

Ram (DNA) Genotype Service (April 2022)

The Society is providing breeders with the above service. Breeders can participate on a voluntary basis. It is open to shearling rams and older, i.e. stock rams. The collection of this DNA will enable breeders/owners of rams to obtain the genotype results for Scrapie, Myostatin and the Prolificacy. There are pages in the handbook and website with further information.

OWNERSHIP AND USE OF THE INFORMATION

The above results from the DNA analysis will be available for the breeder/owner to use and share as they see fit. The results (genotypes) will be available to see on the animal's record via the Online Flock Book & Registry (accessible by all Society members only via password access).

The Society will retain a copy of the full DNA pattern and may itself, or with partners, 'mine' the data collected for research purposes. If required, it may be used for parentage assessment. Any finding or research that would be published, would see the results made anonymous.

How to Participate

To take part in the scheme you must:

- For Shearling Rams you will be required to login to the Online Flockbook & Registry and notify at time of registration or send a Spreadsheet with your registrations.
- For Stock Rams - You must login to the Online Flockbook & Registry (Note if you have not bred the ram, you may need to contact the office and request it is transferred so that it shows in your flock)

All notifications must be done either online via the Online Flockbook & Registry or by Spreadsheet:

- **Online Flockbook & Registry** - use your login details and go in via the Society website, select from the menu 'Ram Inspections' and then follow on-screen instructions
- **Spreadsheet** - Add an additional column and put a 'yes' next to those rams you intend to test.

Once you have been on the Online Flockbook & Registry to notify or sent your Spreadsheet and payment is received, the office will post you out the nasal kits complete with barcode & ID stickers. You must then collect the samples at home, ensuring the correct ID number is placed on the sample kit(s). You will then return these samples by post to the Society office. The samples will be processed and forwarded to the laboratory at Neogen. When the Society office receives the results back, they will be uploaded to the animal records, which can be viewed on the Online Flockbook & Registry.

Please be aware of timings. Your DNA collected samples must be returned to the office by the advised deadline hence you need to input your registrations in plenty of time to allow the samples kits to be posted to you and then you to return the sample to the office etc. Although every effort will be made by the Society, they can make no guarantee for results being returned by any date i.e. sales.

The cost for each ram is £35 inc. vat (€43 inc. vat) which is payable before the sample kits are released.