

# Sheep production in Finland

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Photo M. Alanco-Ollqvist

# ProAgria

ProAgria is a Finnish expert organization providing an extensive network of specialists and a wide range of services to rural entrepreneurs.

ProAgria's experts will assist with defining production results and enhancements for the future. ProAgria provides extensive investment expertise and experience to rural entrepreneurs. Expertise and services are offered at every stage of the investment process - from planning to deployment and monitoring.

Advisors work together with industry partners and farmers in practical management. Examples include national selection breeding indexes for sheep, developed breeding programs together with Luke.

ProAgria maintains good contact with farmers in every part of Finland.



# Organisations

- **ProAgria**
  1. Runs breeding program and recording for sheep and goat
  2. EU recognized breeding organization for sheepbreeds and finnish goat
  3. Consulting for sheep - and goatfarms
- **The Finnish Sheep Breeders Association**
  1. Publishes Sheep & Goat magazine
  2. Union for sheep farmers
  3. Breeding board mentors ProAgria
- **Finnsheep ry,**
- **Föreningen Ålandsfåret rf**



## Authory:

1. **MMM- ministry of agriculture**
2. **Ruokavirasto – Finnish food safe authority**
3. **Ely-centres- work, trafic and envionment authority**

## Digital systems M-tech

for sheep: **WebLammas**



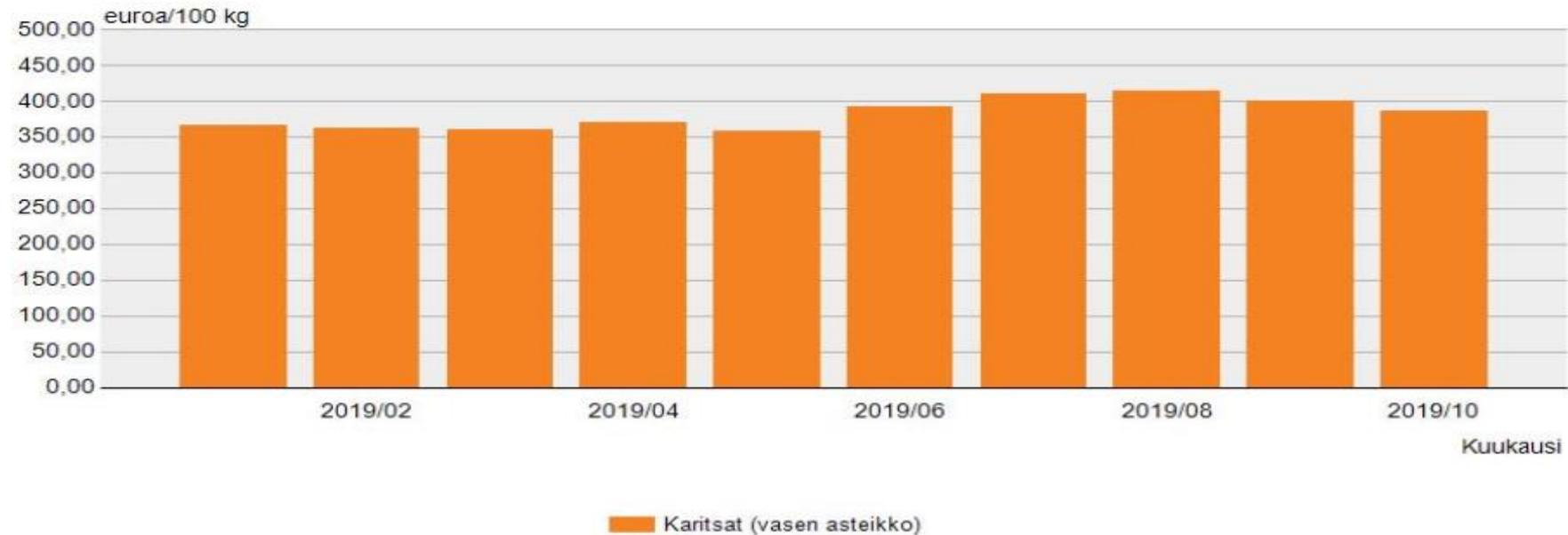
# Key figures, sheep and lamb's meat

Year	Consumption mil. kg	Production mil. kg	Import mil. kg
2003	1,81	0,56	1,39
2006	2,5	0,65	1,9
2007	3,3	0,71	2,8
2009	3,0	0,7	2,4
2010	2,8	0,7	2,6
2011	3,5	0,9	2,7
2012	3,6	0,8	2,8
2013	3,1	0,9	2,1
2014	3,64	1,04	2,70
2015	3,94	1,26	2,72
2016	3,79	1,33	2,49

Wool 90 000 kg  
prize 1,90 eur

# Lamb's meat prices in Finland 2019

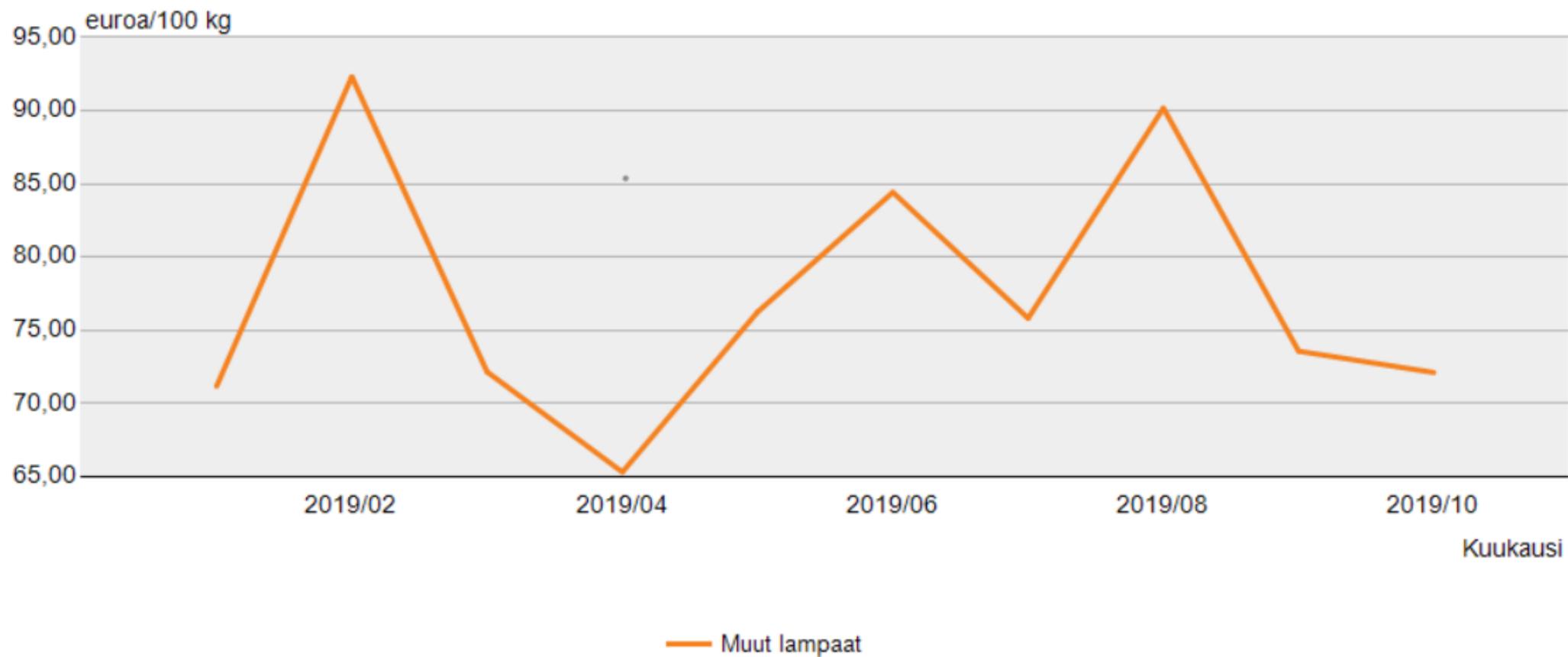
Lihan tuottajahinnat muuttujina Laji ja Kuukausi



Lähde: Luonnonvarakeskus, Maataloustuotteiden tuottajahinnat

- Luke, 2019

## Lihan tuottajahinnat muuttujina Mutton prices 2019

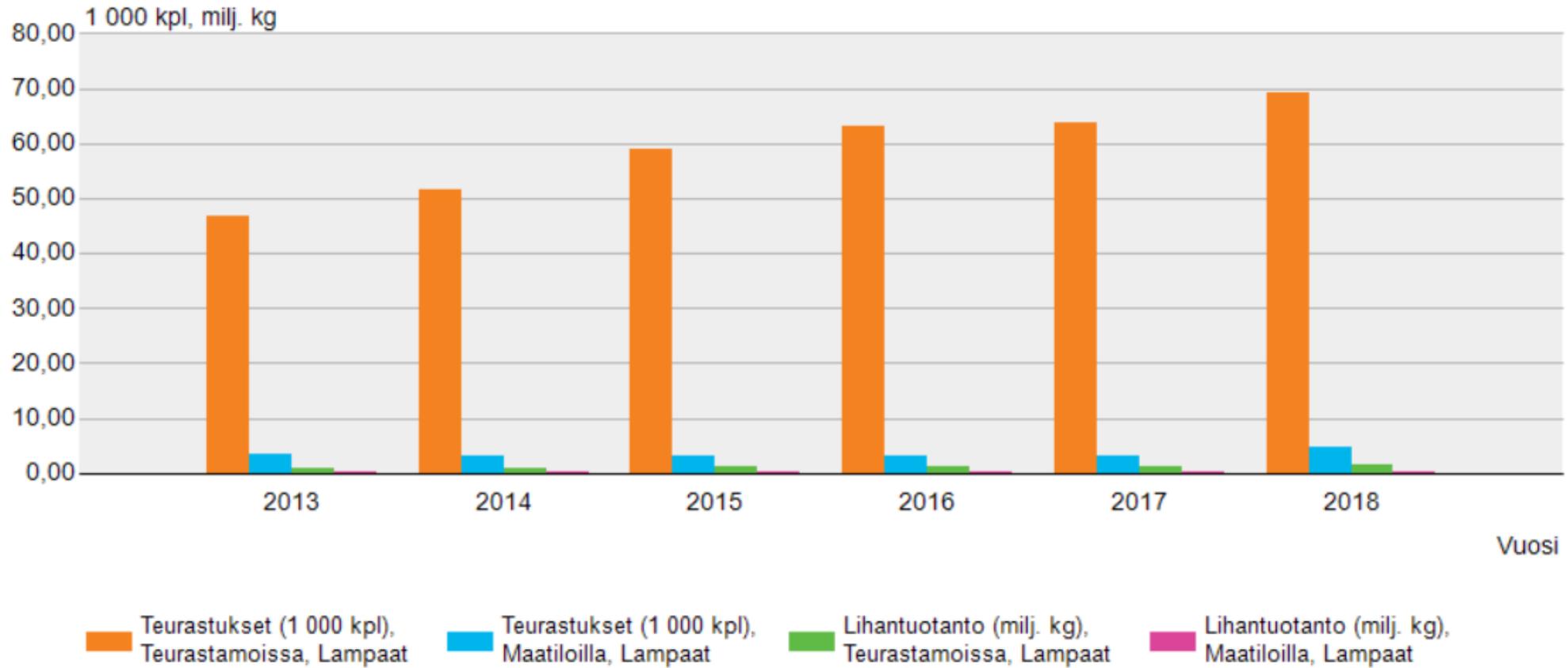


## Sheep meat production monthly, Luke, 2019

### Lampaanlihan kokonaistuotanto

			2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	Teurastuspaikka							
<b>Meat production (milj. kg)</b>	<b>Abattoir</b>	<b>Lampaat</b>	<b>0,92</b>	<b>1,03</b>	<b>1,20</b>	<b>1,27</b>	<b>1,29</b>	<b>1,42</b>
Meat Production (milj. kg)	Farms	Lampaat	0,06	0,05	0,06	0,06	0,06	0,09
<b>Slaughters (1 000 kpl)</b>	<b>Abattoir Teurastamoissa</b>	<b>Lampaat</b>	<b>46,76</b>	<b>51,70</b>	<b>59,02</b>	<b>63,16</b>	<b>63,67</b>	<b>69,15</b>
Slaughters (1 000 kpl)	Farms	Lampaat	3,60	3,30	3,30	3,30	3,30	4,70

## Lihan kokonaistuotanto Total meat production



Lähde: SVT: Luonnonvarakeskus, Lihantuotanto

# Producerprice for heavy sheep in EU

## LAMPAAN TUOTTAJAHINTA (raskas)



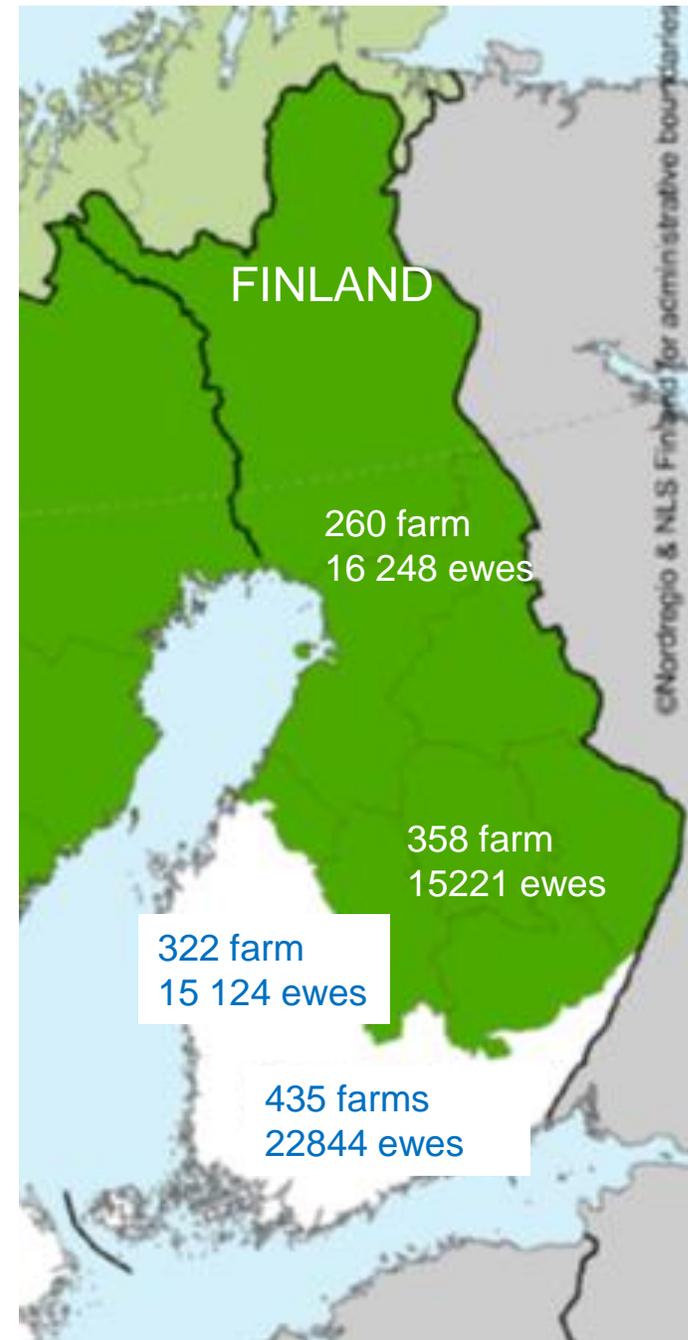
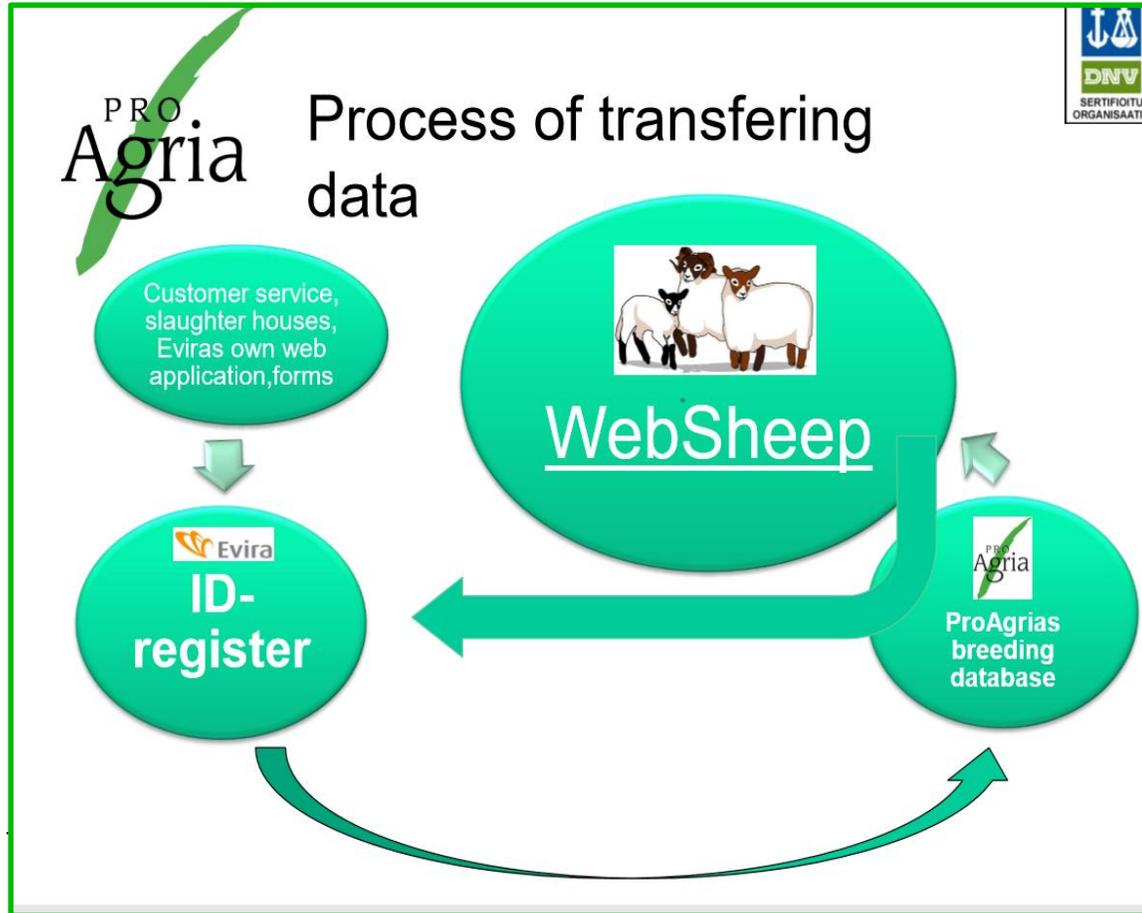
France  
UK  
Great-Britain EU-  
midleprice  
Spain

Ireland  
Sweden  
Finland

Lähde: Euroopan komissio

# Sheep farms in Finland

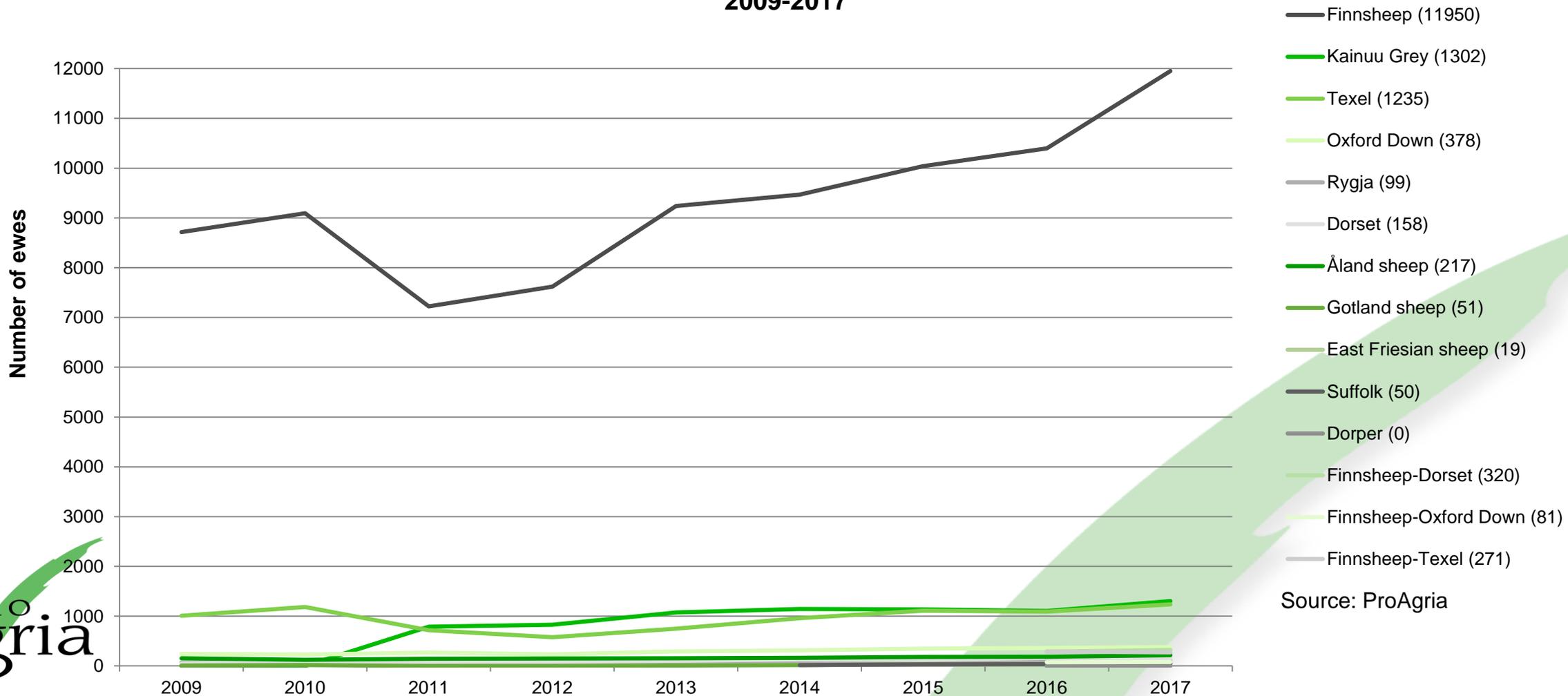
30% of all farms are in ProAgrias recording system





# Sheep breeds in Finland

Distribution of lambed ewes  
2009-2017



Source: ProAgria

# Results of breeding control

- <https://proagria.fi/sisalto/hittilistat-2018-11816>

**Taulukko 4. Uuhien rotukeskiarvot**

Rotu	Karitsoin. Uuhia, kpl	Tuotos- uuhia, kpl	Synt. kar.	Eloon kar.	Karitsa- tuotos, kg/ uuhi	6 vk paino, kg	Aikuis- paino, kg
<b>Vanhemmat uuhet</b>							
Ahvenanmaan lammas	180	68	2,18	2,09	23,12	10,97	65,25
Dorset	142	127	1,76	1,69	32,51	19,73	68,52
Ruotsalainen turkislammis	66	21	1,67	1,64	32,86	18,87	–
Itä-friisiläinen maitolammis	19	19	2,26	2,16	33,96	17,11	81,15
Kainuunharmas	1 237	543	2,40	2,12	29,90	13,92	68,46
Rygja	80	70	1,45	1,34	24,02		75,71
Suomenlammas	12 148	3 805	2,39	2,10	33,85	15,03	75,40
Texel	1334	740	1,67	1,58	27,77	18,13	73,47
Suffolk	51	49	1,69	1,65	34,84	21,36	82,50
Oxford down	342	265	1,70	1,61	32,55	19,66	82,86
<b>1-vuotiaat uuhet</b>							
Ahvenanmaan lammas	14	2	1,71	1,71	10,05	10,05	
Dorset	53	50	1,21	1,19	23,48	19,84	
Kainuunharmas	79	17	1,67	1,59	23,16	13,17	
Suomenlammas	1 121	361	1,81	1,64	24,59	13,77	
Texel	317	217	1,09	1,04	18,89	17,59	
Oxford down	9	7	1,22	1,11	21,99	17,27	

# Features and functions WebSheep

- Filters
- Sorters
- Fast storing of data
  - transfers, removals, lambings, weights, thickness of spinal muscle and fat, liveEUROP evaluation
- Processing of data
  - growth g/d: raw and relative, slaughtering time estimations, BLUP-index
- Reminders: weighings and evaluations
- Reports and comparison with other farms
- Adaptable and handy menus
- **Electronic family tree**
  - Results and genetic level of relatives
- **Father lines** automatically
- **Inbreeding co-efficients** calculation with 20 generations
  - Possibility to test another farms ram that is for sale or a ram on AI-catalog
- **Sorting animals** by index, production results or by any combination

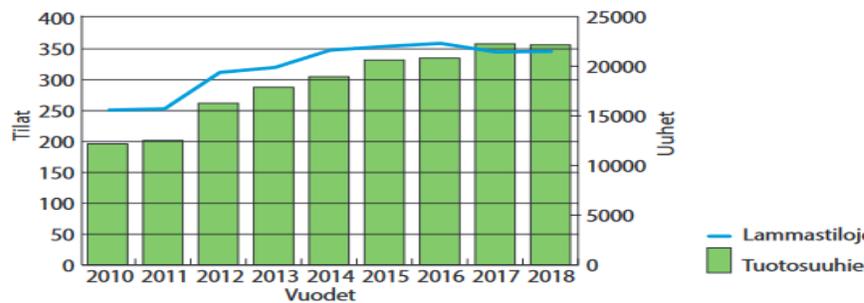
# Recorded: littersize and number of ewes 2018

PRO  
Agria ProAgrian lammastuotosseurannan tiedot 2018

Taulukko 1. Tilojen luokittelu uuhimäärän mukaan

Uuhimäärä	Vuosi							
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1-9	21	37	33	45	32	29	29	22
10-29	87	98	90	90	88	86	67	72
30-49	48	55	66	56	67	78	74	66
50-99	66	77	78	82	94	93	96	95
100-	31	45	53	59	61	61	73	75
yli 150 osuus							27	26
<b>Yhteensä</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>330</b>

Uuhien ja lammastilojen lukumäärä tuotosseurannassa



Rotu	Karitsoin. Uuhia, kpl	Tuotosuuhia, kpl	Synt. kar.	Eloon kar.	Karitsatuotos, kg/uuhi	Lamb-production	6 w. weight	Adult weight
							6 vk paino, kg	Aikuis-paino, kg
<b>Vanhemmat uuhet</b>								
Ahvenanmaan lammas	180	68	2,18	2,09	23,12		10,97	65,25
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# Sheep farms in Finland

## Litter size

- "Hobby farms" 10-70 ewes
- "Professionals" 100-800 ewes (over 500 ewes - about 10 farms)
- Usual producer (family) and only large farms have seasonal workers, during lambing time
- Contractors are used for shearing, clearing manure, silage harvesting
- Typically the sheepfarm has around 30 hectars of fields and
  - possible also natural pastures



# Natural pastures



# Sheep farms in Finland

- Indoor season is long (from September to April)
- Lambs are growing usually until slaughtering, in farm, where they were born
- Producing periodic
  - Lambing times all year round:  
spring, autumn and summer groups
  - Adjusting growth time, daily growth goal 100g-400g
- subsidies support lamb-production (animal units/hectare, landrace subsidies, animal welfare regulations)
- Subsidies for field hectars
- Subsidies for animal units/hectar
- Landrace subsidy
  - Slaughtered lamb quality reward (for lambs with carcass weight min. 18 kg)
  - Landscape pasture subsidies
  - Animal welfare subsidies
  - Natural disadvantage compensation (ex. LFA)
  - Subsidies for organic farming
  - Subsidies for environmental management
  - Subsidies for young farmers



# Traditional production cycle in Finland

Mating: October

Lambing: March-April

All sheep are out on pasture in  
June-August

Slaughter October-December



Photo M.Alanco-Ollqvist



Photo M.Alanco-Ollqvist

# Challenges

- The cold Finnish climate. Lambs need to be supervised carefully (in the greatest danger are sibling groups of 3-4 lambs).
- Indoor season is long: higher costs of rearing lambs for slaughter in winter compared to the costs of rearing on pasture.



Photo M. Alanco-Ollqvist

Heat lamps are needed for cold sheep sheds



Photo M.Alanco-Ollqvist

Lamb feeder and milk bar for sibling groups of 3-4



Photo M.Alanco-Ollqvist

Sheep shed in Korsholm in Ostrobothnia 120 ewes



Photo M. Alanco-Ollqvist

Övermark organic farm 200 ewes



Photo M. Alanco-Ollqvist

# Ewes grazing in August in Äänekoski in Central Finland



## Ewes grazing in September in in Central Finland



## Pasture end of March, South-West Finland





K.A



K.A

## Exhibitions (Farmari, Okra)



Thank You!