

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

AUSTRALIAN WHITE SUFFOLK ASSOCIATION FEDERAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT
JULIE WIESNER

Welcome to the August newsletter. By now most people will have finished lambing and be preparing for the coming ram selling season.

With the excellent prime lamb market, we all need to be very proactive in keeping White Suffolks in front of the commercial producer. The terminal sire market is as competitive as ever, so let me urge all members to look out for opportunities to promote White Suffolks.

Spending has increased on the national White Suffolk advertising campaign to keep the brand visible to producers. More effective, though, are the success stories of farmers who have had excellent results with White Suffolks. Could all members please keep your ears open for such stories and pass them onto the committee, so we can take the advantage and include them in our advertising campaign to compliment advertisements? Members can also take the opportunity to promote White Suffolks when speaking with clients and agents, and at events such as field days and shows. If all members make the most of these opportunities, we can increase the White Suffolk market share.

Planning is progressing well for your 2012 conference in Tasmania. Our annual conferences are a very informative and great social event. I recommend members make every effort to attend, and perhaps take the opportunity to extend your trip and take a well earned holiday in beautiful Tasmania.

I hope that the season treats you all well and your ram sales are a great success.

Julie Wiesner.



Photo courtesy of Ian Turner

FROM THE SECRETARIAT

AWSA LOGO

The AWSA Logo has now been trademarked for use by members only. Please refer the feature in this newsletter for more information on the logo designs available, ideas for incorporation in your stud promotions, and how you can obtain a version/s.

WEBMANAGER CLEAN UP/UNREGISTERED SIRES

A recent clean up of the WebManager database has revealed that a number of “unregistered” sires have been entered into the system during the ram registration process. It was initially agreed that this would be allowed to cater for any registrations that could not be manually entered into the system when WebManager was established, however the time has come where the majority of sires are now in the system and this is no longer required.

At the recent Federal Council meeting it was decided that the registration of any stud ram can only be accepted if the sire and sire of dam are also registered rams in the WebManager database. This will take effect on WebManager shortly.

To complete the clean up, the Secretariat will be contacting any breeder of unregistered rams currently in the system with the opportunity to either:

1. Register the ram(s) at their own expense
2. Advise of the Flock Register / page number of any ram(s) that were registered in earlier years so that the WebManager database can be updated with the registration detail.

RAM REGISTRATION DATA

A reminder to those submitting registrations via the paper method that the sire, dam and sire of dam pedigree information of the ram is required. This information is compulsory when submitting registrations online and is therefore also a requirement for paper submission.

The Association acknowledges there are circumstances where the full pedigree information cannot be provided and have established the below guidelines for such situations:

1. Where neither the sire or dam can be identified, the ram being registered can only be entered in the system as Any Other Breed.
2. Where only one parent (ie sire or dam) can be identified and no other pedigree information can be supplied, the ram can only be entered in the system as an Appendix White Suffolk.

The above guidelines have also been included in the by-laws of the Association.

SHOW SPONSORSHIP

To keep sponsorship consistent across each state, the following amounts have now been set by Federal Council and available for shows upon written request:

\$100 plus GST available for the following major shows: Perth, Wagin, Adelaide, Bendigo, Hamilton, Dubbo and Hobart.

\$50 plus GST available for the following minor shows: Geelong, Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra.

An additional \$200 plus GST is available to any major feature show in addition to any ongoing sponsorship.

An additional \$50 plus GST is available to any minor feature show in addition to any ongoing sponsorship.

ROYAL ADLAIDE SHOW 2011

SUBTITLE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS SUE PIGGOTT MORE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

NARELLE SCOTT

White Suffolk judging at this years Royal Adelaide Show will be conducted on Friday Sept 2nd and we are expecting a large exhibition of sheep from across Australia. There are three new White Suffolk classes at this year's show which will attract strong competition.

Subtitle and acknowledgements Narelle y Scott ramora and ram lambsothathface suitable for producing easily abating lambs
acknowledgements Sue Piggott class shape specifically for the Coles market

Grat & Rosalie Moterple have kiis by sponsored the Goodwin Prize Young Highlander Competition. It will be open to young gaeldies between 10 and 18 years of age. A new class for dippers of the race is being held for all Prine Lambs and Merinos. The award will be given to the best of the breed for the Goodwin and Bridgeland awards. The judges will be the same as the previous year. The award will be given to the best of the breed for the Goodwin and Bridgeland awards. The judges will be the same as the previous year.

There will be a number of interbreed classes judged on Sunday morning. The White Suffolks have always performed very well. The elite sale to be held on Sunday at 2.00pm where over 40 White Suffolks will be offered for sale. We are looking forward to see the elite sale. The elite sale to be held on Sunday at 2.00pm where over 40 White Suffolks will be offered for sale. We are looking forward to see the elite sale.

MY TAKE

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Stock Journal. By Steve Milne, Principal Waratah White Suffolks

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT AUSTRALIAN WHITE SUFFOLK ASSOCIATION

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The Good: conecearios dolupta nullent emquunda verum landae lanimus

- White Suffolks have excellent libido, fertility, milking ability and maternal instincts
- Breeding your own replacements decreases the risk of buying unwanted animal health problems
- WS X Mo fleece wool is generally finer than traditional 1st
- WS X Mo have clean pants and are very easy to care

- Retaining WS X lambs gives the producer less lambs to sell.
- There is a time lag until home bred ewes are fully productive.

Steve Milne - srdjeilpe@bigpond.com

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The way forward

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- 1. Use White Suffolk rams to produce prime lambs and replacement ewes.
- 2. When selecting WS rams consider maternal as well as terminal lambplan information
- 3. Retain ewes with ewe lambs to reverse flock parity
- 4. Manage the retained ewe lambs well and join as lambs - they will handle it well.
- 5. Purchase rams from registered WS flocks with objective performance information and dependable health status; Catum huceri

GENOMICS & TERMINALS

STEVE MILNE, WARATAH WHITE SUFFOLKS

As 'seed stock' producers we are increasingly being made aware of the research and development of genomic technologies in the Australian sheep industry. It is clear from the literature, and from the many presentations I have heard on the subject, that the greatest value in the use of genomic information will be in three areas. Firstly, through increasing accuracy of selection, because genomic information will enhance the accuracy of Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBV's). Secondly, because genomic information will allow selection decisions for a number of traits to be made at an earlier age than is now possible, thus potentially shortening generation interval, and thirdly due to the ability to select for traits which we as breeders find difficult, expensive, or even impossible to measure on the live animal - the traits that have become known collectively as the 'hard to measure' (HTM) traits.



Photo Courtesy of Ian Turner

The current situation

When considering the role that genomics may have within the terminal sire industry, I chose to look at its potential role in selection for what I call 'core' and 'non-core' traits. The 'core' traits are those that have been traditionally selected for within this sector of the sheep industry, namely weight, fat, and muscle. There is also an argument to say that selection for parasite resistance through the measurement of worm egg counts (WEC) would also be considered a 'core' trait by a number of breeders.

In the case of many terminal sire breeding operations, by the time potential replacement animals are six months of

age, breeders have already collected upwards of ten pieces of information relating to phenotype and pedigree. This allows the use of Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBVs) with accuracies in the range of 65 – 75 % in selecting both rams and ewes to use within a breeding program at 7 months of age. It follows therefore that we are practising early selection with reasonable accuracy, and so although genomic information will enhance the accuracy of selection for these core traits slightly, the gains over the current situation will be minimal.

The story for 'non-core' traits is quite different. As mentioned previously these traits include many which may not be possible to measure on live animals. Of particular interest to us are those traits directly linked to eating quality, such as shear force and intra muscular fat, although there are many others for which genomic information will possibly be the only information available, or at least the major information source, when estimating breeding values. It is here that genomic information will be of the greatest use in terminal sire breeding operations. It is also here that we have the greatest need for a reference population to both discover and validate genomic information.

Future challenges

There are many challenges for the sheep industry in relation to genomics, but three are of particular importance. The first is the uptake and use of genomic information by breeders, and the industry as a whole. History clearly shows us that there are different categories of users of new technologies within the sheep industry, ranging from the early adopters through to those that will never use the technology, no matter what the demonstrated advantage. The early adopters will embrace this technology, and they will be followed by the 'second tier' adopters, but only if a financial advantage or reward can be demonstrated. So here we come to the real crux of the problem – the early adopters will use the technology, in many cases regardless of the economics, because that is their nature. The second tier may dabble, but there will need to be a clearly demonstrated reward for them to adopt this technology in the long term – in short, a reward for effort. This is then the first challenge for industry – to reward those who use this technology through increased market share and financial returns.

The second challenge is how this genomic information is reported to breeders. Stand alone 'molecular' breeding values are of little use to me. What will be of greatest use, is the incorporation of genomic information into existing genetic evaluation programs, such as LAMBPLAN, with the inclusion of that information reflecting an increase in

accuracy of breeding values. This will then mean that we as breeders, along with our commercial clients, are only dealing with one source of information. The challenge for industry here will be to forge cooperation between a number of commercial and research agencies to facilitate the sharing of information, as opposed to the duplication of testing and research.

The third challenge for industry is the maintenance of a reference population beyond the timeframe of the current Sheep CRC Information Nucleus. In the case of the 'core traits' mentioned earlier, there are a number of breeders, or breeding groups, that could be used in both the discovery and validation roles required of a reference population. It is in the 'non-core' situation that the real challenge exists, and it is here that the entire industry, from seed stock producers through to the consumer, must be engaged to allow the work already done on traits linked to eating quality and nutrition to continue. Putting it bluntly, that engagement must be financial, and it must be enduring – there will have to be greater returns for the higher quality product produced through the use of genomic information to allow industry to support relevant reference populations, and that support must be long term.

Conclusion

While genomic information will marginally improve the accuracy of selection for the 'core traits' of weight, fat and muscle in the terminal sire industry, it will have minimal effect on increasing genetic gain through the reduction of generation interval because terminal breeders already have the ability to select early with reasonable accuracy. It is clear, however, that there may be significant value to the terminal sire sector of the sheep industry in the area of HTM traits, which I have designated as the 'non-core' traits. The challenge for the industry is to develop a cheap reliable test, which may be incorporated into existing genetic evaluation programs, and to engage the entire industry in its uptake and use. Additionally, the sheep industry must work towards the maintenance of viable reference populations to allow genomic information to remain relevant to the industry population. Genomic information does have the ability to enhance what the lamb industry is producing, but only if the whole of industry is engaged in this 'genomics revolution'.

Steve Milne, Waratah White Suffolks

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

MIKE BARTON

OUTSTANDING SERVICE & CONTRIBUTION TO THE NSW WHITE SUFFOLK BREEDERS GROUP

At Dubbo Show 2011 Mike Barton "Yarrahappini" White Suffolk Stud (159) was presented with a certificate of Appreciation for his outstanding service and contribution to the NSW White Suffolk Breeders Group and the White Suffolk breed as a whole.

Mike has been involved in the White Suffolk Breed since its inception and before.

Mike has overseen the PLG Group also for many years until its sale and dispersal in the past few years.

Mikes stud has now been dispersed with the majority of the Stud being sold to Paul Routley "Almondvale" White Suffolk Stud at Urana (529).

Another Certificate was also presented to Rosemary Small "Abrona" White Suffolk Stud (280) for her services to the NSW White Suffolk Breeders Group, as a loyal secretary for the group for many years.

The NSW White Suffolk Breeders Group sincerely thank both Mike and Rosemary for their efforts and appreciate all their hard work and commitment to our group .

The Australian White Suffolk Association would like to thank Scott and Elaine Woodley and their girls for all the time and effort they put into the organising the White Suffolks at Dubbo Show.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.....

I would like to thank the AWSA & the NSW Breeders Group for presenting me with a Certificate of Appreciation for my involvement with the White Suffolk Breed.

Being one of the first breeders of White Suffolk Sheep in Australia (the world – some questioned my sanity), being involved in the mid 1970 with Prof Euan Roberts program to breed a White/Suffolk sheep. It is most gratifying to see the great improvement the breed has made since then. It is also pleasing to see a number of young Stud Breeders taking up the challenge.

One of the most important things the breed has achieved, was making the once dominant Poll Dorset breed lift its game, which has benefitted the production of Prime Lambs. This has made the lamb industry, for a number of years, the elite rural industry in Australian agriculture.

The showing of the sheep plays an important role in presenting to the public and other breeders the quality of the White Suffolk sheep – but the real champions are the rams (not show quality) that are out in the paddock siring quality lambs for the domestic and export markets.

There is still more to be done – producing a ram that grows rapidly to 100kgs (with meat and little fat) but does not grow any heavier. I have not achieved that. Big is not beautiful.

In conclusion, once again my thanks. I would like to thank the PLG members Alan Luff and Simon Beattie for their help and support. Also the friendships I have made, being involved with the breed.

Sincerely, Mike Barton

1. Mike Barton with Scott, Laura and Elsie Woodley at Dubbo Show.

2. Mike Barton "Yarrahappini" White Suffolk Stud being presented with a Certificate of Appreciation at Dubbo Show 2011.

3. Mike has dispersed his stud after many years breeding and is semi retiring.



DUBBO SHOW RESULTS 2011

27TH-29TH MAY 2011, DUBBO NEW SOUTH WALES



CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK RAM



CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK EWE & RESERVE CHAMPION RAM

Janice Bennett, Entries Co-Ordinator writes:

Fourteen exhibitors and approximately 180 entries resulted in keen competition for the Judge's attention. First time exhibitor at Dubbo Dugald McIndoe from Smithston White Suffolk Stud vied with Ian and Donna Gilmore of the Tattykeel Stud for top honours in the Champion Ram and Champion Ewe classes with the Gilmores receiving the award for Most Successful Exhibitor as well as the Supreme Champion White Suffolk Exhibit.

With very strong competition across thirteen separate breeds of sheep Ian and Donna Gilmore (Tattykeel White Suffolk Stud) were proud winners of the Sandra Wilson-Tink Memorial Shield for Supreme Exhibit of the 2011 Landmark New South Wales Sheep Show with their White Suffolk Ram.

The 2012 NSW Sheep Show will be held at the Dubbo Annual Show from 18th to 20th May with entries closing Thursday, 24th April, 2012. Schedules may be obtained from either the Show Office or Jan Bennett on 02 6882 8001. Corriedales will be featured in 2012.



< SUPREME EXHIBIT

Joyce Dixon (Ashbank Stud) presenting Sandra Wilson-Tink Memorial Trophy Shield for Supreme Exhibit To Tattykeel 'Turbo' at NSW Sheepshow Championships - Dubbo.

Champion Ram

1. "Tatty Keel" I & D Gilmore

Reserve Champion Ram

1. "Smithston" Smithston Farms P/L

Champion Ewe

1. "Tatty Keel" I & D Gilmore

Reserve Champion Ewe

1. "Tatty Keel" I & D Gilmore

Keith McIntosh Memorial Award - Sires Progeny Group

1. "Premier" BJ & LB Gilmore

Group 1 Ram & 2 Ewes

1. "Smithston" Smithston Farms P/L

Best White Suffolk Head

1. "Smithston" Smithston Farms P/L

Supreme Champion White Suffolk Exhibit

1. "Tatty Keel" I & D Gilmore (RAM)

Most Successful Exhibitor

1. "Tatty Keel" I & D Gilmore

Champion Shortwool Interbreed Ram

1. "Tatty Keel" I & D Gilmore (WHITE SUFFOLK)

Supreme Champion Interbreed Ram

1. "Tatty Keel" I & D Gilmore (WHITE SUFFOLK)

Supreme Sheep Exhibit of the Show. Sandra Wilson-Tink Memorial Trophy

1. "Tatty Keel" I & D Gilmore (WHITE SUFFOLK RAM)

If you haven't been to a White Suffolk Conference before...

This is a bit of what goes on.....



Members will be coming to Hadspen from all over Australia 12th-15th February 2012

To learn from experts



- hear the latest research & developments in the industry
- take part in practical demonstrations/workshops



For a bit of a social gathering – meet and make new friends



Have your say – discuss issues of concern or ideas for the breed.



Come & enjoy some of Tassie's great food, & wine.



And there's always time for a bit of rest and relaxation



Maybe make it a family holiday and tour the state & studs after the conference



So get on the phone.

-why not go & book your flight & accommodation today.....?



www.whitesuffolk.com.au for all the info or ring our secretary if you aren't on the web.

Full itinerary will be posted to you shortly. Cost will be similar to the last conference.

Book early if coming on Spirit of Tasmania as vehicle spaces fill early this time of year.

SHEEP CRC RECEIVES 2011 STAR AWARD

THE SHEEP CRC'S EFFORTS IN WORKING WITH INDUSTRY IN THE KEY AREA OF GENETICS HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED WITH A PRESTIGIOUS AWARD.

PRESS RELEASE FRIDAY, 20TH MAY 2011

The 2011 CRC Program STAR Award was presented at the Excellence in Innovation Awards event held in Brisbane this week as part of the Cooperative Research Centre Association's annual conference. Sheep CRC CEO, Prof James Rowe, says the Award acknowledges co-operation between researchers and industry, specifically in the CRC's Information Nucleus flock.

"It was obvious that the Information Nucleus flock, with its close, fruitful and ongoing collaboration with numerous Australian sheep breeders, would be a worthy nomination."

"It is a very deserving outcome for the Sheep CRC's collaborators – represented by Queensland Merino breeders Mark & Vicki Murphy and Victorian White Suffolk breeders Steve & Debbie Milne - to receive such awards as it showcases our efforts in working together for a greater industry good."

"It's also a credit to the Sheep Genetics team and the parent organisations - MLA and AWI - for their role in coordinating activities between the breeders and the Information Nucleus program."

"The focus of the STAR awards on effective cooperation with small and medium sized enterprises is an excellent initiative of DIISR's CRC Program."

Broadly, the Sheep CRC's research focuses on improved genetic gain and management of more productive, easy-to-manage sheep while re-positioning sheep meat and wool as high value niche products meeting modern consumer's quality expectations. The Information Nucleus (IN) flock Program is central to the CRC's work; it is delivering new and far reaching genetic information and data for genomic prediction of sheep breeding values.

Mark Murphy says: "The potential of the new genomic technologies is very significant for the Merino industry. The ability to predict breeding values based on DNA samples taken from young rams will allow us to shorten the generation interval for breeding programs and potentially increase rates of genetic gain by around 50%. Rates of increase of this magnitude are relatively rare and this makes it exciting to be involved with the research."

Steve Milne says: "Information from the IN Program has been valuable in providing a comprehensive picture of genetic parameters across all important studs and blood lines in the Australian sheep industry."



New information from the IN program is already having an impact in starting to breed for improved meat quality - while still making good gains in growth and lean meat production.

Co-operation by stud breeders in the IN Program has made a major contribution to its success and is benefiting industry through the rapid delivery of results and widespread utilisation of the new information in commercial breeding programs.

During the last 4 years, a total of more than 300 stud breeders have engaged with the CRC via Sheep Genetics as part of the IN flock work, through:

- Voluntarily collecting and providing semen from hundreds of young rams
- Reviewing, analysing and displaying regularly updated data and information
- Working on the first genomics pre-commercialisation Pilot Project, which has put the CRC and the industry at the international forefront in commercialising genomic technologies.

CRC's support end user driven research collaborations to address clearly articulated, major challenges facing Australia, many of which are global challenges. The STAR Awards recognise the vital role CRCs play in encouraging innovation and research in SMEs.

More details on the CRC Program STAR Award winners and the CRC Program are available from:
www.crc.gov.au

WA BREEDERS WORKSHOP

SUNDAY 27TH MARCH 2011

The WA Branch of the Australian White Suffolk Association organised a workshop for their members on Sunday 27th of March, which was held at Malcolm & Julie Klantes' Wesswood Stud at Serpentine. Fifteen members representing 9 studs were present as well as two Suffolk breeders and a Tafe Ag teacher.

Those studs attending were each presented with a pair of Hortex Delux Sheep Hoof Paring Pliers which were generously sponsored by Hortex. These Hoof trimmers are superior to any other like tool on the market. Hortex can be contacted on (08) 9277 9377 to direct anyone to their nearest supplier.

We were fortunate to have secured Hamish Chandler of Sheep Genetics NSW to speak on Lambplan updates and how to understand it.

Hamish is very approachable and his one hour spot turned into two and a half hours, such was the interest and questions. I think most members and visitors came away with better understanding of this useful tool.

The second segment was preparing sheep for sales and shows demonstrated by M & J Klante who have sold their stud and were happy to share their knowledge with all.

Two friends of the Klantes' worked all day to keep up the abundance of delicious food to members and speakers which was greatly appreciated.

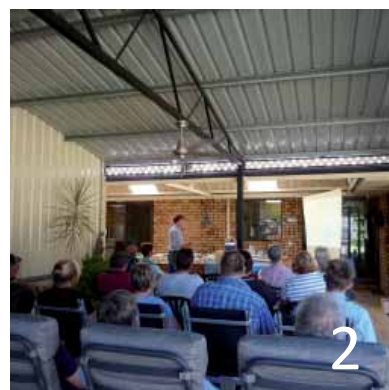
After lunch we had Pam Hinkly from the Pamellen Suffolk Stud who spoke and demonstrated on a variety of sheep, the art of selecting and breeding good flock and show sheep. The members were given the opportunity to have hands on education

The last speaker was Simon Bell of Breedtech, Kojonup, who spoke on preparation and doing AI and Embryo Transfers, which was very enlightening for most and showed the fast genetic gains from only using the very top ewes. Another subject was the safe way to use the drug A.C.E. to aid in calmer sheep to handle in stressful operations.

The WA Branch of the AWSA would like to publicly acknowledge our gratitude to the speakers and helpers.

Julie Klante

1. John Argent accepting his Hortex Deluxe Hoof Paring Pliers from Julie Klante WA Secretary of the Australian White Suffolk Association.
2. Audience at the Workshop listening to Hamish Chandler on Lambplan
3. Wesswood Sophie being fleeced
4. Hands on from members with Pam Hinkly
5. Vet Simon Bell from Breedtech making sure everyone was sure which hole to plug a ewe for AI-ing.



BENDING OASIS VS HRES V BRES 2011

DATE OF THE EVENT: 2011 PLACE: AUSTRALIAN SHEEP AND WOOL SHOW, BENDIGO

JUDGE: MR PETER BUTTON. EXHIBITORS: 21. ENTRIES: 161



GRAND & JUNIOR CHAMPION RAM
CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK RAM

Congratulations to 'Rene Stud' whose Champion White Suffolk ram went on to take out the 'Supreme Australian Prime Lamb Exhibit' of all short wool breeds (rams and ewes).

1. "Timor" Jason & Vicki Barker
2. "Kurralea" JE & KM Prentice

Novice Ram

1. "Kurralea" JE & KM Prentice

Highly Commended: "Warburn" A & M Dissegna
2. "EMC"

Ram U 1 1/2 yrs in Wool

1. "Rene Stud"
2. "Warburn Stud" A & M Dissegna
3. "Fairburn Stud"

Ram U 1 1/2 yrs born in April

1. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer
2. "Hayelle" H & M Whittlesea
3. "Wattle Park"

Ram U 1 1/2 yrs born in May

1. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer
2. "Warburn Stud" A & M Dissegna
3. "Warburn Stud" A & M Dissegna

Pair of Rams born April - June

1. "Gemini" C & R Mitchell
2. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer
3. "Kulbura"

Ram U 1 1/2 yrs born in June

1. "Merribrook"
2. "Kulbura"
3. "Rene Stud"



SENIOR CHAMPION RAM &
CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK EWE
RESERVE SENIOR CHAMPION RAM

Senior Champion Ram

1. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer

Reserve Senior Champion Ram

1. "Rene Stud"

Junior Pair Of Rams

1. "Warburn Stud" A & M Dissegna
2. "Fairburn Stud"
3. "Wattle Park"

Ram U 1 1/2 yrs born in July

1. "Rene Stud"
2. "Warburn Stud" A & M Dissegna
3. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer

Ram U 1 1/2 yrs born in August

1. "Rene Stud"
2. "Hayelle" H & M Whittlesea
3. "Laurel View" D & T Baumgartner

Ram lamb

1. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer
2. "Omad"
3. "Omad"

Junior Champion Ram

1. "Rene Stud"

Reserve Junior Champion Ram

1. "Rene Stud"

Grand Champion Ram

1. "Rene Stud"

'SHOW NAME' SHOW RESULTS 2011

DATE OF THE SHOW, PLACE IT WAS HELD AT



CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK RAM
CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK EWE, SUPREME CHAMPION

CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK EWE

Class WHITE SUFFOLK & SUPREME
"AUSTRALIAN PRIME LAMB BREEDS"
Any extra details

1. "Timor" Jason & Vicki Barker
2. "Kurralea" JE & KM Prentice
3. "Kurralea" JE & KM Prentice

Novice Ewe

1. "EMC"
 2. "EMC"
- Highly Commended: "Warburn" A & M Dissegna

Ewe over 1 1/2 yrs with LAF

1. "Hayelle" H & M Whittlesea
2. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer
3. "Jarrabay"

Ewe U 1 1/2 yrs in the wool

1. "Rene Stud"
2. "Glenarbian" I & B Nitschke
3. "Merribrook"

Ewe U 1 1/2 yrs born April-May

1. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer
2. "Boooloola"
3. "Glenarbian" I & B Nitschke

Ewe U 1 1/2 yrs born June-July

1. "Boooloola"
2. "Rene Stud"
3. "Wattle Park"

Ewe U 1 1/2 yrs born after August

1. "Wattle Park"
2. "Rene Stud"
3. "Wattle Park"

Ewe lamb

1. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer
2. "Hayelle" H & M Whittlesea
3. "Hayelle" H & M Whittlesea

Champion Ewe

1. "Rene Stud"

Reserve Champion Ewe

1. "Boooloola"

Breeder's Group

1. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer
2. "Warburn Stud" A & M Dissegna
3. "Induro"

Sire's Progeny Group

1. "Rene Stud"
2. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer
3. "Warburn Stud" A & M Dissegna

Supreme Champion White Suffolk Exhibit

1. "Rene Stud"

Most Successful Exhibitor

1. "Wingamin" C & D Shillabeer

Supreme Interbreed Short Wool Exhibit

1. RENE STUD

MLA RAMPS UP ADVANTAGES OF LAMB CUTS

FARM WEEKLY, THURSDAY 26TH MAY 2011

“Sheep & Wool Focus 2011” Feature

With growing perceptions lamb is becoming more expensive, Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) is rolling out new programs designed to raise awareness of the range of affordable cuts.

Beyond our borders it's well known you can use lamb neck to make a moussaka or a lamb shoulder for an aromatic lamb pasanda.

Locally, the popularity of non-loin cuts such as lamb shoulder, neck and rump is gaining momentum with two new initiatives from MLA aiming to keep lamb on the table at homes and in restaurants, despite strengthening prices.

MLA is looking to global flavours to inspire Australian butcher and chefs to venture beyond lamb backstrap and cutlets to other equally tasty, less expensive cuts, through MLA's Lamb Masterpieces and “Racking up your Profits” programs.

MLA general manager marketing Glen Feist said with lamb prices holding firm, now was the time to educate and inspire chefs, butchers and consumers on how to get the most out of lamb using less expensive cuts, to ensure the Australian love affair with lamb continued.

“We want to inspire people with ideas from throughout the world where they are great at turning less expensive cuts – like shoulder, neck, rump, mince and ribs – into delicious meals,” Mr Feist said.

Most Australian are hesitant about cooking cuts they are unfamiliar with, preferring to cook tried and true traditional Australian favorites such as lamb legs, chops and cutlets.

“They are generally unaware of what can be created from the less expensive non-loin cuts.

“Lamb Masterpieces and Racking up your profits are a great step in educating chefs and butchers that cuts such as neck can make a delicious lamb ragu or lamb moussaka at an affordable price for consumers.

“We are targeting chefs and retailers initially, as we know consumer home-cooking habits are influenced by what they eat when they are out and what they can buy at their local butcher or supermarket.



“We hope the program will continue the success of previous MLA food service marketing initiatives, such as those that helped promote lamb shank – a cut once known by many as a bone for the dog – to a popular lamb cut at food service and now at home.

“As these cuts and meals become more popular and widely available at food service and retail, we will ramp up our consumer marketing efforts accordingly.”

Lamb Masterpieces is currently being rolled out to the chefs throughout Australia, educating food service industry on getting the best cooking outcomes from less expensive lamb cuts, while “Racking up your profits” is helping butchers maximize their returns by adding value to different cuts.

“Chefs, butchers and consumers need to be reminded lamb doesn't need to be saved for a special occasion,” Mr Feist said. “There is a wide range of cuts that can be turned into fantastic meals to suit different tastes, occasions and budgets.”

DIET ROUGHAGE CONTENT CRITICAL FOR FAST GROWING LAMBS

THE AUSTRALIAN FARM JOURNAL, MAY 2011.

Sheep and cattle require fibre in their diet to stimulate the growth and development of the rumen during the pre-weaning phase, and once weaned, to stimulate rumen motility and saliva production to provide natural buffering (maintenance of rumen pH) of the stomach environment.

Chewing is stimulated by article length and particle size, the aim being to reduce the particle size to facilitate digestive processes. At a laboratory level, fibre is measured and reported as acid detergent fibre (ADF) for cereal grains, or neutral detergent fibre (NDF) for roughages such as hay, straw, almond hulls or silage. NDF consists of the slowly digested fibrous portion of the plant, the cellulose, hemicellulose and lignin which is most of the cell wall material.

As total dietary NDF increases voluntary intake tends to decline. ADF is a sub-fraction of NDF and consists primarily of lignin and cellulose and has a strong, negative relationship with digestibility. Neither ADF nor NDF provide an accurate measure of the effectiveness of the fibre in the diet, and although NDF of long fibre can provide an indication, once that fibre is processed into pellet form, the usefulness of NDF as a predictive measure is negated.

In response to a survey of intensive lamb finishers across Australia, 60% of large and medium producers and 35% of small producers indicated that they provided 'high quality' roughage to lambs, however, between 25%-45% of all finishers indicated that they provided low quality roughage. Some 14% of small feedlotters did not provide any roughage, but this may have indicated the use of pellets.

The respondent's judgement of quality was not defined in the survey.

The majority of medium and large operations provided greater than 50% roughage in the starter ration with a reduction of the roughage component in the finishing ration. Of the medium sized operations, 13% retained 13% roughage in the finisher ration while 50% and 38% of the large and medium finishers respectively reduced the roughage component of the finishing ration to less than 10%.

Pellets for roughage

Many lamb finishers in Western Australia use hay-based pellets to grow out lambs, in particular those producers belonging to supply chains either, Q Lamb or the Merino Lamb Alliance, where pellet finishing is a requirement. Grain-based pellets are more readily available in the eastern states and more competitively priced than hay-based pellets.

Roughage is a major component of the diet of fast-growing lambs as more than 75% of small, medium and large operations supply grain and hay (or a roughage source) on an ad libitum basis. Despite some intensive lamb finishers being encouraged by a team of mineral concentrate sales people to remove all effective fibre from their feedlot rations to increase feed conversion efficiency, and hence profitability, trials by the New South Wales Department of Agriculture have found no cost benefit from this practice. Instead, there is an increase in animal health problems.



As there is the potential for substantial amounts of wastage when feeding hay or straw on an ad libitum basis, producers are attracted by the recommendations of any feeding solution which may alleviate the need to provide a roughage source. Wastage is predominantly an issue of feed delivery design.

The rate at which the fibre is degraded in the rumen, chop length and the type of fibre used, are seen as the most important factors relating to the fibre requirements of the diet. Processed roughage provided in pelleted form, although reducing the rate of ruminal degradation, is limited in its effectiveness in stimulating chewing and hence, saliva production. However, the fall in rumen pH following fermentation of pelleted feed, can be reduced by the addition of a fibre source as opposed to grain-based pellets, which as a rule, are wheat based and therefore rapidly fermented.

Nutritionists tend to refer to the percentage of roughage (hay, straw, almond hulls or silage) in a diet to provide an indication of the proportion of effective fibre the diet is providing. Ideally, 20% roughage in the ration should be sufficient to maintain rumen pH, and a minimum of 27%-30% NDF.

Key points:

- Provide an effective source of fibre in the rations of intensively finished lambs, either in the form of high quality roughage on an ad libitum basis or in the form of increased particle size in hay-based pellets.
- Minimum NDF of the ration should be 27-30%
- Roughage should be included in the diet at a minimum of 10% of total dry matter.

One study found a significant reduction in dry matter intake in lambs with a low level of dietary NDF fed in conjunction with a rapidly available form of carbohydrate, and given the opportunity, lambs would select diets with a more slowly digested source of carbohydrates. In a further study comparing diets containing differing proportions of lucerne hay and wheat fed to lambs, the greatest level of feed efficiency was recorded with 25% lucerne hay in the diet.

Sheep and cattle appear to differ in their minimum fibre requirements, especially in terms of fatty acid production, and it appears that sheep in particular require a minimum of 10% roughage in the diet. The quality of the roughage,

if fed out on an ad libitum basis, is important to encourage appetite and intake during the introductory period to grain.

Feeding silage

Although hay appears to be the most commonly fed roughage source, many lambs are grown out on high quality pastures, or have silage included as a component of their ration. The growth response of lambs to chopped silage can relate directly to the quality of the silage: chopping lucerne silage can increase growth rates but also costs, therefore, the growth response to chopping requires further clarification.

Lucerne silage supplemented with barley and lupins produced higher growth rates in second cross lambs than supplemented oaten silage. Studies feeding grass silage to store lambs, found that the chop length has a greater effect on intake and performance than digestibility, although, when shredded silage was fed to lambs, it had no effect on dry matter intake or daily live weight gain.

A study on the effect of lucerne silage chop length on growth rate found a difference in growth rate with chop length that was significant only in the absence of grain supplementation. It found a significant difference in growth rate between a chop length of 75 centimeters and 1cm-3cm with oaten silage, but the work was confounded by the poor quality of the silage, and it was unable to determine the importance of chop length with good quality silages.

Although intensive feedlot rations for beef cattle and lambs tend to be grain dominant, one study found lambs fed on a 'low energy' diet consisting of 70% lucerne hay and 30% concentrates had an increased daily rate of live weight gain, converted feed to gain more efficiently and had fewer digestive disturbances than those on a 70% concentrate ration.

- Find out more: Best practice for production feeding of lambs: a review of the literature, published by MLA, www.mla.com.au

In 2011, the sheepmeat industry is expected to experience a year characterised by a welcome improvement in seasonal conditions, rebuilding intentions, relatively high prices, limited world supplies and strong demand, particularly abroad.

The Australian Sheepmeat Industry: 2011

Introduction

Short term challenges for the industry include the limited supply to meet growing demand, potential buyer resistance to the record lamb prices, the strong A\$ and the need to expand the industry flock at the same time as servicing the ever growing consumer demand and the producer's need for cash flow.

Despite this, the industry now more than ever is better positioned to meet these challenges, partly due to the current seasonal environment and the move to a meat based flock. Indeed, the Australian industry is a major world supplier and able to meet (at least in part) the growing global sheepmeat demand.

This environment is expected to continue in the next five years, unless there is a return to below average seasons.

The sheep flock

Preliminary estimates released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) indicate that the Australian sheep flock as at 30 June 2010 totalled 67.7 million head, a fall of 3% (or 2.3 million head) on the 70 million head estimated by MLA at 30 June 2009. The flock is now the smallest since 1905.

This can be explained by the harsh seasonal conditions during the period, and the large decline in the number of ewes in 2009 (down 10% from 45.4 million head in June 2008 to 40.9 million). The 3% decline in 2010 follows a 10% fall in the flock recorded at June 2008 and a further 9% fall in 2009 – bringing the decline over the past four years to 23.3 million, or 26% (from 91 million).

The rapid reduction in the flock in the five years to June 2010 resulted from the massive turnoff of Merino wethers and Merino breeding ewes, as wool returns were relatively poor compared with other commodities, particularly crops.

The persistent dry conditions across Australian sheep producing regions in the final half of 2009 and the continued dry conditions in WA in 2010 contributed to the latest flock decline.

The decline in the flock was across all states. The NSW and WA flocks both fell 3% year-on-year to 23.9 million head and 14.7 million head, down from an estimated 24.6 million head and 15.1 million head at June 2009, with the decline in NSW overtaking that in WA for the first time in two years.

At June 2010, the Victorian and Tasmanian flocks both declined 2% to 14.4 million head and 2 million head, respectively. The SA flock recorded a 4% decline to 9 million head and the Queensland flock fell 7% to 3.6 million head.

Outlook for the flock

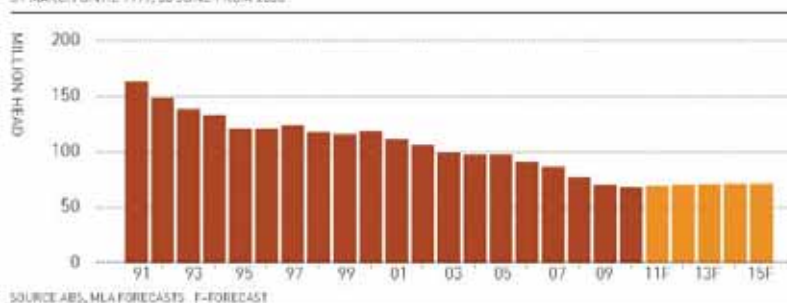
In 2011, the flock is expected to show the first sign of rebuilding since the early 1990s, with numbers expected to recover by 1.6% to 68.8 million head due to a number of factors.

Firstly, the significant turnaround in seasonal conditions in the eastern states in 2010 has had a major influence on producers rebuilding intentions. The eastern states has been experiencing one of the best seasons on record in many regions, and this has had a major positive influence on lambing and marking percentages, particularly in the second half of 2010.

However, any extreme season brings its own regional challenges, with the wet season causing flood losses, worm burdens and rank pasture in some areas. A significant unknown at the moment is the extent of sheep losses in Queensland, western NSW and Victoria as a result of the floods. Although some losses are expected, they are not anticipated to have a major impact on the national flock.

FIGURE 1 National flock to turn around in 2011

31 MARCH UNTIL 1999, 30 JUNE FROM 2000





WA – contrasting trends to the east

WA has been in the midst of a very severe drought, with 2010 rainfall in the south east the lowest on record. This follows a run of poor seasons over the past decade. Hence, livestock producers have struggled to hold onto core breeding stock, as feed and water supplies disappear.

Given these conditions, producers in WA have not experienced the turnaround registered in the eastern part of Australia and continue to run down flock numbers. In addition, there has been a large and unprecedented one million head plus sell off of sheep and lambs to the eastern states, particularly in the second half of 2010.

As such, WA represents a major constraint to the national turnaround in the flock. It is expected that the WA flock will fall by 15% in 2011, to 12.4 million head, before beginning a slow rebuild in 2012-2013.

The impacts of these trends will be severe and far reaching for the WA sheepmeat industry, as evidenced by processor concern with regard to securing adequate numbers for their business.

In addition, the live sheep trade (majority sourced from WA) will be hit hard as the numbers will not be available to meet demand.

The only positive is that despite the turnoff, prices have been strong and underpinned by eastern state purchases. Prices are expected to remain strong, given low supplies, Middle East and restocker demand.

If drought breaks, it will be essential for producers to have held onto their core breeding flock to ensure they have a base to go forward. However, finance will also continue to be a problem for producers in WA as banks tighten their requirements.

Once and if drought breaks, producers in WA will face the challenge of balancing the need to maintain cash flow and servicing debts with the potential advantage of holding onto stock for rebuilding. Following such a poor year in 2010-11, particularly from crops, cash flow is likely to force many WA producers to continue turning off extra livestock through 2010-11.

Outlook for lamb supply

Despite the slow start, lamb slaughter is expected to increase year-on-year to 20.2 million head in 2011. The increase is the combined result of the shift to prime lamb production in recent years and the exceptional seasonal conditions.

Lamb supply should improve steadily over the longer term, as the flock rebuilds slowly, the proportion of meat breed ewes expands and a larger proportion of Merino ewes are joined for slaughter lamb production.

In addition, there has been an increase in the average lamb marking rate (lambs marked as a percentage of ewes joined) in recent years. Following an increase of three percentage points between 2006-07 and 2008-09, to 85%, it is estimated that lamb marking rates rose to 87% in 2009-10, with this average expected to be maintained in 2010-11.

The higher lambing rate is due to the dramatic improvement in seasonal conditions across many lamb producing regions of eastern Australia and the expected productivity gains resulting from the shift in the breeding ewe composition of the flock.

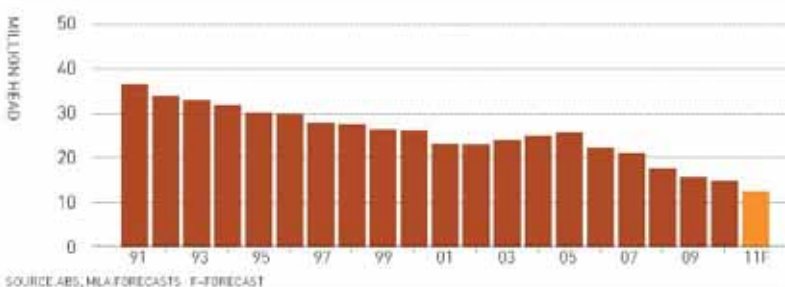
As a result of the continued shift within the flock to slaughter lamb production and productivity gains, lamb slaughter as a percentage of breeding ewes is forecast to increase from approximately 48% in 2010 to 54% in 2011.

By 2015, lamb slaughter is forecast to rise to around 23.5 million head, 25% higher than in 2010.

With good seasonal conditions and ample feed and water supplies expected in 2011,

FIGURE 2 Contrasting Conditions in the West

31 MARCH UNTIL 1999, 30 JUNE FROM 2000



MAKING MORE QUALITY LAMB

THE LAND, THURSDAY, 9TH DECEMBER 2010



1. Meat and livestock Australia lamb and sheepmeat manager, Alex Ball, says a better understanding of genetic traits impacting lamb eating quality will improve profitability for the whole industry.

The connection between healthy lambs in the paddock and a tasty cutlet sitting on the plate is becoming more widely understood and sheep producers are learning how this impacts on their enterprises.

Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) is currently funding a Sheep Co-operative Research Centre (CRC) research project to establish the relationship between consumer evaluation and objective measurement of lamb eating quality. The results from the project will underpin new developments in the Meat Standards Australia (MSA) lamb grading model. The development of a prototype predictive model is on target for launch in mid-2012. The model will give producers insights into how practices such as genetic selection and on-farm management impact on eating quality. MLA lamb and sheepmeat manager, Alex Ball, said the genetic interactions between lean meat yield (LMY), shear force (SF) and intramuscular fat (IMF) and objective indicators of eating quality in the lamb loin were already understood, based on Sheep CRC data. Dr Ball said this research was for the good of the whole industry, rather than resulting in extra dollars for any particular section of the value chain.

“It’s a way of identifying genetics for these traits, and making sure they are used to maintain the integrity of the sheep industry in meeting consumer objectives,” Dr Ball said.

“The lamb that people eat every day needs to be of a high three- and four star quality.”

“With this knowledge, consistent four and five-star quality is more likely to be the outcome.”

In previous Sheep CRC research, LMY, SF and IMF showed moderate to high heritability along with a large range within breeds, which indicates genetic progress is assured. There are also some unfavourable genetic correlations, such as LMY

increases, IMF decreases and SF increases, however, these can be managed with balanced selection. Dr Ball also said early indicators show that in all sheep breeds, including Merinos and recently introduced breeds, there are sires with highly desirable eating quality traits. The research project is using animals in the Sheep CRC’s Information Nucleus Flock and will measure 30 meat traits on 2000 slaughter lambs annually, derived from 90 new industry sires every year for five years. MLA’s Making More From Sheep (MMFS) program will then take these results and feed it into its modules. Two modules included in the MMFS program are the Gain from Genetics and Healthy and Contented Sheep.

The Gain from Genetics module helps commercial flock owners capture the benefits offered by improving genetics. It outlines an effective approach to genetic selection which enables the producer to recognise how selecting the right genetics can contribute to sheep enterprise productivity. It also introduces the many free tools available to producers to help make genetic selection easier. The Healthy and Contented Sheep module presents an effective approach to managing the health and wellbeing of sheep by implementing effective health management programs by exposing sheep to fewer chemicals and delaying development of chemical resistance by sheep parasites. It aims to instil confidence that sheep parasites and diseases can be managed in a cost-effective way while maximising profitability. Recently appointed NSW MMFS co-ordinator, Lloyd Kingham, said producers could use the modules to get a handle on the impact of genetics and on-farm management.

Industry and Investment NSW PROfarm workshops and field days many of which are approved under the DAFF FarmReady scheme will be delivered to producers across the State by skilled sheep and pasture agronomy technical specialists. Agribusiness specialists from private enterprise will also play an important role in delivery of MMFS in NSW.

After five years as the eastern Riverina drought support worker, Mr Kingham is looking forward to working with livestock producers to increase profitability and productivity.

“MMFS fits perfectly, helping sheep producers fine tune their enterprise, and position their genetics and management skills to take advantage of future demands for meat with desirable eating qualities,” he said.

“There are a number of steps that can be taken through on-farm management and genetics to help you get there.”

“The MMFS modules are well researched and proven.”

Visit www.makingmorefromsheep.com

WHITE SUFFOLKS PROVIDING MATERNAL OPTIONS

SUFFOLK AND STOCK JOURNAL 16TH DECEMBER 2019 MORE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
NARELLE SCOTT

For Lucindale based mixed farmers Howard & Colleen Smith, White Suffolks are now producing the profitable and easy care commercial sheep flock they had been seeking for a long time.

They are using this traditional terminal sire breed in a self replacing maternal flock on their 1500 acre family property, 'Mundalena', at Lucindale and couldn't be happier with the results.

"While it will probably take a few more years to have the flock exactly how we want it, we are now far enough down the development path to really see the benefits from our program," Howard said.

The Smiths are not breaking totally new ground, for MLA figures indicate that approximately 8% of Australia's sheep breeding flock and 20% of the non-Merino ewe base has some White Suffolk influence. However, very few are as far advanced as Howard and Colleen are in producing a self-replacing commercial White Suffolk flock. The breed is becoming more popular for producing first cross ewes for the production of second cross prime lambs, but the Smiths have taken it one step further.

"We were looking for a more productive, profitable and easier care management breed than our self replacing Merino flock in this environment. The main areas where we wanted improvement were overall flock fertility; plus

management of fast growing lambs that were difficult to rear and grass seed production. The White Suffolk breed was chosen for its ability to produce a self-replacing maternal flock on their 1500 acre family property, 'Mundalena', at Lucindale and couldn't be happier with the results. The breed is becoming more popular for producing first cross ewes for the production of second cross prime lambs, but the Smiths have taken it one step further.

to treat sheep affected by flystrike and "We consistently get the bare points we deal with. The breed is becoming more popular for producing first cross ewes for the production of second cross prime lambs, but the Smiths have taken it one step further.

"We looked for a better breeding program, and when we saw the White Suffolk breed, we knew it was the one we needed. The breed is becoming more popular for producing first cross ewes for the production of second cross prime lambs, but the Smiths have taken it one step further.

Torium me opoptiu ssentuus C. Egrum de propositu vobis iam non dicitur. The White Suffolk breed was chosen for its ability to produce a self-replacing maternal flock on their 1500 acre family property, 'Mundalena', at Lucindale and couldn't be happier with the results. The breed is becoming more popular for producing first cross ewes for the production of second cross prime lambs, but the Smiths have taken it one step further.

Rather than start again from scratch, they deduced that purchasing young White Suffolks was the best option; that compensated by cost reductions through easier management, plus increased productivity and income. The White Suffolk breed was chosen for its ability to produce a self-replacing maternal flock on their 1500 acre family property, 'Mundalena', at Lucindale and couldn't be happier with the results. The breed is becoming more popular for producing first cross ewes for the production of second cross prime lambs, but the Smiths have taken it one step further.



SYDNEY SHOW RESULTS 2011

14TH-27TH APRIL 2011, SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW



CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK RAM



CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK EWE

WHITE SUFFOLK RESULTS

Ram, Under 1 Year Of Age Showing Milk Teeth Only, Shorn Born Between 1 April - 30 June 2010

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Ram, Under 1 Year Of Age Showing Milk Teeth Only, Shorn Only, Shorn Born On Or After 1 July 2010

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787
2. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787
3. Timor Parkes NSW 2870

Ram, Under 1 Year Of Age, Showing Milk Teeth Only In Wool

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Pen Of Two Rams, Under 1 Year Of Age Showing Milk Teeth Only, Shorn

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Grand Champion White Suffolk Ram.

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Reserve Grand Champion White Suffolk Ram.

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Ewe, Under 1 Year Of Age Showing Milk Teeth Only, Shorn Born Between 1 April - 30 June 2010

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Ewe, Under 1 Year Of Age Showing Milk Teeth Only, Shorn Born On Or After 1 July 2010

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Ewe, Under 1 Year Of Age Showing Milk Teeth Only, In Wool Born Between 1 April - 30 June 2010

1. Timor Parkes NSW 2870

Pen Of Two Ewes Under 1 Year Of Age Showing Milk Teeth

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Grand Champion White Suffolk Ewe.

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Reserve Grand Champion White Suffolk Ewe.

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Peter Taylor Group. Consisting Of One Ram And Two Ewes, Showing Milk Teeth Only, To Be Bred By The Exhibitor. To Be Selected From Exhibits In General Classes.

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Sires Progeny Group

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Objective Measurement Class For White Suffolk Sheep.

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787
2. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Most Successful White Suffolk Exhibitor.

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

'SHOW NAME' SHOW RESULTS 2011

DATE OF THE SHOW, PLACE IT WAS HELD AT



CHAMPION RESERVE WHITE SUFFOLK RAM
RESERVE WHITE SUFFOLK RAM

CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK EWE

Class

Any extra details

1. "Timor" Jason & Vicki Barker
2. "Kurralea" JE & KM Prentice
3. "Kurralea" JE & KM Prentice

Highly Commended: "Warburn" A & M Dissegna

MEAT AND DUAL PURPOSE

BREEDS RESULTS

Supreme Prime Lamb Dam

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

The Peter Taylor Memorial Trophy. Supported by the friends of the late Peter Taylor, for group consisting of One Ram and Two Ewes, Showing Milk Teeth Only, Exhibited And Bred By One Owner.

1. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

S743 The J A & M Y Gilmore Perpetual Trophy

2. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

The J A & M Y Gilmore Perpetual Trophy Donated By Messrs Graham, Ian And Martin Gilmore For Best Pair

3. Tattykeel Oberon NSW 2787

Paul Routley, Judge at Sydney Royal 2011 writes:

I was honoured to judge at the Sydney Royal Easter Show 2011. The quality of the sheep presented was excellent and a credit to the exhibitors. Both rams and ewes exhibited were a great endorsement for our breed.

The champion ram was very solid, meaty well balanced, and showed the characteristics we are looking for in the breed. He went on to place very highly in the interbreed.

The champion ewe showed extremely good muscle and was also placed very well in the interbreed.

I would like to congratulate the exhibitors at Sydney and thank the Show Society for their support.

WORMS EATING WOLVES 1

BY CATHERINE MCKIBB STOCK JOURNAL 28 FEBRUARY 2013 MORE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS NARELLE SCOTT

Worms are a significant economic cost to in-prime lamb

Key points:

By Catherine McKibb, Stock Journal 28 Feb 2013. More acknowledgements Narelle Scott. Worms are a significant economic cost to in-prime lamb production in Australia. SAARD experts warn that the impact of summer decline in pasture quality is a major concern for producers. Growth rates of lambs are declining, and this is linked to the impact of worms. The top 20% of growth rates came from dryland farms, rather than irrigated systems which did not have the same level of worm control. Dr Carmichael said worm larvae levels were similar on irrigated and dryland areas over summer because, although they hatched quickly from available moisture, they died quickly in the heat. He said effective worm control in prime lamb production was more economically important than in self-replacing flocks because they reduced fleece weights and also produced a fine micron fleece of higher value. "Prime lambs have the genetic potential to grow at 300g a day so if they are not growing at these rates in the early stages they have worms or are not getting enough feed or nutrition." The fact sheets Worm Control in Southern Prime Lamb Production Systems and Low-Worm Risk Pastures for Sheep can now be downloaded at: www.mla.com.au/publications-tools-and-events.

Between 2004 and 2008, 28 lamb growth trials on 15 on-farm dryland farms, rather than irrigated systems which did not have the same level of worm control. Dr Carmichael said worm larvae levels were similar on irrigated and dryland areas over summer because, although they hatched quickly from available moisture, they died quickly in the heat. He said effective worm control in prime lamb production was more economically important than in self-replacing flocks because they reduced fleece weights and also produced a fine micron fleece of higher value. "Prime lambs have the genetic potential to grow at 300g a day so if they are not growing at these rates in the early stages they have worms or are not getting enough feed or nutrition." The fact sheets Worm Control in Southern Prime Lamb Production Systems and Low-Worm Risk Pastures for Sheep can now be downloaded at: www.mla.com.au/publications-tools-and-events.

Dr Carmichael said many producers had become complacent about worms with a reliance on drenching alone. He said effective worm control in prime lamb production was more economically important than in self-replacing flocks because they reduced fleece weights and also produced a fine micron fleece of higher value. "Prime lambs have the genetic potential to grow at 300g a day so if they are not growing at these rates in the early stages they have worms or are not getting enough feed or nutrition." The fact sheets Worm Control in Southern Prime Lamb Production Systems and Low-Worm Risk Pastures for Sheep can now be downloaded at: www.mla.com.au/publications-tools-and-events.

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Dr Carmichael said many producers had become complacent about worms with a reliance on drenching alone. He said effective worm control in prime lamb production was more economically important than in self-replacing flocks because they reduced fleece weights and also produced a fine micron fleece of higher value. "Prime lambs have the genetic potential to grow at 300g a day so if they are not growing at these rates in the early stages they have worms or are not getting enough feed or nutrition." The fact sheets Worm Control in Southern Prime Lamb Production Systems and Low-Worm Risk Pastures for Sheep can now be downloaded at: www.mla.com.au/publications-tools-and-events.



Photo Courtesy of Julie Klante

CONDITION AT LAMBING KEY TO SURVIVAL

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With sheep and wool prices at all time high levels and lambing time now upon many producers the importance of lamb and ewe survival is critical.

The key driver of ewe and lamb survival is the ewe's condition score at lambing.

The better the condition score of the ewe at lambing, the higher the survival rate of the lamb.

Maintaining pregnant ewes above condition score 2.5 at lambing ensures good survival of the lambs and higher productivity over their lifetime.

Any ewes under condition score two are at high risk and should be managed separately.

There have been reports recently of deaths of ewes in the last month of pregnancy and these are most likely due to pregnancy toxaemia.

This condition in pregnant sheep is caused by insufficient intake of energy or sudden changes in the ewes' diet and twin bearing ewes are more susceptible to this condition.

A ewe's energy requirements steadily increase over late pregnancy, therefore the energy provided by feed needs to be increasing as well to meet the increasing demand.

Lambing ewes in general require two and a half to three times their dry requirements during the lambing period.

Producers also need to keep in mind the higher energy requirements of twin-bearing ewes in the mob as the level of supplementary feed required for a twin bearing ewe is 25 per cent higher than a single-bearing ewe.

Therefore twin and single-bearing ewes should be considered different classes of animal and managed separately, which is only possible if producers pregnancy test. Otherwise, producers will need to consider the percentage of twin-bearing ewes in the mob and decide whether to feed for twins or singles.

Health issues such as high worm burdens and early onset of acidosis will also decrease the feed intake.

The first 48 hours of a lamb's life are critical.

About 70pc of lamb mortalities that occur between birth and weaning occur within this period.

Lamb survival is related to lamb birthweight and lamb birthweight is strongly related to the nutrition of the ewe during pregnancy, particularly late pregnancy.

The optimum birthweight for maximum lamb survival is between 4.5kg and 5.5kg, but lambing environment and whether they are a single or twin affect the response.

Ewes in better condition at lambing produce bigger lambs.

A condition score decrease in ewes during pregnancy can reduce lamb birthweight by 0.4kg to 0.5kg in both single and twin lambs.



- For more information on how much to feed pregnant ewes see www.lifetimewool.com.au; or www.agric.wa.gov.au/ (click on Dealing with the Dry Season) or speak to an adviser or vet at your local Department of Agriculture and Food office.