# Breed Benchmark for 2024 – Bluefaced Leicester

| EBV/Index | Bottom 1% | Bottom 5% | Bottom 10% | Bottom 25% | Breed Average | Top 25% | Top 10% | Top 5% | Top 1% |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Birth Weight | 0.99 | 0.76 | 0.63 | 0.42 | **0.18** | -0.06 | -0.27 | -0.40 | -0.63 |
| Lambing Ease | -2.50 | -1.83 | -1.47 | -0.87 | **-0.20** | 0.47 | 1.07 | 1.43 | 2.10 |
| Lambing Ease Maternal | -0.45 | -0.33 | -0.27 | -0.16 | **-0.04** | 0.08 | 0.18 | 0.25 | 0.37 |
| Lamb Survival | -0.13 | -0.09 | -0.07 | -0.03 | **0.01** | 0.05 | 0.09 | 0.11 | 0.15 |
| Eight Week Weight | -1.03 | -0.57 | -0.32 | 0.09 | **0.55** | 1.01 | 1.42 | 1.67 | 2.13 |
| Shearling Weight | -3.22 | -1.88 | -1.17 | 0.02 | **1.34** | 2.66 | 3.85 | 4.56 | 5.90 |
| Litter Size | -0.17 | -0.11 | -0.08 | -0.02 | **0.04** | 0.10 | 0.16 | 0.19 | 0.25 |
| Litter Size Reared | -0.10 | -0.06 | -0.04 | -0.01 | **0.02** | 0.05 | 0.08 | 0.10 | 0.14 |
| Maternal Ability | -0.61 | -0.36 | -0.22 | 0.01 | **0.27** | 0.53 | 0.76 | 0.90 | 1.15 |
| Scan Weight | -3.62 | -2.08 | -1.26 | 0.11 | **1.64** | 3.17 | 4.54 | 5.36 | 6.90 |
| Muscle Depth | -1.89 | -1.36 | -1.08 | -0.61 | **-0.08** | 0.45 | 0.92 | 1.20 | 1.73 |
| Fat Depth | -0.70 | -0.53 | -0.43 | -0.28 | **-0.10** | 0.08 | 0.23 | 0.33 | 0.50 |
| FEC (Strongyles) | 0.42 | 0.28 | 0.21 | 0.09 | **-0.05** | -0.19 | -0.31 | -0.38 | -0.52 |
| FEC (Nematodirus) | 0.08 | 0.06 | 0.05 | 0.03 | **0.01** | -0.01 | -0.03 | -0.04 | -0.06 |
| Serum IgA | -0.02 | -0.02 | -0.01 | -0.01 | **0.00** | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Parasite Plus (SI) | 99.18 | 99.45 | 99.60 | 99.84 | **100.11** | 100.38 | 100.62 | 100.77 | 101.04 |
| Longevity | -0.06 | -0.04 | -0.04 | -0.02 | **-0.01** | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.05 |
| Mature Weight (PreMating) | -2.24 | -1.31 | -0.81 | 0.02 | **0.94** | 1.86 | 2.69 | 3.18 | 4.11 |
| Body Condition Score (PreMating) | -0.09 | -0.06 | -0.04 | -0.02 | **0.01** | 0.04 | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.11 |
| BFL Index | 17 | 50 | 68 | 97 | **130** | 162 | 191 | 209 | 242 |

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| EBV | A brief explanation: |
|---|---|
| Birth Weight | Negative values indicate animals that will produce smaller lambs at birth. |
| Lambing Ease | Shows the genetic variation that exists in the lamb's ability to be born without assistance. |
| Lambing Ease Maternal | Shows the genetic variation that exists in the ewe's ability to produce lambs that are born without assistance. |
| Lamb Survival | High value indicate sheep with superior genes for lamb survival. |
| 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 indicate 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 carcases at a constant fat class or leaner carcases 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 carcases, 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) | An indicator of sheep that are 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. |
| Body Condition Score (Premating) | Breeding potential for body condition score, higher values indicating breeding lines that tend to have higher body condition at mating time. |
| BFL Index | Highlights superior breeding stock for a specific objective. |

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