



BRETT'S CORNER

One of those years that make farming rewarding – With returns.

With Sheep and Beef strengthening - we also see new levels achieved. Herewith, we see a lift of 2.5% in Ewe Hoggets retained for the coming season. This shows overdue confidence in the Sheep industry.

Beef and Lamb stats show 9.11 million Hoggets have been retained.

As farmers, we find lamb production increases and having larger numbers of ewe lambs for replacements, there's a trend to mate more ewes to terminal rams.

The discussion is - Which class of ewes to mate and how many?

- Hgts – while the lamb is late, most progeny are single and tend to grow on. (Sire selection should be for low birth weight rams)
- 2th Ewes – These are your best breeding genetic animals, that you have selected from your higher genetic gained Sires (Maternal Ram).
- M/A - These ewes are your 'work horses', who are producing the numbers and have done the hard yards (Maternal Ram)
- 5&6 y/o – Well – these are in the twilight of their career. Yes - they have proved their place though years of production and longevity.

So, I feel, 'not one shoe fits all'.

Yes! 6 y/o's are a prime contender, their time has come, followed by any low performing ewes.

Next – Scanned singles, which I would be loathed to identify on one scanning, but they could be identified (small tag) and if repeated the following season, could be candidates for a 'B' Mob.

This would leave you a fine tuned productive flock, that gives you ample selection of Ewe Hoggets and those individuals that don't make the cut are most times worth as much as their siblings as late season schedules increase.

But, make sure you have an adequate number to cull, as this is imperative in keeping the quality of your flock.

Ewes sincerely,

Brett.

JOINING THE TEAM

We are delighted to announce that our son Ryan and his wife Claire with their two daughters, Emily and Annabelle, are making the hike up to sunny Gisborne and will be joining our team here with 'Hinenui Genetics'.

Ryan has been managing the Waterforce branch in Gore, and brings with him, much needed expertise in the field of technology, he has always been our 'support man' from afar.

Claire, a trained teacher by trade, hails from a sheep farming background, but put aside her teaching to work for a prominent Sheep Stud down South before having their children.

They both have remained in the loop with what's happening in the Sheep breeding area, attending Conferences and seminars.

They are keen to make themselves acquainted or reacquainting with you all.



Hinenui Genetic Romney's

have qualified for **FE GOLD** status
this year!

This has been a major focus of our operation and is warming to receive this status. More farmers are becoming aware of the benefits of FE Tolerant Sheep, where we see the animals ability to progress and express their Genetic Value.

This flock not only has been credited with this award for reaching the .6 criteria, it has had 30 years of testing, which I feel is more relevant, showing the depth across the whole flock. We will be building on this achievement by continuing with our FE Program.



BLENHEM CONFERENCE

Succession planning was the theme of our Blenheim based Coopworth conference. Not only did we address this issue as a society but for our own farming situation.

We visited the Property of Doug and Wendy Avery’s farm, and viewed his developments and he entertained us with his life stories and succession plans in motion.

We headed into the Awatere Valley and visited the diverse farm of Simon and Linda Harvey’s ‘GLEN ORKNEY’. They were recipients of the Marlborough Sheep & Beef Farmer of the Year Award. They had a solid succession plan in place and their son Tom, who had become fully involved in the farm operation, brought with him new technology – particularly of interest was his use of drones. They had also established a tourist attraction, The Awatere Tussock Track, which attracted many over the Summer.

Yealands Estate Winery with their extensive organic practices was very enlightening, with a bit of wine tasting to boot!

FAREWELL JAMES

We are very sorry to say Good bye to James Law, who we took on as a Gate Way student last year. After leaving school James has been employed with us for most of this year. James is having a much needed back operation and is having 6 months recovery.

J & T Hickey Charity Dog Trials.

Hinenui Genetics, once again sponsored the novice event at the J & T Hickey Charity Dog Trials in August.

This year’s winner was Tom Hansen from Papatu Station with his dog Fly. Tom hails from Te Kuiti.

Tom was presented the Bill Teutenberg Memorial Cup.



LUCY’S CORNER

On November 20th in Gore, we welcomed Annabelle Claire Teutenberg. A wee sister for Emily and second daughter for Ryan and Claire.

