



**Department of Agriculture**  
Falkland Islands Government



# Saladero Farm

**Visitors to Saladero are most welcome,  
but please make an appointment with  
the Saladero Farm Manager.**

## **CONTACT DETAILS:**

**Department of Agriculture**

Falkland Islands Government

Tel: +500 27355

Fax: +500 27352

Email: [kstephenson@doa.gov.fk](mailto:kstephenson@doa.gov.fk)

**Saladero Farm Manager**

Tel: +500 27357

Email: [saladero@cwimail.fk](mailto:saladero@cwimail.fk)

[www.agriculture.gov.fk](http://www.agriculture.gov.fk)



Department of  
Agriculture  
Research and  
Development Centre

## History of Saladero

In 1996, the Department of Agriculture purchased 2,023 hectares of land from Falkland Landholdings to set up research and development (R&D) programmes throughout the Falkland Islands. An adjoining camp (Brenton Loch) is leased.

Saladero has become the home of the National Stud Flock and the National Beef Herd. There are numerous grazing management and pasture improvement programmes carried out and being instigated. The annual Ram & Cattle Sale is held in March each year and other open days are held regularly on specific R&D topics.

### Grazing Management

Saladero has been a base for many cropping and pasture R&D experiments. These include research into species choice, fertiliser requirements, methods of establishment and the nitrogen fixing potential of legumes.

Sub-division of paddocks has led to the whole farm being managed in a rotational grazing system. Grazing records are kept and analysed for constant improvement.



## National Beef Herd

The National Beef Herd (NBH) was assembled in 1997 from a composite of breeds and types of cattle from all over the Falklands, including Keppel Island and Onion Range (and other areas around the Falklands). It has now evolved into a line of performance tested, mostly purebred Angus beef cattle.

The key aim of the NBH is to breed genetically superior Angus cattle and disseminate the genes from this small herd to Falkland Island farmers who are interested in producing quality young beef for the local and export beef markets.

Bulls are available for lease throughout the year and are also offered up for auction at the annual Ram & Cattle Sale, along with surplus heifers.



## National Stud Flock

The National Stud Flock (NSF) originated with the purchase of 500 Polwarth ewes and 25 Polwarth rams from Tasmania, Australia, which arrived in the Falkland Islands in early January 1992. Although the NSF was originally based on Sea Lion Island, it was later relocated to Saladero, where it remains to this day.

The NSF currently consists of 25 elite rams (born 2006 & 2007) and 422 stud flock ewes (born 2001 to 2007). There are also 258 ewe and 227 ram hoggets in the NSF.

The NSF has reached goals set 5 years ago of having an average micron of 22; an average mature sheep greasy fleece weight of 5 kgs and improved carcass characteristics (mature live weight of 45kgs). This has been achieved through using an index to select sheep on all characteristics simultaneously and ensure that as micron was reduced that body size (carcass characteristics) was not.

Recently a new parameter of faecal egg counting has been introduced to select NSF Polwarth rams that are resistant to internal parasites (worms).

Polwarth genetics from the NSF are available to farmers through the purchase of shearling rams and some mature rams at the Ram & Cattle Sale.



### Artificial Breeding Programme

Artificial breeding programmes have been carried out on the NSF since 2003, using techniques of Artificial Insemination (AI) and Embryo Transfer (ET), using both local and imported semen.

In the 2009 programme, 63 donor ewes were inseminated to produce 486 fresh embryos which were all implanted. There were also 44 frozen embryos implanted from last years programme.

Both AI & ET programmes have been used on the NBH since 2002 and semen from internationally superior Australian and New Zealand Angus herds continues to be used today.

