

TENBURY SHEEP SALE – Saturday 15th August 2026

Nick Champion, Auctioneers report an entry of **3075 store sheep** forward for the first monthly prize store sheep sale at the sale field Burford on Saturday 15th August 2026. Although the very severe drought is prohibiting some farmers from restocking until the rain comes, the trade for North Country Mule yearling ewes was exceptional, Suffolk x yearlings also met a solid trade whilst Texel x yearlings were more selective and harder to meet some vendors expectations. A good entry of store lambs met a firm trade despite, the declining slaughter trade and some regular store lamb buyers holding off until they can plant forage crops. There was terrific interest in the few pens of ewe lambs for retention. The cull and grazing ewe trade is still flying, whilst a good quality entry of breeding rams was highly sought after with a new sale record of £928 for a Texel/Charollais shearing.

Breeding Ewes – 1,045.

The judge, **Alan Nott, Rock** made the following awards for the best pens of yearling ewes:

Texel x – A Rogers & Partners, Sutton.

Suffolk x – C Corfield, Ellendene Farm.

North Country Mule – Oldfields Farm Partnership, Frith Common.

North Country Mule yearlings sold from £265 to top at £308 for a pen from Geoff & Di Thompson, Oldfields Farm, whilst a pen of three-year-olds made £240 from Cliff Amphlett, Edgton Farm and a pen of aged ewes sold at £200 from Ray Nicklin Farming, Reynolds Farm.

Cheviot Mule yearlings from Les & Jean Yarnold, Hopesmoor sold at £298. **Texel x Mule yearlings** sold from £225 and topped at £306 from Charlie Corfield, Ellendene Farm, and a smart run of **Texel/Beltex x Cheviot Mule yearlings** from Dick Pepper, The Swan Inn were well sought after from £265 to top at £280 for three pens. **Suffolk x yearlings** all sold from £275 to a top of £292 from Dick Pepper, The Swan Inn. Robert & Gill Handley, Hill Top Farm sold their **Suffolk x two-year-olds** at £270. Two pens of Texel yearlings being the first part of a flock dispersal from Tom & Anne Durston-Smith, Lower House Farm sold to £290.

Whitefaced Welsh Mule yearlings from Jean & Colin Jones, Upper Woodrow Farm sold from £255 to £265. Traditional native yearlings saw a pen of **Coloured Ryelands** from Philip Adams, Red House Farm make £165. Older ewes to note included a pen of **Kerry Hill three- & four-year-olds** from David Duggan, The Lodge at £175 and a pen of **Suffolk three- & four-year-olds** from P Hancox, Blossom Hill at £255. Sale averages for yearling & 2-year-old ewes as follows:

Breed	Max £	Average £	2025 Average £	+/-
Suffolk x Mule	292	280.11	234.84	+ 45.27
Texel x	306	257.00	215.44	+ 41.56
North Country Mule	308	293.71	242.09	+ 51.62
Cheviot Mule	298	298.00	247.50	+ 50.50
Whitefaced Welsh Mule	265	258.75	203.67	+ 55.08

Texel	290	277.14		
Texel/Beltex x Cheviot Mule	280	275.50		
Coloured Ryeland	165	165.00		
Suffolk x 2-year-olds	270	270.00	248.00	+22.00

The overall yearling ewe average was £276.35 (2025: £224.82 + £51.53)

Store Lambs – 1,972.

A fair entry in terms of numbers, although very little meat on the lambs with plenty having gone open coated and stale due to the drought. The few pens of stronger well fleshed lambs were well sought after despite the slaughter trade being circa £15 per head back on last year with a top of £150 for Texel x tup lambs from Burwarton Estates. A pen of pure Suffolk lambs sold at £149 from P A Hancox, Blossom Hill. Continental x mixed and wether lambs sold to a top of £148 for Texel x from S J Adams & Sons, Lower Rochford, closely followed at £145 for Texel x from Burwarton Estates. The stronger framier mixed lambs in store condition mostly sold from £130 to £139, with better quality medium-term lambs generally from £120 to £130. Long keep lambs virtually all sold from £100 upwards to around £118 with only a few very small plain, exotic and tup lambs selling from £70 upwards. The strength of demand was highlighted by the overall average being some £10 up on the year.

Store Lamb Judge, **Ben Williams, Pensax** made the following awards for the best pen of 25 or more:

1st – D R & M J Spilsbury Oak Hill – Texel x.

2nd – S J Adams & sons, Lower Rochford – Texel/Charollais x.

3rd – Kirby & Kirby, Shelsley Walsh – Texel x North Country Mule.

Ewe Lambs for retention saw a pen of Suffolk x North Country Mules make a storming £194 from T G Bunting, Grove Farm. Other ewe lambs bought for retention included a pen of Suffolk x at £150, Ryeland x at £162 and Coloured Ryeland at £150.

The store lamb overall average was £122.29 (£112.32 – 2025).

Maximum prices:

Breed	Mixed £	Wether £	Tup £	Ewe Lambs (for retention) £
Texel x	148	145	150	
Charollais x	139		136	
Beltex x	136			
Blue Texel x	128		131	
Suffolk x	149	132	140	194
Abermax x	126		120	
Meatlinc x	121			

Shropshire x	127	125	112	
Mule x	136	136	148	
Kerry Hill			100	
Herdwick x			116	
Ryeland x				162
Coloured Ryeland			140	150
Zwartbles x			110	

Cull & Grazing Ewes & Wethers – 41

A disappointing entry in terms of numbers met a fast trade on an entry of lightweight and mainly grazing types with plain boners and grazers selling from £80 to £130. Top was £149 for Texel x Wiltshire Horn, North Country Mules to £130, Welsh wethers at £117, Texel x wether at £125. **The overall average was £115.39** (£122.10 – 2025)

Breeding Rams – 17

A select entry included some good quality tups which met with plenty of demand and a total clearance with a Charollais/Texel shearling from Ben James, topping at a new market record of £924, followed at £840 for a Texel shearling from Tom & Anne Durston-Smith and the same price for a Texel/Beltex shearling from Ben James. Some strong Charollais ram lambs on offer with two from Ben James both selling at £819 and Francis Killick sold his pen of six to a top of £609 (twice).

Next sale: Saturday 19th September – Prize sale of Yearling Ewes, also Store & Ewe Lambs, Cull & Grazing Ewes, Breeding Rams. Entries now being taken.