

These data demonstrate that the SRS® phenotype displays a significantly higher S:P ratio than either the flat or tight phenotypes with lower P follicle diameters. Both follicle density and fibre length were significantly higher in the SRS® phenotype, while the number of DP cells in each follicle was significantly lower. DP cell size however was not altered. These data are consistent with selection for the SRS® phenotype producing animals with denser, finer and longer fleeces than unselected control animals. The findings are consistent with Moore's pre-papilla cell hypothesis of wool follicle formation.

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