



British Rouge Sheep Society Newsletter

Spring 2021

Secretary

Pat Imlah

Mob:07803897419

Tele: 01651 862920

secretary@rouge-sheep.co.uk

www.rouge-sheep.co.uk

Honorary President

John Smithson

Chairman

John Gate

Vice Chairman

Ian Teasdale

Members of Council

Ian McConnell

George Knox

Jayne Tannahill

Hi

Welcome to our latest newsletter, hope this finds everyone well, as we start to get back to some normality. I hope you all had a successful lambing, with some good quality Rouge lambs on the ground.

As your council, we have kept in contact by monthly zoom meetings. Several issues have been discussed and decisions made. It was decided as well as emailing this newsletter it would be posted out as a hard copy, so people had reference for relevant information regarding sales, shows and society rules etc. The intention is to target the newsletter at the relevant times for sales, registrations etc. One rule discussed by council was the clarification of rule 9 of constitution, concerning the DNA testing for ET work (paper enclosed).

Council also decided to fund someone to work alongside our secretary, to specifically look after social media and update the website. We had three very creditable applicants. At this point, I would like to welcome Katy Davies to our team. Katy has experience as E communications officer for the Welsh Badger Face sheep society. Also she has offered some interesting points to improve our social media and website. Katy will work alongside council on a part time self-employed basis. As always, Katy and Pat will need any useful articles, market reports, photos etc.

Finally, it will be good to eventually meet members face to face again. With this in mind, we are open to suggestions for our AGM possible dinner.

Regards

John Gate

**The Year
Letter for 2021
is**

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Clarification and update of Rule 9 of the constitution.

At our council meeting the following was agreed when looking at clarification of rule nine.

9. *Embryo Transfer and Artificial Insemination will be allowed subject to the relevant rules in force at the time. Details of which are available from the Society on request.*

Artificial Insemination

Please supply to the Society office by email, a copy of the AI form with animals identification.

Could owners of retained semen that is not DNA tested please inform society for the records.

E. T. Work

DNA testing for both live Sires and Dams used during ET work in 2021 must be done by nasal swab. Anyone using retained semen from a deceased or live ram will be accepted, as long as a sample of semen has been sent in and tested to clarify the sire DNA.

It is the responsibility of the purchaser of any semen to ensure it has been DNA tested, before using for ET work.

No lambs will be registered in 2022 if either Sire or Dam is not tested and the results with the society.

Society will also require a copy of the ET form, produced at the time of the actual E T work showing the Sire Dam and recipients identification used.

The society will be working with Neogen Europe who are based in Scotland. Neogen do not share data with a third party unless breeder or society gives permission.

DNA Sampling process

1. Contact the Society Office in writing by email, to request the Nasal sampling Kits and Paperwork.
2. Society office will supply the nasal test kits and paperwork, which should be returned direct to Neogen with the appropriate paperwork.
3. Results (could take four weeks) will be uploaded to Grassroots and notified to Breeder.

An invoice will be raised by society we expect this to cost £30.00 plus VAT per animal.



BREED PROMOTION

Exciting News

The Council have managed to appoint a new E-Communications Officer.

My name is Katy Davies, I'm a farmers' daughter living with my partner and son in Conwy, North Wales. We run a flock of 350 breeding sheep most being commercial ewes, we also have pedigree flocks of Beltex & North Country Cheviots which we show all over the country. I grew up on the family beef & sheep farm in Carmarthenshire, West Wales.

My passion and love for sheep started at the age of 11 when myself and my sister were given a small flock of rare breed sheep which over the years grew rather quickly – keeping sheep became addictive.

Alongside working on the farm I work as a contract shepherdess working on farms all over the UK – mainly lambing and preparing sheep for shows and sales. I'm also a regional champion for the mental health in agriculture charity The DPJ Foundation.

I'm looking forward to working alongside the society and you as members to help promote this iconic breed that has in previous years helped shape the British sheep industry.

If anyone has any questions/suggestions on what they'd like to see on the website/social media pages then don't be afraid to get in touch. *Katy*

On Line Birth notifications and registrations

These can be done on the Grassroots database at the following costs. Login, password available from Rouge Society office and pedigree certificates will be issued where appropriate

Pedigree and Rou-teX charges

Birth Notification Fee £2.00 + VAT per head (males and females) unless late.

Full Registration Fee £8.00 + VAT per head (males and females) unless late.

Please note all lambs must have their EID Tag Number stated when birth notified.
Lambs must first be Birth Notified followed by Full Registration

Transfer Fee £5.00 + VAT per head (FEMALES)
£10.00 + VAT per head (MALES)

Imported Males and Females (wef 2018)

Can be transferred in at a cost of £20.00 + VAT per head

(All rams and ewes must be transferred into your flock before registration of lambs)

1. Lambs must be Birth Notified with the Society by **31st May** in the year of their birth at £2.00 + VAT per head.
2. Lambs born after **31st May** must be birth notified at £2 per head by the end of the month following birth.
3. Lambs Birth Notified Late will be subject to a late double charge of £4 + VAT per head.
4. If you intend to show or sell any lambs either at shows held under the auspices of the Society or at Society Sales, they must also be Fully Registered with the Society at an additional £8.00 + VAT per head by **31st May** in the year of their birth. This is to enable us to get certificates issued to breeders in time for the show or sale entries.
5. Any sheep that you intend to retain in your flock, either females for replacements, or any animals that you intend to retain to sell through Society Sales as shearlings the following year, must be fully registered at an additional £8.00 per head by **31st December** in the year of their birth.
6. Any application for registration received after **31st December** and up to **30th September** the year following birth will be subject to the registration fee of £8 + £5 + VAT
Or animals may be fully registered at any age if previously birth notified at £50 + VAT
7. Any animals that you wish to sell privately for breeding or for commercial use, you may Birth Notify at £2.00 + VAT per head within the time scales stated above. The purchaser then has the option to fully register the animal at a later date if they wish.
8. **NO ANIMAL CAN BE REGISTERED AS FULLY PEDIGREE AND NO CERTIFICATE WILL BE ISSUED UNLESS THE RELEVANT FEES HAVE BEEN PAID.**

Sales, Events and Shows dates for your diary

**The Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland (RHASS) –
Monday June 14th June 20 2021**
Will be a one day closed event for MV Sheep and will [livestream this year's show](#).

Great Yorkshire Show – Tuesday 13th July 2021
MV Sheep is over 2 days

Carlisle Pedigree Rouge sheep –Friday 14th August 2021
Show and sale of MV accredited rams and females closing date 09/07/2021

Dungannon Pedigree Rouge sheep –Monday 30th August 2021
Show and sale of MV accredited export sale.

Beattie Gortin Pedigree Rouge sheep –Friday 24th September 2021
Evening sale of MV accredited

Ballymena Pedigree Rouge sheep –Monday 4th October 2021
Evening sale of MV accredited

Pedigree Female Rouge sheep –Friday 3rd December 2021
Sale of MV accredited

NSA Scot Sheep Wednesday - 1st June 2022
Over Finlarg Farm, Tealing, By Dundee, DD4 0QE

NSA North Sheep WEDNESDAY - 7th JUNE 2023
Bradford House Farm, Belsay, Ponteland, Northumberland NE20 0HA



Rules for Shows and Sales

INSPECTION POINTS

Your sheep will be rejected from Society Sales or Shows for any of the following points
THESE ARE ONLY GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. For having an undershot or overshot jaw
2. For having poor conformation, or for being underweight for age.
3. For having badly formed legs or feet (too twisted or too straight) or for poor locomotion.
4. For having black wool (including marks and spots in the fleece)
5. For not being true to type.
6. For having ill health, or for giving reasons to believe that the animal is not capable of breeding.
7. For NOT complying with the Society's rules for the showing and selling of sheep.
8. Members are respectfully reminded that teeth grinding is a severe contravention of desirable welfare practices. Disciplinary action will be taken against any member found to have carried out this practice.

PRESENTATION OF SHEEP AT SHOWS AND SALES

1. Sheep presented at Shows and Sales at one year of age or older must be shorn bare after the 1st January and before being presented at their first show of the current season.
2. Rouge lambs are not to be faked in any way by carding comb, shears, etc., except to tidy up head, throat and chest, square tails and take long ends off under the belly and around the legs. **NO OTHER PART OF THE LAMB MAY BE TOUCHED.** (see diagram)
3. Hair on faces and legs may be removed and the faces and legs may be washed and or lightly dressed with colourless oil, but may not be artificially coloured in any way. The use of hair removing substances is strictly forbidden.
4. All male sheep to have two correct testicles, no rigs or chasers to be shown or sold.
5. No lambs to be born before 1st January. If born before this day, they become a Shearling on reaching 1st January and must be tattooed/ear tagged with the appropriate letter. The Society reserves the right to make spot checks on lambing dates.

Rules Governing the Showing of British Rouge Sheep

All persons exhibiting Rouge Sheep at shows where sheep are shown under the auspices of the British Rouge Sheep Society must be fully paid up members of the Society and sheep must be registered with the Society. No exhibitor shall present a sheep before a judge at any Show where the judge has or has had a financial or breeding interest in that animal at any time.

The Society may appoint an inspector to inspect lambs for dressing at the National shows and reserves the right to appoint an inspector at any show where sheep are shown under the British Rouge Society rules.

The Royal Highland Show

The Great Yorkshire

The Royal Welsh Show

The Royal Ulster Show – to be run under the rules and conditions of the Northern Ireland Rouge Club.

ANY LAMB INFRINGING DRESSING REGULATIONS WILL BE INELIGIBLE TO COMPETE WITHIN THE SHOW CLASSES OF THAT SHOW OR AT ANY SALE UNDER ROUGE SHEEP SOCIETY RULES. THE DECISION OF THE SOCIETY INSPECTOR SHALL BE FINAL.

The Society, its representatives or the disciplinary committee shall be absolved of any liability for any action taken as a consequence of their decision.

ERRORS OR OMISSIONS. The Society cannot accept responsibility for any error or omissions.

Shaded area wool can be trimmed
White area wool cannot be touched

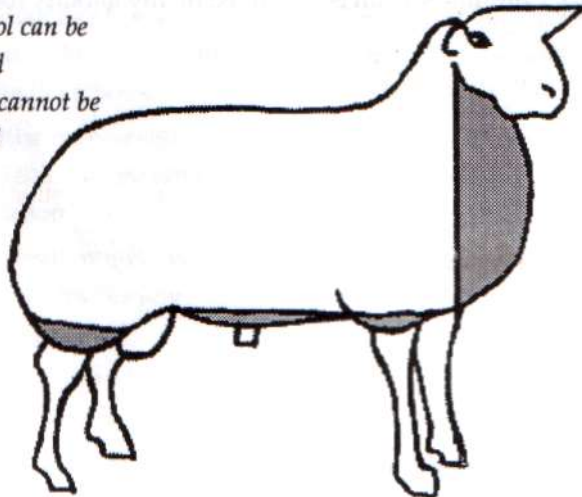


DIAGRAM ILLUSTRATING WHERE ROUGE LAMB CAN BE TRIMMED

From the office

A warm welcome to all our new members, I am at the end of the phone if you have any queries, as is for all members.

Remember that your Birth Notifications should be done by the 31st May 2021 to prevent the higher charge of £4.80. Sheep Tags must have your three letter Flock Prefix and the year letter printed on them.

Please remember if you intend to sell at any of the Society sales you need to fully register these before you have to do the entries for the sales.

The council's monthly zoom meetings, if there is anything you want us to consider, please forward to the office or one of the Council members.

I am in discussion with SRUC for a discounted Genotype testing price, as this would be required for sheep sold to Northern Ireland and EU export including Eire

I am really looking forward to working with Katy on the breed promotion.

I would also like to thank you all for your help and support, and look forward to the year ahead.

Regards
Pat

