

## Linkage:

Flocks must be genetically 'connected' to other flocks for the across-flock to be able to work. Without linkage we cannot validly compare the genetic merit of animals from different flocks.

## Key points on connectedness

- You must use at least one sire from the previous year within your flock.
- Connectedness is created by using a ram in two or more flocks, in the same year.
- A ram from another flock does not create connectedness if it has not been used as a sire in that flock first.
- We need at least 30 progeny (preferably 50) in each flock, by a link sire, if we are to get enough linkage to make valid comparisons.
- Connectedness is lost, as the years pass. Breeders need to share a sire regularly-ideally every year, but at least every two years.
- Creating linkages is a continuing requirement, we cannot rely solely on the CPT alone to keep us linked.

## Across-flock runs will be run on the following dates

August 19

September 9

October 28

November 4, 11, 18, 25

December 2, 9, 16

January 20

February 3, 17

March 2, 16, 23, 30

April 6, 13, 20, 27

May 1

June 1

**NOTE:** They are all on a Friday night to make it easier for you and your SIL bureau. If you enter data during the week then if your bureau waits till the following Monday then it will include the most up to date information for your report.

**If you wish to** - contact Julia Aspinall, Across-flock Manager,  
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## There are three key dates

### • 28 October

**All North Island flocks** should endeavour to have the following on SIL by this date because

- a) it has been asked for by breeders
- b) entries for the North Island stud ram fair close the first week in November.

All LW8 weights

All hogget fleece weights

Ewe mating weights and condition scores.(if taken)

All lambing data. (this is very important especially for rams out of 2th ewes, this doubles the NLB data available of the dam and her half /sibs.)

Any CT and/or eye muscle scanning, Footscores, pregnancy scanning, Cold Tolerance and Carla data (if available)

- **WEDNESDAY 2nd NOVEMBER** ALL NI ACROSS-FLOCK MEMBERS CAN HAVE ALL THEIR RAMS FOR SALE EMAILED TO THEM IN RAM CATALOGUE FORMAT BY JULIA ASPINALL FOR \$50 PER FLOCK. **Please contact Julia if you require this option.**

### • 2 December

All flocks across NZ need to have the following data loaded.

All LW8 weights

Ewe mating weights and condition scores, (if taken)

All hogget fleece weights All lambing data

Any CT and/or eye muscle scanning, Footscores, pregnancy scanning, Cold Tolerance and Carla data (if taken)

- **6 & 7 DECEMBER** – ALL SI ACROSS-FLOCK MEMBERS CAN HAVE ALL THEIR RAMS FOR SALE EMAILED TO THEM IN RAM CATALOGUE FORMAT BY JULIA ASPINALL FOR \$50 PER FLOCK. **Please contact Julia if you require this option.**

### • 30 March

All flocks need to have the following loaded so that sires can be selected for the National Progeny Trial.

All weaning weights

LW6 or LW8 weights

EMA scanning data

FEC, (if available)

CT scanning (if available by then.)



**THE PERENDALE SHEEP  
SOCIETY OF NZ (INC)**

**ACROSS-FLOCK**

**GUIDE**

August 2011

