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Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.archaeology/2006-09/msg00654.html>

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 - *Date:* Tue, 26 Sep 2006 01:45:39 GMT
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http://www.wesleyjohnston.com/users/ireland/past/pre_norman_history/neolithic_age.html "

It would be a mistake to think that the Mesolithic people of Ireland suddenly invented farming and became Neolithic. Rather, Ireland's Mesolithic hunters were displaced or assimilated by Neolithic settlers who gradually arrived in Ireland from Britain and brought the technology with them. The practice of farming had spread from the Middle East, through eastern and southern Europe to reach Britain around 4000BC. Again it seems that it arrived in Ireland via the Scotland-Antrim link. Evidence from Cashelkeelty, county Kerry, suggests that this happened between 3900BC and 3000BC [4 p28].

"http://www.wesleyjohnston.com/users/ireland/past/pre_norman_history/neolithic_age.html

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/history/sites/rr/pages/rr-1.shtml> "

3. Severn Estuary [Wales]- c. 6500 BC

About 8,500 years ago, a 5' 6" man with size 11 feet walked along the Severn Estuary at 2.6 miles per hour carrying a heavy load on his right shoulder. Archaeologists deduced all this from a series of footprints cemented in the hard clay of the Severn Estuary.

Mesolithic man would have lived in skin tents, close to the grazing animals they would hunt with flint weapons. The Severn Estuary was prime hunter-gatherer territory as evidenced by footprints of men, red deer, pelicans and some of the earliest sheep in the British Isles.

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[Note if this were true it would validate that the Hogue culture of France and its Sheep/Goat preference would have predated LBK Neolithic in northern France. And represent earlier gene flow.]

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~irlik/ihm/neolithic.htm> "

Around 3800 BC Neolithic agriculturists began arriving in large numbers. These early farmers were the builders of the famous mounds and passage tombs mentioned above, and which are more densely packed into Ireland than into any other country. Domesticated cattle, sheep and goats were imported to Ireland at the beginning of the Neolithic period, together with cereals.

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" <http://www.rootsweb.com/~irlik/ihm/neolithic.htm>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prehistoric_Scotland "

At the wonderfully well preserved stone house at Knap of Howar on the Orkney island of Papa Westray (occupied from 3500 BC to 3100 BC) the walls stand to a low eaves height, and the stone furniture is intact. Evidence from middens shows that the inhabitants were keeping cattle, sheep and pigs, farming barley and wheat and gathering shellfish as well as fishing for species which have to be line caught using boats. Finely made and decorated Unstan ware pottery links the inhabitants to chambered cairn tombs nearby and to sites far afield including Balbrindi and Eilean Domhnuill.

" http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prehistoric_Scotland

So one can basically argue on rather weak evidence that sheep culture in norther scotland is about 3800 BC, about the same time that or shortly thereafter sheep arrive as part of the culture.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prehistoric_Scotland

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