 2022 when we will have some sense of normality albeit having to live with covid, just as we live with the flu virus.

In the sheep world it is just so important members meet periodically.

NZSBA Website – has now been updated and in a different format. – BREEDS should continue to provide photos of your sheep and update any information that needs updating. Any published articles should be also included on your webpage.

Sheep for sale – our IT man is investigating having a sheep for sale page on our website. We had one a few years ago, and unfortunately it was hacked, but with our recent website upgrade hopefully we can be one step ahead of future scammers.

NZSBA Promotion – CountryWide – as agreed at the July Council meeting there will be a series of ads in the CountryWide in December and January. **Look out for them!**



Meeting with Beef+Lamb New Zealand Representative – the President and myself recently met with Will Halliday (Senior Advisor – Biosecurity & Animal Welfare) in the Sheepbreeders' Office. The reason for the meeting was to establish a contact and form a relationship between the NZSBA and Beef+Lamb which will be beneficial in the future whenever the need arises.

NZSBA Flock Book – 2021 – the flock book has been published, and is also online. Should you wish to purchase a copy, please contact the office.

Valais Blacknose – this breed was registered with the NZSBA in 2018 and the number of flocks now are 86. A truly meteoric rise, and still continuing.

Commemorative Jerseys - for sale – CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!! Cost of Jerseys – Men's - \$170.00 – Ladies - \$135.00 and these can be posted anywhere in New Zealand. Check out our website for more details.

Tag Discounts - Shearwell, Allflex, Datamars (includes Zee Tags and Tru-Test) - Now offering discounted tags to members. When ordering please state you are a member of NZSBA, and they will send the product to you, but will send your invoice to our office, and we will then invoice you.

Last year's summer report I said "To our sponsors thank you for your continued support, and to members let's hope Ram Selling goes well, and here's hoping for a normal 2021"

So, all the above and a big thankyou to Helen, and here's hoping for a normal 2022!

Greg Burgess
General Manager, NZSBA



"Fostering the improvement of all sheep breeds and providing a unified body whose collective voice has a beneficial effect on the total New Zealand sheep industry."

Feature Breed

CORRIEDALE SHEEP



Lucy Burrows holding the Champion Corriedale ewe & Gordon Gilbert holding his Champion Corriedale Ram - also Supreme Corriedale & Supreme Sheep of Show at Canterbury A & P show

BRIEF HISTORY

The Corriedale was the first sheep breed to be developed in New Zealand. James Little is acknowledged as the primary developer of the breed in New Zealand although others followed shortly thereafter in both Australia and New Zealand.

Corriedales are found in many countries throughout the world including thousands in South America (their most numerous sheep breed), the USA, Australia, Japan (several thousand exported to Japan from NZ in the late 1920's early 1930's much to Australia's chagrin, but only small numbers there now) & South Africa. They were also exported to Kenya where they still thrive to this day.

The First International Corriedale Congress was held at College Hall, Lincoln, in November 1950.

BREED DESCRIPTION

The Corriedale is a flexible, medium-sized breed suited to drier environments. It has a comparatively long productive life of up to seven years.

It is a dual-purpose breed, with equal emphasis on meat and wool. Rams are used for crossing with Romney or Perendale flocks to increase their body size, and to improve the fineness, weight, handle and colour of their wool.

Location: Corriedales are located in the drier parts of New Zealand. The breed is most common in the South Island, in Marlborough and the eastern areas of Canterbury & Otago, and in the drier parts of the North Island.

Bodyweight

Ewes: 65-80 kg
Rams: 85-105 kg

Meat

Good length of carcase and muscling provides lean lambs for slaughter at an early age, or at a later age for heavyweight lamb grades.

Breeding/Lambing

90-130 percent

Numbers

Stud 3500 approximately
About 2.8 million commercial.

Wool

Fibre diameter: 28-33 microns (adults);
24-30 microns (hoggets).
Staple length: 75-125 mm (3-5 inches).

Fleece weight: Range 4.5-6.5 kg (10-14 lb).
Average 5.5 kg (12 lb).

Uses: Adaptable to many uses, including medium-weight outer garments, worsteds and light tweeds, and hand-knitting yarn.



Photo: "The Corriedale", V.1, No 1, 1962

The prize-winning pen of five Corriedale ram hoggets in the 1905 Christchurch show, the first time the breed was included in the show catalogue.

THE ELLESMERE AGRICULTURAL & PASTORAL ASSOCIATION 150TH SHOW

With the 150th Ellesmere A & P show being cancelled in 2020 due to Covid 19 the Association worked very hard to hold the 2021 show in October. A decision was made 11 days out from the show that we would hold a Level 2 show over 3 days. This meant that no public were allowed and each section was kept within their section bubble.

The show was held over 3 days (15th, 16th & 17th October) some Horse classes, local Dog Trials and Sheep & Wool Sections were held on the Friday, Horses, Cattle, Goats, Poultry, Woodchopping and Open Dog Trials were held on the Saturday and Show Jumping, Alpaca's and Pet Lambs were held on the Sunday.

Sheep entries were exceptional with well over 400 entries. The Dairy Cattle held the South Island Championships in the Jersey, Ayrshire and Holstein Friesian sections which also had very good entries. The Clydesdale section was well supported having not run for several years which was great for the 150th show, the remaining sections also had very good entries.

We had 3 very good days weather-wise and our exhibitors/competitors were very appreciative of the Association for holding a Level 2 show so they could compete

The Association, with a recommendation from the 150th committee decided it would like to recognise long-term section stewards and people who had made significant contributions to their sections. These long-term stewards had done close to 40 year's service or more and were still current or very recently retired. The Poultry section had 2 stewards who had stewarded for over 60 years each and the Horse section had a competitor who had competed at the Ellesmere Show for over 60 years.



Photo: Ben Doubleday

Supreme Sheep - Neville & Diane Greenwood with their Poll Dorset ram

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A BIT OF HISTORY

From "the Corriedale" official yearbook of the Corriedale Sheep Society Inc. Vol1 Number 1, 1962

Obituary: Mr H C A Sidey Tribute To A Great Sheepman

"Mac" Sidey has gone to his long home and the sheep world is the poorer for his going. While the Corriedale breed was his life's work, he always remained a sheepman first. Even in dog trials, which were his relaxation, as a judge or competitor, it was the handling of the sheep which counted most.

He was both farmer and hill country man. He was one of the first to envisage the improvement that could be wrought with fertiliser and controlled stocking on the native tussock country he loved so well. Before the tractor and aeroplane came into use, he was dragging a top dresser with two draught horses into almost inaccessible country to try the effects of lime and superphosphate.

He believed the unimproved carrying capacity could be doubled but on his class of country his sheepman's instinct told him to further increase could risk the ultimate danger of upsetting the balance of nature,

His sheep bore the stamp of his basic creed. Above all, he looked for constitution, and on this foundation, built his flock.

A grandson of James Little, he was greatly influenced in his youth by the association with his grandfather. His father, David Sidey, founded the Glenovis stud in April 1923, and took him into partnership in 1938. In 1941 he assumed full control of the stud.

Glenovis soon became a major source of breeding stock in New Zealand and overseas and in the show ring his name was one to be reckoned with. His proudest moments at the Christchurch show were on the two occasions when the Glenovis sheep won the James Little Memorial Cup for the most points in the breed classes.

On six occasions he won the Society's award for the most points with ewes and with rams. Several times a Glenovis entry won the coveted San Pedro Trophy. He had many successes at the show for more than 30 years. Shorn sheep were always an outstanding feature of the Glenovis show teams.

Elected to the committee of the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association in 1940, he was vice-president in 1958 and president in 1959 and continued to be active in the Association's affairs until his death.

He was also a strong supporter of country shows, particularly the Hawarden Agricultural and Pastoral Association of which he was president in 1938. In this show, which offers the strongest competition outside Christchurch, the Glenovis

The late Mr HCA Sidey with his champion ram at the Hawarden show not long before his death.

team was frequently the winner of the H T little Memorial trophy for most points in the breed.

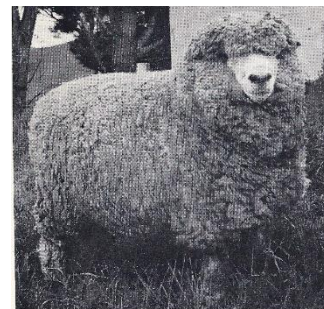


Glenovis Corriedales were exported to Argentina, Uruguay, Peru, the United States, Chile, Kenya, Australia and the Falkland Islands.

One of his greatest contributions to the sheep export industry on New Zealand was when he visited Peru at the invitation of the Banco de Fomento Agropecuario, a Government rural bank, to discuss with breeders and sheepmen the problems involved in sheep breeding in a land where flocks graze up to 16,000 feet above sea level in the Andes. While in Peru he judged at the Peruvian national show at Lima and at a six day show at Juliaca. Arising from this visit and his genius for suiting sheep to environment, although in this case the conditions were completely foreign, his outstanding success in the selection of sheep was confirmed in the subsequent shipment of more than £100,000 [\$5,639,675.80 today – Ed] worth of sheep in the following three years.

Elected to the Society's council in 1941, he was president in 1951 and 1952 and was treasurer from 1947 to 1948 and from 1958 until his death. During his term as president the present shearing regulations were introduced, largely through his efforts, and he continued to administer the inspection system for the regulations.

Footnote: Mac's sons all had Corriedale flocks - John, *Strathblane*; Murray, *Lockerbie* and David, *Glen Novis*. These studs have now moved down a generation to grandsons, James, *Strathblane*; Mark, *Lockerbie* and Andrew, *Glen Novis*.



GLENOVIS M 10/5—An outstanding Sire and winner of: San Pedro Trophy, Christchurch, 1958. San Pedro Trophy, Christchurch, 1959. Aged Ram, Invercargill Royal, 1958. Aged Ram, Christchurch, 1961, and C. H. Lawrence Memorial Trophy.

GLENOVIS CORRIEDALES FLOCK No. 62

This Stud has won the H. T. LITTLE MEMORIAL TROPHY for the most points at the Hawarden A. and P. Show (N.Z.'s Second Largest Corriedale Exhibition) 21 TIMES IN 28 YEARS OF COMPETITION

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ESTATE H. C. A. SIDEY

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Hampshire Import Update *by Kevin Mawson*

Following on with my adventures with breeding and importing Hampshires.

This year's lambing is finished even though a bit late for me in the dry Hawkes Bay but the weather gods have been on my side this spring with regular showers



and the grass still growing; a far better story than last summer with the drought going on into winter causing all sorts of stress. When it came to flushing ewes, it was, "What with?" - nothing but brown ground and dry stalks and to top it off FE. My vets said bring in a sample a meter square so we can test for spores. I said, "It will only be a bag of sand, so don't worry, just come out and bolus the lot to put my mind at rest as we are going to do an ET programme this year".

My imported semen arrived a bit late so I decided to flush three ewes, thinking I might get 10 lambs and that would be plenty for my small operation. After going through all the procedures, it came to flushing day. The first ewe came into be flushed and that's when the excitement starts. Well, everything went very quiet, I could see all the team looking at each other and nothing being said. This got me worried, so I asked, "How is it going?" The reply, "Not good, only one embryo but we will keep looking as they are hard to find", then finally they found another one. The second ewe came in and bingo! twelve embryos. The mood changed then as the vet explained to me that eight is a very good number normally. When the third ewe was flushed and another ten embryos, everybody was excited. Luckily for me I had prepared enough recipients, as that is tricky to get right with small numbers. Now for the wait till lambing time making sure everything stays alive as all the ewes are carrying twin embryos, losing just one is expensive and disappointing after all the trouble you go through to get to that stage.

This year I decided to scan and was again surprised at the number that took. There was two drys. If you get fifty percent you are lucky and I was over that, but still a long way to go, and anything can happen. I started lambing on 3.9.21 and finished 7.9.21 with 16 and then the following morning 15 as one had got separated from its mother, - bugger, but that's farming. The ewes we flushed I had AI'd and fifty percent took, giving me four more lambs from a different sire but unfortunately one of them died. My lambs are given a first cut lucerne baleage that I cut when it is young and full of leaf



with little stalk starting when they are about ten days old. At the moment I am planning next year's AI program with a new sire from UK and Ireland's top Hampshire sales last summer.

Last year's results – photos below

These are last year's ewe hoggets. Two are embryos and the others are AI. I am very pleased with them. I am thinking of flushing two and AI the others with a beautiful ram called Maverick.



In Ireland last spring one of his sons sold for a top price of £1500 which is a great outcome when there is a lot more Hampshires than New Zealand

The Hampshires are growing in popularity in UK and Ireland for many reasons; one being their eating quality. Other benefits are the lambs' ability to get up and suckle quickly.



Also they have a thick skin giving them a better chance of survival in cold conditions For me the big benefit is you can go to the ram early giving you a better chance to sell them before the grass dries up. These photos are before and after shearing



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WOOL WEED MATS REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

A new weed and mulch mat made from natural New Zealand wool is providing a completely organic and biodegradable option for weed control while helping gardeners reduce their environmental impact and support the agriculture industry.

Wool Life director Stephen Fookes says a key point of difference with their weed and mulch mats is that they contain 100 per cent pure New Zealand wool and are an organic product with a low-carbon sustainable footprint.

“We use a low energy needle punching and carding process to create the mats which are produced at our plant located at Te Poi near Matamata. Using new and untreated wool has benefits over recycled wool as the finished product is completely pure and does not require any chemical treatment. The mats and pegs completely biodegrade over 12-18 months.”

Stephen says wool provides a nurturing environment for new plants with nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium supplied to the soil in optimum amounts as the mats break down. Wool’s water retaining properties are also important when considering the environmental benefits of reduced water usage.

“Wool is made up of 16 per cent nitrogen, 3 per cent sulphur and trace amounts of phosphorous and potassium. It is perfectly suited to complement soil nutrition requirements once its weed control function is completed.

“Wool holds up to 33 per cent of its weight as water. It absorbs water into its inner layers and releases it slowly once the relative humidity drops below 65 per cent which reduces the need for watering.”



Tai Tapu lifestyle block owner Michelle Wilson and her children Blake and Jacob test out the wool weed mat while planting at their property.

Tai Tapu lifestyle block owner Michelle Wilson has been trialling Wool Life’s weed and mulch mats in her garden to

see how it compares with the coconut matting she previously used to control weeds.

For Michelle, it is important to know exactly what is in the products that she uses around her garden as protecting the environment is a key value for her family and for her business Zing Bokashi.

“I like to know exactly what’s in products, where they are made, where the ingredients come from and if they are local and organic. We like to support local and New Zealand-made products wherever possible.”

Michelle’s property is located on top of a hill which makes it prone to erosion and high winds. She relies on rainwater to water her large garden which includes hundreds of native plants such as flaxes and totara along with a select few non-natives which are used to attract bees to the nearby vegetable garden.



Wool Life’s weed mats and plant-based pegs completely break down over 12-18 months, while supplying plants with nutrients to help them thrive.

So far, Michelle is impressed with the wool weed mats, especially their water retention properties and the biodegradable plant-based pegs.

“Water is a precious resource to us so anything we can do to save water is important. I love how both the mats and the pegs break down and there is nothing left behind to harm the environment.

“The barbed design of the pegs makes them easy to insert into the weed mat and once they are in, they stay put which is really important on a hilly and windy site like mine.”

Another feature which stands out for Michelle is that the wool repels slugs and snails with tiny naturally occurring barbs in the wool preventing them from crossing the mat.

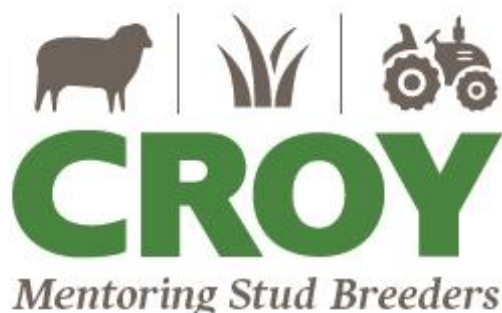
“I think that will appeal to lots of gardeners because no one likes snails and slugs eating all their new plants.”

Michelle and her family have the long-term goal of leaving their land in a better condition than when they found it and attracting more native wildlife to the area through their planting efforts

“We are all about enhancing the land and bringing more of what is already living nearby like wood pigeons, geckos and bellbirds. I think it’s also really important to be conscious of

what we are putting on our soil and what we are leaving behind.”

[Wool.Life | Natural Wool Products and Mulch Mats – Wool.Life Ltd \(woollife.co.nz\)](#)



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Media release

2 September 2021

New Zealand Farm Assured Wool goes live

Wool growers certified to the New Zealand Farm Assurance Programme (NZFAP) can now promote and sell their wool as Farm Assured.

It follows the National Council of New Zealand Wool Interests (NCNZWI) adopting the New Zealand Farm Assurance Programme (NZFAP) as a National Standard for Wool in May.

Nick Beeby, Chairman of New Zealand Farm Assurance Incorporated (NZFAI), which owns and manages the NZFAP, said the milestone provides a substantial boost for the wool industry.

“This initiative provides the sector with an opportunity to add value to our national wool crop by locking in New Zealand’s unique farming systems and the natural and sustainable qualities of wool.

“All NZFAP certified farms growing wool will be able to promote and sell Farm Assured wool provided that the company handling the wool is a NZFAI member, the wool is going directly into a NZFAI-approved wool facility, and the wool leaving the property is accompanied by a NZFAI wool specification sheet that includes the NZFAP farm assurance code.”

The new requirements have been established by the NZFAI in partnership with 23 NCNZWI wool companies, resulting in a rigorous wool-facility and exporter protocol, says Mr Beeby.

“This helps to uphold the integrity of NZFAP and provide assurance to customers of the transparency, sustainability, biosecurity, and animal welfare of the wool products they purchase. “We believe this initiative further galvanises the primary industry collaborative power and positions the 23 NZFAI wool member companies in a much stronger collaborative position to add value by promoting New Zealand wool

to the more discerning and socially conscious consumers.”

For a list of approved NZFAI wool members, facilities and exporters, please visit www.nzfap.com

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[Does this sound familiar? – Editor]

‘Most reform movements in our country have been cursed by a lunatic fringe and have mingled sound ideas for social progress with utopian nonsense.’

*Agnes E. Meyer (1887 -1970
American journalist and social worker*

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Maple Genetics

“Building on the past – Breeding for the Future”

The Story behind a Champion Texel



Maple 20284/20

Supreme Champion Texel at Ellesmere and Christchurch, and 1st Hogget Ram at Ashburton Shows 2021, (His year older ¾ brother beat him for Champion)

His story started for us in the early winter of 2014 with a phone call from our local HRL agent Ben Lill who had a line of stud Texel ewes from Fiona Quinn, “Sunny Mac Stud”, Fiona was selling her complete small line of 13 ewes mainly Egilshay and Grantham bloodlines, they were in lamb to Halcroft 145/10. They were a very even line of ewes, however, one ewe in particular stood out and had different breeding, I remember when Ken Shipley came to inspect them, he pointed to this ewe and said, “that is an outstanding ewe”. His description gave me real encouragement as I also considered her the pick of the line. Just as a side note it is incidents like this that can set a younger breeder on a successful path of breeding - being encouraged by a breeder with the knowledge and expert eye of lifetime experience – Thank you Ken, you are greatly missed.

The ewe was “The Burn 62/09” sired by “Iona Lea 579/04”

62/09 was given the tag 84 to fit in with our numbering system, she didn’t have a name but was referred to as “Grandma” later on. She gave us the following: -

Twins in 2014, ewe 484/14, her great grandson was the overall winner in the Xcell Canterbury Texel performance group of rams that were run together as a group from January through to November.

Twin ewes in 2015, sired by Brandes Burton 24/13 - 583/15 and 584/15. 583 has left good progeny in the Stud with a

grandson taking 3rd place at Ellesmere and 5th at Christchurch Shows

Twins 2016, also sired by Brandes Burton 24/13, a ram who was sold to a commercial farmer and Maple 684/16 who is the dam of the subject of this story.



Maple 684/16 and Maple 9284/19 as a Lamb

Twins in 2017, a ram 1710/17 who was used in the Stud lightly before selling to a commercial farm and Maple 783/17, this ewe is proving to be a real asset in the Stud.

In late 2018 we decided that we needed to breed a ram for ourselves from this female line. You always hear about top breeding sires and needing to get rams sired by a top sire, but I think one of the biggest mistakes in breeding is overlooking the female line. Rams can be feed to look good at sale time, but it is the genetics built up in them that will take one’s flock to the next level; what we found in “Grandma’s” line is not only sound functional type but the tremendous milking ability they possess.

Our search for the sire to be used to give length and muscle began for mating 684/16 and 783/16 and 2 other ewes from this family to. It resulted in the choice of Vorn Aberystwyth VJV1700873 (UK AI). He was chosen on advice from the late John Vaughan who bred him and looking at his performance results in the UK. The AI program resulted in a ram lamb from 684/16, Maple 9284/19 “Boris”. He is still referred to as that big ram lamb at the shows in 2019; and a ewe and ram lamb from 783/17 also.

The Vorn Aberystwyth lambs were born 4 days before due date which assisted with ease of lambing. This trait has been passed on to Boris progeny also with ease of lambing. From the moment the lambs hit the ground I could see the potential in them, their growth was well ahead of our other Texel’s.

We retained semen from Aberystwyth and mated both 684 and 783 to him again in 2020 resulting in twin rams from 684 and a single ram from 783. The twins from 684, 20284 and 20285 had the same growth as the previous year, with weaning weights of 49 and 46.5 at 100 days. Both rams looked very similar, long with plenty of muscle. 20285 was run in the Xcell Performance ram group and was selected in the final 4 rams on type to go through to the Elite Ram Sale. 684 has produced another ram lamb this year weaned at 110 days 57kg.

Maple 20284/20 has bloomed even through a very dry summer and was selected for export to Peru.

He was shown at Ellesmere: 1st Ram Hogget and Supreme Champion Texel; Ashburton: 1st Ram Hogget and reserve Champion Ram to his $\frac{3}{4}$ brother from 783/17, then on to Christchurch show for again 1st Ram Hogget and Supreme Champion Texel.

The 3 Texel hogget rams we have shown this year have all descended from this prolific family.

There is a saying "Breed them right, feed them right and they will treat you right"

We have been so impressed by the progeny of Vorn Aberystwyth we were delighted to source a line of embryos from the Vorn Stud in UK from 2 different ewes sired by 3 different rams. One ewe is from the same female family as Aberystwyth and Vorn Yardstick, the other ewe is a sister to Vorn War'orse who is the sire of Yardstick. 11 Ewe and 9 Ram Lambs born July 2021.

Ellesmere Show



Winners of the pet lamb handlers' class and champion pet lamb winner

Photo: Ben Doubleday

Merry Christmas from the team at GlobalHQ.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful summer break. May the new year bring happiness, joy, and new adventures.

Our last Farmers Weekly publication for the year is December 20. Our office will be closed from 5pm Wednesday December 22, and will reopen on January 10. The first paper for 2022 will be in your letterbox the week of January 17.

Kind regards,

Ella Holland
Livestock Partnership Manager

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“Fostering the improvement of all sheep breeds and providing a unified body whose collective voice has a beneficial effect on the total New Zealand sheep industry.”

WOOL – AND HOW IT GROWS

A revised series of article on aspects of wool biology.

(First published in *Black & Coloured Sheepbreeders' magazine Issue #17, November 1980*) By Roland Sumner, AgResearch, Whatawhata Research Centre.

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Part Two – How does Wool grow?

Int the first article in this series I discussed the various types of cells that are combined together to produce that unique fibre called wool. To take the discussion further and understand the “whys and wherefores” of wool growth it is necessary to first understand how wool fibres grow.

The skin of an animal does more than just hold its body together. It also produces fibres which protect the animal from the direct effects of sun and of cold. The sheep, perhaps more than any other animal, has developed a unique ability to produce relatively large amounts of wool from its skin. Man has capitalized on this unique ability and through selection and management, developed an “improved” sheep with a continuously growing fleece rather than a fleece which is shed annually as in primitive sheep.

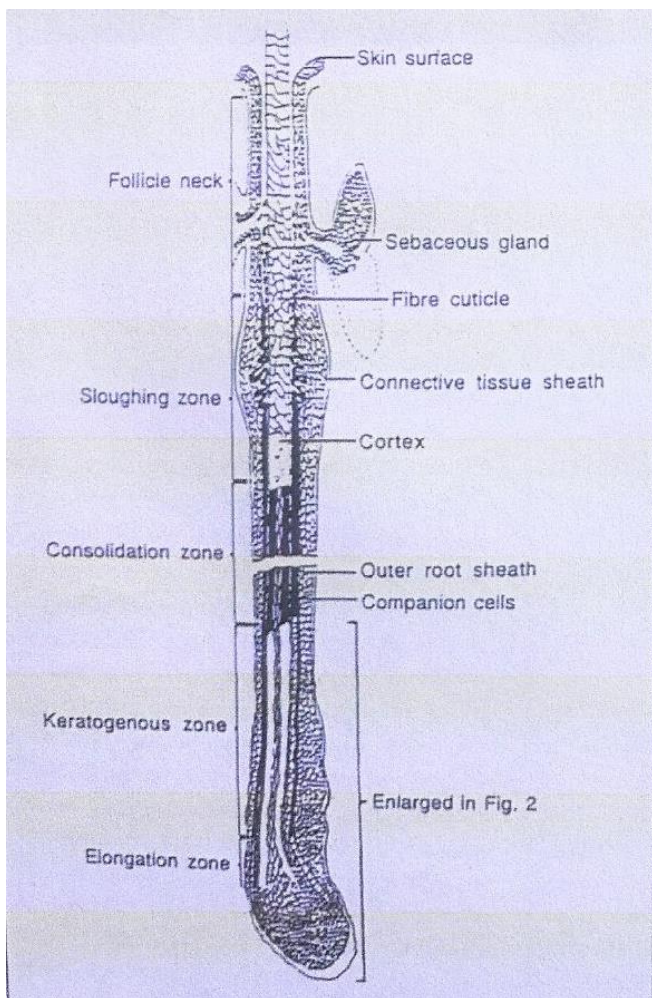


Figure 1. Diagram of a wool follicle

Wool fibres grow from tubular depressions in the skin called follicles. Wool follicles are essentially similar to the follicles on our own bodies which grow hair. Each follicle is about 2.5mm long and 0.1mm wide. In a young adult Romney there are about 1,500 follicles per square cm of skin over most of the wool bearing area of the sheep. the follicles are even more tightly grouped together in the skin of the Merino with approximately 5,000 follicles per square cm.

Each one of this vast array of follicles is itself a complex biological factory in its own right. As will be discussed in a later article some follicles may be associated with sweat glands, sebaceous glands and small muscles, similar to those which cause the hairs on a cat's back to stand up when it is frightened. Most follicles are not associated with such glands or small muscles other than possibly a simple sebaceous gland. In the tissue surrounding each follicle are minute blood vessels which supply nutrient to the developing fibre.

Wool fibres and wool follicles are made up of a large number of individual cells of many different types. It is the interaction between the different types of cells that effect the amount and type of fibre produced.

Fibres are produced by rapid cell division at the base of the follicle with the cells that will form the future fibre being ‘budded off’ from a germative layer. Once formed the cells of the future fibre do not divide further but are ushed up the follicle by the next wave of cell divisions occurring behind them. Each individual cell develops into a particular type of tissue depending on its placing in the follicle bulb and where in the germative layer it was formed.

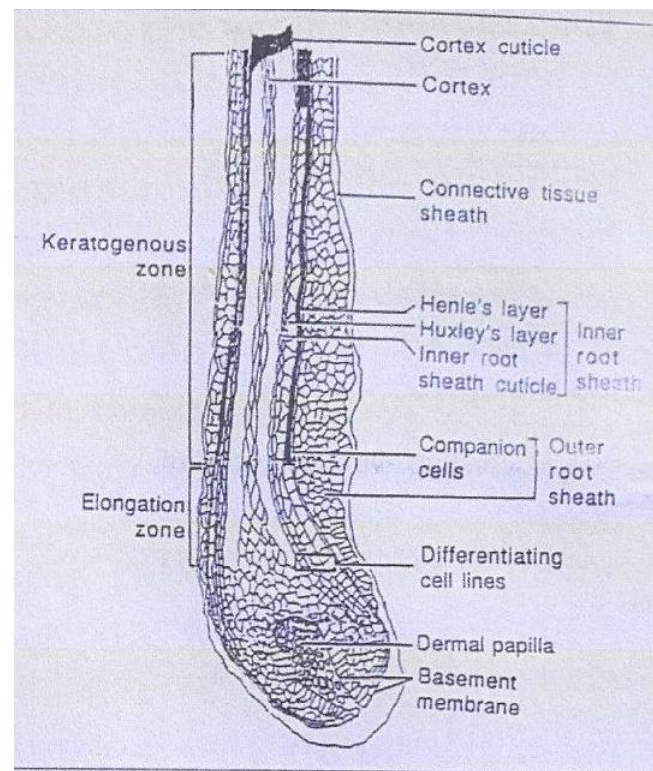


Figure 2. diagram of a lower region of a wool follicle.

“Fostering the improvement of all sheep breeds and providing a unified body whose collective voice has a beneficial effect on the total New Zealand sheep industry.”

Growth of a wool fibre can be likened to squeezing a tube of toothpaste in that pressure at the bottom causes paste to be extruded from the top. The harder the tube is squeezed the more toothpaste comes out. Exactly the same happens with a wool follicle. The faster the cells divide at the base the faster the fibre grows. In addition, the size and shape of the cells ultimately making up the fibre are also involved.

Larger size cells result in fibres being produced. The interrelation between cell size and the rate at which they divide is very complex. It is partly due to nutritional effects, as well as being under hormonal control from other glands in the sheep's body. With the wool follicle bulb being one of the most rapidly dividing areas in the body it is very sensitive to effects of stress, nutrition and body hormones. The interval between each successive cell division has been shown to vary between 18 and 59 hours. In our developed sheep most follicles produce fibre continuously in contrast to primitive type sheep where fibre growth is strictly seasonal. In primitive type sheep the germative layer in the follicle ceases dividing for part of the year and enters a resting phase. The growing fibres may then be shed as a moult with the follicles again becoming active when the seasonal conditions change.

Not all the cells which form in the follicle bulb develop into wool fibres. The immature cells that divide may develop into 10 different types of cell with up to 5 types of cell being the basis of the wool fibre. These are the cuticle; para-, meso – and ortho-cortex and medulla. The other 5 types of cell are associated with “protectin” the growing fibre in the follicle.

Two cell types form an outer root sheath, the outer root sheath and companion cell layers. Three cell types form an inner root sheath made up of Henle's layer, Huxley's layer and inner root sheath cuticle. The two sheaths are in close association

with the growing fibre and move up the follicle with it. During the last half of their passage up the follicle they shrivel and are shed from the surface of the skin as debris.

The role of the dermal papilla in the follicle bulb is not fully understood. It does however appear that when the papilla is large, medulla forms above it. Should the papilla become smaller, medulla cells cease forming. Dermal papillae tend to be larger in Romney than Merino sheep, larger in the summer than the winter and larger under conditions of good feeding.

As the recently divided cells pass out of the follicle bulb they become longer as they are compressed and develop into their different types. Hardening then begins to take place as nutrient, particularly sulphur containing amino acids, pass into the developing fibre from the follicle and surrounding blood vessels. This process of hardening is known as keratinization, being the formation of keratin. By about half-way up the follicle when the keratin is fully developed the cells forming the outer root sheath begin to break down. By the time the fibre passes the entrance of the sebaceous and sweat glands the outer and inner root sheaths have totally disintegrated and the fibre is coated with wool grease and suint. Thus, as the fibre emerges from the top of the follicle it is unsupported and liberally coated with protective oils and waxes ready to be shorn and used by man.

How does crimp form in the wool fibre? Several hypotheses have been put forward linking movement of the follicle within the skin to chemical changes in the cortex of the fibre. Further research work is necessary to be able to answer this question fully. What we can say at this stage is that it is one of those eye appealing properties unique to wool and not shared by synthetics.

Canterbury Agricultural & Pastoral Association Sheep Event 2021

Champions

Corriedale Champion Ram	GG Gilbert
Corriedale Champion Ewe	TJ & FM Burrows
Border Leicester Champion Ram	IR Caird
Border Leicester Champion Ewe	IR Caird
Ryeland Champion Ram	J Thomson
Ryeland Champion Ewe	J Thomson
Romney Champion Ram	IR Caird
English Leicester Supreme	D Bennett
South Suffolk Supreme	Hoban Family
Dorset Down Supreme	AD & CA Busch

Texel Supreme	D Edgecombe
Dorper & White Dorper Sup.	L & C Drummond
BNZ Supreme Meat Animal	L & C Drummond
BNZ Supreme Wool Animal	GG Gilbert
	Corriedale
BNZ Supreme Sheep of Show	GG Gilbert
	Corriedale



INTERESTING DEVELOPMENTS IN BREEDING FOR WORM RESISTANCE

By Gordon Levet, February 2021

Two facts have emerged from my data over the past 12 months that could have a profound effect on our thinking on breeding for this trait.

First, the impact on another trait of breeding for worm resistance.

It has long been accepted that breeding for this trait would have a negative impact on production traits, especially growth. The argument advanced to support this theory is that to achieve meaningful worm resistance would require energy to strengthen the immune system. This energy would have to be diverted from production traits. Therefore the net result would be that as worm resistance increases, the productivity of the flock would decrease. This, it was emphasised, would be most noticeable in growth figures. This theory assumes that the immune system is limited and not capable of increasing. I call it a theory because I have seen no experimental result to prove the case. Indeed, no trials would be possible as, up until now, there have been no highly resistant sheep available to conduct trials. Sadly this theory has been advanced for so long by many respected scientifically trained personnel that it was universally accepted as a proven fact. Even more sadly, it was a major deterrent to ram breeders to breed for this resistance trait. Imagine the difference if these authorities had strongly encouraged the breeding for this genetic option.

Over the years, I have not seen any negative impact on growth, and I have carefully studied all the data. In fact the reverse seems to be the case, as some highly worm resistant sires are also top in growth. One such sire had 7 of the top 10 ranking for growth out of 400 lambs evaluated.

To see what was happening in our own flock with regard to growth, I asked an independent professional to plot genetic trends of these traits. She traced the genetic trends for facial eczema, worm resistance and growth over the last twenty years and showed it in graphs. All graphs showed a similar positive pattern. This positive trend for growth is even more significant because unlike FE and worm resistance, I have never positively selected for growth, as I considered survival to be more important.

Clearly more research is essential to see what impact worm resistance has on other traits. My gut feeling is that a stronger immune system equates to healthier animals which would result in better productivity.

Finally, I must stress that this is not a trial but simply the genetic trends on one flock, in one environment.

The second development was both surprising and exciting.

This was the result of last summer's faecal egg counting – FEC – of 397 ram lambs. The first count in the third week of January had a large average count of 3733 with a high of 25550 and a low of 105. The second FEC taken a month later, in the third week of February, resulted in an unbelievable reduction in the average to just 122, with all lambs reducing. The lamb with the 25550 count decreased to 140. This was totally unexpected, as we have been monitoring the reduction between testing for many years.

In the early days, scientists at Ruakura stated that a reduction between the first and second count was desirable. This was because the second count was at the peak of the worm challenge and would be higher. In 2015 85% of lambs recorded a significant drop in FEC between the first and second count. 10% recorded an increase and about 5% remained the same. This result I found very pleasing. Imagine my shock when four years later, all 397 lambs tested showed a high drop in FEC. Having some knowledge of genetics, from a practical perspective, this was not genetically possible in such a time frame. But figures don't lie, so other factors had to be at play. The environment would have to be the only factor. The past year has been unprecedented for exceptional sheep health, especially for lambs. Virtually no pneumonia, which commercial farmers also noted, no pink eye which is normally prevalent over the late summer period, and no grass staggers. Inexplicably there was an absence of cattle tick which like barber's pole worm, suck blood, the lifeline of the immune system. This exceptional sheep health has thankfully extended into this year, with the ewes in better condition than I have seen since childhood, when my father had a low stocking rate in sheep. Without any crops this year, the lambs are very active and healthy without ever being drenched. My theory on the dramatic FEC drop is therefore as follows: -

Normally the immune system faces many challenges over the late summer-autumn period, obviously worms, and also other health issues, principally pneumonia. Then there are other issues that weaken the immune responses like toxins produced by fungi in the pasture and cattle tick. So my theory is that the immune system did not have challenges from other diseases and parasites and therefore was better able to fight the worm challenge, and it blitzed a significant worm challenge in 4 weeks, and maybe less time.

I want to see if this is repeated this year. I have written to top scientists to see what their opinion is to the theory I am advancing.

Clearly this situation demands more research, to monitor worm challenges in animals that are bred for resistance, and gauge the responses of the immune system to such challenges.

After the Kikitangeo dispersal sale, when worm resistant sheep are in different ram breeding operations, and in different environments, would be the ideal time to conduct such trials.

What about the future of breeding worm resistance?

The rapid spread of super worms that are resistant to all chemical drenches signals the end of the chemical control of worm challenges. There are no new drenches available and in the foreseeable future, partly due to concerns of financial viability especially with falling sheep numbers worldwide. Farmers in the future will have to seek new options if they are to continue sheep farming. There are two options available.

First, to reinstate the methods employed by our forefathers before modern drenches were available. Trevor Cook has already designed farming strategies to reduce the intake of worm larvae to a point where worm challenges are controlled by average immune response.

The second option is to breed sheep that have immune responses that can control any worm challenge in all environments. That has been our policy for the past 34 years. In my opinion, this is the best long term solution.

Currently the DPF – the SIL measure for worm resistance – of our flock has an average of around 650, with our 2019 lambs averaging 716. One sire had 15 of his 28 ram lambs over 1000. There were four outside rams used. I would anticipate this year's ram lambs – with all Kiki sires – to average well over 800 DPF.

All this begs the question how far do we need the capital DPF figure to increase to ensure total protection from any worm challenge? I believe that an average DPF figure of 900 plus, but more than 1000, is easily achievable and would be at a level to ensure that the immune system would give protection from any challenge. At this DPF average, the range would vary from about 700 to 1300. If the present increase continues, this would take 4 to 5 years. In the meantime, current average DPF of around 700 would give total protection in most areas of the country.

The other area that needs improvement is to breed for an immune system that will react earlier. Anything is achievable in genetics because of the principle of genetic variation. I regard an average FEC of 3733 that we had in the ram lambs in the third week of January to be unacceptable. The genetic variation was a low of 105 and a high of 25550. The ram lamb that had a figure of 105 was a good lamb so he was used over a few ewes. He was subsequently sold to Murray Quinn, a ram breeder at Kaikohe. The FEC's of his ram lambs will be interesting.

Reflection

Initially the fact that our flock would have been sold was very disappointing because a competent stud manager could not be found. However, I have come to believe that it is in the national interest to have other ram breeders complete the task of making worm resistance a dominant trait in their flocks. I have never been motivated by money, but have sought satisfaction in setting goals and trying to achieve them; not always successfully. Breeding for worm resistance has been a huge learning experience with both disappointment and exciting moments. I have never doubted success, but the time frame was unknown.

Two facts I have found encouraging –

First, parasitologists, more than 35 years ago, stated that it would be possible to breed sheep with worm resistance given a long time frame.

Secondly, French settlers took sheep with them when they arrived in the sub tropical US state of Louisiana. Some sheep escaped and went feral. Sheep face a huge barber's pole challenge and have to drench young unweaned lambs to keep them alive. However, the feral sheep are totally unaffected. Another example of Nature's principle of survival of the fittest. [Now known as Gulf Coast Native Sheep - Ed]



Gulf Coast sheep. Photo: Gulf Coast Sheep Breeders Assn

My earnest hope is that other ram breeders will continue with the programme that has been successful, and build on the 34 years of groundwork that has been done. It is the national interest that they do so. The genetic option ticks all the boxes. An enhanced immune system will not only control worm challenges, but ensure better overall health of the sheep. The farmer will benefit with less costs and labour input. To have fewer chemicals entering the food chain would be a huge plus for consumers.

As long as I am able, I will give advice where it is requested.

Gordon Levet

Maple Genetics

“Building on the past – Breeding for the Future”

The Story behind a Champion Dorper



Maple 20207/20 “Leroy”

Our Dorper Stud was established in 2011 with the purchase of a purebred ram who was used over commercial mix breed ewes, mainly Coopworth and Poll Dorset. Being very pleased with the results with very good growth rates we set about to find purebred ewes. These proved to be somewhat difficult to source but eventually finding a line with full pedigree recording in the North Island, these 21 ewes were the base to the Stud.

Right from the start our emphasis was on functional type and good growth rates; the Dorper's had to perform alongside the Poll Dorset ewes using our own Indexing system we call DataBaa. This program gives each lamb an Index with a base of 100 being average. It is adjusted for singles, twins, triplets and hogget's and 2 tooth's to give a fair comparison between groups.

In 2013 we purchased the Ram Dorper Lodge 460/12 “Mickey” his Sire was AI from the Kaya Stud in Australia. This ram gave us very good growth and functional type. One of his oldest daughters Maple 523/15 was Champion Dorper at Ellesmere (Dorper's and White Dorper's judge together) and Canterbury Show at the age of 6.

In 2015 we decided to look to Australia for new genetics purchasing 10 Embryo's from the Dell Stud which resulted in 4 ram lambs and 2 ewe lambs. This was a fairly costly exercise with no control over the breeding of embryo's received, however, it was a good experience to set the base for ongoing breeding objectives.

2017, after a thorough look into the background and breeding of the top ewe lines at the Dell Stud, we settled on the purchase of a ewe in Australia, Dell 160007. Her dam was breeding exceptionally well with Sires being used by Dell from her female line.



Dell 160007 dam of Maple 20207/20 “Leroy”

We put a lot of emphasis on the female line; longevity and ewes that do the job in the paddock under commercial conditions. Dell 160007, along with her ewe lamb, were sent to a Breeding center in Dubbo where she finished rearing the lamb and was programed for flushing to bring embryos to NZ.

When purchasing her, one slip up on my part, was not realizing the semen used to flush for export had to be from a ram who had been collected for the NZ Protocol. Fortunately, we were able to purchase a ram from the Dell Sale who had the breeding and depth of background we were wanting. He was collected and then on-sold to another breeder in AU, Semen was shipped to NZ along with the first batch of embryo's which resulted in 3 Rams and a Ewe, this included Maple 1829/18 “LJ” who has been used in the Stud.

However, when it came time for the second flushing programme, I was asked what ram do I want her mated to? My response was the semen collected earlier from our ram that was in storage; big mistake on the Breeding Centre's part as they had not retained the semen they were asked to. Obviously, this caused a lot of concern at the time. Fortunately there was a ram sale being held and another ram purchased to be collected. We did a flush using him which resulted in only 1 embryo. This embryo as a Hogget was placed 1st in her class at Canterbury Show 2021. The Centre informed me they had a ram being collected for another country that used the same protocol as NZ from the Amarula Stud. This ram fitted our breeding objectives very well, having Lambplan figures to back his looks up. We used him for flushing and also brought semen over to use in the flock. He has left his mark in the Stud with a good number of daughters and the subject of this story, Maple 20207.



Amarula 165984 "Coolaminy" Sire of Leroy

Dell 160007 was flushed to Amarula 165984 which has resulted in 3 ewes and 2 rams, including 20207 "Leroy" who was a standout from birth. He had a slight advantage being on a very milky White Dorper recipient. Born on the 15th July and weaned on the 27th Oct weighing 48kg and 61kg on the 12th Dec which was a very dry period for us. He was taken to the Breeding Center Genetic Gains early January for collection of semen to have as an insurance and then back home to mate 35 Ewes in February. He just kept developing out with very good constitution during this time. His ET brother was sold to Twelve Elms Dorper Stud, his 3 sisters all lambed as hoggets, 2 were in our show team.

It was with humble anticipation he was entered for Ellesmere, Ashburton and Canterbury Shows. First Show was to Ellesmere in October where the Dorper's and White Dorper's are judged together. He was placed 1st in his class and went on to be Supreme Champion Dorper.

Ashburton Show was the Dorper Breed feature Show this year. He was again placed first in his class of 9 entries.

Canterbury Show again placed first in his class and awarded Supreme Champion Dorper.



Maple 20207/20 "Leroy"

Paddock performance, we have a very nice line of both Ram and Ewe Lambs Sired by Leroy with 2 very interesting Ram Lambs in particular these Rams are line bred to Dell 160007 out of daughters of his half-brother "LJ". They are what is termed 50/25 being 50% same blood on the top line with 25% same on the bottom line or 37% same blood. The more I study the art of line breeding the more I am convinced it is a very handy tool to use providing the animal you are line breeding to is of sound type and constitution with no faults. If breeding with outcrosses each generation in my opinion there is to much diverse genetics to give a stable and uniform result.

Where to from here for Leroy? He will again be used as our main Sire in 2022 as well as a son mentioned above. We have a new Ram to AI mate to his daughters from the Amarula Stud Amarula 208508 that was purchased in Feb 2021 who has semen in NZ now ready for the next mating season, he is Sired by the AU\$45,000.00 ram sold at the same sale.



Amarula 208508 "Thumper"



Amarula 176486 , Sire of "Thumper" Sold for AU\$45,000.00



White Dorper success at the CAPA Sheep Event 2021

The new look format created by Covid lockdown for the Canterbury A&P 2021 Sheep Event saw the smaller individual pens for sheep giving way to larger pens where exhibitors' sheep were penned together in their family groups, with only rams and ewes separated. There was no straw bedding on the concrete, it was one busy day rather than three and no public! Over 400 sheep were exhibited.

It was interesting to learn the significant cost, time and labour savings that these changes created – and who knows, new concepts such as these could be considered at future shows. From an exhibitor's perspective it was certainly an easy option. Thanks are due to all the volunteers who helped make it all work from developing the format for the day, the setup of the pavilion, supplying morning tea, lunches, the afternoon BBQ and undertaking the subsequent clean up.

The Dorper sheep section was well supported with six breeders exhibiting 50 sheep, both Dorpers (Blackhead) and White Dorpers between them. There was a mix of results across the classes for all the exhibitors but two breeders had very successful days.

The Maple Genetic team gained top placings in all the Dorper classes for which they had entries and achieved the Champion Dorper Ewe and Champion Dorper Ram ribbons.

The Belfield Park team took out the top placings in all of the White Dorper Classes and achieved the Champion White Dorper Ewe and Champion White Dorper Ram ribbons, with the Ram also being judged the Supreme Dorper sheep for the show.

However, the biggest news for the Dorpers was Belfield Park Dorper stud owners, Cristine and Lindsay Drummond achieving two outstanding results in the All Breeds competition.

First, their White Dorper ewe hogget (18/20) was placed first in the Best Ewe Hogget (Meat Breeds) class. Then their White Dorper ram (59/19) made it all the way to the top when he took out the Best Meat Breed Sheep award for the entire sheep event. It is great to see the Dorper sheep breed attaining the highest overall awards when competing against the more traditional breeds.

When one considers the years of experience of the judges involved in making this decision and the general high quality of all the breeds exhibited it is certainly a feather in any breeder's cap to achieve such a result – well done Cristine and Lindsay.



Belfield Park 59/19



Belfield Park 18/20

Photos: courtesy of Ben Doubleday
(Canterbury Studstock Photographer)



Goat & Sheep Milk

NEW ZEALAND

News, Advice, Breeds, Import/Export, Technology, Farm Focus, Profiles, Science, Recipes, Facts, Contacts and Much More in this Publication Dedicated to the Goat & Sheep Industries.

Kia Ora!

We are very happy to share that Goat and Sheep Milk (NZ) publication is now live!

Thank you to everyone who has made this venture a success!

We are delighted with such a positive outcome and are already planning our next bi-monthly edition. Please do access the relaunched free edition on our website and would

appreciate it if you could spread the word through your own networks.

Our vision is to consolidate the publication as an independent national platform to support this vibrant and growing sector in every way possible. If there are any comments or suggestions to help improve what you see, then please let us know.

Once again – thank you for your support and encouragement.

Ngā mihi,
Romano Manuel and Mike Dwight

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“Fostering the improvement of all sheep breeds and providing a unified body whose collective voice has a beneficial effect on the total New Zealand sheep industry.”



Otago Southland Valais Blacknose Sheep Breed Club.

By Nikita Woodhead of Woodland Valais Mosgiel.

A local group of Valais Blacknose breeders in the deep south have set up a breed club, we have started with a simple Facebook group to network locally among breeders and have recently started a club Facebook page so we can share what we are up to with the wider community.



◀ *F1 Ewe lamb from Mayfield Valais (Mosgiel)*

There is a mixture of breeders with purebred flocks and those breeding up, either using their own purebred ram or sending ewes to stud.

Demand only seems to be increasing for crossbred ewe lambs for stud flocks, purebred rams, and crossbred male lambs as either pet wethers or as breeding animals on lifestyle blocks. It is easy to see why with their cute looks and endearing personalities. But they aren't just a pretty face.



◀ *A newborn F2 (75%) lamb from Woodland Valais (Mosgiel). Foundation ewe was Sufftex.*

The Valais is a fast growing, large-framed sheep so there is definitely untapped potential to use purebred or crossbred rams over more commercial ewes to produce a useful lamb. We personally have crossed over Texel ewes and are very happy with the lambs produced – easy lambing, cute and fast growing.

Valais Wool is very popular with crafters, with the strong and long wool good for felting and robust knits. Adult fleece is around 38 micron and they grow up to 25cm length a year with a year's fleece weighing around 4-5kg.

We encourage any local breeders to join our group, details below. Hopefully next year our breeders will be able to attend more shows and events to network and spread the word about our fantastic breed.

Upcoming Events:

- Breed Club dinner – there are plans for a get together, possibly in Roxburgh or Lawrence – get in touch if you are a local breeder and would like to come along.
- Otago Taieri A&P show in late January are holding Valais classes both for purebred and crossbred sheep so there is something for everyone to enter (even crossbred wethers). A great friendly show to get involved with.

Facebook group:

Otago/Southland Valais Blacknose breeders' group

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/otagosouthlandvalaisbreeders>

Lambs from the Iconic Flock (Dunedin). ➤



Purebred Valais Blacknose sheep from the Rose Creek Flock (Central Otago). ▼



“Fostering the improvement of all sheep breeds and providing a unified body whose collective voice has a beneficial effect on the total New Zealand sheep industry.”

TRACEMOL LIFT

A MINERAL AND VITAMIN ENRICHED FOOD SUPPLEMENT FOR LIVESTOCK



WHAT IS TRACEMOL LIFT?

- Tracemol Lift is an animal supplement formulated to provide the full range of minerals and vitamins required for healthy growth and optimum production.
- Tracemol Lift is a unique formulation of essential minerals, trace elements, electrolytes, protein, carbohydrates and vitamins.
- Tracemol Lift is blended into a rich seaweed base. The seaweed type used is *ascophyllum nodosum*. This type has the highest level of minerals, vitamins and amino acids.
- Tracemol Lift is one of the most cost effective livestock supplements on the market.

HOW IS TRACEMOL LIFT USED?

- Oral drench
- Added to water troughs
- Poured on hay or grain
- In milk used to rear calves
- Available in 20 litres, 200 litres and 1000 litres



WHEN IS TRACEMOL LIFT USED?

- Ideal in times of stress such as docking, calving and weaning when the animal's demand for minerals and vitamins is high.
- Pre-mating when higher levels of minerals such as selenium or iodine are beneficial.
- Whenever pasture or supplements provide less than a complete diet.
- Where soils, and consequently pasture, is deficient in minerals required by stock.
- On hay and silage which are normally deficient in essential minerals even when those minerals were available at cutting time.
- When seasonal variations in pasture quality could result in less than optimal animal performance.

THE REACTION™ RANGE TAILORED SOLUTIONS, PROVEN RESULTS

Tracemol Lift is part of the Reaction™ Range. The Reaction™ Range can be tailored to your farms requirements and include a combination of proven products which focuses on improving your soils, pasture and animal health. The range includes lime, solid and soluble fertilizers as well as our extensive range of multiblend liquids, soil conditioners and superior range of minor elements.

Give us a call for more information
(09) 257 4030

TYPICAL CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Element	g / Litre	Element	g / Litre
Nitrogen	30.0	Zinc	0.350
Potassium	30.0	Boron	0.060
Phosphorus	24.0	Copper	0.375
Calcium	0.3	Iodine	0.150
Magnesium	0.3	Cobalt	0.090
Sodium	4.5	Selenium	0.075
Sulphur	2.3	Sucrose	22.250
Chlorine	1.2	Vitamin A	150000 IU
Iron	0.600	Vitamin D	15000 IU
Manganese	0.090	Vitamin E	90 IU

RECOMMENDED DOSE RATES

Livestock	Daily	21 Days	Livestock	Daily	21 Days
Sheep:			Goats:		
Lambs	1 ml	6 ml	Milking	2 ml	15 ml
Hoggets	1 ml	10 ml	Kids	1 ml	6 ml
Rams/Ewes	2 ml	10 ml	Adults	2 ml	10 ml
Dairy Cows:			Horses:		
Cattle:			Foals	2 ml	15 ml
150-300kgs	2 ml	20 ml	Yearlings	2 ml	20 ml
300kgs plus	3 ml	25 ml	Adults	3 ml	30 ml
Calves	2 ml	15 ml	Pigs:		
Deer:			Adults	2 ml	15 ml
Fawns	1 ml	10 ml	Working Dogs:		
Hinds	2 ml	20 ml	Adults	1 ml	10 ml
Stags	3 ml	25 ml			

Tracemol is not for human consumption. Please shake well before use.



(09) 257 4030

CARE IN ALL WE DO



Chengeta
Crop Care

www.chengeta.co.nz



Special NZSBA Men's and Women's Commemorative Sheep125 Jerseys For Sale



◀ Men's Awakino –

Heavy weight merino quarter zip – this textured boucle knit merino jersey with nylon for extra strength is just what you need in the cooler months. This garment has rugged style – wear it to the game or to the pub with your mates. A very versatile style and a firm Wild South favourite.

Women's Merino ➤

Wild South product specifically designed for NZ Sheepbreeders, we have used our mid weight Merino fabric utilised by the NZ Defence force to create a durable, versatile merino pullover to keep the ladies warm without any compromise in style.



Both styles made in NZ

Measurements

in CM

WS213A Women's Merino

	8	10	12	14	16	18
½ Chest	42	44.5	47	49.5	52	54.5
Centre Back	63	64	65	66	67	68

MM047 Men's Awakino Pullover

	M	L	XL	XXL	3XL
½ Chest	56	58.5	61	63.5	66
Centre Back	69.4	71.4	73.4	75.4	77.4

COST

Men's Jersey - \$170.00 (gst inclusive) Women's Jersey - \$135.00 (gst inclusive)

Email form to NZSBA – greg@nzsheep.co.nz

Name			Email
I require:	Men's Jersey	Size:	Number:
	Women's Jersey	Size:	Number:
	Men's Jersey	Size:	Number:
	Women's Jersey	Size:	Number:
	Men's Jersey	Size:	Number:
	Women's Jersey	Size:	Number:

Please pay NZSBA bank account: NZ Sheepbreeders' Assn 03-1702-0107771-00 stating JERSEY in Code

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FOR SALE, ETC

FREE TO GOOD HOME

NZSBA Flock Books Vol 89, 90, 92-96, 102-106 & 111.

Also, Dorper & White Dorper Annuals, Australian 2008-2014 and "Dorpers Into the New Century: Brochure & Training Manual", South African

Latter given to Editor when cousin moved to town.

Pick up from near Martinborough or could be couriered but need money up front to cover it.

Contact Helen

Ph 06 372 7842 or email rosemarkie@wise.net.nz

Sheep Breeds posters are available at the Office.

Contact: greg@nzsheep.co.nz



The NZ Sheepbreeders Association has been associated with providing top genetics to commercial farmers for over 125 years.

Fostering innovation, genetic improvement, technological advances, continuity and leadership and taking the NZ Sheep Industry forward into the future.

An approved SIL bureau to meet all your performance recording needs.

Contact Nigel Jay / 021 140 7827 / nigel.jay@actrix.co.nz
www.nzsheep.co.nz



Note: CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS
FREE advertisements are available for member breeders with surplus stud sheep for sale.
Full or half page ads may have a charge. Talk to Greg!

Remember the "Sheep NewZ" goes up on the website, available to be read by anyone with an interest in sheep!!!

Email adverts to the Editor or greg@nzsheep.co.nz

The Closing Date for next issue of the newsletter will be **February 20th for the March 2022 newsletter.**

Please get items in well before the deadline!!!

"FEATURE BREED" will be South Suffolks

If you would like to be part of this section or the newsletter, **photos and stud histories of All Breeds are accepted at any time for next issue.**

EMAIL OR POST TO THE EDITOR – see front page for address details.

Published by NZ Sheepbreeders' Association

Email: greg@nzsheep.co.nz

Phone: (03) 358 9412

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