

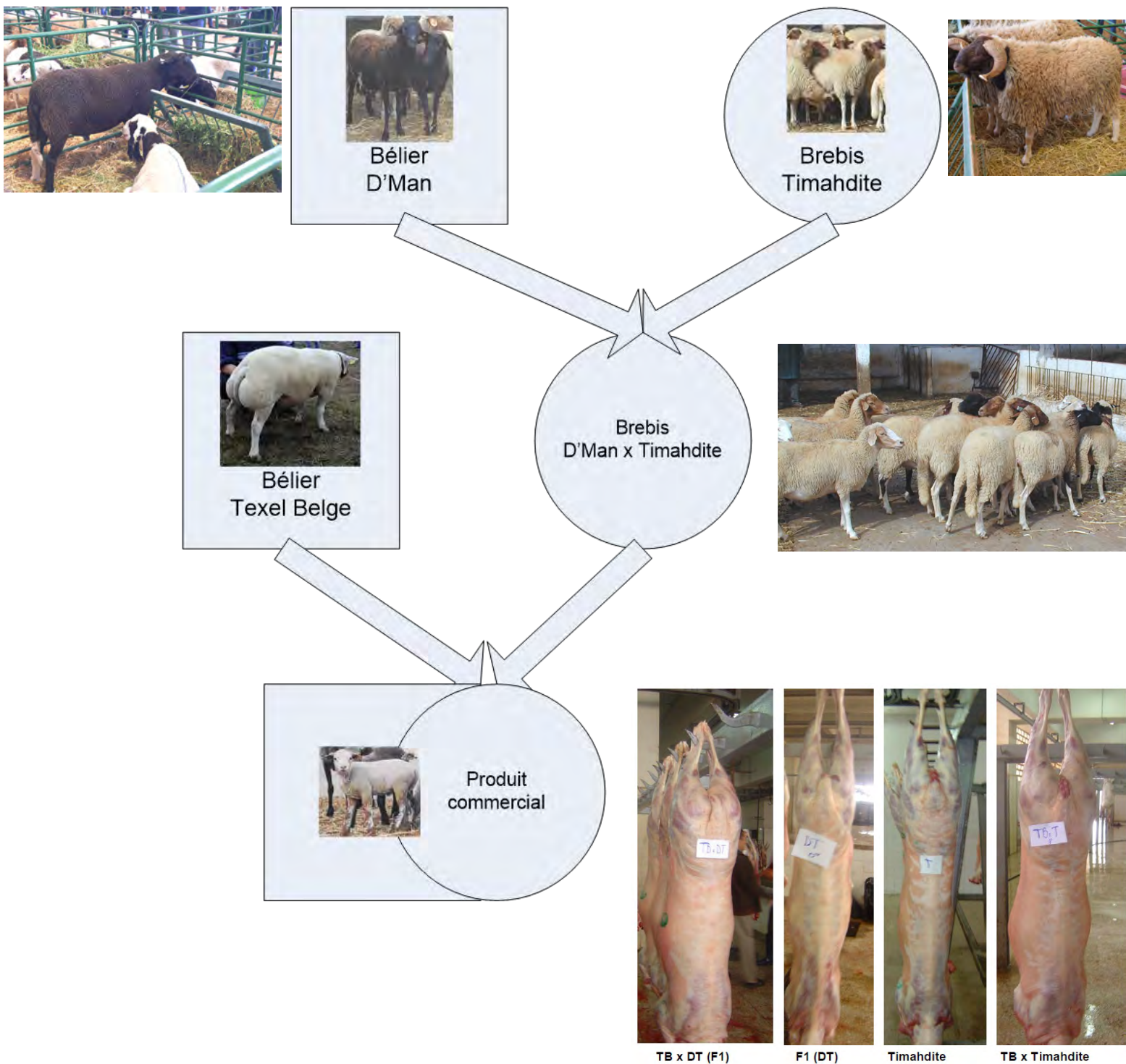
Texel Double Muscled Belgian sheep

In the ovine species, the Walloon **Texel culards** are also well known. They present a killing out percentage higher than 52% in average, with a high percentage of meat and little fat. These sheep are rather unique and usable in terminal cross with ewes of prolific maternal lines. This type is largely used, in particular in England.

Some positive terminal cross tests of this type have already been done in 2002 in Morocco with local breed (D'Man and Timahdite). The results show more meat, less fat, less bone and a higher killing out percentage. Three Belgian rams were then transferred to Morocco in 2003 in order to confirm the results and expand the trial.



Belgian Double Muscled Texel in crossbreeding with D'Man x Timahdite sheep in Morocco (3-Way cross)



Source of variation	N	Fertility (%)	LSB (lambs)	LWB (kg)	LSW (lambs)	LWW (kg)
Genotype	388	*	***	***	***	***
D'man (D)	27	85±6	1.99±0.10	4.88±0.28	1.12±0.11	22.02±1.60
Timahdite (T)	75	94±3	1.15±0.05	4.14±0.15	1.06±0.06	23.21±0.78
D x T	138	99±3	1.20±0.04	4.42±0.11	1.14±0.04	24.68±0.59
Texel x D	22	88±6	1.88±0.11	5.46±0.30	1.46±0.12	28.66±1.61
Texel x T	67	81±4	1.18±0.06	5.00±0.17	1.14±0.07	28.19±0.91
Texel x DT	59	85±4	1.79±0.07	5.86±0.20	1.55±0.08	30.82±1.05

LSB – Litter size at birth
LSW – Litter size at weaning

LWB – Litter weight at birth
LWW – Litter weight at weaning (90 days)