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ESSIE SUFFOLKS

34 SHEARLINGS

RING 8

12.00 Noon.

Dear Sheepbreeder,

We are looking forward to seeing you at **Kelso Ram Sale** on Friday 13th September. What a great year for growing grass. A number of our buyers of Essie rams already have lambs away and are very pleased with their prices.

Essie Shearlings have done particularly well in Ram Compare – the UK's commercial progeny test for terminal sire rams. Ram Compare has run for 3 years using 8 breeds, over 9 commercial farms and 12000 lambs have been tested. An Essie shearling was 2nd top ram for Muscle Depth EBV (conformation) out of 138 rams on test from 8 breeds. An Essie shearling was 6th top for Days to Slaughter EBV. This UK wide research has proved that an Essie Shearling, tested on an equal footing with 8 breeds, will give you early lambs with excellent conformation to suit the market.

Signet also advises that the use of EBVs are even more important for selecting maternal sires. Essie shearlings are mostly in the top 1% for Maternal Index for Performance Recorded Suffolks. Our buyers tell us that Essie cross females are excellent milky, prolific, easy lambing mothers. Every year we continue to improve Essie Suffolk Shearlings to produce very fast growing and finishing lambs with excellent conformation and top quality easy lambing, milky Suffolk cross females. Our buyers tell us that Essie lambs are easy to lamb and quick to get up and suck.

We're pleased that our shearlings are as strong as ever and the performance records again show further improvement in performance index figures - even in the new Signet National Terminal Sire Breeding Evaluation. By carefully selecting growth and confirmation traits in our breeding programme, most of this year's Essie rams are still in the **top 1% UK Terminal** Index **AND** the **top 1%** of the UK **Maternal** Index. Eight of our shearlings have **NZ genetics** bred by our home-bred $\frac{3}{4}$ NZ ram – a huge, tall, long, impressive ram.

Our shearlings are naturally produced: they have enjoyed the best of grass - **no** cabbages. REMEMBER - COME EARLY **RING 8 at 12.00 noon.** Lot 12.

Better still, come on Thursday to select the rams of your choice. View the shearlings and see for yourself.

Yours sincerely,