

# OXFORD DOWN SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

## NINETEENTH ANNUAL SALE OF OXFORD DOWN SHEEP

at

MELTON MOWBRAY MARKET on SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022

### SCHEDULE AND REGULATIONS

1. Entries must be received by the closing date – **5<sup>th</sup> August 2022**. Late or incomplete entries will not be accepted. Entry fees (£10 per head) must be paid by the closing date.
2. Entries will only be accepted from fully paid-up Members of the Association.
3. Registration status of entries to be as follows. Rams: registered or eligible. Flock ewes: registered. Shearling ewes: registered. Ewe lambs: notified. Vendors must notify ewe lambs by submitting a ewe registration form with their entry form or using Grassroots Online.
4. Entries must be submitted by post to the auctioneers. Refer to Page 3 for the entry process.
5. Substitutions may be accepted at the Association's discretion and subject to the following rules:
  - Each substitute must be notified to the Flock Book Editor and the auctioneers in advance of the sale.
  - The substitute must be identified by a red paint dot on the back.
  - Full details of the substitute must be displayed at the pen using the Substitute Card provided and announced in the ring by the auctioneer.
6. Vendors declaring scrapie genotypes to be included in the catalogue should bring the appropriate certification to the sale to be passed to the buyer.
7. The Association reserves the right to restrict sale entries as necessary.
8. As this is an official breed sale, members must give careful consideration to their choice of sheep and only enter quality, correct sheep suitable for pedigree breeding. Lambs must be well grown. All sheep must be in good health and condition, and well presented.
9. All entries should be treated with a scab approved product at least two weeks prior to the sale.
10. Vendors shall set their own reserves but a minimum upset price of 180gns will be applied to rams.
11. All sheep must be docked in accordance with UK legislation and earmarked in accordance with ODSBA and UK government regulations.
12. Separate accommodation will be provided for both MV Accredited and non-accredited sheep. Please indicate status on the entry form. Accredited sheep must be accompanied by a valid certificate. Any sheep arriving without a certificate or with an out of date certificate will be transferred to the non-accredited section.
13. Rams and ewes will be sold off the boards. Ewes shall be sold individually and not in groups. Sheep will be catalogued by ballot and sold in catalogue order.
14. All sheep must be identified by their catalogue lot number using the neck tags issued by the auctioneers upon arrival at the market. Alternatively, a clear paint brand (marked on the back before arrival at the market) can be used.
15. All sheep must be penned by 9am on sale day and will be inspected upon arrival (see Page 3).
16. The sale classes will be as follows:

Class 1 - Ewe (Shearling & older)	Class 3 - Ram (Shearling & older)
Class 2 - Ewe Lamb	Class 4 - Ram Lamb

Please note that the maximum age of rams accepted for Class 3 will be 3-shear.

17. A 2% Association levy on the selling price will be deducted by the auctioneers from the vendor's account for each sheep sold.
18. Any sheep sold after the sale out of the ring must be put through the auctioneers' books.
19. The sale is organised by Melton Mowbray Market and vendors must also refer to and meet all requirements of the general sale schedule issued by the auctioneers.

## MELTON MOWBRAY SHOW & SALE – INSPECTION

Each sheep shall be inspected by two inspectors appointed by Council. The inspection at the 2022 Melton Mowbray sale will be conducted by an independent veterinary surgeon and O T Jones. The vendor must be present during the inspection. The inspectors will assess the following points:

### Mouth

- Correct mouth i.e. the teeth should touch the digital pad in such a way as to give an effective bite at the tip of the teeth. Jaw should not be over at the dental pad (overshot) or excessively behind at the dental pad (undershot).

### RAMS - Testicles

- Two testicles of even size, fully descended into the scrotum, free from palpable lumps/swellings.
- Testicular size should be appropriate for the age of ram (lamb >30cm, shearling >32cm, older >36cm circumference).

### EWES - Udders

- Two sound quarters free of lumps and hardness.

### General Health

- Each sheep must be in good general health and free from active infections or contagious disease. Where such disease is identified in a sheep, the entire consignment from that vendor shall be removed from the sale.

In addition, sheep displaying any of the following faults will be rejected from the official sale:

### Legs & feet

- Knock kneed in front legs
- Rotation (inward or outward) of feet, knees or hocks
- Dropped pastern or pasterns

### Horns

- Fully attached horns with a living core (scurs are a fault but will not cause a sheep to be rejected).

### Black wool

- Any obvious spots of black wool visible on the body which extend to the skin.
- Dark brown wool is acceptable up to and including the knees and hocks, beyond this it is deemed a fault and will fail. Dark brown wool is acceptable around the face, ears and within the horn buds.
- Black or dark wool extending down the neck from beyond the jaw line or from the horn buds.

Please refer to the '**Know your stock**' document on the ODSBA website for further guidance at [www.oxforddownsheep.org.uk/forms](http://www.oxforddownsheep.org.uk/forms) or discuss with a Council member if in any doubt. This document defines all aspects of the breed standard that breeders should be selecting for.

- The inspectors are empowered by Council to instruct the vendor to withdraw from the official sale any sheep which are not of the required standard relative to the inspection points listed above.
- Rejected sheep will be marked with a blue spot on the rump. They may be sold off the boards but for commercial use only. They will not be subject to the upset price and no levy will be applied. If not yet registered, rejected sheep will be ineligible for registration. If already registered, their progeny will be ineligible for registration. The auctioneer shall announce that the sheep failed the inspection and can only be used commercially.
- Any sheep which is rejected shall not be entered at any other official Association sale.
- The decision of the inspectors is final and binding. Vendors will have no right of appeal.
- Where there is a conflict of interest between the ownership or breeding of an entry and an inspector, a reserve inspector will be used, to be appointed by Council members attending on the day.
- While the inspectors make every effort to assess entries carefully, buyers must satisfy themselves of the soundness and correctness of their purchases and responsibility for doing so remains solely with the buyer. No warranty is implied by the inspection.

## MELTON MOWBRAY SHOW & SALE – ENTRY PROCESS

- 1) List entries on the Entry Form. Entry fee is £10/head.
- 2) Enclose a completed Ram Registration Form for each ram being sold as 'eligible for registration'.
- 3) Enclose the pedigree certificate for each registered ram or ewe being entered.
- 4) Enclose a Ewe Registration Form with pedigree details of any ewe lambs being entered.
- 5) Payment can be made by cheque or BACS.
- 6) Post all paperwork to Melton Mowbray Market, Scalford Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE13 1JY or e-mail to: sales@meltonmowbraymarket.co.uk
- 7) The auctioneers will pass certificates and ram forms to buyers upon settlement of their accounts.

### **Online notification**

If possible, in advance of the closing date, please use Grassroots Online to notify each ram being sold as 'eligible for registration' and each ewe lamb being entered.

### **Payment**

Cheques made payable to Melton Mowbray Market. If paying by BACS, bank details are as follows:  
Sort Code: 20-63-66 Account Number: 13632741

**NOTE:** The closing date for receipt of entries is **5<sup>th</sup> August 2022**.