

# Sheep Ireland®

## Lambplus, MALP & CPT Update



# LambPlus Participation - 2010

<b>Lambplus Membership</b>		
	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Texel	47	44
Suffolk	22	22
Vendeen	10	16
Belclare	2	33
Galway	0	33
Charollais	6	7
Rouge	0	3
	<b>87</b>	<b>158</b>

- **Hill breeder's in the West also getting involved.**
- **Major recruitment drive to begin in summer 2010.**
- **Availability of Flock backancestry for Prepopulating screens will be important for this to succeed.**

## Data Recorded in 2010 (since Nov'09)

- **Web Screens & Paper Forms successfully recording data in Pedigree Flocks:**

<u>Statistic</u>	<u>Number</u>
Total Ewes Lambed	993
Total Lambs born	1667
Total Birthweights	1667
Males	857
Females	810
Dead	76

- **Current Focus is on maximising level of recording.**
- **Good response from Text Messages & Mailshot**

## Data Recorded in 2010 (since Nov'09)

<b>Breed</b>	<b>Lambs</b>
Texel	489
Belclare	387
Suffolk	365
Vendeen	332
Charollais	86
Shropshire	6
Unknown	2

- Level of recording is ahead of 2009 level at this stage.

# MALP Review

- Allow us **Demonstrate** the benefits of using Genetic Evaluations when making Ram Selection decisions.
- **Group of Commercial Flocks**
- **Will record the ‘Maternal’ ability of Ram’s daughters.**
  - **Maternal Lamb Producer Group**
- **8000 Ewes/11,000 Lambs**
- **EID & DNA Technology – manage Parentage & Data recording**
- **Lambing, 40 Day/Weaning/Slaughter weights.**



# MALP Review

- **MALP Flocks established**
  - **Year 1 of data collection completed (2009)**
    - **@11,000 Lambs EID/DNA tagged.**
    - **Weighed twice on each farm.**
    - **Ewes EID/DNA tagged.**
  - **Year 2 (2010)**
    - **Electronic Handheld with each Farmer for data collection.**
      - To eliminate paper recording on-farm & reduce errors.
    - **Schedule Calendar established for on-farm weighing.**
      - To ensure weights collected at correct ages.
    - **Design of results sheet agreed.**
      - To help Flockowners easily identify Rams.



# CPT Review

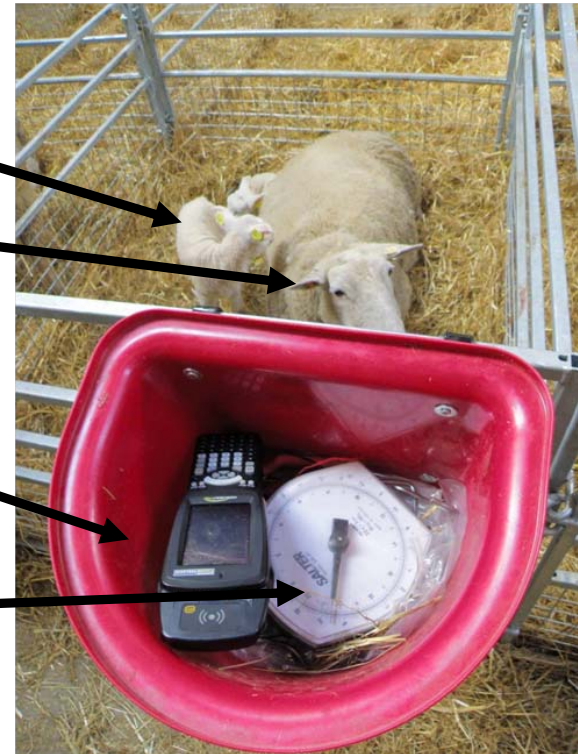
- CPT Objective:
- Assess a large number of Rams for economically important traits through their progeny & link this information to an even wider number of animals throughout that Breed's Pedigree System.
- 4 Commercial Flocks
- 100% AI
- 30 Rams
- 5 Breeds
- 75% Conception

Lamb + EID Tag

Ewe + EID Tag

Handheld

Weigh Clock



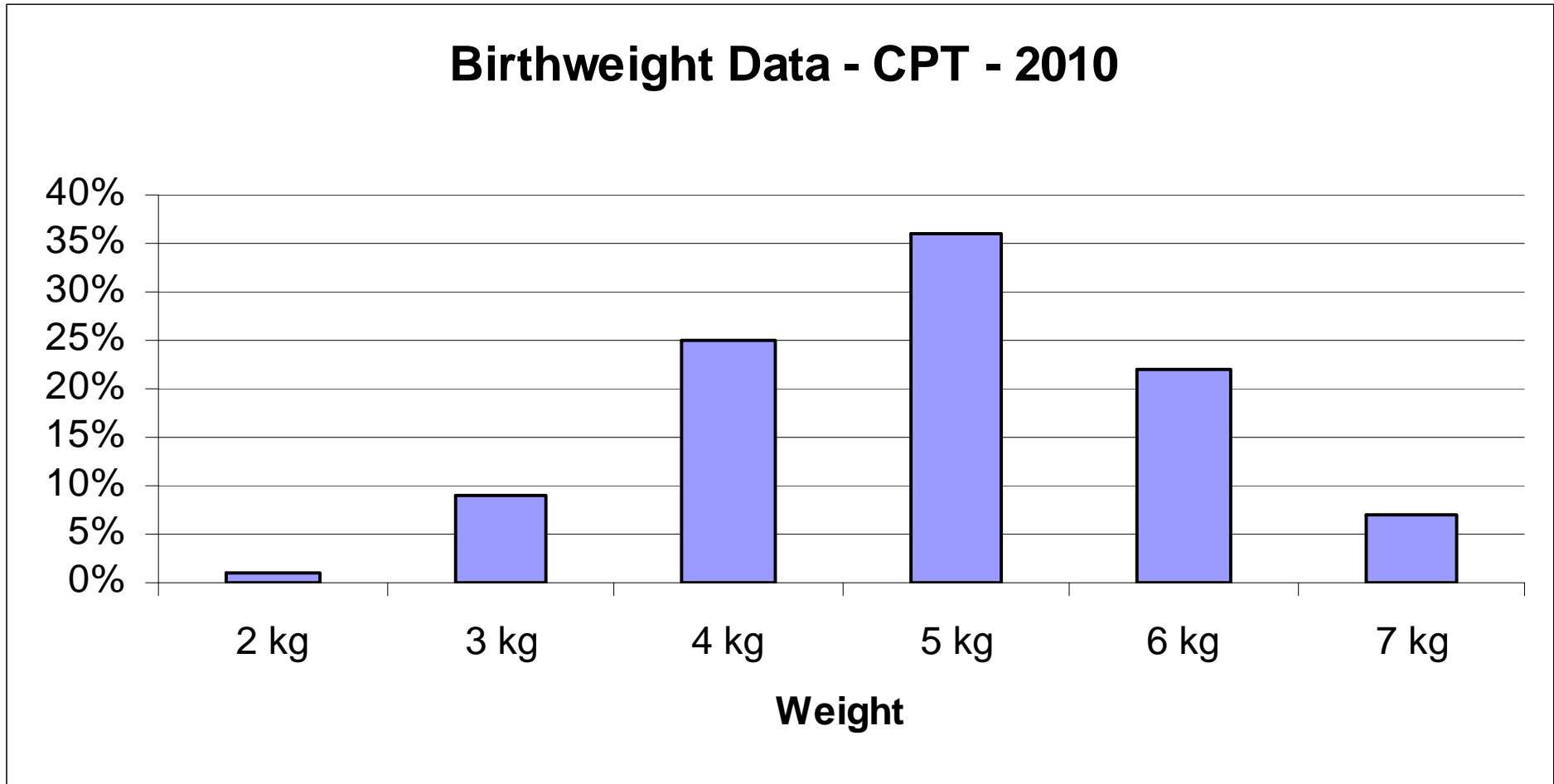
# CPT Review

- **All Lambs born in CPT Flocks:**
  - **Linked to their Dam.**
  - **Weight Recorded.**
  - **Lambing Difficulty Recorded.**
  - **Sex Recorded.**
  - **Mortality Recorded.**
- **All data recorded through Electronic Handhelds.**
- **Date electronically uploaded to Sheep Ireland Database.**



# CPT Review

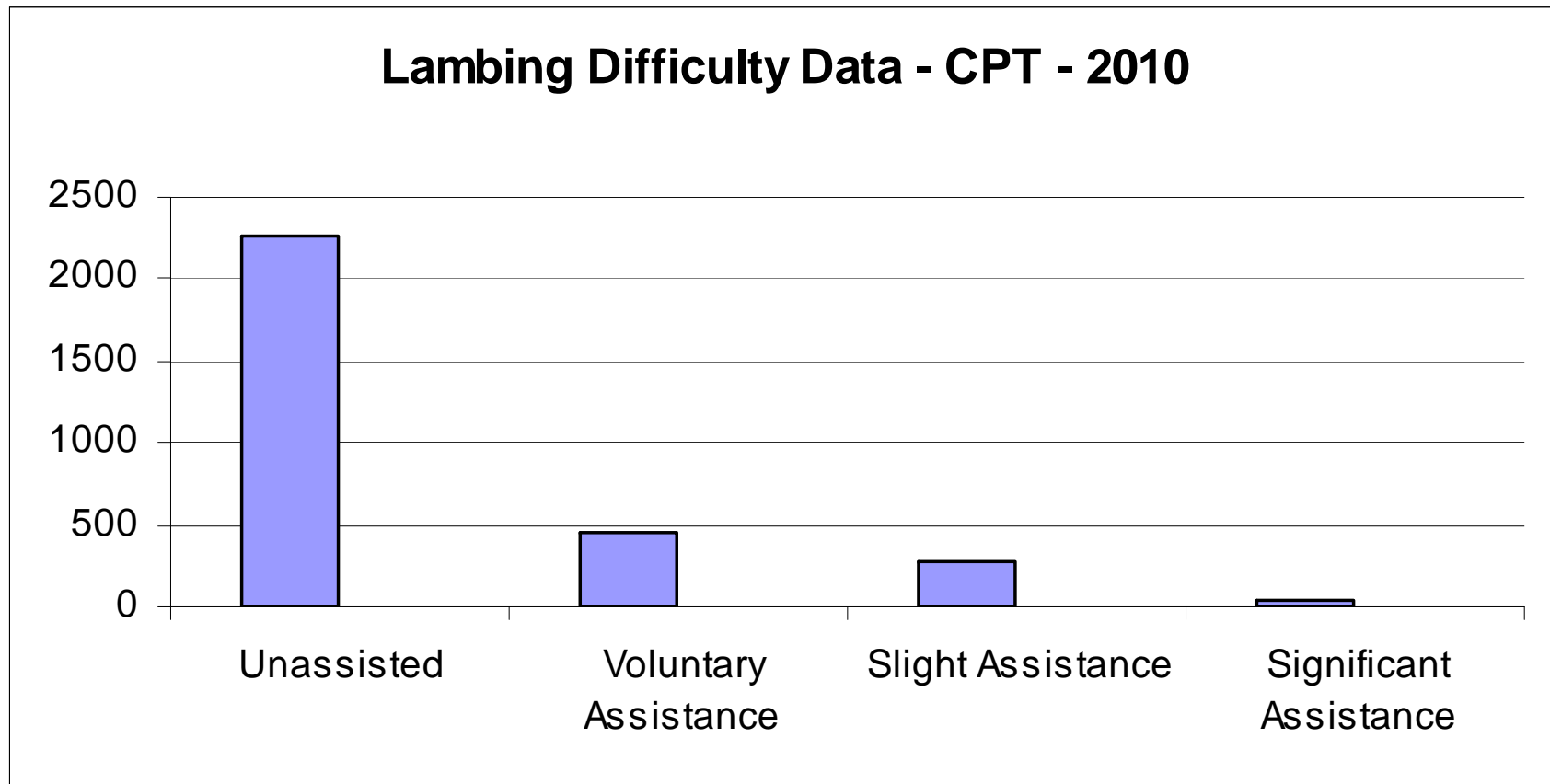
- **Birthweight Distribution**



- **All Lambs Weight Recorded**

# CPT Review

- **Lambing Difficulty Distribution**



- **Accurate Lambing Difficulty data recorded at birth.**
- **Recorded by same operator in each flock.**
- **Stored in database – ready for genetic evaluations.**

# Summary

- Lambplus data recording system improved from 2009 version.
  - Data being successfully recorded.
  - MALP & CPT Structures set up.
  - Data flowing back to Sheep Ireland database.
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- Key Actions going forward:
    1. Increasing level of recording amongst Lambplus participants
    2. Increasing number of Lambplus Members.
    3. Distribute evaluation results in standard format.