



**NEW ZEALAND  
SHEEPBREEDERS' ASSOCIATION  
SUFFOLK NZ NEWS**



**FEBRUARY, 2015**

Greetings Again Suffolk Members,

Well it is a bit late... but New Year's greetings are in order, so here's wishing you all a very happy & prosperous New Year from the Suffolk Breed Committee. Hopefully you all enjoyed the Xmas break, are feeling refreshed and are well on the way to getting the rest of your lambs away, your surplus rams sold & ewes sorted & ready for mating.

The talk prior to Xmas, was the wonderful achievement of Penni Loffhagen, Tawhai Stud, in winning the ultimate prize - SUPREME OVERALL ANIMAL OF SHOW at the Canterbury A & P Show with her ram Coleford 600/11, bred by JT Miles.

Now on everyone's lips, is the 'Big Dry' looming in many parts of the country. I only hope that breeders in the drought prone areas can get their stock to some fresher pastures, handy to home. Locally, the pastures still have a green tinge, & there appears to be plenty of feed to flush up the ewes ready for mating. We have had a minute amount of drizzly rain, and with the ground temp. being high, the facial eczema spore count will be rising. Already the Maramarua area is reporting 10,000 & rising, so have your Zinc medicals on hand if you use them.

Lamb prices – In the Auckland region before Xmas, both prime & store market values were reasonably good with small lambs making over \$100. Values have changed dramatically post Xmas. At the Tuakau Lamb Fair held in early January, lambs sold exceptionally well as there was an abundance of feed in the north. The tops as usual went to works buyers at \$104 & the sale averaged \$70.85. Now, at most saleyards, top prime lambs are making around the \$100-\$110, very nice 'eatable' lambs are making in the mid \$80's (great if you need to fill the freezer), but values have since plummeted for store lambs with many making \$30-\$50.

Down south.... Having just returned from a very crisp Canterbury, holidaying & visiting a few studs on the way, I had the pleasure in attending the Annual On-Farm Lamb Sale in the Rakaia Gorge, Canterbury last week. What a wonderful day out! There are 6 farms involved. 22,000+ lambs are sold on one day. The majority of lambs on offer are sired by Suffolk sires. Agents start selling at the bottom of the Valley & work their way via each farm up to the top of the Valley. Although the area is now getting very dry, the lambs were a credit to their vendors. The top pens from Peak Hill & Snowdon Station made \$119 & \$120 this year, very good for a 'drought' situation !!



Most livestock centres have already held their Ewe Fairs... Results at most have been reasonably good, but not attracting the huge high \$\$ of a year or two ago. Tuakau Ewe Fair, held early January had an offering of 12,000+ ewes. The top 2 tooth's made in the \$160's & 5yold's made \$120. Ram sales have been chugging along steadily, & most breeders (in the North) have almost or totally sold out now. Breeders I have spoken seem to be reasonably happy with the prices that they have gleaned from their private clients. Frankton Ram Fair, held last week, was reasonably buoyant; Most of the 'better end' Suffolk's from registered breeders made \$550-425 & the lesser end around the \$400 mark. Remember to keep your standards high, select & only keep your best ram lambs for breeding. If you do still have rams still available, don't hesitate to use the Ram database to help sell them. Good luck everybody with your Ram Sales....

**Debbie**

**\*\* RAMS AVAILABLE DATABASE..... SEE FORM ATTACHED TO BACK PAGE\*\***

### **CHAIRMANS UPDATE**

Fellow Suffolk Breeders,

2015 is now upon us and I'm sure will throw up its fair share of challenges and rewards as every year does. With most of the pre-weaning drafts having being done, it is rewarding to hear how pleased many farmers are that use Suffolk rams, with the high percentage they are able to kill off mum at good carcass weights. With good lambing percentages achieved by many this year the next question will be how will the lamb market hold up in the next few months? Typically farmer prices fall by 40c/kg on average between Dec and Apr before regaining some ground into May. Given the forecast for greater lamb supplies and average demand in key markets through the next few months the expectation is that the fall will be slightly larger than normal with the real pressure to be felt through Feb/ Mar as the lambs keep flowing, and export markets start reverting back to frozen demand. (Market Outlook)

Advertising - As a breed we have to keep positioning our product in front of the people who buy it – the committee recognises that this is an important part of breeding. Each area is responsible for its own advertising, with a national advertising campaign also representing Suffolk NZ.

**NOTHING SELLS BETTER THAN A BLACK FACE LAMB**

It's called a premium, and it happens because Suffolk sired lambs all have black faces and these black faces represent 100% Hybrid Vigour.

That's faster growth, higher yields and increased survivability.

Not many terminal breeds can say this.

**GROWTH – MEAT – SURVIVAL**

For a breeder near you visit  
[www.nzsheep.co.nz/suffolk](http://www.nzsheep.co.nz/suffolk)




## SUFFOLK WINS SUPREME ANIMAL AT CANTERBURY A&P SHOW 2014



Coleford 600 / 11 was bred by JT Miles, by a Brooklands Ram out of a Coleford Ewe. Purchased in Jan 2013 by Tawhai Suffolk Stud, 'Johnny' as we like to call him, has bred very consistently for us, producing both Ram and Ewe progeny of top quality. Shown for the first time at the Canterbury A & P Show 2014, he won the Champion Suffolk Ram, Supreme Suffolk, Supreme Meat Breed sheep of show and **SUPREME OVERALL ANIMAL OF SHOW**, over many thousands of entrants. A fantastic achievement not only for Tawhai and Coleford Suffolk Studs but also for SUFFOLKS as a breed. JT Miles was very moved by the win, likening this to the NZ sheep world's equivalent of winning the Melbourne Cup.

*Penni Loffhagen, Tawhai Stud*

## BREED COMMITTEE NEWS

### RAMS FOR SALE DATABASE

This annual selling initiative that aims to link unsold Suffolk rams in the autumn with prospective purchasers by regularly letting key people in the industry know what rams are still available in their area.

Each of the four Suffolk areas has a database of key people where details of unsold rams will be sent to in the middle of February/March and April.

Breeders are to supply by email, fax or post their Name, Address, Stud Name, Contact number, Rams available & a brief description of Rams available (no more than 10 words). NZSBA will then send out this information with a covering letter to the key people in your area. You must nominate which area they would like targeted – Northern, Central, Mid Southern and Southern.

*Please see the back page of this Newsletter if you wish to participate. If you require further information please contact your local Committee Rep.*

This year the national campaign was run through November with its "NOTHING SELLS BETTER THAN A BLACKFACE LAMB" campaign with three ad's placed in the Farmers Weekly. There will also be three ads placed in late February/early March. Any feedback on how this is done is always welcomed.

Suffolk NZ has again been awarded a space for a ram in the Central Progeny Test (CPT). This basically compares the performance of all breeds, terminal and maternal. There are conditions regarding what rams can be entered, but if anyone is interested please let me know. For more information see later in newsletter.

Linkages – now is the time to begin thinking about mating options. Suffolk NZ offers an Across Flock Analysis for those members that are on SIL. To get more accuracy in how your flock is performing there must be sufficient linkages with other SIL recorded flocks, with a minimum of 15 offspring being sired by someone else's sire. (must also have been used in their flock that year) Suffolk NZ recommends those that are interested to consider linkage options for this year. Bruce Rapley has been running the Across Flock analysis so any questions please feel free to contact him or myself.

Suffolk NZ is again offering the Rams for Sale Database, which helps link unsold rams with prospective buyers later in the season. This is the third year we have been running this and is exclusive to Suffolk breeders only. Do consider this as an option if you feel it may help. Again see further details of Rams for Sale Database later in the newsletter.

Remember Suffolk NZ, the Suffolk NZ committee and Sheepbreeders is here for our breeders, so if you want or need anything regarding Suffolk's please don't hesitate to contact one of these contacts.

Regards,

**Stewart Morton, Chairman, SuffolkNZ**

06 3285772 [pakirooms@farmside.co.nz](mailto:pakirooms@farmside.co.nz)

## Sale Results from Canterbury Ram & Ewe Sale, NOV 2014

Run	Lot	No	Stud	Vendor	\$\$\$\$
1	245	152/13	Phoebe	G & D Beckett	5500
1	215	330/13 Tw	Omagh	N & M Carr	3500
2	247	255/13 Tw	Courtenay	Seaton Farming Ltd	3200
1	217	177/13	Collie Hills	Collie Hills P/Ship	3000
1 <b>1st</b>	221	133/13	Stoneylea	A & J Adams	3000
1	234	913/13	Waimotu	S & A Brown	2600
1	212	513/13	Coleford	JT Miles	2000
1	218	39/13 w	Pine Grove	H & J Gardiner	2000
1	228	8/13.	Glenwood	M & C Howie	2000
1 <b>3rd</b>	236	71/13 Rep	Tawhai	P Loffhagen	2000
1 <b>4th</b>	246	122/13	Phoebe	G & D Beckett	2000
2 <b>2nd</b>	262	N50/13	Unique	P Boag	2000
1	205	149/13 Tw	Courtenay	Seaton Farming Ltd	1500
1	206	25/13	Courtenay	Seaton Farming Ltd	1500
1	220	183/13	Stoneylea	A & J Adams	1100
1	207	4/13 Tw	Mornish	G & D Abbott	1000
1	210	14/13	Taronga	SW Howard	1000
1	216	266/13	Collie Hills	Collie Hills P/Ship	1000
1	219	21/13 Tw	Pine Grove	H & J Gardiner	1000
1	231	89/13	Brooklands	A & P McIlraith	1000
1	237	325/13	Tawhai	P Loffhagen	1000
2	253	75/13	Stoneylea	A & J Adams	1000
1	235	921/13	Waimotu	S & A Brown	900
1	222	S113/13 Tw	Waterton	P & C Hampton	800
1	224	P81/13 Tw	Waterton	P & C Hampton	800
1	230	31/13 Tw	Brooklands	A & P McIlraith	800
1	240	6/13 Tw	Hillside	M & D Irvine	800
1	243	N14/13 Tw	Unique	P Boag	800
1	244	N48/13	Unique	P Boag	800
2	249	558/13 Rep	Coleford	JT Miles	800
2	252	150/13	Stoneylea	A & J Adams	800
<b>31 OUT OF 58 ENTERED SOLD = 53.44%</b>				<b>AVERAGE \$\$</b>	<b>\$1,652</b>
EWES	264	196/13 Tw	Tawhai	P Loffhagen	400
	265	425/13 Tw	Tawhai	P Loffhagen	225
	266	116/13 Tw	Tawhai	P Loffhagen	225
	267	45/13	Tawhai	P Loffhagen	225
	268	50/13	Tawhai	P Loffhagen	225
				<b>AVERAGE \$\$</b>	<b>260</b>

## CHRISTCHURCH NATIONAL

### RAM & EWE FAIR -

**28<sup>th</sup> November, 2014**

### SALE SUMMARY:

*1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> pertains to the Peoples Choice award.*

*Im my opinion, presentation was reasonably good, but with 58 rams entered the market was over supplied & as a consequence only 53% sold. Buyers appeared to be quite 'choosy'. There seemed to be not many commercial buyers present & bidding for the 'lesser types' was at times quite lethargic.*

*12 entries passed the \$2000 mark, with the top price going to G & D Beckett with lot 245, Phoebe 152/13 at \$5500.*

*There were 58 entries in total, of which 31 were sold during the Auction (53.44%) & the average being \$1652. Twenty three entries were passed in & 4 were scratched.*

*In the Ewe sale, 5 ewes were entered & sold at an average of \$260 for Penni Loffhagen's. Tawhai Stud.*

*Comments were made by some breeders that the \$2000 ram transfer fee set for this sale is too high for some smaller breeders.*

### Disclaimer:

*These results were compiled by me at time of the Auction. Some further sales may have taken place post Auction. I took every care to ensure accuracy, but I accept no responsibility for any error that might be contained in them.*  
Debbie Holmes



### People's Choice Award, Canterbury Sale, Nov 2014 left to right

Lot 221, Stoneylea 133/13 sold for \$3000

Lot 262, Unique N50/13 sold for \$2000

Lot 236, Tawhai 71/13 sold for \$2000

Lot 246, Phoebe 122/13 sold for \$2000

'The working mans end'

Lots 246, 221, 236 & 262

Sale Results from Feilding Ram & Ewe Sale 9th Dec, 2014					
Run	Lot	No	Stud	Vendor	\$\$\$\$
1	124	382/13	Coleford	JT Miles	8500
1	126	218/13 Tw	Omagh	N & M Carr	7000
1	128	154/13 Trp	Little River	S Sinclair	5700
1	127	283/13 Tw	Omagh	N & M Carr	3400
1	141	7/13 Tw	Rorokoko	C & C O'Connor	2700
1	130	56/13	Woodbine	C & M Irwin	2200
1	133	30/13	Banklea	R & M Brown	2200
2	145	204/13 Tw	Omagh	N & M Carr	2000
2	147	C37/13 Tw	Waterton	P & C Hampton	1600
1	129	143/13 Tw	Little River	S Sinclair	1500
1	131	66/13	Woodbine	C & M Irwin	1500
1	134	P340/13	Waterton	P & C Hampton	1500
1	135	S136/13 Tw	Waterton	P & C Hampton	1300
1	125	555/13 Tw	Coleford	JT Miles	1200
2	144	308/13 Tw	Omagh	N & M Carr	1200
15 OUT OF 24 ENTERED SOLD = 62.5%				AVERAGE \$\$	\$2,900



Chairman Stu Morton encouraging Coleford 382/13 to parade around the ring at Feilding Sale ,November 2014

Sale Results From Gore Ram Sale, 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 2015			
No	Stud	Vendor	\$\$\$
1	Mt Annan	AR & TE McCall	4700
1	Torresdale	AR & J Lindsay	2000
1	Mt Annan	AR & TE McCall	1200
1	Torresdale	AR & J Lindsay	1100
1	Waimotu	SM & AJ Brown	1000
2	Punchbowl	DA & JM Brown	800
1	Torresdale	AR & J Lindsay	800
5 entries passed in		AVERAGE	\$1,550

### GORE RAM FAIR 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2015

**SALE SUMMARY:** There were fifteen rams entered from six breeders. Eight rams were sold at an average price of \$1550.

**DISCLAIMER:** These results were compiled by me at time of the Auction. Some further sales may have taken place post Auction. I took every care to ensure accuracy, but I accept no responsibility for any error that might be contained in them. Tracey McCall

### FEILDING RAM FAIR

9<sup>th</sup> December, 2014

#### **SALE SUMMARY:**

*In my opinion, presentation was good, & with 24 rams entered there was no over supply as there was in CHCH 2 weeks before. Buying power was strong & the sale seemed quite bouyant. The top price of \$8500 went to lot 124, Coleford 382/13, a meaty ram from JT Miles. 12 entries reached more than \$1500, with this figure being the Stud transfer price at this sale. There were 24 entries in total, 15 were sold during the Auction (62.5%) & the average being \$2900. 4 entries were passed in & 5 were scratched.*

*Disclaimer: These results were compiled by me at time of the Auction. Some further sales may have taken place post Auction. I took every care to ensure accuracy, but I accept no responsibility for any error that might be contained in them. Debbie Holmes*

#### **FLOCK RAM SALES:**

Breeders in the upper North are having a reasonable year in regards to private Flock Ram Sales. At some, the 'tops' have made up to \$1650 & some breeders have averaged around \$700- \$820.p.hd. On the other hand, the numbers of Suffolk flock rams at saleyards are quite large, consequently some are struggling to glean adequate \$\$ values, making some breeders question whether or not it is worthwhile carrying them through for flock rams. D.H.



#### **MASSEY UNIVERSITY** **TESTING FACILITY**

'As of 2015, we will only be notifying results by email. No hard copies will be sent by post. Please ensure a current/preferred email address is supplied at the time of sample submission. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.'

**Janine Langevad Kenny,**  
**Senior Technician**

**Equine Parentage & Animal Genetic Services**

## SUFFOLKNZ AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR 2014

*SUFFOLKNZ Ambassador of the Year trophy is awarded annually to a recipient who has put time and effort into the Suffolk Breed.*

The 2014 recipient of the award is John Kyle from Hawkes Bay. John's involvement with the Suffolk breed has been a long one, serving the breed on a local level and national level for many years. He was also the organiser of this year's Suffolk Breed Tour set in the Hawkes Bay, which saw breeders from all over New Zealand view the sights and sheep of the Hawkes Bay and



Wairarapa. Anybody that has been on one of these tours knows the amount of work required to make it successful is enormous and so we are fortunate to be able to acknowledge John's contribution with the SuffolkKNZ Ambassador of the Year Award for 2014.

*SUFFOLKNZ Chairman, Stewart Morton presenting John Kyle with the SUFFOLKNZ Ambassador of the year trophy after the Canterbury Sale, Nov. 2014*

## WE WELCOME NEW FLOCK:

Flk.1021 'Tamerton' Stephen Collier, Wanganui



## **NORTHERN (S.I.) SUFFOLK BREEDERS FEATURE SHOW**

**MALVERN A & P SHOW  
SAT, 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2015**

The Northern (S.I.) Suffolk Breeders club are having their annual Feature Show at Malvern A & P show at Sheffield on Saturday, 28th March, 2015.

Rosettes & prize money will be awarded to the ram lamb, ewe lamb & one shear ewe classes.

If you have not received a schedule please contact:

Secretary:

Rebecca Stewart

98 Searles Road, Sheffield, 7580. Ph. 033183105

or Annette Millar Ph. 033188603.

We will have a get together & prize giving at lunch time.

If you wish, please bring something for a shared lunch.

**Entries close..... FRIDAY 27th. FEBRUARY.**

## 2015 CPT TRIAL

The opportunity to put a ram in the CPT trial is open to any breeder that is on SIL. What they are looking for is a high performing ram that has got/will have linkages within the industry, so we urge all breeders to consider this for next year. Unfortunately this year we had a lack of numbers put forward for the CPT trial and due to extreme weather conditions, some of the rams were withdrawn.

The ram chosen for the trial is a Paki-iti ram that has been used in flock for two years as well as being linked with other flocks. He is also to be used in another flock this season.

*Stu Morton*

## **SPORTING STARS SET TO CHOOSE NATIONS TOP LAMB**

*Beef+Lamb NZ*

*28 January, 2015*

Iron Maidens

Sophie Pascoe,

Sarah Walker

and Lisa

Carrington

(pictured with

Prime Minister



John Key) are set to judge the ninth annual Beef + Lamb New Zealand Golden Lamb Awards. The Glammies aim to find the most tender and tasty lamb in New Zealand, with categories for both farmers and retailers.

Entries for the 2015 competition are now closed. The top 20 finalists will be determined at Carne Technologies, based on scientific assessment of yield, tenderness, succulence and colour of each entry lamb leg. These final 20 will be judged at the Grand Final held at the Wanaka A & P Show on 13 March, 2015.



## SNIPPETS

### SUDAN VETS SEIZE EWES 'DISGUISED AS RAMS'



bbc.co.uk 10.2.2014

Officials in Sudan have seized more than 70 ewes with rams' sexual organs sewn onto them, after an investigation was launched concerning the country's livestock

export restrictions. Vets in Suakin port on the Red Sea coast were examining a flock of 1,000 before shipping them off for sale in Saudi Arabia when they noticed one sheep adopting the female posture for urination with hinds legs spread. Quarantine officers investigated further and found more than 70 of them were in fact ewes. The smugglers used fine thread to sew male organs onto the female sheep. The entire flock was impounded by customs officers, & a police investigation led them to the upland regions near Ethiopia & Eritrea. Al-Tahir Satti of Al-Sudani news says 'one reason why the smugglers went to such lengths to disguise the ewes is that productive female livestock are the most expensive in Gulf states, & Sudan limits the number that can be exported there. Rams, on the other hand, are less valued.'

Abridged D.H

## LEMON AND CORIANDER LAMB SKEWERS

- SONJA BERNYK, Super Food Ideas - Nov, 2012

These fresh and tangy skewers combine Asian and Moroccan flavours and are great for spicing up your barbecue.

You'll need 8 metal or pre-soaked bamboo skewers

1/2 cup Lemon Juice

1/3 cup chopped fresh coriander leaves

1 Tablespoon Moroccan Seasoning

700 g Diced Lamb

2 Red Onions, cut into 8 wedges (leave root intact)

1 Red Capsicum, cut into 3cm pieces

Olive Oil Cooking Spray

Combine lemon juice, coriander and Moroccan seasoning in a glass or ceramic dish. Add lamb. Stir to coat. Cover. Refrigerate for 1 hour.

Preheat barbecue plate on medium-high heat. Thread lamb, onion, and capsicum onto skewers. Spray with oil. Cook, turning every 2 minutes and brushing with marinade, for 8 minutes for medium or until cooked to your liking. Serve.



*This Newsletter is only as good as EWE make it...*

*If you have any other topics that you wish to discuss, News Updates or anything interesting pertaining to the Suffolk Breed in general, please send direct to me at email*

*studholmesuffolks@extra.co.nz or*

*Debbie Holmes ☺,*

*459b. Karioitahi Road, RD3, Waiuku, 2683*

**Happy  
Mating**



## NZ SHEEPBREEDERS RACE DAY

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2015**

**Starts Midday**

**Addington Raceway, Christchurch**



**The Cheviot Trotting Club President,  
Grant Beckett (Phoebe Stud)**

Invites all NZ Sheepbreeders members  
to attend a fun filled day of racing,  
entertainment, drinks and fine dining.

The Cost is \$70 per person

\* Entry to 3rd level presidents/sponsors lounge

\* Free race book

\* 3 course buffet meal, including beer, wine & spirits.

A great way to catch up with sheep friends,  
away from sheep pens.

Hope some of you can make it.

It is a relaxing, entertaining &

maybe a "profitable" day out !

For bookings or further information please contact

**Grant Beckett,**

**President, Cheviot Trotting Club**

**03 3198 622**

**RSVP by 20th February, 2015**



**For any information  
required from NZSBA,  
Greg Burgess & his team  
are always ready to help at  
nzsheep@clear.net.nz  
Phone 03) 3589412.**

**Don't forget you can download forms at  
www.nzsheep.co.nz**

**\*\* Check out the NZSBA website  
www.nzsheep.co.nz \*\***

DISCLAIMER: The Editor & New Zealand Sheepbreeders' Association accept no responsibility for the accuracy of any information contained in this Newsletter



# SUFFOLKNZ

## Rams Available Database

This is a selling initiative that aims to link unsold Suffolk rams in the autumn with prospective purchasers by regularly letting key people in the industry know what rams are still available in their area.

Each of the four Suffolk areas has a database of key people where details of unsold rams will be sent to in the middle of February/March and April.

Breeders will supply the following information **by the dates below** preferably by email, but can also be done by fax or mail to NZ Sheep Breeders. The breeder must nominate which area they would like targeted – Northern, Central, Mid Southern and Southern.

Name

Address

Stud Name

Contact Number

Number of rams available for sale

Brief description (no more than 10 words)

NZ Sheep Breeders will then send out this information with a covering letter.

### Key Dates.

#### To notify Sheep Breeders

#### NZSBA to Send out

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2015**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2015**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2015**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2015**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2015**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2015**

#### NZSBA contact details

- Post: NZSBA , PO Box 20094, Christchurch, 8543
- Email: [nzsheep@clear.net.nz](mailto:nzsheep@clear.net.nz)
- Fax: 03 3589402

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SUFFOLKNZ RAMS AVAILABLE DATABASE	
NZ Sheepbreeders Assn, PO Box 20094, Christchurch, 8543	
Name	
Address	
Stud Name	
Contact Number	
Target Area	
Number of rams available for sale	
Brief description	