



New Era of Genetic Evaluation

Sheep Genetics has introduced Combined LAMBPLAN, a world-leading genetic evaluation that brings Maternal and Terminal sheep breeds together in a single analysis. For the first time, producers can directly compare the genetic merit of animals across Maternal and Terminal breeds using one evaluation.

For commercial producers, this provides three key benefits:

- greater confidence in selection decisions through more accurate estimates of genetic merit,
- the ability to directly compare the genetic merit of animals across Maternal and Terminal breeds using a single evaluation,
- enables the future development of commercial genetic selection tools.

Why have some breeding values changed?

With the introduction of Combined LAMBPLAN, some breeding values and animal rankings may differ from those reported under the Maternal or Terminal evaluations. These changes reflect major enhancements to the Combined LAMBPLAN evaluation, including the expansion of breed comparisons through the merging of datasets, increased accuracy of relationships between animals, and updates to the analysis models. Together, these improvements provide more accurate estimates of genetic merit, which may result in changes to previously reported breeding values.

Re-benchmark Your Breeding Program

Because Combined LAMBPLAN uses a new evaluation system, producers should re-benchmark their ram team using Combined LAMBPLAN percentile bands.

A simple approach is to:

1. Review your ram teams current Combined LAMBPLAN breeding values
2. Determine where the ram team average sits within the relevant Combined LAMBPLAN percentile bands.
3. Reset breeding objective targets and ram purchasing criteria accordingly.

This ensures breeding decisions continue to align with your production and profitability goals under the new evaluation system.

Preparing for the Future

Combined LAMBPLAN breeding values are currently being released as Research Breeding Values. From next year, Combined LAMBPLAN will become the primary genetic evaluation, with the current separate Maternal and Terminal analyses being phased out. Producers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with Combined LAMBPLAN now and begin incorporating the new results into their breeding programs.

For more information on
Combined LAMBPLAN:

