

## Progress Report

11<sup>th</sup> November 2011  
Texel Flock Book  
Brian Wickham

## Topics

- Review of Strategy
- Recent Results
- Flock Book Participation
- AOB

## Sheep Ireland- Strategy Review

- Strategy:
  - 20 recommendations from Strategy Project Team in 2008
  - Reviewed in August 2010 - 14 completed, 2 partial, 4 require further action
  - Revised 13 objectives established and adopted by Board
- Revised Objectives:
  - 1, 2, 3, 4: industry engagement through breed societies, enhancement of a performance recording culture, engagement with meat processors.
  - 5, 6: development of farm services and partnered research on development and enhancement of trait definition and performance recording.
  - 7, 8: deal with structural issues cost efficient structure(s) for Sheep Ireland to capture information required for genetic evaluation and a restructure of the MALP program to reduce costs and target more intensive recording towards specific flocks.
  - 9, 10, 11, 12, 13: deal with provision for new genomics technologies.

## LambPlus – Texel Uptake

BIRTH YEAR	TYPE	FLOCKS	LAMBS
2009	TOTAL	43	2,470
2009	40 DAY WEIGHTS	19	866
2009	WEAN WEIGHTS	16	554
2009	SCAN DATA	41	1,752
2010	TOTAL	38	2,204
2010	40 DAY WEIGHTS	16	698
2010	WEAN WEIGHTS	18	519
2010	SCAN DATA	29	1,207

# Sheep Ireland – Recent Results

Lambs Production Sub-Index Comparison by Breed														
Lamb Breed	★ 1 Star Lambs							★★★★★ 5 Star Lambs						
	Production Sub-Index			40 Day Weight		Weaning Weight		Production Sub-Index			40 Day Weight		Weaning Weight	
	Nbr of Lambs	€ Value	Acc %	Average Weight (Kg)	Age (Days)	Average Weight (Kg)	Age (Days)	Nbr of Lambs	€ Value	Acc %	Average Weight (Kg)	Age (Days)	Average Weight (Kg)	Age (Days)
Belclare	217	-0.25	27%	18 Kg	50	30 Kgs	95	61	0.41	23%	22 Kgs	49	33 Kgs	88
Charollais	119	-0.32	35%	16 Kg	43	36 Kgs	91	86	0.46	32%	25 Kgs	44	42 Kgs	92
Suffolk	259	-0.27	32%	20 Kg	45	39 Kgs	97	338	0.46	35%	25 Kgs	48	46 Kgs	91
Texel	662	-0.31	34%	18 Kg	47	32 Kgs	98	587	0.48	39%	23 Kgs	50	39 Kgs	97
Vendéen	166	-0.34	37%	16 Kg	45	30 Kgs	96	101	0.44	36%	18 Kgs	43	35 Kgs	94

# Common Interests – Sheep Ireland & Flock Book(s)

- Source of rams for commercial producers
- Breeding objectives
- Genetic evaluations
- Information for ram sales
- Pedigree records
- Promotion of best practise

# Data & Information to be Shared

- Identification
- Mating
- Lambing
- Parentage
- Location
- Performance traits
- Disease traits
- Genetic Evaluations

# Possible Model (as for cattle)

- Common Shared System
  - HB members use LambPlus
  - LambPlus to include facility for Pedigree Registration and printing of reports (inc catalogues, certs, genetic evaluations etc)
  - Flock Book Sec has web access to database (with facility to print catalogue, certs, and provide support services)
  - On-line Flock Book (promotion, information, & search tool)
  - Most of cost covered by LambPlus with Flock Book fees covering rest

## Steps

- Agreement to Proceed
- Data Migration
- System Testing
- User Training
- Flock Sign-Up
- Support

## Current Situation

<u>Breed</u>	<u>Back Ancestry Data Status</u>
• Belclare	Received & Loaded
• Charollais	Not Received
• Galway	Received & Loaded
• Rouge	Received & Loaded
• Suffolk	Making Arrangements to receive
• Texel	Not Received
• Vendéen	Contract to be ratified
• Breeds that share Back Ancestry for their entire Breed with Sheep Ireland will receive more accurate genetic evaluations than those who only have Ancestry from Lambplus Flocks included.	