



What a year 2020 has been so far! The dreaded COVID-19 has certainly caused huge disruption to our NZ economy with businesses succumbing to financial pressure and many losing their job as a result. One positive it has highlighted is the importance of farming in New Zealand, not only as an export but as a means of feeding our domestic population. Our essential service has been business as usual and we have certainly appreciated the security it provides and the space we have to roam during such unprecedented times.

It has been interesting reading through the Freshwater regulations and how this impacts our business. It certainly faces many farmers with various challenges depending on where you farm in New Zealand and the nature of your property. The East Coast continues to deal with the 'Battle of the Pines' where the '50 Shades of Green' movement has been an outspoken voice for our farming community. It is heartening to see some recent farm sales in the area remaining in sheep and beef production against strong competition from the forestry sector.

Lambing is always exciting as it is the product of last years hard work of sire selection and another step forward in our breeding program. After the summer dry our mating weights were down more than we would have liked which has implicated our scanning results. However, we are happy with the lambs at foot and the mild spring ensures a good survival rate for the lambing season.

We are busy preparing for ram selling season with final culling and selecting our stud sires. We will be putting a selection of ram hoggets through the RamGuard program in late October and as a rule, only select sires who have a NIL reaction. By doing so, Hinenui Genetics is providing our clients with the best possible protection against facial eczema.

We look forward to welcoming clients over ram selling season. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact one of the team.

Regards,

The Team at Hinenui Genetics



The FE Gold Committee has put together an awareness campaign, developing a pull-out booklet in the Farmers Weekly paper, explaining the ins and outs of the FE Gold brand.

It is filled with testimonies, science/studies and FE Gold breeder's information.

**Not all facial eczema breeding programmes are the same.** Included in the booklet are important questions to ask your ram breeder when buying facial eczema tolerant sheep;

- **How long have you been testing for?**
  - Hinenui Coopworths have been RamGuard testing for 37 years
  - Romneys – 32 years
- **What rate do you test your rams at?**
  - Each year our Top 10% of rams (from each breed) are selected and dosed between 0.60 - 0.62mg/kg. From these results we select our sire rams.
- **Can you show me your RamGuard certificate?**
  - This is displayed in the ram selling area in our woolshed.



**Hinenui Genetics** uses genomics as an important breeding and selection tool. We are in our 5<sup>th</sup> year of taking tissue samples from 30% of our ram hoggets to be screened using Sheep 5K. The information we gain from 5K enables us to select animals to use as stud sires and animals to be challenged with other breeding tools such as our facial eczema (RamGuard) program.

The Sheep 5K results, combined with SIL breeding values, provides the most accurate prediction of an animals future performance. This provides our clients with confidence that animals from Hinenui Genetics are going to perform as predicted by their maternal worth values.



### **NZOSR Group** (New Zealand Ovine Sire Referencing Group)

This is a large group of breeders that combine genetics to create strong linkages, strong linkages between flocks greatly increase the accuracy of our breeding value. Every year each breeder put forward their top ram and a selection of sires are chosen to be used within the referencing group.

Ram **Hinenui 1281/17** was selected to represent the Sire Referencing Group. Semen was sought after by breeders throughout the country.



### **NEW GENETICS for HINENUI**

Ryan and Claire were delighted to welcome wee Thomas Ryan Teutenberg into this world on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020, (on the eve of lockdown) a little brother for Emily and Annabelle



### **J & T Hickey Charity Dog Trials**

Hinenui Genetics once again sponsored the Novice Event. There were many strong entrants and we pass on our congratulations to all participants.

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Jesse McIntyre - KareKare Station
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Luke Jamison – Waipaoa Cadet
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Hamish McKenzie – Waipaoa Cadet

**See you at the Gisborne A & P Show on the 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> of October!**  
**Look out for our Hinenui Genetics tent – Park 3 #218-219**

**Join us for a chat and refreshment.**

Brett & Lucy Teutenberg – Ryan & Claire Teutenberg – Phil & Deana Cook  
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