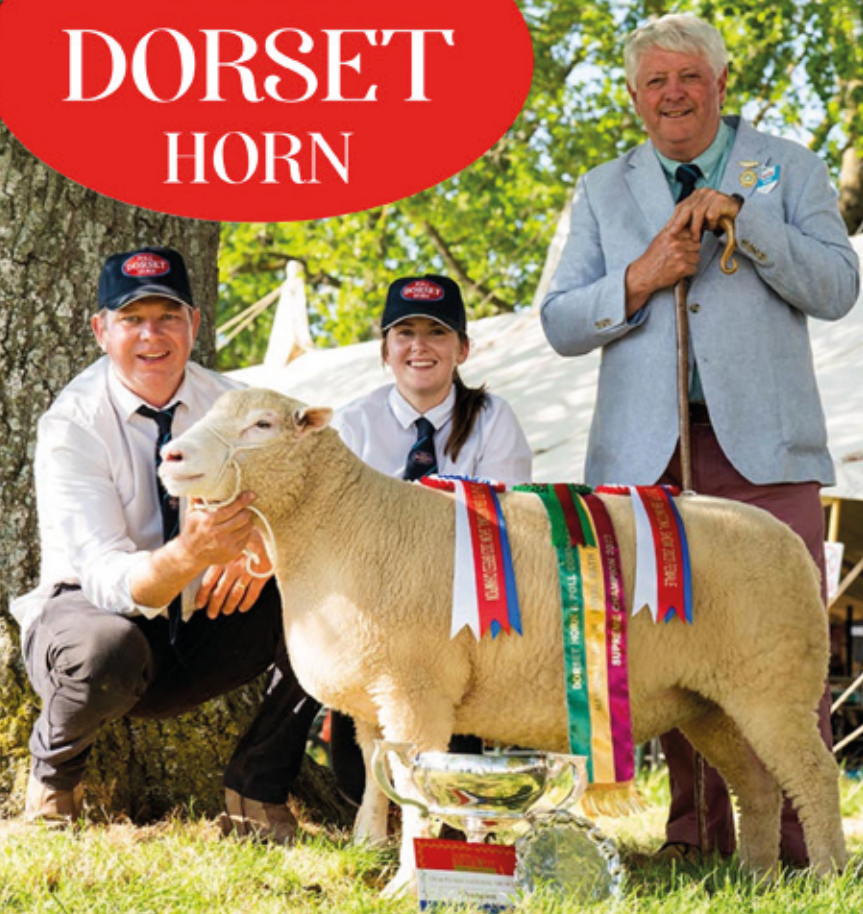


est. 1891

POLL DORSET HORN



Dorset Horn & Poll Dorset Breed Brochure 2024



TEN REASONS WHY

DORSET HORN & POLL DORSET SHEEP MEAN

HIGHER PROFITS

1. **Rams work at a younger age.** The Dorset, being one of the earliest maturing breeds, will work at a younger age, hence more lambs are sired during a ram's working life.
2. **High lambing percentages.** Many breeders are achieving 170% lambing rates, and this coupled with a frequent lambing system of 3 crops in 2 years, can give annual averages of around 250%.
3. **Faster weight gain.** The ewes are excellent milkers and are thus able to achieve very quick growth rates with prime lambs being fit for the butcher at around 10 weeks of age.
4. **Top prices.** Lambs sired by Dorsets, both pure and crossbred, are much in demand for the quality retail trade, and found on many supermarket shelves. The carcass has a high % of lean meat required by the butcher and in the kitchen resulting in premium prices.
5. **Excellent crossing ability.** Dorset rams have the unique ability to sire quality prime lambs from any breed of ewe, but with the all-important asset of imparting their out-of-season breeding characteristic to their female progeny.
6. **Adaptability and versatility.** The Dorset is able to thrive and adjust to a wide range of conditions, both in the UK and abroad. Altitude and climatic conditions whether it be cold, high rainfall areas or drier, more arid conditions present no problem to this versatile sheep.
7. **Cash savings.** Lambs sold at an earlier age mean there is less valuable time spent on their management and expensive drenches, inoculations etc.
8. **Higher stocking rates.** As lambs are carried for a shorter time, more ewes can be run to the hectare.
9. **Better workers.** You need less rams in large flocks because of their ability to mate all the year round in frequent lambing systems.
10. **Long life.** The ewe is particularly noted for longevity, thus reducing frequent flock replacements.

For further information, contact:

The Secretary
Dorset Horn & Poll Dorset Sheep Breeders' Association,
Agriculture House, Acland Road, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1EF.

Tel/Fax: 01305 262126

e-mail: dorsetsheep10@outlook.com

Website: www.dorsetsheep.co.uk

THE DORSET HORN AND POLL DORSET

The Dorset Horn sheep is one of the earliest recorded breeds of British Sheep with the first Flock Book being established in 1892, and its adaptability was soon recognised world wide.

The Australians, noted for their shepherding skills, soon realised the potential of the sheep to improve their existing stock and imported the Dorset Horn. With their vast acreage and minimal management techniques the viability of producing a hornless Dorset was of prime interest. This, they achieved and the Poll Dorset emerged to provide the sheep now so much in demand throughout the world.

In the mid 1950s a far sighted Dorset breeder, “Bunny” Lenthall, decided to investigate the potential of the Poll Dorset and, after a visit to Australia, returned with two stud rams. In the UK the Poll Dorset now out numbers its illustrious ancestor but all the attributes of the Dorset Horn still apply to both.

Today, the breed has moved on retaining all the same characteristics but is assisted by up-to-date techniques of record keeping such as that provided by Signet.

The Association’s first Patroness in 1892 was Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, and with this strong foundation it has grown world wide to promote the breed internationally via shows and the media to maintain the breed’s profile.

These are challenging times indeed for the flock master who has to face increased costs and lower profit margins. What can we do to protect our interests and face the future with hope?

The obvious answer is to look for a breed of sheep that will improve profit margins, reduce overheads and fit in with other farming enterprises. Ideally it should be prolific, easy to handle, hardy, versatile, able to breed at any time of the year and not reliant on a high level of additional nutrition.



If you are looking for a sheep that is adaptable to any climate or altitude, with a fleece that many breeds would like to aspire to, then this is your sheep. The sheep will provide a regular cash flow by producing lambs frequently, if you wish, three times in two years. It has an economically produced carcass sought after by the retailer and housewife, whose discerning taste is the ultimate challenge.

If you prefer cross breeding, choose a ewe or ram that will pass many of the above characteristics on to its first cross females, hence improving your profit margins on your existing stock.

If this is your aim, then look no further than the Dorset Horn and Poll Dorset Sheep. The Dorset Horn and Poll Dorset Sheep Breeders’ Association goes from strength to strength towards new frontiers, promoting the ultimate breed in the twenty first century.

The **Annual May Fair** is the premier Dorset Horn and Poll Dorset Sale when a large selection of top quality rams and ewes are available. The Fair takes place in May over a two day period with the Show on the first day and the Sale on the second day and provides the spectator with a view of the best stock available. All the sheep entered in the Show are subsequently sold through the ring on the second day.

Many of the Association’s breeders are involved in Registered Health Schemes for Maedi Visna and Scrapie Monitored Negative Accreditation and are able to provide stock for the home or export market.

CREATING YOUR FLOCK

Choosing the right Breed

If you are to be involved with sheep for the first time or are considering a change of breed, it is of utmost importance that you choose a breed that has potential but is also easy to manage. Take a close look at your locality and the land on which you keep your livestock, and any other farming/recreational facilities with which you are involved. It is imperative that your sheep fit your requirements whether they be location, economic or personal preference as to type.

If you require a sheep to fit in with your dairy system or for the full utilisation of buildings or pasture then look no further. The Dorset Horn & Poll Dorset Sheep is an obvious choice for virtually any sheep enterprise large or small as it is so adaptable and will dovetail into any existing system.

Lambing can take place at any time of year to suit your requirements due to the frequent breeding characteristic of both the ewes and the rams. The lambs are early maturing and require little extra feeding to obtain “finished weights”.

OBTAINING GOOD FOUNDATION STOCK

Apart from the Annual May Fair which is held at Exeter Market, Exeter, Devon, other recognised Breed Sales take place at Exeter, Liskeard, Llandoverly, Worcester, Gisburn, Carlisle, and in Northern Ireland during the summer months.

It is advisable to buy registered stock from a registered breeder to create your own registered flock as this is a stipulation of membership. The Breed Secretary will be pleased to supply a list of registered breeders in your area on request.

RECORDING YOUR FLOCK

There are several systems of record keeping available depending on your requirements. Some, such as the Signet system are computerised or a simple card system may be perfectly adequate for your needs. The Association can help assess your needs or even supply you with a card system.

It is essential that records be kept with regard to the sire and dam of offspring and that lambs are given an individual identity number to ascertain this. A “year letter” is used to identify the year of birth (e.g. the letter Z for 2001) followed by the individual identity number. This enables any animal’s blood line to be traced back. This can be done by either tagging or tattooing – if members choose to tattoo it is an Association requirement that the member’s Society Flock number be tattooed onto one ear and the year letter appertaining to the year of their birth and individual number in the other ear. If members choose to tag, the members Society flock number and year letter must be included on the tag.

In addition to recording the sex, identity and parentage of an animal any additional information can be added such as birth details or medication. Weights can also be recorded to ascertain performance with regard to Sires, and this will enable you to build an accurate profile of each animal and ascertain its costing and viability within the flock.

SELECTING YOUR STUD RAMS

Ideally the new breeder will have bought the best quality ewes that they can afford, but we do not live in an ideal world and there is always room for improvement. A careful inspection of the ewes to be mated should therefore be made before selecting a ram, to ascertain any potential weakness that may be present. The appropriate sire can then be selected with a view to correcting or accentuating any point. Always remember that a ram is equivalent to half your flock and his offspring will show this. Size is not of prime importance in a ram but conformation is.

A **Sire Reference Scheme** has been established and is available to members of the Association, and many members have semen and embryos available. For information on any of the above please contact the Secretary.



Scottish Dorsets Breeders' Club

Club Show and Sale
18th July 2024
Lanark



New members are welcome!
scottish.dorset@gmail.com



POLGREEN POLL DORSETS

Flock No. 1050

Established 1973

MV Accredited

Breeding stock available at May Fair, various sales or direct from farm.
All breeding stock vaccinated with Hep P+. All females homebred.

Sires Used (All ARR ARR):

Ballytaggart Erik E2729

Ballyhamage B128

Ballymaconnelly F273

Pembroke D2

Andrew & Chris Kingdon

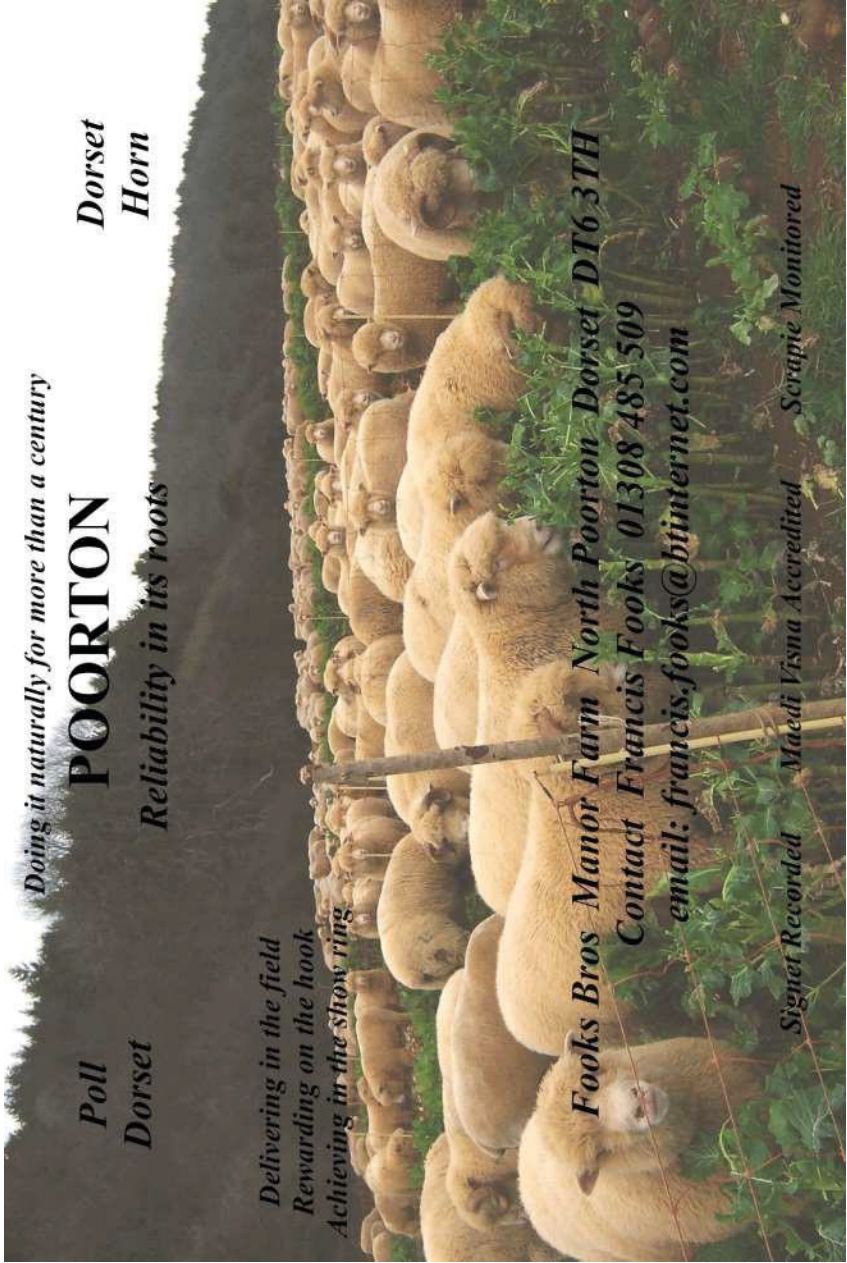
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Dorset*

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Contact Francis Fooks 01308 485 509
email: francis.fooks@btinternet.com*

Signet Recorded Maedi Visna Accredited Scrapie Monitored

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR DORSET HORN AND POLL DORSET

RAMS

Bold, masculine appearance, with good length, strength and of robust character, and head of great beauty. With regard to the Horn Ram, strong and long horns growing from the head well apart on the crown in a straight line with each other and coming downwards and forwards in graceful curves as close to the face as may be without cutting.

EWES

Appearance bright with feminine characteristics. With regard to the Horn Ewe the horns much smaller and more delicate than in the Ram.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

HEAD:	Broad, full and open at the nostril, well covered with wool from brow to poll, face white with pink nose and lips free from pigmentation.
EARS:	Medium size, white and firm, well covered with hair.
MOUTH:	Even, well set jaw with flat chisel shaped teeth, meeting a wide pad with a firm bite.
NECK:	Short to medium length and round, well sprung from the shoulders, with no depression at collar, strong and muscular, especially in the Ram.
CHEST:	Well forward, full and deep.
FORE FLANK:	Full, with no depression behind the shoulders.
SHOULDERS:	Well laid and compact.
BACK & LOINS:	Broad, long and straight, with well sprung ribs.
QUARTERS:	Full, broad and deep with flesh extending to the hocks and well muscled thighs.
TAIL:	Well set up in a line with the back, wide, firm and fleshy.
RIBS:	Well sprung from the back and deep at the sides.
LEGS & PASTERNS	Medium length, well placed at the four quarters and free moving, straight between the joints, with strong bone, well woolled to the knees and hocks with pasterns well set up and straight.
WOOL:	Fine “down” type wool, dense and firm handling, free from kemp and colour.
COLOUR:	White, with pink skin.

DESCRIPTION

- RAMS:** Bold, masculine appearance, and may weigh up to 113.5 kg (250lbs) when mature.
- EWES:** Medium size and naturally prolific, so that depending on management, lamb crops may attain any figure from 130% - 170% or more. Growth rates of up to 0.45 kg (1lb) per day are frequently recorded producing carcasses from 16 kg (34 – 36lb) dressed carcass weight at 10 – 16 weeks of age. Ewes have a bright appearance, skin colour is pink, whilst the face, legs and ears are white.
- WOOL:** Fleecce of good staple and quality, compact and firm to the touch.

The breed is recognised for its **docility** and **ability to breed naturally out of season**. This wide breeding pattern allows the ewes to take the ram at most times of the year and they are ideally suited to lambing three times in two years. The outstanding **milking ability** means that lambs will **finish sooner** with little, or no additional feeding.

The Dorset is noted for its **early maturity** in both the males and females. It is also a long lived breed and this combined with its longevity gives **a highly productive and profitable** sheep.

The **rams** are noted as being especially **active workers** and increasing use is being made of them as **prime lamb sires**. This prime lamb makes an excellent carcass for the present requirements and is available at any time of the year, and therefore times of **peak market prices**.

Dorset ewes have excellent maternal characteristics as well as being milky and produce a good return on investment being early maturing and long lived. **Versatility and adaptability** come naturally to the Dorset for climate, altitude, **traditional** or **intensive production** methods.

RULES FOR SHOWING

The official breeding year begins on 1st September and ends on 31st August.

All sheep born prior to the current year must be bare shorn in the year of the show, unless stated otherwise in the show schedule.

Lambs may be exhibited in the wool or shorn.

The age of Rams and Ewes to be determined by year letter (**not** teeth).

Lambs must have NO adult teeth breaking the gum surface.

All sheep must have Flock Number tattoo or tag in ear with Society flock number and year letter.

At the shows after 1st September the judge must use their discretion.

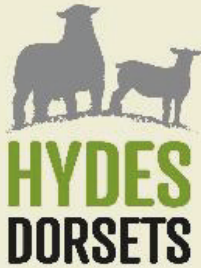
Dress Code : All exhibitors **MUST** wear white coats and/or the new approved breed uniform whilst showing.

MANAGEMENT OF THE BREED

INTRODUCTION

The objective of the Dorset Horn and Poll Dorset breeder is to have a flock which will lamb regularly lamb out of season and produce the maximum number of lambs for sale, either as well grown breeding ewes or as prime lambs for the current requirements of the meat trade.

To achieve this objective replacement breeding stock should be sought from flocks that have regularly lambed at the period you require for the farming calendar. Most breeders will keep precise records of their flock's performance, thus making your selection easier.



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NEWTONCOOMBE POLL DORSETS



Est. 1973

Flock no. A21
MV Accredited
Signet Recorded



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Newtoncoombe Poll
Dorset Flock



Quality
sheep bred
and reared
from 1973
by the May
Family

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PL30 5AL

01208 872417
07773 191633

www.newtoncoombe.co.uk



Langham Poll Dorsets



Est. 2010 MV Accredited Flock No. T87

Contact: emmacrosfield@btinternet.com Tel no: 07400571701

Lower Langham Farm, Gillingham, Dorset, SP85NT

THE FLOCK

Whatever time of year you decide to plan your lambing, make sure your ewes are not excessively fat prior to tupping. This can be achieved by intensifying the ewes onto a smaller acreage, condition score, particularly the older and less fit ewes and adjust nutrition accordingly. This will enable you to flush the ewes prior to tupping efficiently.

The rams are good workers and are particularly well suited for early covering if used in a commercial flock. Many Dorset ewes will have a slightly shorter gestation period, averaging about 145 days and the first cross females will often inherit the frequent lambing ability.

Concentrate feeding prior to lambing need normally be kept to a minimum at most times of the year. If winter lambing is decided upon then some additional feeding will be necessary either in the form of a high energy feed block, as the grass deteriorates, and then a suitable concentrated cereal feed, up to 70 gms (1.5 lbs) per day, plus roughage or roots prior to lambing.

SIRES

“The ram is more than half of the flock”, so the old phrase goes, and it is certainly as true today, if not more so in these times of tight profit margins.

Buy the best rams you can afford and look after them throughout the year. Make sure they are regularly drenched, vaccinated and their feet trimmed. Exercise is always important and do not let them become over fat.

Well before tupping check each ram over carefully and a few weeks before use increase their nutrition.

EWES

The same rules apply for the care of ewes as that of rams, and do not let them get over fat at any time particularly around lambing and weaning the lambs.

LAMBING

The Dorset Horn and Poll Dorset ewe is an excellent mother and has good milking ability. Flock Masters may need to assist, as with any other breed, hoggets lambing for the first time. Hygiene at lambing time is of paramount importance whether lambing indoors or out, and good record keeping will always assist you to make your flock as profitable and trouble free as possible.

FEEDING AFTER LAMBING

Traditionally root crop feeding or folding, with a separate creep for the lambs has been practised but more recently with the introduction of precision drilling and pre-emergent sprays etc. many incorporate main root crops like swedes or kales, together with later sowings of stubble turnips and the like. This can lend itself to various arable systems, e.g. early potatoes, winter wheat and barley breaks.

Flocks may also be maintained entirely on grass leys, the ewes utilising quality silage or hay during lactation with some concentrates being offered in severe weather conditions of if available feed lacks quality. As with traditional methods lambs should also be given creep feed.

FREQUENT LAMBING SYSTEMS

If frequent lambing is to be practised, a high level of management and shepherding is required, but high lambing percentages and outputs are achieved annually and the income per ewe and acreage is rewarding.

It has to be asked initially how this will fit it with ones other farming enterprises and the labour available. The aim is for lambing to occur at eight month intervals.

OPTIONS

1. If run on **natural lines**, with suggested lambings in say November, March and July, with tupping being restricted to 5 weeks maximum at each time, a strict discipline by the Flock Master is required to take rams out at the end thus preventing lambing becoming continuous.

A teaser ram running with the ewes for 2/3 weeks prior to tupping can be advantageous as the lactating ewes will have lambs running at foot. The percentage of ewes which conceive may vary at times. Factors which may result in lower conception rates are a low level of nutrition at tupping, or adverse weather conditions, for example, drought.

Body scoring of ewes near to these tupping dates, at whatever time of year, can be beneficial, but should be done in time to make whatever adjustments necessary through feeding for optimal conception. A rising of condition is ideal. It is most vital that rams are in prime covering condition.

It must also be considered that this system demands additional enclosures in order to keep the level of management at its peak with two ages of ewes and lambs in groups. Female flock replacements can be lambed as hoggets at 16 – 20 months of age or introduced into any lambing batch.

2. A more **scientific approach** to frequent lambing of “Dorsets” is also being practised: by synchronising oestrus and the use of vaginal sponges pre-tupping, thereby aiding batch lambing.

Once again a close study of ewe nutrition is vital to successful flushing and through the first month of gestation. The early weaning of lambs at 8 weeks or so has been introduced, resulting in non lactating ewes at tupping.

Sheep housing may be practised more with this system, December/January born lambs would be lambed inside, then early weaned and fattened fast for the Easter trade, as may the previous batch born in August/September. The ewes too may be housed or yarded for a large part of the year, enabling a rigid profile of diet and management to be maintained. High profit margins are being achieved on such systems at these.

For further information contact the Breed Secretary.

BLACKHILL FLOCK

DORSET HORN AND POLL

The UK's largest organic flock
of pedigree Poll Dorset sheep



About us

- ✓ MV Accredited
- ✓ Signet Recorded
- ✓ Founder Member of
Dorset Lamb Scheme



Joe Dufosse: 07525 208053

Jim Dufosse: jim@jdufosse.f9.co.uk



www.blackhillorganiclivestock.uk





THE BLACKDOWN FLOCK

Pedigree Poll Dorset Sheep

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Performance *just from* **Pasture**

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Come and see all our available stock

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Pilgrim's Dorset Lamb Scheme

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We offer longer-term pricing with different pricing options that all reward quality.

Our producer group has been well established for over 20 years, forming a successful supply chain serving a large retailer.

This includes crossbred Dorset lambs – only the sire or dam must be pedigree registered Dorset.

Please contact us on 01834 869043 for further information.



CHINNOCK FLOCK



Flock No. 796

POLL DORSETS

M V Accredited

Horn Est. 1959

Polls Est. 1971

P W Baker & Son
Eastfield Farm, East Chinnock, Yeovil, Somerset BA22 9EB

Tel: 01935 863160
e-mail: philip.eastfield@googlemail.com

MV ACCREDITED



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LITTLE BRAISEWORTH, TANNINGTON, SUFFOLK
07780665070 

Ashvale Flock

"Get the females right, and the rams are sure to follow"



Female & Overall Champion at the Scottish Breeders Club Show & Sale 2023

Current Stock Rams

- Ashvale Bruno
- Mainevalley Casanova
- Ballyhamage Del Piero
- Ballytaggart Dakota
- Downkillybegs Evolution
- Beechmount Edwardo



Male Champion & Reserve Overall Champion at the NI Club Swatragh Show & Sale

FLOCK COMPETITION

1st NI Large Flock
2nd UK Large Flock

1st NI Group of Ewe Lambs
2nd UK Group of Ewe Lambs

2nd NI Group of Stock Rams



Female & Reserve Overall Champion at the NI Club Omagh Show & Sale



Female & Reserve Overall Champion at the NI Club Premier Show & Sale

Caroline McKeown
801 Antrim Road
Templepatrick
Ballyclare
Co Antrim
BT39 0AN

07983 500160

ashvalepedigrees@gmail.com

X62

Decades devoted to improving and promoting the Poll Dorset in the UK

Devon breeder David Rossiter has devoted decades to improving and promoting the Poll Dorset in the UK - and, in return, the Huish flock has proved to be the backbone of the family farming business.

When David first began working at home, Burton Farm, Galampton, near the coast at Kingsbridge, he was given the task of running the flock of purebred native breed longwool sheep which were crossed with the Suffolk.

Not satisfied with the performance, he bought a couple of pens of Dorset ewe lambs, thinking he would cross them and that commercial ewes were the way forward.

“We bred some pure and they produced three ram lambs which each sold for much more than the stock sire had cost and we found the pure bred Dorsets proved to be much more profitable,” said David.



Around that time David won a YFC travel scholarship to New Zealand and he spent eight months in the country and Australia working on farms where he quickly saw what made their Poll Dorsets producing a heavier carcass the number one terminal sire and this decided him on the future of the flock at Burton Farm.

Inspired by the late Poll Dorset breeder David Mathews from Bridgend, South Wales, who imported genetics from Australia and New Zealand to improve carcass quality and who gave great support to next generation breeders, David quickly became an advocate of performance recording before Signet began but he has always maintained that the sheep has to function correctly.

The flock has won the Dorset association's annual flock competition and championships around the country.

In the following five decades of recording, David has seen big increases in lamb growth rates, carcass conformation and maternal performance – a situation he attributes directly to his breeding programme. Poll Dorset carcass weights have increased from 16-18kg to 20-22kg without excessive fat cover.

Now with one of his landlords set to adopt a natural regeneration policy on 300 tenanted acres of the 1,100 acres David and his son Rich farm, they will rely on the Dorsets and another new sheep enterprise to help weather the changes.



They farm predominantly grazing ground, 331 acres are owned and the remainder are rented from seven different landlords. They grow 250 acres of winter and spring barley, 20 acres of maize for the sheep and 20 acres of vetch and oats for feeding the rams which include Aberblack shearing rams bred on a contract with Innovis.

Until now the farm has run a flock of 520 Poll Dorsets lambing in September-October or in January, 200 Suffolk-Aberblack January lambing ewes and 400 Exlanas, a wool-shedding sheep breed composite which includes genetics from UK breeds and easy care sheep that David and nine other breeders have developed over the last 15 years. A further 600 ewe lambs are overwintered as replacements or for sale the following year.



The 300 acres of “store sheep land” as David describes it along the coastal strip designated for natural regeneration will not allow sheep to be grazed on it from April 1 to August 1.

“The sheep enterprises will have to be altered to cope with the reduced grazing and we will use the advantages of the Poll Dorset in the new management system. We have several different ideas. The farm now supports Rich and his wife Alice and we have four staff involved with the livestock and arable contracting business and we don’t want to make anyone redundant.

“The Poll Dorset will come in to its own with the natural regeneration and it will give us the flexibility to lamb more of them, increasing the flock to 700 ewes in the next two years. We will sell some of the Exlana spring lambing ewes and we will replace them with Poll Dorsets to lamb in September-October.

“We have been putting the Poll Dorset on to the Exlana which we don't want to breed pure. Now we are looking at the Australian White and establishing a flock with imported embryos. They are A-seasonal breeders which if we crossed it with the Poll Dorset we would get a wool shedder in three generations.



“Dorsets have been helping me to survive through all kinds of difficulties. In 2007 TB took the farm's dairy herd and that was when the sheep enterprise really started to be put into gear.

Lambing in September is restricted to a tight three to four week period from September 10 to maintain the seasonal capability of the flock. Dorsets which have missed the autumn lambing go on to lamb in the three-week January lambing. The Exlanas have lambed over four to five weeks in March.

Poll Dorset lambs are sold as new season lamb from 12 weeks old on contract to Waitrose, finished on crop or grass with creep. Rams are left entire with the selection for rams retained for breeding carried out at weaning when they can also ascertain which ewes have milked well.

The aim is for a 22kg carcass for the Waitrose branded scheme, set up thanks largely to the work of Wiltshire Dorset breeder Jim Dufosse. Rich and Alice are developing another enterprise - Huish Meat - in which they are marketing new season lamb from the heavier weight lamb carcasses, selling chilled, boxed lamb all over the country from January to September. The venture started in 2020 and includes an on-farm cutting room.

The longer term plan is to market the niche Australian White lamb direct. The Australian White meat is likened to Wagyu beef with a different texture and flavour to other lamb breeds and with a lower melting point.



Performance recording has provided a solid foundation for flock improvement and as an aid to marketing. Sales growth from the Huish flocks has also increased as a result.

“If you can improve volume, you don’t have to cane customers on price – if you do that they won’t come back. It has to be profitable for us but also for our buyers,” he says.

“Making breeding records available to our customers means they can find the right sheep for their system, whether that’s selecting rams to accelerate lamb growth rates, improve carcass conformation or whatever trait they are interested in.”

Rams are selected initially on conformation by the Rossiters. Last year’s consignment of seven rams entered in the May Fair at Exeter on May 2 and 3 at Kivells Exeter Livestock Centre were the first progeny from semen from two rams from the long-established elite Gooramma Poll Dorset Stud in New South Wales, Australia which are among last season’s lamb crop.



Huish retains the highest average price for a pen of ram lambs sold at the May Fair.

While the May Fair is the flock’s foremost live marketing platform, the flock supports the Centurion Sale in April and sheep are sold off the farm at the end of the month. Huish produced the Centurion ram of the year in 2022 - the breed’s Centurion Group is to promote performance recording.

Up to 60 rams are sold each year, including off the farm, with social media helping to promote the flock and its genetics. The Rossiters held their own on-farm sale of 120 females last summer with a few more sold privately. The next on-farm sale is scheduled for August 2026, taking into account the re-structuring of the flocks.

Sheep are also sold for export from the Huish flocks which are scrapie monitored and this makes exporting an easier process. Recently, there have been enquiries for Dorsets males from Latvia and for Exlanas from Austria.



David says the Dorset breed continues to go from strength to strength. Two decades ago there were just over 200 breeders - that has increased to more than 500 flocks all over the UK and Ireland.

“It’s the Dorset’s flexibility to lamb at any time to suit the breeder, either as a hobby flock to fit in with a career or to work around other activities on the farm such as crop work,” said David, a former long-standing association council member, being both chairman and president over the last four decades.

He said the breed is easily managed and lambed because of the pelvic shape of the modern Poll Dorset. The sheep thrive on poorer ground and winter grazing without supplementary feed.

“The Dorset breed is not name-driven, unlike other breeds where some flocks don’t stand a chance in achieving good prices. If you breed quality Poll Dorset stock and the sheep and the genetics are right, other breeders will look at them irrespective of prefix and they will give you a good return. It is also definitely a friendly society with plenty of help offered.”

MV THE BUCKENHILL Flock P85

Louise Crowther
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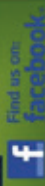


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25 th May	Judging Day & New Breeders' Workshop
29 th July	52 nd Annual Premier Show & Sale – Ballymena Mart
9 th August	9 th Annual Omagh Show & Sale – Beatties Mart
23 rd August	3 rd Annual Swatragh Show & Sale – Swatragh Mart
14 th October	35 th Annual Autumn Show & Sale – Ballymena Mart

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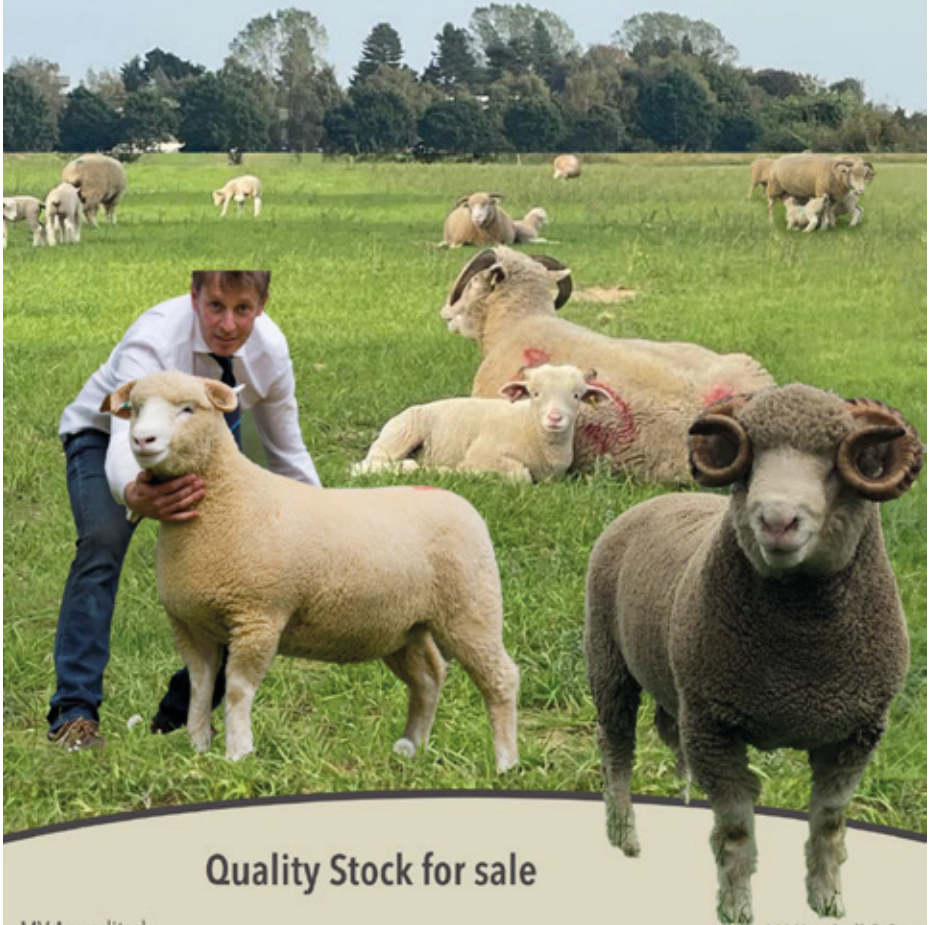
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Champion 2023
Sired by Gooramma 25-20

Sires used for 2024 Sale

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Secretary: Mr S Alderson (07812 210701)

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DG8 9PX

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Welsh Dorset Club

Chairman: Mr Iolo Davies (07817 982025)
Secretary: Sian Downes (07969 271437)

GUIDE TO COSTS

(These costs are correct at time of printing, but may be subject to alteration by Council at any future date).

Item	Cost
Annual Subscription	£65.00
Annual Subscription (Junior, 16 and under)	£10.00
Associate Membership	£30.00 (to include Flock Book)
Ewe Registration	Grassroots: £1.50/lamb (under 12 months) (As from 1 September, 2024 - £2.00 per lamb) Grassroots: £3.50/female (12 months & over) (As from 1 September, 2024- £4.00 per female) Paper registrations: £3.00/female (under 12 months) (As from 1 September, 2024 – 4.00/female (12 months & over)
Individual ram registration	£20.00 per head (same for Grassroots & Paper registrations)
Sale entry fee for Rams at May Fair	£10.00 per head
Sale entry fee for individual females at May Fair	£5.00 per head
Pens of females at May Fair	£10.00 per vendor
Approved Ewe Inspection Fee	£50.00
Approved Ewe inspection cost per ewe	££5.00 per ewe
COST OF TATTOOING EQUIPMENT	
Letters & Numbers (while stocks last)	£5.40 each
Blanks (while stocks last)	£2.31 each
Green paste – 2oz. tube	£6.69
SALES LIST	
Hard Back Flock Book	£30.00
Badge	£0.77
Ties	£10.55
Trailer Sticker – red logo	£1.54
Windscreen Sticker – red logo	£0.58
Beanie	£5.40
Mugs	£5.66
Caps	£6.95
Record Cards	£0.35
History of the Dorset Horn Book	£5.81
Clothing – Softshell Jacket	Adult: £35.87 Child: £34.24
Sweatshirt	Adult: £22.73 Child: £18.61
Polo Shirt	Adult: £16.67 Child: £13.78
Hoody	Adult: £25.42 Child: £21.76

Postage and packing of £3.49 will be charged on above items. All prices are plus VAT.

When completed please tear out and return to The Breed Secretary, Dorset Horn & Poll Dorset Sheep Breeders' Office, Agriculture House, Acland Road, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1EF

DORSET HORN/POLL DORSET FLOCK established by the purchase of:

Quantity	Horn/Poll	Rams/ewes/hogs	From

The Flock now consists of : Ewes Hoggets Rams & Ram Lambs

N.B. ONLY ANIMALS WHICH ARE TAGGED IN THEIR EARS WITH THE APPROPRIATE FLOCK NUMBER AND YEAR LETTER ARE ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION.

Where did you hear about the Dorset Horn and Poll Dorset Society?:

- Website: YES/NO
- May Fair: YES/NO
- Breed Stand at Agricultural Show: YES/NO
- If Yes, which show: _____
- Newspaper/Magazine: YES/NO
- If Yes, which one: _____
- Word of mouth: YES/NO
- Other (please specify): _____



APPLICATION FOR INSPECTION OF PUREBRED UN-REGISTERED EWES FOR ENTRY TO THE FLOCK BOOK

NAME:

ADDRESS:
.....

POST CODE: **TEL. NO.:**

UK Flock No.: **e-mail:**

NUMBER OF EWES FOR INSPECTION **HORN/POLL**

IF YOU ARE AN *EXISTING* MEMBER PLEASE STATE YOUR :

PREFIX : **FLOCK NUMBER:**

IF YOU ARE *NOT* A MEMBER AND IF YOUR EWES ARE APPROVED WHAT IS YOUR PROPOSED PREFIX?

1ST CHOICE : **2ND CHOICE :**

Two choices of prefix *MUST* be given.

A prefix will not be allowed if it has already been used or is already in use. A list of prefixes is available on our website: www.dorsetsheep.org.uk, under Society and docs/forms for download.

INSPECTION

All sheep to be inspected must be female and over 6 months of age. They will be inspected by an Association Inspector and will be required to be of a high standard. If accepted they will be ear-tagged and known as Approved Sheep.

Progeny from approved ewes must be sired by a registered Dorset ram, but will not be eligible for entry into the main flock book. These will be known as “G1” females/males, and when registered will be issued with a red certificate, and “G1” and “does not qualify for export” stamped on the certificate. Progeny from “G1” females/males will then be eligible for registration and entry in to the main flock book.

Ear-tagging will be carried out by the Association’s Inspector at the owner’s risk. Please make sure clean water and disinfectant are available.

Fee: £50 + VAT inspection fee mainland UK & Northern Ireland (other areas – prices on application), plus £5 + VAT per ewe must be paid in advance and sent with this application form. We will issue an invoice/receipt for this. In the case of rejection, or, if for any reason any ewes to be inspected are unavailable, the fee is non-refundable.

Once the inspection has taken place you will be given a Society flock number.

The progeny’s tag must include your society flock number and year letter (appropriate to the year of birth).

New Flocks which are approved following inspection will have their first year’s subscription to the Association and the Flock Book free of charge.

2024 SHOW & SALE DATES

Scottish Club Spring Stars Show & Sale	Monday, 18th March
Dorset Diamonds EU Export Sale, Ballymena	Saturday, 23rd March
May Fair, Exeter	Tuesday, 7th & Wednesday 8th May
NSA Scotsheep	Wednesday, 5th June
Llandovery Show & Sale	Saturday, 29th June
Worcester Show & Sale	Saturday, 13th July
Lanark Show & Sale	Thursday, 18th July
Royal Lancashire Show (To include the National Show)	Friday, 19th – Sunday, 21st July
52nd NI Annual Premier Show & Sale	Monday, 29th July
NSA National Sheep	Tuesday, 30th July
Skipton Show & Sale	Saturday, 3rd August
9th NI Annual Omagh Show & Sale	Friday, 9th August
NI Swatragh Show & Sale	Friday, 23rd August
Carlisle August Sale	Friday, 30th August
35th NI Annual Autumn Sale	Monday, 14th October
Melton Mowbray in lamb Ewe sale	Saturday, 23rd November

POLL DORSET HORN



- Unique out-of-season breeding, enabling a frequent lambing system to maximise returns.
- Daily live weight gains to rival any other breed, as proven within the AHDB RamCompare programme.
- Reduce expensive replacement rates through the efficiency and longevity of the Dorset ewe.

Dorset Horn & Poll Dorset Sheep Breeders' Association
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