



CHAROLLAIS MATTERS

**Focus on the North
of England**

**Females to feature
at the Premier Sale**

**Logie Durno hits
12,000gns at export sale**

**Backing a future with
Charollais in Cornwall**

**Charollais Young
Breeders Social**





Foxhill CHAROLLAIS



Maerdy 20WLS02551
Breed champion Royal Cornwall Show
Male champion Royal Highland Show
Male and reserve champion
Great Yorkshire Show



Foxhill Walkabout
Sold for 17,000gns to
Logie Durno and Loanhead



Foxhill 21XWY00619
Breed and continental interbreed
champion Royal Bath and West Show



Foxhill Wild Rose
Sold for 3500gns at the
Saucy Sale 2021



Foxhill Vogue
Interbreed champion,
Honiton Show 2021



Logie Durno All Star
Purchased privately for £15,000

Welcome from the secretary

As we slowly creep out of the long, drawn-out winter months, we start to look forward to what the summer events and sales will bring for the Charollais breed.

Following on from the interest at the NSA Sheep Event last summer, the Society is looking forward to a full calendar of NSA events throughout the UK, kicking off with South West Sheep, followed by Welsh Sheep, North Sheep and then Northern Ireland Sheep.

All four of these events will give the Society the opportunity to support local breeders in showcasing what the breed can offer the commercial sector, reinforcing the core attributes the breed passes on to its progeny.

Meanwhile, the breed continues to perform well against its terminal sire counterparts with excellent results from AHDB's RamCompare project on a number of traits.

Now, more than ever, commercial sheep producers are mindful of the effects of rising input costs. So, it's particularly pleasing to hear from both pedigree and commercial breeders in this magazine, all of whom value the ease of fleshing virtues of the breed that make Charollais well placed for a future of lower input systems.

Sale season will commence with the dispersal of Tim Prichard's Castellau flock on May 26th. It's always a sad day when any flock disperses, particularly one with the gravitas that Tim's has held over the years. No doubt breeders will be able to take advantage of the depth of genetics on offer.

That weekend also sees the Welsh region host the annual AGM for the Society. It will be great to kick start the season catching up with members from all corners of the UK.

Later in the summer, females will also be to the fore at this year's Premier Sale with the addition of more female entries. Breeders will now be able to offer up to four ewe lambs and four shearling ewes along with their ram entries, making for a diverse offering of genetics on the day at Worcester.

And, with May just around the corner, show season will soon be upon us. Let's hope the Charollais breed can carry on the success of last year with another run of fantastic interbreed achievements in the show ring.

Can I take this opportunity to wish everyone all the best for the year ahead and I hope the summer is kinder than the recent winter months have been.

Best wishes,

Carroll Barber

and the Charollais Sheep Society

**Charollais Matters is
produced by the
Charollais Sheep Society.**

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Chairman's focus

When writing my chairman's report, it gives me time to reflect on past achievements and then think about the future direction of our breed. I like to keep an open mind about the possibilities that will unfold in the future. There will undoubtedly be challenges and opportunities that we will face in these changing times.

The Society, like many businesses, has faced increased operating costs, some of which have been planned, some unavoidable, but in the main, runs an efficient organisation that is financially secure and provides a friendly and effective service for members. However, we are always open to feedback and constructive comments in how we could further improve the offering we provide.

Through your elected council members, who also act as trustees, we try to take decisions for the benefit of members and the progression of the Society. We also like to consult the wider membership either through regional meetings or online surveys. Such a process was particularly useful as we considered both the location and status of the breed's Premier Sale. After much discussion, deliberation, and debate, having listened to the membership, Council reached the overwhelming conclusion that now is not the right time to change anything. So now, to make the Premier Sale the success the quality of sheep deserve, I would encourage people to 'attend and spend'.

As a breed we continue to have a good commercial base because we produce sheep that are easily born, grow quickly and flesh up naturally, along with being structurally sound and fit for purpose. Although fashion changes within our industry the above traits have seen Charollais establish themselves as a respected terminal sire that frequently contributes to some of the other 'trendy' breeds and crosses out there.

Having worked with numerous other breeds I remain totally convinced that the best Charollais are more than a match for any other breed in the UK and further afield. Which brings me on to the export potential of British Charollais. There is demand for our sheep but post Brexit it is proving difficult to facilitate this trade. Customers are often looking for scrapie genotyped and performance recorded stock, with sound type and full pedigree registration.

While surveying the state of Agriculture and the opportunities available it is becoming abundantly clear that the sheep industry will have to keep moving forward and embrace the drive to become more sustainable by lowering our impact on the planet, reducing our reliance on antibiotics and improving the welfare of sheep. To achieve these targets sheep will have to be robust, efficient and functional; all characteristics the Charollais possess in abundance.

A tool that will help identify these sheep of the future will undoubtedly be DNA testing. This is something the Society has started by requiring all sires of lambs in the flock book to have a DNA profile to confirm accurate parentage. Hopefully, in the future some of the stored information will be useful in helping to identify sheep that possess the most desirable traits.

Finally, can I thank Carroll and the office staff for their dedication and hard work over the last year. Also, my fellow members of Council and F and GP who give their time freely to help run the Society for the benefit of the wider membership.

Best wishes,

Charles Gercombe
Charollais Sheep Society chairman



REGISTRATION OF LAMBS BORN IN 2023

Flocks who wish to maintain the pedigree status of their flock should enter the details of all lambs born on the Grassroots system or using an electronic form supplied by the office. Sheep must be birth notified in numerical order.

The breeder will then decide which animals to notify with the Society. All data is to be submitted to the Society **BUT NO CHARGE WILL BE MADE FOR LAMBS THAT THE BREEDER DOES NOT WISH TO NOTIFY**. Notifications and payment shall be submitted to the Society by the dates indicated below.

BIRTH NOTIFICATION SUBMISSION CHARGES

0-2 mths	2 mths to 30/09 in year of birth	After 1st October	0-2 mths	2 mths to 30/09 in year of birth	After 1st October
Grassroots £2.00 (£2.40 inc VAT)	Grassroots £4.00 (4.80 inc VAT)	Grassroots £10.00 (£12.00 inc VAT)	Paper £2.50 (£3.50 inc VAT)	Paper £5.00 (£6.00 inc VAT)	Paper £12.00 (£14.40 inc VAT)

Payment must be sent with all birth notifications unless you have elected to pay by Direct Debit.

Payment for notifications must be sent by return.

- * Birth notified rams are eligible for entry into official Society sales.
- * All birth notified animals must be the progeny of full pedigree registered sires and dams.
- * All sheep at the Worcester Premier Sale must be full pedigree registered.
- * All female sheep must be full pedigree registered prior to entry into an official Society sale.
- * All service sires of in-lamb ewes entered for official Society sales must be full pedigree registered.
- * All sheep entered for shows must be birth notified with the Society.
- * All rams and ewes must be full pedigree registered prior to the birth notification of their progeny.



UPGRADING	Paper submission plus card certificate	On-line submission plus card certificate	On-line submission plus emailed certificate
EWE LAMBS Upgraded > 12 mths	£8.00 (£9.60 inc VAT)	£7.00 (£8.40 inc VAT)	£6.00 (£7.20 inc VAT)
SHEARLING EWES Upgraded > 24 mths	£12.00 (£14.40 inc VAT)	£11.00 (£13.20 inc VAT)	£10.00 (£12.00 inc VAT)
RAMS Upgraded at any time	£20.00 (£24.00 inc VAT)	£20.00 (£24.00 inc VAT)	£20.00 (£24.00 inc VAT)

A complete set of card certificates will be printed for the Worcester Premier Sale and all Society female sales.

NAMES FOR FULL PEDIGREE RAMS

We encourage members to give rams a name at the time of upgrading.

- * Names for 2021 born rams should begin with the letter “W”
- * Names for 2022 born rams should begin with the letter “A”
- * Names for 2023 born rams should begin with the letter “B”
- * The naming of females is at the discretion of the breeder. This information is not logged on the pedigree database (with the exception of females entered in the Worcester Premier Sale).

DNA TESTING OF RAMS

For all 2023 born lambs and beyond it will not be possible to register them unless a DNA parentage result has been submitted for their sires.

In 2022 the Society started on the process of collecting DNA samples from stock held. Members were offered the chance to submit samples (free of charge) from their stock rams for analysis. Blood samples from rams have DNA extracted and Neogen analyse this with a 50K SNP chip. As a breeder you do not receive a ‘result’ as such from this analysis, but the DNA information is stored with Neogen for future work. So, if animals have data stored it is then possible to parentage check their progeny.

For 2023 born lambs the Society now requires the sire of these lambs to have had a DNA sample taken. To upgrade a ram for pedigree use the process requires both a Scrapie Genotype result and evidence of a DNA sampling having been done.

When it comes to DNA testing the next generation (ie 2023 born lambs and onwards), the Society will inform Neogen of the sire of the lambs and they will check this against their DNA records. They will inform us if the recorded sire is incorrect and the breeder will be contacted to supply an alternative sire in the instance whereby a match can’t be made. The Society is mindful that genuine mistakes can occur with tagging, recording of information, fostering etc, but the majority of queries are sorted out quickly without any further issues.

The collection of DNA samples not only allows us to correctly record parentage but gives the breed the opportunity to move forward to genomic performance evaluation and also select for specific gene markers.

For more information on DNA testing see page 16.



Welsh region to host AGM

26th – 27th May 2023

The Welsh region is delighted to invite you to the 2023 National AGM at the Vale Resort.

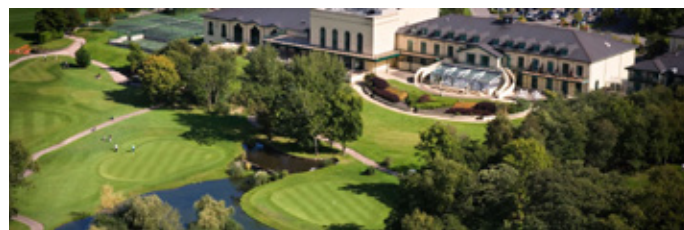
For a four-star hotel and leisure experience nothing short of special, the Vale Resort will not disappoint. Nestled in more than 650 acres of beautiful Welsh countryside in the Vale of Glamorgan, the Resort with its 143-bedroom hotel also has two championship golf courses, Wales' largest spa, an award-winning restaurant and exceptional sporting facilities – making the Vale Resort one of the UK's most desirable golf and leisure break destinations.

Cardiff is only 20 minutes away and after and the hotel is 30 minutes from Cardiff airport.

www.valeresort.com

To view prices and complete the booking form head over to the Society website

www.charollaisheep.com/news



Friday 26th May

Arrive at your own leisure, but do not miss out on the Castellau flock dispersal sale which is being held at Castellau Fawr Farm which is 20 minutes away from the resort. Sheep bought at this sale can be taken home on the Sunday after the AGM.

Saturday 27th May

Activities available are:

- * Play a round of golf on one of the championship courses £50/person
- * Shopping trip to Cardiff city to leave at 11am
- * Enjoy the resort's spa
- * Annual General Meeting
- * Dinner followed by entertainment. The Welsh Region will kindly supply wine on the tables for dinner and entertainment.

CASTELLAU

DISPERSAL SALE FRIDAY 26TH MAY 2023

100 Charollais Sheep

Beltex and Charollais cross recipient ewes



Thackwood U Corker
Father of 17,000gn Foxhill Walkabout



Logie Durno Watchman
Sire 16,000gns
Brother 9,000gns
Sister 12,000gns



Castellau Va Va Voom
2nd prize RWAS
Sire 25,000gns

T L PRICHARD

CASTELLAU FAWR FARM, LLANTRISANT, MID GLAMORGAN, CF72 8LP

TEL: 07908 355902 EMAIL: julia.prichard@outlook.com

PREMIER SALE

SATURDAY 1ST JULY 2023

WORCESTER LIVESTOCK MARKET
JUDGING TO TAKE PLACE FRIDAY 31ST JUNE, 2PM

Up to four ewe lambs and four shearling ewes eligible for entry from each breeder

- * All sheep will be DNA tested, so no additional cost for the buyer
- * Buy with confidence from a Society approved sale
- * Transport easily found to all corners of the UK
- * Handle before you buy



THE HEART OF THE CHAROLLAIS BREED

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MV *Accredited*

PEMBROKE

Charollais



SERVICE Sires KNOCKIN ARTHUR SHELBY, KNOCKIN ATTITUDE, FOXHILL VA VA VOOM, BOYO VANCOUVER

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News : Charollais on social media

NEWS

The screenshot shows the Facebook page for CHAROLLAIS SHEEP. The page has a green profile picture of a sheep's head. The cover photo is a green banner with the text 'Now also on TikTok!' and a TikTok logo. The page has a sidebar with links to Home, About, Photos, Reviews, Events, Posts, and Community. The main feed shows three posts:

- Post 1:** Announces the Society's presence at various shows and events, including NSA Sheep Southwest, NSA Welsh Sheep, NSA North Sheep, Royal Cornwall Show, Three Counties Show, Royal Highland Show, Worcester Premier Sale, Great Yorkshire Show, and Royal Welsh Show. It includes a 'Like' button and a comment box.
- Post 2:** Announces a new members area on the website, with a link to <https://www.charollais-sheep.com/members/>. It includes a photo of two sheep and a 'Like' button.
- Post 3:** Announces the Northern Ireland NSA event on 4th July 2023 at Tynan Estate, Co Armagh. It includes the NSA logo and a 'Like' button.

On the right sidebar, there are sections for 'Follow us' (with social media handles for Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok), 'Dos and Don'ts of social media', and 'Regional Facebook pages for regional news, shows and sales' (listing pages for Scotland, North of England, East of England, Central, Wales, Southwest, and Northern Ireland).

Now also
on TikTok!

Don't
forget to like
comment and
share!

MAKE SURE
TO FOLLOW
US NOW!

Flock competition winners

Members can view a full list of results from the flock competitions that have been held throughout the UK on the Society website by going to www.charollaisheep.com/news/. Here's a snapshot of the champions and reserves and what the judges thought.



* Ben Radley (centre) presenting the trophy to the overall winners Drew and Stephen Cowan of the Tullyear flock.



* Sheila Malcolmson presenting the novice cup to Mark Cairns.



* Graham Foster receiving the trophy for the best small flock from Ben Radley.

Northern Ireland

Champion: Drew and Stephen Cowan, Tullyear

Reserve: Kenny, Sheila and Geoffrey Malcolmson, Ringclare

"I'd like to thank the Club for inviting Dad and I over to judge the flock competition. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and much appreciated the hospitality shown to us.

Huge congratulations to all those who took part and of course to the section winners. The standard of the sheep presented was excellent across the board.

The champion flock was impressive, with a great quality of females of all ages, not to mention the overall winning stock ram which also came from this flock."

- **Judge, Ben Radley.**

Wales

Overall and large champion: Colin Bowen - Gwyndy

Reserve overall and small champion: Ben Pritchard - Tiptop

Reserve large flock: Nigel Sheldon

Reserve small flock: Sian Tucker - Gower

"The overall champion flock looked tremendous throughout. The stock ram had great lift with length and shape, a real breeders tup and one to watch out for."

Meanwhile, the reserve flock, which also came through as the small section winners, also showcased great quality, particularly in the aged ewe section."

- **Judges Ollie and Paul James.**

Scotland

Champion: Russell Gray, Leelaw

Reserve: John Andrew, Rawnston

"The champion flock showed great breed characteristics, good bodies, good skins and good legs. They also had a bit of spark to them. They were uniform right through with a good batch of ewe lambs to add to the flock.

The reserve flock was similar to my winning flock with good sound ewes. This flock won the ewe lamb section as they had a bit of power coupled with good bodies and style.

Winners of the small flock section were Helen and Hannah Sloan. The Rigghead ewes were an even bunch with great breed character. I was also impressed with their ewe lambs, no doubt they'll make a great group of shearling females.

Reserve in the small flocks was Stuart Ramsey with a powerful bunch of ewes from his Skyefall flock. This flock also won the junior ram award with a stylish lamb."

- **Judge, Jonathan Aiken.**

Central region

Champion: Robert Gregory, Edstaston

Reserve: Ben James, Cinders

"It was a real honour to be invited to judge the central region flock competition. We travelled across 11 flocks in total and saw some fantastic flocks. I was looking for a uniform flock with quality throughout and all-important breed character. The accolades were spread out across all sections and which was testament to the breeders who entered.

The championship flock, which came through from the large section, had some fantastic females showing a lot of spark. Meanwhile, I was particularly impressed with the overall flock and small flock winner. To win all three sections of females was a huge achievement."

- **Judge, Tom Wales.**



* Prize winners from the Scotland flock competition alongside judge Jonathan Aiken.



* Winning the central region flock competition was the Edstaston flock of Robert Gregory.



* The small flock section and reserve overall flock was Ben James' Cinders flock.



* Taking the award for the novice section of the Central region was Conor Whitehead on behalf of himself and Richard Hartshorn.

Edstaston 'TG'

Robert & Jeanette Gregory

Producing Top Quality Recorded Rams for the Pedigree & Commercial Breeder
MV Accredited - Signet Recorded - Scrapie Monitored

Semen & Embryos available for worldwide export

Dalby Ancelotti 22PE10661
INDEX 341



New joint purchase with the Bronwydd Flock at 4,000 gns from Worcester Premier Sale 2022. Ranieri son purchased for his correctness and tremendous carcass. His early lambs have serious muscling.

Edstaston Amarillo
22TG01254 INDEX 221



New for this season son of Ffrwd Wingman, great grandson of Edstaston Tulloch out of 14TG00340 Edstaston Oceania. His first lambs have an abundance of style and shape.

Edstaston Vanity 20TG00969
INDEX 226



A Shockin daughter sold at Worcester Saucy Sale 2021 to Drew & Stephen Cowan for £2,730.00.

Tullyear Artemis
22QY04358



Jointly purchased with the Dalby flock at Dungannon Premier Sale for 3800 gns. A son of Duiske V Man whose first lambs have their sires shape and style with great skins.

NEW LOCATION
SHREWSBURY
SAUCY SALE
OCTOBER 7TH 2023

Visitors always Welcome

The Meadows, Harmer Hill, Shrewsbury SY4 3DZ - Tel: 01939 291466
Mob: 07976 589393 - Email: robertsgregory@outlook.com
www.edstaston-charollais.com

oy Tullyear Charollais oy

Drew and Stephen Cowan

TEL: 028 4062 6275 Mob: 078 4594 1128 / 077 2912 8926

tullyearcharollais@googlemail.com

Lot 102



Lot 110



LOT 102: Sold at Dungannon Premier to Robert Gregory and Charles Sercombe for 3800gns.

LOT 110: Sold at Dungannon Premier to Sarah O'Neil for 2600gns.
Both Rams sired by Duiske V Man. Purchased at Irish Premier 2021 for 9000 Euros.
We are well pleased with this year's offspring.

Winner of Large Flock and Overall Flock in Northern Ireland 2022

Champion Stock Ram 2022 Duiske V Man

**Third Junior Stock Ram Tullyear Allstar,
sired by Duiske V Man**

All stock Scrapie monitored. Visitors Welcome.
26 Cascum Road, Banbridge BT32 4LF Northern Ireland
Breeding for Quality, Breeding for You

A Guide to DNA testing

Everything you need to know from how to test, what needs testing, birth notifications and results

All 2023 born lambs will **NOT BE ABLE TO BE REGISTERED** unless you have submitted a DNA sample for their **SIRES**.

To order a test contact the office and a kit will be sent out.

The test is done by taking a small blood sample from the end of the animals nose using a pricker, the blood is then caught on a blood card. **REMEMBER** to fill the circle with blood.

Once DNA has been stored you will receive an email confirming this. You will **NOT** receive a DNA result.

Send the blood card back to society. You will receive a confirmation email once it is received and sent to Neogen.

Blood Card



Nose Pricker



To upgrade a ram for pedigree use they will require both a Scrapie Genotype result and evidence of DNA sampling having been done.

If you DNA the next generation (ie 2023 born lambs and onwards) we will inform Neogen of who the sire of the lambs is and they will check this against their DNA records. They will inform us if the recorded sire is incorrect and we will contact the breeder to ask you for an alternative sire.

Introducing the Northern Region

Spreading over some of the most beautiful parts of the English countryside, the Northern Charollais Region spans over the counties of Cumbria, Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

With tourist hot spots including the Lake District National Park, The Yorkshire Dales and Hadrian's Wall to name just a few, the area is not only spoilt with rugged beauty, but it is blessed with some of the largest Charollais flocks in the UK, including Foulrice, Galtres and Thackwood.

However, as much as chairman David Norman would love to say the real reason that Hollywood actor Tom Cruise was recently spotted in Cumbria was to purchase Charollais sheep, it was simply the ideal location for filming part of the latest Mission Impossible film!

David is ably helped at committee level by Deborah Whitcher of the Galtres flock who is vice chairman, while David's son Jonathan and his partner Anna Mctear share the secretarial duties. This active region meets three to four times a year for meetings and of course the Great Yorkshire Show plays a vital role in the region's social calendar in a year, as well as an annual flock competition.

"We usually expect 20 plus for a regional meeting, but sometimes with a guest speaker we can hit over the 30 mark," comments David.

As David looks back at his involvement in the region from its early establishment, he can't

help but think about how times have certainly changed for the north of England breeders with many witnessing the physical changes in the breed, but also the reduction of numerous sale venues. "The breed used to command a strong following in Scotland with Lanark proving to be a hot spot for trade some years ago.

"We are now working to get our official Society Sale at Skipton back on the map and we're pushing various local commercially focussed sales such as the Bentham Rampage Sale which proves a solid venue for trade for the region."

Looking to the future David is excited to see younger, keen breeders coming to the fore in the meetings, sharing their thoughts and opinions. "It would be great to see them step up and want to take the reins of the committee and maybe represent the region at Council level and bring a fresh, younger, somewhat different perspective to the running of the Society."

As a region we hope you enjoy reading about some of our top commercial producers in the area, both of whom are fully committed to the Charollais breed, as well as an insight in to the management of the region's champion flock, the Galtres flock.

Galtres wins North of England flock competition



Judge for this year's North of England flock competition was Oliver Chapman who told members at the presentation of prizes evening that he had a tremendous show of sheep to judge across the various flocks.

"The champion flock was a fantastic example of the breed which married pedigree and commercial attributes together, while maximising the number of sheep on the area farmed. The power of the shearling ewes of the champion flock, considering they had been lambed as hogs, were a real credit to the Galtres flock.

"I was also particularly impressed with the first placed senior ram in the large flock, Boyo Uncle Brian, from the Skelton Whin flock. He was a ram showing no age at all, with a great carcass. There is some tremendous sheep in the northern region and it was a privilege to be asked to judge them."

RESULTS

Champion large flock
Galtres

Reserve Champion large flock
Skelton Whin

Champion small flock
Carnew

Reserve champion small flock
Kirkhouse


Overall Champion
Galtres

Reserve overall Champion
Carnew

To view a full list of section results head over to the Charollais website:

<https://www.charollaisheep.com/news/>







THORN EDGE

Son of Foxhill Vincent,
Skelton Whin Arkle,
2nd prize ram lamb GYS 2022

RYAN TODD
TEL: 07999 648929
EMAIL: TODD_RYAN89@OUTLOOK.COM



Stock tup Foxhill Vincent
SEMEN FOR SALE



A 30-year confidence in the Charollais breed for North Yorks-based producers

Tucked away in the quiet Esk Valley, within the boundary of the North York Moors and overlooking the North Sea near the busy seaside town of Whitby is Biggin House, farmed by **Paul Jones** and his dad **Ivor**.



Ivor has had the tenancy of the farm for 35 years and took it on after working for a local estate. Paul, 32, has now taken on the tenancy and as well as farming Biggin House works away a few days a week. He used to go out shearing during the summer, but is now concentrating more on the farm, and has overseen the introduction of several schemes to help enhance the habitat and bio-diversity by planting hedges and fencing off watercourses.

Totalling some 220 acres, Biggin House is part of the Mulgrave Estate owned by Lord Normanby. Along with a further 100 acres of seasonal grazing, the father and son team grow and sell 50 acres of barley and wheat a year as part of a rotation, providing the farm with straw, as well as 20 acres of root crops, put in over the stubble to finish later lambs on.

Charollais lambs thrive well, hitting the spec we need in about three months, with many pushing E-grades.

Fields are reseeded on a regular basis with clover leys to help finish lambs straight off grass, rather than relying too heavily on concentrates. Alongside this they run a small herd of 25 suckler cattle, but the main focus of the farm is their sheep flock, which runs to 800 lambing ewes, mainly a closed flock, only bringing in a few fresh Swaledale draft ewes



Lambs are born easily and are quick on their feet.

each year from the local mart at Ruswarp, to produce the prolific North of England Mules, and a few breeding rams.

"We like to buy Swales off the local North York Moors, as they will be best adapted to the conditions we have here," Paul comments.

Mule ewes are crossed with Texel rams and the gimmers from this cross are retained, producing good mothers with plenty of milk. These selected females are then crossed with the Charollais ram, which the Jones family have been using as their top of choice for more than 30 years when

it comes to breeding finished fat lambs. "The Charollais breed has improved considerably over the years," Ivor says. "They are bigger and stronger than they ever used to be and they lamb with more vigour, which is important for us. Lambs are easily born and are quick on their feet and suck right away," he adds.

Lambing is spread over three times a year with the 100 Texel cross ewes lambing to the Charollais in January, letting them run over two cycles to catch the early spring market, with the quick fleshing attributes of the breed proving ideal for this system. "We find they thrive well, hitting the spec we need in around three months and they kill out at mainly U3L's with many pushing towards E grades," Paul says.

"We house ewes and lambs for the first month as the weather off the North Sea can be challenging to say the least at that time of year, but we turn them out at around one month old and creep them," he explains.

Another batch of 200 ewes are lambed from the 5th of March, with the majority of these lambs sold by the end of July. The rest of the flock lambs from the 15th of April. These lambs are mainly finished later from November onwards off root crops. Spreading out the lambing season like this helps keep the labour costs down and they can do it all themselves, whereas a big rush of lambs hitting the ground would have to involve more labour. This system also allows Ivor and Paul to have a good spread



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Northern Region Focus Feature : Paul and Ivor Jones

NORTHERN REGION FOCUS

of lambs across the season, from Easter through to the following December. All ewes are lambed inside and across the flock they average 190% scanning.

Lambs are sold deadweight via Dawn Meats Carnaby, with the Charollais sired lambs hitting the 42kg target quickly and with ease, many straight off grass. "The grade sheets are something to behold, with such a great consistency of carcass quality throughout the batches.

**Lambs are sold deadweight,
with the Charollais cross
lambs hitting 42kg with many
finishing off grass.**

"They perfectly suit the system that has built up here over the years. We've tried other breeds including crossbred Charollais, but we find the pure Charollais rams produce a more consistent stamp of a lamb, with good skins and light bone, which helps them kill out so well" adds Paul

When buying a tup they look for a tup with a full frame and a tight skin with a sharp head. They used to buy their tups at Kelso, but have lately preferred to buy privately from Chris and David Timms. "These tups are the type they like, those that go out and work well, are full of vigour and can cover 60-70 ewes without any problem."

Such is the faith in the Charollais breed that the family believe the modern Charollais is fit to face an uncertain future of sheep



production as they produce lambs which thrive and finish well off grass, flesh up easily to meet the modern specs needed with minimal inputs. "All these attributes and being brought into sharp focus at the moment with rising costs everywhere you turn and the removal of direct support," adds Paul.



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PEDIGREE CHAROLLAIS IN-LAMB FEMALES

SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2023

(Entries close Friday 8th September)

CHAROLLAIS MATTERS | SPRING 2023 PUBLICATION

23

Skelton Whin



Skelton Whin Arkle
2nd prize Great Yorkshire
Show 2022

Skelton Whin 22NN02201
Top priced ewe lamb at
1600gns at Skipton
By Boyo Uncle Brian

Skipton also saw
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- Extremely correct with perfect legs and feet
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- Full brother to Boyo Whitney who was sold to Springhill and then went on to be part of the interbreed shearling ewe pairs at Balmoral 2022. Whitney's daughter was top price at Dungannon the same year



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- Maternal brother to Boyo Vancouver

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SEMEN
FOR SALE

FLOCK: XXW
MV ACCREDITED

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Customer is king for the Galtres flock

A keen focus on their commercial ram customers drives everything for York-based **Deborah and Paul Whitcher's Galtres flock**.

Although some 35 years established, Deborah took the Galtres flock in her sole name in 2002 having managed it prior to that alongside her sister and both her and husband Paul have continued to develop it in recent years, targeting major commercial sales both locally and further afield.

"Back in 1988 the first female in the flock was a ewe lamb from Jonathan Ashcroft's Crabtree dispersal, with further females added from Billy Fell, Ken Farnsworth and Bill Wilkinson.

"Fast forward to today and we haven't purchased a female for 15 years or more, preferring to breed with our own lines and put investment into stock rams to complement the females we have here," explains Deborah.

She says the aim is to breed good-bodied sheep, with size, good legs and feet and functionally correct in every way. "Functionally fit sheep outweigh everything else in my opinion. They have to be mobile, with sound mouths and good skins.



* Deborah Whitcher

"My preference is for cleaner headed Charollais, while still being hardy and able to thrive in any system or environment. Maternal ability is key in our females too. They have to be able to lamb easily and rear their lambs well," she says.

Early on in the flock's development the most influential tup was Inglis Cymro who was bought privately from Geraint Lloyd. "He was full of



* Some of the Galtres rising shearling rams that will be offered for sale later in the season.

Rutland and Crogham breeding. The Inglis pen was always one of the talking points at Bulth, they had some of the best conformation in the sale. However, they were also presented straight from the field, so weren't to everyone's taste.

"We've always tried to buy rams which have a consistent commercial following from flocks known for selling pens of commercially reared shearlings. We've had three consecutive rams from the McLaren family at Netherton, one purchased at a sale and two privately. All of these have done well for us and went back to some of the more traditional bloodlines at both Logie Durno and Foulrice."

Meanwhile, current stock rams include Padraig Wam Bam, with this son of Galtres Storm purchased privately. Alongside him runs Moss side Valiant, Bachymbyd Vengeance and Artnagullion Armani.

"All of them have the right attributes to breed the type of sheep we like and crucially they all have a good shoulder which is something we're fastidious about, as well as a good top line and backend," she stresses.

Flock management at Galtres is kept as simple as it can be, with a keen desire to balance farming and family life at the heart of every decision Deborah makes.

"We lamb about 130 ewes in December, AI'ing 100 and serving the remainder naturally. However, tups are removed after three weeks to ensure we're not lambing over Christmas and anything not in-lamb for December lambing is tugged to lamb in March alongside the ewe hogs and about 30 commercial ewes.

"Not many breeders would lamb their pedigree ewe hogs, but we find they make better mothers as shearlings by doing so. We just have to ensure they get the best grazing and are well looked after post-lambing. Tups only run with the hogs for four weeks, so not all of them take, but a good number do."

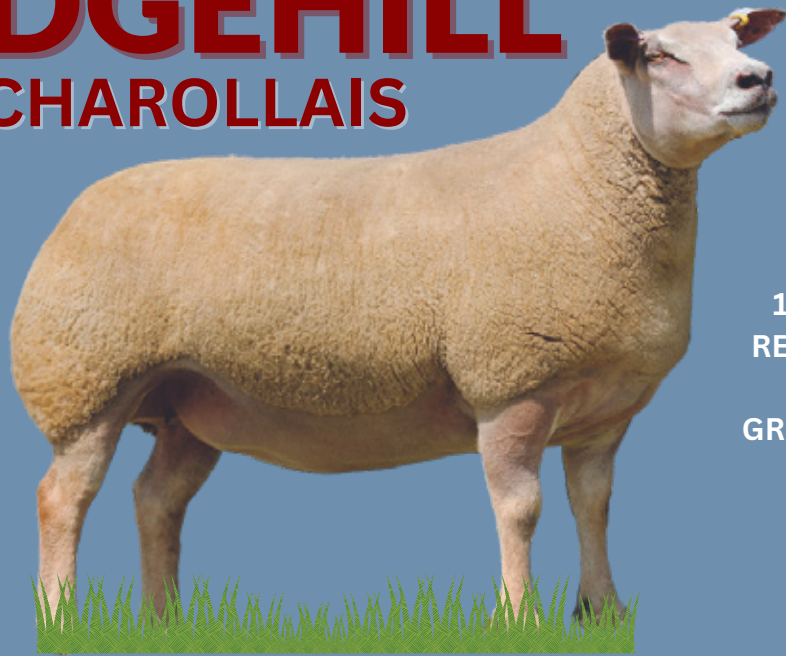
My preference is for cleaner headed Charollais while still being hardy and able to thrive in any system or environment.

All ewes are housed for lambing, with the December lambers staying inside until lambs are weaned and ewes are then turned out while lambs remain inside a little longer. "March lambing ewes go out to grass within a few days of lambing. I do feel there is a strong case for doing away with December lambing, particularly with feed costs rising as they have in recent years."



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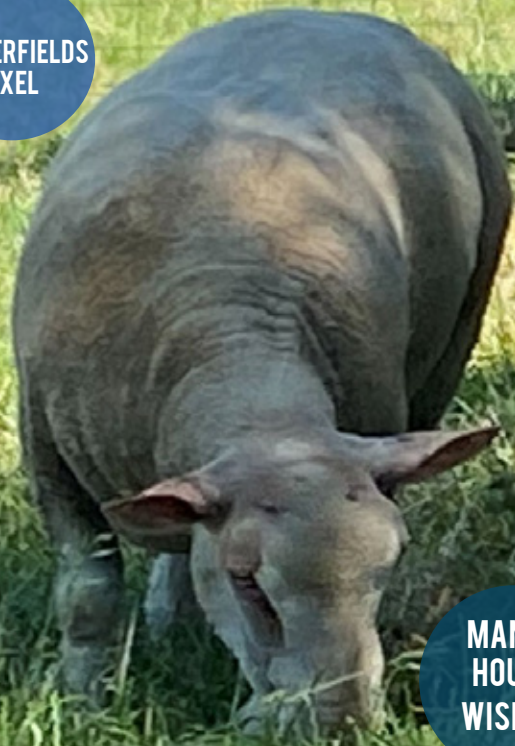
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Padrig Wham Bamm
Moss Side Valiant
Artnaguillion Armani, purchased from
William McCallister - his lead lamb
Worcester 2022



“Modern Charollais have the growth rates to compete with any breed and are excellent forage converters, so lambing later and making better use of grass would, I’m sure, help the breed commercially.”

Backing up this message, Deborah recently sold a group of new season lambs weighing 41kg live and killing out at 22.8kg (55.6%) at Darlington Farmers Auction Marts to Roots Farm Shop.

“Later lambing, it may well help with the trade for cull lambs too, particularly in the northern parts of the UK. December-born lambs are ready too early for the spring lamb trade, so rarely attract the prices achieved later in spring, despite having cost a lot to produce,” says Deborah.

We have a breed which makes a lot of sense commercially as farmers look to focus on later lambing, grass based systems.

And when it comes to selling, it is shearlings that are the emphasis for the flock. “We target the better shearlings at the two Built sales, with others going to the NSA Sale at Melton Mowbray, as well as local sales at Bentham, Thirsk, Darlington and Skipton. A good number are also sold from home each year, with social media helping widen our marketing opportunities.

“Social media has helped a lot in recent years and as we haven’t shown for more than 10 years now, it helps to keep our profile up.”

But, despite not showing the flock has continued to pick up some rosettes, including winning the Northern Region flock competition



in 2022, taking second in the flock ewes and first in the shearling ewes and ewe lambs.

“That was a great win as there were some good flocks in the competition. Winning a flock competition is a real indication of breeding success as it comes down to consistency as well as quality. Having a handful of good show sheep is one thing, but having a level and eye-catching flock is another,” she explains.

Away from home Deborah enjoys judging when asked, having previously had the task of judging at the Irish Premier Sale. “I try not to do too much judging in a year, but I do enjoy going to different parts of the country and further afield to see the quality breeders have to offer.

“That said, breeders have to be careful about chasing show winnings. We need to focus on the commercial customers and that probably means less embryo transfer work, maintaining genetic diversity and ensuring we promote the key characteristics which make the breed successful at a commercial level.

“We have a breed which makes a lot of sense commercially as farmers look to focus on later lambing, grass-based systems. Charollais have a lot to offer and we mustn’t lose sight of what the customer needs.”



Quality counts at School Hill Farm

School Hill Farm stands up on the hillside in the small hamlet of Askwith, between Ilkley and Otley overlooking the River Wharfe and Ilkley Moor. Ken and Adele Marston have farmed here for the last 33 years taking over the tenancy on the Dawson Estate from Ken's dad.

The farm now runs to some 250 acres with additional land taken on for grazing, where they carry a flock of 400 lambing ewes and a herd of 50 suckler cattle, mainly Limousin cross British Blue cows. Their son Scott, who also works at home part time, has a small herd of pedigree Limousin cattle and a pedigree flock of 20 Charollais ewes. The land runs to just over 1000 feet at the top from where you get an exceptional view over the Vale of York.

The sheep flock consists of a core of 300 Texel cross ewes along with up to 60 mule ewes and Adele runs her own flock of 20 pure Cheviot ewes. They also carry some Cheviot cross Texel ewes too. The mule ewes are crossed with the Texel ram and the gimmers are retained to make up the core of the flock.

They have a spirited nature and that stands them in good stead when they are born

After trying several different breeds on the Texel cross progeny, the Marston's settled on using the Charollais over a decade ago, as they found they lambed a lot easier and stood up well and got to the teat well. "They have a spirited nature and that stands them in good stead when they are born," Ken notes. Lambs grow well and with a good meat to bone ratio they kill out well and are always in demand when they take the fat lambs to Skipton, where they sell most of their stock.

The majority of lambs are finished off grass and as the cost of concentrate feed has been so much higher over the last year, they have cut back on creep feed, but still find that Charollais lambs outperform other terminal sires

They start lambing in early January, to catch the easter market. Ken finds that Charollais lambs gain weight well and can be 4-5kg heavier than the equivalent Texel lambs. "We put them on the scales, and even though they look similar, the Charollais weigh that much better," he says. Catching that early market pays dividends and has seen the family hit over the £200 price tag for new season lamb. Last year they were up to a more modest £175, which is still an impressive trade. "They are good clean lambs and catch the eye of the butchers and discerning buyer, where quality counts all the way, and killing out well is so important," he adds.



When looking for a new tup Ken likes to concentrate, on a good carcass and skin, but he also likes to look for a tup that is just a little bit whiter in the face as he feels those types of tups are just that little bit harder and thrive better on their farm and ultimately put that extra hardiness in to the lambs too. They buy their tups at local markets, such as Skipton at the Society sale in early September and at Bentham, where there is always a good choice of Charollais rams at their Rampage in late August, buying from Towers at Bentham and last year from the Foulrice flock at Skipton.

They are good clean lambs and catch the eye of the butchers and discerning buyer, where quality counts all the way, and killing out well is so important



Rainbow Flock of Charollais Sheep XPU



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in the
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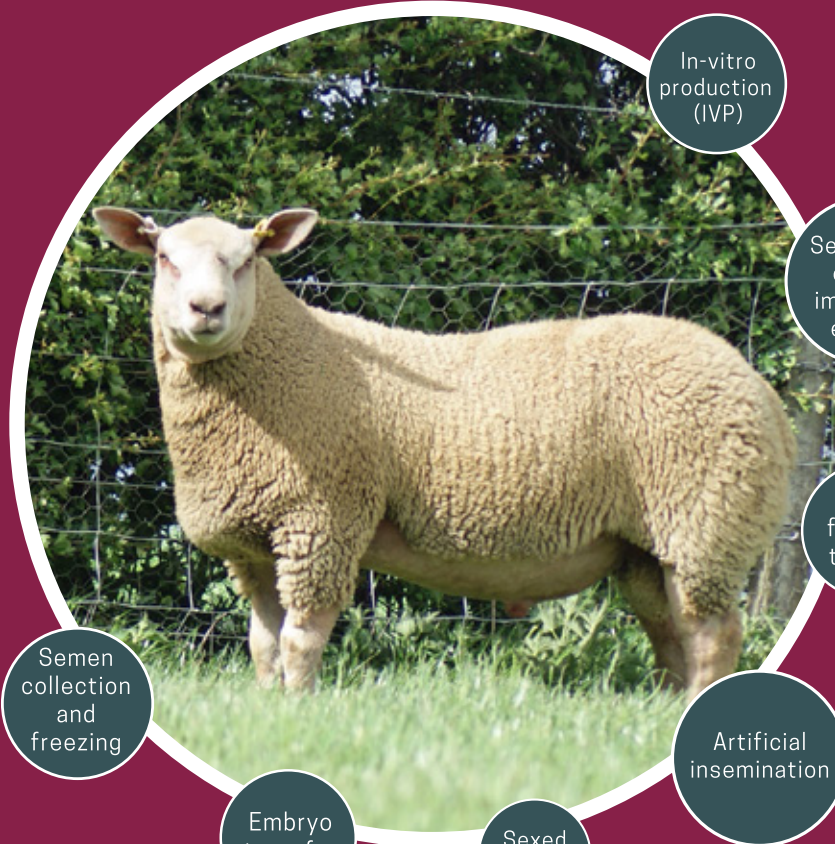
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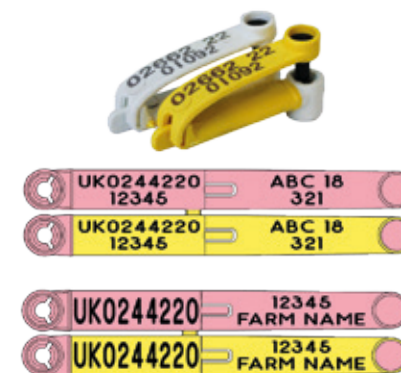
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Data sharing highlights untapped potential

By Laura Eyles

The Charollais breed has a long history of supporting breeders with genetic improvement programmes, benefiting breeders and the wider breed. A new agreement between the Charollais Sheep Society and Signet Breeding Services to share more pedigree information will make this even easier in the future.

From 1st January, additional pedigree data will be used to enhance Signet's National Terminal Sire Evaluation, filling in many of the gaps in pedigree that arise when unrecorded sheep enter a performance recorded flock.

This has many advantages for both recorded and unrecorded flocks, which include:

- * Breeding values for litter size, birth weight and lambing ease are enhanced by the inclusion of extra performance records.
- * Inbreeding values are more accurate and the ability to monitor inbreeding is easier.
- * It will enhance our ability to compare sheep in different flocks.
- * Unrecorded sheep of high genetic merit can be identified from data obtained on relatives.

For a flock review to see where your flock sits in the analysis, contact Laura Eyles at Signet laura.eyles@ahdb.org.uk

By incorporating this information into the evaluation of Charollais sheep, we can see:

- * 47% of Charollais sheep are in flocks that performance record with Signet.
- * Nearly half of the Charollais stock rams used by pedigree breeders since 2010 have been performance recorded.
- * The use of recorded sires in unrecorded flocks means the whole breed is benefitting from measuring performance and the use of EBVs.

* The chart below shows the genetic merit of both unrecorded and recorded sheep has increasing over the last decade through the movement of recorded rams into unrecorded flocks.

The biggest beneficiaries of this approach are new Charollais flocks that are considering recording. Breeders can instantly see where their sheep sit in the breed and where their EBVs and Indexes are likely to start. While some flocks may have low accuracy values for some of their sheep, few will be starting from scratch. If flocks have invested in high genetic merit rams in the past, this will now be reflected in their breeding values.

In fact, getting started couldn't be easier – in most cases your animals will already be on the database and all we need is your lambing records and lamb weights as the season progresses.

Crogham Charollais

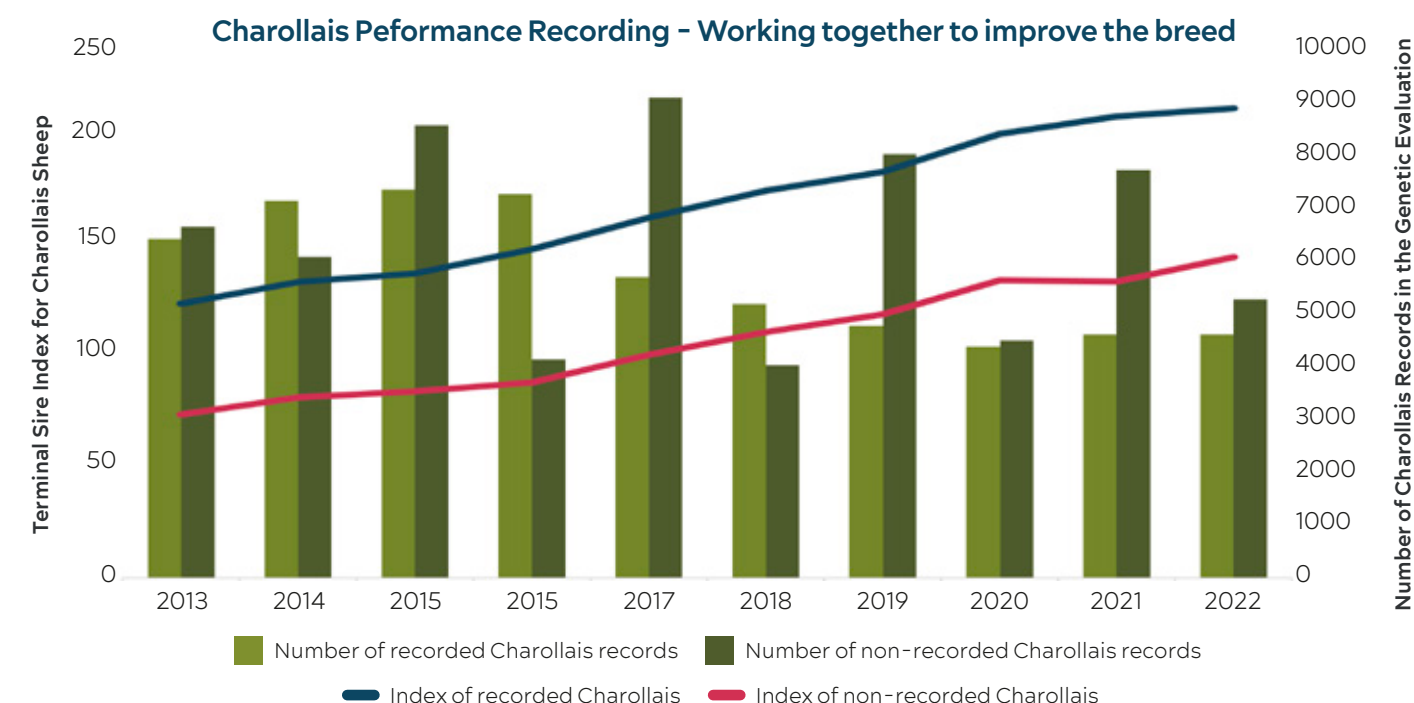
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BREEDING SERVICES



Charollais performing well in RamCompare, so what happens next?

By Samuel Boon, AHDB/Signet Breeding Services

The use of ultrasound scanning and computed tomography (CT) to measure and enhance carcass attributes has been important in the development of the modern Charollais. In both cases these measurements are actually “proxy traits”. They are easy to measure in pedigree flocks and Charollais breeders have used them enthusiastically to enhance the carcass yield and conformation of commercial lambs.

In 2023 Signet’s evaluation of Charollais sheep will take another important step forward with the production of breeding values which have been generated from abattoir records (including data collected as part of RamCompare). This information assists the commercial ram buyer, helping them to directly focus on those traits that influence their profitability.

RamCompare records to be analysed in the National Charollais Evaluation

RamCompare is a joint levy funded project and is the UK’s commercial progeny test for terminal sires and a major source of abattoir data for genetic evaluations. Over seven breeding seasons we have recorded more than 38,500 lambs sired by 401 rams, using both artificial insemination (AI) and natural mating. To date we have tested 8000 Charollais sired lambs and the inclusion of their abattoir records into the national evaluation makes the breeding values generated for their sires and close relatives more accurate and more accessible.



In May the Signet database will publish breeding values for the following traits, where a minimum level of accuracy has been reached:

- * **Carcass Weight EBV** – Positive values indicating heavier carcasses.
- * **Carcass Conformation EBV** – Positive values indicating higher conformation.
- * **Carcass Fat Class EBV** – Negative value indicating leaner carcasses.
- * **Days to Slaughter EBV** – Negative values indicating faster finishing lambs.

A new breeding index is being launched that takes into account the economic value of each attribute and expresses the genetic merit of rams in financial terms, this will be known as “Lamb Value Index”.

It is recognised that only a subset of Charollais sires currently have this information available, but where this isn’t available research has shown that existing breeding values are good predictors of performance.

In the Charollais breed, rams with high Scan Weight EBVs are proven to reduce days to slaughter and rams with superior EBVs for Muscle Depth and Gigot are leaving progeny whose carcasses have better conformation when slaughtered.

Future research is expected to identify and recommend the fitting of genetic correlations between the traits that are measured by pedigree breeders (like muscle depth) and the abattoir traits. These updates will enhance our genetic predictions but won’t be released during the 2023 season.

Runningburn leads Kelso trade at £1700

Kelso proved a strong trade for Charollais tups with Jim Neil’s Runningburn flock in the Scottish Borders leading trade with a ram lamb selling for £1700, which also took the reserve championship in the pre-sale show.

Averages:
97 Shearling rams **£656.08**
21 ram lambs **£480.48**
(C and D Auction Marts)

This one is by Logie Durno Winston and is out of a Wernfawr ewe. He caught the eye of Jason and Gareth Henderson for their Carriche flock in Co Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

Next up was a steady trade for shearling rams with Ben Radley leading this section at £1600 with one from his Loaningfoot flock. By Logie Durno Ultimatum out of a Wernfawr ewe, making him full sister to Ben’s Royal Highland Show champion. This one went home with Messrs Glass and Smith, Aberdeenshire.

At £1400 was the best from the Logie Durno team of Willie and Carole Ingram who also achieved the pre-sale championship and a pen average of £809.29 for their 14 tups sold.

Next best was Russell Gray and family with a call of £1300 for his pen leader, a Boyo Rolls Royce son out of an Oakchurch Ozil daughter. His five tups on the day recorded the best pen average of £846.

With 22 tups on offer Jonathan Wales of the Thackwood flock saw a top price of £1200 for a Loanhead Unstoppable son. This one was knocked down to MFH Farming with a pen average of £750 for 23 sold.

Then at £1000 was Helen and Hannah Sloan selling one from their Rigghead flock. This one was a son of Loanhead Rembrandt and sold to Anna Layfield.



* The reserve champion from Jim Neil’s Runningburn flock took the top price at £1700 at Kelso.



* Taking the championship honours at Kelso was William and Carole Ingram, Logie Durno, while reserve went to Jim Neil, Runningburn. Dan Phipps (centre) was the judge on the day.

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design
MacGregor

Mortimer flock hits high of 3800gns at NSA Builth Main Sale

A strong run of shearling rams from the Probert family's Mortimer flock dominated the headlines at the NSA Main Builth sale as they won the overall pen of shearlings and then went on to top the sale at 3800gns.

The sale highlight from the Worcester-based flock was their first lot in the ring, Mortimer 21HH06823, a son of Oakchurch Ultimate and out of a homebred female by Galtres Never Say Never Again. This one caught the eye of D H and M W Williams, Fron Heulog, Anglesey.

Another from their pen, Mortimer 21HH06635, then sold for 2000gns. Having stood second in the pre-sale show the day before, this Thackwood Topflight son was knocked down to R J Rowe, Minehead, Somerset.

Next up in the run of shearlings was one from Hereford-based Jeremy Price, who dispersed his females from the Oakchurch flock last year. Oakchurch 21WKW00871 is by Lowerye Ronnie and out of a homebred female by Banwy Ripper. Taking this one at 1450gns was E Mills, Taunton, Somerset.

Two shearlings then met a call of 1000gns, the first being Robleston 21WGN05294 from R G and R A Jones and Son, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire. By Skyefall Virgil Van Dijk and out of a Rhaeadr Real Deal homebred daughter, this one was knocked down to G C and G Y Jones, for their Springfield flock based at Chepstow, Gwent.

The other at that same money was another from the Probert family's pen. Mortimer 21HH06563 is by Bachymbyd Untouchable out of a Cannahars Oscar daughter and caught the eye of R and B Smith, Northampton, Northants.

Ram lamb trade

Topping the ram lamb offering at 2000gns was Dai and Paul Curran, Talgarth, Powys, with Wernfawr Awesome. By Logie Durno Wall St and out of a Dalby-bred female by Edstaston Tulloch, this one was reserve male champion and reserve interbreed ram lamb at the Royal Welsh Show last summer and was the pick of, Shepton Mallet, Somerset-based Tom Newth for his Prestleigh flock.

Just shy of that at 1900gns was another from the Curran family in the form of Wernfawr Apache. Again, by Wall St, this one is out of a homebred female by Glyn Coch Night To Remember whose progeny has topped at 3200gns for Wernfawr Vinnie. Taking this one was P Rossiter, Co Wexford, Eire.

Having secured the pre-sale show championship under judge Jim Neil of the Runningburn flock, Ben Radley, Georgetown, Dumfries, then sold his champion for 1150gns to J Moore, Holsworthy, Devon. Loaningfoot 22XZR01388 is by the multi award winning Foxhill Va Va Voom and is out of a homebred female by Oakchurch Royal Ryan. Joining him in the trailer home to Devon with the same buyer at the same money was his ET-bred brother, Loaningfoot 22XZR01391.

Averages:

151 shearling rams £692.30;

108 ram lambs £521.50

(Hereford Market Auctioneers)



* Leading the main NSA Builth Sale at 3800gns was a shearling ram from the Probert family's Mortimer flock.



* Another shearling ram from the Mortimer flock hit the 2000gns mark.



* Leading lamb trade at 2000gns was the best from Dai and Paul Curran's Wernfawr flock.



* Another from the Wernfawr pen hit 1900gns.



* Taking the championship and selling for 1150gns was a Loaningfoot lamb from Ben Radley.



✱ Judge Jim Neill of the Runningburn flock with his champion from Ben Radley, Loaningfoot.



Maerdy leads Welshpool ram sale at 750gns

Taking the top call of 750gns at Welshpool ram sale at the end of September was Esmor Evans, Mold, Flintshire, with a shearling ram Maerdy 21WLS03245. A Braemuir Van Halen son out of a homebred Rhaeadr Superman daughter, this one was the pick of A and M P Owen, Betws-Y-Coed, Gwynedd.

Next best at 720gns was Montgomery, Powys-based Neil Oughton selling Lowerye 21ZVY07851, a Lowerye Victor son out of a Lowerye Ureka homebred daughter. With a muscle score in the top 10% of the breed, this one caught the eye of A F Bevan and Co, Knighton, Powys.

Then at 700gns was the best from Ruthin-based T H Roberts in the form of Bachymbyd 21YMH03149. By Mortimer Sultan and out of a homebred female by Maerdy Musketeer, this one went to G M and D A Hughes and Son, Wrexham, North Wales.

At the same money was a pair of shearling rams from Abbie Moseley's Shropshire-based Knockin flock, the first being Knockin 21XXJ01047, an Oakchurch Reuben son out of an Arjane Jumanji daughter. At 700gns, this one went to W G and E A Trow and Son, Powys. At the same money was Knockin 21XXJ01020, a Knockin Pocket Rocket son out of an Oakchurch Reuben daughter. This one sold to R and S Watkin, Kerry, Powys.

The Knockin flock also topped the ram lamb offering at 700gns with Knockin 22XXJ01244, a Mortimer Sultan son out of an Oakchurch Reuben daughter, Picking this one out was H Yates, Bridgnorth, Shropshire.

Averages:

27 Aged rams and shearling rams **£581.70**

12 Ram lambs **£522.90**

(Welshpool Livestock Sales)

Welshpool female sale hits 720gns for Gwyndy flock

Topping the Welshpool female sale in November was Colin Bowen's Gwyndy flock with a top call of 720gns for Gwyndy 21XPR08188.

This Warnfawr Vinnie daughter out of a homebred female by Gwyndy Kadinsky sold carrying twins to Boyo Vancouver to A P James, Bridgenorth, Shropshire, for the Ditton flock.

Next best at 600gns and from the same flock was Gwyndy 21XPR08170. Again, by Vinnie and this time out of a homebred ewe by Padest Sir Lancelot, this one found a new home with J G and E V Roberts, Denbigh, North Wales, having been scanned for twins to Robleston Vrondi.

Then at 550gns was G J and J E Williams, Brecon selling Padest 21XRH02706, a Cavick Uber Mover daughter out of a homebred female by Oakchurch Spartan. Scanned carrying a single to Castellau U Beauty, this one was knocked down to R J Ryan, Abergele, Clwyd.

Averages:

35 Females **£446.60**

(Welshpool Livestock Sales)



✱ Leading trade in the Charollais ring at Melton Midlands Sheep Fair was Chris Timm of Pickering, North Yorkshire. Mr Timm was also rewarded with the overall champion pen of four, winning the Melton Borough Trophy.

XPR GWYNDY XPR

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WELSH
CHAMPION
FLOCK
2022



WELSH
CHAMPION
STOCK RAM
2022

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"Sell live & thrive"



Fruitful debut for Skelton Whin at Skipton female sale

Selling females for the first time at Skipton, Thomas and Judith Hunter were rewarded with the top price of the day at 2500gns for a shearling ewe from their Skelton Whin flock.

Averages:

Shearling ewes £738

Ewe lambs £409

(CCM Auctions)

By Boyo Uncle Brian, who is a son of the 22,000gns Ffrwd Top Notch, their sale leader is out of Skelton Whin Orchid who stood reserve champion at the 2015 Great Yorkshire Show, before being sold privately later the same year back to the Boyo flock.

Having been offered carrying a single lamb to the 17,000gns Worcester Premier 2021 sale topper, Foxhill Walkabout, she was knocked down to Cyril Dougherty's Shamrock flock based at Kirby Misperton, Malton.

The sale continued to be a happy hunting ground for the Hunters as they also claimed the leading ewe lamb price of 1600gns with another Boyo Uncle Brian daughter.

Having notched up a hat-trick of first prize wins on the summer circuit, she joined phone bidder and Shrewsbury, Shropshire-based Dave Roberts.

There was another four-figure sale of 1400gns, this time for the Sulwood flock of Geoff and Carol Watson. Travelling up from Desborough in Northants, with a shearling ewe by the Castellau Royal Escort son, Ffrwd Samson out of a home-bred Tilton Pegasus-sired dam who was this year's show ewe. Scanned carrying a single to Bincombe Warrior, she joined David Dennis's Silton flock in Over Silton, Thirsk.

The Watsons also stood second and reserve with their shearling ewe Sulwood Ultra Box, who has been the flock's main show shearling this year and always in the ribbons, standing first in her class and among the champion group of three at Masham. Out of a daughter of Maerdy Norman and due twins to Bincombe Warrior, she made 700gns. With their Sulwood flock established some 30 years ago, the Watsons offered their shearling ewes and two-crop ewes with all six on offer successfully averaging £705.50.

Pre-sale show judge Jim Neil, who runs the Runningburn flock in Stichill, Kelso, remained in the shearling ewe show class when awarding the supreme championship to the first prize winner from Skipton regular and breed stalwart, Kenton Foster, who runs the Fosters flock in Garriston, Leyburn.

This one had already stood champion at this year's Wensleydale Show. Out of a Gwyndy-sired dam, she sold carrying twins to a home-bred stock ram, WTZ01225, who is the first son of the flock's 2019 Great Yorkshire Show reserve champion.

The buyers at 950gns were Emma and Lorna Murray, from Shipley, who also went to 800gns to secure Mr Foster's fourth prize similarly bred shearling ewe that was Wensleydale Show reserve champion and again offered carrying twins by the same sire.



* Skipton sale leader at 2500gns, pictured at home.



* Kenton Foster with his champion, alongside judge Jim Neil.



* Leading ewe lamb trade at 1600gns was Skelton Whin.

Mortimer

MORTIMER 21HH06823,
BY OAKCHURCH ULTIMATE
SOLD AT THE NSA MAIN
BUILT SALE FOR 3800GNS

MORTIMER 21HH06635,
BY THACKWOOD TOPFLIGHT
SOLD AT THE NSA MAIN
BUILT SALE FOR 2000GNS

CHAMPION PEN OF RAMS
AT BUILT MAIN SALE 2022
* 30 ENTERED 30 SOLD
* AVERAGE £944.83

MORTIMER WILLBERT 21HH06590
SOLD AT THE PREMIER SALE FOR 1550GNS

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85 YEARLING RAMS FOR SALE
FROM HOME AND AT BUILT

Sales : Saucy Sale

A top of 3000gns for Glyn Coch at Saucy Sale

Leading the way at **The Saucy Sale** at Worcester Livestock Market on Saturday 15th October with a top call of 3000gns was a ewe lamb from Adrian Davies' Glyn Coch flock, based at Llandeilo, Carmarthen.

Averages:

51 shearling ewes **£592.10**

27 ewe lambs **£715.55**

(McCartneys)

Glyn Coch 22XCA01924 is by the 8500gns Logie Durno Wall St and is out of a homebred female by Banwy Power Ranger. This one is maternal sister to the 7000gns Glyn Coch Usain Bolt and securing her for the Dalby flock was Charles Sercombe, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

Next up with a price tag of 2000gns was the best from Michael and Melanie Alford's Cullompton, Devon-based Foxhill flock. Foxhill 22XWY00746 is by the former stock tup, Thackwood U Corker who is sire of the 17,000gns Foxhill Walkabout. This ewe lamb had previously won her class at The Royal Bath and West and Royal Cornwall Shows and caught the eye of George Hoggard for his Manor House flock, Newark, Notts.

Just shy of that price tag at 1900gns was the best from Abbie Moseley, Oswestry, Shropshire. Knockin 22XXJ01256 is by Bronydd Wild Thing and is out of a homebred female that was purchased as an embryo at the Wedderburn dispersal. Taking this one home to Narberth, Pembrokeshire, was David Lewis for his Pembroke flock.

Another ewe lamb from the Knockin flock then sold for 1250gns. Knockin 22XXJ01199 is again by Wild Thing and this time out of a Trevase-bred female by Lowerye Rioja. This one will now head across the water to Kellistown, Co Carlow, Ireland, with Paul Brophy.



* Topping the Saucy Sale last October was a ewe lamb from Adrian Davies, selling for 3000gns.



* Selling for 2000gns was a Foxhill ewe lamb from Michael and Melanie Alford.

Shearling ewes

Topping trade in the shearling ewe offering was the mother and daughter team of Helen and Hannah Sloan's Rigghead flock, based at Collin, Dumfriesshire. Their topper, Rigghead 21HR03856 is by Springhill Viking and out of a Brydan Oasis daughter. She sold for 1800gns having been scanned carrying twins to Carnew Wisecrack to the James family, for their Ditton flock, Bridgnorth, Shropshire.

Next best at 1000gns was Foxhill 21XWY00647 from Michael and Melanie Alford. By Loanhead Triathlon, the sire of the 16,000gns Foxhill Va Va Voom, this one is out of a homebred daughter of Crogham Regal and sold carrying twins to Maerdy 20WLS2551 to L M Buckland, Ashleworth, Glos.

Victoria Ashmore then sold the best from her Micklehills flock, Coalville, Leics at 950gns for Micklehills 21ZWA09660. By Dalby Super Trooper, she's out of a homebred daughter of



* Leading the shearling ewe offering was a Rigghead female from Helen and Hannah Sloan, selling for 1800gns.

Dalby Ranieri and with a index in the top 5% of the breed she sold carrying twins to Brettles Antonio to Edward Buckley, Macroom, Co Cork, Ireland.

Foxhill's next best, 21XWY00631, by Rockvilla Ferrari and out of a Loanhead Triathlon daughter, then followed at 900gns selling to previous buyer David Lewis for his Pembroke flock.

ARBRYN WRF

Hereford High Flyers Sale Highlights



2020

Ram lambs and
Shearlings
available off farm

19WRF00651 Arbryn Unforgettable - sold to Dave Roberts for top price of 3,100gns



20WRF00701 Arbryn Winona sale leader and new record for centre sold to Jim Neil for 7,000gns



2021

20WRF00704 Arbryn Wanda sold for 3,400gns to Bronwydd and Pembroke flocks

Hereford High Flyers
Production Sale
2023 we are selling 18
top yearlings

2022



21WRF00778 Arbryn Amelia sold for 2,000gns to Gareth Lee

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Runningburn flock tops High Flyers at 2600gns

A strong trade across the board met breeders at the High Flyers female sale at Hereford in 22nd October, with shearling ewes seeing a top call of 2600gns and ewe lambs peaking at 2000gns.

Averages:

74 shearling ewes **£856.74**

16 ewe lambs **£693.00**

(Hereford Market Auctioneers)

Sale leader was a shearling ewe, Runningburn 21VDU00288, from Kelso, Scottish Borders-based Jim Neil. By Springhill Untouchable, this one is out of a Wernfawr bred female by Brettles Sherman. She sold having scanned for twins to Springhill Adonis to Graham Foster, Ardstraw, Co Tyrone, Northern Ireland, for the Springhill flock.

From the same pen was Runningburn 21VDU00285, an ET-bred sister to the sale leader. Selling for 2200gns, this one caught the eye of Jason Henderson for his Carrichue flock, Limavady, Co Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

A powerful run of shearlings from first time sale vendors Messrs R G and R A Jones and Son's Robleston flock, based at Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, saw a top call of 2150gns. Their leader, Robleston 21WGN05371, is by Arbryn Tonto and out of a homebred female by Rhaeadr Real Deal. This one sold having been scanned for twins to Loanhead Washington to Gareth Lee for the recently established Calogale flock, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire.

Next up selling at 2000gns and joining the previously mentioned shearling ewe on the road home to Carmarthenshire for the Calogale flock, was the best from Arwyn Thomas, Whitland, Carmarthenshire. This substitute lot is by Arbryn Tonto and out of a homebred female by Shamrock Northern Star.

The next to join the Calogale flock was a pair of ET-bred sisters by Skyefall Virgil Van Dijk and out of a homebred female by Bronwydd Terminator from the Jones' family. The first was Robleston 21WGN05376, which sold carrying a single to Washington for 1900gns, while the

second was 21WGN05394, which was knocked down at 1850gns having been scanned for twins to Washington.

Another full ET-bred sister to the last pair, Robleston WGN05387, caught the eye of R J Tindall, Wetherby, West Yorks, when selling for 1700gns.

Meanwhile at 1400gns was Robleston 21WGN05361, an Arbryn Tonto daughter carrying a single to Artnagullion Turbo, which sold to Arwyn Thomas for his Arbryn flock.

At the same money was another from Jim Neil in the form of Runningburn 21VDU00299. By Wernfawr Special Edition, this one is out of a Wernfawr female by FFrwd Tyrone and was sold carrying twins to Springhill Adonis, again to previous buyer Graham Foster.



* Leading trade at the Hereford High Flyers sale was a shearling ewe from Jim Neil's Runningburn flock, which sold for 2600gns.



* Selling for 2200gns was another shearling from the Runningburn flock.



* First time vendors R G and R A Jones hit 2150gns for a shearling ewe.



* Ewe lamb trade topped at 2000gns for one from the Wernfawr flock.



* David and Jonathan Norman sold Kirkhouse 22XNK03150 for 1250gns.

Ewe lambs

Leading ewe lamb trade at 2000gns was David and Paul Curran, Brecon, Powys, with Wernfawr 22XEV01930. By Logie Durno Wall St and out of a Glyn Coch Night To Remember homebred daughter, this one is full sister to last year's ewe lamb sale topper. This one now joins the Prestleigh flock of Tom Newth, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

Next up having made the journey down from Cockermouth, Cumbria, were father and son David and Jonathan Norman with Kirkhouse 22XNK03150. By Kirkhouse Optimus and out

of a homebred female by Kirkhouse Robinson, this one was knocked down at 1250gns to previous buyer R J Tindall.

Then back with the Curran family's pen and joining the ewe lamb sale leader back to Somerset for the Prestleigh flock was Wernfawr 22XEV01933, another Wall St daughter, this time out of a Wernfawr Nijinsky. She sold for 1150gns.

Next up from the same pen with a call of 1000gns was Wernfawr 22XEV01918. By Glyn Coch Volcano and out of a Wedderburn female by Parkgate Outlaw, this one sold to G Evans, Beulah, Newcastle Emlyn.



*New families
for 2023*



OAKCHURCH RUBY
16WKW00153
BY BANWY OH WHAT A BOY



SKELTON WHIN 22NN02201
BY BOYO UNCLE BRIAN



OAKCHURCH ALABAMA
SLAMMER 22WKW00972
BY CAVICK WHAT A BOY!



EDSTASTON 19TG00916
SIRE: HILLSIDE TENNYSON



TULLYEAR 19QY03113
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Logie Durno and Loanhead export sale tops 12,000gns

The much anticipated export sale from the Logie Durno and Loanhead flocks of William, Carole, Gregor and Bruce Ingram, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, saw a super trade across the board back in November with a top price of 12,000gns and some 47 lots heading across the water.

Averages:

13 ewes £1397

70 shearling ewes £1851

24 ewe lambs £2121

(Harrison and Hetherington)

Along with a jam-packed ringside attendance, conducted at Borderway Mart, Carlisle, the sale also witnessed strong interest over the internet with 72% of the sale receiving at least one bid on line.

Sale leader at 12,000gns was the much-admired shearling ewe, Logie Durno 21ZNN377362. By Dalby Tuilagi, the dam of this one, a Rhaeadr Orlando daughter, is also the dam of the 9000gns Logie Durno Walking Thunder. She sold having been scanned for twins to the 15,000gns Wernfawr Ace to Richard Powell, Armagh, Northern Ireland, for his Iskeymeadow flock.

Next up at 7000gns was another shearling ewe, Logie Durno 21ZNN377386. By the 16,000gns Foxhill Va Va Voom, this one is out of a Logie Durno Jackpot daughter and having been scanned carrying twins to the 17,000gns Foxhill Walkabout, she caught the eye of George Hoggard for his Manor House flock, Newark, Notts.

Then next selling for 4500gns was the shearling ewe Logie Durno 21ZNN37423, another Va Va Voom, this time out of the same mother of the sale leader. She was offered having been scanned for twins to Foxhill Walkabout and was knocked down to H W Sloan, Collin, Dumfries, for the Rigghead flock.

Meanwhile, at 4200gns was the top priced ewe lamb, Loanhead 22WNC43581. Again, by Va Va Voom, this one is out of a Loanhead female by

Tymean Poundstretcher and heads across the water with Declan Miley, Roscommon, Ireland.

A trio of females then hit the 4000gns mark, the first being another ewe lamb, Loanhead 22WNC43528. By Boyo Vancouver and out of a Loanhead Talisman daughter, this one sold in partnership to Richard Allen, Dunlavin, Wicklow, for the Uppertown flock and Robert Whittaker, Jedburgh, Roxburghshire, for the Hundalee flock.

Next at that money was the shearling ewe, Loanhead 21WNC37482. By Arbyn Viper and out of a Rhaeadr Orlando daughter. She sold carrying twins to Va Va Voom to Patrick Whyte, Seefinn Livestock, Kilrossanty, Co Waterford.

Also, at 4000gns was Logie Durno 21ZNN37361, a full sister to the sale leader. Having been scanned for twins to the 15,000gns Wernfawr Ace, this one was the pick of G Baird, Armagh, Northern Ireland.

A pair of ewe lambs then commanded the same price tag of 3500gns, the first being Logie Durno 22ZNN43630, another Boyo Vancouver daughter out of a Logie Durno Jackpot daughter. This one caught the eye of FA, CJ and WA Elsworthy, Tiverton, Devon, for their Elsridge flock.

At the same money was Logie Durno 22ZNN43666, again by Va Va Voom and this time out of the 7500gns Tullyear 18QY02821. She heads to Banbridge, co Down, with Drew and Stephen Cowan, for the Tullyear flock.



* Leading trade at 12,000gns was Logie Durno 21ZNN377362, a Dalby Tuilagi daughter.



* Selling for 7000gns was another shearling ewe, Logie Durno 21ZNN377386, a daughter of stock sire Foxhill Va Va Voom.



* Another Va Va Voom daughter, Logie Durno 21ZNN37423, sold for 4500gns.



* The top priced ewe lamb at 4200gns was Loanhead 22WNC43581.

ZEG RIVERDALE ZEG

SCRAPIE MONITORED -- PERFORMANCE RECORDED

Lambs for sale in 2023 by

ARBRYN VIPER

Sire of Worcester and Dungannon
champions Index 295

ISKEYMEADOW WHISKEY MICK

Sire of Irish record priced lamb at
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S2

**Saturday 7th
October 2023**



Sires Used:

21ZNN37359 - Logie Durno Weapon
(Sire: Logie Durno Vinnie Jones)
21ZNN37387 - Logie Durno Warrior
(Sire: Foxhill Va Va Voom)

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Springhill leads Dungannon female sale at 2400gns

The sale of females at **Dungannon** in November saw ewe lambs in high demand with a top price of 2400gns from Graham Foster’s Springhill flock, Ardstraw, Newtownstewart.



Springhill 22WLK06498 is by Boyo Walk This Way, a Boyo Vancouver son and is out of Boyo Whitney who was purchased as a ewe lamb privately from Dave Roberts. This lamb started the showing season off by winning first prize ewe lamb at Balmoral Show in 2022. She will head down to Co Cork, Southern Ireland, with James Walsh.

Selling for 2000gns also from Graham Foster’s pen was Springhill 22WLK006506. An ET-bred sister to Springhill Aston Martin, a first prize ram lamb at Balmoral 2022, the dam of this one is an ET sister to Springhill Vixen. Sinead Brophy took her home south to Co Carlow, Southern Ireland.

Next up was another ewe lamb from Springhill, purchased for 1600gns. Springhill 22WLK06497 is by Gwyndy Whizz Kid and

out of a Lisfuncheon ewe. This one caught the eye of Sean Naughton, Co Galway, Southern Ireland.

Another from the same pen and again by Gwyndy Whizz Kid, this time out of a homebred Springhill ewe, was sold for 1350gns to James Reid, Co Antrim.

Taking the top price of David Cromie’s Millhaven pen at 940gns was Millhaven 22XEF01961. By Arbryn Viper and out of a Rockvilla ewe, this one was sold across the water to the Netherlands with Harry De Vliegheer.

Selling females from their Beechview flock were Messrs G and J Booth, with a January-born ewe lamb by Riverdale Victor out of a homebred Beechview ewe. Taking this one home for 920gns was Wesley Cousins from Co Tyrone.

Averages:

31 shearling ewes **£751.59**
57 ewe lambs **£580.26**
(Dungannon Farmers Market)

In-lamb shearling ewes

Leading trade for in-lamb shearling ewes was one from William McAllister’s Artnagullion flock. Sale leader at 1650gns was Artnagullion 21ZGQ04535, by Loanhead Upperclass and out of a Artnagullion ewe. Having been scanned twins to Rockdale Vespasian, Richard Powell took her home to Co Armagh.

Also coming from the Artnagullion pen was another by Loanhead Upperclass and out of a homebred ewe. She sold for 1600gns having been scanned carrying twins to Rockdale Vespasian to Simon Turkington for his flock in the Scottish Borders.

Taking home his pick of the sale to his Loaningfoot flock, Ben Radley from Dumfries purchased Tullyear 21QY03944 from the Cowan family. Sired by Tullyear Untouchable, this one is out of a homebred Tullyear ewe and sold for 1080gns.



* Springhill 22WLK06498 took the top price of 2400gns for Graham Foster.



* Springhill 22WLK06506 sold for 2000gns to Southern Ireland breeder Sinead Brophy.



* Next up for Graham Foster was Springhill 22WLK06497 selling for 1600gns.



* Artnagullion 21ZGQ04546 was the top priced in-lamb shearling ewe at 1650gns for William McAllister.



* Artnagullion 22ZGQ04547 sold for 1600gns.



* Artnagullion 21ZGQ04571 sold for 1100gns.

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SALES AND SHOWS JUDGES 2023

The following judges will be in action at the major shows and sales this year.

Robert Gregory – Royal Cornwall Show

An experienced judge of Charollais both at regional, national and global level, Robert Gregory of the Edstaston flock will be taking to the centre of the ring at the south west regional show at Royal Cornwall this year. “One of my favourite memories of judging was in Charolles, France, when I organised a Charollais trip out there with 40 other breeders. It was a very enjoyable experience albeit very different to UK judging with the sheep all tied to a rail and time was at a premium.



“I like a sheep with back end and presence. Primarily they have to be correct on their legs, feet and in the mouth. They should have a level top line, with a wide loin and a deep and full gigot. The sheep must have good bone and should not be too coarse or too fine. A good shoulder is essential with it not being too narrow or too wide. And finally, not too fat.

Royal Cornwall is one of those shows that can be described as a proper agricultural show which showcases all that is good about agriculture. I know there will be some excellent Charollais forward; the better the standard the more I enjoy judging.”

Adrian Davies – Royal Welsh Show

As last year’s winner of the Royal Welsh Show and a previous interbreed title holder from 2014, Adrian Davies of the Glyn Coch flock will be stepping into the ring not as an exhibitor, but as a judge for this year’s show. Having judged most of the headline Charollais Shows across the UK, Adrian is particularly looking forward to judging the show that’s closest to his heart.

“I’m looking for a correct sheep that stands out and catches my eye, with good skin with great fleshing. I’m also looking forward to enjoying the day without the stress of competing myself.”



John Geldard – Royal Three Counties Show

John Geldard will be taking up the mantle at this year’s Royal Three Counties Show. Having judged all over the UK and at all the major Royal Shows, John recalls a favourite time of judging in the 1990’s at Shropshire and West Midlands where he later purchased his champion in the form of Bellbroughton Grandmaster.



When asked what he will be looking for he simply replies with “the best in front of me on the day! However, if the sun is shining in Malvern, there is no nicer place to judge in the summer with the backdrop of the Malvern Hills.”

Showing for John and his family usually takes place in conjunction with a sale and one of John’s greatest memories is at NSA Builth Wells Sale when my two sons had three champions with Charollais and Lleyne sheep and both went on to set record prices.

Jim Neil – Dungannon Premier Sale

“My favourite memories of judging go back to my days in young farmers when I was lucky enough to win the Stockman of the Year title at The Royal Highland Show in 1983. With my Charollais hat on I’ve have judged at The Royal Highland Show, numerous shows throughout the UK and I also judged the sheep interbreed at the last Royal Show at Stoneleigh.”

Jim is known for selecting sheep with an abundance of character and style, width and flesh over its loin and into its hindquarters. He also stresses that it must have a tight fleece and stand correct on its legs.

I am looking forward to judging the Dungannon Premier sale as the quality of sheep across the water is extremely high, you are also always made very welcome.



Graham Foster – Premier Sale

I’m thoroughly looking forward to judging the Premier Sale at Worcester. Having judged at a few local shows and some sales in Northern Ireland, this will without doubt be the highlight of my judging career.

I’ll be paying close attention to overall structure, but with that added sparkle of x-factor to catch my eye. I’ll be looking for good conformation, tight skins, good legs, solid tops and style in the front end.



William McAllister – Great Yorkshire

William McAllister of the Artnagullion flock will be heading to Harrogate in July to take centre stage at the Great Yorkshire Show.

A regular face on the show circuit having judged at Orkney County Show, The Royal Highland Show, The Royal Welsh Show, The Royal Ulster Show, Dumfries Show, The Royal Bath and West Show, The Royal Cornwall Show, Suffolk Show and The All Ireland Charollais Final twice, he’s certainly well versed in the art of selecting a champion worthy sheep.

He’s also well aware of what it takes to produce a champion having won the Charollais championship at Balmoral in 2013 before going on to win the interbreed championship. That same year William and his family celebrated wins in the Beltex, Limousin, Charolais and Shorthorn classes.

“Style, correctness, skin, and a good shoulder, will be four characteristics I’ll be looking closely for in my winners. The Great Yorkshire Show always has a quality show of sheep and I look forward to seeing some new faces and working my way through the classes.”

The following shows and sales will have live coverage results and galleries via our social media pages



@CHAROLLAISHEEP



Arwyn Thomas – Balmoral and Highland Show

This year sees a double judging task for Arwyn Thomas of the Arbryn flock as he looks forward to travelling to Northern Ireland and Scotland.

Recalling some of his favourite moments from the judging ring, Arwyn mentions judging the Great Yorkshire Show. “A ram lamb entered the ring and hit me straight away as an outright winner. That was Shamrock Northern Star and I later purchased him after the show. He went on to breed top rams such as Olazabal, Ottoman and Roberto, but more importantly he bred some fantastic females in the flock.”

As well as The Great Yorkshire, Arwyn has also judged The Royal Cornwall, Royal Bath and West, Dungannon Premier, Tullow Premier and in 2011 the Royal Welsh. He’s now looking forward to Balmoral and the Highland where he will be looking for the following characteristics in his winning sheep. “While focussing on natural balance and the obvious breed character traits, I especially look for strong hard back ends and well covered tops while avoiding excessive fat that comes with overdone sheep. Correctness on parade is also a must. Who knows I might even find another Northern Star at one of these shows!”





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Sandy Hill Charollais proving a huge hit in Canada

A move from Scotland to Alberta in Canada in 2006 saw a change in farming policy for Gavin and Isabelle Nicol from commercial suckler cows to achieving the highest prices ever achieved for Charollais sheep in Canada in 2022.

Q Why did you choose Charollais?

A “We emigrated to Canada from Scotland in 2006 and bought a herd of commercial suckler cows and a red Charolais bull. Gradually, we built the herd up over the years, but following a couple of difficult years with drought and high feed prices, we decided to sell the cows and make the move into sheep.

We had a commercial flock of Mule ewes in the UK and we used Rouge tups on them which proved to be a successful cross. However, we decided to keep a purebred flock and with no Rouge in Canada and the difficulties surrounding importations of live sheep and embryos at the time, we continued our research into alternatives.

The Charollais breed was ticking all the boxes for us due to their ease of lambing, vigorous lambs at birth, rapid growth rates leading to a lean carcass with a good loin and gigot. Soon the decision was made and the Sandy Hill flock of Charollais was established in 2011 with the purchase of foundation sheep from Fieldstone Ovine in Alberta.”

Q Is the Charollais breed growing in popularity in Canada?

A “There has been a steady progression of popularity over time, but it’s certainly growing now. We decided to start showing to fly the flag and boy has it ever helped! After our wins at the 2019 Canadian Western Agribition, people started to talk about the Charollais breed and it snowballed from there.

Our stock tup Sandy Hill Hotshot, sired by Dalby Tuilagi, has gained plenty of attention here in Canada and we have a lot of interest in his offspring. Our flock is on the GenOvis program which is similar to Signet and Hotshot is currently the number one Charollais ram for liveweight gain.

We do not feed a lot of grain, only for flushing the ewes and then during their lactation. Instead we feed good quality first and second cut hay that has alfalfa during the winter months, then they are on just grass for the summer.”

Q How has trade been over the last 12 months?

A “Good quality purebred stock has been selling well but the market lamb trade is very up and down and took a nose dive when the North American Lamb Company faced financial difficulties. If the Sungold lamb plant in Innisfail Alberta closes down, this will have a huge impact on the industry, as it is the only one in Canada.”

Q Where do you think the Charollais breed is positioned within the Canadian sheep industry?

A “More and more commercial producers are seeking the advantage of using Charollais. The Suffolk had reigned supreme as the number one terminal sire here for a long time, but producers are now looking at other breeds like the Charollais.

I would say our biggest challenge with promoting the breed is the concern over how tough the Charollais are, but here in Alberta, our Charollais do just fine. In winter we can get down to -40C with wind chill and in summer we are up to the high 30’s.

Our Charollais live outside with shelter all year round, with loafing barns bedded with deep straw and all facing south to catch the winter sun.

We typically lamb from 22nd December onwards, lambing indoors in a heated barn and at two days old they go out into our large, unheated hoop barn with an area boxed in with a heat lamp where lambs can migrate if they wish. Typically December and January are our coldest months.”

Q Any notable sale successes to date?

A “In 2022 at the All Canada Sheep Classic in Ancaster Ontario, we achieved the highest sale prices ever achieved for Charollais in Canada, which is obviously a massive highlight for us.

Our six month ram lamb Sandy Hill Jasper 16J, sired by Edstaston Umpire Dickie Bird (AI) sold for \$4300 which was closely followed at \$3600 for a six-month-old ewe lamb, Sandy Hill Jessica 11J, sired by Oakchurch Ruben (AI).”

Q Do you do much showing?

A “In 2019 we showed for the first time at the Canadian Western Agribition in Regina Saskatchewan. We were the only Charollais forward and the first Charollais to ever be exhibited there and were delighted to win the supreme ram, reserve grand champion ewe, reserve pair of ewes, premier breeder and supreme champion breeders flock as well as the rookie of the year award.

At the following Canadian Western Agribition in 2021, we took the supreme champion ram title again with our stock ram Sandy Hill Hotshot 9H.”



WRENVALE CHAROLLAIS XGY

SERVICE SIRES

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21XCA01767 Glyn Coch Warrior

20XCA01542 Glyn Coch Vagabond



Glyn Coch Warrior 21XCA01767

Nigel Sheldon

2 Bryn Brain Road, Cwmllynfell, Swansea SA9 2WF

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Email: wrenvale@aol.com

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Q Which would be your most supported shows and why do you choose to attend these?

A "There are very few shows in Canada. We have the All Canada Sheep Classic in July every year, which is held in a different province each year. For the Classic, Canada is split in to Western provinces (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba) and Eastern provinces (Ontario, Quebec, PEI, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick). The show then alternates annually between a western and an eastern province.

The Grasslands Exhibition is held in Humboldt, Saskatchewan in November, which is the largest show in Western Canada and the Canadian Western Agribition is held in Regina, Saskatchewan in November, which is the largest show in Eastern Canada.

There is also the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto which is in November and although we attend the above shows, this one is too long a drive in winter months for us to exhibit livestock there."

Q Looking ahead, where do you intend to take the direction of your flock?

A "We will continue to keep our flock small with 60 breeding ewes and a focus on a quality, high health flock. We are MV negative and do all the annual testing and scrapie genotyping.

We bring semen in from the UK most years and have the following genetics in our flock: Lowerye, Northall, Castellau, Arjane, Rockville, Crogham, Dalby, Rainbow, Edstaston, Greenvale, Knockin, Oakchurch and Springhill.

We would like to import embryos from the UK and Europe, but currently our government does not allow it although we are working on getting this changed.

The US border has now opened up and we are able to send rams south which is great for us. For years we had enquiries from breeders in many states looking to buy our Charollais and having a high health status will allow us to do this."



In The Hot Seat with Dave Roberts

As a recent addition to the Council for the Charollais Sheep Society, we get to know a little more behind the thoughts of central region chairman **Dave Roberts**.

Get to know Dave Roberts:

Last meal before going on a desert island for a month?

I'm such a faddy eater so I'd keep it simple with a medium rare steak, chips and peppercorn sauce from the Feathers at Brockton!

What can't you live without?

My phone, closely followed by chocolate!

Name an item you would take with you everywhere?

Contact lenses, I have a stash everywhere!

Fantasy table of six celebs for dinner?

Harry Cobden, Alan Carr, Cheryl Cole, Anika Rice, Duncan Bannatine and Catherine Princess of Wales.

Name something not many people would know about you?

I have a phobia of flying, my knees are shot and believe it or not, I am rather moody!

What really annoys you?

Speaking on the phone when eating, reckless drivers and I pretty much have a zero tolerance for lack of common sense.



Behind the scenes of Boyo Charollais

"I've been breeding Charollais sheep since 2002 and currently they number up to 25 ewes and run alongside flocks of Blue Texel, Dutch Spotted, Bleu D'Maine and Beltex sheep. Alongside the sheep is a race horse training yard of which we currently have eight horses in training, as well as microlite hanger storage facilities.

The family farm covers 350 acres which was started by my grandparents some 70 years ago. My Dad and Uncle run a commercial farm, while my mother and my other Uncle runs a rather substantial caravan site.

Highlights in the breed:

It has to be winning the coveted Royal Show with one of my favourite sheep Gin and Tonic. I bought her for the huge price of 120gns as a ewe lamb from John Stott and she went on to prove rather unstoppable on the show circuit for a few seasons.

I don't tend to sell many tups as I like to keep the genetics I offer as unique as possible, but I get enjoyment from seeing my bloodlines go on and do well for breeders with notable highlights as Royal Ascot, Rolls Royce, Monkey, Uncle Brian, Toy Story, Super Ted, Vancouver, Vicious Sid, Walk This Way, Thienvall and Where's Wally to name a few."

Q What's your biggest goal as your role as central chairman?

A "I think we have quite a diverse region of many successful breeders, but perhaps over the years we've lost track of the social aspects of the region. I'd really like to put the Three Counties Show back on the map for the Charollais breed."

Q Describe the overriding characteristic you hope to bring to the table as a Council member?

A "I do stand by my opinion and I fight hard for the voices of the region. My biggest goals would be to modernise and add confidence in the breed. For the breed to stand up to other terminal breeds we have to think about future proofing the breed and stop living in the "good old days!" For that to happen I think a few drastic changes need to happen and a wider acceptance of the business attributes of what the breed can bring to a farming system."

Q How can the breed attract and retain young breeders...is the breed exciting enough to entice young breeders?

A "This is a tricky one and one that often stirs debate with not a lot of progression. Sadly, we're in an age where we're competing with modern, pretty breeds that are capable of commanding high prices, two of those breeds I have here so I'm well aware of the investment made in those breeds. We don't have a huge following of young handlers as they tend to opt for a smaller, easier handled breed for showing so we're relying on a generation that want to change the norm at home by trying the Charollais. To attract those individuals we need to showcase the Society as being efficient, modern, engaging and one with a strong social calendar. More importantly, as breeders we have to produce sheep fit for purpose that make switching and investing in this breed an option."

Q How important is the show ring for the breed to prosper?

A "I can take or leave showing but when I do it I enjoy it, more for the social element of seeing other breeders and friends. As costs rise, breeders will likely assess the merits of showing and whether it truly is the shop window they believe it to be. For me it has often resulted in sales and is a vital component for the marketing of the flock throughout the year. However, with all things show related we still have to be mindful that big isn't always best and sometimes substituting the finer characteristics of the breed to win tickets in the show ring can be detrimental to the breed. Where the show ring does win for the Charollais is the sheer volume of interbreed wins the breed notches up across the UK, showing yet again how it is capable of standing its ground alongside fellow breeds."

Q Hybrid ram production – threat or opportunity?

A "For me this is a threat. What they offer in terms of easy fleshing, fast growth rates, ease of lambing etc are all attributes of the Charollais breed so we have to ask ourselves why we have lost out to these breeds? Whether it's not having enough fit for purpose rams on offer at sales, better messaging across social media to attract a wider target audience or the variety in the genetic pool available, we are losing ground in places where we shouldn't."

Q With input costs continuing to rise frantically, does early lambing help or hinder the breed?

A “All farmers need to think about the bottom line and I don’t believe early lambing of a breed that is capable of finishing off grass is economically viable. The very nature of early lambing means there is push for heavily fed large lambs which can then bring fertility issues. For me I’d like to see mid-January lambing, sales in August and on a same platform with other competing breeds. One of the benefits of the earlier lambing nature of the Charollais is to hit that Easter market, but too often due to the growth rates of the breed that market isn’t captured as any second grade lambs from pedigree flocks have hit spec long before that.”

Q One of the biggest challenges facing sheep farming is climate change, how can the Charollais breed be part of the solution?

A “I go back to my early lambing comment here. We are a breed that is capable of finishing off grass so surely the breed has a vital part to play, but only with a change in mind set and unless that comes from the top of the breeding tier it won’t get filtered down the chain. Costs are rising no matter where you look so any form of intensifying a system will hit the bottom line hard.”

Q Performance recording might grow in importance in the coming years. How can the breed capitalise on opportunities and drive breed improvement in key commercial traits?

A “There’s a place for performance recording, however it is another cost. When used correctly it is a marvellous management tool, but a stockman’s eye will always reign supreme for me. The benefit lays in the core individual traits such as eye muscle scoring rather than the overall index.”



YOUNG BREEDERS GROUP SOCIAL SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST

Charollais young members are invited to a day of fun workshops, farm walks and entertainment.

The day will be jointly hosted by Dave Roberts of the Boyo flock and Geoff Probert and family of the Mortimer flock.

Tents and caravans are welcome for an overnight stay and a list of nearby hotels can be supplied.

To book your place contact

Elizabeth Britten

Tel: 01953 603335

Email:

elizabeth@charollais sheep.com

Starting with a tour round the Boyo flock, a number of workshops on judging, trimming and photographing sheep will be on offer, but with a twist, so come prepared for laughter throughout the day!

Members will then head over to Worcester for a tour round the Mortimer flocks of Charollais and Texels followed by an evening of food and entertainment hosted by the Probert family.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT...

DAVE ROBERTS

Based near Shrewsbury, Shropshire

Tel: 07854 550606

GEOFF PROBERT

Based near Worcester

Tel: 07970 434410



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Index 296

Oakchurch Aztec
22WKW00969
Index 256

Micklehills
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Index 329



22WF04096 Index 390 top price ewe lamb at Females with Figures sold to Crogham flock

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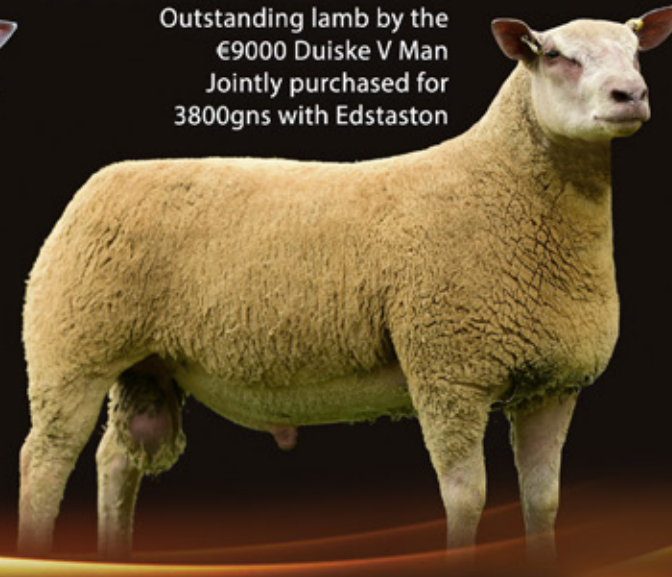
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Backing a future in the Charollais breed

There's no doubting the fact that fifth generation farmer Will Whiting has caught the bug for farming, but more impactful is the passion he is fast developing for the Charollais breed.

Farming with his dad Graham and mum Sarah just outside of Liskeard in Cornwall, 24-year-old Will is a partner in the farm, something he holds as a great responsibility and one he is proud of. "To be made a partner in the farm at a young age means a great deal for me, it shows my parents trust me and want to involve me and let me make some decisions for the future direction of the business," Will comments.

To be made a partner in the farm at a young age means a great deal for me, it shows my parents trust me.

Having moved to Cornwall from Gloucestershire when Will was just six months old, the family have fast grown Fursdon Farm to the 370-acre owned enterprise it is now, with a further 485

acres of rented ground. The farm is home to 900 commercial Romney ewes and 50 pedigree Charollais ewes under the Fursdon prefix, as well as pedigree British Blue and Aberdeen-Angus cattle, a Continental suckler herd and up to 1000-head of contract reared calves.

The Charollais passion first started with a gift of six sheep for Will's 14th birthday. As a youngster he'd already taken care of his own pigs and chickens, but desperately wanted to start a sheep flock. Those original sheep were Blue Texel cross ewes in lamb to a Charollais, in fact he still has a commercial female off one of the original purchases.

The commercial flock grew with the trial of various stock tup breeds, but Will finally settled on the Charollais. "I was impressed with the vigour of the lambs, the killing out percentages and the quality of the tups with their longevity and structural correctness compared to other breeds," Will explains.



So, once he settled on the Charollais as a pedigree flock choice, Will set about purchasing females with money he had earned from shearing through the summer. "I'm a huge believer in working for what you want and rather than just expecting the farm to fund the pedigree sheep, this was something I wanted to do for myself and really take full ownership of it."

Foundation females have been sourced from the Meadow Rise, Sheldon, Llangan, Brettles and Oakchurch flocks, as well as more recently three ewe lambs were purchased at the Logie Durno and Loanhead export sale in November last year.

"I'm looking for a medium framed sheep, I don't believe in taking the Charollais breed to an extreme as that will only move away from the natural fleshing ability of the sheep. I'm looking for length, muscle, legs and feet, as well as a sparky head," Will explains.

Will is also a young advocate for the use of performance recording. "Don't get me wrong, my eye will always play a vital role as well, but I do feel the use of core science is an integral part of farming as a whole and should be incorporated more with sheep farming. I've started my own trial using a Charollais ram in the top 1% and a non-figured ram in the commercial Romney flock, so that will be telling to see what that data yields."

Foundation females have come from the Meadow Rise, Sheldon, Llangan, Brettles, Oakchurch and Logie Durno flocks.

Where applicable, Will prefers to not rely heavily on concentrate use, believing that the Charollais cross lamb is capable of hitting the ideal specification off-grass. "Granted if I want to start competing at a national show or sale level with the pedigrees, I know I will have to use concentrate, but from a commercial point of view I do feel I have the right genetic mix to keep the costs down as much as possible."



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Feature : Will Whiting

Stock rams within the pedigree flock currently include the privately purchased Hundalee Ultra Mate, a Knockin Russian Roulette son and Loanhead Womaniser, a Logie Durno Vinnie Jones son.

Currently the pedigree flock is lambing in January with the commercial ewes following later in the spring. Once lambs are weaned they move on to a mix of clover and herbal lays on a paddock grazing system.

This will be the first year that rams from the Fursdon flock will be on offer, with the NSA Sale in Exeter likely to be the first trial for sales. "I'd like to go further afield in time, but I know I have a lot to learn and I'd like to make a name for myself in my local area first."

Will is also keen to start attending a few local shows with the sheep this summer. "I think it's a great way to meet other breeders in the area and also compare my breeding decisions, feeding regime and presentation skills to others and hopefully learn a lot as I go," he adds.

Will's market will ideally be shearling trade to start off with the aim of offering the type of tup he would use within his own commercial flock. "Our Charollais cross lambs are averaging 21kg deadweight hitting U and E grades selling locally through Jaspers at Launceston.

"We've trialled marketing lambs further afield with the larger abattoirs, but the efficiencies of distance play a big part and being local the lambs don't tend to lose any weight in transport," he believes.

Will admits he is heavy on culling. "Even though it's a pedigree flock, we run all the livestock with a commercial

mind and we don't carry passengers in any of the enterprises. I think that will pay dividends as I start to market more homebred stock as longevity and structural correctness will be important to our customers."

Last year Will lambd half the ewe lamb crop with great results. "The Charollais is known for being a tad flighty, which I don't necessarily mind, but lambing them as ewe lambs has calmed them down considerably. I was slightly worried that having lambd them later in February I would struggle to get them back round for January lambing, but having used sponges they have lambd in sync with the rest of their shearling ewe counterparts."

Even though it's a pedigree flock, we run all the livestock with a commercial mind.

Looking to the future Will is keen to get involved at any level. He admits he was a complete novice when he attended the judges workshop training day last summer, but he learnt a lot about the breed and made some great contacts with breeders that he wouldn't normally see throughout the year.

"I know the Society is keen to grow the younger generation of breeders. It will be exciting to see how that progresses over the next few years and I look forward to attending as many events as possible to grow my knowledge of the Charollais breed."



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JUNE
30

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3

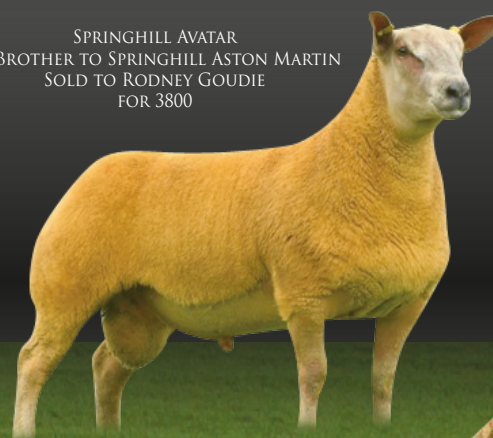


SPRINGHILL



Pedigree Livestock

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SOLD TO RODNEY GOUDIE
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SPRINGHILL ASTON MARTIN
1ST PRIZE LAMB BALMORAL 2022
HALF SHARE SOLD PRIVATELY TO SINEAD
BROPHY, KELLISTOWN CHAROLLAIS



TOP PRICE DUNGANNON
FEMALE SALE 2022 2400GNS
1ST PRIZE EWE LAMB RUAS 2022



SPRINGHILL EWE LAMB SOLD AT THE
SPRINGTIME SPARKLERS APRIL 2022
FOR 1900GNS



SPRINGHILL SHOW GIMMER
BREED CHAMPION OMAGH SHOW
MATERNAL SISTER TO SPRINGHILL ADONIS



GRAHAM FOSTER 07921164651 | *Stock and Semen Always For Sale*

Behind the scenes of the Springhill flock

Graham Foster's Springhill flock is fast becoming one of the prolific prefixes in Northern Ireland, with regular successful female export sales over the last couple of years, coupled with major show wins and worthy private sales across the water.

Established in 2010, the Springhill flock of 30 pedigree Charollais females runs alongside further small flocks of Texels and Suffolks, both numbering 20 breeding females each. Behind the success of the flock is an intensive ET work programme with flushing undertaken on all three breeds.

“Not only do we select the best Charollais genetics from the flock to flush to produce top end tups for sale, but we flush some of the Charollais and Suffolk ewes to a Texel to produce hybrid rams to sell at our own sale every September,” comments Graham, who farms alongside his father John at Springhill Farm, Ardstraw, Co Tyrone. Alongside the pedigree sheep enterprise, the family runs some 400 commercial ewes, with some acting as the recipients for the embryo programme and the rest lambed commercially.

A dedicated flushing programme is carried out in both the pedigree and commercial flocks.



* Last year's show season saw a double interbreed win for Graham Foster (left) winning interbreed pairs of ewe lambs and shearling ewes at Balmoral.

Farming some 500 acres, the main enterprise on the farm is a 230-cow dairy herd which calves all year round, “All calves are reared on the farm with Friesian heifers retained for replacements,” adds Graham. Some cows are mated to Aberdeen-Angus bulls to produce dairy bred beef reared to 400kg and sold as store cattle.

On establishment some 13 years ago, the early foundation females for the Charollais flock consisted of three shearling ewes purchased from the Tullyear flock, as well as two ewe lambs from the Ballynoe flock. The following year saw the

arrival of six shearling ewes from a Logie Durno production sale.

“While most people often describe the same desired attributes, surprisingly there is still a lot of variation in the Charollais breed,” believes Graham. “In my females I’m looking for a correct body with plenty of style. A good set of ears is always an advantage as nine times out of ten they’ll grow into those ears! Equally they need some spark and style for the show ring.”

From those early purchases, one has certainly proved to be a standout breeder. “Ballynoe

2010 YCR00055 is the grand dam of Springhill Tina Turner and Springhill Royal Commander. Tina Turner won Balmoral in 2019 and then went on to produce a tup lamb sold privately to Jim Neil and Stuart Ramsey for £8000, while Royal Commander went to Tullyear and has bred well for the Cowan family.

The main batch of Charollais lamb mid December and lambs remain inside for four to six weeks post lambing.

Other notable lines include Lisfuncheon when a shearling ewe was purchased from the Kelso dispersal sale in 2014, as well as the Rhaeadr line which came to the flock in 2015 when a ewe lamb was purchased.

The main batch of embryo Charollais lambs hit the deck between the 10th and 15th December and then stay inside for four to six weeks before they start to make room for the Texel embryos which start at the beginning of February.

On the stock ram front, Graham recites numerous tups that have shaped the flock, namely Springhill Odriscoll, Ballynoe House Playboy, Robleston Superman and Logie Durno Untouchable.

“More recently Springhill Vodka has bred ewe lambs to 8100gns, which is a breed record for a ewe lamb. Springhill Viper has also bred well alongside Boyo Walk This Way and Gwyndy Whizz Kid, both of which have been used in 2021. “The current crop of lambs is by Springhill Aston Martin and I’ve also used semen from Ballynoe House Playboy, both with great results,” adds Graham.

When it comes to marketing stock, ewe lambs are often offered at the Springtime Sparklers sale in April



* Springhill Aston Martin is the sire of the current crop of lambs.



* To date Springhill Adonis is one of the highest priced private sales for Graham at £8000.



* Springhill genetics are often on offer at the Springtime Sparklers on-line sale at the start of the season and then later at in-lamb female sales in Dungannon.

PRESTLEIGH



WERNFAWR 22XEV01930
Purchased at
High Flyers for 2000gns

PRESTLEIGH WATCH THIS SPACE
2022 show shearling ewe
By Boyo Untouchable



PEMBROKE ALL STAR
Purchased in partnership with
the Kingswater flock for 3500gns

HILLSIDE 19VBK00377
By Foulrice Supreme
Reserve champion
Royal Bath and West 2022

WERNFAWR AWESOME
Purchased for 2000gns
at NSA Bulth Main Sale

TOM NEWTH
BASED AT SHEPTON MALLET, SOMERSET

theprestleighflock@gmail.com Tel: 07402 919827

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Feature : Graham Foster

through Beaties Pedigree Centre. "This sale has always proved successful for us, it's a great start to the selling season as we often benefit from breeders looking to find a show sheep for the summer season," comments Graham.

"Prior to Brexit we offered sheep at the Premier Sale at Worcester, but due to the lack of export, we will now continue to focus on sales from home via a new online sales platform we will be offering through Harrison and Hetherington, as well as continuing to support the Dungannon Premier tup sale and the female sale later in the year at Dungannon, a sale which has seen us regularly top ewe lamb trade and set a breed shearling ewe record of 5000gns for Springhill Vixen."

Notably the private sale at £8000 is one of the flock's sale major highlights for tups, but other private sales have hit the £3800 mark with Springhill Ambassador finding a new home with Martin McCafferty and Springhill Avatar selling for the same price to Rodney



* Boyo Walk This Way



* Gwyndy Whizz Kid

Goudie. Premier Sale efforts have hit a high of 2600gns for Springhill Untouchable selling to Logie Durno and Dungannon Premier peaked at 2750gns in 2021 for Springhill Washington selling to Aiden Loftus."

To help boost sales throughout the year and offer a shop window for the flock, Graham regularly supports Balmoral Show in May as well as local shows such as Omagh and Clogher Valley. "2019 was certainly the highlight with Springhill Tina Turner winning the breed championship, before going on to stand interbreed champion, as well as the champion of champions title."

Breed championships have also been won at Clogher Valley in 2019 and Omagh in 2022. Balmoral last year saw the flock win the ram lamb and ewe lamb classes and take interbreed titles in the pairs classes for ewe lambs and shearling ewes.

Springhill females are offered at the Springtime Sparklers sale and at Dungannon later in the sale season.



* The showing highlight for the Springhill flock to date is winning the breed and interbreed championship at Balmoral with Springhill Tina Turner.

Looking to the future, Graham feels the sheep numbers are running at optimum numbers. "Without export opportunities across the water we have had to look at establishing other marketing streams. Online sales have become incredibly popular through the Covid pandemic, so we hope we can capitalise on those for future sales, but it will be important for breeding decisions to remain unique so we can offer the right type of tup for the discerning breeder, while still focussing heavily on the commercial element of the sheep business," he adds.

Aberdeenshire commercial producers win the Agri Kit creep feeder

Back last summer the Charollais Sheep Society teamed up with livestock handling specialists **Agri Kit** to offer one lucky winner the prize of a creep feeder.



The fortunate winners were Louise Glass and her partner Les Smith, who farm up in the Grampians in Scotland. Brother and sister Mackenzie and Megan love attending shows and going round all the breed and machinery stands to see what they can learn about sheep breeds and different tools for use on the farm.

Farming at approximately 750 to 1000 feet and running 500 breeding ewes, the family uses a combination of Charollais, Texel, Beltex and Bluefaced Leicester rams on home-produced females. All other lambs not retained for breeding are finished on farm and marketed through Woodhead's in Turriff.

"We aim to produce a good quality prime lamb achieving the best grades possible at slaughter," comments Louise Glass.

"The Charollais is one of the breeds that we use because it breeds size into the lambs and the resulting ewe retained for future breeding. Charollais lambs born to a cross bred ewe have a good thick fleece which is essential in our mixed climate in Aberdeenshire.

"The Charollais cross lambs have good shape and conformation as we are aiming for E and U grades with a fat level of 3L. Over fat lambs are rare on this holding. We aim to produce the majority of our fat lambs on a grass only diet," she adds.

"The Charollais ram is an easy lambing breed and ideal for use on hoggs with lambs presenting with small, oval shaped heads which enables more unassisted births. The lamb heads can be a little naked at birth, however they quickly grow hair to provide the lamb with the necessary vigour on cold lambing mornings in April in Aberdeenshire," comments Louise.



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SCAN ME

Market Trends



FEBRUARY

THIRSK

- * 47kg hoggs £137 - D and P A Bowe

BALLYMENA

Hoggs

- * 32kg £120 - J Lynn
- * 25.5kg £118 - S Crawford
- * 23.5kg £115 - G Martin
- * 23kg £113 - M Mcann
- * 22.5kg £111 - R Dundee
- * 22.5kg £110 - C O'Melvanna

Cull Ewes

- * £120 - J Kennedy
- * £105 - A Magill
- * £105 - J Kennedy

EXETER

- * Cull ewes £169 - B and A Watts
- * £165 - A Pedrick. All proceeds went to Cancer Research UK

BALLYMENA

Hoggs

- * 25kg £120 - K Scullion
- * 24kg £120 - H McCracken
- * 23.5kg £119 - W and D Millar
- * 21.5kg £106 - J Spence

MARCH

THIRSK

Hogg

- * 42kg £163.50 - A R Sutcliffe

HAWES

Cull ewes

- * £190 - Kenton Foster

BALLYMENA

Hoggs

- * 33kg £125 - J Houston
 - * 30kg £124 - A White
 - * 25kg £122 - A white
- #### Cull Ewes
- * £164 - J Bateson

WELSHPOOL

- * Cull ewes £219 - A Moseley

SKIPTON

- * Cull ewes topped at £244.50 and averaged £211 for 22 sold - CW Marwood

- * Tup hoggs at £166.00 - C W Marwood

EXETER

Cull ewes

- * £190 and £184 for Mark Hayman and Abi Dart
- * £175 B and A Watts
- * £170 Matthew and Adam Care

RUGBY

Hoggs

- * 45.5kg £118 H L Goode and son

THAINSTONE

- * Cull ewes £171 - Merssrs Duncan

ASHFORD

- * Cull ewes £122 - H F and J H Glover

THIRSK

Hoggs

- * £155 or 341ppk - P Baker

BALLYMENA

Hoggs

- * 25.5kg £120.00 - G D Graham
- * 25kg £120 - I Dodds

SEDGEMOOR

Hoggs

- * The best met strong competition and sold to 257 and 255ppk from P Coombes Ltd

BALLYMENA

Hoggs

- * 25kg £126 - N McBurney
- * 24.5kg £126 - J Martin
- * 23kg £119 - T Connor
- * 21.5kg £115 - T Connor

CRYMYCH

Cull ewes

- * £250 - E Hughes
- * £230 - C Bowen
- * £230 - A Thomas

HAWES

Cull ewes

- * £170 - K Foster
- * £154 - S Hodgson
- * £168 - J Wilson

WHITLAND

- * NSL £135 - E Hughes

BENTHAM

Spring lambs

- * Champion D Whitcher £172
 - * Reserve champion C W Marwood £172
- #### Supreme hoggs
- * £208 - A Rigby

Every Friday the Society features market report round ups from across the UK via it's social media platforms.

Here are a few of the highlights from the last couple of months.

#Shrewsbury Saucy Sale 2023



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LOANHEAD AL PACINO
NEW STOCK RAM PURCHASED 7000GNS



CAVICKCHAROLLAIS



NSA EVENTS

NSA Sheep South West

10th May 2023

Peterhayes Farm, Yarcombe, Honiton, EX14 9LW

NSA Welsh Sheep

16th May 2023

Red House, Aberhafesp, Newtown, Powys

NSA North Sheep

7th June 2023

Bradford House Farm, Ponteland,
Northumberland, NE20 0HA

NSA Northern Ireland Sheep

4th July 2023

Tynan Estate, Co Armagh

SHOWS

BALMORAL

10th – 13th May

THREE COUNTIES

16th – 18th June

ROYAL HIGHLAND

22nd – 25th June

GREAT YORKSHIRE

11th – 14th July

ROYAL WELSH

24th – 27th July

SOCIETY AGM – WELSH REGION

27th-28th May

SALES

PREMIER SHOW AND SALE

1st July

Worcester Livestock Market

DUNGANNON EXPORT SALE

31st July

Dungannon Farmers Mart

BUILTH NSA EARLY SALE

7th August

Hereford Livestock Auctioneer

NSA EXETER

16th August

Kivells

CARLISLE (plus empty females)

25th August

Harrison and Hetherington

BUILTH MAIN SALE

18th September

Hereford Livestock Auctioneers

BALLYMENA

18th September

Ballymena Livestock Auctioneers

SHREWSBURY

21st September

Halls

WELSHPOOL

28th September

Welshpool Livestock Sales

PRIVATE SALES

CASTELLAU DISPERSAL SALE

26th May

On farm

SHREWSBURY SAUCY SALE

7th October

Halls

HEREFORD HIGH FLYERS

21st October

Hereford Market Auctioneers

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