

10 reasons to buy

### *Bohepe*

- Low cost, easy care
- Highly productive
- Short tail
- Ethical
- Bare breech
- Lower fly strike
- Higher weaning weights
- Less dags
- Reduced chemicals
- Efficient

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# Bohepe™

*The original easy care ethical sheep*

FACTSHEET 1

## Lower Costs and Increase Production!

In 1997 Dr David Scobie (AgResearch) started a sheep breeding programme that would reduce husbandry costs and improve animal welfare.

AgResearch combined 9 different breeds of wildsheep, East Friesians, Finnish Landrace, Wiltshires and Merinos to create a short tail, bare breech, low cost, easy care sheep. By 2004 the project was achieving success but ironically the funding was cut. These sheep were about to be sold to the meat works.

At the time, Roger Beattie had a flock of 2,000 Pitt Island wild sheep and saw the value in these AgResearch sheep. They had had in excess of \$500,000 invested in them, and were bred by one of New Zealand's top sheep scientists. All this time, money, effort and expertise was about to be tossed out.

Roger, seeing the potential, bought these mid-micron, low cost easy care sheep and started farming them organically alongside his Pitt

Island wild sheep.

"We have culled vigorously over the years and now have 1,000 Bohepes.

We named these sheep Bohepe to reflect the link between their wild origin

and how they are farmed wagging their tails behind them."

*Bohepe...*

*Leave them alone.*



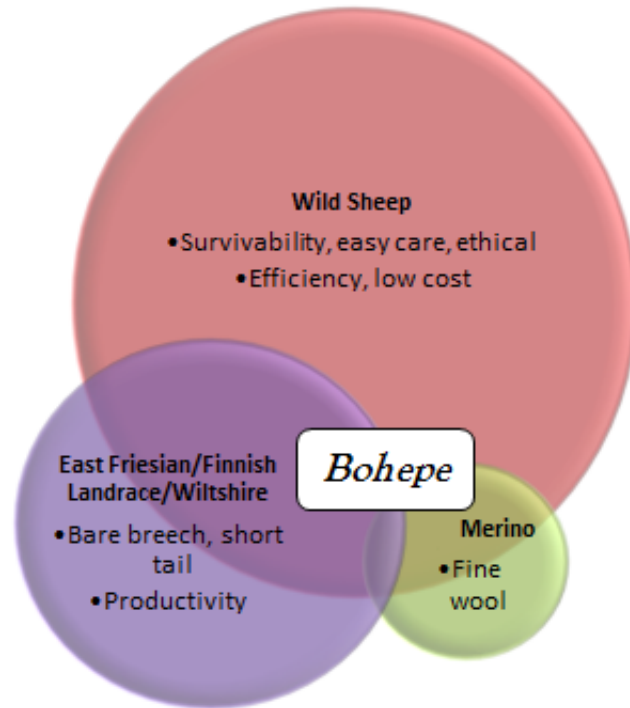
### Healthy Sheep... Naturally

Increase Production  
while lowering costs  
with *Bohepe*  
genetics

# Bohepe genetics



Roger Beattie



## Do You Love Dagging?

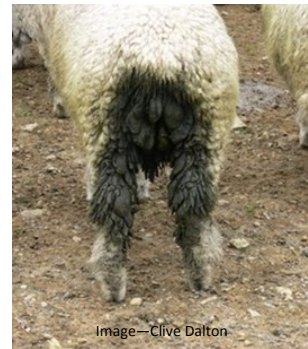
*“People don't calculate the cost of dagging into management. The dag thing is genetic and management”*

### Bohepe



Bare breech.  
Low cost, easy care

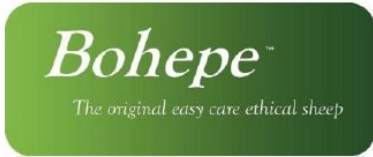
### Conventional



Woolly breech.  
High cost, hard work

**Bare breeches, less dags and short tails are moderately to highly heritable.**

**Bare breeches produce higher weaning weights.**



## Easy Care & Productivity Grading System

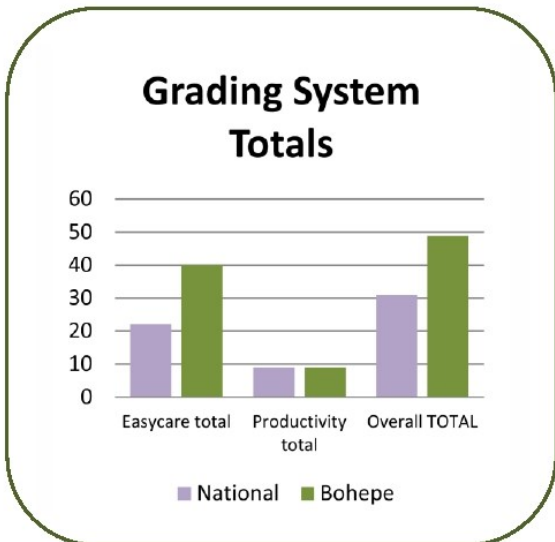
How does your flock compare alongside a national flock estimate and the *Bohepes*?

### Easy care

	Heritability %	1	2	3	4	5	Your flock score	National flock score Estimate	<i>Bohepe</i> flock score
Bare breech	0.36-0.41 <sup>1</sup>	<input type="radio"/> None	<input type="radio"/> Small	<input type="radio"/> Medium	<input type="radio"/> Large	<input type="radio"/> X-large		2	4
Dag score	0.36-0.55 <sup>1</sup>	<input type="radio"/> Heavy dags	<input type="radio"/> Lesser dags	<input type="radio"/> Dags	<input type="radio"/> Slight dags	<input type="radio"/> No dags		2	4
Short tail	0.73-0.80 <sup>1</sup>	<input type="radio"/> V long	<input type="radio"/> Long	<input type="radio"/> Medium	<input type="radio"/> Short	<input type="radio"/> V short		2	4
Clear head	0.44-0.68 <sup>1</sup>	<input type="radio"/> Poor	<input type="radio"/> Quite poor	<input type="radio"/> Ok	<input type="radio"/> Good	<input type="radio"/> Great		3	5
Feet (Foot rot resistance)	0.12-0.26 <sup>2</sup>	<input type="radio"/> Poor	<input type="radio"/> Quite poor	<input type="radio"/> Ok	<input type="radio"/> Good	<input type="radio"/> Great		3	5
Chemical input	-	<input type="radio"/> Vet urged	<input type="radio"/> Lots	<input type="radio"/> Some	<input type="radio"/> Little	<input type="radio"/> None		2	5
Internal parasite (resistance/resilience)	-	<input type="radio"/> V low	<input type="radio"/> Low	<input type="radio"/> Medium	<input type="radio"/> High	<input type="radio"/> V high		2	4
Flystrike (resistance)	0.18-0.57 <sup>3</sup>	<input type="radio"/> V low	<input type="radio"/> Low	<input type="radio"/> Medium	<input type="radio"/> High	<input type="radio"/> V high		2	4
Bearings	-	<input type="radio"/> + 5%	<input type="radio"/> 2.1 - 5%	<input type="radio"/> 1.1 - 2%	<input type="radio"/> 0.6 - 1%	<input type="radio"/> < 0.5 %		4	5
<b>Total</b>								<b>22</b>	<b>40</b>

### Productivity

	Heritability %	1	2	3	4	5	Your flock score	National flock score Estimate	<i>Bohepe</i> flock score
Weaning %		<input type="radio"/> <100%	<input type="radio"/> 101-120%	<input type="radio"/> 121-140%	<input type="radio"/> 141-160%	<input type="radio"/> >160%		3	3
Weaning weight		<input type="radio"/> V light	<input type="radio"/> Light	<input type="radio"/> Medium	<input type="radio"/> Heavy	<input type="radio"/> V heavy		4	3
Ewe efficiency <sup>4</sup>		<input type="radio"/> <40%	<input type="radio"/> 41-50%	<input type="radio"/> 51-60%	<input type="radio"/> 61-70%	<input type="radio"/> >70		2	3
<b>Total</b>								<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>



Easy care total	22	40
Productivity total	9	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>49</b>

<sup>1</sup> Scobie *et al.* AgResearch, 'Low cost easy care sheep' report prepared for M&WNZ, (10/11/09)

<sup>2</sup> Skerman *et al.* 'Clinical footscald & footrot in a NZ Romney...' (1988) AJAR 39, pp907-916.

<sup>3</sup> Estimates of genetic parameters for flystrike in NZ Romney and Romney cross sheep', Pickering *et al.* Proceedings of the NZSAP Vol. 72, pp189-191 (2012), Brandsma *et al.* Proceedings of the NZSAP Vol. 57, pp41-42 (1997)

<sup>4</sup> Lamb weight weaned as a % of the ewe mating weight (lambs weaned at 25kg).  
 Example (A) 35kg of lambs weaned per 70kg ewe at 140% lambing  
 (25kg x 140% = 35kg, 35kg/70 = 0.5 or 50%)  
 Example (B) 30kg of lambs weaned per 50kg ewe at 120% lambing  
 (30kg x 120% = 25kg, 25kg/50 = 0.6 or 60%)

*The original easy care ethical sheep*



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**Bohepe**<sup>™</sup>

*Leave them alone*