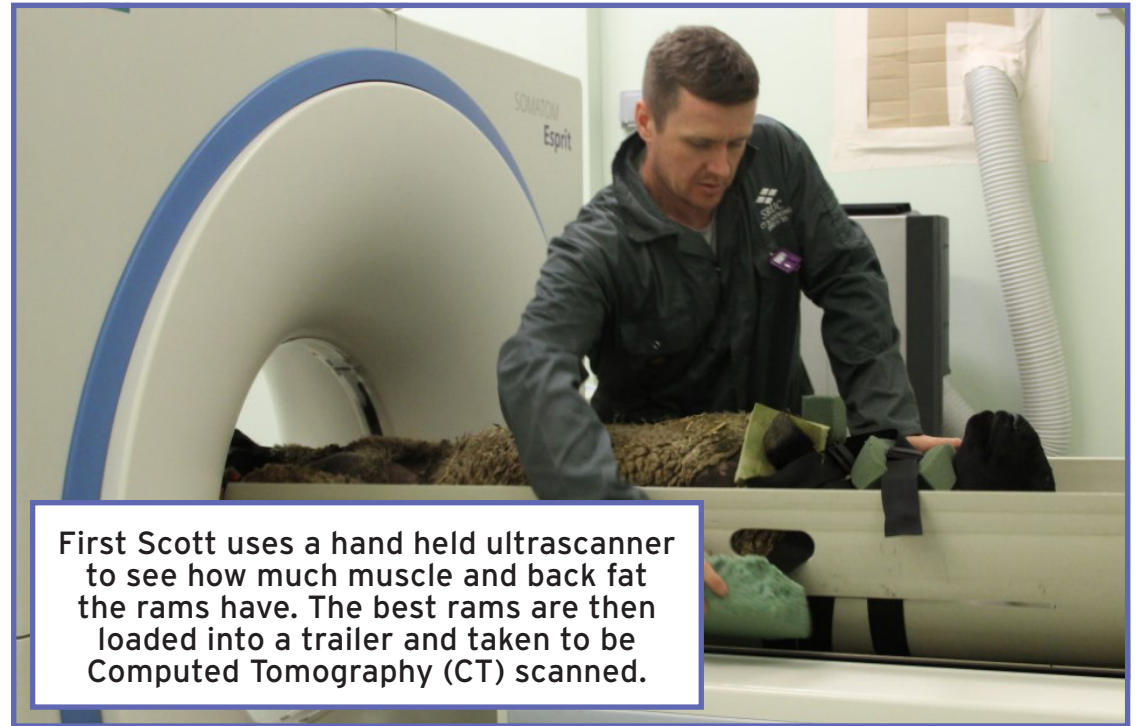


Meet Scott.

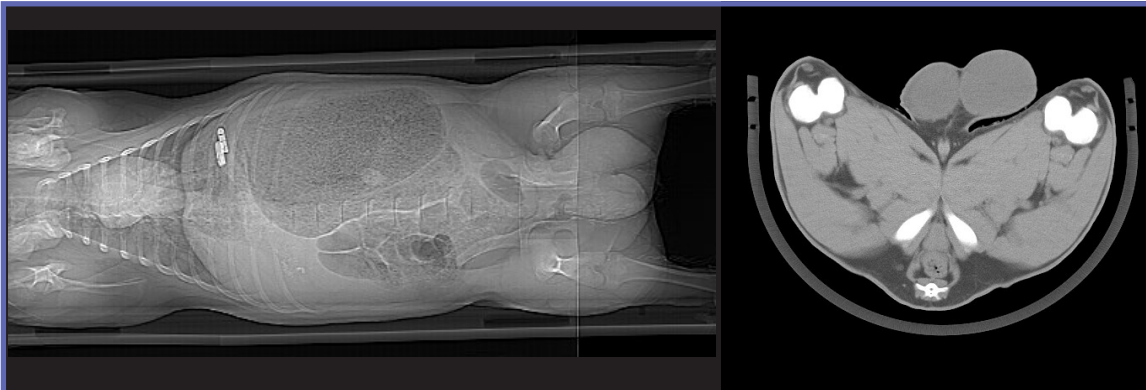


He keeps a flock of Suffolk sheep.

Scott produces rams (male sheep) which he sells to other farmers for breeding. He wants to make sure his rams give their new owners the best quality lambs and he uses technology to help identify the best ones.



First Scott uses a hand held ultrascanner to see how much muscle and back fat the rams have. The best rams are then loaded into a trailer and taken to be Computed Tomography (CT) scanned.



The ram is secured on its back and the scanner takes pictures of what it looks like inside. The pictures of the ram come out showing air as black, fat as dark grey, muscle as light grey and bone as white.

These images help to work out which rams will produce lambs that have good meat carcuses.



Scott can then sell these rams at good prices which helps him pay for the cost of the scanning.

QUESTION TIME!

Read about sheep breeding and scanning then have a go at answer the following questions:

1. **Scott keeps Suffolk sheep. How do these compare with Shetland sheep?**

2. **Why do you think Suffolk sheep suit Scott better than Shetland sheep?**



3. **What is the main idea of scanning the male sheep rather than the female sheep?**

4. **List the main colours in the scanning images and what each colour tells Scott.**

5. **Why does Scott bother to scan his sheep?**