



2019 Exlana ram sale

The 2019 Exlana ram sale will be held on Tuesday 6th August and we expect to have about 100 rams with exceptional genetics that are the result of many years of ongoing recording and rigorous selection. All animals are of course presented in their "working clothes" straight from the field –we don't disguise or "pretty up" sheep with artificial colouring or trimming---SIG has a hard-earned reputation for producing sheep that go away and *'do what it says on the can'*.

All Exlana sheep are fully recorded with Signet Breeding Services, and the catalogue provides full details – further information or help with the figures can be found from the Signet website <http://www.signetfbc.co.uk/sheepbreeder/technical-information-sheep/> or by speaking to one of the Exlana team.

SIG has been an industry leader in breeding for worm resistance, working in conjunction with Roslin Institute, Sainsburys and Bristol University to research and identify the Exlana's genetic resistance to internal parasites. Parasite resistance is increasingly being recognised as a prime economic trait in lamb production. You will see on the catalogue that with this in mind we have developed an Exlana Index that incorporates the FEC EBV , we will explain and discuss this in detail on the day---- meanwhile please feel free to speak to team members if you have any questions.

Attached is a list of rams offered for sale on the day, about half are from MV accredited flocks and those that don't come from MV accredited flocks have recently passed at least one MV blood test. SIG flocks are also disease screened for CLA, OJD & BD.

For those of you who haven't been to one of our sales before the sale procedure is a little different from a regular auction. We use the BLUP data and other records to grade rams, they are then grouped for sale according to price. Potential buyers are given a bidding card on arrival and hold this up when the favoured ram goes into the ring. If there's only one bidder, then they get the ram. If there are two or more bidders, they can decide to progress to a regular bidding system or put names in a hat. This system ensures that customers know what their budget is in advance.

Catrina Ritchie from Axiom Vet Labs will be joining us to speak about the impact of MV on flock performance, the increasing prevalence of the disease and measures that farmers can take to keep their flocks healthy.

As a demonstration of our support for high health status and biosecurity remember that we are offering £50 off every ram you buy if you screen your flock for MV ----see the sales page of the Exlana website for details

This year also sees us bringing terminal sires to the sale for the first time, Texel, Suffolk, SufTex & Dorset rams ---many in the top 5% of the breed analysis ---will be on offer Individually priced from £400 to £700---sold on a first come first served basis

The event will be signposted from and is very close to **Junction 27 M5** ----Ayshford Sheep Barn, Westleigh, Tiverton, Devon **EX16 7HL**

For visitors from further afield this is about 90 minutes' drive from Bristol Airport or 5 minutes from Tiverton Parkway train station.

The day begins at;

10.00 am Doors Open and registration.

11.00 am Speakers

12.00 noon Pint and a Pasty lunch

1.00 pm Sale

Rams will be penned from 10 am for inspection and we will be on hand if you need any help or further information

The usual bio-security measures will be in place so please come with a clean vehicle

Please contact us if you have any transport enquiries, general queries or require further information ---we can often help with delivery of stock

The Exlana team look forward to seeing you for what promises to be an interesting day.

Please let us know in advance if you will be attending the sale so we can arrange catering

Please direct any queries to:

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