Breed Benchmark for 2020
Dorset Down

Trait	Bottom 1%	Bottom 5%	Bottom 10%	Bottom 25%	Breed Average	Top 25%	Top 10%	Top 5%	Top 1%
Litter size born	-0.11	-0.09	-0.07	-0.05	**-0.02**	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.07
Eight Week Weight	-1.40	-0.88	-0.60	-0.14	**0.37**	0.88	1.34	1.62	2.14
Maternal ability	-1.22	-0.93	-0.77	-0.51	**-0.22**	0.07	0.33	0.49	0.78
Scan weight	-2.52	-1.56	-1.05	-0.21	**0.74**	1.69	2.53	3.04	4.00
Muscle depth	-0.83	-0.48	-0.29	0.02	**0.36**	0.70	1.01	1.20	1.55
Fat depth	-0.60	-0.39	-0.28	-0.09	**0.12**	0.33	0.52	0.63	0.84
Mature Size	-1.69	-1.19	-0.93	-0.48	**0.01**	0.50	0.95	1.21	1.71
Index	-8	25	42	72	**104**	136	166	183	216

EBV	A brief explanation:
Litter size	The breeding potential to produce prolific female progeny.
Eight Week weight	The breeding potential for lamb growth rates from birth to 8 weeks of age.
Maternal ability	This is the maternal component of the 8 week measurement. The higher the figure the better a ram's ewe lambs will perform as mothers (i.e. milking ability).
Scan weight	The breeding potential for lamb growth rates to 21 weeks (age at scanning). The selection of breeding stock with high scan weight EBVs will result in animals with heavier carcases at a constant fat class or leaner carcases at a constant age.
Muscle depth	Choosing animals with high muscle depth EBVs will increase lamb muscularity and hence the lean meat content of the carcase.
Fat depth	Negative values indicate animals with lower fat content which will produce leaner carcases or which can be taken to higher weights without becoming over-fat.
Mature Size	Choosing animals with high mature size EBVs will increase mature size.
Index	Highlights superior breeding stock for a specific objective.

Signet BREEDING SERVICES