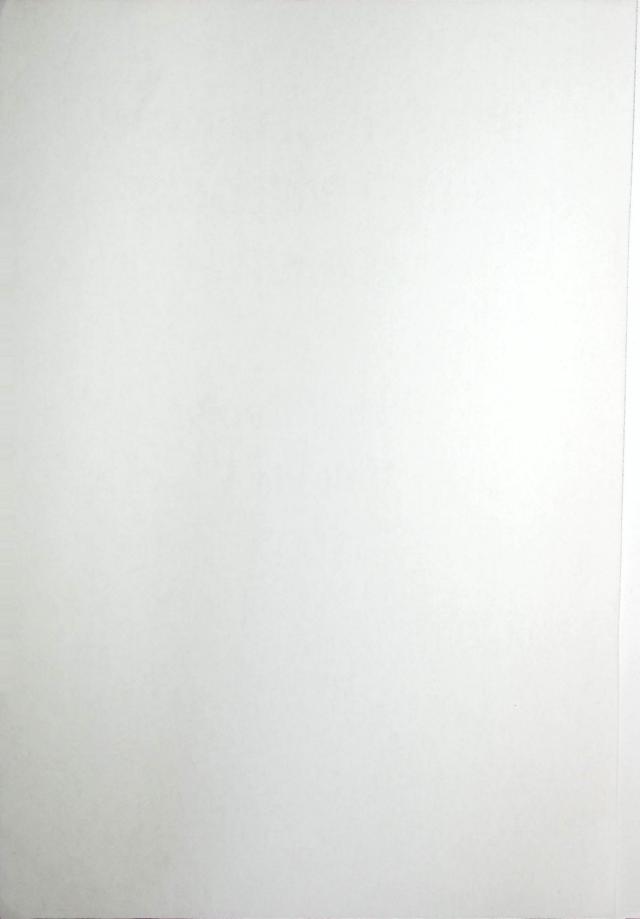
BRITISH ICELANDIC SHEEP BREEDERS GROUP

Flock Book Volume V 1992

30. CES



OFFICERS			
PRESIDENT		Flock I	
CHAIRMAN		Flock 18	
SECRETARY		Flock 7	
TREASURER		Flock 45	
COMMITTEE	MEMBERS		flock 17

REPORT - Secretary

who however retains her 1992 has seen the retirement from Icelandic sheep breeding of our President, was responsible for the production flock, the largest in the U.K., and of our former Chairman. of the first two flock books, a very complicated procedure. She has agreed to remain with us as a committee member to help us at Shows with the Stand, which she designed, and to speak for us on the Committee running the 1994 World the authority on the inheritance of colour in sheep, is Congress on Coloured Sheep. coming from Iceland as the main speaker, so we feel that we should have a display of our sheep on show. Our new chairman is She is eminently suited to the post as she has bred Icelandic sheep for several years at an RSBT Approved Centre, where she is Moreover she has a doctorate in sheep our Treasurer, has also retired. We owe her many husbandry from th who arranged an import of 33 sheep from thanks for coping with our finances from the beginning. Iceland in 1990, will take her place. She has the advantage of knowing the other sheep breeders in this group and also of having represented the Group at several Shows, including two trips to Harrogate and one to Peterborough. who arranged the import of four Icelandic sheep from Iceland in 1989, has agreed to join Committee. Both flock 5, showed their sheep on our stand at Shepton Mallet in August, and were rewarded with great interest in their stock and also sales. In the coming year we hope to attend the Smallholder's Show at Harrogate in May and Shepton Mallet in August, the Show at Horton Park in May, the CSBA Meetings at Cogges Farm, Witney, 11.7. and Uckfield 14/15.8, and perhaps the new Small Farming Event which is planned at Stoneleigh. For members attending local shows has copies of information sheets and magazine articles which may be displayed and sold.

The 1992 Flock Book has one significant alteration. After considerable discussion it was decided to register animals 95% and over as UP, namely upgraded. There are now considerable numbers of these animals as a result of breeding up from crossbred stock bought from in the late 1980's. Members buying or selling upgraded stock should make sure that the breed of the cross is known as they may contain genes not found in the pure Icelandic. This is particularly the case with Jacob and Black Welsh Mountain crosses which may carry a dominant gene for black. Genetically the Shetland is the closest to the Icelandic among our native breeds. It is important that when members sell stock they encourage the buyers to register with the Group so that a check may be kept on pure bred animals to help prevent unacknowledged crossbreds discrediting the market. This has always been one of our major objectives.

Secretary, November 1992

REPORT - Treasurer

Present balance	£ 148 - 00
Outstanding for:	
Flock Book 1992 - printing, paper, and envelopes	£ 20 - 00
Flock Book - postage	£ 7-00
Total outstanding	£ 27 - 00
Balance remaining	£ 121 - 00
A Triple of the Control of the Contr	
and the second s	November, 1992

ABBREVIATIONS

P. = pure, 100%.

UP = upgraded, 95% and over

All animals are single unless otherwise indicated.

It is up to flock owners to describe their animals as they think fit. A much simplified translation of the genetic colour code is as follows:-

Awt = white, Ag = grey, B = black, b = brown.

INSERTS

Flock Return for 1993. Please return before the end of August next year, enclosing the Membership Renewal form, a cheque for £5, and a list of any stock you have for sale. I receive most enquiries for stock, especially rams, in late summer.

Membership Renewal Form. Two forms are enclosed so that one is available for purchasers of stock.

Information Sheet. This is intended for display at Shows and for purchasers of stock.

1991 Flock Return for flock 17, omitted from last years Flock Book. Please add to that volume in the correct place.

A new cover page for the Flock Book - please destroy existing cover. Volume V should be inserted at the back of the folder. Stock for Sale list 1992.

	100 / June 2	An in a comment		
y william the		736000		
has	retained her flo	ock but has ceased breeding sheep. She still has some stock	for sale.	
		Caratria		
<u>Name</u>		Flock Address		
		3		
		war north		
Name/No.	D.O.B.	Description	Sire	Dam
<u>Females</u>				
Liquorice	'92	P., black, polled	Heliot	lcicle
Snowberry	'92	P., white, polled	"	Isis
	Sire Heliot	no. 22, loaned, flock 5.		
	moving house t	his year, therefore her flock is for sale.		
is	moving house t			
is	moving house t	his year, therefore her flock is for sale. Flock Address 5 Shelan		
is	moving house t	Flock Address		
is Name	moving house t	Flock Address	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>
is Name	LACTOR.	Flock Address 5 Shelan		
is Name No. Tales	LACTOR.	Flock Address 5 Shelan	<u>Sire</u> Thunder	
is Name Name/No. Tales nowball	D.O.B.	Flock Address 5 Shelan Description P, light twin, horned		Hone
is Name Name/No. Tales nowball	D.O.B.	Flock Address 5 Shelan Description		Hone, Olrika
is Name Name/No. Tales nowball emales	D.O.B. 22.3.'92 18.3.'92 22.3.'92	Flock Address 5 Shelan Description P, light twin, horned P, gold brown, twin, polled P, brown, twin, polled	Thunder	Hone; Olrika Guldro
is Name Name/No. Tales nowball emales	D.O.B. 22.3.'92 18.3.'92 22.3.'92 16.3.'92	Flock Address 5 Shelan Description P, light twin, horned P, gold brown, twin, polled P, brown, twin, polled 50%, 50% Jacob, polled, triplet, white, see below	Thunder	Hone Olrika Guldro Jet
is Name Name/No. Tales nowball emales	D.O.B. 22.3.'92 18.3.'92 22.3.'92	Flock Address 5 Shelan Description P, light twin, horned P, gold brown, twin, polled P, brown, twin, polled	Thunder	Hone, Olrika Guldro Jet
is Name Name/No. Tales nowball emales	D.O.B. 22.3.'92 18.3.'92 22.3.'92 16.3.'92	Flock Address 5 Shelan Description P, light twin, horned P, gold brown, twin, polled P, brown, twin, polled 50%, 50% Jacob, polled, triplet, white, see below	Thunder	Hone) Olrika Guldro Jet
Name/No. 1ales nowball emales	D.O.B. 22.3.'92 18.3.'92 22.3.'92 16.3.'92 "	Flock 5 Shelan Description P, light twin, horned P, gold brown, twin, polled P, brown, twin, polled 50%, 50% Jacob, polled, triplet, white, see below " " black	Thunder	Hone) Olrika Guldro

Name

Flock

Address

6 Springfield

Name/No. Males	D.O.B.	<u>Description</u>	Sire	<u>Dam</u>
10 RN Halldor	21.3.'92	P, black/grey, twin	Grimur	Bruni
11 RN Gisli	27.3.'92	P, moorit/cream, triplet	n.	Thora
12 RN Kristjan	4.4.'92	P, moorit/cream, twin	n n	Apricot
<u>Females</u>				
13 RN Jonina	21.3.'92	P, moorit, twin "		Bruni
14 RN Asta	27.3.'92	P, white triplet		Thora
15 RN Katrin	27.3.'92	P, moorit/cream, triplet	u	Thora
16 RN Kristin	4.4.'92	P, white, twin	n .	Apricot

Name		Flock Address		
		7		
		the control of the latest and the la		
Name/No Males	<u>D.O.B</u> .	Description	Sire	<u>Dam</u>
92.133 Pied Piper	20.5.'92	P., brown and white, horned, twin, from flock 45	3Z6 72	1626 651
<u>Females</u>				
Olafia	4.'90	81.25%, 18.75% Shetland, brown, polled, flock 8	Olaf	Dorcas
Magnella 2	5.4.'92	UP, brown with white markings, horned, flock 19	Magnus	Ella

<u>Name</u>		Flock Address		
		9 Jemecs		
Name/No.	<u>D.O.B</u> .	Description	Sire	<u>Dam</u>
Import 3 1990	2.47			
Hagar 66	'90	P., ram lamb, white, horned		
Helga 279	'90	P., ewe lamb, white, horned		
<u>Females</u>				
Hattie 6	30.3.'92	P., white, horned, twin	Hagar	Helgar
Fanny 7	4.3.'92	P., white, polled, twin	и	Fiona
Fern 8	11.3.'92	P., white, polled, twin	"	Freda
Freckles 9	7.4.'92	P., white, polled triplet	"	Flora
Frolic 10	ıı	и и и		"
Fenella II		и и и		11
Deceased - Flo	orence from im	port I,		
Sold - Haldor	to flock 28			
" Laurel	and Lavender.			

<u>Name</u>	<u>Flock</u>	Address	
	12		

Name/No. D.O.B.

Description

Sire

Dam

Males

No lambs being kept this year.

<u>Females</u>

No lambs being kept this year.

Name		Flock Address		
		13		
Name/No.	D.O.B.	Description	<u>Sire</u>	Dam
Males				
Cae'rddraig Hesktjor				
Danii	11.5.'92	P., pale grey, horned	Iceland's	"Joly"
			Tjornes	Heskii
<u>Females</u>				
C. Hetja	28.3.'92	P., cream with some black, horned	I. Tjornes	I. Hekla
C. Hvatjii	27.4.'92	P., white with brown markings, horned	"	Hvita

Address

50%, 50% BWM, black, horned (?)

<u>Flock</u>

Mesed

Deceased	-C	Donna	C Ami	C	Dafydd	
Deceased	-C.	Donnia,	C. AIIII,	C.	Daiyuu.	

26.6.'92

C. Hope

Name.

		17		
Name/No.	<u>D.O.B</u> .	Description	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>
All animals in	this flock are po	olled, unless otherwise stated. The rams used are pure.		
Males				
Caractacus gold 9/GRI	20.4.'92	P., twin, apricot	Grinn	Odiann
Caesar gold 10/GRI	"	P., twin, apricot	11	II
Chaucer gold 6/BER	21.4.'92	P., twin, white, horned	Bertie	Amaryllis
Cyrus gold 5/BER	19.4.'92	UP, twin white horned	II.	Araminta
Clancy red 16/GRI	18.4.'92	87.5%, twin, grey light/dark, sold to	Grinn	Martha
Females				
Ceanothus gold 3/BER	19.4.'92	P; twin, grey/black	Bertie	Nene

,					
- (,	COL	tin	hall	over	(tca
		ICILI	ueu	OVE	Call

			(continued t	over ical)
Flock 17,	con	tinued.		
Cordelia gold 4/BER	19.4.'92	P, twin, black	Bertie	Nene
Cleopatra gold 7/BER	30.4.'92	P, twin, white, horned	"	Amaryllis
Coreopsis gold 8/BER	25.4.'92	UP, twin, white	"	Amelia
Columbine gold 9/BER	II .	и и и	п	"
Chantal blue 2/BER	20.4.'92	UP, twin, white	"	Amber
Christiana blue 3/BER	21.4.'92	93.75%, white	n	Aurora
Celandine blue 4/BER	22.4.'92	93.75%, twin, white	"	Alyssum
Coppelia red 11/GRI	18.4.'92	87.5%, twin, white	Grinn	Magda
Christabel red 14/GRI	18.4.'92	87.5%, twin, black	"	Rachel
Clarissa red 15/GRI	19.4.'92	87.5%, twin, white	"	Martha
Chloe red I/BER	21.4.'92	87.5%, twin, white	Bertie	Arachne
Clorinda red 2/BER	21.4.'92	87.5%, twin, black	n	"
Crystal orange I/BER	27.4.'92	84.37%, twin, white	"	Annabel
Clementine orange 2/Ber	27.4.'92	84.37%, twin, black	"	"
Coral orange 3/BER	28.4.'92	75%, twin, black	"	Agate
Calypso silver 24/GRI	24.4'92	50%, 50% Hebridean, black	Grinn	KitKat
Coriander silver 25/GRI	25.4.'92	50%, 50% Manx, twin, apricot	n	Maxi

Deceased - rams Abraham, Berrit, ewes Alice, Nellie, Nora, Wassileh and Efrieda.

Name

Name

		18 Horton		
Name/No.	<u>D.O.B</u> .	Description	Sire	<u>Dam</u>
Males Horton Thund	er 4.4.'92	87.5%, 12.5% Shetland, apricot & white, polled, twin	Thor 258	H. Marble
S35 Horton	4.4100	OT FOV 10 FOV Should be a state of subtract and a subtract of subt	Th 250	H. Marble
Sunbeam S36 Horton Starlight	4.4.'92 7.4.'92	87.5%, 12.5% Shetland, apricot & white, polled, twin 87.5%, 12.5% Shetland, black & white, polled, twin	Thor 258	H. Flicker
S37 Horton Moonlight	14.4.'92	75%, 25% Shetland, black & white,polled		H. Dimsey
S34 Horton Sunshine	3.4.'92	93.75%, 6.25% Shetland, moorit, polled	Taurus	H. Gaiety
Deceased - Ho	orton Marble			

Address

<u>Flock</u>

<u>Flock</u>

- Entiron A		19 Monks Hall		Hard September 1995
Name/No	DO.B.	Description	Sire	<u>Dam</u>
Males				
Magnet R38	7.4.'92	P, B/b horned, twin	Magnus	Etta
Magfri R31	1.4.'92	UP, b, horned, single	"	Frijoska
Females				
Magnetta R37	7.4.'92	P, apricot, grey undercoat, horned, twin	"	Etta
Magnella I R32	5.4.'92	UP, B, polled, twin, to	n	Ella
Magnella 2 R33	5.4.'92	UP, b/Awt, horned, twin, to flock 7	U	ı
Maflo 2 YI	15.4.'92	75%, 25% Shetland, b, polled, twin, to	11	Flotta
Magfan I R40	9.4.'92	" " b, polled, twin	II.	Fanny
Honey 3 Y2	1.5.'92	UP, apricot, polled	n n	Honey 2
Helga R39	9.4.'92	75%, 25% Kent, Awt, polled, twin	II .	Goldie
Hazel R38	7.4.'92	75%, 25% Wensleydale, B, polled	11	Gwen
Hawthorne R29	2.4.'92	75%, 25% Kent, B, polled,twin	"	Flora

Address

21 Croft

has ceased breeding Icelandics but will remain a member of the Group with a place on the Committee.

Stock sold as follows -

Ilse - 10Z6.384 to

Name		Flock Address 24		
Dicasso	No. of the			
Name/No Males	<u>D.O.B.</u>	Description	Sire	<u>Dam</u>
Zeus NI	4/5.'92	P, black, horned, 0040/10Z6	LH305	
<u>Females</u>				
Puffin N2	4/5 '92	75%, moorit, twin, polled	11	1988/328
Sandpiper N3	4/5 '92	75%, black, twin to N4, polled	"	1990/21
Oystercatcher N4	4/5.'92	75%, black, twin to N3, polled	п	"
Snipe N5	4/5.'92	75%, moorit, twin, polled	"	1986/304
Partridge N6	4/5.'92	75%, moorit, twin, polled	m .	1990/46
Corncrake N7	4/5.'92	75%, moorit, polled	"	old moori ewe
Curlew N8	4/5.'92	75%, moorit, twin, polled	н	1990/24

Name		Flock Address 27		
Name/No.	<u>D.O.B</u> .	Description	Sire	<u>Dam</u>
Males				
All ram lambs	wethered this	year.		
<u>Females</u>				
E.I.H.I	'92	P, white, twin, horned	RM123	10Z6 399
E.1.H.2	'92	P, white, twin, horned	"	II.
E.1.H.3.	'92	P, white, brown mottled face/legs, twin, horned	"	10Z6 256
E.1.H.4	'92	P, white, sandy face/legs, twin, polled	u .	"
E.1.H.5	'92	P, white, twin, horned	11	LH 28
E.1.H.6	9.4.'92	P, white,twin, horned	n	GB.106
E.1.H.8	n	P, brown, polled	3Z6 353	10Z6 348

Name Flock Address

28 Higham

Name/No. DOB Description Sire Dam

No return this year due to the death of

	Flock Address 31		activity.
	Description	Sire	Dam
	P, Ag blue grey,horned	18Z6	10Z6 373
eth	nered but have been kept for their wool.		
	P, Awt, horned, twin		3Z6 0019
	P, Awt, horned,twin	n	3Z6 0043
	P, Awt, horned twin	"	3Z6 0019
	P, Awt, horned, twin	"	3Z6 004
	P, black, polled, twin	"	102
	P, Awt, horned twin	n .	10Z6 3/3
Ыι	ue grey, male		
blu	ue grey, male		

	and a	35 [Delpho	use			100 March 1
Females							
34	19.4.'92	50%	, 50% S	Shetlar	nd, twin, black/white, polled	Ice King	594 Anharghad
35	II	"	"	11	twin, grey, polled		"
33	19.4.'92	"	"	"	white, horned	"	Jemima
36	20.4.92	"	"	"	grey, polled		4 Gardenia
41	23.4.'92	"	"	"	grey, horned		16 Winifred
22	10.4.92	"	"	"	grey, polled	"	588 Imogen
43	12.4.,92	"	11	"	twin, grey, polled	"	Azalea

Address

<u>Flock</u>

Name

<u>Vame</u>		Flock Address 38		
		30		3
Name/No	DOB	Description	Sire	<u>Dam</u>
<u>Male</u> Boewulf No lambs regi	3.'88 stered 1992	Disposed of November 1992	Egil/Eric P	Amber Lucky
Female				
No lambs regi	stered 1992			
		Medical de la Companya de la Company		ADMITTED TO
		The state of the s		
Name		Flock Address		
		42		
Name/No	DOB	Description	Sire	<u>Dam</u>
Male				
-				
<u>Females</u>				
3	25.4.'92	P, black, polled, twin, sold to	Springfield Sigurd Fl. 17	Gretel
4	25.4.'92	P, black, polled, twin, sold as above	11	II
<u>Name</u>		Flock Address		
		44		
	200	The Sales and Alexander Sales	C:	-
Name/No	DOB	<u>Description</u>	<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>
<u>Males</u>				
Females				
1/'92	19.4.'92	P., tan, horned,	5Z6.00322	10Z6.0032
2/'92	21.4.'92	P., outercoat tan, undercoat white, horned	11	LH 381

Name		Flock Address 45 Birch Tree	0.03		
All stock horr	ned				
Name/No	DOB	Description	Sire	<u>Dam</u>	
Males					
92.129	30.4.'92	P, brown, badger face, twin	RM 190	10Z6 497	
92.130	11.5.'92	P, black	3Z6 72	RM 126	
92.132	3.5.'92	P, grey	RM 190	3Z6 404	
92.133	20.5.'92	P, brown/white, twin, to flock 7	3Z6 72	1626 651	
92.134	20.5.'92	P, brown/white, twin	п	"	
92.135	1.5.'92	P, brown	10Z6 1409	LH 83	
92.136	26.4.'92	P, brown, twin	"	3Z6 137	
92.137	п	11 11	n	"	
<u>Females</u>					
92.138	27.4.'92	P, white	10Z6 1273	10Z6 1272	
92.139	30.4.'92	P, brown, badger face, twin	RM 190	16Z6 497	

<u>Name</u>		Flock Address	Charles and the second	
		46		
Name/No	DOB	Description	Sire	<u>Dam</u>
Males		\		
Stormy	'92	P., dark brown, twin	Thunder flock 5	Olwyn
<u>Females</u>				
Starlight	'92	P., brown and white, twin	"	п

<u>Females</u>

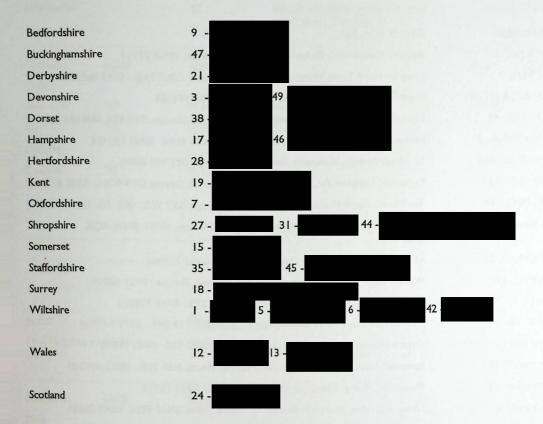
<u>Name</u>		Flock	Address			
	35000	47				
Name/No	DOB	Description			Sire	<u>Dam</u>
Males						
Skuli 1399	'90	P, blue/grey, h	orned, from flock I		1990 import	-
Lisk	'92	P, black, horn	ed Skuli		Katerina	
<u>Females</u>						
Cascade	'92	P, black			Skuli	Tosca
			State of the second			
101.35.8				zwest 1	\$6.3.32	a set at
						tter
<u>Name</u>		Flock	Address			
		49				300 47
						1941,129
Name/No	DOB	Description			<u>Sire</u>	<u>Dam</u>
Male Benedict	17.4101					0.11
gold 4/GRI	17.4.'91	P, white with p from flock 17	oale tan face, head & legs, po	lled,	Grinn	Odiann

INDEX

Name & Flock No	Address & Tel. No.

Index by County overleaf

INDEX BY COUNTY



SHEEP BREEDING

(from "Agriculture in Iceland", The Icelandic Agricultural Marketing Board)

The Icelandic sheep is special in many ways. For example, leading sheep possessing the qualities of the Icelandic type do not exist anywhere else in the world. There are many stories of how they have rescued both men and other sheep from various dangers. The wool of Icelandic sheep is also special in that it consists of two types: long and course hairs, called in Icelandic 'tog', and a short and fine variety called 'pel'.

Sheep farming is practiced throughout the country, although it is most common in sparsely-settled areas. About 2000 farmers are engaged in full-time sheep farming, and about 1000 are engaged in mixed farming. Icelandic sheep are so-called short-tailed animals, a type which was formerly common in northwestern Europe, but which is now found in only a few areas of the world. It is a strong, hardy race which has adapted well to Icelandic conditions. Icelandic animals usually have horns.

A few weeks after lambing in May, sheep are sent out to graze in the hills and mountain pastures, where the animals run free until autumn, feeding on the rich, nourishing vegetation. Many farmers formerly allowed their sheep to graze in out-lying pastures over the summer months, but as a result of the recent reductions in flocks (they already have quotas in Iceland! Ed.), animals are increasingly kept in home-pastures. As there is sheep-breeding throughout the country, these animals are a prominent feature of the summer landscape.

Farmers gather their flocks in the autumn. In many places the round-up is conducted on horseback, the men being assisted by sheep dogs. The entire process can take up to a week, and during this time, participants stay overnight in mountain huts located in many places in the highlands. Each sheep farmer has his own earmark, which he uses to identify his livestock. When farmers have gathered the sheep in the autumn and brought them in from the out-lying pastures, they drive the animals into the sorting pens, where the earmark is used to identify the animals. Each sheep is then dragged into the pen assigned to its owner. The day the sheep are sorted is a festive one in the country. People take a holiday, and there is a dance in the evening. These events are so popular that there are sometimes more people than sheep at them.

Sheep used to be sheared before they were put out to pasture. Now most farmers shear them in the winter, as this wool fetches a higher price. Sheep receive mostly non-commercial fodder, consisting of dry hay and silage. Silage production has increased greatly, as it is a great advantage for farmers to be able to process dry hay into silage, given the fact that Icelandic summers can be very wet.

Icelandic consumption of lamb is among the highest in the world. Most slaughtering is done in the autumn, making the supply of fresh lamb seasonal, in contrast to other types of meat, which is available fresh year round. In order to increase the supply of fresh lamb, there have been efforts to lengthen the slaughtering season.

REPRODUCTIVE EFFICIENCY OF ICELANDIC SHEEP

Extracts from a paper b

printed in 'Livestock Production Science' 1978

Early Maturity

In Iceland lambing takes place from early May to early June and unimproved extensive natural pastures are generally utilized for grazing throughout most of the summer. The lambs have a fast growth rate and the majority of them are slaughtered straight after weaning in September at 4 months of age when an average lamb weighs some 36 kg and has a dressed carcass of 14.4 kg. Studies into sexual development of Icelandic lambs indicate that they attain puberty at a relatively age and may at least be regarded as potential breeders (Dyrmundsson, 1978). It has indeed become a common practice to mate ewe lambs at 7 months of age and ram lambs are normally used successfully for breeding during the mating season. On average some 60-80% of all ewe lambs exposed to rams will conceive and mostly singles are produced (Dyrmundsson, 1976). Detailed research into the effects of pregnancy and lactation on the growth and development of Icelandic ewe lambs (Palsson, 1953) and studie of sheep records (Hauksson, 1975) have shown that early breeding does not have any detrimental effects on the overall lifetime productivity of properly managed ewes provided well grown and adequately nourished ewe lambs are selected for breeding. In general terms, the precocity of the lambs can somewhat enhance reproductive effiency in the flock. Breeding Activity

The natural breeding season of Icelandic ewes extends from late November to early May with a peak of cyclic activity in mid-winter. Adult ewes have been found to exhibit oestrus 6-11 times and ewe lambs 2-6 times during the breeding season (Dyrmundsson, 1978). Furthermore, studies have shown that the mean oestrus cycle length is found to be 16 days for ewe lambs, and only slightly longer for adult ewes, it is evident that the ewe lambs have less regular cycles and exhibit oestrus of shorter duration and of lower intensity than mature ewes. In this respect mating management may be of some importance. At tupping in December hand-mating is a common practice and detailed mating records are commomly kept. Sporadic sexual activity may occur outside the normal season, however, in exceptional cases only.

Gestation

Compared with other breeds of sheep Icelandic ewes have a relatively short gestation period, the mean value being 143 days but slightly shorter for ewe lambs. Winter shearing, which is now practiced by many farmers, is associated with an increase in the lengthh of gestation (Adalsteinsson, 1972).

Prolificacy

. Normally some 98% of mature ewes mated produce lambs, i.e. some 2% are barren. Lambing rate in individual flocks may vary from approximately 1.1 - 2.0 lambs born per ewe lambing, commonly in the range 1,4 - 1.8 lambs (Hallgrimsson, 1978). While most of the growth of lambing rate in the past is due to increased twinning, on average some 2% of the ewes may produce triplets.