Summary

The financial value of a carcase is influenced by its saleable meat yield, which represents the proportion of the carcase that is lean meat (muscle). Direct measures of lean meat yield (LMY) are currently not commercially available due to the high cost of measurement through the 'gold standard' of computed tomography (CT). Therefore, the objective of this study is to assess the use of post-weaning scan traits, carcase traits, and dual energy x-ray absorptiometry (DEXA) derived carcase traits, as indicator traits for LMY in lamb. The value of these indicator traits is assessed by evaluating the potential genetic gain through correlated response to CT measures of LMY.

Keywords: DEXA, CT, objective carcase measurements