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## Performance recording

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### ***How to record***

The focus of performance recording and data capture in LambPlus is web-based, offering the realisation of cost savings to you as the breeder. If you have web access then recording parentage and performance information directly via your LambPlus logon site is encouraged. You will be able to print off recording sheets to allow ease of recording in the field, transfer from your recording notebook, or transfer of information directly to animal events.

Alternatively you can contact LambPlus (on LoCall 1850 600 900) and request a performance recording pack, which will contain recording sheets for parentage and trait recording, and an ID and performance recording protocol. This can be returned to Sheep Ireland for entry to the database. Electronic hand-held systems should also be available in time for data recording which will synchronise with the Sheep Database, and will interact with electronic ID readers.

In any case data should be entered into the database as soon as possible after recording the event. This will ensure the maximum amount of data is available for evaluation at any time point where results are required.

### **Some important comments about pedigree and performance recording**

Data should be collected on all of the animals (lambs born) and these animals uniquely identified. Be conscious that it is harder to correct errors (which occur in any system) at a later time.

It is always valuable to put in the date of measurement. If measurements were taken over several days (e.g. weaning weights for different groups, weaned over a week) then put the date alongside each set of group data. This allows Sheep Ireland to most accurately adjust for animals having different growth periods prior to weaning.

Be aware of common ID errors such as duplicated animals (e.g. two weaning weights for same lamb), unknown animals (e.g. no animal on database has that ID). These can be caused by errors transposing letters when writing down at recording (e.g. read it as 213/08 but record it as 231/08). Using pre-printed pre-lists from Sheep Ireland can help a lot in minimising such errors. EID systems will eliminate these sorts of errors when recording performance information.