



WAITAKI BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL FRASER FARM

Waitaki Boys' High School Fraser Farm Update. July 2022

The shortest day is always an important one on Fraser Farm – although there is still cold weather to come it marks the turning point in winter as the days get longer. And it is also around about the day we pregnancy test or scan our ewes. This is an external ultrasound, just like many of us have had. A painless and quick process that tells us if a ewe is pregnant, and if so how many lambs she has conceived.

This year we have had the highest results since we began Fraser Farm, a 203% scanning overall. Only one of the ewes was not pregnant (dry) which is an exceptional result, while 86 of our ewes (68%) have twins and 23 have triplets (18%). This is a lot of multiple lambs, so we are fortunate to have a lot of feed, shelter and helping hands to look after our ewes. We also invested some years ago in an automated lamb milk feeder, which means we can hand rear any lambs that need it.

Scanning Results 2022:

Status	Number of Ewes	% of ewes
Dry	1	0.8%
Single	17	13.4%
Twin	86	67.7%
Triplet	23	18.1%
TOTAL	127 ewes	

Key points this month:

- Rams were removed on 20 May and sent back to Doug and Jeannie Brown, Punchbowl.
- Ewes are on daily shifts over winter
- We are now down to winter numbers, 127 ewes and 5 lambs carried over as smaller animals for stock-handling lessons
- Fraser Farm has had some great publicity this month with two articles and advertisements from our supporters in Southern Rural Life and Central Rural Life, and a group of 4 boys also helped out at the Fossil Creek Angus bull sale and made it into Countrywide magazine, resplendent in WBHS branding.
- An irrigation system for Milner Park was connected to the farm irrigation pump, making good use of farm infrastructure.