



One Stop Ram Shop



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TEXEL SUFFOLK

- Key Points...
- (i) Ideal sire for trouble-free hogget lambing.
 - (ii) Prime at low live weights.
 - (iii) High liveweight to carcase weight yield.
 - (iv) Ideal meat for niche markets.
 - (v) Hardy.

- **SIL Recorded; NZ Animal Breeding Trust (Bureau).**
- Lambs are small shouldered and easily born.
- Hardy, tough vigorous lambs.
- Lambs grey to blackfaced.
- Lambs bond well to ewes at birth.
- Growth rate; up to 400 gms per day.
- No 'tail-end' lambs.
- Lambs prime at any age, ie. 49 days onwards.
- Lambs need less drenching.
- Carcase weight to live weight yield close to 50%.
- Carcases have high red meat yields.
- Carcase shape and muscling ideal for niche markets.
- Meat; fine grained, red, lean and identifiable by taste.

Ideal sires for hogget mating.

Comments: This tough, well muscled ram is used over ewes in every NZ environment. Even under the nastiest conditions progeny do well. Lambs retain 60% of the available heterosis. 1200 Texel Suffolk ewes are mated each season at OSRS. Appreciable genetic gain for growth rate, has been achieved at OSRS over twenty years.

ROBIN HILSON	06 8558 335
COLIN MCDONALD	03 2468 475
DON BUCHANAN	07 8966 845
ROBERT CARTER	07 896 7020
DAN WHEELER	0274 363 167
PETER KETTLE	0274 839 595

TEXEL MARKETING GROUP "KYOTO NEUTRAL SCHEME"

The whole discussion around carbon credits is both scientific and bizarre in many ways. We have to realise that for better or worse we did, as a nation, sign up to the Kyoto protocol which means that we are honour bound to limit our green house gas outputs to 1990 levels. (This agreement is with only some of the participants of the global whorehouse that is the real world, leaves out most of the third world, China and the USA to name but a few. The Olympics will cause the Chinese to do some window dressing and then they will be back into it, big time, trying to become western as fast as possible). At that time, we signed the deal without having the clarity provided by robust science. Since then (oh dear and many f's) we have discovered that our ruminants, those animals who are multigastric, feeding mainly on plant material, produce lots and lots of naughty greenhouse gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, carbon dioxide and a few others too. In their gut are bacteria called methanogens, who produce the bad gases whilst happily being bacteria. One cunning plan is to alter the gut environment to delete the methanogens and replace them with much nicer bacteria who will cause the animals to grow faster, think faster, walk faster and do their emails faster all with less gas, result = less cows as hot air balloons, less rope necessary to hold them on terra firma for milking and much easier mustering, but I digress, sorry.

NZ's economy is based mainly on turning grass into dollars by using the sun's energy to produce meat, wool and milk by naturally synthesising nutrients through a plant and animal system.

We won't go into the fact that we have to import the phosphate and other nutrients at this stage as you will all be signing up to take a bungy jump, the free one with no strings attached.

Funny thing about ruminants is that they have been on the planet for a while, (40 million years) through the millenia of ice ages, the Carboniferous Period, the Muldoon years, they were here during the great depression and also when Jesus was doing things so momentous the media of that time wrote about him so much we even got to hear about it 2007 years later. Wholordy and who thinks P is a problem?

All this time they (the ruminants) have been having gastric eructations of gases and my point is that this is a fairly natural phenomenon, or at least as natural as you can get on this mad planet. So, why do we have

to become carbon neutral by purchasing carbon credits to balance our global gas excesses because of this use of ruminants? Good question and the following is as good an answer as any.

Well the most correct answer is to encourage global industries to reduce the production of green house gases by a financial means, which will encourage better behaviour because of the financial penalty involved.

So, to the carbon market and how it works.

I've got trees on my farm, growing ones, lots of them, just like Robin has and these trees are absorbing all the greenhouse gases that my sheep and cattle produce.

I've also got a small hydro electric plant generating electricity which means that somewhere out there a coal or a gas powered electricity station does not have to burn fossil fuels to make the equivalent amount of energy, thus not producing the commensurate amount of greenhouse gases. So, for every megawatt hour, which is 1000 watts for 1000 hours, I save the equivalent of 600 kgs of Carbon dioxide going into the atmosphere. This is 0.6 of a unit of carbon saved and it's worth about \$21 on the carbon market depending on which arsehole you talk to.

I say arsehole, as I recently found out just what carbon trading is actually about as I contacted a trader and they informed me that if the approval of carbon credits and their resultant value would make the difference between the scheme being a financial success or just a mad experiment, then I would have a "good case".

I smelt the smell of money very briefly, just like Jonquils but oh so fleeting.....

Further to that, they indicated that it would cost \$100,000.00 to put up a proposal including verification, application and sale of the credits my tiny scheme generates. I started to smell very dead rattus now.

All this for a scheme that would make 14 mwh by 600 which is the equivalent of 8.4 tonnes of CO2 worth \$294.00 per annum on top of the value of the energy produced (\$2500) at the absolute best price.

So, as usual the real reason for the creation of this bullshit scheme is to make brokers rich for doing less than F--- all. It is no less bizarre than the scheme started by a couple of young poms called "Cheat Neutral"



Robert Carter thrashing macrocarpa mice which somehow got into the renovated kitchen. Kirikau, Sept 07.

whereby if you are cheating on your missus or partner, thus causing an amazing amount of pain and upset to be put into the atmosphere, they can, for \$5.00 a pop, find happily married and sweet couples who will provide a balance for your indiscretions, thus reducing or neutralising the atmospheric pain. Notice indeed. Suzie and I have been negotiatedly married for 30 years so we smell money again.

As a part of the Texel Marketing Group, we announce the scheme called "Kyoto neutral", whereby if you are worried and thus feeling stressed by the inequities you sense, thus causing a rise in your own personal gas production, you can pay us \$10.00 at the next open day and I will officially state to you in a personal consultation, "that you are not to worry, in the end, Helen will fix it."

So, my dear sheep farming friends, it is a mad world out there, so my advice is to get out there and plant trees, use renewable energy sources whenever possible and if you have a need for speed, like me, buy a good motorcycle as you require less fuel per thrill as Burt Monroe said, 5 minutes on a fast motorcycle provides more excitement than some people have in their whole lives. Go safely though!

Go to Baja with Robin, ride a Honda, dice with cacti at speed and always tip your boots out before you put them on.

Cheers

The Carbon Neutralisers, Robert Carter, Robin Hilson and TMG. **Join Now.**



Robert Carter and Shrek.

Wanaka, Sept 07.



Robert's mates.

Kirikau, Sept 07.

Don Buchanan (OSRS west) breeds tasty piedmontese cattle. He is the only farmer to have been a finalist every year since the 'steak of origin' competition started.

FINLAND CALLING!27-9-07

Time goes fast, you were here in Finland in May 2002, I can remember that because our car was new at that time. Now we have been driving with that over 220,000 km and it is not new anymore! Its old.

The climate is changing here in Finland, the winters in this millennia are shorter and warmer than before.

For farming it means longer period of growth, which is “good” but if the stern freeze is not anymore killing the microbes, that is bad.

During winters we have ground frost, soil frost penetration depth has been about 1 meter, which has been good.

I think you know what I mean.

Weather conditions keep changing more than before, sometimes it rains for weeks and sometimes like in the summer 2006, we had no rain for 2 months which was catastrophe.

Pasturing starts in the beginning of June, but last year there was no rain, I had to take all the ewes inside to eat straws, (oat straw) there was something to eat for the lambs only. (outside)

Hay-making season there wasn’t enough hay/grass to put to bales. So last winter ewes did eat during January-February again straws.

Now I have ewes with less fat, something good!

2006 August we had some rain and 15-9-06. the ewes were able to go outside to the fields. They were inside 2 months 15-7, 15-9-06, that was a big loss and happened never before.

With kindest regards from Finland
Lauri Leinonen.



Finnish supermarket sheep meat.

- Local histories are worth reading. Some of the best are;
- Tales from the Woolshed. John Crawford. Central Otago. Teviot Station story.
 - Owen Echoes, Ken Farrell. Murchison,MtOwen settlement.
 - Bainham. Carol Dawber. The district history.
 - Waimiha, People of character, Audrey Walker. A fascinating King Country history.



Shadows.

FINNISH SHEEP PRICES.		28-9-07.	
		Euro	NZ \$
Ram	Texel, 4-6 months	€350.	\$651.
	12 months	€450.	\$837.
Finn	sheep,	€100 less.	
Ewe	lambs,	€250.	\$465.
	2th	€350.	\$651.
Sheepmeat,		Supermarket Price.	
	Long bone steak,	€4.95.	\$9.2/kg
	Steak	€5.95.	\$11.07/kg
	Striploin, fillet.	€15.90.	\$29.57/kg
		Abattoir price.	
	E 2,	€4.53.	\$8.42/kg
	U 2	€4.08.	\$7.58/kg

An 18kg CW Finnish E2 lamb would have a NZ value of \$151.56.

Farmers often get the best prices by selling privately rather than through the abattoirs.



Paul and Rita VerryTaru Farm, Te Kuiti.

TARU FARM IS FOR SALE.

Taru farm, 362 ha, 13 kms from Waitomo Caves. Elevation is 400m a.s.l. Magical views for great distances are a feature at the homestead. Porous Mairoa ash soils make Taru a gardener’s paradise.

There are 68 paddocks and 3500 su, 70% sheep and 30% cattle. Lambing % is about 140% with all stock finished. Ewes are ¾ Perendale, ¼ Finn.

I have known Paul and Rita for decades and had first hand experience with the sound stock at Taru. Anyone would enjoy farming this property but if one of you is a gardener be careful, it will captivate you and could impair your judgement.

FIVE LINERS.

- "If the directors (of Alliance and PPCS) aren't prepared to make the hard decisions, we are prepared to take matters into our own hands".

John Gegan (MIAG), RN, Sept 18 2007.

At last farmers realise they can force changes by united action; they are major stakeholders. Meat and Wool NZ also needs an ultimatum

Prove their worth to farmers

- PPCS counted rumours about selling of some NI processing facilities with a strong denial, by CEO.

Keith Cooper. FW Sept, 2007.

Often, after the denial comes the sale notice.

- PPCS made another poor move by appointing two NI Directors rather than organising an election.
- Tony St Clair (Ex CEO FF) is "bewildered by price differences of \$30-40 on opposite sides of the Tasman.....NZ exporters have become too comfortable with established relationships.....and have no urgency to develop new markets. Lamb marketing is lazy" *RN, Oct, 2007.*
- "Besides reform at the meat company level, MWNZ needs a serious testosterone injection. They have fiddled while we, their levy payers have burned. --- to be successful with meat we have to wrest control back from the companies".

John McCarthy, ex NZ Meat Board Director.

- "The drop in value of the NZ dollar is not the saviour of the meat industry or farmer's woes--- despite commentators saying otherwise".

Sam Robinson, FW August 27, 2007.

- Otago university's 454 Life Sciences Sequencer, will give annual gains of \$10 million to the sheep industry. Ovita will work through the sheep genome to identify commercial gene variants.

Exciting stuff with real promise.

- Fancy having a conference on Jim Bolger's prime ministership. "He was proud of righting the economy, settling treaty claims and financing Te Papa."

Consumer demand 'righted' the economy, few treaty claims are settled and Te Papa still needs annual financial assistance. PM Bolger forgot rural NZ.

- Are consumers daft? Coco Cola and Pepsi have admitted bottling 'purified' tap water for the huge European market. *Economist, August, 2007.*
- \$100 billion is spent worldwide on bottled water; NZ's share being \$20 million. Buried bottles take 1000 years to break down.

Most of NZ's drinking water is safe. NZ Health Ministry. Dom-Post 15-9-07.

- George Bush etc came to Sydney. Two 747's, other planes, helicopters, twelve vehicles and dozens of extras. They'll altogether emit 57,885 tonnes of CO₂ equivalents – what a footprint!

*And he was talking **Big** on climate change?*

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Beautiful Kawhia, morning views.

Oparau, Sept, 07.



Bands of morning light playing on the Ruahines. Spring 07.



Native plants eventually smother rhododendrons. New plantings at block IV.

Tarata.



Rhododendrons were lifted from amongst regenerating native vegetation before they died. Replanted at Paratu, Aug, 07.



Hunua Hills have a surprising number of sheep amongst the houses and cows.
Don Swale, Kaiaua, Pokeno.

A NEW TEAM TO HEAD WOOL EQUITIES.

Sheep farmer shareholders will have (in my opinion) the opportunity to put woolgrowers firmly in control of Wool Equities Limited when they vote for the Director team of James Aitken, Russell Emmerson, John Shirtcliff and Hugh Taylor either at the November 1st , AGM in Palmerston North or by proxy beforehand.

Wool Equities shareholding devolved from the Wool Industry Restructuring Act 2003. Minister Anderton believes that that put the industry back in the hands of the woolgrowers. **It did not.**

- WEL sold the wool technology intellectual property (Canesis) just short of commercialisation, at a loss.
- WEL introduced a cornerstone shareholder to develop biotechnology (to the virtue exclusion of its wool agenda). If financially successful this could further depress the wool price to the grower.
- Should a sheep farmer support ex Chairman Bentley's Keratec "jewel in the crown" or replacement Chairman Pearce's "disappointing Keratec results" announced last month?
- Would farmers re elect a Board which has reduced shareholders funds in WEL by \$11m in four years, having received \$14m in Ovita/Covita funding and millions of dollars of funding for Canesis from Disco etc?

Vote for the new team, **we are all tired of failure. I urge woolgrowers to vote to be part of the solution.**

Marianne Aitken, WOOL ADVANCEMENT GROUP.

03-307 2268, 027 7111 717.



Original painting by Robin White of Sam's house painted in 1974. Sam and Joy during a wonderful September visit.

COMPLIANCE.

A simple eight metre farm bridge was planned to straddle a stream in the Dannevirke area.

It was nothing special, just a farm bridge for stock.

Costs claimed for processing by Horizons R. Council.

Consulting Planner	5.5hrs	@\$115/hr	
\$632.50.			
Snr Consent Planner	1.5 hrs	@\$90./hr	\$135.00.
Consent Planner (cadet)	1.75 hrs	@\$85./hr	\$148.00.
Snr Environmental Scientist.	.5 hrs	@\$111./hr	\$55.50.
Environmental Scientist.	.25 hrs	@\$95./hr	\$22.50.
Consultant Engineer	2.25 hrs	@\$95./hr	\$213.75.
Consents Manager.	1.hr	@\$95/hr	\$95.00.
Consents Administrator.	2.hrs	@\$80/hr	\$160.00.
Administration Charge			\$210.00.
			\$1673.00.
		+ GST.	\$209.13.
			\$1882.13.

Screeds of paper, masses of bullshit. All this should not be necessary. This is not productive work just job creation by Labour government. Just imagine all these people jostling over the plan for the eight metre bridge.



'Oi slow down 4 kids'.

Ohura.



The Mangaweka house once owned by Sam Hunt.

2007.



STABILISED FINN TEXEL

- Key Points...
- (i) Tough lambs, extremely hardy.
 - (ii) Fecund hoggets.
 - (iii) Durable, fertile ewes.
 - (iv) Easy-care sheep.
 - (v) Well muscled.

- SIL Recorded; NZ Animal Breeding Trust (Bureau).
- Lambs born small, without difficulty.
- Lambs bond strongly with their mothers.
- Growth rate, up to 400 gms per day.
- White, bulky wool approx 34 micron.
- Lambs have medium to good muscling.
- Many prime lambs at weaning.
- Lambs may be grown to very heavy weights.
- Efficient grazers and converters of grass to meat.
- Easy care sheep. Longevity.
- High liveweight to carcase weight yield.
- Very pleasant meat to eat.
- Reasonable to good parasite resistance.
- Scanning percentage 180 plus, with few triplets.

Comments: Ewes mature late and are still growing as four teeth. This breed is used throughout the whole of New Zealand. Finn Texel crossbreds retain 50% of the available heterosis. 2007, OSRS. In spite of a major drought, conception rates were unaltered in Finn Texel ewes.



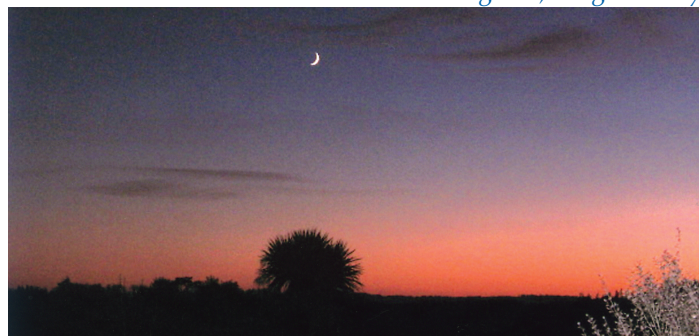
Lambs sired by Finn Texel rams from OSRS.
Peter Chamberlain, Norwood, Canterbury.



Moerangi Rd, dorper country. Robbie Graham Oparau.



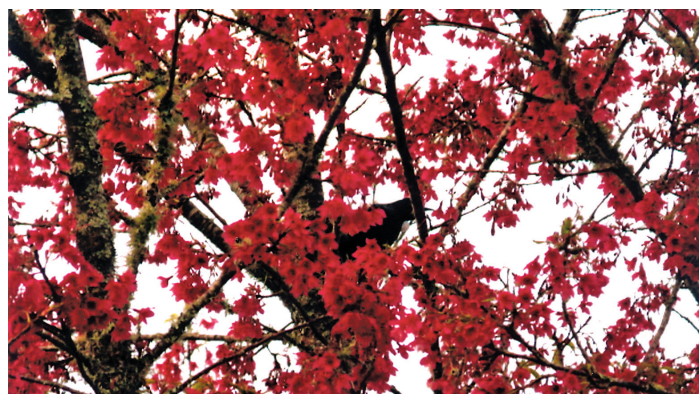
Sad family chapel. Landcorp have bought this lovely property with many hectares of ornamental plantings.
Otangiwai, King Country



Dawn at Paratu. OSRS



Spare multiples. Factory farming? Alister Hogg, Otorohanga.



Spot the Tui. Glorious spring. David Wrack, Te Kuiti.



PERENDALE FINN

- Key Points...
- (i) Motivated to survive.
 - (ii) 16% to 20% more lambs from 1/4 Finn progeny.
 - (iii) Progeny look like Perendales.
 - (iv) Some facial eczema tolerance.
 - (v) Bearings are rare.

- Lambs 3 to 4kgs at birth.
- 25% Finn progeny growth up to 350 day grams per day.
- Lambs bond strongly with the ewe.
- Lambs are taller, longer and leaner.
- Lambs and ewes 'mob'. Easy to muster.
- Strong survival instincts.
- Lambs 'look' like their dams.
- Wool is long, soft and fine.
- Ram lambs sexually precocious.
- Ewe lambs readily mate as hoggets.
- Lambs finish well to heavy weights.
- Selection of replacements best left as long as possible.
- Capable of scanning 180 percent plus.

Male lambs are very sexy. Any small male lambs are best wethered, they finish better.

Comments: Finn Perendale rams are increasingly being used widely throughout NZ. They are tough, prolific, low maintenance sheep. Shortages of breeding stock exist nationwide.



Shearing ram hoggets. Good cutting, superb wool.

ONE STOP RAM SHOP EWES.



Stabilised 3/8 Finn 3/8 Texel 1/4 Romney.



Stabilised 1/4 Finn 1/4 Texel 1/2 Romney.



Stabilised 1/4 Finn 1/4 Texel 1/2 Perendale.



Rebecca Black from Straight Furrow interviewed Peter and Robin about dorper multiple lambings. Sept, 2007



John Aitken (Lean Meats) and Robin have discussed all facets of killing stock at the Oamaru plant by TMG farmers in the South Island.
Paratu, Sept 07.



'The' gorse bush up in flames. Paratu, Aug 07.



Arthur showing his tusks for his Dipton cousin's benefit, who were photographed in Newsletter 64.



1/4 Finn 1/4 Texel 1/2 Romney ewe with twins.
Kearin Brothers, Puketutu.



Skipping Texel-Suffolk lambs. Paratu, Sept, 07



STABILISED CROSSBRED: 1/4 FINN 1/4 TEXEL 1/2 ROMNEY

- Key Points...
- (i) Finn prolificacy.
 - (ii) Texel muscling and hardiness.
 - (iii) Romney look.
 - (iv) Tough, long living sheep.
 - (v) Suitable for most environments.

- SIL Recorded; NZ Animal Breeding Trust (Bureau).
- Small, lively lambs at birth.
- Ewes milk well.
- Intelligent, alert sheep.
- Wool white, soft, long, 34-36 microns.
- Carcase is long, lean with some Texel muscling.
- Longevity.
- Freemoving.
- Ideal carcase for the heavy lamb trade.
- Scanning percentage 180 plus, but with few triplets.
- Productive, traditional 'looking' ewes.
- Ewes medium to big sheep.
- Lambs finish easily and grade well.

Comments: This stabilised crossbred has some tolerance to facial eczema. A visually appealing sheep which is highly productive in a wide range of New Zealand environments. This crossbred is now a major component of the national ewe flock.

OSRS tests for F.E Tolerance in some sires.



Mercer scene. Dogs frequently take humans for walks on leashes now.