

Dorset Down Breed Benchmark 2025 – National Terminal Sire Evaluation

Estimated Breeding Value	Attribute	Bottom 5%	Bottom 10%	Bottom 25%	Average	Top 25%	Top 10%	Top 5%
Birth Weight	Birth Weight	0.17	0.14	0.10	0.05	0.00	-0.04	-0.07
Lambing Ease	Lamb's Ease of Birth	-0.42	-0.35	-0.24	-0.11	0.02	0.13	0.20
Lamb Survival	Survival to Sale	-0.04	-0.02	0.01	0.04	0.07	0.10	0.12
Eight Week Weight	Early Growth	-0.43	-0.25	0.05	0.38	0.71	1.01	1.19
Shearling Weight	Ewe Efficiency	-1.88	-1.31	-0.36	0.69	1.74	2.69	3.26
Litter Size	Prolificacy	-0.17	-0.15	-0.11	-0.07	-0.03	0.01	0.03
Litter Size Reared	Prolificacy/Care	-0.09	-0.08	-0.06	-0.04	-0.02	0.00	0.01
Maternal Ability	Milk/Care	-0.42	-0.32	-0.17	0.01	0.19	0.34	0.44
Scan Weight	Growth	-2.55	-1.65	-0.14	1.53	3.20	4.71	5.61
Muscle Depth	Muscling	-1.52	-1.22	-0.72	-0.17	0.38	0.88	1.18
Fat Depth	Finish	-0.77	-0.65	-0.44	-0.21	0.02	0.23	0.35
Days to Slaughter	Speed of Finish	4.93	3.14	0.16	-3.15	-6.46	-9.44	-11.23
Carcase Weight	Carcase Weight	-0.16	-0.09	0.02	0.14	0.26	0.37	0.44
Carcase Conformation	Conformation	-0.48	-0.38	-0.23	-0.05	0.13	0.28	0.38
Fat Class	Finish	-0.69	-0.58	-0.39	-0.18	0.03	0.22	0.33
Terminal Sire Index	Profitable Slaughter Lambs	39	57	88	122	156	187	205
Maternal Index	Profitable Ewes	27	40	61	84	107	128	141

Rebasing - EBVs and indexes have been rebased and are expressed relative to the average animal in 2010.

Weight adjusted traits

Please note that all traits marked * are now weight adjusted. This means that EBVs are a better prediction of carcase composition at a fixed weight.

Example: A ram with a muscle depth EBV of +2mm is estimated to produce lambs with loin depths 1mm deeper at a fixed weight than a ram with an EBV of 0