



# DORSET HORN & POLL DORSET SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION



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March, 2024

Dear Member

## **2024 May Fair**

As you will probably know by now the 2024 May Fair will be held on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2024, at Exeter Livestock Market, Exeter. Showing classes will be held on the Tuesday, with the main sale being held on the Wednesday. Please see more information on the showing later in this letter.

Please find enclosed all the necessary entry forms. All entry forms must be signed where indicated ensuring that you have read this letter and the show & sale conditions.

Please ensure you use the correct forms as follows:

### **Ring**

- Form 1. Rams – White
- Form 2. Individual females – Pink - A maximum of two shearling ewes and/or two ewe lambs may be entered.

Members that share either a UK and/or holding number may bring one maximum ram allowance plus a maximum of two rams for the second member.

Only purebred “Dorset” rams bred from registered stock will be allowed to be sold at this sale. All rams entered for May Fair must be registered and paid for by the breeder before the sale. Information for ram registrations will be taken from the entry forms by the office so pro formas need not be sent, or they can be done via Grassroots. **Year letters, individual numbers and tag numbers for all rams and individual females must be stated on the entry forms, not just names.**

As last year the individual show and sale females will be penned in the female penning area with all the other pens of females. It is hoped that all registered females will be sold through the sale ring in that area, starting at 10.30 a.m. (to be confirmed). MartEye will again be available. All females sold through the sale ring will be sold in guineas.

All rams offered for sale in the ram sale ring will be sold in guineas.

Please remember that all rams and individual females will be subject to inspection.

## **Pens**

### **Advertising/Entry Fee: £10 + VAT per VENDOR**

- Form 3. Registered Females - Blue  
Form 4. Purebred Unregistered Females - Green  
Form 5. Dorset First Cross – Yellow

All registered sheep must be tattooed or tagged with your Society Flock number and year letter.

**ENTRIES WILL CLOSE AT 12 NOON, ON MONDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024** and should be sent to Mrs M Cowley, The Breed Secretary, Dorset Horn & Poll Dorset Sheep Breeders' Association, Agriculture House, Acland Road, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1EF, with the correct fees. Please fill in the entry forms clearly and correctly in order to avoid confusion and extra telephone calls.

**THE CLOSING DATE MUST BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO AND NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.**

**PAYMENT MUST BE MADE WITH ENTRY FORMS, EITHER BY CHEQUE OR BACS. ANY VENDORS WITH OUTSTANDING MAY FAIR ENTRY FEES AND/OR OUTSTANDING DEBTS AS AT 12 NOON ON 8 APRIL WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE DRAW OR BE CATALOGUED. ALL CHEQUES MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO "DORSET HORN & POLL DORSET SBA OR DH & PD SBA. ONCE AN ENTRY HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE BREED SOCIETY OFFICE, NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER FAXED ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

## **Upset Prices**

The upset price for all rams will be 450 guineas.

There will be an upset price of 250 guineas for individual shearling ewes and 200 guineas for individual ewe lambs.

There will be an organising levy of 50p. per sheep on all unregistered sheep which will be deducted from the sale price by the auctioneers on behalf of the Dorset Horn & Poll Dorset Sheep Breeders' Association.

If reserve prices are required, please advise the auctioneers on the day of sale.

Sheep will be allowed to enter the market premises from 7 a.m. on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May and will be received from 6 a.m. on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May. Vendors travelling long distances may be allowed, with special permission, to enter the market on the Monday night, but this will entirely depend on the cleaning of the market following the Monday sale. Any vendors wishing to do this **MUST** ring Russell Steer at Exeter after 6 p.m. on the Monday on 01392 251261 to ascertain exactly what time they may be allowed to gain entry, **BUT THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO GUARANTEE THAT ACCESS WILL BE ALLOWED.**

**All individual rams and females must be on site by 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May. Any rams or individual females arriving after this will not be accepted.**

## **EXPORT**

**Very sadly, due to the current regulations there can be NO direct export to Northern Ireland.**

## **Showing**

Please enter the showing classes in the normal way on the enclosed entry form.

It would be very helpful if exhibitors would tell the steward before the commencement of judging which animal(s) are not being brought forward for judging.

**No animal may be entered in more than one class.**

**Signet Classes (Female & Male) – Please see rules and eligibility in the Show & Sale Conditions pages.**

### **Judging**

Judging will start promptly at 12.00 Noon with the Best Pen of rams, followed by Class 1, commencing at 12.30 p.m.

The Championship will be open to the Winners of Classes 4 - 11 and will be judged before the Best Horn Ram Exhibit. The Best Horn Ram Exhibit will be chosen from the final line up of the Champion Male Exhibit.

The stewards reserve the right to alter the times and order of judging, so please take note of any stewards announcement made on the day.

All first prize winners will have their photographs taken after the Championship and Best Horn Exhibit have been judged and will be presented with their trophy at that time.

### **Holding Number**

The Holding Number of Exeter Market is 10/463/8000.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR ALL VENDORS WITH MV ACCREDITATION**

**All stock entering an accredited section must be accompanied by an SAC Valid Certificate of Status.** In order to protect the accreditation of all vendors the Sheep Breeders' Association has asked that all vendors of MVA sheep send or fax a photocopy of the S.E.H.S. form to the Auctioneers at least one week prior to the sale day. Please note that the original forms still need to accompany the sheep and be presented to the Auctioneers **PRIOR TO UNLOADING**. The old MAFF SH20 Certificate is not acceptable and has been obsolete since 31 March, 1997.

**MOVEMENT LICENCES MUST ALSO BE HANDED IN TO THE MARKET OFFICE IMMEDIATELY ON ARRIVAL.**

I look forward to receiving your entries and to seeing you all on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May, but in the meantime, should you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 01305 262126, which is normally open between 8.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Yours sincerely

*Marguerite Cowley*

Mrs M Cowley  
Breed Secretary

Encs.

# MAY FAIR – SHOW & SALE CONDITIONS 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2024

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES – 12 NOON, MONDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024.

**NO FAXED ENTRY FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

**PAYMENT MUST BE MADE WITH ENTRY FORMS, EITHER BY CHEQUE OR BACS. ANY VENDORS WITH OUTSTANDING MAY FAIR ENTRY FEES AND/OR OUTSTANDING DEBTS AS AT 12 NOON ON 8 APRIL WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE DRAW OR BE CATALOGUED.**

- Entry fees are £10 per Ram, £5 per Ewe lamb/Shearling ewe and £10 per vendor for pens of sheep entered in the registered, unregistered and Dorset First Cross sections. Please include any show entry fees and add VAT at the current rate. ALL CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO DORSET HORN & POLL DORSET SBA OR DH & PD SBA.
- DUE TO CURRENT REGULATIONS, THERE CAN BE NO DIRECT EXPORT TO NORTHERN IRELAND
- Sheep will be allowed to enter the market premises from 7 a.m. on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May and will be received from 6 a.m. on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May.
- Judging will commence at 12 Noon with the Best Pen of Rams. **Rams and individual show/sale females must be on site by 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May. Any rams or individual females arriving after this will not be accepted.**
- All rams and individual females are to be numbered before they enter the Sale Ground and ear numbers must correspond with those shown in the Sale Catalogue.
- Year letters, individual numbers & tag numbers must be given on entry forms on all pedigrees, not just names.
- There will be an open draw for the order of sale.
- New members may enter **two rams** (any age) the first year they sell (subject to the condition below).
- Members may enter an additional ram each year provided all their rams were sold the previous year, until a maximum of seven rams is reached (subject to the condition below). Those breeders that have both Horn & Poll sheep may bring a maximum of 8 rams as long as at least 2 of the pen are Horned (subject to the condition below).

**In addition to this the amount of rams that members may bring is now to be connected to the number of the member's previous year's ewe registrations as detailed below:**

5 – 14 “F” ewe registrations	2 rams
15 – 39 “F” ewe registrations	3 rams
40 – 59 “F” ewe registrations	4 rams
60 – 79 “F” ewe registrations	5 rams
80 – 99 “F” ewe registrations	6 rams
100 or more “F” ewe registrations	7 rams

For “F” Ewe registrations to qualify they must have been registered by 31 December, 2023.

For example if you are entering May Fair for the first time, you may bring up to 2 rams as long as you have registered between 5 – 14 “F” ewes.

and

For example, if you entered and sold 4 rams in 2023, you may only increase your number to 5 rams in 2024 if you have registered between 60 – 79 “F” ewes.

- Members that share either a UK and/or holding number may bring one maximum ram allowance plus a maximum of two rams for the second member.
- **If a previous vendor does not attend May Fair for 2 years their ram allowance will be dropped by 1 from their previous allowance, if they miss 3 years their ram allowance will be dropped by 2 and so on, and the conditions regarding ewe registrations must still apply.**
- ALL RAMS ENTERED FOR MAY FAIR MUST BE REGISTERED AND PAID FOR BY THE BREEDER BEFORE THE SALE. RAM PRO FORMAS DO NOT NEED TO BE SENT WITH ENTRY FORMS AS INFORMATION TO REGISTER THEM WILL BE TAKEN OFF THE ENTRY FORMS BY THE OFFICE, SO PLEASE ENSURE ALL INFORMATION IS ON THE ENTRY FORM AND CORRECT.
- **An extra ram** can be entered with your entry together with the £10 entry fee. This will be included in the catalogue but only eligible for sale if one of your permitted allowance of rams is not brought to the Sale, or if Council decide the total number of rams entered is too low. If so vendors will be notified.
- Please state if a Poll ram has 25% or more Horn blood and vice-versa.
- Please state if Poll females have 25% or more Horn blood and vice-versa.
- A maximum of **four** individual females, (two shearling ewes and/or two ewe lambs) may be entered.
- **PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IN ORDER TO BE SOLD AS REGISTERED ALL EWES (YEAR LETTER “E” AND OLDER), SHEARLING EWES (YEAR LETTER “F”) AND EWE LAMBS (YEAR LETTER “G”) MUST BE REGISTERED BEFORE THE SALE. CERTIFICATES MUST ACCOMPANY THE SHEEP TO THE SALE AND BE BATCHED ACCORDING TO LOT NUMBERS, AND BE HANDED IN TO THE BREED SECRETARY.**
- The minimum upset price is 450 guineas for Ram Lambs, Shearlings and Older rams. Rams that do not reach this figure will not be sold.
- The upset price for individual shearling ewes will be 250 guineas and for individual ewe lambs 200 guineas. Individual females that do not reach this figure will not be sold.

## Inspection

There will be a strict inspection for Health, Teeth and Testicles for all rams and individual females which will take place prior to 11.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May by a 3 member inspection panel. This will also include physical and type traits.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY BLACK SPOTS/MARKS ON THE FACE AND/OR EARS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please also ensure that any coats on the sheep must be removed prior to inspection.**

All rams and individual females **MUST** be on site by 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2024. Any rams and individual females not on site by 10.00 a.m. will not be accepted.

Any sheep not passing the Inspection should be removed from their pens by 12.00 Noon on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May and will not be allowed to be shown or sold. The sheep may, if necessary, be put back in their pens overnight but must be removed again first thing on the Wednesday morning. Movement documents will be supplied on the Tuesday evening, returning the individual animal to the farm of origin only.

- Council, through the Chairman/Vice-Chairman reserve the right to reject an animal that does not come up to the Breed Society standard as stated in the Flock Book.
- No consignor will have any claim for damages in respect of any animal which does not meet the Breed Society standard or the Inspection.
- Genotyping is voluntary, but if tested, the genotype must be declared on the entry form with official certification available if required from one of the following companies: Innovis, SAC, SVS, or Lincoln

University Gene-Marker Laboratory. Please note that the vendor will be responsible to ascertain whether the company used meets ministry approval for export and for any genotype stated and if found to be incorrect must take full responsibility for any dispute arising.

- Catalogues will be mailed to all members.
- Entries for the catalogue close at **12 Noon on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2024**. It is essential that all entries are received in writing by The Breed Society office by this date in order to be included in the ballot.
- **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.**
- Please find enclosed the appropriate entry forms. Please **type** or use **block capitals**. **All entry forms must be signed where indicated.**
- **Movement Licenses must be handed in to the market office immediately on arrival.**
- **TATTOOING/TAGGING**

ALL REGISTERED RAMS AND FEMALES MUST BE TATTOOED/TAGGED WITH THE BREEDER'S FLOCK NUMBER AND YEAR LETTER, ACCORDING TO BYELAW 13 IN THE FLOCK BOOK. SHEEP NOT MARKED WILL BE SOLD AS **UNREGISTERED**.

The tattoo/tag must correspond to that in the catalogue.

As of 1 September, 2012, if members wish to tag their sheep instead of tattooing, the tag must include your society flock number and the year letter (appertaining to the year of birth).

Tags will be checked at May Fair. A tattooing kit will be available and the year letter "G" will be tattooed in any lambs found to have incorrect tags, born on or after 1 September, 2023, and there will be a cost of £2.50 per sheep for this.

- RAMS TO HAVE THE MINIMUM BREEDING DETAILS OF **SIRE AND DAM**.
- ALL RAMS & INDIVIDUAL FEMALES ENTERED FOR SHOW AND/OR SALE MUST BE ON SITE BY 10 A.M. ON THE TUESDAY.
- NO RAMS OR INDIVIDUAL FEMALES WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE WEDNESDAY.
- ALL SHEARLINGS AND RAM LAMBS BORN PRIOR TO 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023, MUST BE SHORN IN THE YEAR OF THE SALE/SHOW, WHETHER FOR SHOW OR FOR SALE ONLY.
- **IF SEMEN HAS BEEN COLLECTED FROM A RAM WHICH IS FOR SALE, OR THE RAM HAS BEEN USED PRIOR TO SALE, THIS MUST BE DECLARED ON THE ENTRY FORM.**

## Showing

**No animal may be entered in more than one class.**

### Signet Classes (Female & Male)

These classes will no longer be worked out on points and showing results, but will now be judged as per a normal show class.

Please see Signet eligibility on the following page.

**Please support the main Breed Sale with an entry of Quality Rams – satisfied customers will come again**

## ***IMPORTANT***

**PLEASE NOTE BY ORDER OF COUNCIL** the following minimum weights apply for Ram Lambs and Shearling Rams to be accepted for Sale at the 2023 May Fair.

	<b>Kg.</b>	<b>Lbs.</b>
Born on/after:-1 September 2023, minimum weight	60	132
Born August 2023	62.5	137.5
“ July 2023	65	143
“ June 2023	67.5	148.5
“ May 2023	70	154
“ April 2023	72.5	159.5
“ March 2023	75	165
“ February 2023	77.5	170.5
“ January 2023	80	176
“ December 2022	82.5	181.5
“ November 2022	85	187
“ October 2022	87.5	192.5
“ September 2022, or before	90	198

**PLEASE WEIGH ALL RAMS BEFORE MAKING YOUR ENTRY TO ENSURE THEY WILL REACH THE MINIMUM WEIGHT FOR THE DAY OF SALE.**

### **SIGNET SELECTED RAMS AND FEMALES**

#### **ELIGIBILITY - RAMS**

1. Ram lambs or shearlings which have been recorded within Signet’s Sheepbreeder Scheme.
2. Ram lambs and shearlings that have been ultrasound scanned and weighed at 21 weeks of age.
3. A Terminal & Maternal Index within the top 50% of the recorded breed based on EBVs produced within the National Dorset Horn and Poll Dorset Breeding Evaluation published in March, 2024.

#### **ELIGIBILITY – FEMALES**

- 1 Ewe lambs and shearling ewes which have been recorded within Signet’s Sheepbreeder Scheme
- 2 Ewe lambs and shearling ewes that have been ultrasound scanned and weighed at 21 weeks of age.
- 3 A Terminal & Maternal index within the top 50% of the recorded breed based on EBV’s produced within the National Dorset Horn & Poll Dorset Breeding Evaluation published in March, 2024.

**Members are reminded that rams or females entered in these classes will not be allowed to enter any other class.**

**ANNUAL BREEDERS' SHOW, 2024**  
**MAY FAIR, 2024, SHOW SCHEDULE**

Classes 1 – 11 will be judged on Tuesday , 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2024. Judging to commence at 12.00 Noon with the Best pen of Rams. Class 1 to follow at 12.30 p.m.

Classes 12 - 14 will be judged on Wednesday morning, 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2024. Judging at 9.00 a.m.

**Lambs must be born on/after the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, 2023, the date of birth to be stated and the Member's Flock Number & year letter shall be tattooed or tagged in the ear.**

**Shearlings** – born on or after 1 September 2022 **bearing the year letter "F"**.

**Shearlings and Older Rams** must be shorn on in the year of the show.

An entry fee of £5.00 per class will be charged. **Closing date 12 Noon on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2024.** All rams and ewes must have been bred by the exhibitor and bear the registered tattoo/tag of the Association.

**CLASSES 1 & 2 ARE RESTRICTED TO 2 SHEEP PER MEMBER PER CLASS.**

IF YOU WISH TO SHOW YOUR SHEEP ON THE TUESDAY, THEY MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE ON THE WEDNESDAY.

**No ram may be entered in more than one Class. The Championship is open to the winners of Classes 4 - 11. Signet Classes restricted to qualifying rams and females.**

Best pen of five or more Ram Lambs and/or Shearlings – The Peter Mead Challenge Cup.

- Class 1** Best Ewe Lamb (Horn/Poll). The Sheldon Jones Challenge Trophy.
- Class 2** Best Shearling Ewe (Horn/Poll). The Baker Trophy.
- Class 3** Best Ewe lamb or Shearling ewe recorded within the Signet Sheepbreeder Scheme. The Hall Lane Challenge Trophy
- Class 4** Best Ram Lamb or Shearling recorded within the Signet Sheepbreeder Scheme. The J M Lenthall Challenge Cup.
- Class 5** Best Pair of Horn or Poll Ram Lambs. The Alfred Johnson Challenge Cup given by the late Mr Johnson.
- Class 6** Best Single Horn Ram Lamb. The Rupert Tory Memorial Challenge Cup given by the late Mrs R Tory.
- Class 7** Best Single Poll Ram Lamb. The Bennett Challenge Cup.
- Class 8** Best Group of Three Ram Lambs or Three Shearlings. The Association Challenge Cup.
- Class 9** Best Shearling Horn Ram. The R W Gale Trophy
- Class 10** Best Shearling Poll Ram. The Crutchley Salver
- Class 11** Best Pair of Shearling Rams (Horn/Poll). The Murray Gill Challenge Cup given by Mr M Gill.

**EWE CLASSES** – to be judged in pens in the Sale area on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2024, and to be the property of the Member exhibiting, each sheep to bear a registered number of the Association. (One entry per member per class)

- Class 12** Best Pen of 5 Select Horn/Poll Ewes, year letter "E" or older – the F F Hollis Perpetual Challenge Cup.
- Class 13** Best Pen of 5 Horn/Poll Hoggets – (to be sold first in vendors draft). The Oscar Masters Challenge Cup
- Class 14** Best Pen of 5 Horn/Poll Ewe Lambs.

Show sheep in Classes 12, 13 and 14 not penned by 9 a.m. will not be judged.