

**1998-99 REPRODUCTIVE PERFORMANCE OF THE SPOONER
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION FLOCK**

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Table 1. 1999 Reproductive Performance of ewe lambs¹ bred to East Friesian rams².

	Breed		
	1/2 EF	3/4 EF	Dorset Type
Number of ewes at breeding	77	11	14
Number of ewes at lambing	77	11	14
Number of ewes aborted	10	2	0
Number of ewes lambed	65	8	14
Number of lambs born	120	18	22
Number of lambs dead before weaning ³	30	7	0
Birth weight of males	8.9	8.5	11.0
Birth weight of females	8.3	9.1	9.2
30 day weight of males ⁴	27.6	28.5	33.6
30 day weight of females ⁴	26.8	25.4	28.9
Fertility	97.4%	90.9%	100.0%
Litter size	1.83	2.25	1.57
Survival rate	75.0%	61.2%	100.0%
Total 30 day weight/ewe	38.6	26.5	49.4

1. Ewe lambs born between February and April 1998.
2. Natural mating between October 20 & November 30 and from December 1 through January 6.
3. Including all lambs born alive or dead.
4. Weaning of all lambs at 30 days of age.

Table 2. Reproductive performance of artificially¹ inseminated commercial ewes² with either East Friesian or Lacaune semen.

	Sire Breed	
	East Friesian	Lacaune
Number of ewes at breeding	22	22
Number of ewes at lambing	22	21
Number of ewes aborted	0	0
Number of ewes lambed	16	17
Number of lambs born	41	48
Number of lambs dead before weaning ³	5	5
Birth weight of males	10.2	8.7
Birth weight of females	9.3	7.8
60 day weight of males ⁴	52.6	51.9
60 day weight of females ⁴	50.7	47.0
Fertility	72.0%	77.0%
Litter size	2.56	2.82
Survival rate	88.0%	90.0%
Total 60 day weight/ewe	116.4	125.2

1. AI performed on November 19, 1998.
2. 1/2 Dorset, 1/4 Romanov, 1/4 Targhee or 1/2 Dorset, 1/4 Finn, 1/4 Targhee.
3. Including all lambs born dead or alive.
4. All lambs weaned at 60 days.

Table 3. Reproductive performance of mature dairy ewes artificially inseminated¹ to either British or American Suffolk.

	Breed of Ewes			
	1/4 EF	3/8 EF	1/2 EF ²	Other
Number of ewes at breeding	74	41	52	9
Number of ewes at lambing	72	41	52	9
Number of ewes aborted	7	3	5	0
Number of ewes lambed	60	40	45	8
Number of lambs born	131	84	96	13
Number of lambs dead before weaning ³	22	18	13	1
Birth weight of males	11.7	11.2	12.1	10.9
Birth weight of females	10.9	10.6	10.2	11.3
30 day weight of males ⁴	32.9	31.0	30.5	27.3
30 day weight of females ⁴	29.1	29.5	26.7	28.6
Fertility ⁵	83.0%	105.0%	98.0%	88.0%
Litter size	2.18	2.10	2.13	1.62
Survival rate	83.2%	78.6%	86.5%	92.4%
Total 30 day weight/ewe	47.0	48.7	48.9	37.8

1. Ewes AI'd on 9/18, 9/24, 10/8, 10/14. Clean up mating with live Suffolk at the following cycle.
2. Some ewes were more than 1/2 East Friesian.
3. Including all lambs born dead or alive and even aborted fetuses.
4. All lambs weaned at 30 days. Half of all lambs were raised on milk replacer.
5. Fertility might be over 100% since all aborted ewes were exposed to rams on March 1, 1999.