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TOP TIPS FOR RAM BUYERS

- 1 Set breeding objectives that will optimise the profitability of your flock. Talk to the ram breeder about your requirements.
- 2 Select rams with the right EBVs to realise these objectives.
- 3 Go to the Signet website (www.signetdata.com) to get the ram's latest breeding values. Compare the ram's EBVs against the breed benchmark to identify their strengths and weaknesses.
- 4 Remember EBVs can be compared between flocks, but not between breeds.
- 5 Buy early to ensure the availability of a wide selection of recorded rams.
- 6 It pays to invest. The difference between an average ram and one with high EBVs could be worth £800 during its lifetime.
- 7 Look after the health and nutritional requirements of your ram to ensure he has a long productive life.

Information presented by Samuel Boon, AHDB-Signet

Signet 
BREEDING SERVICES

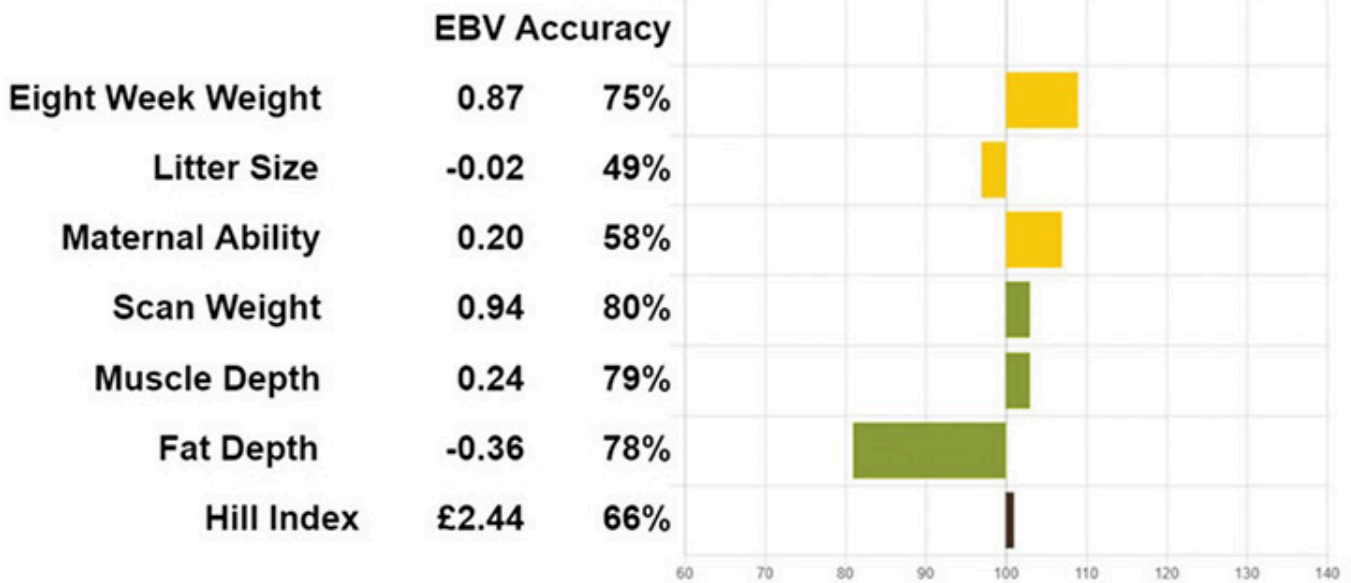


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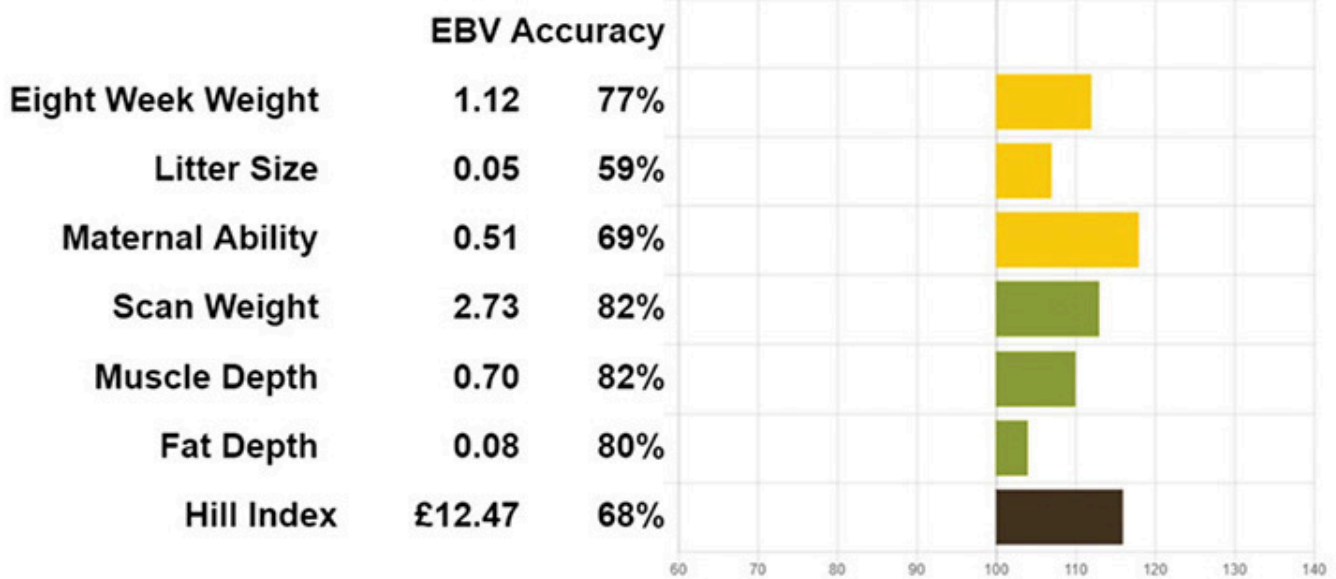
Welsh Mountain Ram A – Breed Average

Analysis date: 09/06/2023



Welsh Mountain Ram B – Top 10%

Analysis date: 09/06/2023



The hill index represents the economic value of each ram's genetic merit for traits influencing ewe performance. Look at the difference in predicted performance between these two rams. Ram A is breed average and has an index of £2.44, Ram B is Top 10% of the breed with an index of £12.47, a difference of over £10.

Half of their genetics will be passed to their offspring, so you would predict Ram B's daughter's would generate an extra £5/annum for every year they are in the flock.

The breeding values indicate that the daughters of Ram B would rear more lambs, which would grow faster and have better conformation compared to daughters by Ram A.