




# Buying Spotties?



## KEY THINGS TO REMEMBER

 **PEDIGREES** - Check the animals you are buying have pedigrees, are registered and ensure you receive the physical or PDF pedigree certificates to arrange transfers. Society tags do not necessarily mean the animals are registered.

 **PROOF** - Ensure you obtain proof of purchase which bears the individual tag numbers of each animal purchased. Ideally this would be pedigree certificates but if not then a sales receipt, market pass etc is essential to prove ownership for transferring animals into your flock and in case of any post purchase issues.

 **IMPORT FEES** - Check that society import fees have been paid on imported animals. This is the importing member's liability, NOT the buyers. If you are in any doubt if fees are owed on imported sheep advertised for sale contact the society who will be able to advise.



**EAR TAGS** - All UK born sheep registered with DSSS must bear a UK Flock Number, EID Number, DSSS Flock Number and Year Letter. Tags can be from any manufacturer but the society recommend using flag tags and they should be green for 2023. Make sure both tags match each other and the catalogue.



**BREED STANDARD** - Familiarise yourself with the breed standard, which is on the society website, to ensure any sheep for sale are a correct example of the breed. If in doubt, ask fellow breeders for advice, do not rely on market inspections or the sellers word! Learn about the breed and what to look out for!



**CORRECTNESS** - Be extra vigilant for overshot or undershot mouths, weak, long or collapsed pasterns and twisted legs which are major faults. Check udders on ewes and testicles on rams. Animals at a DSSS sale are vet inspected, whilst private or 'off farm' sales are not. Either way always check animals over carefully.



**HEALTH** - As with buying any sheep, get as much information as you can. Ask about MV status, vaccinations, worming, fly treatment etc and ensure the animals are bright and alert with no visible signs of ill-health. New additions to your flock should ideally be quarantined for 2 weeks.



## **NEED HELP?**

Contact the society:

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