

# I'M A PROLIFIC MATERNAL BREEDER WHICH INDEX SHOULD I USE TO SELECT ANIMALS?



## I DO NOT TAKE ULTRASOUND MEASUREMENTS



I'd like to improve my ewes' maternal qualities, but I do not want more lambs per lambing. Which index should I use to select animals?

The **MATERNAL INDEX (MAT)** is the best index to use for selecting sheep with good milking abilities, which will wean heavier lambs.

These sheep will transmit good maternal traits to their daughters.

The **MATERNAL HIGHER PROLIFICACY INDEX (MAT-HP)** will be the best index to use for selling animals even if you select on **MAT** index.

This index allows selecting more prolific ewes that will also improve lambs' growth.

Which index should commercial producers use if they are interested in my sheep?



Some of my bloodlines have lower than the average prolificacy for the breed. I'd like to improve the number of lambs born per lambing. Which index should I use?

The **MATERNAL HIGHER PROLIFICACY INDEX (MAT-HP)** is the best index to use for selecting prolific replacement ewes and rams with good maternal abilities.

### ATTENTION

If you already have highly prolific ewes and you use the **MAT-HP** index, you will continue to increase the litter size. You will have more lambs per lambing, which is not what you need.

Instead, you should select using the **MAT** index to improve maternal traits and carcass qualities. On the other hand, your very prolific ewes will have good **MAT-HP** index values.

Genetic Indexes				
RC	Maternal		Maternal Higher Prolificacy	
	MAT	MAT-U	MAT-HP	MAT-UHP
77	13.99	18.45	7.11	13.03
	96	97	95	97

  

Dire	Maternal			
	Accuracy	Percentile	EPD	Accuracy
		12	0.02	7
		97	0.13	4
		74	0.57	41
		96		74
		98		98