

RITCHIE COMBI CLAMP

for fast, healthy
sheep handling

JOHN AND MICHELLE BEWLEY -
Wigton Stock Farmers
see page 4 for their testimonial



the perfect partner

WORK EASY

How the RITCHIE Combi

1. Capsuling and Vaccinating

Very efficient because the hands free operation of the RITCHIE Combi Clamp allows reloading of applicators while you release the current and capture the next sheep concurrently.

Vaccinating is a quick and easy operation as sheep can be slowed down and held briefly as a needle is inserted. Usually vaccinating is done in conjunction with drenching or capsuling, if so then the vaccinating can easily be done in the approach race simply by removing the anti jump rails. Once again the RITCHIE Combi Clamp's soft side with its wrap around effect is a great aid in preventing rearing or movement.

2. Foot Treatment

By activating the locking bar, the sheep can be held in place in a natural standing position while you trim the feet. No need to tip sheep over.

3. Drenching

Fast operation. The RITCHIE Combi Clamp holds each sheep in the same position and allows ease of handling and control as animal movement is minimised once clamped. Because the operator is not in a race or pen situation with the sheep to administer the drench, the clamp greatly reduces physical stress on both the operator and animals.

4. Tagging / Ear Marking

The RITCHIE Combi Clamp allows easy access to the ears, whilst holding the sheep steady. This enables easy tag application, reading or age marking.



The RITCHIE Combi Clamp has many different features that make the RITCHIE sheep handler unique and very versatile.

Hands Free

Operating with your hands free allows you more time to deal with drenching, vaccinating, dagging or tagging. Completing tasks in less time makes life easier and healthier for you and your sheep.

Minimal physical effort is required to hold the sheep compared to traditional methods.

Quiet

The quiet operation is one of the most underrated features.

One unit suits left or right handers

The clamp can be turned around to accommodate L/R handers and

WORK EASY



- A. Wrap around soft side**
- B. Quick release locking bar**
- C. Side width adjustment**
- D. Operator pressure plate**
- E. Anti jump rails**
- F. Stop gate**
- G. Dag sweep**

the approach race with the stop gate can be changed to enable the operator to stand on the other side.

Safe Handling

The RITCHIE Combi Clamp has a "wrap around" effect providing increased grip but less pressure on the sheep, thus reducing the risk of sheep rearing up or sitting down. The unit is much kinder on in-lamb

ewes and prime lambs reducing bruising etc.

Powerless Operation

The operators body weight is all that is required to operate the RITCHIE Combi Clamp mechanism, enabling the unit to be operated in remote areas. An optional removable axle and drawbar is available for easy movement between farms and fields.



5. Mouthing

Physically demanding using conventional methods, the RITCHIE Combi Clamp enables you to restrain the sheep while standing at the head end. The operator can make the decision as to which sheep need to be caught, allowing the younger sheep to flow straight through.

6. Dagging / Crutching

With hands free operation and the clamps 'Quick Catch and Release System', the hand piece can be left running and ready between sheep. 'Dirties' are easily identified and caught, while leaving the clean sheep to pass through, eliminating the need to draft off the dirty sheep first before dagging etc.

7. Drafting

The RITCHIE Combi Clamp means you can work on animals and draft all in one easy process, without having to run animals through the yards again.

8. Weigh

The advantage of weighing with the RITCHIE Combi Clamp is that the machine is tared out, including the operators body weight, this enables the operator to carry out other procedures or condition score the animal while weighing.



the perfect partner

4th generation farmers ease the workload



The Bewley farming family at Mid Farm, Wigton are 4th generation farmers, with a young 5th generation actively interested in keeping the farming traditions fluent. Situated at 700ft on shallow soil, the family rely heavily on quality stock and products to maintain farm efficiencies essential for survival. Life is tough, but to keep happy and healthy, John and Michelle have chosen to work with an extensive range of RITCHIE products. A RITCHIE Combi Clamp sheep handling system

was introduced to “ease the work load”.

John works two days a week in the local market so Michelle is very much a working farmers wife and any product that can bring farm efficiencies whilst improving health to the stock and farming team has been duly considered over the years.

The RITCHIE Combi Clamp was first spotted on RITCHIE’s stand at the local shows and it’s sheep handling benefits in achieving

higher output with less effort were instantly recognised.

RITCHIE Combi Clamp

John had spent all of his farming years catching and handling sheep and his health was suffering from the constant back-aching work.

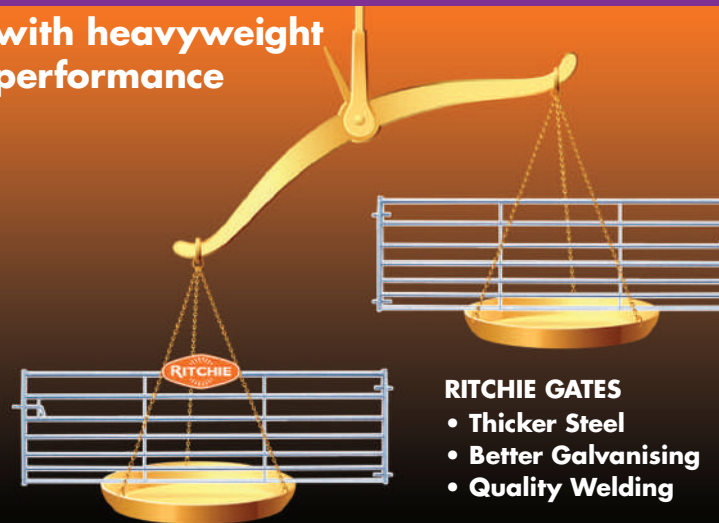
With the RITCHIE Combi Clamp installed, Michelle has seen a big improvement in John’s mobility and now between them they regularly handle twice as many sheep in half the previous time. The 430 breeding ewe flock of Cheviot mules and Texels are able to suit ewes and lambs of various sizes, the RITCHIE Combi

Clamp has a treadle operated spring-loaded footplate that the operator stands on to restrain the animal for treatment. Both John and Michelle can operate the Clamp easily as animals do not require handling or holding. A non-return three-way shedding system gate can be utilised if stock are to be separated into different groups for specific attention.

“We’ve all benefitted from RITCHIE’s innovative products over several generations,” says Michelle “who knows what they’ll be introducing next!”

1ST THROUGH THE GATE

with heavyweight performance



RITCHIE GATES

- Thicker Steel
- Better Galvanising
- Quality Welding

BOB RITCHIE
puts his name to it

Better sheep handling with less labour

If ever there is a 'true farming family' then the Merryman's must be one for consideration.

Eldest daughter Lizzie assists Dad Alex with general farm duties on the 700-acre moorland farm, with specific interest in the family's 700 Suffolk Mule flock. Lizzie's younger sister looks after a busy livery yard, whilst brothers Scott and Robert help Alex with the beef herd. Lizzie has first call on her 'little' brother Robert though when she's working with the farms' mobile RITCHIE Combi Clamp sheep handling system.

Handling, dagging or injecting up to 500 ewes in 5 hours, Lizzie no

longer finds this a chore, but is glad of some help.

Selling fat lambs to Keypack for supermarket consumption at regular intervals throughout the year, as well as supplying the Merryman's own farm shop, Lizzie certainly appears to enjoy her shepherdess duties. Aided by 6 sheep dogs, Lizzie enjoys her time on the farm.



Lizzie's experience from handling thousands of sheep over 3 years bears out the RITCHIE's company statement of being the Perfect Partner! "We now are so more efficient by handling all of our sheep over a few hours, compared to just handling a few of them at a time over several days," reports Lizzie, "and my back doesn't hurt!"

All of the ewes are crutch clipped before tupping time and dagged when weaning, with lamb body weights and health being checked regularly. The mobile RITCHIE

Combi Clamp is easily packed up onto its ATV system and moved to several field sites around the farm. The ease of operation also ensures that all ewes are injected as none are missed no matter where the unit is working.

Whilst dad Alex confirms that the Merryman farm is a busy 'working farm' where everyone has to part to play, Lizzie is able to add that due to time saved with the RITCHIE Combi Clamp she is now able to take part in YFC activities.

- Sheep health checked regularly
- Easy movement of the RITCHIE Combi Clamp around farm
- Safe handling



Optional Equipment

Three Way Shedding Gate

The three way shedding gate is the most popular extra because each time you have sheep in the yards they are generally drafted for some reason ie. condition, age, weight, sex, strangers. Why not do it all in one pass.



Load Bar Fittings

Load bar fittings are the attachments that are required to accommodate an electronic weighing system. Scales are available on request.

Curved Races

Curved races may be required to assist with the positioning of the RITCHIE Combi Clamp or may be an advantage for a sole operator.



Wheel Attachments

Enables the standard unit to become its own trailer and can carry all the optional extras ie. three way shedding gate, curved races etc.

RITCHIE GATES & STOCK HANDLING EQUIPMENT

RITCHIE's extensive range of quality products incorporate, practical detail benefits for both stock and stockman.

Hot dipped galvanised finish provides a long lasting protective coat for years of trouble free operation.



Farming co-operation pays



Hughes Brothers of Oswestry is a family run agricultural supply business that has developed over the last 37 years from Roy and Gary Hughes home farm.

With farming and its experiences providing the business background, sons Tim and Richard Hughes and daughter Ann joined their fathers proving that investment, belief and hard work is the criteria for a successful family business. New re-developed show rooms and product demonstration areas demonstrate their future belief in the industry that has supported them all over several decades.

The RITCHIE range of agricultural and stock-handling products has been part of the Hughes business for

over 20 years. These advanced engineered products have provided local customers with reliable cattle and sheep handling ranges and the RITCHIE orange products are well established in the area.

Like most established products, improvements for specific applications are always possible. Co-operation between Hughes Brothers and local sheep farmer Dai Hughes is one such development.

Dai farms over 970 acres of the Oswestry hills with over 7,500 sheep and a herd of suckler cows to look after. Kitted out with RITCHIE Combi Clamp, race, gates and hurdles, Dai needed a bespoke system of transporting the RITCHIE Combi Clamp between flocks. A need for

auto spray fitted with a magic eye and weighing system all-inclusive set Dai and Richard thinking.

Two months of thought and designs has come up with a fully mobile system that allows Dai, with help from his

son, to set up the unit within half an hour and be fully operational in three different sites. With the addition of one or two segregation pens as needed, Dai and his son can now dose over 1,000 sheep within 3 hours.

Dai adds, "The RITCHIE Combi Clamp is a God send! My back problems are no longer a worrying issue and with my son, we are both able to operate the simple sheep clamp system. The design and thought put in by the Hughes team to what was already a good product, has proved to be a great success on our farm. The investment has certainly paid off."

- **Reliable, simple operation**
- **Ease back pain**
- **Complete mobile unit**



A whole new sheep management regime

For Bill Wilson, the RITCHIE Combi Clamp represents a major step forward in the way he is able to manage his sheep. Based at Arnbathie Farm, near Perth, Scotland, Mr Wilson is responsible for a 500-ewe breeding flock and their offspring and also a further 600 lambs purchased as stores.

“The RITCHIE Combi Clamp restrains sheep by holding them between two side panels,” he explains. “There are no doors and the operator simply steps on a pressure plate to clamp the sheep between the panels.” He adds that **the pressure on the sheep is relatively low with the sheep held more by the rubber ‘tread’ on one of the panels**

than by any excessive squeezing. “With no doors to open or close, the sheep flow through quite naturally and if you are dosing them, I would expect a rate of 300 per hour,” he says. “And that’s with me working alone with my two dogs.”

Not only are the sheep less stressed with the ease of handling, but Bill is also able to return home with energy left after a busy day. “My work life has become considerably easier since the RITCHIE Combi Clamp was introduced, the whole process of handling sheep has been enhanced with a lot less time and energy being used to create better

animal health than previous systems,” says Bill. Regular handling through the RITCHIE Combi Clamp means that the sheep know what to expect as they can see what’s happening. Open gated pens enables the flock to see the sheep dogs and therefore run smoothly through.

The RITCHIE Combi Clamp also allows tasks such as foot trimming, dagging and vaccinations to be performed and, with an automated three way shedding gate, it is possible to segregate out say, fat lambs, ewes and culls at the touch of a button. But there’s more to this system than being able to handle large numbers of sheep quickly with minimal stress – its on board recording facility also opens up a whole new management regime.

As a sheep enters the RITCHIE Combi Clamp its ear identification is read and this is displayed on the screen of the Tru-Test XR3000 consul, along with its weight. The Tru-Test holds all the details of the flock, when and what has been done, the lambing records, the weights and so on.

“For the first time I now have a way of monitoring



and recording the performance of individual lambs – their live weight gain and how this relates to their grazing,” says Mr Wilson. “I can also assess a ewe’s breeding potential by looking at the way her previous lambs performed and a host of other details which relate to individual sheep such as health and treatments.”

- **Less animal and operator stress**
- **Easy, quick operation**
- **Very cost-effective**



the perfect partner

WORK EASY

140 years of manufacturing excellence



with the RITCHIE Combi Clamp

This innovative product helps improve the welfare of sheep by reducing stress for both the animal and shepherd. No need to catch and handle sheep, let the RITCHIE Combi Clamp do the back aching job with ease.

The ultimate solution to handle sheep **EASY**



RITCHIE Combi Clamp Dimensions

Clamp Length	1.40m
Clamp Width	1.30m
Clamp Weight	108kg
Ramp Length	2.40m
Ramp Weight	67kg
3-Way Draft	1.20m
Overall Length	3.60m
Inc Draft	4.80m
Total Weight	230kg
(excluding optional extras)	



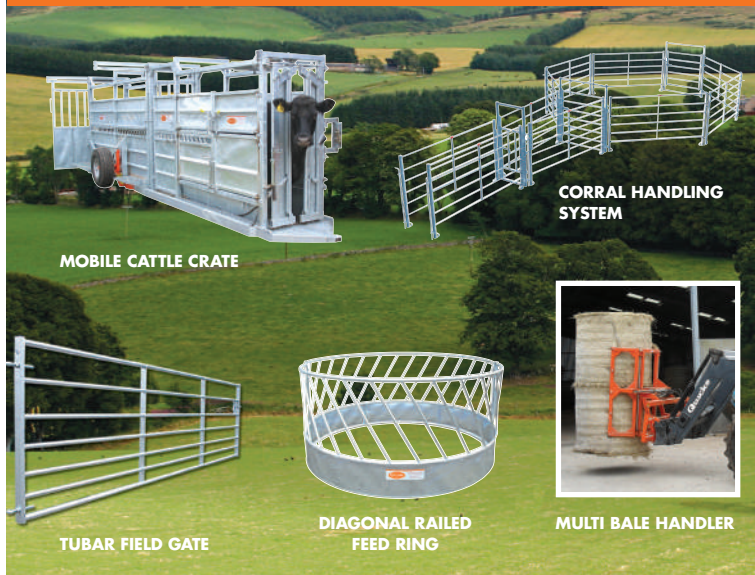
RITCHIE was established 140 years ago as a blacksmithing service to the local community of Gateside in the County of Angus, Scotland. As farming advanced during the late 19th and early 20th Century, traditional blacksmithing skills were replaced with the manufacturing of

a small range of innovative implements designed to improve efficiency and reduce labour inputs as horsepower gave way to steam and tractor power. This business expansion necessitated relocating from the country into the town of Forfar where RITCHIE continued

to develop and manufacture products for both the livestock and arable industries.

Today RITCHIE occupy a 14-acre site on the outskirts of Forfar, which houses their manufacturing and business centre. Investment in the latest galvanising, CNC, robotic and computer technologies support a skilled and motivated workforce with products supplying the UK and world markets.

OUTSTANDING IN THE FIELD



MOBILE CATTLE CRATE

CORRAL HANDLING SYSTEM

TUBAR FIELD GATE

DIAGONAL RAILED FEED RING

MULTI BALE HANDLER

Perfect partner for labour saving equipment

- Sheep handling equipment
- Sheep and cattle feeding equipment
- Weighing equipment
- Yard scrapers
- Gates, crates and hurdles
- Grassland Harrows and Aerators
- Bale handling equipment



the perfect partner

DAVID RITCHIE (IMPLEMENTS) LTD.

See our web site or contact us for information on our product range

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