



P L & L F Baber



Breeders of Top Quality Stock Rams for the Commercial Producer

RAMS REARED ENTIRELY ON GRASS. For several years we have been reducing the dependency on supplementary creep feed. Last year was the first year that we have reared all our lambs without supplementing with any creep or concentrates. This means that all their own performance records are measured against their ability to grow whilst sucking a ewe, fed purely on grass, and then after weaning they themselves continue to grow without supplementing their nutrition with creep feeds or similar.

FASTER GROWTH RATES AND IMPROVED CARCASS GRADING. We are continuing to make quite dramatic improvements. This year all our Suffolk shearling rams and the majority of our Texels are above average for their respective breeds. **Most of our rams have been awarded Gold or Silver Order of Merit awards from the Eblex Better Returns Programme, certifying that they are in the top 10% or 25% of the breed for growth rates and muscling.**

WORM RESISTANCE. We are one of the few flocks who are selecting rams with natural resistance to worms. We are now able to offer a choice of rams who, when measured as lambs, recorded low Faecal Egg Counts (FEC). When combined with information on close relatives, selected now for several years, they should pass this trait on to their offspring. *With this trait a negative EBV indicates an inherited resistance to worms.* As a result of the progress which we have made we are now increasing the interval between drenches for our own stock, thus saving on both time and drench.

TOP QUALITY. Be assured that to maintain our high standards, we still cull our poorer quality lambs and especially those which fail to perform on grass alone. Having made the decision to cull, we then introduce some creep feed to finish these lambs and their performance is quite outstanding. Most of our cull lambs produce top quality E2 and E3L carcasses weighing 19-22Kg.

GENETICS – NOT COSMETICS BUILDS CONFIDENCE. In producing high quality stock rams, which will transmit improved growth rates and carcass traits together with natural worm resistance, we have taken a significant step forward in developing the ram for the future. But just as importantly, because they are reared naturally on grass, we feel that they are not only fitter, more fertile and very active but better still, rather than ‘melting away’ when they move to a new home, they continue to thrive, and eventually reach their full mature size at about three years old!

PEDIGREE ASSURED – All the rams we sell are pedigree with full parentage records, and therefore we can continue to supply you with rams, which are compatible to use on the progeny from previous purchases from us. Indeed, the majority of our rams are sold to repeat customers.

OUR PLEDGE – We pride ourselves with producing fit and healthy rams, of the highest genetic merit but sold at sensible prices for commercial lamb producers.

*Peter and Louise Baber
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