



Industry Consultation meeting – follow-up conference call

**Wednesday 26th November 2013
8.00pm**

Agenda

- **Topic 1 – Thierry Pabiou**
- **Topic 2 – Noirin McHugh**
- **Feedback from breeders – Eamon Wall**
- **Discussion**

Topic 1

(Thierry Pabiou – Sheep Ireland Geneticist)

Relative Emphasis of Traits in Replacement Index

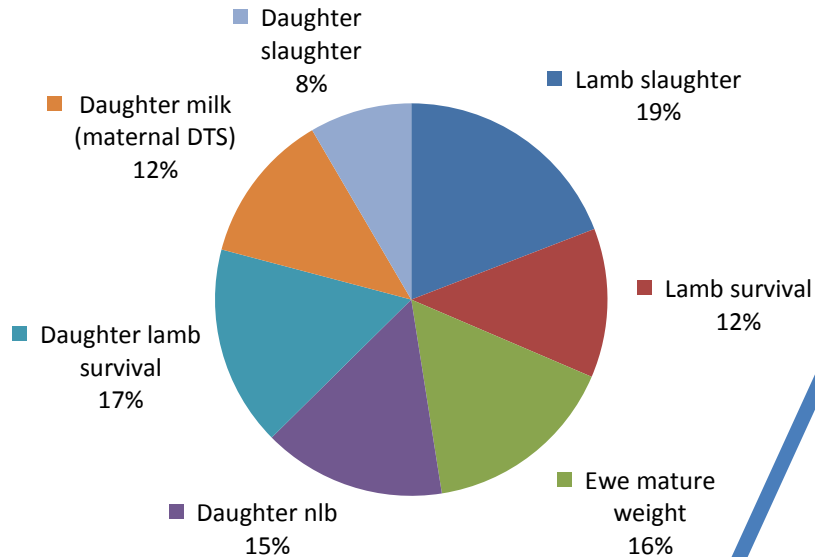


Relative Emphasis

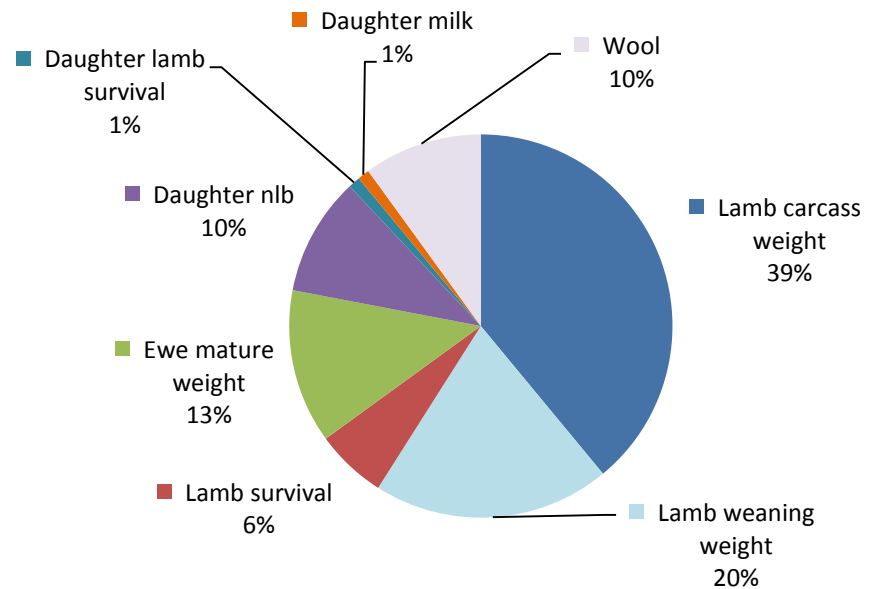
Trait	Current	Terminal	Replacement	Replacement Reviewed
Days to slaughter	18.14%	40.30%	13.89%	12.12%
Carcase conformation	3.51%	7.80%	2.69%	2.35%
Carcase fat	6.75%	14.98%	5.17%	4.55%
Mat. days to slaughter	9.12%	-	10.28%	12.36%
Mat. carcase conformation	2.01%	-	2.26%	2.86%
Mat. carcase fat	4.07%	-	4.60%	5.49%
Ewe mature weight	14.86%	-	18.25%	15.93%
Mat. Lamb survival	11.09%	-	13.24%	16.34%
Mat. Single Lamb diff	0.39%	-	0.46%	0.23%
Mat. Multiple Lamb diff	0.21%	-	0.25%	0.13%
NLB	11.85%	-	14.33%	14.96%
Single Lambing difficulty	0.55%	1.12%	0.44%	0.38%
Multiple Lambing difficulty	0.27%	0.60%	0.24%	0.21%
Lamb survival	17.18%	35.20%	13.90%	12.13%

Comparison IRL - NZL

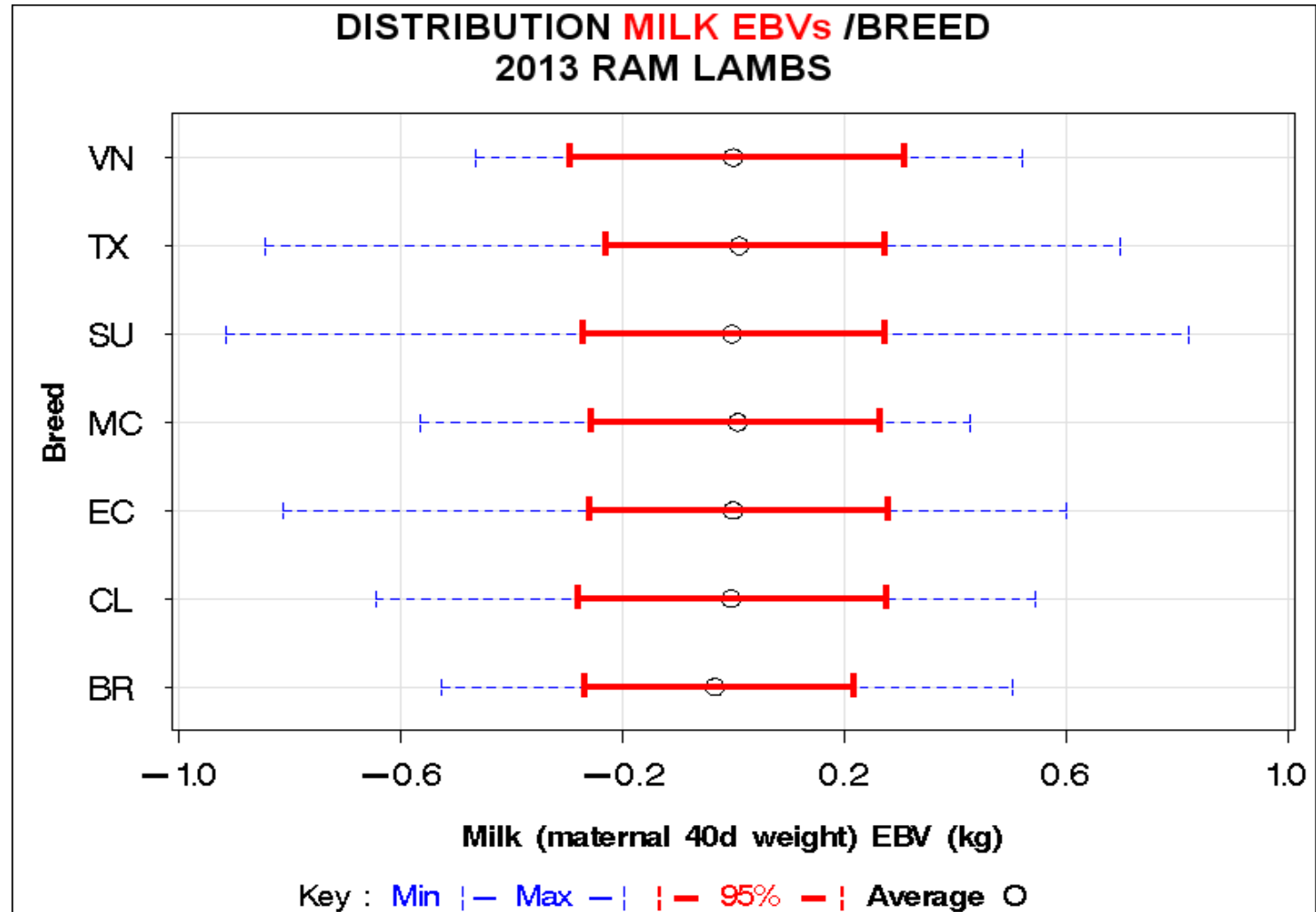
Ireland – Replacement Index



New Zealand - Dual purpose index



Milk EBVs / breeds



Milk trait

- Contribution of ewe milk to lamb slaughter:
 - weight, confirmation, fat
- Mainly expressed up to weaning

Perfect 'milky' ewe = Lacaune (dairy) for cheese production

Direct record of milk

- Direct € return on milk
- Milk = therefore it's the largest component of index



'Meat' ewe = compromise between milk and meat

- Indirect measure of milk
- Indirect € return on milk
- Milk = not the main component of index



Topic 2

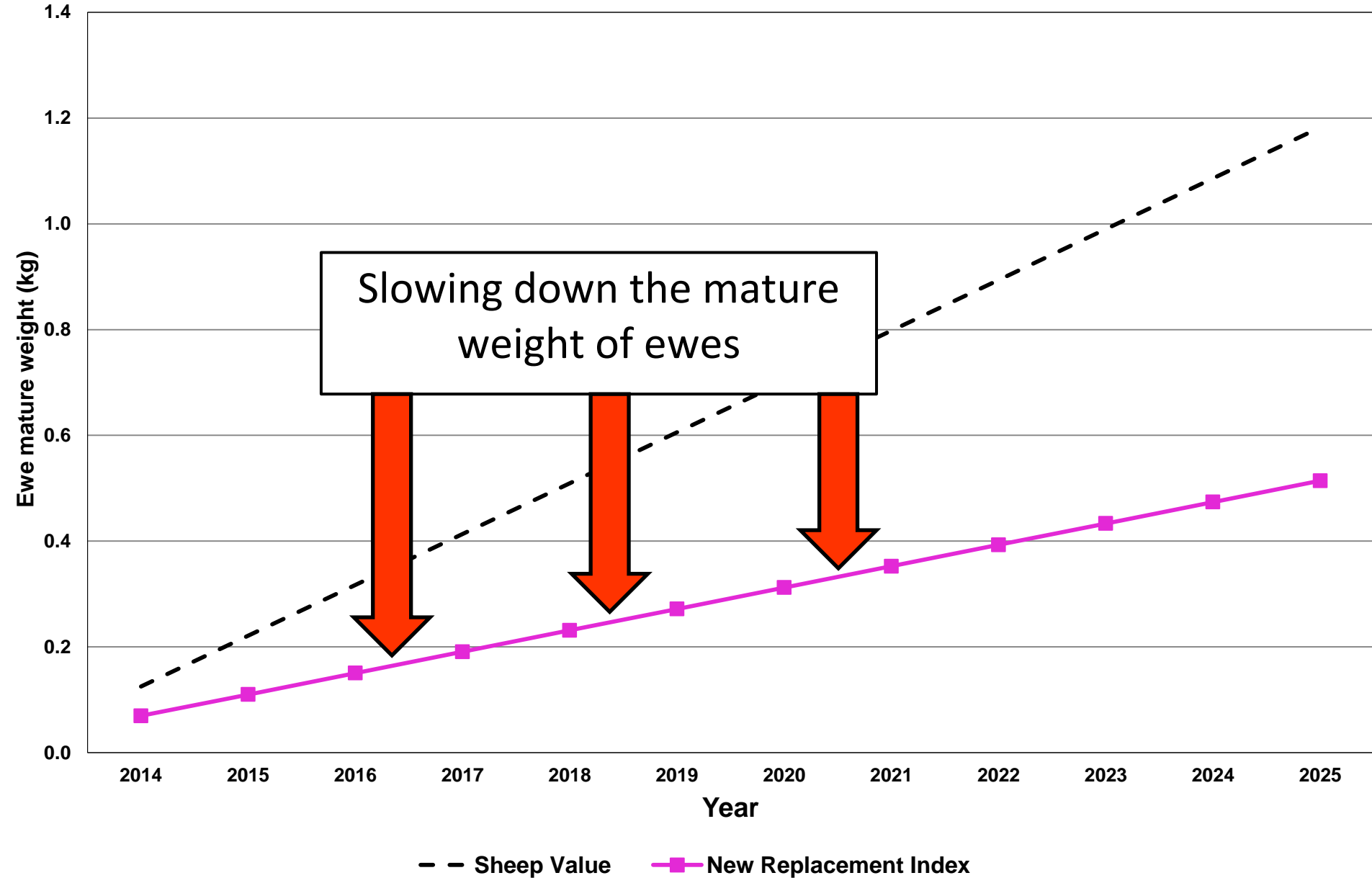
(Noirin McHugh – Teagasc Geneticist)

Selection & Mature Weight

Ewe Mature Weight

- ~16% emphasis in replacement index
- Accounts for:
 - Cost of maintaining ewe
 - Value of cull ewe
- Objective: breed for fast growing lambs, without extreme adult size

Response to Selection – Ewe mature weight



Extreme – select on growth only!

