RECORDING REPRODUCTION CHECKLIST

Overall requirements to be included in new reproduction evaluation (Maternal and Merino flocks)

At least 70% of the lambs in a drop must have dam pedigree	→	Reproduction is a trait of the dam, so complete pedigree recording ensures we are capturing the full variation of the joining cohort.
Consistency between birth types (BT) of lambs supplied and the count of lambs in the drop	→	Compares the BT of each lamb, and the total number of lambs in the drop. This validates the consistency of recording through the lambing.

Joining

ID of the ram the ewe is joined to	→	To identify service sire failure. If joining as syndicates (and using DNA parentage), leave the join sire as a syndicate.
Ram in-and-out dates	→	Check dates for relevance – be as accurate as possible with dates.

→ Also include this ram information for any backup joining

Ewe joining weight	→	Measure in the 30 days before the rams goes in. Contributes to AWT ASBV.
Ewe joining condition score	→	Measure in the 30 days before the rams goes in. Contributes to CS RBV.
Management group of the ewes	→	Grouping for CON and LS. Groups are checked (e.g. are there dry ewes in the joining group?).
Conception method of the ewe. Any use of chemical intervention (such as oestrus-inducing products)	→	ET ewes are not used in the reproduction evaluation. Ensures fair comparison of ewe's reproduction performance.

Pregnancy

Pregnancy scan result	→	Identifies dry ewes (do not need DRY tags if submitting preg scans).
For multiples	→	Fills gaps in BT (if ewe is not matched to lamb outcome). Used for CON and LS RBV.
Wet/dry scanning	→	Used for CON RBV.
Pregnancy scan date	→	Checks accuracy of scan — minimum 70 days from start of joining (or 35 days from ram-out date) and maximum of 110 days from start of joining.
Foetal age (optional)	→	Can provide more accurate lamb DOB (e.g. early/mids/lates).
Pregnancy scanner name	→	Will use this information into the future.

Lambing

Lambing (tagging at birth)				Marking (if not at the birth site)
Identify dams of lambs	←	**Dam pedigree**	→	Identify dams of live lambs.
Real birth type	←	**CON and LS RBV**	→	Birth type from pregnancy scan.
Identify dead at birth lambs (DAB)	←	**Must be confident in scanner accuracy**	→	Identify ewes that lambed and lost (using scan result and DAB tags).
Exact date of birth	←	**Dates checked for relevance**	→	Date of birth (may be average of whole lambing, or more accurate).
Conception method of lamb	←		→	Conception method of lamb.
Maternal behaviour score (MBS)	←	**MBS RBV**		
Lambing ease score (LE)	←	**LE ASBV**		
Birth weight (BWT)	←	**BWT ASBV**		

Weaning

Record survival of lambs born	→	Adjust RT to reflect survival. Used for ERA RBV.
Take an early measurement on all reared lambs (e.g. WWT)	→	Helps inform RT and captures variation in cohort.

Using DAB tags and pedigree to estimate rear type

You can infer ewes which lambed and lost lambs by matching pregnancy scan to pedigree (e.g. DNA parentage results). To use this method you must:

- use DNA to get full pedigree on the whole drop cohort (not getting pedigree selectively)
- pregnancy scan for multiples
- DNA sample as early as possible (marking is preferred over weaning)
- be confident in the reliability of pregnancy scan data.

Instructions for submitting this data to Sheep Genetics

Birth type is based on the pregnancy scan of the dam.

Rear type will be a result of matching live lambs to dams using DNA parentage.

DABs are identified by comparing the pregnancy scan result of the ewe to the live lambs matched to her through DNA. For those ewes with a pregnancy scan larger than her live litter, you need to fill DAB tags into the gaps.

Example: A ewe is scanned in lamb with twins, however only has one lamb matched to her through DNA parentage.