

## John Large – Gortnahoe

- 80Ha with 620 adult ewes lambed
- Ewe lambs not mated
- 30 cow suckler herd

## Flock performance 2022

- NOT a 'best breeding practice' flock – objective is data
- ADG to 100 days 288g/day
- Preg scan – 1.93 lambs/ewe

## Flock Stats

- 200 sires tested since 2010
- 7000 lambings recorded
- 12,600 lambs tagged at birth
- Over 50,000 animal weights captured







- Independent commercial grass based data
- Performance records across several breeds and crosses
- AI & Natural mating used to mate all ewes – objective to 'test' rams

## Maternal Data is the key objective of the Irish CPT

- Females from all sires retained (*Very Unique*)
- Lambs EID & DNA tagged at birth
- All data recorded on Sheep Ireland App
- Intensively recorded at lambing
- Recording & Developing new traits
- Validating the index's of Pedigree bloodlines

**Key message:** The CPT is a pivotal testing and research resource to the national breed improvement programme and without it we would not

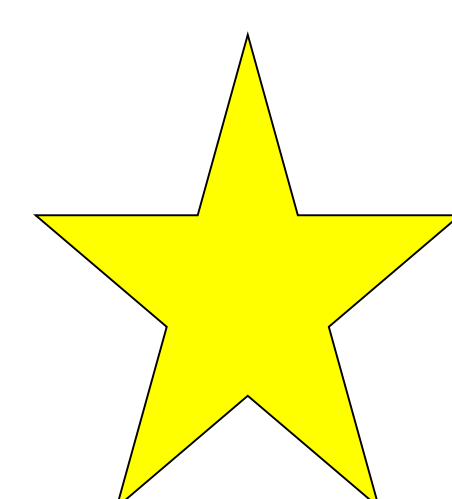


## What can genetics deliver?

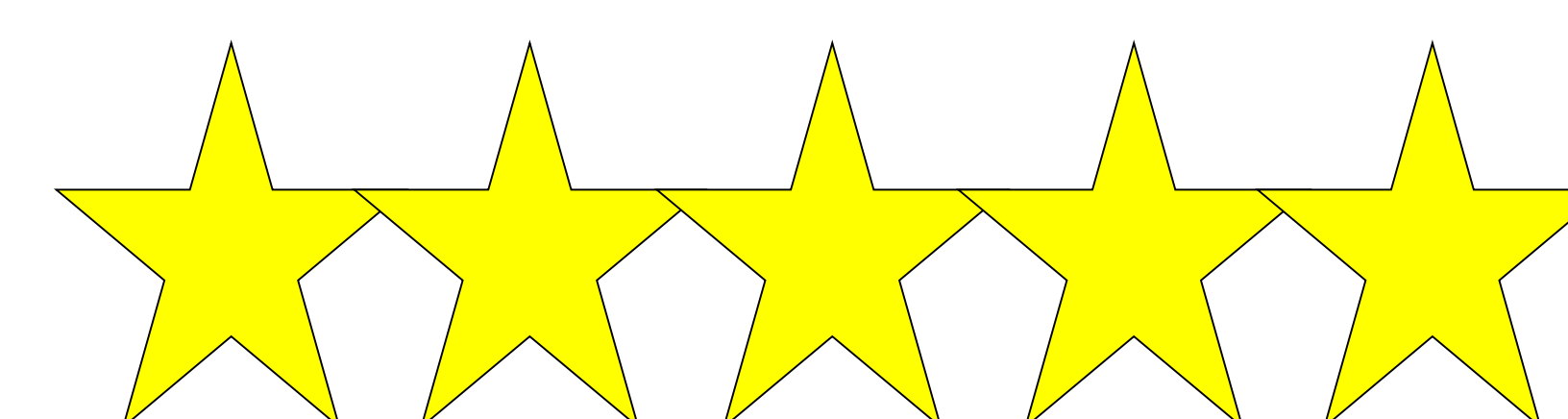


### Flocks Modelled

Using CPT  
commercial data



V's



### Flock Performance

**Weaning** 1.54 lambs/ewe  
**Days to slaughter** 200 days

**Weaning** 1.7 lambs/ewe  
**Days to slaughter** 192 days

### Economics (net profit)

**Greater profit**

€230 per ha  
€27 per ewe

€379 per ha  
€45 per ewe

### Sustainability

**7% less CO<sub>2</sub>/kg**

23.3 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq/ kg carcass

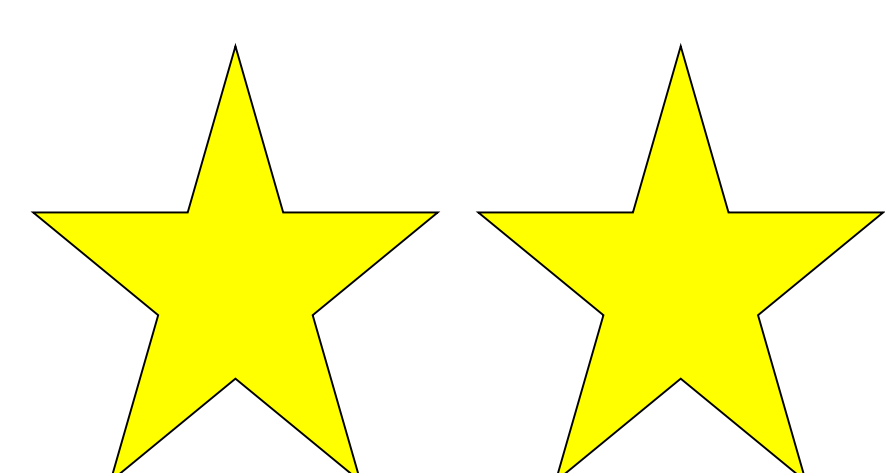
21.7 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq/ kg carcass

**Key message:** Selecting 5 star rams increases flock performance, profitability and sustainability



## Can we see the future without EuroStars?

Example: Two rams of the same breed mated with ewes in 2019 on this flock.



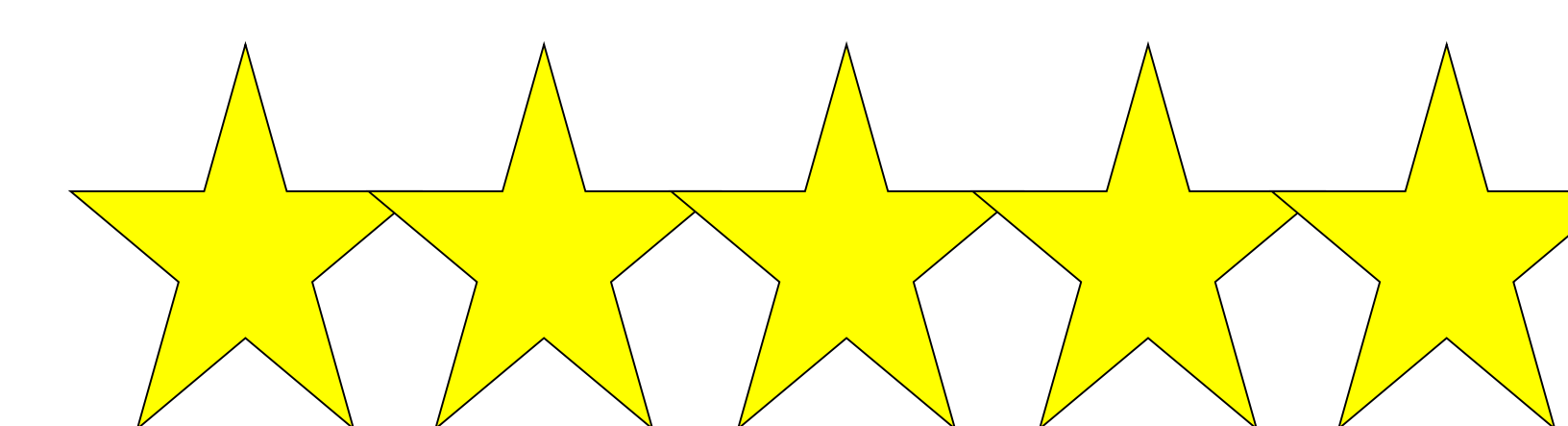
**Replacement (€1.17)**

Daughters Lambled on this farm in 2022: 14

Average Litter Size of 1.73

Average Weaning Weight  
34.5kg

**V's**



**Replacement (€4.63)**

Daughters Lambled on this farm in 2022: 15

Average Litter Size of 2.00

Average Weaning Weight  
34.0kg

**+15%**

**-1.5%**

### Key messages

1. Buying a physically correct ram is vitally important
2. Checking a Rams Stars should be part of the same process
3. Would you buy a new car without knowing the engine size?



# Performance Recording Tools



## Welcome to Sheep Irelands FREE **LAMBPLUS APP**

### Features:

- Connects to Bluetooth Readers (Android only)
- Data automatically backed up to the database
- Records data without internet access



### Benefits:

- Record **Mating, Preg Scans, Lambing, Weights, Health Data & More!!**
- Make informed decisions
- Reduce Paperwork
- Access EuroStars ★

### How to get started:

- Download the App or
- Call 023 88 20 451 or email: [query@sheep.ie](mailto:query@sheep.ie) to get started
- Trial version available



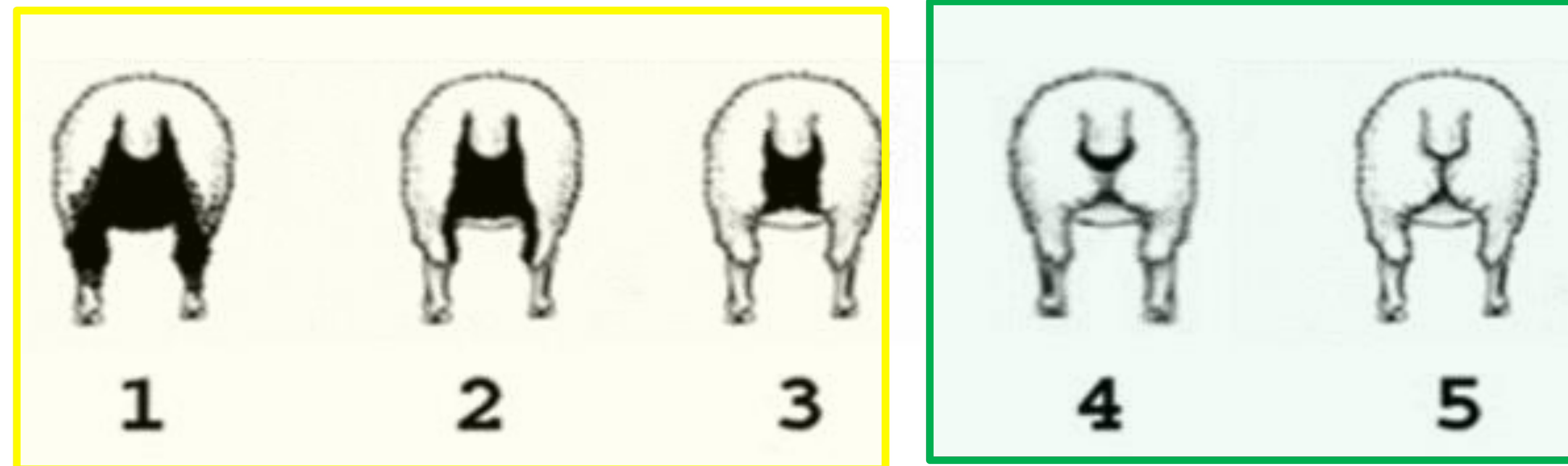
SCAN ME





# The benefits of collecting Health Data

- Dagginess is recorded on a 1-5 scale
- Data is collected on commercial and Pedigree flocks



**Eg: The difference in Dagginess on the progeny of two different sires of the same breed on this flock**

	Dagginess EBV (% Dirty)	Avg. DAG Score (1-5 scale)	% Dirty (Scores 1, 2 & 3)	No. of Progeny
<b>Ram A</b>	15.3% - <b>Top 1%</b>	4.02	7%	56
<b>Ram B</b>	26.3% - <b>Bottom 2%</b>	3.59	28%	63
<b>Difference</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>21%</b>	

## Take home messages:

- Considerable variation exists in dagginess (*Even within-breed*)
- Recording this information is quick and easy with the App
- Dagginess ebvs are now available on [www.ramsearch.ie](http://www.ramsearch.ie), enabling