



# LAMBPLAN

## Maternal Indexes

These indexes are designed to meet different breeding objectives. They are simply a guide to assist animal selection, however when doing so commercial and seedstock producers should first consider their own breeding objective. This will involve considering your current ewe base, the environment they are run in and the target market for their progeny.

### BLX

The BLX index identifies animals suitable for a first cross breeding production system promoting high early growth and maternal ability, improving reproduction and maintaining fleece weight.

### MCP

The MCP index identifies animals suitable for self-replacing production systems with a carcass production focus. This index balances the main economic traits relevant to Maternal breeders where fleece traits or worm egg count are not considered important.

### MCP+

The MCP+ Index identifies animals suitable for self-replacing production systems with a carcass production focus where fleece weights and WEC are important.

*The following table illustrates the predicted genetic gain over 10 years for all recognised traits in the three indexes.*

Trait	BLX Gain over 10 years	MCP Gain over 10 years	MCP+ Gain over 10 years
BWT (kg)	0.1	0.14	0.14
WWT (kg)	1.62	2.04	1.9
PWT (kg)	2.76	3.37	3.11
MWWT (kg)	1.71	1	0.98
AWT (kg)	0	0	0
PFAT (mm)	0.06	0.14	0.27
PEMD (mm)	0.57	0.73	0.75
CEMD (mm)	0.67	0.85	0.87
YNLW (%)	4.07	2.90	3.00
NLW (%)	3.40	2.40	2.51
PWEC (%)	4.64	3.43	-25.82
YGFW (%)	1.48		0.09
YCFW (%)	2.17		1.21
ACFW (%)	-0.3		-1.61

- It is important to note that by maintaining adult weight there is a large impact on the genetic gain made by other traits. The emphasis on adult weight is due to the expression of many breeders in the concern to maintain adult. The level of emphasis on adult weight indicates a need to ensure adult weight is being measured and data is collected and entered.