

March 2025



LOW FOOTPRINT  
LAMB UK

Welcome to the first copy of our Low Footprint Lamb UK Newsletter! Sign up to our mailing list via our website so you can stay in the loop with our monthly updates.



## About LFPL

We love getting to know our customers so we think it's important that you get to know us too. Here at LFPL honesty and transparency are extremely important to us and we know they are important to you! Want to know a bit about why we started LFPL? Then click the link below to read what Hayden and Ian have to say:

## The LFPL Newsletter Team



Hayden Wooley



Ian McDougall



Rachel Duff



April 2025



## Meet Rachel

Last month we welcomed a new member of staff to the team, Rachel Duff, who has joined us as data co-ordinator and marketing manager at Low Footprint Lamb. Rachel, who hails from Northern Ireland via a degree in Bioveterinary Science at Harper Adams, has spent the past 2 months bluetongue vaccinating and taking DNA samples from all LFPL breeding ewes and rams.

## DNA All The Way

This year we made the decision to opt for DNA parentage in order to 100% secure pedigrees and to enable genomic breeding values to be calculated in future years. DNA samples have been sent to Zoetis who then submit the data to SIL, the end result should be very accurate breeding values. Within 2-3 years SIL may have genomic breeding values for methane emissions and meat-eating quality traits, which LFPL and our ram buyers will be able take advantage of.



## Bluetongue

As we all know bluetongue has been the buzz word of the month! So, what is it all about? Bluetongue serotype 3 arrived in England in late August 2024, carried by midges blown over from The Netherlands, and gradually spread westwards, occupying approximately half of England by late November, when the average ambient temperature became too low for midges to feed and spread the virus. Defra predicts that the Bluetongue virus will overwinter in England and emerge in June or July.

Midges feed and fly when the ambient temperature is above 15°C, meaning Bluetongue is likely to spread throughout England, Wales, and southern Scotland by early September. The impact is unknown but we believe it pays to be prepared!

What are we doing about it? At LFPL we made the decision in late Winter to Vaccinate all our ewes with particular urgency prior to lambing to allow our lambs to obtain those precious maternal antibodies. This will keep them protected up until weaning and as our ewes and rams will remain immune for 12 months, our lambs will then be vaccinated at weaning.

Check out our FB for more updates:

[CLICK HERE](#)

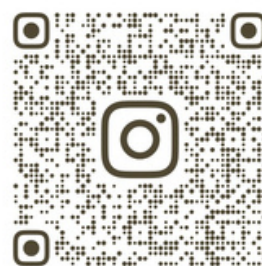
## Show Dates for 2025

Low Footprint Lamb UK will be attending the following events, please come and say Hi!

NSA Welsh Sheep – **21<sup>st</sup> May 2025**  
 NSA North Sheep – **4<sup>th</sup> June 2025**  
 NSA Southwest Sheep – **25<sup>th</sup> June 2025**  
 The Royal Welsh Show – **21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

The Easycare Breed Society will also be visiting us on **June 21<sup>st</sup>**, as part of their AGM.

SCAN ME



@LOWFOOTPRINTLAMBUK

## Sheep Purchases in NZ

Over the past 3 years we have been importing Wiltshire and Texel rams from New Zealand. Recently we purchased terminal type and maternal type ewes from the Wharetoa dispersal; these are very high SIL index sheep. We will breed these ewes to both, terminal and maternal type shedding rams and import the ARR/ARR progeny. While using woolly rams in a shedding flock may appear counterintuitive, the largest gene pool and highest indexed sheep exist in the woolled population. We hope these new genetics will appear in our UK flock in 2027.





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## Exports

In 2024 Low Footprint Lamb exported embryos and semen to New Zealand and Denmark with follow up exports planned for 2025. We are very pleased to report that the growth rate, carcass quality and shedding ability of the lambs has impressed.



## Watch this space

Over the past 2 years LFPL have been establishing a shedding terminal flock by crossing UK and NZ Texel rams into very well muscled Easycare ewes. Texel cross ewe lambs are lambing (outdoors!) soon and we are importing full shedding Texel rams from New Zealand to stabilize both full shedding and carcass traits. Watch this space...

## To MV or not to MV

The main breeding flock at LFPL is MV monitored, however we have established an MV accredited flock to breed rams for those who are also MV accredited. We will have 2 tooth rams available for sale from this flock in 2026; In the meantime we are having our annual LFPL ram sale on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2025 at Bridgnorth livestock market.

SALE

## Low Footprint Lamb UK Annual Ram Sale

# 30<sup>th</sup>

AUGUST

# 2025

LOW FOOTPRINT  
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# Spring COLLECTION



Sign up to our mailing list to find out what happens next at [www.lowfootprintlamb.com](http://www.lowfootprintlamb.com)

