

The Grassroots Valais Blacknose Register - 2020

Grassroots Systems Ltd are a speciality pedigree livestock company who provide software and support to over 130 pedigree breed societies, and manage a dozen from their offices in Devon.

Established in April 2014 the Grassroots Valais Blacknose registry currently includes over 400 registered owners. We registered over 800 Valais Blacknose lambs in 2019. The registry is managed by Grassroots Systems Ltd and is **FREE** to access by all owners and breeders of Valais Blacknose sheep at : www.grassroots.co.uk/valais.html

Registry Rules

The Grassroots registry only accept applications for :
Imported Animal from European Zootech recognised registries
UK born animals with two UK registered parents
Lambs produced by Embryo Transfer with two UK registered parents

Imported animals - These **MUST** be registered with the Swiss or Dutch Valais Blacknose registries, or other EU registries which are Zootech recognised. The application must be made by the importer within six months of importation, and must be accompanied by:

- a pedigree import certificate which must include the full three generation pedigree
- proof of purchase in the breeder country
- copies of importation documents

These documents are required to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the registry. Pedigree information is added to the Grassroots registry and a UK registration number and certificate issued.

UK born animals – which have two parents fully registered with the Grassroots UK Valais Blacknose registry and which comply with the breed standard. Applications can be made online via 'manage your flock' at www.grassroots.co.uk/valais.html and **MUST** be made by the breeder. There is and has never been any Grading Up, Appendix or Supplementary Register.

Lambs produced by Embryo Transfer which have two biological parents registered with the Grassroots UK Valais Blacknose registry.

An Embryo collection and implantation certificate/s should be lodged with the registry at the time of the collection and or implantation. It **MUST** be lodged with the registry **BEFORE** the lambs are born. Failure to lodge these documents in a timely manner will result in a penalty of £25 per lamb.

The embryo collection and implantation certificate will include: the identification of the collecting company, the identification of the donor ewe and the ram used for the mating. It will include details of the number of embryos collected and number frozen or implanted. The implantation certificate will include details of the recipient ewes. Please do make sure that your ET agents complete these forms accurately. They should include the full EID tag numbers of all the animals involved.

All lambs produced by Embryo transfer from 1st January 2020 onwards will be DNA parentage verified.

Any lambs produced by Embryo Transfer prior to that date, and for whom no ET documentation was submitted before the 1st June 2019 deadline will also be subject to DNA parentage verification.

Access to the online Registry and Fees

The registry may be accessed at www.grassroots.co.uk/valais.html

All payment to Grassroots Systems Ltd. PO Box 251, Exeter. EX2 8WX

- Registry Access - free of charge to all owners and breeders of Valais Blacknose sheep
- Transfer of ownership - free of charge
- Birth Notification - free of charge. NB. Lambs must be fully registered by their breeders prior to transfer of ownership.
- Registration males and females up to 12 months of age - £10 inc VAT
- Registration males and females over 12 months of age - £20 inc VAT Late registration may also incur the need for a DNA parentage verification test at the discretion of the registry.
- Submission of Embryo Transfer collection & Implantation certificates before the lambs are born - free of charge
- Submission of Embryo Transfer collection & Implantation certificates after the lambs are born - £25 inc VAT per lamb. This may also require a DNA parentage verification test at the breeders expense and the discretion of the registry.
- DNA parentage verification - £24 inc VAT for each animal. A Parentage verification will require that both parents and the lamb have been tested. Each parent only needs to be tested once in its lifetime.

The online registry can be accessed at www.grassroots.co.uk/valais.html

If you have mislaid your password please click on the 'lost my password' button on the Online Registry log in page and we will resend it – this is not an automatic process. We will email you a new password as soon as we are able to do so.

Please do get your lambs registered BEFORE you sell or breed from them.

DNA parentage verification - This is compulsory for all lambs produced by Embryo transfer and born in 2020 or later. DNA testing and parentage verification is voluntary for all other animals.

Kinship - Grassroots provide a free kinship analysis to check the degree of relationship between the ewes and the rams you are thinking of breeding. One third of all lambs registered in 2019 were by embryo transfer. This means that the population is increasing rapidly but the amount of genetic variation remains very restricted. Please be careful to avoid high levels of inbreeding when selecting rams to mate with your ewes.

Animals for sale or available for AI - If you have sheep available for sale, rams available for hire or semen for sale, please go to Manage your Flock in the Grassroots Online Registry and identify the sheep. They will then appear under the 'For Sale or Hire' tab in the Grassroots Online Registry.

Grassroots Systems Ltd
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(updated 1st Jan 2020)