



LOW FOOTPRINT LAMB UK



Introducing the Australian White

Pure Australian White lambs were recently born on a farm in England, the result of embryos imported from Victoria, Australia.

The Australian White is one of many shedding composites developed in Australia over the past 20 years. Ian chose the Australian White over other shedding composites because it does not contain any Wiltshire, the breed that provides the majority of the shedding genes to Exlana and Easycare so its use should maximise hybrid vigour when crossed over these breeds. The Australian White is a composite of high index Tattykeel Poll Dorset, Texel, White Dorper and Van Rooy. The Van Rooy is a hair breed that provides the bright white coat, long body and drooping ears associated with AW sheep.

The Australian White breeds non-seasonally, has dark feet, and can produce a 30kg carcass. The flock providing our embryos tolerates 750 mm rainfall and cold, windy winters which should give the British born progeny a fighting chance at adapting to their new environment. While it is early days, Ian has been impressed with the growth rate of the lambs and their short tails, over 80% of which are well above the hock.

Advantages of using Australia White genetics

- More a hair sheep than a wool shedder
- Many have a short tail
- A non-Wiltshire source of shedding genetics = a totally new gene-pool allowing maximum hybrid vigour to be added to your shedding flock
- Good carcass traits
- Non seasonal – can use to breed a non-seasonal wool shedder suited to the British climate
- Good feet

We aim to evaluate and incorporate these traits into our breeding program and it should be possible to develop a non-seasonal Cleanskin composite to integrate into regenerative farming systems and lamb out of season as required. With the removal of the SFP, farming is changing and new opportunities are opening up for the sheep industry.

We will have Australian White semen, 1/2 cross Ram lambs and a limited number pure AW ram lambs for sale this Autumn. Please look on our stock for sale webpage.

