

CLASSINGS

CULLINGS '23

NOT EVEN RISKY EDITION!

Publisher:

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CLASSINGS CLASSIC 2023

Monday September 4th 2023 | 1:30pm
New Murray Bridge Race Course
Brinkley Road, Gifford Hill
South Australia

CLASSINGS

MERINO SHEEP CLASSING AND WOOL TESTING SERVICE



SHEEPCCLASSING & MERINO ADVISORY

Classings Merino Sheep Classing and Breeding Consultancy began in 1962 under the direction of Don Walker and continues today under the custodianship of son, Bill.

Experience gained from years of in yard/race visual classing backed up by results and subsequent information gleaned from Classings Fibre Testing facility, validates any breeding conquests undertaken on clients' properties.

Bill now classes over eighty commercial and twenty two studs over four Australian states guiding them toward the best tactics in breeding high quality Merinos that meet all fibre and meat expectations.

It's a prerequisite that all flocks classed eventually exude a skin that is productive yet easy care as to intrigue a young, aspiring wool producer.



FIBRE MEASUREMENT FACILITY

Classing's Wool Testing Service has been in operation since 1972 and has been using the CSIRO developed Laserscan extensively since 1996 under the management of director, Rose Walker.

The Laserscan added another dimension to the business with the additional measurements produced and subsequent interpretation on flowing to clients (and non) as a means to improve flock quality, production & performance.

Classings welcomes the addition of Bec Hughes to the laboratory whose passion and drive with all things fibre is impressive to say the least!

The Lab tests sample from across the nation including the obvious merino, Alpaca, Mohair & Angora,

For all testing options and sampling requirements please go to our website.



CLASSINGS CLASSIC POLL MERINO RAM SALES

The Classings Classic sale was initiated in 2002 with 42 rams from specially selected studs that were seen to be progressive in their endeavour to breed genuinely plain bodied yet productive polled animals.

The rams exhibited only plain breeches and sometimes bare of huge staple length which address today's ever boiling mulesing discussions.

The theme is no different today with the sale in 2020 offering 97 progressive poll rams from 24 hand picked studs, averaging an all sale high of \$5,442 to a top of \$24,000 and CC'22 a top of \$50,000 to a record average of \$7,787

ASBV's when available are now a prerequisite for all entering studs. With accuracies always on the improve there's a hope that, considering structural soundness is intact, that the need for intense shed preparation of any young ram may one day become obsolete!

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Welcome to this year's Cullings '23.

Welcome to Cullings'23, a newsletter that doesn't quite scrub up my best for quantity due to time restrictions, late arrival of some adverts and a trip away for the whole duration of May pressurising my Classing schedule to the absolute max thus not finding the time required to expand on an array of important subjects - but maybe it's the most important to read due to some thought provoking content!

The mulesing discussion still rages out there albeit so many of our clientele now biting the bullet and having a crack with barely a whimper with complaints - the right genetics having a huge impact on that direction, no argument! Many of our clients, particularly a few studs have not mulesed for fifteen years and naturally can't work out what all the fuss is about! Once again though - style of genetic very critical!

So I've eased off a bit to broach something that is possibly of higher importance - the dilemma facing many growers - the shearing industry and in particular the attitude of a minority of the hardest worker on the planet, the shearer. Have a read of the main piece amongst the pages of this publication with inputs from growers and contractors who realise that it's not all smooth sailing out there yet enforce to me away from the article that things will be ok! Many suggest there is no actual shortage of shearers!

The meat market overall is at its very flattest for possibly seven years yet the cull ram lamb market, which has been buoyant forever and not too far removed from their castrated chums for price per kg, is going through the absolute doldrums at the minute with no acceptable excuse on offer! One of our frustrated and confused stud clients approached a senior meat buyer from a renowned works in this nation to be met with, "... there is an inundation of Dorper Ram Lambs coming from Western NSW by the truck loads, with no assurance as to whether they had 'worked' on ewes,

or the neighbours ewes - we have received complaints of tainted meat and therefore can't risk our export markets, thus having to draw a line in the sand to say absolutely, No Ram Lambs from anywhere of any breed!"

I planned on really getting to the nitty gritty of such a bullshit response but time restrictions only allowed me to rely on a few mates questioning to the nobs and reporting back! So ... Dorper from the bush? Tainted meat? Worked? What's the go? You can't tell me that a half blind white caucasian drunkard from the wrong side of town couldn't be alert enough to draft off a fkn Dorper versus a Merino as a form of quality control!! Oh yeah try this, "too rammy!", as a weaner with tiny lambs teeth that at the corresponding time the year before was securing \$6.50 a kg no question! Politics in the ram lamb market, no surely ...

This was just to be a mere intro to Cullings'23 but the office is warm, I'm outta the sheep yards, just returned from Bendigo Merino variety club, cracked a red so whilst on the meat tangent will just keep blazing away! Please read the following from one of our stud clients and his ram lamb experiences with the same drop yet over a few, across 12 month, selling opportunities - incredible!

600 ram lambs tagged in May '22 drop - Mistake number 1!! Come Spring '22, first round of classing and pre-shearing, culls not castrated due to shearers running late and previous years discounts not being that great (50c/kg)... plus, saves a job and kinder to the sheep.

Mid-January '23 - 220 cull ram lambs ready to market off bean stubbles. First 100 estimated weights around 28 kgs | dressed. No market anywhere despite all bases covered. Succumb and sell to Specialty Meats at \$115/head but they can only handle a small number. The equivalent wether lambs would have fetched around \$185/head.

Mid-March '23 - remaining 120 cull ram lambs finally find a home after much trying and stress, being sent to Midfield Meats. Averaged 30 kg, dressed and return \$150/head. Accepted and relieved by this.

March '23 - Second round of classing pre-shearing finds another surplus 160 ram lambs. Shearing attended and collected all data for ASBVs on drop. Put Agents to work in advance - no one interested for 2 months! stress, stress, stress as they get bigger and older. Finally get a grid with Midfield Meats again. Not great but they've got to go. Expect to dress around 30 - 32 kgs and return \$100 - \$120/head. The Agent receives a call and is told the lambs are too big and rammy dress averaging 31 kgs and most have broken their lambs teeth!! Bullshit!! Agent gets into heated discussion and accused of calling AQIS Classifier a liar... call ends abruptly. End result is \$73/head average ... pissed off!!

April '23 and the home freezers are empty. 7 ram lambs are sent off for processing and returned beautiful, prime, tasty, taint free meat!

End of May '23 - ASBV numbers finalised, and all final classing done. 25 more cull ram lambs revealed, and opportunity arises with ALC, Vic. These ram lambs are sent, all good averaging 37 kgs | dressed and NO teeth issues!! Return \$164/head. Must have a different AQIS Inspector here so go figure!!

If Meatworks can find an opportunity to take advantage, they will!! The good news is we have 150 of the best young rams we have ever produced, for sale in 2023 and look forward to marketing these shortly. **Cheers Mr X**

Enjoy the read and hopefully by Cullings'24 a few of the grizzles portrayed here will be rectified and heading back to the direction they once were.

2023 RAM SALES & FIELD DAYS THAT COUNT!

*MERINO FIELD DAYS

July 3rd EYRE PENINSULA FIELD DAY
WUDINNA SHOWGROUND S.A.

July 14th - 16th BENDIGO SHEEP SHOW
BENDIGO Vic.

July 19th S.E. MERINO FIELD DAY
KEITH SHOWGROUNDS

July 28th MARNOO FIELD DAY
MARNOO OVAL VIC.

Aug 6th & 7th SHEEPVENTION
HAMILTON SHOWGROUND VIC.

July 26th PIMBENA Wirrulla SA
Les Hamence 0428 268002

July 27th O'BRIEN POLL
Wudinna SA Showground
Darren O'Brien 0419 772173

Aug 3rd LUCERNBRAE Callington SA
Keith & Judy Paech 0415 701 493

Aug 14th RIDGWAY Lameroo SA
Ric 0459 432 679 Matt 0439 460 554

Aug 15th RAMSGATE Tintinara SA
Jed 0427 691 858 Craig 0418 259 049

Aug 16th RIDGWAY ADVANCE
Bordertown S.A. David & Karen Ridgway
David 0409 408 263
Karen 0428 754 202
Devon 0437 728 276

Aug 16th BADERLOO Spalding SA
Daniel Hammat 0439 347 362

Aug 17th CALCOOKARA Cowell SA
Brenton 0427 285 039 Jane 0434 019 809

Aug 18th KARAWATHA PARK
Buckleboo SA Bert 0427 274 030
Dion 0427 323 583

Aug 21st FLAIRDALE Cooke Plains SA
Wayne 0408 896 877 Matt 0417 843 063

Aug 24th BENEFIELD
Murray Bridge S.A.
Murray Bridge Showgrounds
Chad Burbidge 0428 554 003

Aug 25th COLEBURRA POLL
Culburra S.A.
Chase Ferguson 0439 280 775
Gary 0428 560 036

Aug 25th WILLERA Serpentine Vic.
Simon Coutts 0498 724 850

Aug 29th NANTOURA
Wharminda SA
Chris Prime 0427 289 021

Aug 30th BORUNG Waikerie SA
Brenton Kroehn 0427 414 494

Aug 31st GUNALLO Pinnaroo S.A. Ray 0427
778485 Brad 0400 335 660

Sep 1st ESPERANCE RAM SALE
including PENROSE POLL & WESTWOOD POLL

Sep 1st SUPERIOR WOOL MERINO
Tintinara S.A.
Richard Harkness 0428 758 028

Sep 4th
CLASSINGS CLASSIC '23
New Murray Bridge
Racecourse S.A.
Bill Walker 0428 973 804

Sep 8th CAROONBOON
Wanganella NSW
Margie Pye 02 6825 6203
0427 996 911

Sep 8th ADELAIDE RAM SALE

September LONE GUM
Crystal Brook SA
Private Inspection
Stuart Everett 0427 362 801

Sep 12th LEAHCIM Snowtown SA
Andrew Michael 0418 828 431
Alistair 0427 352 639

Sep 14th FOREST SPRINGS
joel Joel Vic
Bruce Dean 0407 054 342

Sep 14th CHALLARA
Badgingarra W.A.
Peter Wilkinson 0427 427 691

Sep 15th SOHNIC Marnoo Vic.
Scott 0438 086 403
Greg Hose 0427 507 151

Sep 20th MERNOWIE, Marrabel
David 0419 839 280
Ian 0418 486 050

Sep 20th HYNAM POLL
Longwood Vic
Kev Hynam 0427 833 262

Sep 21st Wallaloo Park Inspection Vic.

Sep 28th Wallaloo Park Ram Sale Vic.
John 0427 501 431
Trent 0427 776 114

Oct 10th PEPPERWELL Keyneton S.A.
Hansi Graetz 0427 790 676

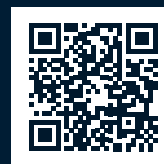
Nov 17th ELLA MATTA Parndana SA
Andrew Heinrich 0427 596 108
Jamie 0427 361 830

**2024 Feb 5th LORELMO
Walcha NSW
Ed Cordingley 0429 486 380

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Classings Classic '22

MURRAY BRIDGE RACECOURSE

OFFERED 99 SOLD 99
TOP \$50,000 AVERAGE \$7,787

What a year it was for the Classic sale and all of the studs involved realising the sale's first total clearance and highest average and gross since inception back in 2002. At that moment in time the fibre, meat market and season was cruising relatively well as opposed to a few uncertainties at this very minute albeit moisture across most of the state right now.

Due to top average honours in 2021, **Mernowie - Marrabel S.A.** head the sale team with a wizzer Lot 1 that took the eye of Darren and Jodie O'Brien's, O'Brien Poll, Kyancutta S.A. and sold for \$21,000. YWT 9.4, YCFW 25.3 & YEMD 1.2 matched a bloody good looker! He was AI bred by Gunallo 190470.



Mernowie's Lot 2 was a good match to the first and sold with ease to Prostock and boasted figures of YWT 12.0, YCFW 27.4 & YFD -1.2 and bred by Leahcim 173122 selling for \$9,000. Both rams were PP tested.

After another successful outing at Classic'21, **Wallaloo Park, Marnoo Vic.** were up next and blazed away with their first at Lot 3, 212082 selling to Glenville, Cowell S.A. at \$11,000 for a beauty that saw a lot of competition. A bold crimper with spot on nourishment, this fella had a backend like yours, YWT 10.4, PP, unmulesed and YEMD 1.0.

WP's next saw a flukey pickup by Borung Poll, Waikerie S.A. for a potentially measly \$7,500 such was the ram's stature and skin quality. 211011 boasted YCFW 30.1 YWT 8.2 & DP+ 186 and a PP.

Simon Coutts of **Willera, Serpentine Vic.**, allowed me to select my Classic picks at Bendigo Sheep Show in July and the end result for their Classic three was outstanding.

Their first at Lot 5, 211112, fetched \$16,500 and sold to the admiring duo of Jed and Craig Keller, Ramsgate, Tintinara S.A. A lot of trait leading colour in the catalogue for this fella showing YWT 10.1, YSL 17.9, YEMD 2.7, YFAT 0.9, DP+ 197 add casually a 16.9u and Bob's yer Uncle!

More catalogue colour prevailed with Willera's second fetching \$10,000 and sold to Brenton and Jane Smith's Calcookara, Cowell S.A. Being a July drop may have been in the Smith's favour but genetically he was the duck's nuts - try these: YCFW 35.6 YSL 23.0 YEMD 1.6 DP+ 191 and another solid micron at 17.8.

Hard to decipher really just which was the pick ram of the Willera trio. The dosh would suggest the third fella considering he nabbed highest price honours for the group at a casual \$24,000! His ASBV's were right up there with the best in the book too yet showed a great balance of these plus his outstanding physical attributes.



A partnership of quality collectors, O'Brien Poll and Kiandra Poll shelled out the cash for 210043 with DP+ 202 MP+ 176 YCFW 26.0 YSL 22.1 YEMD 2.5 YFAT 1.2. Grandsire being Moojepin 120652 aiding the cause!

Gunallo, Pinnaroo S.A. have never disappointed the punters or themselves at any Classic in recent times with the CC'22 sale no exception. Eight classy specimens filled the next part of the sale with the first in Lot eight claiming their top at \$30k. Kylie Stud and Pervoola P/C partnered up to secure 210431, a son of Gun 190464, a ram that won rave reviews at various Field Days leading up to the Classic. A PP with YCFW 30.3 YWT 8.6 and a correct skin exuding the good stuff some commented that \$30,000 was almost a bargain - progeny results will determine that I guess!

The good folk from Nepowie, Toolibin W.A. Cam and Blake White made their presence felt in securing two screamers in Lot 9 at \$15,000 and Lot 11 for \$20,000 and both bred by Gunallo 190470. The first with YCFW 25.0 & YWT 8.8 & YFD -1.5 and felt it and the second bloke at YCFW 30.0 YWT 8.9 & YFD -1.2 - two top class poll rams that will maintain the excellent quality Nepowie exudes.

Ian McLachlan's Tupra Station, Oxley NSW also picked up an exciting duo in Gunallo's Lot 10 for \$9,000 with a YCFW 24.4 YSL 15.8 and a PP with fluid nourishment add a ripper in Lot 13 with YCFW 30.0 and today's forgotten trait YFD at an excellent -2.1.



I really liked the skin makeup on 210713 sitting in Lot 12 that exuded arguably the best looking fibre and silkiest fibre in the catalogue! His fibre shot featured in many of a post throughout the year. Bruce Dean, Forest Springs Poll, and legendary advisor, Glendon Hancock were likely

suspects and with a fair bit of competition outlaid \$19,000 for him. 17.4u 2.6sd 14.4cv & 0.1 with YFD -1.9 YCFW 26.0 YSL 14.0 and PP what could go wrong!

Nigel Brumpton, Mt. Ascot Merino, Mitchell Q., bought Gunallo's Lot 14 at \$8,000 for another Gunallo 190470 son and locals Michael and Rhys Erickson picked up a rare Gunallo bargain at \$5,000 with a top end YCFW 30.0 YFD -1.7 and MP+ 179 at 17.6u with a skin like your Labrador.

Ridgway Advance, Bordertown S.A. had a ram that was as popular as the pre mentioned Gunallo fella 211431, at Bendigo and Hamilton and many quipped that they were a good as each other.

Will Lynch, Boorana, Glenthompson S.A. did a lot of homework at Hamilton SheepVenture and kept that interest going right through to Classic'23 and secured 211437, topping the sale out at \$50,000 with shares to Burnbrae NSW and Ramsgate S.A.



So ... Ridgway Advance's first in the lineup of Autumn drops and bred by RA190108 (x RA160090) stood like a rock all day and quickly raced to the top figure. YCFW 25.5 YSL 14.5 YEMD 1.4 was the perfectly balanced figures to match a very balanced product. The stud's second at Lot 17 fetched \$15,000 and went to up and comers, Tola Poll, Kimba S.A. for another tearer of a ram and bred by Glenlea Park 190190 with YWT 8.7 YCFW 22.3 YEMD 1.3 and perfect nourishment for the terrain.

RA's third at Lot 18 sold to Springwood P/C for \$11,000, who also bought Lot 22 for \$9,000, Lot 19 to Victoria Downs, Morven Q., for \$18,000 with a walloping YCFW 35.2 YSL 14.2 and a PP. Lot 20 made its way to the Ramsgate stable at \$14,000, Lot 21 to Westwood Poll for \$5,000, Lot 23 to Senior Park at \$11,000 and Lot 24 for \$4,000 to Eastburn.

Everybody's mate, David Woodard, Eden Valley S.A, bought one of the best of the day at Lot 25 for \$10,000 and exhibiting one of the longest sta-ples in the marquee not quite reflected by a YSL 13.0. YFD -2.3 at a realtime of 17.1 is important! David added the next for \$2,000!

Another of the lineup's best at Lot 27 was met with the typical RA clientele competition and was snatched by Errol Hay's, Kamarooka Park, Kamarooka Vic. for \$17,000 and fantastically balanced as the below photo suggests ...



Roma Downs, Bordertown S.A secured the next for \$5,000 and Borung snuck in for a great \$10,000 pickup at Lot 29 that will maintain all of the great things going on with that joint - YWT 10.7 will maintain the excellent growth that's part of his operation.

Richard Harkness owned **Superior Wool Merino**, Tintinara S.A. had their best day out at Classic'22 with the sale of their first to Borung Poll, Waikerie S.A. for \$10,000 and bred by Baderloo 170080. Ripper carcass and a fibre with spot on density, this fella will maintain or even add to the early growth factor at this ever ascending quality outfit. YWT 10.7 YEMD 0.6 YFAT 0.4 & YCFW 22.1 is a good balance of all to keep everything on order.

The second went to O.A.R Farms, Myponga S.A. for \$7,500 and also bred from a sire that has stamped some good things into SWM, mostly amongst the YEMD stakes without a hint of losing fibre quality and density. Realties of 18.6u 2.9sd with a YCFW 20.6 YSL 13.9 YEMD 0.7 & YFD -1.1 suggest a nice balance to keep things in perspective.

You have to give it up for a stud that ventures across the Nullabor to offer at any Classic sale. Scott and Odile, Jim and Ash Welke's, **Westwood Poll, Cascade W.A** sent their five rams over to be lodged at the Everetts, Lone Gum, Crystal Brook a few weeks before sale day. Thanks goes to Stuart for their care as well as the transport to Murray Bridge on the morning of the sale.

Westwood's first was a hit pick back in August and was always going to sell well! 210681 was a lustrous boldy with a balanced YWT 9.6 YSL 16.6 YEMD an excellent 2.2 and DP+ 192 and sold to Lucernbrae, Callington S.A. for \$11,000 - the stud's record highest price to date.

I bought Lot 32 for Willalooka P/C that entrusted me with the cash to secure four or five stud sires at realistic pricing across the sale. At an over realistic \$4,000 the ball rolled well! This fella, 210363 bred by Leahcim 182185 (\$14,000 CC'19 bought by Westwood) boasted YCFW 23.5 YWT 8.9 add a great skin punching the good stuff out!

Grant Wageknecht, Murray Bridge S.A. left me to buy him a couple of goodies on the day and I bought two of the Westwoods for \$3,000 & \$2,000. Excellent ASBV's and skin structure on both animals that deserved more competition. In the same vein Richard Hill, EP Livestock S.A. out-laid \$3,500 for another L102185 son with YCFW 23.5 & YSL 14.5.

The Ridgway Advance Spring Drops are just as good a quality as their Autumn counterparts with the CC'22 team coming up trumps as per usual. The widespread clientele of this mob keeps growing! Alfoxton Armidale NSW started the ball rolling with a \$5,000 grab at Lot 36 for a Glenlea Park 190190 bred son with great skin.

The Schenscher boys from Naracoorte S.A. bought the similar breeding for another beauty for \$9,000 with a YWT 8.7. Roma Downs SA, also chipped in \$9,000 for a RA170421 son with realtimes of 16.1u & 2.9cv matched to a YFD -2.2.

The Nicholls crew shelled out \$8,000 for another 170421 son that by the way goes back to an old favourite of mine RA130080. Pindari Merino in the state's Mid North chipped in to grab a RA190190 son for \$6,000.

I haven't done enough homework to know who these two purchases are yet they bought two of the best in this lineup. Lot 42, a RA190108 son was an obvious pick and subsequently made the dosh at \$11,000 helped by a great skin backed up with YCFW 26.4 & YSL 14.7.

Bluff View were next at Lot 43 for the same \$11,000 with YWT 9.5 YCFW 27 & DP+ 177 and another select fibre. Damien Trethewey, Parndana, K.I. nabbed a bargain for \$4,000 and I bought a beauty for Willalooka P/C for a cool \$6,000 bred by 160090 with a YSL 14.4.

Pindari were in the action again for Lot 46 for a GP190190 son again for \$5,000. Good figures here with 19.9u being at the top end for RA yet add 2.6sd 13.3cv & 0.0 and let's just call it 18.5u!! The last RA Spring Drop sold

to long time supporters, Senior Park, Bordertown S.A. for \$7,500.

Nantoura, Wharminda S.A. sold their three at realist pricings which came as a surprise to many observers. Their first albeit a very fertile, lighter head only commanded a \$2,000 price tag yet boasted a great skin/fibre package and outstanding balance of ASBV's: YSL 20.9 YCFW 22.9 YEMD 1.5 YFAT 0.9 & DP+ 176. Scotty Masters couldn't believe his luck for a top 190061 son. (CC20 \$21,000 > Ramsgate)

Trevor and Craig Gameau had a few more bucks in the bank for the second in the Nantoura lineup and paid a miserly \$3,750 for another great fibred PP. YCFW 24.2 YSL 19.3 YEMD 1.5 & DP+176 and a slippery skin like Pablo Escobar.

Yet another absolute bargain in the third pen of the Nantoura offering in Lot 50 selling to Michael Kelly, Pioneer Bend K.I. for \$3,500 and try these cracker figures to match the animal quality: YCFW 18.8 YSL 15.2 YEMD 1.6 with a trait leading and rare YFAT 1.3.

The Nicholsons/Hose partnership's **Sohnic, Campbell's Bridge Vic.**, always throw up a spot on team for fibre & skin eliteness and carcass balance.

Their first sold to Don Erwin, St. Arnaud for an A.I. bred son of Nantoura 190061 (Classic'20 sale \$21,000 to Ramsgate) at \$4,000 - a screamer and potentially the bargain of the team. Karana Holdings outlaid \$7,750 for the next ripper and bred by that same influential sire.

Local, Gary Bald shelled out \$4,000 and got the third in the quality showing. The highest price though was the last of the four and sold to Greg McNally's, Traveston Farms, St. Arnaud Vic. for \$10,500. A good solid sale from this outfit with ASBV's coming online this year god willing!

Another solid sale from the Keller boys, **Ramsgate Poll, Tintinara S.A.** with their three monty's selling to expectation with all of them venturing off to Classings clients.

One of them selling for \$7,000 and the first off the rank, off to Rob Germein, Port Vincent and A.I. bred by that balanced Mumblebone sire, 191150 that has influenced quite a few CPL studs around the traps. YWT 9.0 YEMD 0.4 YFAT 0.7 YSL 14.2 and a PP with great density suggests that Rob happy! His second grab was a Nantoura 190061 bred fkn beauty with a skin like your Labrador's commanded a respectable \$4,000 with a YWT 8.4 YEMD 0.9 YFAT 0.7 & PP.

Ramsgate's top at \$10,000 was a standout and bred by Ramsgate 190432 that in turn was sired by the mercurial Brookdale 140012. YCFW 25.6 YSL 16.5 YFD -1.3 Non Mulesed, PP, nothing can go wrong and bought by Willalooka Pastoral to bolster their home ram breeding program.

Bruce Dean's, **Forest Springs, Billy Joel Joel, Vic.**, blitzed Bendigo Sheep whatever in 2022 but was hidden away a bit with a display of poll rams that any progressive stud would aspire to feature at such an event.

The stud's first, and bred by the becoming ever popular Nantoura 190061, cracked \$6,000 and sold to CPL clients, Daniel and Jane Evans, Evandown, Wunkar S.A. I have a good feeling that this fella over a lot of muscle bound Mumblebone progeny will be just what the doctor ordered! YSL 15.2 YEMD 0.8 YFAT 0.5 YFD -1.3 at 18.6u the perfect fit for the project.

Don Erwin, St. Arnaud Vic., squeezed out \$5,250 for the next and bred by Ramsgate 190381 (x Brookdale 140012 legend) with a YSL 18.4 YEMD 1.6, Don happy.

Maranui Pastoral somewhere near Ararat outlaid \$4,500 & \$7,000 for a couple of corkers and I operated for ol' mate Andrew Clarke representing Tatchbrook Farms, Arthur River W.A. for a \$9,000 fluke with a grand sire going back to the very safe Mumblebone 130850. YWT 8.3 YCFW 24.9 YSL 19.4 YFAT 1.1 and a PP, what could go wrong!

Flairdale Poll, Cooke Plains S.A. are getting meatier by the year, without the need to get bigger! Their first sold to Pimbena Poll, Wirrulla S.A. for \$7,000 with a balanced card of YCFW 28.5 YSL 17.7 YEMD 0.9 YFAT 0.4, PP & DP+ 178.

Always a solid supporter of Flairdale genetics, Lee Slape's TS Stud, Coomandook S.A. picked up one of the days bargains at \$4,000 with more of the same balance of numbers as well as a safe, slippery skin. YWT 8.6 YSL 14.8 YEMD 1.2 a PP and bred by purchased sire, Mumblebone 180088 aided his conquest.

The Lucernbrae, Callington S.A. team looked their regular treat exhibiting some of the longest staple in the sale marquee. I think a May shearing would be more apt as to conquer the (enjoyably) shaggy look of the bunch!

CPL client, Damien Trethewey, Parndana K.I. picked up the stud's first at \$5,000 for a Gunallo 170295 (Classic'18 - \$60,000) son with seriously good fibre at a flat 18.0u YCFW 25.9 & YFD -1.2. He also latched on to the next pen at a measly \$3,000 and bred by Gunallo 190026.

Always bargains to be had despite the sensational quality, CPL client, Critter Freeman, Penong S.A. fulfilled this with a \$3,000 beauty as did Stefan Cross with the next at \$2,000 boasting a YCFW 23.1 & YSL 13.0.

A 17.0u ripping Baderloo 190028 son backed up with a YFD -2.1 sold for \$4,500 to CPL client and mate, Craig Rule, Wirrulla S.A. who couldn't believe his luck. Maybe the very pick ram amongst many eyes was CPL clients, Bill and Annette Cameron's \$7,500 purchase for a Mumblebone 191150 son with a white woolled snorter that took some beating. YSL 13.0 YCFW 19.0 YEMD 0.8 YFD -1.1 and 18.8u helped their decision making!

Another Mumblebone 191150 son sold next to CPL clients, the Baldock family, Kimba S.A. for \$4,500 with an important YEMD 1.6 & YSL 14.5 to back up their judgement. This fella had the squarest arse in the row.

Brenton Putland, Parndana, Kangaroo Island S.A. nabbed Lucernbrae's last for a flukey \$2,500 with a good balance of figures to ensure predicability. YCFW 20.6 YEMD 0.8 YFAT 0.5 testament to this.

Long time Classic supporters, **Ridgway Poll, Lameroo S.A.** entered a solid six for Classic'22 with the first selling to John Lamb P/C for \$8,000. Great skin here and deserved the solid start with YCFW 23.7 YSL 12.0 and a PP.

Another fella two pens later cracked the \$6,000 figure and sold to David Farr, Mantung S.A. Bred by Ridgway 170005, and entrant in the McPiggery Sire Evaluation Trial reflected in this bloke's YWT 8.4.

Neil Wormold, Loxton S.A. outlaid \$4,000 for another 170005 son with a similar YWT 8.2 and locals Michael and Rhys Erickson bought one of the best at another \$4,000 with some of the best figures in the Ridgway lineup and bred by Ridgway's own sire R190131.

Try these numbers to match a great skin and fibre package" YCFW a massive 35.0, and a trait leading YFD -2.1 which in turn was matched with 17.8u 2.8sd 15.9cv & 0.2pf.

Dean Pearson, Mayor of Brinkley S.A. bought a bargain for \$3,000 as did Michael Kelly, Pioneer Bend, Kangaroo Island S.A. at the same dosh.

Lone Gum, Crystal Brook S.A. entered three honest, top end flock rams that all went to three genuinely honest commercial breeders. Regular Gunallo client, Wayne Schenke, couldn't resist a buffer and spent \$4,000 on Lone Gum's best, a Gunallo 190364 bred ripper with a fertile head like Michael Aish's.

Loyal as can be Lone Gum supporters Butch and Jodie Dunn, Penong S.A. bought a nice ram to fulfil their order from an On Property selection

previous to CC'22 and Raminion P/C snagged the first in the lineup for \$3,500 with the typical LG test figures of 18.8u 2.5sd 13.5cv & 0.0pf.

The **Pimbena, Nunjikompita S.A.** duo deserved better spondoolee and rewards such as the presence of both rams entered. At \$3,000 each, CPL long term client, Rob Germein, Port Vincent S.A. couldn't believe his good fortune!

Both rams were bred by Flairdale 190212 with the first boasting the great figures of YCFW 28.4 YSL 15.9 YEMD 0.5 YFAT 0.0 & DP+ 175. Slightly different trait numbers with the second but still balanced aT YWT 8.4 YCFW 20.4 YSL 12.8 and YFD -1.1 to match 17.9u.

Not before time for this under the radar, quality outfit, **Hynam Poll**, had one of their best ever Classic sales, hitting it's straps with a \$10,000 ripper in position number one and sold to CPL client Thyne McGregor of Willalooka P/C.



HP 210669 (x HP 190248) was a bloody rip snorter of a ram with a backend like Haystack Colhoun back on that wrestling show back in the day! YCFW 27.9 YSL 18.5 a PP and 18.4u of silk made the outlay all worth it.

Gary Bald, Murray Bridge S.A. bought a son of the same sire for \$5,000 with more impressive ASBV's including YCFW 26.3 YSL 14.6 add 18.0u 2.6sd 14.1cv & 0.2pf. Making it a tad easier for three commercial enterprises two purchase, the next three rams sat at bargain pricing.

CPL clients Bevan and Cindy Siviour, Cowell S.A. secured one at \$3,000 with a trait leading YCFW 29.8 & YFD -1.1, Michael Kelly, K.I another at \$3,000 with Dirk Stevens, Stevens Farming chipping in to secure the last at \$2,000.

Classic sales tend to favour one of the new comers of late, **Caroonboon, Wanganella NSW**, owned by Margie Pye.

We've known the McCrabb family of Avenel for a long time with ram purchases three decades ago and one of our oldest fibre testing clients. Peter McCrabb of North Bundy, Wanganella was aware that the stud's first at Classic'22 was what he was after and gave me a very realistic budget to secure him on the day which culminated in a \$10,000 purchase for a thumper.



The stud's second, 210224, of which Duane Symond and I really appreciated at the Bendigo gig two months previous naturally went to that very fella for \$7,000 - possibly one of the bargains of the day. ASBV adoption from here would only enhance this joint's outstanding reputation!!

Mallee stud, **Woodoona, Borrika S.A.** did well with their Ridgway Advance bred thumper at Lot 91, selling to Mark Copping, Lucindale S.A. for \$6,000.

A bit closer to home and on debut, Chad and Jess Burbidge's, **Benfield Poll S.A.** had a great day out selling both of their young rams with ease.

Nantoura Poll, Wharminda S.A. took the bait and secured the first with spot on visuals with softness backed up with some trait leading ASBV's. 17.5u 2.4sd 13.9cv & 0.2 was supported by YWT 10.3 YCFW 19.3 YSL 16.3 YEMD 0.6 YEMD 0.7 & YFD an impressive -2.1. he made \$1,000.

The second sold to Richard and Kerry Strauss and boys for \$3,500 yet this fella looked as good as the first! Bred by Gunallo 170295 with YWT a trait leading 10.7, YCFW 22.4 and a PP, this bloke will be part of the entourage that will see the Strauss flock on an ever ascending rise.

While on a roll, another young debut stud had the sale to keep them very keen for awhile yet. The Ferguson family's, **Coleburra Poll, Culburra S.A.** kicked their Classic effort off with a \$5,500 sale to the recent SA Sire Evaluation hosts, the Eckert clan, Malinong S.A. This plain bodied beauty bred by Mumblebone 191150, had some of the best ASBV's of the day. Try these: YCFW 18.3 YSL 15.3 YEMD 1.6 YFAT 1.2 YFD-1.2 and a PP.

We utilised Mumblebone 191150 across quite a few studs such as the lure of his outstanding ASBV's, fibre quality and enjoyably, structure. The next Coleburra Poll exemplified this with YWT 8.5 YSL 17.6 YEMD 1.8 YFAT 1.9 YCFW 18.0 and a pen filler with white fibre and sold to Willalooka P/C for a bargain like \$3,000.



I assume the three **Hamilton Run** polls may have been the last they will sell ever considering the stud has now been sold and we thanks them for their support at Classic'22. Three solid animals made reasonable flock ram pricings at \$3,500 to Baines Brothers, \$4,000 to good bloke Neil Wormold, Loxton and \$3,500 with the last selling to CC Cooper.

Lot 99 and officially the last sold belonged to Leonie and Jon Mill's, **Morley, Cleve S.A.** and bred by Gunallo 190463, selling for \$5,000.

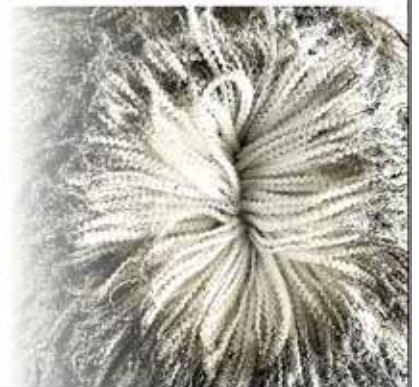
CLASSINGS CLASSIC RAM SALE SUMMARIES SINCE 2002

YEAR	OFFERED/SOLD	TOP	STUD	OVERALL AVERAGE
2002	39/38	\$8,000	SOUTHROSE	\$1,398
2003	58/55	\$6,400	GLENLEA PARK	\$1,365
2004	66/60	\$9,000	FLAIRDALE	\$2,236
2005	102/87	\$8,250	WALLADALE	\$2,031
2006	115/105	\$25,500	LEAHCIM	\$2,554
2007	100/95	\$11,000	GLENLEA PARK	\$2,598
2008	116/108	\$39,000	GLENLEA PARK	\$3,149
2009	143/102	\$17,000	RICE'S CREEK	\$3,131
2010	116/108	\$30,000	MERNOWIE	\$3,717
2011	96/95	\$32,000	RIDGWAY	\$4,874
2012	113/103	\$10,500	RIDGWAY ADVANCE	\$3,103
2013	97/87	\$51,000	GLENLEA PARK	\$3,790
2014	85/75	\$18,000	GUNALLO	\$3,208
2015	56/54	\$30,000	GUNALLO	\$4,568
2016	82/81	\$16,000	GUNALLO	\$4,489
2017	71/67	\$21,000	WHITE RIVER	\$5,142
2018	84/81	\$60,000	GUNALLO	\$5,155
2019	83/82	\$20,000	GUNALLO	\$5,136
2020	96/92	\$24,000	GUNALLO	\$5,442
2021	95/91	\$20,000	MERNOWIE	\$5,896
2022	99/99	\$50,000	RIDGWAY ADVANCE	\$7,787

Another Classic Classings Classic

Classings P/L appreciate the support of all stud entries, sponsors, underbidders, purchasers, agents, service providers and the patient desk crew in making Classic'22 yet another Classic!

	OFFERED	SOLD	TOP	AVERAGE		OFFERED	SOLD	TOP	AVERAGE
Willera	3	3	\$24,000	\$16,833	Benefield	2	2	\$8000	\$5750
Mernowie	2	2	\$21,000	\$15,000	Flairdale	2	2	\$7000	\$5500
Gunallo	8	8	\$30,000	\$14,750	Morley	1	1	\$5000	\$5000
Ridgway Advance	13	13	\$50,000	\$13,154	Westwood	5	5	\$11,000	\$4700
Wallaloo Park	2	2	\$11,000	\$9250	Ridgway	6	6	\$8000	\$4666
SWM	2	2	\$10,000	\$8750	Hynam, Poll	5	5	\$10,000	\$4600
Ridgway Advance	12	12	\$11,000	\$7292	Coleburra	2	2	\$5500	\$4250
Spring Drop					Lucernbrae	8	8	\$7500	\$4000
Ramsgate	3	3	\$10,000	\$7000	Hamilton Run	3	3	\$4000	\$3667
Caroonboon	2	2	\$10,000	\$7000	Lone Gum	3	3	\$4000	\$3500
Sohnic	4	4	\$10,500	\$6562	Nantoura	3	3	\$3750	\$3083
Forest Springs	5	5	\$9000	\$6350	Pimbena	2	2	\$3000	\$3000



SHEAR DILEMMA!



The shearing industry is under the spotlight due to the frustration many growers are facing in getting hold of a crew when required, the quality of the job, random fees from shearers well outside award guidelines and other associated chaos! I would like you to make some time to read a long, (yet necessary) account of an incident(s) that occurred at one of our EP clients' property that represents the frustrations plaguing our great industry at the minute.

The further I delved into this discussion there were some weeks where I felt comforted in the fact that there is a band of contractors out there who are managing the situation well and pulling a few loose canons back into normality or giving them the flick.

Then around the next corner I would hear of similar, yet less intense stories similar in por-tion to what you are about to read below.

Grab a drink ...

"When I first come home back at the end of '91, I had purchased enough shearing gear to attempt to take the job up, thinking that I'd be able to get a small but steady flow of work. Back then our small district of around 800 people had just over 20 shearers operating, mostly farmers sons doing the typical June to No-vember run, then addressing the crutching after harvest.

Needless to say, I didn't get much shearing work for the first 2-3 years but was a regular rousy for many. As time went on, I slowly picked up shearing jobs & then eventually found myself in a set round with a ma-te which I continued over the years until I was called home permanently. This was a period I look back very fondly on as we had a lot of fun back then with so many other shearers to work with.

Sadly, now our district is down to two shearers living here. These shearers had a third party living in near-by Cleve that they brought in just over 12 months ago and have had various guys fill in over the years to fill the 3rd stand. We gave our shed to these guys after our previous shearer failed to show for over 3 months to shear 70 left over rams which would have been about 8 years ago.

They loved our sheep as they are uncomplicated & white woolled which makes them comb beautifully. Over the past 8 years we haven't had a lot of issues apart from the odd occasion where the sheep either haven't been drained properly (purely a management issue), or have been called wet when really, they could have been shorn, but we knew that it's how these guys operate so in the past have taken it on the chin.

Knowing that this was our last shearing with this crew as they were moving on, we were hoping that we'd finish on a high, but sadly it wasn't to be.

Being a 6 monthly shearing, we book months in advance to get our date and quite often its at the end of the current shearing that this is done, or very soon after.

So, Monday the 27th of March this year, was the date set with a roustabout per stand organised, typically as we drew toward this date the weather forecast was for 3 days of showers. Knowing the history of our shearers we decided to bring the first mob (350 ram lambs 10mths old) into the yards on the Saturday to make sure they were well and truly empty if we had to shed them early on Sunday giving them no excuse to not shear them. WRONG!

After doing a miserable 1.5 hours Monday morning they knocked off calling them, "too wriggly!" As we all know the next mob (360 ewe lambs) is already in the yard draining waiting for their turn so now what? On their way out of the shed I decided to bite my tongue but made it very clear that the rams would be let out onto water & hay if they weren't going to shear them as it would equate to a lot of them being off feed and water for 4 days otherwise.

Don't forget this also effects the three shed staff that have turned up for 1.5 hours and one of them put 2 children into childcare for the day let alone the food that has been prepared for the day!!

So, the ewe lambs were let out into a patch, given a bale of hay and water, and left out and the ram lambs were put into the containment yard for 3.5 hours then re yarded, drained, and re-shedded.

Tuesday arrived and the rams were shorn, the ewe lambs re yarded in the morning and the next mob of ewes (100 dries) brought in.

The ram lambs were done by about 4pm and the ewe lambs had around 5mm or rain on them from the night before so they didn't want to even try them until lunchtime Wednesday and I'm sure they would have gone first thing but again I bit my tongue.

Ewe lambs are started Wednesday at 1pm & they shear until 5pm doing about half of them and I have the twinning ewes in the yards draining thinking they'll need them sometime after lunch so I decide to also bring the singles into the containment area this things are getting congested & complicated with the out-flow of mobs as well.

Thursday arrives & they finish the ewe lambs by 11 am and after shearing 20 of the dry ewes they pulled the pin because they, "kicked too much!"

So, I'm left with 700 pregnant ewes draining or in containment and they knocked off at 11.30am! Have a look at the week long stats - 1.5hrs Monday, 3.5 runs Tuesday, 1/2 day Wednesday & less than 1/2 a day Thursday!

By now I'm bewildered and just sat on a chair in the shed as they meandered around getting changed and they hadn't officially said anything with three shed staff looking on in disbelief along with my wife who has been in the shed the whole time collecting fleece weights as well as Dad who's also been there most of the time offering help where needed.

I could see that the third shearer was uncomfortable with the decision and he just sat on his bucket work-ing a comb with his comb stone waiting for them to leave.

Finally, one of them said that they were pulling out and when I asked why he replied that they were kicking too much!

By now I'd had enough and wasn't going to say anything, so I told him directly that he needed to, "fucking toughen up a bit!"

Apparently, they don't like the truth and they told me to shear my own sheep and walked out. The whole time the third shearer just sat there silently and very awkwardly as one of the two that pulled out was his son.

I nearly offered to help them pack but again held my tongue. After they left, I gave the cold hard facts in no uncertain terms about the hoops we'd jumped through to the father that had stayed and said enough was enough.

Thankfully, he agreed with me and wanted to finish the shed, so he & I finished the ewes left in the shed on Friday which again meant letting all the pregnant ewes out until decent shearers were found.

So basically, from all the work and preparation that started the previous week by the end of Thursday 3rd April, shearers had shorn a miserable 720 sheep with 780 ewes still yarded & ready to go.

Literally within 10 minutes of the two shearers leaving, a contractor walked into the shed but as you would expect couldn't help at such short notice but suggested she could possibly get two shearers for the Easter weekend! For months we had booked in to go to Mildura for Easter but if it came down to it, we would be shearing.

After a few discussions with the contractor over a couple of days, she asked if anyone locally might be able to help so calls were made, and we rounded up two replacements.

Saturday evening the twinning ewes were put back into containment on hay but off water. Sunday the twinners were yarded and the singles brought into containment. That night the twinners are shedded ready for a fresh start Monday morning. WRONG!

Sunday night xxxxx calls me informing me that poor xxxx has Covid - shit happens!!

By now I'm completely over it and didn't know where to turn and ended up putting an emergency text message out to a group of 113 people, mostly clients and agents, for suggestions to which I had a tremendous response resulting in real shearers that were willing to work being found.

However, it meant we couldn't get them until Wednesday meaning you guessed it letting all the ewes out again resulting in 75 being cut off by one of my dogs without me knowing it until we'd finished Thursday lunchtime.

So again, Monday night the single bearing ewes were yarded, and the twinners put into containment.

The new shearers had a completely different perspective and attitude resulting in 700 ewes shorn in 1.5 days - you bloody beauty! All done bar the elusive 75 which will now have to wait until after Easter.

So, in the car and leave for Mildura at 4pm Thursday arriving at 1am all wound up and mentally exhausted. We did have a great Easer regardless & come home to shear the final 75 afterwards - no wonder a bloke drinks!

Sorry about the drawn out story but it's all the things these morons don't give thought to that add up pret-ty quickly. An example being that I had a truck booked to shift the 'shorn' single bearing ewes to the flats that also had to be cancelled last minute - they're still here eating copious amounts of hay - it just goes on!

The best & most professional shearers we've ever had have all been farmers sons as they understand and appreciate the logistics of such an operation as shearing. They also understand what's good for the health and wellbeing of our livestock more so and they all seem to have a much better work ethic with less de-mands!

Personally, I don't think its so much the lack of shearers - it's almost as though they're paid too much. They seem to arrive late and or knock off early & still make a comfortable living.

For example, I don't know anyone paying under \$5/head. At 140 per day, they have the capability to gross \$3500/week which is good money by any standards. I need to make things clear though - I DO NOT BE-GRUDGE THEM FOR THIS as I of all people know how hard they work, it's just that for that sort of money we shouldn't have to put up with such pathetic antics. Afterall we're not paying peanuts!

We need to promote the amount of money that young blokes/sheilah's are capable of earning to get more into the game to give people more choices to weed the crap out of the system if possible.

By the same token, people need to invest back into their facilities to make it a better work place for all in-volved, we've definitely not regretted any of our upgrades but only wished we'd bitten the bullet sooner.

Now, try this! To complete the shearing torture, upon the completion of the shearing, we were handed invoices from the third shearer (the father of the one that left) that had stayed and saw the shed out.

Get this for the same sheep 12 months earlier we were charged \$5/head for ewes and \$8.20/hd for ram lambs. This year because they had the shits with me, they charged \$6.50/hd for ewes which is way above the award, yet I'm not concerned about, however he invoiced me a demanding \$14/hd for the ram lambs!

Needless to say, he won't be receiving anything like that. I sent him a message saying if he wanted prompt payment to please send in a 'realistic invoice', which naturally he didn't really like.

I still haven't received another invoice so have decided to pay the ewe rate invoiced but 'only' \$10/head for the rams which is still above the award.

As I suggested to my wife, "what's he going to do, put the wool back on them?!"

So there you have it! Instead of me putting in my two bob's worth I put the feelers out there to a number of our clients for commentary with no surprises. This piece is more of an awareness approach than a fix. Suggestions of that fix-attempt range from the importation of any Fijian that is not working the Ord Scheme or harvesting coconuts, a healthy carrot lure to get the Kiwi's back in force, advertising just how much reward there is via more magazines than just Beyond The Bale and the hope that 'chemical', high protein dose wool break harvesting without those pesky nets could be a refined answer. Please have a look at the following comments from those who did respond and make your own mind up. The final Q&A response from Jack I think are quite compelling and I hope that his attitude surrounding our great industry can spread.

I will further the same discussion in a year's time to see how we are sitting with the same discussion.

"Your correspondent is absolutely right and the same has been experienced by large numbers of growers in this area (EP). I am absolutely certain that I had the same shearers because all they did was whinge about how wriggly they were, they would knock off early, say they were damp, not turn up etc... bloody nightmare!

Experiences like this are the "straw that broke the camels back" for many producers and has caught the un-prepared wool industry out. The exodus from wool production is devastating to the industry and will unfortunately damage it permanently. Some true believers will do well in a niche industry and large producers may adjust their direction ie non-shedding and lamb production etc.

Anyway, I don't want to be too negative and want the wool industry to flourish, but big changes are required."

Regards, MC.

"The Shearer shortage is a problem. There are no cocky shearers, and no Kiwis since Covid-19 raised its ugly presence. We have plain bodied great combing sheep and yes, a little lively with a will to live. We have new shearing facilities, commissioned in 2019 and pay above award rates.

Spring '22 – wet, wet, wet. Shearers are running 10 -14 days behind. Booked to start and more rain forecasted. Load up the 3-stand shed with 1,100 sheep, leaving heaps of room as we have loads of shedding space. You would think shearers would be happy with this after losing lots of days due to rain in the past weeks. They shear for an hour then state, "They're a bit sweaty, we're going home!"

Thankfully, the one cocky shearer remains, old shearer (now Classer) pulls into gear and really old cocky shearer shares a stand to get a few done. Let some sheep out and carry on the next day until the Queen dies and there's an extraordinary Public Holiday declared, "can't possibly work that day!!" Thank-fully our March '23 shearing was pretty much smooth sailing... PHEW!!"

"My personal experience has been that our local shearing contractor sold his shearing contract busi-ness and due to the local shearing contractors available, I was forced to use a contractor who charged a higher contract rate than previously. I suggest that the shearers and contractors understand more of the wool producer's tight profit margin and lower their rate to a more acceptable level until the wool growers have a higher wool income (profit margin) to cover their charges in a fair way.

I am sure the owner did the best he could in the situation he was in.

My answer is on three different lines of thinking.

1. We are currently employing a guy, who was a shearer in a contract team east of Geraldton for a few years. He has had a close association with the well-known Black family. Dwayne and Peter Black have been gun shearers in W.A and have setup a shearing App called Logik. It gives the best shear-ing techniques and how shearers can best look after themselves.

2. Apparently, the Black family have also setup a shearing training school with the best shearing meth-ods known. I am told that even though shearing contractors use them, they don't have the financial backing and support properly required from AWI. An increasing number of shearer training schools, incentives and numbers of suitable people attending them.

3. The third suggestion is to setup a 2-year shearing visa for shearers from U.K and South America for people under the age of 40. They should cut out the red tape. A marketing, recruitment program could take place with the emphasis being on a new work/travel/cultural opportunity and the financial rewards. It may also work in with their low season.

One more thing - I believe we should make agricultural and farming more personal to our fellow urban people, who are disconnected with farming and replace the words with Food Producers of Australia. **P.W**

Yes have a similar story of a contractor charging above award rates and supplying shearers from and add posted on Facebook. The contractor obviously had no idea of the shearer's quality of work. But was still willing to charge me above award rates for poor quality work. He also supplied an inexperienced wool classer who didn't complete the job as per the job description, but again charged well above the award rate.

By overcharging me they have lost the shed and others in the district. It didn't help his cause when I received a text at 9pm the night before starting, with 600 lambs shedded, to say they weren't coming!

As a side note I tried to get the pastoral award via the 'shearers and Crutchers association' prior to shearing as a guide to what I may be charged. The response I got via an email from the secretary from the organisation at the time was one of the most unprofessional responses. Apparently I was wasting his time and no contractor follows the award anyway!

I was told it looked like I didn't want to pay my bill and should have established a price before starting which was exactly what I was trying to do and wasn't due to shear for two weeks. As I responded to him that his organisation should be working with the employer and not being antagonistic and arrogant. I was offered to see the award for a membership fee of \$50!

Sarcastically I responded that he could keep his form but could send me a Christmas card (as it was just prior to Christmas). As a 'pastoralist' I don't need to pay for a copy of the award which is relevant to my employer conditions. Yes the industry has issues the biggest one being the rate of pay which is being charged, outside and excessively above award rates for poor quality work.

I have no problem paying which I consider good money for good quality work, but I do have an issue with being played like a fool."

Regards, DT

"Bill! Reckon your correspondent needs to get a better dog!

It a depressing story. One of our near neighbours offered ridiculous sums to shear in December last for everyone in the shed. That left us with a very different crew than we'd normally have.

Questions ...

1. Do we find some footrot sheep somewhere and donate them to him?
2. Could an electrical fault be found in his shearing shed?
3. Do we ensure the people who go to him always charge the high rates he created while they work for award rates for the rest of us the rest of the year?
4. Buy the dog from your other bloke and give it to him with the foot-rotty sheep ensuring he's forever footrot central!"

Just a thought ... **GM**

"Our main shearing has been carried out for many years by EP Shearing Contracting.

Dave Kawau having been part of this team, has had a stand in our shed for over 19 years and he along with his wife Sonia, have recently taken over the run, now trading as Kawau Shearing.

The gang is very family oriented and we realise that we are fortunate to have had such a reliable, committed team over the years and believe the key has been developing an environment of mutual respect.

We try to ensure that the time the gang spends on our property is as efficient as possible, despite the environmental conditions and they replicate by working along with us to get the job done as effectively as can be, often working over week-ends to suit the conditions of livestock needs and weather.

Having heard some horror shearing stories lately, again we appreciate the gang we have and look forward to continuing to work together in the future."

Jodie & Butch Dunn

Hello Bill,

Thankyou for allowing me to give a voice on your platform, it is greatly appreciated I am also am a farmers son so I relate to the reference of acknowledging those factors that others without a farming background aren't seen.

This however within itself is a bewildering question I find myself asking far too often. Where have all the farmers' sons gone? Why don't we have that resource to draw on to stabilize the industry? Did they stop breeding?

Or is it seen that those young men were no longer needed to enter the sheds? Half or more of the industry in my area were all farmers sons now there are none at all. I think the only ones to answer that question are the farmers themselves.

I will answer your questions first and then see if there is anything extra I can add.

1. Do you have a similar story of frustration that has made you alter the way you run your business enterprise?

I personally have had these frustrations especially when I am not present in the shed though not to this extent (as per sto-ry) Never guys walking off the job but more a drop on my desired quality of work, but I have never had any issues whilst my feet are on the board.

I hear far too many horror story's from farmers especially new customers that I have been employed to completed jobs as in the example you gave. About every one of my 7 newest customers all have the same scenario

2. Did the owner in the story act appropriately or should the issue been addressed in a different way?

I think the owner was doing amazingly well considering the challenges the shearing team posed for him. He can hold his head high and be proud as far as I see it - he is sympathetic to all views even down to the shed staff with their wage and cost being factored into his considerations - even the invoice!

I as a contractor, set my pricing at the start of a financial year. I do my best to make it as clear as possible to my customers what I will be charging for the next 12 months. I discuss with my staff what I am prepared to pay to retain their efforts for the next 12 months and it's all locked in.

I can't and don't justify pulling numbers from thin air just because we have moved away from the award. But if I had a farmer query my pricing on an invoice then it is in everyone's best interest to resolve that matter so all involved can move on. Especially when work place relationships have derogated to this point.

3. Apart from the lack of NZ influence in shearer numbers in the country what is your answer to this dilemma?

Bring the farmers sons back wherever they've gone!

4. Is the chance of Chemical/High Protein shearing re-explored currently by Adelaide Uni going to gain traction and be-come a necessary saviour to our problems?

As an alternative to hand shearing maybe - it used to be far more cost effective and efficient to do it by hand shearing but if the costs of shearing increase the way it has done and continues to do so then that may well change. I can only hope it doesn't but business is business at the end of the day if the fibre can be effectively and efficiently harvested in this manner, and a good product sold to the people purchasing the wool then it deserves to be the priority option for wool harvesting. Immediately as in the next upcoming year? I would say no but within three years after trials maybe.

5. In your eyes, are the AWI sponsored shearing schools effective enough in turning out the required numbers to keep this industry afloat?

I think AWI have done a fantastic effort to draw new bodies into the industry. The problem is the follow up with contractors taking a hit to profit margins to allow them to increase the trainee's skillset in a pressure free environment that also offers on going support in keeping their style and sheep handling skills on point. Add to this enforcing a suitable standard of quality about their job.

6. What is your offer and conditions in attracting a potential new shearer to your team?

I will send to you attached to this a copy of my employment agreement, that employees must signature in order for us to commence business together. I offer a long run 11.5 months of work with fair but above award wages in a diligent and conscientious team that pride themselves on the standard of work they provide.

7. Any other related comments that I could include?

My comments in regards to the industry would be to the shearers directly. There is not a farmer in the industry that does not love sheep considering the cost and impact of sheep rearing. Anyone that didn't care would have left long ago - we need to be mindful of that and how we treat the flock. We can't lose gratitude to the men that spend their time rearing these animals so we can live the lifestyle we have become accustom to . I know right now there is a sense that across the industry shearers are winning because due to demand and scarcity, their demands will be met!

I implore contractors and shearing staff alike to be reasonable as the day will come (not even if) and I can see it coming, that the shift away from shearing toward more profitable farming practices will leave you in a very small pool of workers. When this indeed comes about those that did a good job for a fair price will be busy whilst the crews that weren't mindful of their business and conduct won't find space for themselves in the industry that they have become comfortable in.

Please see my Employment Agreement following.

Yours Sincerely, Jack Dugan - Owner/Operator Blownout Shearers



Classic Sponsor



Blownout Shearers
133 Robinson Road
Brookton WA 6306
Ph:0450609281
blownoutshearers@gmail.com
ABN:41183220530

I _____, by initialling this employment agreement am acknowledging that I am physically and mentally fit to work and with that have no special needs to be absent from work on a regular basis. If you are requiring a day off I request you give me no less than 48 hours to organise a suitable replacement, less than this time to claim medical situation IE gastro I would ask you to bring a doctor's note to support illness claims.

Blownout Shearers runs a 3rd party batch payment system so pay is done strictly on a friday and with that DOES NOT DO SUBS.

If you insist on bringing a pet to the workplace, I insist that said pet be taken in a suitable pet travel device. If you refuse then you are free to take your own vehicle. Any damage to business vehicles due to miss management of pets will be expected to be repaired by the owner of said pet.

Business vehicles that are used by employees outside of business travel for personal trips are to be refilled with the same amount of fuel as was originally in the vehicle prior to the beginning of trips km's of usage on trip will be documented and you will be charged at the same rate as customers of .50c per km.

We have gone to great lengths and made heavy investments to ensure that all employees will have adequate travel to and from the work place in this if you decide to take your own vehicle for whatever reason it will be at your own cost.

Within our season we have campouts. It is at the owner of the accommodations requests that one night's accommodation cost is to be retained from all staying there's earnings and at the conclusion of our stay there those funds will either be returned to all people accommodated there. If however the accommodations are left in an unsatisfactory state the funds will be used to employ a cleaner to rectify the quarters to the state they were occupied in. In short, keep Quarters and accommodations clean. IF YOU MAKE THE MESS YOU ARE EXPECTED TO CLEAN IT UP. If for whatever reason your accommodation isn't satisfactory or to your needs, you are welcome to outsource your own accommodation at 100% your own cost. I am open to discussions about how we can manage sleeping arrangements to better suit people's needs.

Due to the addition of a /km charge to the farmer for travel this year I want to outline how we will manage wet weather if wet sheep are suspected the decision for this will be made within the first 3 sheep shorn per so for a 4 stand shed 12 sheep no more if there is disagreement there must be consensus formed at this point you either fulfill a full days work or you leave the business will not pay staff for this nor will we charge the farmer the travel charge as it is considered a no start day I do understand and apologise in advance to shed

staff for any inconvenience to shed staff should this situation arise should this happen and it is seen that the job maybe continued then if all are in agreeance that 2 more hors in the open will bring the sheep to shearable state then you are welcome to do so but rule is reset 3 sheep vote if they still won't shear go home and the day is to be written off if the shearers are split evenly on a dry decision it is then the final say of the classer as that is the stipulation of the award.

work parameters are set at 7.30 am to 5pm these are the business hours those not fulfilling these hours will be asked to justify why they are unable to complete the required work time and may impact the payment hours of shed staff my expectation in the case of mob and shed cut outs as often happens is as follows if a mob or shed can be cutout in less than 15 mins then please cut the mob out and start the next run with the appropriate time adjustment eg. work 7 mins over run time start 7 mins late next run start time ensure our shed staff get appropriate rest time in their breaks.

If cutting out a shed and the shearing exceeds 15 mins into the break period another run will be added for shed staff if shed staff leave early with shearers and leave co-workers to clean up without them they will be excluded from any extra earning for that period.

Blownout Shearers has built its reputation around quality over quantity and a better value for your dollar aptitude there are countless thanks that go without being said to the efforts and sacrifices of some of the most amazing workers I have had the honour to employ and call a friend moving forward that is my focus I don't care for the biggest tally's i want a good CLEAN JOB if you can't shear a tally without removing all hocks and sweat dags then I will ask you here to focus on a good job as to have me make this request on the board may offend so know now to save you being told later a clean job is priority speed will come if your motto is rough is rich this may well not be the team for you.

Blown Out shearers is looking forward to it's best year yet with 140,000 sheep already booked and a positive outlook to scheduling more when time allows I thank you for joining or diligent and conscientious team for the 23/24 season we should be working 11.5 months of this year let's treat all with respect and gratitude including the farmers as we are all working to achieve the same goals

Yours Sincerely
Jack Dugan

DOES SIZE MATTER? CAROLINE SHAW



How big are the merinos these days? I posed this question to Bill Walker at the Monarto Hogget Competition in March. We were discussing the judge's comments he made about wool tip, nourishment and the suitability of these traits to different areas.

I've seen some different sheep over the years. I grew up with Merinos in the 60's and 70's then worked in different sheds, including on Kangaroo Island in a contracting team in '91. Then I did an Owner Classer stencil during my Degree at Roseworthy. After that I worked in ruminant nutrition and saw the interface between nutrition and genetics. In the mid 2000's I ran my own Merinos alongside cropping on my own farm in the Mallee.

So I'm a bit astounded how big these sheep are now and that shearers get dumped by these big sheep. Just last year, penning up at a shed in the hills, I noticed how different they are to fit in the pen. The other day I spoke to a farmer who was lamenting shearing his rams and another bloke said his rams were 180 kg.

A bigger animal needs more energy (MJ ME/Kg DM). Their total Dry Matter Intake requirement in-crases also (as they eat a % of bodyweight) as does nutrition for maintenance, before production.

I know these are all challenges and when producing higher yields/cost ratio profitability always plays a role in decisions regarding genetics. I can see why people consider shedding breed sheep.

Back in 2008 I decided to run Dorpers instead of Merino's. Even though I loved the merinos getting shearers and shedhands became too hard. I did a trial feed lotting Dorper lambs - they ate 6% of their bodyweight. That's 3kg

of feed (Dry Matter) per head a day for a 50kg lamb. In my opinion they eat a greater % of bodyweight than other breeds. That would be one reason they get out.

Managing some of these breeds requires a pivot in thinking such as working with their territorial habits to keep them in. These breeds are here to stay and I have heard along the grapevine more growers are thinking of going that way. Some are concerned that the spread of Brucellosis will in-crase as well. This is a management issue for all sheep owners.

The world is waking up to the fact that toxic hormones associate with plastic in our bodies and that wool is a most beautiful natural fibre. It really was a great night at the Monarto Hogget Competition. I hope it continues for many years to come.

(The opinions expressed in this article are just opinions and not to taken as advice.)

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HYNAM POLL MERINOS

Hynam Ag Pty Ltd
643 Carmodys Road, Longwood VIC 3665
Kevin: 0427 833 262
hynamkevin@gmail.com



On-Property Ram Sale Wednesday September 20th

Inspections from 10am
Sale starts 1pm

Sale in conjunction with AuctionsPlus
3% rebate to outside agents attending

RWS ACCREDITED

check for updates on



Bioharvesting of wool

A new approach to replace traditional shearing by creating a weak point in the wool fibre allowing for mechanical harvesting

Benefits

- No skilled shearers required to harvest wool
- Provides woolgrower with flexible wool harvesting times
- Sheep have short wool coverage post harvest protecting their skin
- No cuts to the animals
- No seconds cuts to the wool that is harvested, so less short fibre created, lowering the risk of wool being discounted at sale.

Background

A shortage of skilled shearers is presenting a real threat to the multi-billion dollar Australian wool industry. Traditional shearing of sheep has not changed greatly in more than 200 years and is now one of the most inefficient and expensive harvesting processes in agriculture.

Anecdotal evidence suggests woolgrowers are leaving the industry because they cannot get shearers, and the cost of shearing is making wool production unviable for some.

Technology overview

An alternative to traditional shearing has been developed at the University of Adelaide with funding from Australian Wool Innovation Ltd. It targets a key biochemical event involved in fibre hardening in the wool follicle, which creates a weakened zone of wool simultaneously in all fibres across the sheep. The weakened wool can then be broken with very little force, some weeks after the treatment. Remarkably, despite the low strength, the wool is retained on the animal under normal grazing conditions during the period of growth.

The weakening is induced through a pharmaceutical that can be delivered by the woolgrower to interrupt the normal growth phases of the fibre. This allows the wool grower to time delivery to suit the required length of wool fibre and not be reliant on the availability of skilled labour for shearing.

The pharmaceutical does not completely break the fibre, rather it leads to wool with very low tensile strength and slightly lower fibre diameter over a very short length (<1.0mm). This allows the wool to be collected in shed through a mechanical process and not lost in the field.

IP status

The invention is the subject of a Provisional Patent application and subject to confidentiality requirements.

Opportunity

We are seeking a commercial partner to assist us to get the injectable biochemical agent developed and commercialised.

Inventors

- Emeritus Professor Philip Hynd
- Dr Sarah Weaver

Commercial contact

Dr Cathryn Lee, Commercial Manager **e:** cathryn.lee@adelaide.edu.au



In partnership with:



Further enquiries

Innovation and Commercialisation Services
The University of Adelaide SA 5005 Australia
e commercialisation@adelaide.edu.au
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w adelaide.edu.au/ics

JIM GORDON CORNER

SHEARING IN 2024 AND ONWARDS



I would like to thank Bill and Rose Walker once again for the opportunity to present an opinion piece in Cullings'23, this annual is a must read.

I dearly hope some of you get good information from this article to help in your breeding program and as always I am trying to make you think and question all information. It is critical we turn the declining number of merino breeders and merinos around. We have got to make it easier to main-tain a merino flock and to produce what the market wants.

I would like to acknowledge the late Jim Watts, and Neville Jackson, two of the greatest research scientists that Australia has produced. Both were part of a world class CSRIO research team back in the 70's, 80's and 90's, and to Paul Swan who came in at the tail end of that world class team.

Paul has always given of his time to me in person, and also with response to emails and phone calls. A very intelligent man with a very complicated subject being able to simplify and explain to the rank and file practical sheep producer! Paul is a real asset to the sheep industry and I am proud to be able to call him a friend.

How do we help the shearer? They need to be shearing 150 a day not 100 so what makes a sheep easy to shear? Alignment of fibres, (combing), a good temperament, not too heavy, (being emptied out properly) and less hard wrinkle especially around the breech area is a great start.

How do we get aligned fibres with crimp? Select for no hard collagen, no hard wrinkle and supple skins. The hard collagen causes chaos in the skin pushing the follicles in all directions and giving the growing fibres no chance of being aligned. The follicle is the out side tube that ends at skin level and the fibre emerges from inside the follicle.

The fibres are manufactured at the bottom of the follicle by the follicle bulb cells. The follicle bulb cells shut down in bald humans and similarly some sheep at 3,4, and 5 year olds. Be careful if you want life-time wool cut as you can lose a good percentage of fibres in your adult sheep, especially if you have been chasing meat. If hard collagen is about, the shearer will be back on numbers, and the processing of that wool is more difficult.

Bad temperament in sheep when they are being shorn or classed/handled, can come from the pain caused by hard collagen rapping around the nerve channels (dermatomes) in the skin. Google a dia-gram of human dermatomes. It will show all of the nerve channels over the human body. The same as in sheep. You see it at ram sales, when they are individually penned and the wool is being opened, the rams cringe or wince, or try and jump out of the pen. Sheep with no hard collagen will enjoy their skin being massaged.

Pain can also come from shearers having to chisel the wool off which again relates to hard collagen/skin problems. Also bad handling and or dogs can contribute to a bad temperament.

When selecting for more wool cut, (using the scales) hard collagen and a fine wrinkle will appear on the sheep. They come with the territory, unless you keep an eye on the skins and staple length. The more wrinkle, the more surface area, a big contributor to wool cut. To get wrinkle you need hard collagen and a lot of follicles. However, don't lose sight that you have to get them shorn and mulesed.

Wool cut comes from having more follicles and more material inside the fibre. The material inside the fi-bre is called (Paracortex/orthocortex). The more Para the heavier the fibres. And obviously more nutrition is needed. So how do we get more follicles per sq/mm? Ram selection! Less muscle and fat.

The genetic package of a developing foetus in utero will spend more time developing follicles right up until the lamb is born in some cases. Twins and triplets will have less follicles per sqmm and be stronger in the micron but they won't breed that. This scenario happens because the available follicles have to be shared over a greater skin area. This whole subject needs another Classings magazine, maybe 2024 if Bill and the readers are not sick of my jottings!

The trade off is no muscle and fat. Follicles are developed first, then muscle, then fat in utero. Each pro-cess has to finish before the next starts. You know, in utero, primary follicles develop at 60 days on-wards, secondary original follicles from 80 days onwards and secondary derived follicles from 110 days on-wards. These are the guys that give you explosive numbers of follicles (your density). No meat until sec-ondary derives have finished developing. In each follicle group there are approximately 3 Primaries, 21 Sec-ondary Originals and the rest are Secondary Derived folicles. You can have up to 140 follicles in a folli-cle group.

Hard collagen comes into play at about 100 days. So if present every follicle that develops after that time will cause the skin to bubble up into hard wrinkle. If there is no follicle development after 100 days you will get a thick stiff flat skin - not good! But you can have exactly the same scenario without the hard collagen. You will get a beautiful expansive supple skin (no wrinkle) with beautiful staple structure and a beautiful tip. But you still won't have any Muscle & Fat. To get M&F you have to give up some second derived follicles. One can still have spring of rib, do ability in any sheep, that is separate and desirable.

So how do we put more material (Paracortex) inside the fibre? The fibre growth needs to be slowed down giving the sheep time to pack more material inside the fibre. The way this is done is by adding hard collagen. The hard collagen disrupts blood flow. The outcome is shorter and stiffer



staples. Good for suit material. If you take the hard collagen away in the above scenario, you will have just as many fibres, growing at a faster rate and very aligned. The wool will be softer, giving more flexibility in fabric use. With the extra length I don't think there will be much difference in Clean Fleece Weight. But and a big but, you will get more lambs, less flies, no mulesing and the shearers will want to come back.

Apart from the shearer battling with the hard wrinkly skinned sheep that won't comb, the hard collagen fibrils will drift down into the meat and cause toughness. The connective tissue will be greater in these sheep and cattle for that matter. Ask all the old time cattlemen and they will tell you, you want softness in your cattle -supple skins.

Getting back to Paracortex/orthocortex, the materials inside the fibre. The greater the percentage of Paracortex that is in the fibre, the stiffer that fibre will be, and the heavier it will be. Softness in wool comes from less paracortex, not from micron. (Very important). The stiffer the wool in the garment, the less likely the fibres are to bend when they come in contact with the skin, hence more scratchi-ness/itchiness.

There are a few markers to take note of:

1. Extremely fast growing wool will have very little Paracortex, will be extremely soft and have lower wool weight but will also have a low density of follicles per sq/mm on the sheep. Less fibres (more nutrients for each fibre) so faster growth. This is only on sheep with no hard collagen. British breeds have low densi-ty but they have heaps of hard collagen in a thick stiff skin. Most of their energy is distributed to meat and some fat, not wool.

2. To increase the paracortex in the fibre, one needs to increase the hard collagen in the skin. They go hand in hand. This is why the heavy cutting sheep are covered in hard wrinkle. But, you will eventually tip over the edge and start losing wool weight and breed absolute culls. As one goes harder on the weight of wool (scales) the staples get shorter and the shearer can't get the wool off and they are con-ducive to flies, fleece rot/

water stain - problems specially if you are taking notice of greasy fleece weight.

In saying all this, the ultimate wool is 50/50 Para/ortho with no hard collagen in the skin, thin staples with a horseshoe crimp. This sheep will not be the heaviest cutter but won't be far off on CFW.

I don't think Bill Walker is far off breeding these merino sheep with carcass, and we have a few in NSW very close. The Holy Grail. Quality wool with Carcass.

In my opinion go for a little less wool weight and pick up on the easy care factor. Especially being able to get shearers.

Jim Gordon 0457 393 860

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2023 Display Dates

Victorian State Field Day at Marnoo
Friday 28th July

Hamilton Sheepvention
Sun 6th - Mon 7th August

On Property Inspection Day
Thursday 21st September

32nd On Property Ram Sale Thursday 28th September

Sale Starts at 1pm - Inspection from 9am

Selling Agent



Glendon Hancock
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Selling Agent



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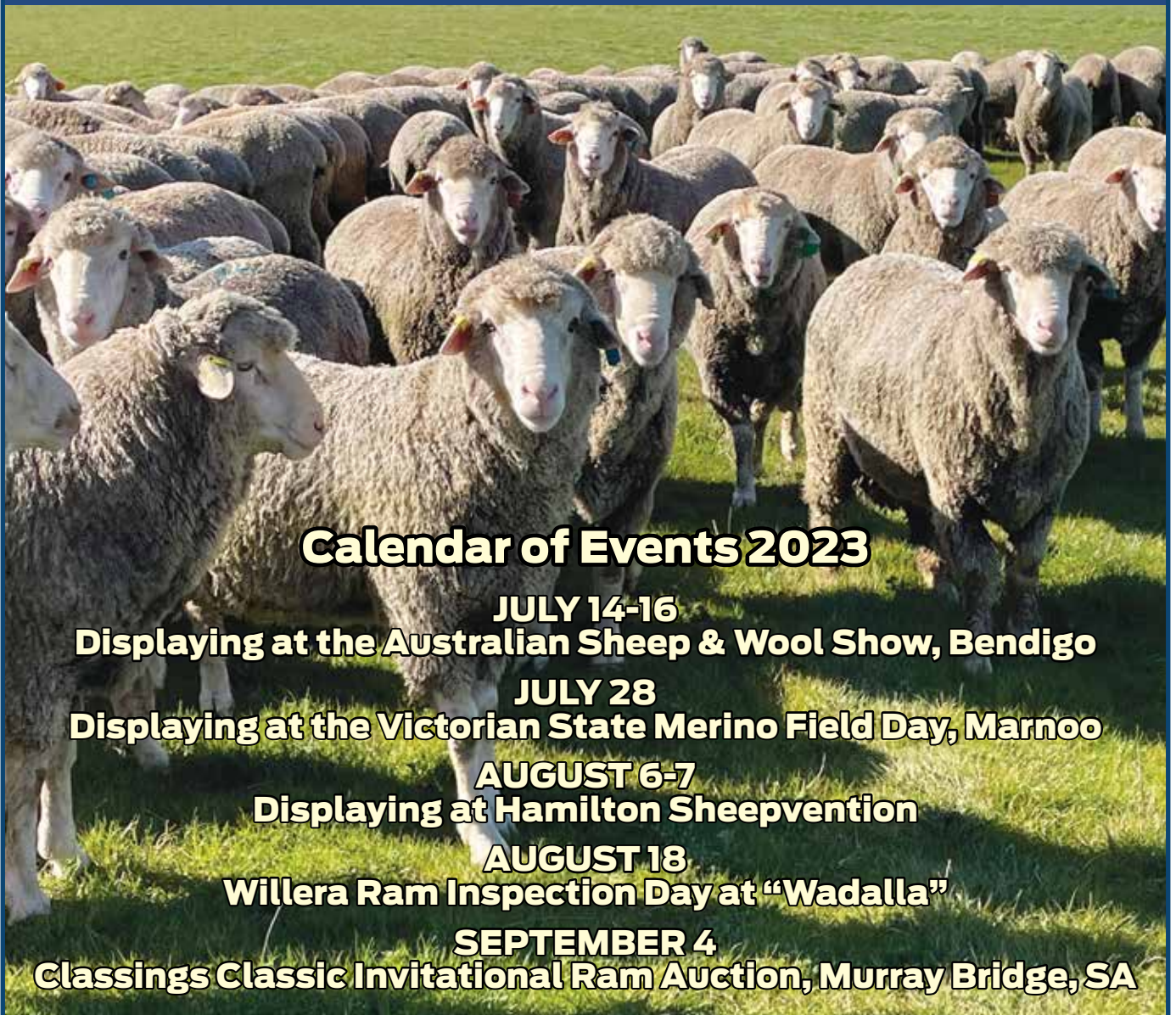
New Venue - "Wadalla" - 1072 Old Boort Road, Bears Lagoon, Victoria

ON PROPERTY RAM AUCTION

183 GENOMICS TESTED RAMS

Friday 25th August 2023 at "Wadalla"

INSPECTION FROM 10.00AM – SALE 1.00PM



Calendar of Events 2023

JULY 14-16

Displaying at the Australian Sheep & Wool Show, Bendigo

JULY 28

Displaying at the Victorian State Merino Field Day, Marnoo

AUGUST 6-7

Displaying at Hamilton Sheepvention

AUGUST 18

Willera Ram Inspection Day at "Wadalla"

SEPTEMBER 4

Classings Classic Invitational Ram Auction, Murray Bridge, SA



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- Classings Classic Ram Sale
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Annual on Property Sale

75 rams

Sale Date: Friday 8th Sept 2023

Inspections: from 10.30am

Sale commences: 12.30pm

Location: Caroonboon Station

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Contact:

Stud Principals: Margie Pye 0427 996 911
margiep01@bigpond.com

Sandy Pye 0448 232 569
sandy@calga.com.au

Studmaster: Ian Lilburne 0428 505 252

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2023 Sale and Display Diary

Victorian State Merino Field Day at Marnoo - July 28

Hamilton Sheepvention - August 6 & 7

Classings Classic Ram Sale, Murray Bridge - September 4

Pre Sale Inspection Day - On Property Friday September 8th, 2023

10th Annual On-property Ram Sale

Thursday September 14th, 2023



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60 POLL MERINO RAMS ON OFFER

Friday 25th August 2023

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Inspection from **10:30am**

Sale starts **1pm**



CONTACT

Chase Ferguson

0439 280 775

coleburrapoll@outlook.com

fb: Coleburra Poll Merinos

ig: @coleburrapoll

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44th
ON PROPERTY SALE

Thursday
31st | August
2023

120 Specially Selected Rams

Inspection starts: **11:00 am** (SA TIME) | Auction starts: **1:00 pm** (SA TIME)

SELLING AND DISPLAYING

- Hamilton Sheepvention
- Bendigo Australian Sheep & Wool Show
- Classings Classic Ram Sale
- South East Field Day
- Adelaide Ram Sale

Ray Schroeder
☎ 0427 778 485
✉ ray@gunallo.com.au

Brad Schroeder
☎ 0400 335 660
✉ brad@gunallo.com.au

Bill Walker
STUD ADVISER
☎ 0428 973 804

James McNally
☎ 0437 337 994

Paul Kinnard
☎ 0431 537 831



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**ON PROPERTY AUCTION
TUES 15th AUGUST 2023 at 1:30PM**

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CLASSINGS CLASSIC RAM SALE 2023

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www.classings.com.au classing@internode.on.net : Classings: In the Race and Classic Merino Ram Sale

AROUND THE ON PROPERTY SALES *in 2022 ...*

Due to a few time restrictions in getting Cullings'23 to the printer in time, I've had to limit the 2022 On Property sale reports to a mere quick summary, top price and a photo. This should only be a one off as it irks me to do it this way considering bulk purchasers are the 'guts' of any merino sale.

I will list the sales in chronological order - as they fell across the calendar. Naturally the studs reported here are those that are Classings (CPL) clients, progressive studs that are of interest, parent studs and those that support the Classings Classic sales.

I've asked all studs for a small writeup on their thoughts re this year's breeding program and what's new with their lineup.

PIMBENA POLL, WIRRULLA S.A.
TOP PRICE \$3,600 (4) AVERAGE \$1,741
78 OFFERED 74 SOLD



Brad and Kerry Cloughton S.A. (pictured) Lot 1
\$3,600 YWT 6.8 YCFW 17.4 YSL 12.0 YEMD 0.2
YFAT 0.2 DP+142 Sire: Pimbena 200249

Scott Trewartha Lot 9 \$3,600 YWT10.3 YCFW 22.0 YSL12.0 DP+ 171 Sire: Pimbena 200249

Pittaway P/C Lot 10 \$3,600 YWT 9.2 YCFW 21.0 YSL 12.0 YEMD 0.8 YFAT 0.4 DP+ 167 Sire: Pimbena 180417

Netallie Station Lot 78 \$3,600 YWT 9.0 YCFW 19.0 YSL 16 YEMD 1.1 YFAT 0.0 DP+ 166 Sire: Pimbena 190321

Comments: Pimbena's future? For me to retire and the stud is up for grabs! **Les Hamence**

O'BRIEN POLL, KYANCUTTA S.A.
TOP PRICE \$9,000 AVERAGE \$2,587
OFFERED 97 SOLD 89



Kurrabi Park Poll Merino, Mark and Logan Dennis with the \$9,000 top: YWT 10.1 YCFW 21.8 YSL 18.7 YEMD 0.3 YFAT0.0 DP+ 180 Sire: O'Brien Poll 191035

Comments - "O'Brien 190455 was entered in the 2021 SA Sire Evaluation had the heaviest progeny at PWT up against some noted growth sires. On the other end of the growth scale Mumblebone 202117 and Leachim 193069 produced some great little nuggety sires, with high dressing percentage and plenty of muscle and fat without the high adult weights, that the shearers don't seem to like.

Our wool sires, to make sure there is a bit of style to capture the eye include Ellamatta 170274, Pimbena 1900023, O'Brien 191035 and 201166 and Ramsgate 200309. A total of 15 different visual traits have been scored in rams and keeper ewes, we find this adds to selection pressure for sheep entering our breeding program and with the help of genomics, visual ASBV's became available to aid selection.

Various sires bought over the internet in that Covid period made us realise what we already knew that it is very easy to bring structure issues in when chasing a certain trait. Over the next drop we will endeavour to add WEC to our testing - not that easy under our low worm environment; with the availability of full pedigree together with improvements in repro recording will allow us to focus further on repro traits.

Our sheep genetics data score sits at the top end of 4 stars of possible 5, needing another generation or so of full pedigree to get into the 5 star rating." **Darren and Jodie O'Brien**

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LUCERNBRAE POLL, CALLINGTON S.A.
TOP PRICE \$4,200 AVERAGE \$1,891
OFFERED 59 SOLD 45



Kym and Michelle Thiele, Pompoota S.A. (not pictured) purchased Lot 18 at \$4,000. YWT 7.8 YCFW 35.0 YEMD 0.9 YFAT 0.7 MP+ 178. Sire: Gunallo 170295

RIDGWAY POLL, LAMEROO S.A.
TOP PRICE \$7,800 AVERAGE \$2,222
OFFERED 152 SOLD 117



Brent Farr holding top price gong at Lot 3 for \$7,800. YWT 9.7 YCFW 28.1 YSL 9.8 YEMD 0.4 YFAT 0.0 MP+ 173 Sire: Ridgway 170005.

Comment: Ridgway continues to breed animals which are plain bodied and early maturing, that carry fast growing, elite fibre with good density. The typical Ridgway wool is white, bold crimping and nourished, capable of withstanding all climatic conditions.

2023 has seen us cease mulesing. This is something that we have contemplated for a long time. The sheep we produce possess thin, pliable skins on uncomplicated bodies, giving us confidence that they will handle non-mulesing well.

This is backed up by independent testing over many Sire Evaluation trials where our rams have always performed very well for both breech wrinkle and breech cover scores. These traits have been recorded on all lambs born this year and will be available for all sale rams from 2024 onwards. We are always trying to improve and increase the data we collect in order

to breed the most profitable and easy-care animals we can. In August last year we took DNA samples from half of our ewe flock and the remainder will have DNA taken later this year.

This will allow us to get full and accurate parentage on every lamb born in 2024 and beyond. Having full parentage data for all our stock will improve breeding value accuracies, giving the ram buyer confidence that the genetics they are buying will breed as they should.

This year we are excited to offer the first sons from Ridgway 200253. His progeny possess soft, bold crimping, long stapled, heavy cutting wool on stretchy bodies.

We also offer the first sons from Ridgway 200021, 200050 and 200064, Kiandra 200079 and Willera 200161. Other prominent sires include Gunallo 170295, Leahcim 192621, Ridgway 170005 & 190063.

We will offer 200 poll merino rams at our On Property sale on Monday the 14th of August and 6 rams at this years Classing Classic on Monday the 4th of September. **Matt Ridgway**

RAMSGATE, TINTINARA S.A.
TOP \$4,200 (2) AVERAGE \$2,257
OFFERED 72 SOLD 67



Pictured at right holding Lot 3, Glen Landseer, Narilla, Milang S.A. Equal top price at \$4,200 YWT 8.8 YCFW 23.2 YSL 15.3 YEMD 0.3 YFAT 0.0 DP+ 174 Sire: Sohnic 181195

At left in middle, Josh Keller, Tintinara S.A. YWT 4.1 YCFW 16.3 YSL 18.9 YEMD 0.5 YFAT 0.7 DP+ 162 Sire: Sohnic 181195

Comment: Our On-Property Auction – 15 August 2023, will feature a great run of modern mules-free genetics, with increasing depth of quality in both the physical wool, and structure of sires on offer, as well as ASBVs trending in all the right directions. We have never had an offering like this before!!

The first sons of Wallaloo Park 200268 (CC '21 \$14,000) will feature heavily with snappy white wools on a loose productive skin.

Mumblebone 200072 via semen will please those chasing forward fat and eye muscle readings.

Stud Reserve Ramsgate 200292 offers length and density on very sound frames complimented by the evergreen Nantoura 190061; Sohnic 181195 and Ramsgate 180451 also filling plenty of pens.

New news ... highly fertile ewes deliver the goods!! Started lamb marking with awesome results, due to a great Autumn under our belts. First half of naturally mated Stud Ewes (44% maidens) » 449 ewes mated to 6 sires in 3 groups = 602 lambs marked à 134%

Craig and Jed Keller



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Dave Whittenbury 0455 600 488

Brenton & Penny Kroehn
9km south of Waikerie, Maggea Road
Brenton: 0427 414 494
Email: bkroehn@hotmail.com



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INSPECTION FROM 11AM | AUCTION AT 1PM
130 RAMS OFFERED



INSPECTION DAY
1PM TO 4PM,
THURSDAY 10TH AUGUST 2023



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RIDGWAY ADVANCE, BORDERTOWN S.A
TOP \$12,500 AVERAGE \$3,085
OFFERED 135 SOLD 135



Paul and Chris McPherson, Wentworth NSW with Lot 4 at \$12,500
Actuals:18.4u 2.4sd 13.1cv 0.2pf 48 emd 9.5mm Fat. Sire: Glenlea Park 190.

Comment: When asked for a couple of lines describing this year's line up, I would liken it to an AFL team gunning for a flag. (but we won't mention which one).

The Ridgway Advance team have the right make-up and all have earned the right to be there, but the one important ingredient that is necessary for merino sheep to perform is to have good pedigree.

This year's RA sale team offers genuine genetics with promising ASBV figures that go right across the page and raw data that is relative.

David, Karen and Devon Ridgway are extremely proud on how the teams present and are looking forward to this seasons sales. **David Ridgway**

CALCOOKARA POLL, COWELL S.A.
TOP \$6,200 AVERAGE \$2,746
OFFERED 119 SOLD 117



Pictured with Lot 30, Daryl Koch, Kimba S.A. selling for \$6,200
YWT 6.4 YCFW 24.8 YSL15.6 YEMD -0.6 YFAT -0.9 DP+160 Sire: Calcookara 190138

Comment: At Calcookara we have 130 rams for our 2023 sale on August 17th. As lambs they had a great start to life with the perfect spring. As a breeder it's just so exciting to see the current team supersede the previous drop!

Until last Spring we hadn't chased numbers very hard and always had quality at the top of the list. It is a changing world and we've had to change with it, but we know that in our background we have quality on our side and look forward to the future.

In 2022 we had a great sale with a total clearance of 120 rams and therefor decided to invest heavily into genetics to not only keep the ball rolling but also to pick up the pace a bit on muscle and fat traits. Watch this space!

New Sires for 2023 Sale include: CAL446 – A grandson of Calcookara 400. 446 had a very large and uncomplicated frame, covered in well nourished, elite wool. A lot of his offspring's raw data are at the top for EMD, FAT% and BWT. He's left his mark with his wool!

LEA173122 – Semen used. We selected this ram with Bills recommendation for his white nourished wools and his ability to increase fleece weights safely. He is Top 10% for YWT at 10.5 and top 5% for YCFW at 31 and carries the PP gene. Breeding great density with fluid nourishment and whiteness.

BEN55 – Purchased from Benefield stud for \$20,000. A ram with great length and depth of body. Possibly the coolest and calmest ram ever bred in history. He'll walk up to you and demand a rub! He has a YWT of 10.5, YCFW 30, YEMD .71, YFAT .05, YSL 20.5 and is PP. He is in the top 5% for EBWR at -1.17. He is a great all-rounder and so far he's breeding early maturing passive animals in bulk. **Brenton and Jane Smith**

KARAWATHA PARK, BUCKLEBOO S.A.
TOP \$10,000 AVERAGE \$2,557
OFFERED 140 SOLD 140

LOT: 70					
KARAWATHA PARK-210053					
FD	SD	CV	CF	GFW%	BWT
17.9	2.7	15.5	99.2	134	101.5
Ycfw	Ywt	Yfd	MP+	DP+	
42.2	9.5	-1.7	197.9	188.9	
(71%)	(74%)	(80%)	(53%)	(53%)	

Pat Hannan, Cockaleechee S.A. with top priced Lot 70 for \$10,000
YWT 9.5 YCFW 42.2 YEMD -0.6 YFAT -0.6 YFD -1.7 MP+ 198 Sire: Leahcim 173122



FLAIRDALE POLL, COOKE PLAINS S.A.
TOP \$7,000 AVERAGE \$2,430
OFFERED 80 SOLD 71



Lot 8 Dale Paxton, Parndana, S.A. for \$
YWT 8.5 YCFW 11.0 YSL 16.0 YEMD 1.4 YFAT 0.8 WR 0.2 DP+ 171
Sire: Mumblebone 180088

Comment: New sires in this years ram sale are Wallaloo Park 20-2276 and Benefield 20-0055. We will have 85-90 rams in our sale this year as well as three for Classings Classic'23.

Flairdale has been Non-mulesed 16 years now and have been Breech Wrinkle and Breech Cover scoring for the last 4 years.

First year of mating ewe lambs with lambing at 13-14 months of age as to rapidise genetic gain.

All ewes and Rams muscle and fat scanning done at 8-9 months of age and all ewes and rams fleece weights and fleece measurements done at 10-11 months of age at six months wool growth.

Matt Lehmann

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Annual Sale

Thursday 27th July 2023 @ 1pm
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170 rams

Poll Merino and Dohne Merino flocks
in Merino select analysis

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2023 Calendar

Sohnic aims to produce rams for the commercial market to help producers maximise their combined returns from wool and carcass.

Victorian State Merino Field Day
28th July

Classings Classic
4th September
Selling 4 Rams

Inspection Day
TBA Early September
10am - 4pm

On-Property Ram Sale
Friday September 15th
Inspection from 9am - Sale @ 1pm

Sohnic Is Looking For New Clients With Shared Goals.

Our breeding principles are totally focussed on \$/ha performance of our clients flocks. Focussing on flock performance without individual focus - Currently we are witnessing huge focus on individual elements within a flock (eg. wool cut, scanning %, lamb survival).

To have a productive and profitable flock being outstanding at individual elements is not enough, we just need to be good at a lot of elements.

This focus of being exceptional at nothing, but good at everything enables optimum returns per hectare and dramatically reduces our risk. We are better being average at a lot of things rather than exceptional at one.

Sohnic focusses are

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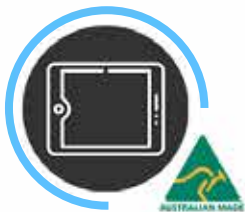
L-R: Dusty Cross, Andrew Heinrich, Jamie Heinrich, Tony Wetherall and Buyer Hansi Graetz

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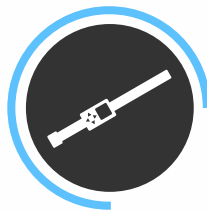
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Mathew Coddington - Roseville Park

LONGITUDINAL EVALUATION OF THE CLINICAL, PRODUCTION AND WELFARE CONSEQUENCES OF DENTAL CARIES IN MERINO SHEEP (DECAY)

PhD Candidate: Sophie Holt, MSc, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, University of Edinburgh, UK. Home Address: Coonong Station, Urana NSW Phone: 0429 208002

Primary Supervisor: Dr Fritha Langford, Senior Lecturer, Positive Livestock Futures, SNES, Newcastle University, U.K.

Supervisor: Dr Helen Rogers, Clinical Lecturer, Paediatric Dentistry, Newcastle University, UK.

This research will evaluate the prevalence and extent of caries in Merino sheep by assessing the prevalence of caries in deciduous incisors of sire-verified sheep over 3 years. The research will also consider the genetic heritability, production, and welfare consequences of dental caries in Merino sheep.

The second phase of the research will consider ewes assessed with deciduous incisors and held to lambing age in years 2 and 3. This will consider the trajectory of caries from deciduous teeth to permanent teeth and evaluate the level of incisor destruction and potential tooth loss. The effect of caries prevalence on production indicators, such as lambing percentages and weaning rates, will also be considered.



Figure 1 – Incisor Caries in Sheep
Red arrows are indicating incisor destruction from occlusal caries. (unpublished Holt (2022) MSc Edinburgh).

The aims of this research are:

1. To assess the prevalence of caries in sheep by evaluating deciduous and permanent incisors in Merino sheep in Australia.
2. To evaluate techniques for caries detection and assessment in sheep.
3. To assess the potential contribution of caries towards destruction and incisor loss in sheep.
4. To evaluate whether caries in sheep is hereditary.
5. To assess the effects of untreated caries in sheep on production, including wool staple strength (SS N/ktex), fertility and Body Condition Score (BCS).

6. Investigate the association between prevalence and severity of caries and indicators of sheep welfare.

Research Methodology

Caries assessment will take 30 seconds per sheep using an intra-oral camera to photograph incisors. Research can be completed with AMSEA classing and inspection times. Previous MSc photographs and research are shown in Figure 4. An intra-oral camera will be used to produce faster and more detailed images for PhD research.

Research Background

Current sheep health literature recognises the loss of incisor function as the result of primarily two causes, excessive wear or periodontitis. Despite recognition that caries is prevalent in other species, current sheep health literature states that caries in sheep 'rarely' occurs, despite little to no current sheep caries research (Miles and Grigson, 1990; Bowen, 2013; Lundstrom and Birkhed, 2019). Untreated dental caries in other animals causes tooth loss and destruction resulting in loss of feeding ability, malnutrition and lowered resistance against infection (Jackson et al., 2019; Pehkonen, Karma and Raekallio, 2019).

In my 2022 MSc research (currently preparing manuscript for UK publication), conducted with assistance from AMSEA, I assessed the incisors of 1275 Merino ewes, reporting caries-affected surfaces on one or more incisors in 73% of 0.8-year-old ewes with deciduous incisors and 42% of ewes with permanent incisors had one or more incisors detected with caries. On average, half the incisor arcade in ewes with deciduous incisors assessed were affected by caries (Unpublished Holt, 2022 Edinburgh). In the 0.8-year-old ewe cohort (these were AMSEA trial ewes), there was a correlation between the sire of young ewes and caries detected on deciduous teeth ($p < 0.001$). This is the first indication that genetics may play a role in caries developing in sheep. Of the 15 sires in the AMSEA population, apparent differences in progeny with caries were observed, giving the first evidence of heritability of caries in sheep (Figure 2).

Associations were also found across the whole research population between lower body condition scores and higher numbers of dental caries (Unpublished Holt, 2022 MSc Edinburgh), suggesting dental caries might affect their eating ability and ability to access and store nutrition.

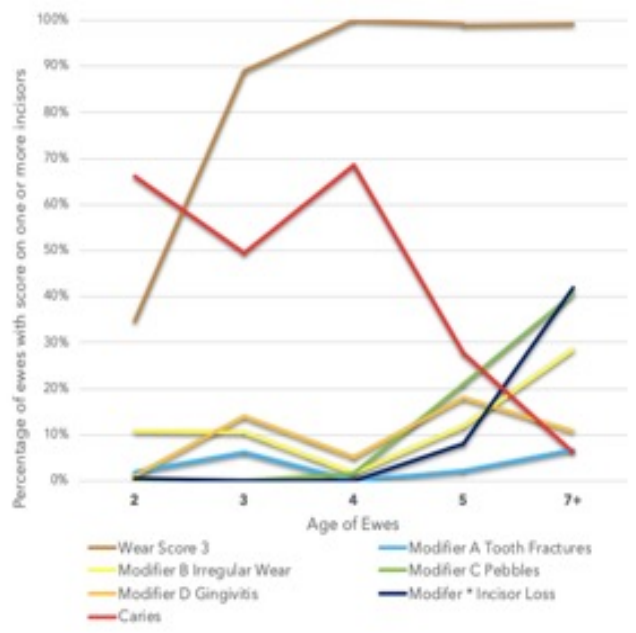
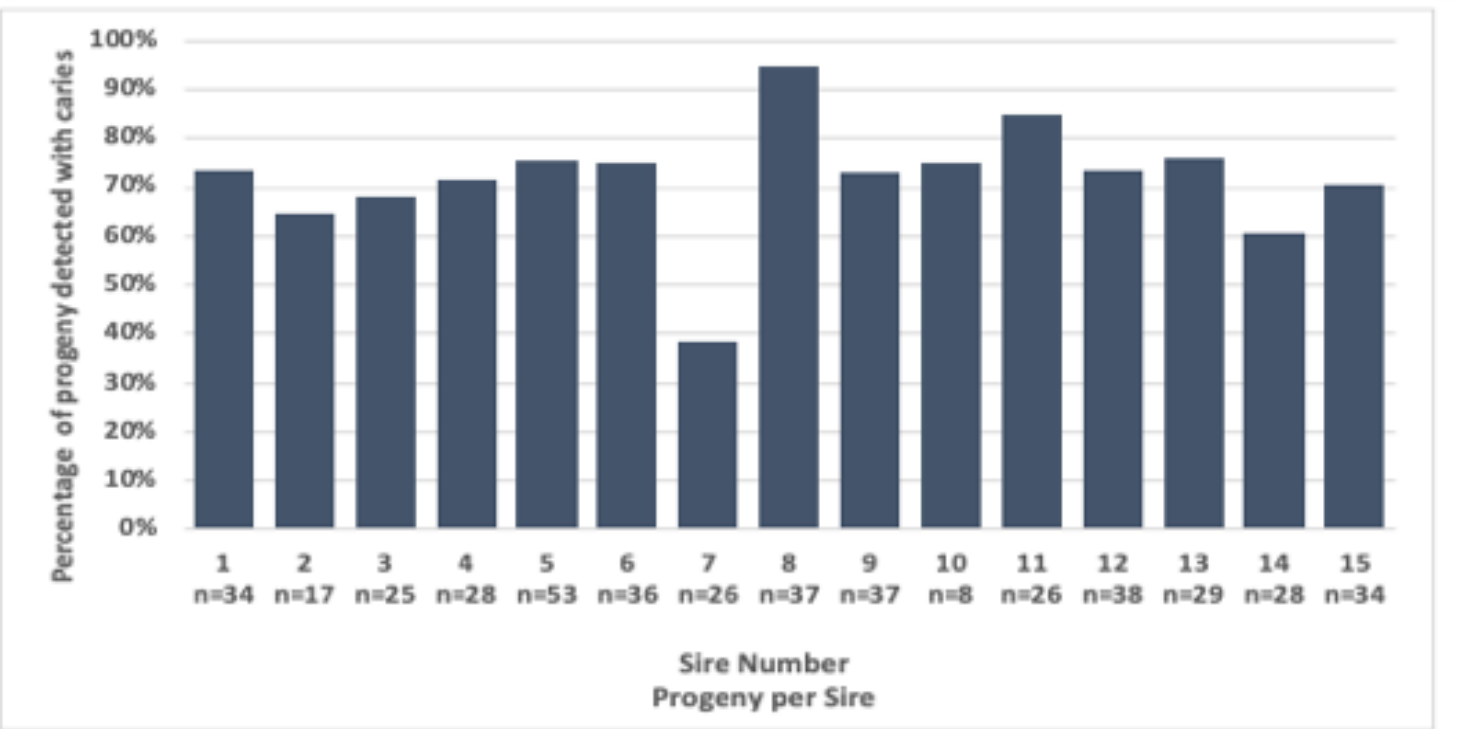
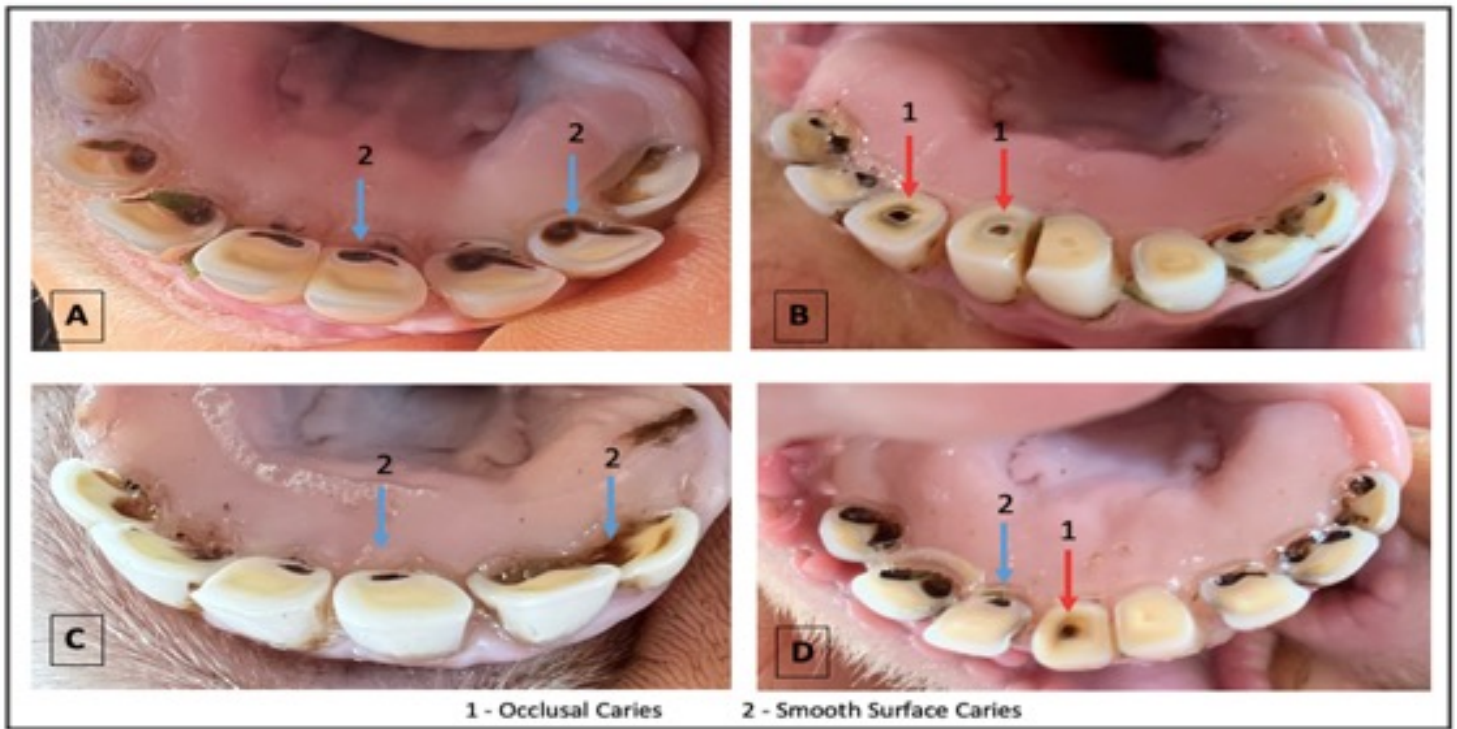
My research on dental disorders in sheep also considered the trajectory of dental disorders with age (Figure 3). This flock undertakes culling at 5-6 years of age. Of interest is that as dental disorders increased with age, caries went from 70% to less than 10% in ewes aged above 7+ years. This indicates that caries may be incompatible with ewes longevity and suggests further research is needed on the production and welfare consequences of caries in sheep.

Conclusion

People always ask, are you going to brush sheep's teeth? The answer is no. Research in horses and other species has shown that dental caries can be arrested by changing nutrition levels and increasing saliva flow with straw feeding. This research will also be the first to consider the likelihood of genetic heritability and breeding for a lower prevalence of caries in sheep and the welfare and production impacts of caries in sheep.

Classic Sponsor





TOP: Figure 4 - Illustrative Sheep Caries utilising the site of origin assessment method. From Holt 2022 MSc Edinburgh.

Centre: Figure 2 – Percentage of progeny detected with caries by sire number from AMSEA Ewes (Holt (2022) MSc Edinburgh)

LEFT: Figure 3

CLASSINGS CLASSIC RAM SALE 2023

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AROUND THE ON PROPERTY SALES *in 2022*

Continued ...

BENEFIELD POLL, MURRAY BRIDGE S.A.
TOP \$6,000 AVERAGE \$2,252 on debut
72 OFFERED 61 SOLD



In blue, centre is Kerrie Strauss, Cummins S.A. with Lot 3 for \$6,000.
YWT 8.9 YCFW 22.6 YSL 18.8 YEMD 0.1 YFAT 0.1 Sire: Glenwood 191098.

COLEBURRA POLL, TINTINARA S.A.
TOP \$4,200 AVERAGE \$1,726 on debut
52 OFFERED 45 SOLD



John Weinke, Wynarka S.A. at right with the top selling Lot 1 for \$4,200.
YWT 8.8 YCFW 18.5 YSL 14.1 YEMD 0.8 YFAT 0.7 DP+ 172.

Comment: This year's team is excellent! Paddock born, paddock raised, paddock ready!
Chase Ferguson

NANTOURA POLL, WHARMINDA S.A.
TOP \$4,400 AVERAGE \$2,504
OFFERED 109 SOLD 102



Old Murray, observing from the heavens above admires Lot 23 he bought for \$4,400.
YWT 9.1 YCFW 14.5 YSL 14.7 YEMD 0.7 DP+ 164
Sire: Nantoura 190061.

Comment: "A couple of words from our coach... Our 2023 sale team is headlined by a couple of rookies purchased from CC'21 Westwood 200732 and Ramsgate 200472.

These two rams working alongside player for the day Mumblebone 180963 combined well with the veterans of the line up Gunallo 190067 (CC'20 \$9,500), Nantoura 190061 (sold to Ramsgate @ CC'20 for \$20,000) and Nantoura 17Y149.

The above team has left us with a sale team that would rival any we have produced in the past with fibre, frame and muscle.

Nantoura Poll continue to kick goals for you and your team.

We don't want to get ahead of ourselves but we are looking forward to being a commanding force on the last Tuesday of August." **Chris Prime**

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MOBISHEAR
 AUSTRALIA
 CORDLESS SHEARING

BORUNG POLL, WAIKERIE S.A.
TOP \$4,800 AVERAGE \$1,720
OFFERED 80 SOLD 80



Stuart Everett, Lone Gum Poll, Crystal Brook S.A., second from left admires Lot 5 that he bought for \$4,800. YWT 10.1 YCFW 11.0 YEMD 0.2 YFAT 0.1 DP+ 164 Sire: Gunallo 170003.

Comment: This years sale team features rams from Wallaloo Park 20-1413 (\$12,000 at Classic'21), SWM 20-0218 (\$7,800 top price SWM On Property'21), Baderloo 20-0035, Borung 20-0247 and Gunallo 20-0411.

We will be offering 80 rams, to date all paddock run currently averaging 89kg and looking the goods!.

Displaying at Keith on July 19 and Jamestown on August 10.

Have a cracking day man! **Brenton Kroehn**

GUNALLO POLL, PINNAROO S.A.
TOP \$9,500 AVERAGE \$2,676
OFFERED 120 SOLD 114



Andrew Mosey in the middle with Lot 9 purchase 210865 for \$9,500. YWT 5.2 YCFW 28.3 YSL 17.8 YEMD -0.6 YFAT 0.0 MP+ 170 Sire: Gunallo 160473

Comments: We are quite excited about this year's sale rams with several new sire's first progeny showing elite free growing white wools on meaty bodies. Our fat & EMD has gradually improved while trying not to lose wool cut and the stylish wools we have. Gunallo has ceased mulesing to all our sheep this year. Previously 95% of rams were not mulesed.

We have been shearing all sheep every six months for the last 10 years achieving 65 – 70 mm average with wool cuts of 4.5 kgs every 6 months. We have been lucky having good clean shearers, but we do look after them with facilities hot & cold wa-ter, clean toilets and supply good food at lunches and smoko's.

Sheep are emptied out well before getting into shed. Most times they are key holed prior to shearing which makes life easier for shed staff as well. Lambs have just been tailed, injected etc getting 105% to 120% in most mobs. They are looking very good with some more new sire's lambs looking great. Their structure and make & shape are quite impressive.

Brad has a new son Henry and his sister Tiff also have a new son Fred. Hopefully a couple of farmers in the making and maybe a stud master. It's great to be Grandparents to these guys.

Life has been busy with family, farm and bowls all been quite successful this last 12 Months. **Ray Schroeder**

PEPPER WELL POLL MERINOS

ON PROPERTY AUCTION 1:00PM TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2023

50 JULY 2022 DROP RAMS



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Pepperwell, 84 North Rhine Road, KEYNETON SA - 1km North of Township



For more details contact Hans Graetz MOB: 0427 790 676 PH: (08) 8564 8337 EM: pepperwell1@gmail.com

SWM, TINTINARA S.A.
TOP \$9,000 AVERAGE \$3,184
OFFERED 120 SOLD 116



Elders Tasmania's Damien Whitely at right bought Lot 4 for a sale topping \$9,000 for Formosa Estate, Cressy Tas. YWT 6.8 YCFW 29.5 YSL 9.4 YEMD -0.2 YFAT -0.3 DP+ 163
Sire: Gunallo 190026.

Comments: The 2023 sale team will once again be predominantly paddock run rams with only 20 rams being shed prepared for Field Day displays.

This approach allows Mother Nature to do her thing filtering out anything that can't cope with weather. This allows SWM rams to go into high rainfall environments already "road tested"

New sires represented in the sale team this year are Mumblebone 202041, Baderloo 190126 & Sohnic 200526 These have bolstered carcass traits within SWM. The elite wools on the stud ewe side have certainly carried across onto these improved carcass bodied sale rams.

150 rams will be available on sale day with a further 100 available for private selection SWM have dual agents this year being Elders & Quality wool.

Richard Harkness

WALLALOO PARK, MARNOO VIC.
TOP \$32,000 AVERAGE \$5,377
OFFERED 205 SOLD 203



Dion Woolford, Karawatha Park S.A. holds the Lot 28, sale topper at \$32,000 with Richard Harkness, SWM, S.A. as share. YWT 6.1 YCFW 31.0 YSL 17 YEMD 0.1 YFAT -0.1 MP+ 175
Sire: WP 181491

CHALLARA, BADGINGARRA W.A.
TOP \$3,800 AVERAGE \$1,316
OFFERED 103 SOLD 91



Brad and Seb Eastough, Northampton W.A. at right hold the \$3,800 sale topper. YWT 7.9 YCFW 23.0 YSL 14.0 YEMD -0.1 YFAT -0.1 DP+ 170 Sire: Challara Syndicate.

Comments: Challara has been a breeding on SRS progressive genetics since 1992 and it has been a challenging, but worthwhile journey. We have learned many things of what works and what does not in ram breeding over the last thirty odd years. I know Dr Jim Watt's scientific principles are proven to work. It is also exciting to witness a steady improvement in genetics and the depth of genetics.

We are also in a challenging environment that tests the quality of the Merino. If the sheep does not have white wool and is structurally correct, the animal will always let us know by giving us a blow fly problem or potentially breaking down. With the assistance of Bill Walker, we have also improved our structural traits in recent years.

I will mention a few comments from local stock agent, Greg Wootton after the sale. "The presentation of rams was second to none and a lot of comments were made about the consistency of the rams. This was due to the depth of genetics at Challara. Clients could expect a greater number of rams of greater quality in 2023. There is a whiteness and brightness of the wool, matched with the muscular traits the sheep have. They negatively correlate, so it is hard to consistently get that sheep that offers both sides of the genetic spread. The sheep speak for themselves."

I had to reassess again how to best move forward with our Poll Merino Stud to genetically improve what we are doing and justifying it financially and try and effectively reach out to people, who may not be aware of our worth.

Apart from entering proven Challara sire 200274 in the 2023 Drop Muresk Sire Evaluation, I decided to do three different things. The first move was to purchase five rams from Westwood Poll Merino Stud to improve the quality of our commercially bred flock, which the top ram had stud influence.

The second move was not to buy any new AI outsourced from other studs. The third step was the greatest financially, being that of investing heavily into DNA testing all male and female stud stock bred with Challara. I am trusting that people can understand our genetic value by the strength in the figures, as we have been testing many traits over a long period of time with pedigree background.

I was also very pleased by the results of Challara 190254 from the Muresk Sire Evaluation 2022 Drop shown at Dowerin Field Days last year. We performed well with wool length, dual purpose measurements of CFW, Fat and muscle and visual scores. Unfortunately, he went missing out in the back paddock two years ago!

At this stage, we will be offering 100 Poll Merino Rams at our annual on property ram sale. The different sires on offer are Ridgway Advance 201182, Gunallo 170295, Anderson 190669, Challara 190989, Baderloo 170080, Leahcim 173122 and Challara Syndicates.

There are no particular stand out family groups, but I am quite pleased with the overall consistency of the progeny from Ridgway Advance 201182 or 'Ridgy Didge' - our Classic'21 purchase for \$14,000.

Two specially selected Challara rams will be offered at the Classing Classic Ram Sale.

ELLA MATTA, PARNDANA S.A.
TOP \$20,000 AVERAGE \$3,232
OFFERED 55 SOLD 46



Hansi Graetz, Pepperwell, Keyneton S.A at right laid off the turps long enough to get a good shot with the \$20,000 top seller. **YWT 11.1 YCFW 36.9 YSL 16.4 YEMD 1.4 YFAT 0.1 MP+ 196 DP+ 204 Sire: Wallaloo Park 172032.**

WILLERA, SERPENTINE Vic.
TOP \$8,000 AVERAGE \$3,921
OFFERED 138 SOLD 137



Simon Coutts, Willera holds Lot 4 sold for Chelwood Farming, Mintaro, SA for \$8,000. **YWT 8.7 YCFW 24.9 YFD -2.0 YSL 12.2 YEMD 3.0 FAT 0.5 DP+ 207 Sire: Willera 190184**

Comments: 2022 posed challenges with record floods, wiping out huge swathes of improved pasture putting pressure on our carrying capacity but we managed to maintain our numbers through careful management and having the pedal to the floor with our irrigation.

Big fodder reserves in terms of pit silage meant we could pull the trigger on finishing wether lambs and unjoined ewe lambs in containment whilst giving "weight" ewe lambs priority paddock feed for our ewe lamb joining program.

In terms of the stud, genetics are proving king through a tight end to summer and tough au-tumn, condition score has eased the challenges of feed, the season is good now and we'll steam ahead.

Three stud ram purchases last year have excited us. With lamb marking kicking off there is a focus on PWT, WEC and FD along with hocks and foot structure at the forefront of our minds. We are finding PWT rising internally through pedigree depth - our aim at Willera is to not trade off wool cut with carcass, which will sometimes happen.

With the correct skins and a balanced set of ASBV's we believe we can, and are producing sustainable wool cutters with carcass traits and growth to tick all the boxes, and of course on a bare breeched non mulesed sheep. For instance our 2022 display and potential Classic Rams averaged PWT 6.05, YFAT 1.22, YEMD 1.88, YFD 0.28, YCFW 24.5 and EBWR -1.0.

One key trait we watch hard is YWT to AWT, we like to see a decrease in value therefore not breeding inefficient monsters i.e. the display team a average YWT of 8.5 to an adult weight (AWT) of 6.5.

Finally as we have been doing the last 4 years, our entire Serpentine commercial sire battery are our ram lambs, we've had great success doing this with the aid of genomic testing. It's a great way to fast track genetic influence and get the rams in training for buyers - in a sense we can offer substantially more top end rams for sale as we have already used them within the flock - a revolving door in a way.

Our 2023 on property sale is targeting 160-180 rams for sale and similar number for private selection. We will be offering 3 top end rams at Classings Classic and displaying rams at Bendigo, Hamilton and Marnoo.

Ram Sale is August 25 and Open Day is August 18 At the new ram selling venue "Wadalla" 1072 Old Boort Road, Bears Lagoon Vic 3517.

Simon Coutts

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Nantoura

ON PROPERTY AUCTION

Tuesday 29th August
100 Poll Merino Rams

CLASSING CLASSIC

Monday 4th September
2 Poll Merino Rams

Chris Prime - 0427289021



Nantoura 210132 Top priced ram 2022, on property sale, purchased by Old Murray Pastoral, for \$4400.

MERNOWIE, MARRABEL S.A.
TOP \$10,500 AVERAGE \$2,058
OFFERED 131 SOLD 131



The sale got off to a strong start with Lot 1, tag 210753, topping the sale, selling to Leonie Mills, Morley stud, Cleve. YWT 9.5 YCFW 29.0 YSL 9.9 YEMD 0.0 YFAT -0.5 MP+ 167 Sire: Moorundie Poll 170020.

Comments: This year's Classic'23 and on Property team are very well represented by Mernowie 201080 progeny - he topped Classic'21 and sold to Gunallo Poll.

We had so much confidence in his first drop we Al'd 300 ewes to him for the current drop of lambs. His ASBV's have continued to improve thanks to his progeny. PWT 8.6 YWT 11.3 YCFW YSL 15.7 22.5 YEMD 1.96 YFAT -0.1 DP+ 186.

David Rowett

LORELMO POLL, WALCHA NSW
TOP \$8,000 AVERAGE \$2,205
OFFERED 78 SOLD 73



The sale went well with Lot 30, tag 210161, topping the sale at \$8,000 with Lot 26 selling for \$7,000 - both rams selling to Richard Hark-ness' SWM, Tintinara S.A. and both bred by the very potent Sire: Lorelmo 160172. GFW% 118 17.6u

HYNAM POLL, LONGWOOD Vic.
TOP \$6,100 AVERAGE \$1,987



Hynam Poll On-Property result topped out at \$6,100 for Hynam 211209 selling to Charlie Heal, Nagambie Vic. YWT 6.7 YCFW 20.2 YSL 12.3 YEMD 1.4 YFAT 0.6 DP+ 168 Sire: Hynam 190035

Comment: Hynam Poll Merinos had a successful 2022 season. Our positive results were selling all 5 rams offered at Classings Classic with a top price of \$10,000 for Hynam 210669 selling to Willaloo-ka Pastoral Co, and an average of \$4,600.

Back on farm with our On-Property sale we had our highest ever On-Property result with \$6,100 for Hynam 211209 selling to Charlie Heal - Na-gambie, and an average of \$1987. We were overall pleased with our year and thank our new and ex-isting clients for the ongoing support.

We are gaining great support from local producers, both new and return clients. Our clients value the fact that the bulk of our On-Property rams are fully paddock run.

Regarding our Classings Classic'23 team we plan to offer 5 rams, all with great fibre and structure.

Our lead ram, Hynam 220705, bred by Hynam 201152 is a stand out for growth, eye muscle, fat and low micron. At scanning in April he weighed 101kg with an eye muscle of 41mm and fat of 6.5mm. Current Micron: 18.4, CV: 14.1, SD: 2.6.

Still waiting on genomic test results but we do know he is a PP and other ASBV's are DP+: 168.4, MP+: 156.3, PWT: 7.22, YWT: 12.1, YCFW: 11.8, YFD: -2.47, YEMD: 1.52, YFAT: 0.75. **Big Kev**

Classic Sponsor



FOREST SPRINGS, JOEL JOEL Vic.
TOP \$8,500 AVERAGE \$2,940
OFFERED 84 SOLD 72



Top \$8500 to Dave Bibby, Maranui Pastoral, Tatyoon Vic. and penned in Lot 4, Tag 210086, sired by FSP190193 who performed exceptionally well in last years SA Sire Evaluation trial.

19.1u, 2.7sd, 14.4cv - YWT 9.84, YCFW 20.1 YSL 15.2Y YFAT 0.4, YEMD 0.24, EBWR -.78, EBCOV -.46, PP, DP+ 176 Sire: Forest Springs 190193.

WESTWOOD POLL, CASCADE W.A.
ESPERANCE MULTI VENDOR
TOP \$4,200 AVERAGE \$2,633
OFFERED 80 SOLD 80



Highest price was \$4200 for a Leahcim 182295 son bought by Leigh and Karina West, Gibson W.A. YWT 6.1 YCFW 21.3 YSL 9.9 YFD -1.82 YEMD 1.95 YAT 0.6 DP+ 178 Sire: Leahcim 182185

Comment: 2022 was an amazing year for our stud. We had our best ever results both in average price at auction as well as our highest individual

price. The vote of confidence that our clients are giving us is proof that our breeding direction is on the right track.

We also sold 5 rams at Classic'22, securing our best individual ram price, \$12,000 for a chumpy sire to Lucenbrae Poll, Callington S.A..

The 2023 season has started slowly for us but with good rains now sheep are powering away. We will be putting up 80 rams at auction this year to cater for the increased demand, and will hope-fully be at Classic'23 again with ram transportation an issue.

Rams for 2023 will include more sons of the super safe Leahcim 182185. He continues to produce elite fibre with the addition of -2.2 YFD and WEC -60 - handy attributes in todays environment.

Others sires used for the 2023 drop are Kiandra 200358, East Loddon 180062, Leahcim 202403 as well as promising home grown sires 200215 and 210230, used as a ram lamb.

200215 is currently in the AMSEA trial in SA and is performing well against other rams from around the state. **Scott Welke**

PENROSE, CASCADE W.A.
ESPERANCE RAM SALE
TOP \$2,500 AVERAGE \$1,500
OFFERED 40 SOLD 38



Peter Piercy, Salmon Gums W.A. purchased the top price ram at lot 6 Tag 210298 and bred by Leahcim 1703122 YWT 10.48 YEMD 0.33 YFAT 0.15 YCFW 22.9 MP+ 160 DP+ 164

Comment: Rams only came out of the feedlot yesterday as feed here has been limited - we have had 108mm for the year.

I would be very surprised if our top line of sale rams aren't by Benefield 55. A contender for Lot 1 would be 220210 by Benefield 55 119% for GFW 16.1 u SD 2.2 & 100% CF for April results. A bold crimping soft white wool with a backend like a bus.

Thomas' pick is 220413 by Penrose 200331 x L 173122 14.5u SD 2.4 CF 99.8 - a well balanced ram.

This years sale could be very difficult with growers still leaving the industry under the cloud of falling wool and lamb prices not to mention the tide of live export bans.

The total proceeds of one of this year's sale rams will be donated to the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

The modern, balanced merino which is early maturing to meet the lamb market, growing the fibre demanded by textile manufacturers not forgetting non-mulesed, is required now more than ever.

On another note we have our RWS accreditation. However the "bonus" from any QA programme do not seem to be standing out. I take comfort in our wool may be sold where non QA would be passed in. **Bruce Pengilly**

PEPPERWELL POLL, KEYNETON S.A.
TOP \$4,000 AVERAGE \$1,531
SOLD 32



Lot 2, Tag 211165 sold for \$4000 with sons of the purchaser, Karl & Josh Hentschke, Tung-killo S.A. of Richard and Tracy fame! YWT 6.37 YCFW 18.8 YSL 17.7 YEMD 0.7 DP+ 162.

Comment: A highlight of the year was growing a 12 ton dry matter silage crop on a multi-specie summer cover crop and the purchase of Ella Matta 21-0083 for \$20,000 at the Ella Matta On Property sale.

On the day he had the impressive ASBV figures of DP+ 206 (Top 5%) MP+ 196 YCFW 35.0 YSS 8.81 WWT 6.56 (Top 10%) YSL 18.8 PWT 7.12 (Top 20%) YWT 8.69 and currently YEMD 1.83 YFat 0.37

He also has a very high yielding weather proof wool with all the attributes we love and a rock solid conformation plus clean legs and face. Also his growth curve has flattened out, so no huge adult weight - perfect for the ewes here and he hasn't changed a bit since purchasing.

2022 drop SA Sire Evaluation entrant Pepper Well 20-0145 doing very well with a massive 119% lambs weaned from an AI program, that's 68 lambs versus the average of 49. Also top 3 for YFD, Wool Colour, Legs & Low Cull% and all of the other traits about average.

I'll quote the wool classer at the Evaluation shearing, "your sheep have a real stamp on wool type and softness."

Keep the 28th August free for the Bred Well Fed Well workshop we are hosting here at Keyneton.

Afterwards Jim Gordon will be giving a Masterclass on the Merino and the science behind it. Jim did many years of work with the late Dr. Jim Watts before his passing and has a huge knowledge to share.

The 2023 sale is on 10th October with all rams, as usual, run together, unhusked, exhibiting natural breaches with no foot trimming.

Hansi Graetz



- Where Quality Comes First -

LONE GUM
POLL MERINOS

CRYSTAL BROOK, S.A	FOR PRIVATE SALES CONTACT Stuart Everett: 0427 362 801 Classer - Bill Walker: 0428 973 804
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SA SIRE EVALUATION: MENTARA PARK S.A. 2022 DROP - PREVIEW

The information from the second Sire Evaluation Trial has only just come to hand including the all important Yearling Clean Fleece Weights to complete every trait. After a very successful Field Day thanks to the efforts of the the Eckert family and workers to get it all happening considering the crazy weather the day and night before, the fleece weight was the obvious trait missing.

My reporting here is very basic as this newsletter goes to print today and the information arrived last night very much thanks to Ben Swain's meticulous work and effort in getting it to me! The next version of Cullings'23 in a weeks time or so will contain much more to do with the this trial.

There are many tables and graphs that are associated with the trial but I only have time to portray a few of them yet they should give you a basic handle on how sire progeny performed from birth right through to yearling information including classing and shearing.

It's important to note that the Breeding Values shown here are within site Flock Breeding Values (FBV's) and not ASBV's which will eventuate in time using the information mustered here. Also of note is that this information reflects the progeny from only one sire from a said stud and some can blitz a trail whilst another can rate poorly. Should a stud continually perform way below par across many sites and individual trials it's only then that a few decisions could be made!

The below table, Classer Visual Grade summarises the Classer outcomes of each progeny group which I think is a vital tool and the first go-to in identifying the best looking progeny at classing. Remember the classing is done 'blindfolded' with no sire group identification whatsoever. The shading suggests a favourable result here yet is only as good as the trait information to follow in making up your mind on a featured sire group.

Sire Code	Breeder's flock, Sire name	Number of Progeny*	Classer's Visual Grade Yearling	
			TOPS %	CULLS %
1	Baderloo Poll, 200106	38	-18	12
2	Flairdale Poll, 190028	33	-6	6
3	Forest Springs Poll, 200102	57	9	-14
4	Kelvale Poll, 200114	63	22	-16
5	Kiandra Poll, 200065	48	19	-22
6	Loelmo Poll, 170602	27	-11	17
7	Malleetech Poll, 200119	59	-11	20
8	Miramoonna, 140012 (Link Sire)	57	24	-10
9	Mulloorie Poll, 160059 (Link Sire)	54	-17	28
10	O'Brien Poll, 201166	43	-6	0
11	Pepper Well Poll, 200145	68	11	-19
12	Roemahkita Poll, 200058	34	-17	16
13	The Yanko, 190310	57	-5	10
14	Wallaloo Park Poll, 172223	54	5	-12
15	Westwood Poll, 200215	47	-3	-17
16	Willandra Poll, 170018	43	4	2
Progeny group average		49	27	26

In this exercise I will follow the Forest Springs sire through the tables as to give you an idea in getting used to these charts and tables. As you can see here, Forest Springs 200102 has 9% more tops than the average of all of the sire groups and as a perfect tandem, his progeny group contained 14% less culls than average.

You can also see here the excellent performance of the trait highlighted Kelvale, Kiandra and Pepperwell progeny with very high Top/Low ratio.

When studying the Adjusted Sire Means chart below (adjusted for multiple births, drop etc.) you can see that Forest Springs 200102 performed well in many traits. (Table 3)

For example, deviations from average: -0.6kg weaning wt., -0.1kg yearling wt., +0.5 for EMD, Trait lead-ing +0.3kg Fat, Trait leading +0.1kg GFW, Trait Leading +0.2 CFW, Trait Leading -1.1 for Micron, -0.3 FDCV, +0.1mm Staple Length, & -7.2 Staple Strength.

Along the way and of note, is the EMD trait leading Flairdale, Malleetech and Wallaloo Park, the GFW of Kelvale, Loelmo and Malleetech, the Micron of Flairdale, Kiandra and Pepperwell and the very much trait leading efforts from the Kelvale 200114 sire - over 12mm above average!

These quad graphs are the coolest descriptions on the planet and portray an easy snapshot at one glance at what's happening amongst a trial. In the Figure 2 graph, High Tops/Low Culls at top left is where you need to be. Our study sire, Forest Springs has done well to be in there and has a few rivals including Kelvale 200114, Kiandra 200065, Miramoonna 140012, Pepperwell 200145 and Wallaloo Park 172223.

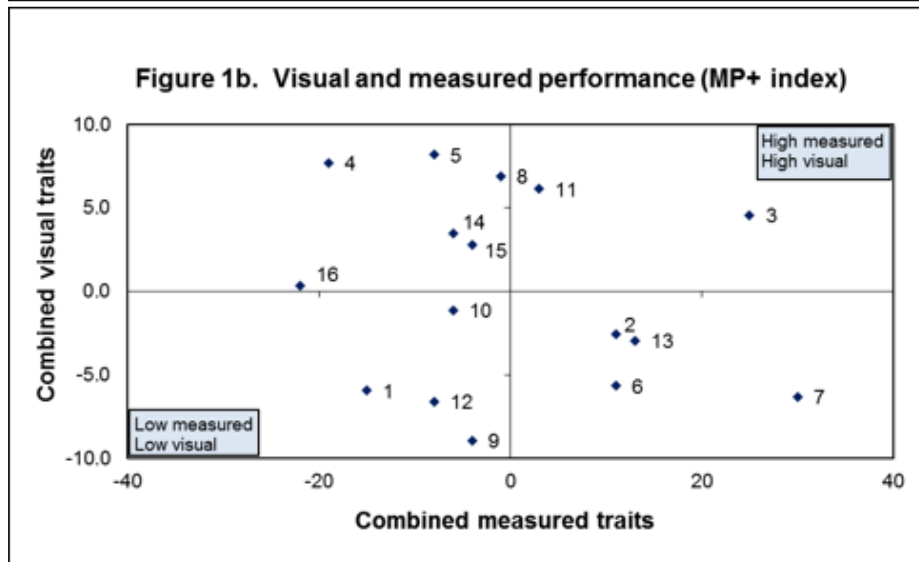
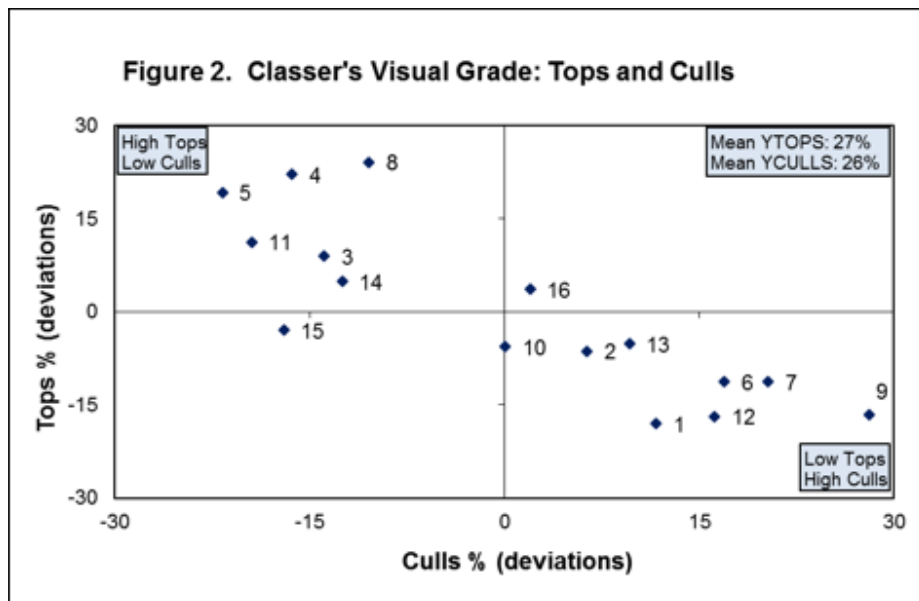
The next graph, Figure 1b is another beauty where it combines the pre mentioned Visual Traits as well as Measured Performance, in this case MP+. In the next edition of this publication I will expand and include more. As you can see the Forest Springs 200102 sire's worth of progeny (dot 3) are in a league of their own when considering High Measured and High Visual Traits.

Unfortunately that's all that I have time to create at the minute as print time deadline is fast approaching. Next edition will have and expanded effort and more table and graphs including Indexes as to get a good handle on any Sire Evaluation Trial and its necessity of existence to the wool industry. Bill



Sire Code	Breeders flock, Sire name	Number of Progeny	Adjusted Sire Means			Adjusted Sire Means								
			WT kg		EMD mm	FAT mm	GFW kg	CFW kg	FD µm	FDCV %	SL mm	SS N/ktex	CURV deg/mm	
			W	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
1	Baderloo Poll, 200106	37	28.9	56.9	32.3	3.9	5.5	3.8	18.7	15.5	88.4	55.6	49.3	
2	Flairdale Poll, 190028	34	28.9	57.4	32.8	4.2	5.3	3.9	17.6	14.6	88.4	58.1	48.6	
3	Forest Springs Poll, 200102	58	28.6	57.8	32.4	4.5	5.6	4.2	17.6	14.4	89.6	57.5	53.7	
4	Kelvale Poll, 200114	64	29.2	58.1	32.1	4.0	5.6	4.0	19.7	14.7	104.0	57.7	47.2	
5	Kiandra Poll, 200065	49	29.4	59.0	31.9	4.4	5.3	3.8	17.5	15.3	98.3	50.2	48.9	
6	Lorelmo Poll, 170602	28	29.7	57.4	30.9	4.2	5.6	4.1	17.7	15.3	87.5	55.3	53.1	
7	Malleetech Poll, 200119	61	30.2	60.7	32.8	4.6	5.6	4.2	18.4	13.6	87.4	62.2	59.0	
8	Miramoonna, 140012 (Link Sire)	59	27.6	57.1	32.1	4.5	5.5	4.1	19.1	14.1	95.9	60.0	50.9	
9	Mulloorie Poll, 160059 (Link Sire)	57	29.9	59.9	31.7	3.9	5.4	3.9	19.1	14.8	86.5	55.9	48.4	
10	O'Brien Poll, 201166	43	32.3	59.3	32.7	4.3	5.3	3.8	18.0	14.9	91.4	55.4	49.3	
11	Pepper Well Poll, 200145	68	28.5	57.1	31.3	4.1	5.5	3.9	17.5	14.6	92.4	55.6	55.3	
12	Roemahkita Poll, 200058	34	28.0	53.2	29.9	3.6	5.5	4.1	18.9	16.6	91.1	59.0	48.2	
13	The Yanko, 190310	61	28.6	57.9	31.5	4.3	5.5	4.2	18.8	15.0	87.0	60.2	55.8	
14	Wallaloo Park Poll, 172223	55	29.3	58.9	33.1	4.5	5.5	4.1	19.3	14.6	92.6	58.2	53.8	
15	Westwood Poll, 200215	48	29.3	57.3	32.1	4.5	5.2	3.8	18.2	13.8	87.5	57.9	51.1	
16	Willandra Poll, 170018	45	29.2	56.5	30.8	3.9	5.2	3.7	18.8	15.2	92.9	57.3	51.4	
	Progeny group average	50	29.2	57.9	31.9	4.2	5.5	4.0	18.5	14.7	91.6	57.4	51.8	
			kg		mm	mm		kg	kg	µm	%	mm	N/ktex	deg/mm

(Table 3)





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CULLINGS'23 WINDUP

This would have to be the most hurried Cullings Newsletter that I've ever crashed through and maybe one of the briefest yet to the point in discussing, thanks in part to client input, some important industry issues at the minute.

The next edition will be a bit tidier and will especially have added SA Sire Evaluation information from the 2022 drop at Mentara Park, Meningie S.A.

Entries will be open very soon for the next Trial to be run at Turrefield Research Centre S.A. so please consider this if you have a potential sire that you would like to compare and muster the maximum amount of information from in a controlled fair environment.

The classing year to date has been the most prolific of my career with a solid list of clients really on the up now as far as maximising fleece weight, controlling micron, carefully adding small bleeds of eye muscle but most of all lifting and maximising fertility and subsequent weaning percentages as a priority.

110-124% lambs weaned from ALL that are joined (including all dries in that figure) are now becoming apparent - a testament to our genetic of breeding animals plain bodied yet as productive as any 'rivals'

This year's Sire Evaluation a testament to that with many non-mulesed appreciators fairing extremely well. By the way the range in some traits was very tight at Mentara Park with a range of GFW of 5.2-5.6 kg with a 5.5kg average & a 3.7-4.6kg with a 4.0kg for CFW.

More spread with micron at 17.5u-19.7 with a 18.5u average.

I'm really looking forward to finding the time to dissect more of the trial for Version 2 of this magazine for the interest of all.

I will possibly include the whole trial report if permissible via ASMSEA and AWI, the major sponsor of all Sire Evaluation Trials.

On a personal note my dear Mum passed away earlier this year at a well earned 96 years of age. She was integral back in the day in typing all wool testing results from the newly formed Classings Laboratory in 1972 before computers were considered as useful! Many a night I would hear Dad calling out tag numbers and micron figures whilst Mum banged away on the typewriter to all hours! She was the greatest Mum too!



The laboratory is in full swing and will be until year's end where we will have to make a few

decisions re it's future at 25 Sturt. Rose now full time popularity mode with her Ceramics studio supplying her great creations to over twenty cafes across the Hills and Adelaide.

_rose_walker on Insta



My laboratory input now getting less and less due to the 'monster' I have created with the Sheep Classing enterprise which leaves our Lab Manager, Bec Hughes with an exceptional workload! We will keep all testing clients up to date with that progress yet be assured that for 2023 it's all happening!

I'm going to be around for yonks yet with the classing across three states as the passion has not waned one bit due to the breeding results that we are obtaining across the ninety commercial and stud clients across a solid list.

I really took a long look at just how good it gets as I classed local client, Johnny Vogan's flock just

out of Murray Bridge a few weeks ago. The quality of his flock has jumped so many notches with the 'tops' there now as good as anyones on the 'major' list.



All this on a limited budget for genetics yet accessible from an up and coming Victorian stud. The owners were originally very South Australian and at this stage their stud enterprise is 'under the radar' yet has the potential to be one of that state's best!

The Classic'23 Poll Merino sale on Monday September 4th at the Murray Bridge Racing Club is going to be another monty.

On what I've seen on property, Bendigo Sheep whatever and no doubt the S.E. Merino Field day (with excellent promotion by Wendy Gogel), it'll be the best yet! Cheers

Enjoy the 'Risky' draft edition of Cullings'23 and look forward to the streamlined version hitting the deck sometime soon!

CLASSINGS CLASSIC RAM SALE 2023

PLEASE NOTE NEW VENUE:

MURRAY BRIDGE RACING CLUB

342 BRINKLEY RD, MURRAY BRIDGE SOUTH S.A.

Monday 4th September

100 POLL MERINOS 100

Inspection from 10am with sale commencing at 1.30pm



"Poll Merinos and Poll Merino Studs specially selected for Classic '23 exhibiting bold crimp, carcass, fibre density and productive yet easy care skin attributes as to address the possibilities of a Mules Free stock, six month shearing, higher fertility and all the advantages that the plainer bodied Poll Merino has to offer."

Enquiries to Bill Walker - Classings P/L Mobile: 0428 973 804

www.classings.com.au classing@internode.on.net Facebook: Classings: In the Race and Classic Merino Ram Sale



KARAWATHA PARK

POLL MERINO STUD
KIMBA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA



21 ST ON PROPERTY

RAM SALE

150 RAMS

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INSPECTION 10.30 AM : AUCTION 1 PM

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**David, Karen & Devon Ridgway
BORDERTOWN**



Annual Ram Sale

WEDNESDAY 16th AUGUST 2023



4363 Emu Flat rd., Senior, Bordertown Inspection 9.30 / Auction 1 pm (SA time)

0409 408 263 | ridgwayadvance@activ8.net.au | 0437 728 276

www.ridgwayadvancemerinos.com.au

Enquiries & Inspections Welcome



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