

# North sheep take national award

By **GEORGE JOBSON**  
Our Agricultural Editor

**A** NORTHUMBERLAND farmer, the Hon. P. J. Fairfax, of Mindrum, near Wooler, has won one of the awards in the first national contest ever held in Britain to discover the sheep flocks with the best lambing records.

Mr. Fairfax's flock of half-bred ewes, looked after by Mr. R. S. Fraser, the noted sheepdog handler, was placed second among 63 entries in one of the classes for large flocks containing at least 100 ewes.

His 478 half-bred ewes reared 894 lambs, giving a lambing percentage of 187.03.

It was the biggest lowland flock to secure an award.

## More than two

Three of the prizewinning lowland flocks were found to have averaged more than two lambs per ewe, the leader being Mr. Stanley Stephenson, a Yorkshire farmer, whose 68 Masham ewes reared 145 lambs.

Mr. Stephenson acts as his own shepherd.

Another Yorkshire farmer, Mr. W. B. Cross, took second award for small flocks of the long-wool breeds with a lambing percentage of 140.23 for 87 English Leicester ewes.

He farms at Bell Hill, Stainton-dale, ten miles north of Scarborough, and his son George was responsible for the shepherding.

The contests were run by a committee of leading personalities in the sheep world, with the co-operation of the "Farmer and Stock-Breeder."

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