

63rd ANNUAL SALE OF 44 HARDY HOME BRED WELSH MOUNTAIN RAMS

B & H JONES GWASTADANAS NANT GWYNANT CAERNARFON LL55 4NW

TO BE SOLD AT GWASTADANAS
TUESDAY 4th OCTOBER 2022
AT 5.00.P.M.

Auctioneers: LLOYD WILLIAMS & HUGHES

WHAT IS PERFORMANCE RECORDING?

Ewes and lambs in hill flocks are individually monitored and key indicators of commercially significant traits are recorded. The data is then analysed and the EBVs and Indexes that are the outcome, are a prediction of how progeny will perform which in turn can impact on your profits.

To calculate the EBVs, Prohill are recording

- flock mating information and pre-tupping weights
- scanning results
- lambing ease and vigour
- 8 week weights
- backfat scanning at 20 weeks.

The data is analysed and used to create the Welsh Index which identifies sheep with superior breeding potential for meat and maternal traits, predicting the value of each ram to your flock.

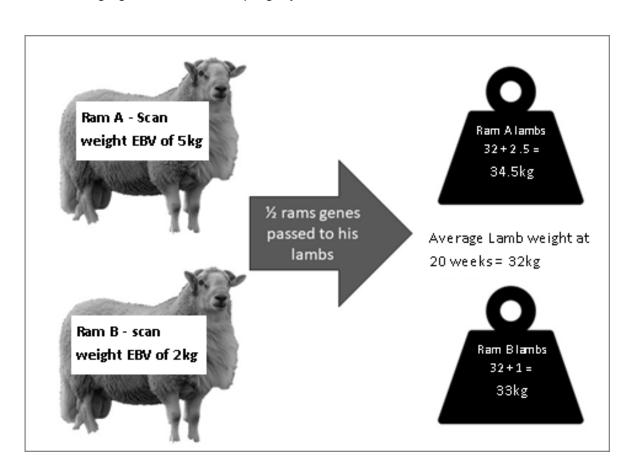
You can use the estimated breeding values to pick rams that will improve the performance of their lambs and their daughters that come in to your flock.

EBVs are expressed in the same units as the recorded trait (e.g. kg for eight week weight) and they relate to a common baseline. This baseline of zero relates to the average breeding value of lambs born in the year in 2015.

EBVs are easy to interpret, for example:

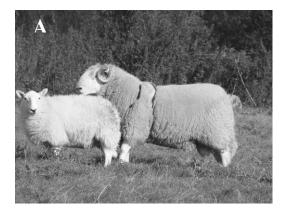
A ram with an EBV of +6 for scan weight is estimated to have the genetic potential to be 6kg heavier at 20/21 weeks compared to one with an EBV of 0.

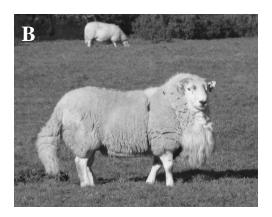
A recorded ram will only pass on half of its genes to its lambs so its EBVs must be halved in order to estimate the average genetic worth of its progeny.



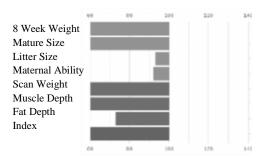
CAN YOU SELECT A GOOD TUP BY EYE?

These two rams were a very similar type and were both purchased for four-figure sums and unrecorded at the time of purchase.





After joining a performance recorded flock, EBVs were calculated from the performance of the rams progeny. Ram A's lambs were mainly sold as store lambs and failed to make any significant growth. In comparison ram B produced fast finishing lambs that graded well. Ram A's EBVs were found to be below average on most traits, ram B's however have been proven above average for most traits, as shown below.



8 Week Weight
Mature Size
Litter Size
Maternal Ability
Scan Weight
Muscle Depth
Fat Depth
Index

Performance recording is an additional tool to assist in decision making when buying rams for your system. It allows you to make informed decisions about the rams, estimating their potential and the future performance of your hill flock.

For information, contact Bedwyr Jones on 07801 355447

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35	UK 0 702362 19225
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37	UK 0 702362 18993
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