

Breed Benchmark for 2023 Easycare

Trait	Bottom 1%	Bottom 5%	Bottom 10%	Bottom 25%	Breed Average	Top 25%	Top 10%	Top 5%	Top 1%
Birth Weight	0.41	0.24	0.15	0.00	-0.17	-0.34	-0.49	-0.58	-0.75
Lambing Ease	1.07	1.15	1.19	1.26	1.33	1.40	1.47	1.51	1.59
Eight Week Weight	-1.57	-1.12	-0.88	-0.48	-0.03	0.42	0.82	1.06	1.51
Shearling Weight	-2.77	-1.68	-1.09	-0.12	0.97	2.06	3.03	3.62	4.71
Litter Size	-0.27	-0.20	-0.17	-0.11	-0.04	0.03	0.09	0.12	0.19
Litter Size Reared	-0.18	-0.14	-0.12	-0.08	-0.04	0.00	0.04	0.06	0.10
Maternal Ability	-0.50	-0.29	-0.18	0.00	0.20	0.40	0.58	0.69	0.90
Scan Weight	-2.15	-1.12	-0.58	0.34	1.36	2.38	3.30	3.84	4.87
Muscle Depth	-0.97	-0.65	-0.48	-0.20	0.12	0.44	0.72	0.89	1.21
Fat Depth	-0.50	-0.35	-0.26	-0.13	0.03	0.19	0.32	0.41	0.56
FEC (Strongyles)	-0.96	-1.02	-1.05	-1.11	-1.17	-1.23	-1.29	-1.32	-1.38
FEC (Nematodirus)	0.37	0.27	0.21	0.12	0.02	-0.08	-0.17	-0.23	-0.33
Serum IgA	-0.02	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.08	0.11	0.14	0.16	0.19
Parasite Plus (SI)	144.40	148.93	151.35	155.39	159.89	164.39	168.43	170.85	175.38
Longevity	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.11
Mature Weight (PreMating)	-4.31	-3.34	-2.83	-1.96	-1.00	-0.04	0.82	1.33	2.30
Body Condition Score (PreMating)	-0.13	-0.09	-0.07	-0.03	0.01	0.05	0.08	0.11	0.15
Easycare Index	41	62	73	91	111	132	150	161	181

EBV	A brief explanation:
Birth Weight	Negative values indicate animals that will produce smaller lambs at birth.
Lambing Ease	Predicts the genetic variation that exists in a ram's or ewe's ability to produce lambs born without assistance.
Eight Week Weight	Breeding potential for lamb growth rates from birth to 8 weeks of age.
Shearling Weight	Choosing animals with high figures for this trait will increase mature size
Litter Size	The breeding potential to produce prolific female progeny.
Litter Size Reared	Positive values indicate ewes who will rear more lambs.
Maternal Ability	Maternal component of 8-week measurement. Higher figures mean a ram's ewe lambs will perform better as mothers (milking ability).
Scan Weight	Breeding potential for lamb growth rates to 21 weeks (age at scanning). Selection of breeding stock with high scan weight EBVs will result in animals with heavier carcasses at a constant fat class or leaner carcasses at a constant age.
Muscle Depth	Choosing animals with high muscle depth EBVs will increase lamb muscularity and hence the lean meat content of the carcase.
Fat Depth	Negative values indicate animals with lower fat content which will produce leaner carcasses, or which can be taken to higher weights without becoming over-fat.
FEC (Strongyles)	Animals with negative figures are more resistant to Strongyles worms and excrete less worms onto pasture.
FEC (Nematodirus)	Animals with negative figures are more resistant to Nematodirus worms and excrete less worms onto pasture.
Serum IgA	An indicator of immune response when challenged by worms.
Parasite Plus (SI)	Indicates sheep more resistant to parasites, taking into account breeding values for faecal egg count and serum IgA.
Longevity	High values indicate sheep with superior genes to produce ewes with longer productive lives
Mature Weight (PreMating)	An indication of breeding potential for mature ewe weights at mating.
BCS (PreMating)	Breeding potential for body condition score, higher values indicating breeding lines that tend to have higher body condition at mating time.
Easycare Index	Highlights superior breeding stock for a specific objective.